

# Earthquake preparedness first aid kit: a video series



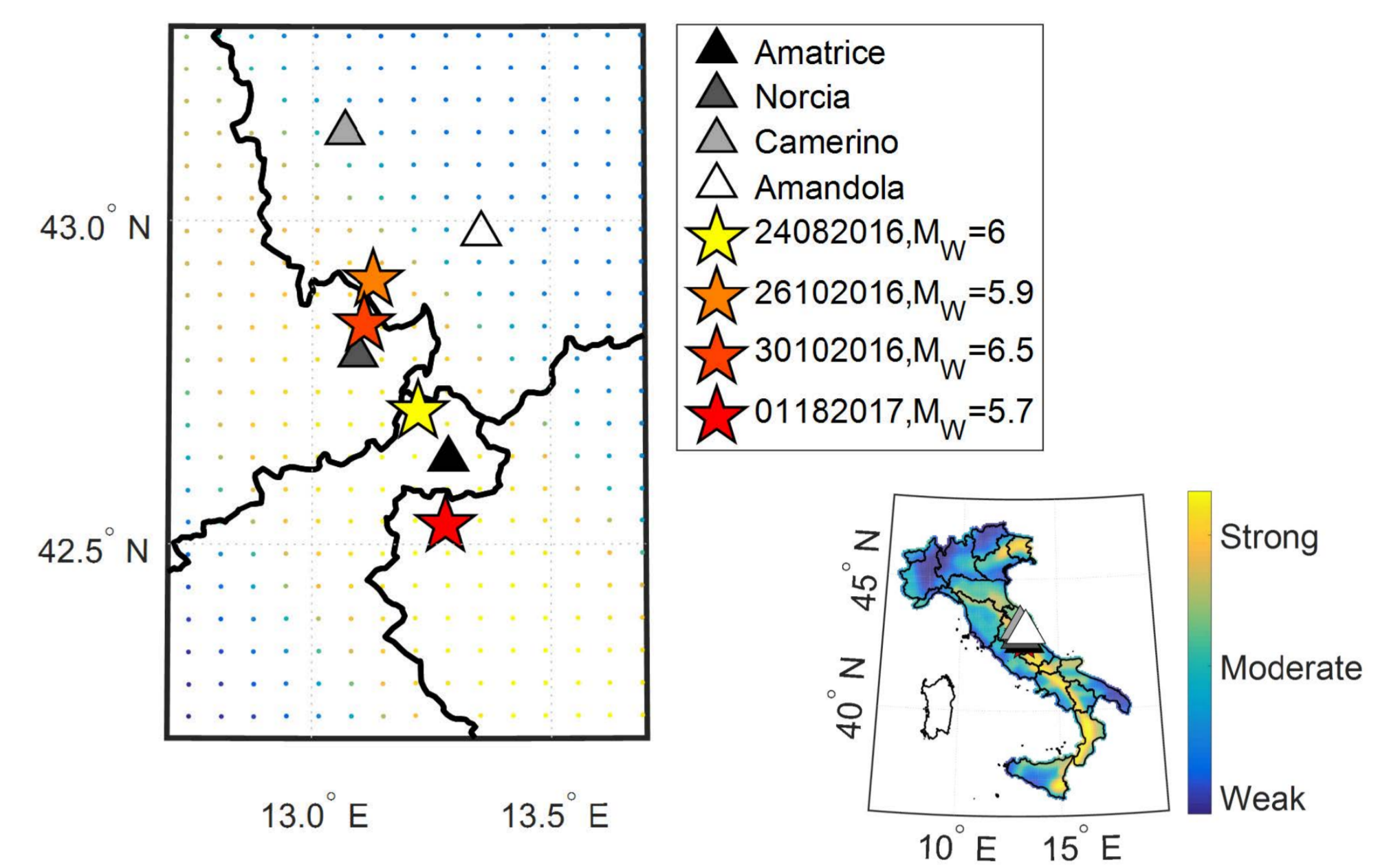
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Strong earthquakes in central Italy between August 2016 and January 2017 caused around 300 casualties, with large destruction of both cultural heritage sites and critical infrastructure.

Levels of earthquake preparedness tend to be consistently low across countries and people are generally not ready for action in emergency situations, even in high -risk areas like central Italy. This project combined field research with public education, producing a video series aiming to improve disaster preparedness, by disseminating technical knowledge clearly and effectively.

This is a cross -disciplinary cooperation between the UCL Brain Sciences faculty, the UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction (IRDR) and the Department of Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering (CEGE), supported by UCL EPICentre and the SECED Young Member's Sub-Committee.



Map of Italy where stars are the epicentres of 2016 -2017 earthquake sequences and triangles are the sites visited during the field trip.



Above

1. Chen Huang; 2. Omar Velazquez; 3. Alessandro Massazza; 4. Valentina Putrino; 5. Dr Fabio Freddi from UCL EPI Centre; 6. Prof Tiziana Rossetto from UCL EPI Centre and SECED; 7. Dr Carmine Galasso from UCL EPI Centre; Others: 2016-2017 UCL MSc EEDM Students.

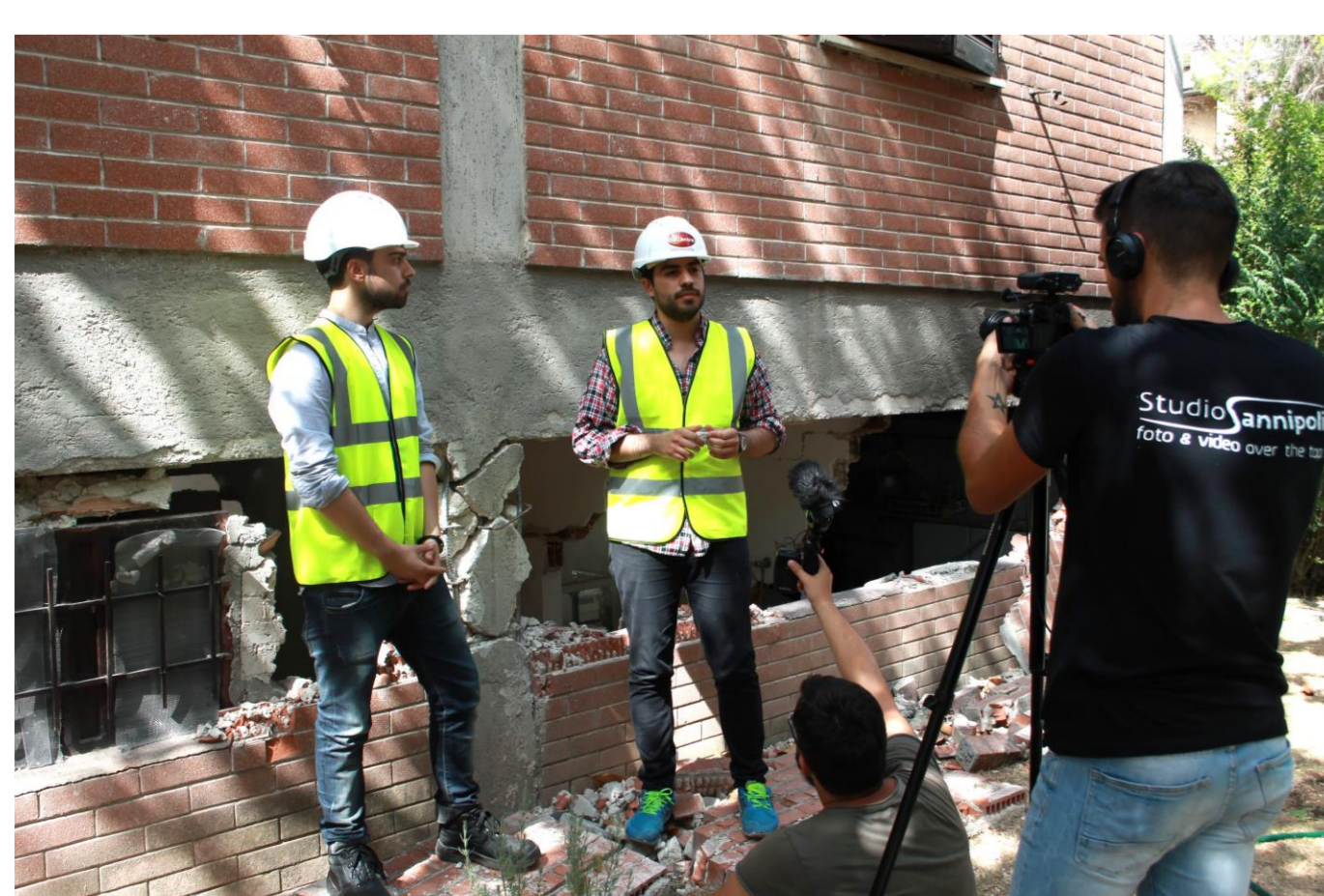
Right

Structural damage caused by the ground shaking



## Outputs and Impacts

The video series has been produced and is aimed at people both with and without prior earthquake engineering knowledge. It explains key engineering concepts in an effective, engaging and informative way, using psychologically effective techniques. It aims to reduce feelings of fatalism and empower communities to take action.



The video series will be presented to the general public and professionals and is expected to be ready for the IRDR Annual Conference in June 2018.

The project has already provided material for potential interventions aimed at increasing earthquake preparedness, such as the one recently developed by the EPICentre intervention "Fix It".

UCL Grand Challenge of Sustainable Cities

Awarded a £2,000 small grant from the Grand Challenges Doctoral School scheme in 2017