



A Message from Earthquake Science, Engineering, and Emergency Management Professionals

Reducing Our Vulnerability to Earthquakes

Without the advancements in knowledge, public policy, construction and preparedness that have occurred in the past century, the expected number of casualties in a major earthquake would likely be five to ten times larger, and the economic disruption and losses at least double. Significant progress has been made, but the predicted life loss and economic disruption still is much greater than necessary.

We invite earthquake professionals worldwide to unite with others in their regions and nations in new mitigation efforts, preparedness, and emergency response activities.

Working together, we can:

- Develop better policies, incentives, training programs, and construction practices to protect the populace.
- Improve emergency response, recovery, and reconstruction planning so we can recover from an earthquake disaster as quickly as possible.
- Increase the public's awareness of our vulnerability to earthquakes and the importance of preparedness at home, at work, at school, and in the community.
- Continue research into the source, size, and location of future earthquakes; into the performance of buildings and infrastructure during earthquakes; and into behavior, public policy – federal, state, and local -- and emergency management to improve recovery from the next big earthquake.

Our conference, timed to the centennial of San Francisco's 1906 earthquake, will focus on California. But the lessons and policies will ripple to quake-sensitive regions worldwide, and affect preparations for all natural disasters.

As professionals in the field, we are committed to the best possible preparation for a major earthquake.

For more information about the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference, go to www.1906eqconf.org