

EEFIT Technical Meeting

SOUTH PACIFIC EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI OF 29 SEPTEMBER 2009

Members of the Earthquake Engineering Field Investigation Team (EEFIT) recent mission to the Western Samoa Islands will present their preliminary findings at a meeting to be held at:

**The Institution of Structural Engineers,
11 Upper Belgrave Street, London SW1X 8BH**

On Tuesday 24 November 2009

At 6pm

Synopsis

The EEFIT team to the South Pacific will be presenting on their findings from the week-long reconnaissance mission to the Western Samoan Islands of Upolu, Savai'i and Manono. It is hoped that these preliminary findings will provide a better understanding of the effects of the earthquake and the ensuing tsunami which devastated many communities living along the south coasts of the islands; and which ultimately resulted in over 140 deaths.

The field survey revealed a number of key features that are common to previously observed Tsunamis but also subtle and complex interactions between the natural and engineered coastal environment and the encroaching tsunami wave. The field observations showed highly variable impacts on the coastal villages, its buildings and residents.

The presentation will include important lessons gathered from the trip, which may contribute to a better understanding of how the scientific and engineering community can prepare for, adapt to, and recover from tsunamis in the future. The talk will also include recommendations to the Disaster Management Office of Western Samoa, whom the team worked alongside during their visit to the islands.

ALL WELCOME

Seats allocated on a first come, first served basis, no registration.

Tea and biscuits will be available from 5.30pm.