

Lessons learned from managing eruptions of Mt Cameroon

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Characteristics of Mt Cameroon eruptions

- Previous eruptions from the 20th century

- ❖ 1909, 1922, 1959, 1982, 1999, 2000

- ❖ 1954, 1989, 2012

- Focus: lessons from the 1999 eruption

Characteristics of the 1999 eruption

A lot of volcanic tremors

- Many people flee their homes

- Destruction of buildings



One of the houses destroyed by the tremors preceding the 1999 eruption of Mt Cameroon

Characteristics of the 1999 eruption



Volcanic cloud during the 1999 eruption of Mt Cameroon



Red hot Lava flow during the 1999 eruption of Mt Cameroon



Disruption of major road during the 1999 eruption of Mt Cameroon

Various stakeholders

- 1) Civil Protection –responsible for people's safety
- 2) Research – science and observation of evolution
- 3) Town planning - new accommodations if needed
- 4) Health departments- Taking care of medical issues
- 5) Civil defense- responsible for people's safety
- 6) The press- for communication
- 6)Transport- for safety, etc

Lessons Learned

- The need for inter-agency coordination. Why?
- Importance of early warning systems and continuous monitoring.
Why?
- Need for community education and drills. Why?
- continuous communication during an eruption.
- Continuous investment in volcano observatories. Why?
- Capacity building of the volcano observatory staff

