Geohazards of Myanmar

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Abstract

Myanmar has experienced many types of geological hazards including earthquakes, tsunami, mud volcano, landslides and subsidence in karst area. Among them, earthquakes, tsunami, and landslides are major hazards affecting of the country. Earthquakes in Myanmar have resulted from two main causes. The major earthquake source zones are western fold belt, along the Sagaing fault and north eastern part of Myanmar.

The various scales of landslides occur in mountainous regions which are Western Ranges, and Eastern Highland of Myanmar. These provinces are inherently unstable nature as the most hazard-prone area of the country.

Mostly three main segments of tsunami affected area in Myanmar are Rakhine Coastal, Ayeyarwady Delta and Tanintharyi Coastal. Ayeyarwady Delta was affected by tsunami in 2004. According to local people, mud volcano eruption in western part of Myanmar has destroyed more than 200 acres of farmland in Kyaukphyu Township, Rakhine state on 31 august 2014.

Keywords: Western Ranges, Eastern Highland, Rakhine Coastal, Ayeyarwady Delta, Tanintharyi Coastal, Kyaukphyu Township