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Groundwater Level Changes and Aquifers Yield Modifications Caused by Seismic Events

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Message from the Guest Editors

In tectonically active areas, whose ridges and valleys often host important aquifers, besides the many dangers that groundwater is presently exposed to (overexploitation, climate change, pollution), significant modifications in groundwater flow can be induced by seismic crises, representing a further threat.

Earthquake-related hydrogeological changes have been referred to since millennia. Short-term and mid/long-term groundwater level changes in response to seismic crises have been observed directly in alluvial aquifers and deduced indirectly, in mountains aquifers, by the analysis of discharge changes of springs and streams. Such changes, recorded both in the near and in the far field, have been attributed to different mechanisms, namely coseismic pore water pressure rise, an increase in aquifer permeability, and a change in hydrogeological role played by fault systems after a seismic crisis. [...]

For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

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