



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



2053-12

**Advanced Workshop on Evaluating, Monitoring and Communicating
Volcanic and Seismic Hazards in East Africa**

17 - 28 August 2009

Monitoring and evaluating seismic hazard in Eritrea

Ghebrebrhan Ogubazghi
Asmara University
Eritrea

Monitoring and Evaluating Seismic Hazard in Eritrea

Ghebrebrhan Ogubazghi

**Eritrea Institute of Technology
Asmara, ERITREA**

Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Seismic monitoring**
- **Geodetic monitoring**
- **Seismic hazard assessments**

Introduction

- Massawa city damages
 - Heavily damaged, 1884
 - Almost destroyed, 1921
 - Slight damages, 2002
- Assab city damages
 - Dobi graben event, 1989
- Bada events, 1993
- North east Ethiopia event, 2005

Seismic monitoring

- First seismographs in Eritrea
 - Asmara station, 1913
 - Massawa station, 1914?
- Asmara station (ASME), 1980s
 - Proper functioning since 1992
- A basalama station (ABSE), 1998

Seismic monitoring (cont...)

- Sheeb station (SHBE), 2004
- Gelealo station (GELE), 2006

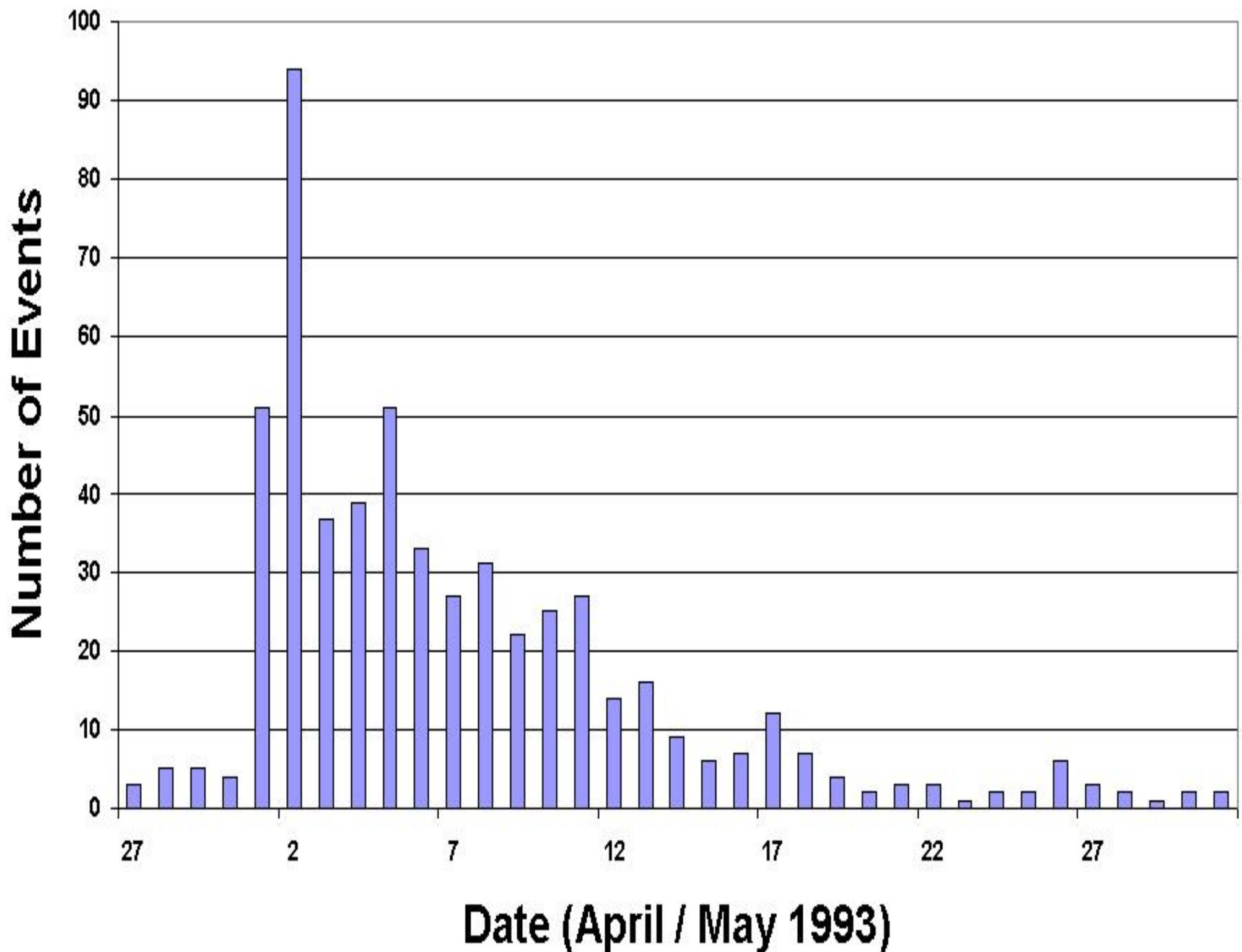
Station	Station Location			Seismometer	Component
	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)	Altitude (m)		
ASME	In the move				
ABSE	14° 15' 48.0"	39° 19' 37.8"	2392	L – 4	1 vertical
SHBE	15° 51' 16.2"	39 ° 03' 16.9"	225	4 – Hz Geop	3
GELE	15° 06' 50.9"	40 ° 05' 16.1"	20	4 – Hz Geop	3

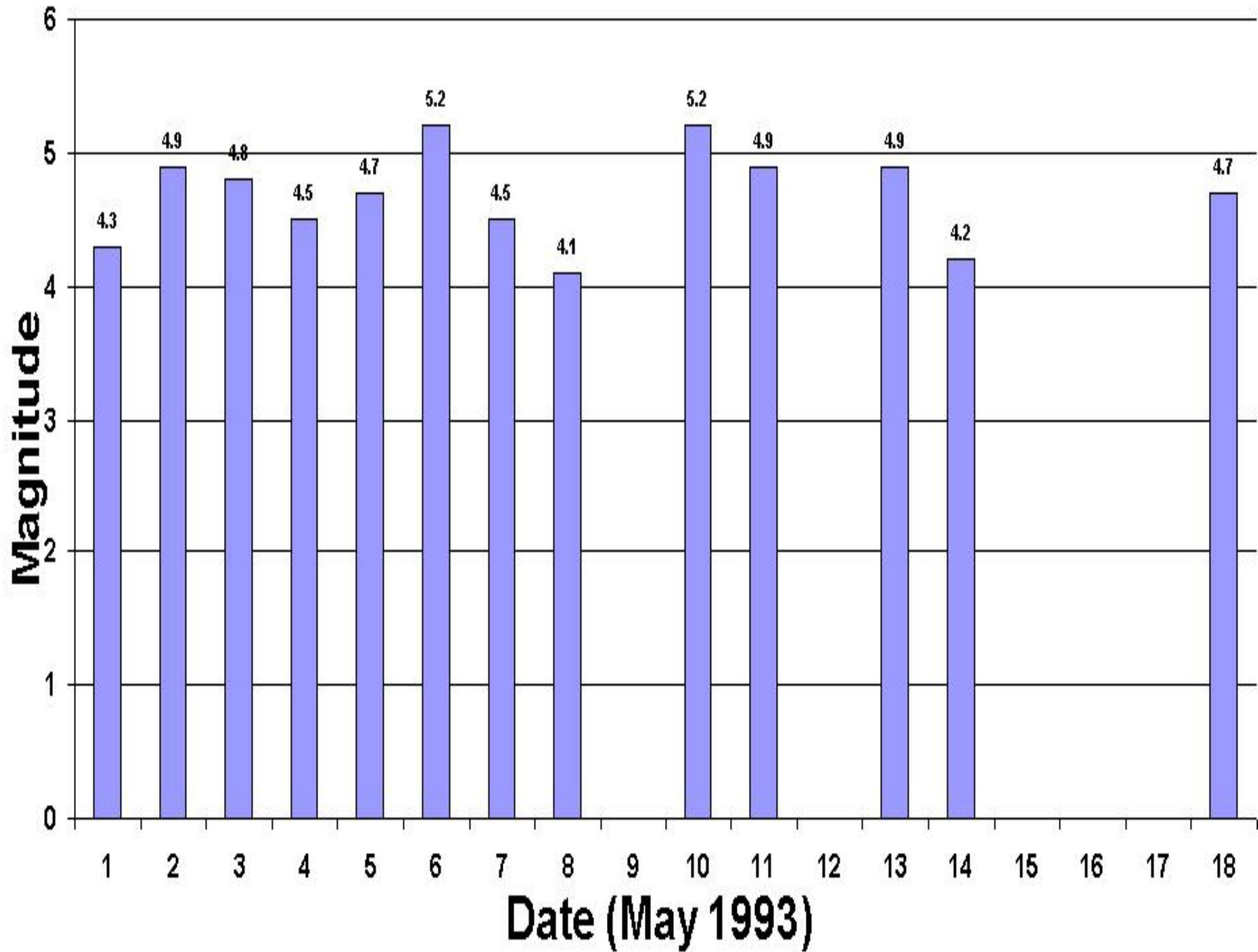
Seismic monitoring (cont...)

- **Bada (northern Afar), 1993**
 - Only ASME operational
 - ISC data obtained – 18 events located

Seismic monitoring (cont...)

- Bada event (cont...)
 - b – value of 1.67
 - absence of dominant main shock
 - swarm





Seismic monitoring (cont...)

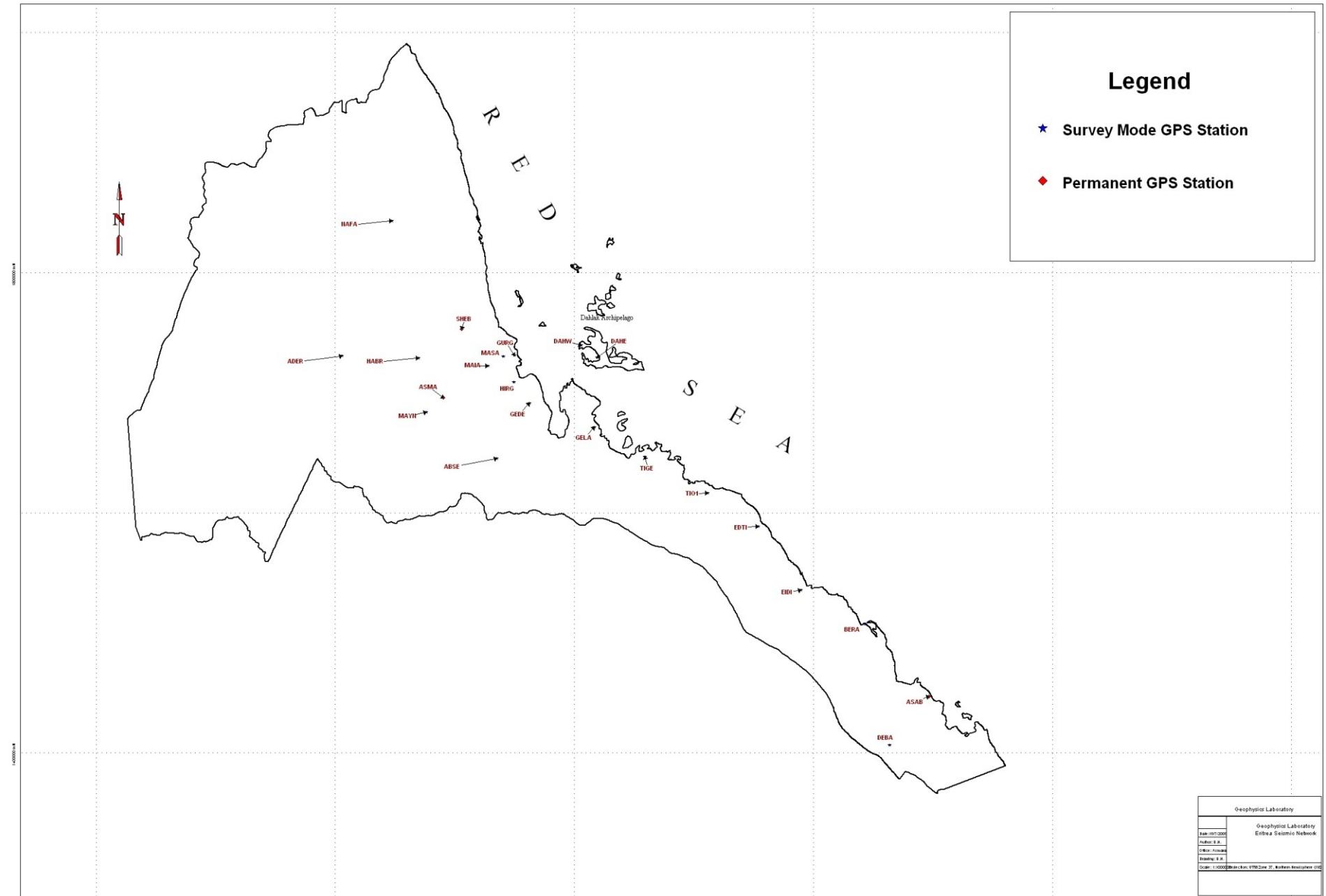
- Massawa swarm, 2002
 - ASME station
 - ABSE station
 - No data from abroad
- Northeastern Ethiopia event, 2005

Geodetic monitoring

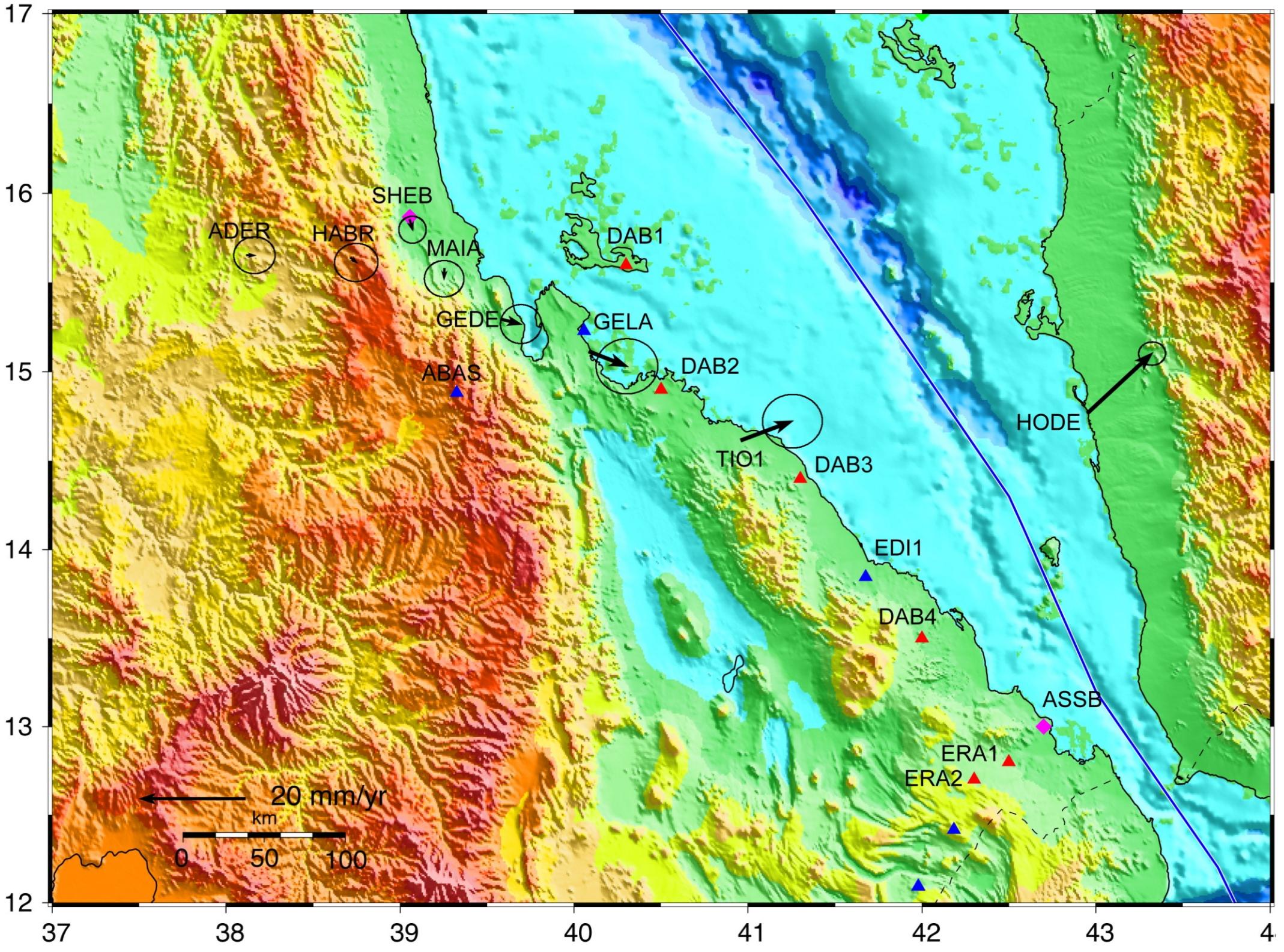
- Collaborative efforts
 - Earth sciences department
 - Geological survey of Eritrea
 - Earth and planetary science dept., MIT

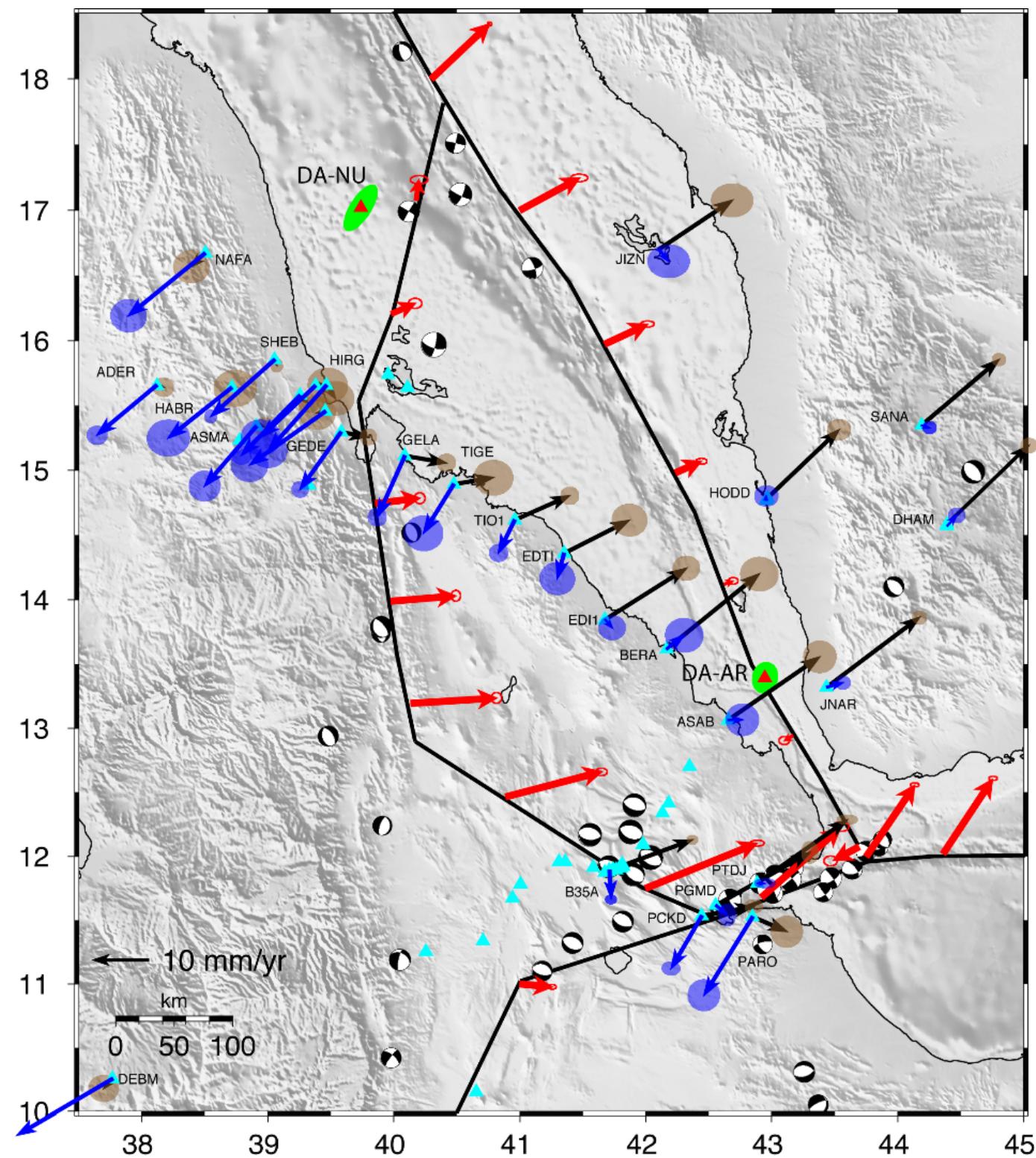
Legend

- ★ Survey Mode GPS Station
- ◆ Permanent GPS Station



Geophysics Laboratory	
File name:	Geophysical Laboratory
Date:	Eritrea Seismic Network
Author:	S.H.
Other:	None
Version:	1.0
Scale:	1:1000000 (Coordinates: WTM Zone 35, African Mercator grid)





Seismic hazard assessment

- **First assessment, Gouin, 1976**
- **Second assessment , Kebede and Asfaw, 1996**
- **Third assessment, Midzi et al., 1999**

Seismic hazard assessment (cont...)

- Refine the assessments
 - Update details of seismotectonic source zones
 - Intensify seismicity studies
 - Intensify geodetic studies