

# **EEFIT Technical Meeting**

## **THE PADANG, WEST SUMATRA EARTHQUAKE OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Members of the Earthquake Engineering Field Investigation Team (EEFIT) recent mission to Western Sumatra 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 **Wednesday 16 December 2009**

At **6pm**

### **Synopsis**

The EEFIT team to Padang in Western Sumatra will be presenting their findings from the week-long reconnaissance mission to the Island of Sumatra in Indonesia. It is hoped that these preliminary findings will provide a better understanding of the effects of the earthquake which destroyed many buildings in the city of Padang as well as inducing devastating landslides that buried communities living in rural Sumatra and which ultimately resulted in over 300 deaths.

The field survey revealed a number of key features that are common to previously observed earthquakes as well as some new lessons for seismic engineers. The field observations showed highly variable distribution of building damage and a disproportionate number of supposedly well engineered buildings being significantly damaged. A particularly interesting feature of this earthquake is that it occurred in the same region as the 2004 Sumatra-Andaman earthquake which generated the devastating Boxing Day Tsunami and the influence of this on the post disaster response was observed.

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 earthquakes in the future.

**ALL WELCOME**

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

Tea and biscuits will be available from 5.30pm.