Outline: The predecessor of the Institute of Geophysics, China Earthquake Administration (IGPCEA) is the Institute of Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (Academia Sinica) which was founded on April 6, 1950. In 1978 the Institute started to belong to the State Seismological Bureau (SSB) which changed to the China Seismological Bureau (CSB) in 1998 and to the China Earthquake Administration (CEA) in 2004. The IGPCEA is a national research institution responsible for the research and applications in seismology, engineering seismology, geomagnetism and geo-electricity, and physics of the Earth’s interior. The IGPCEA is authenticated by the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council to confer M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in solid Earth geophysics and civil engineering. The Institute is also authorized by the State to provide post-doctoral positions. The Beijing National Earth Observatory (NEOBJI) of the Institute is the National Backbone Field Observatory of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), and the Base for International Exchange of MOST.

Research Areas: The Institute has 9 research divisions: 1) Digital broadband seismology and physics of seismic source; 2) Engineering seismology and urban disaster mitigation; 3) Experimental geophysics; 4) Real-time seismology, seismological observation and interpretation, and earthquake forecast; 5) Geomagnetism and geo-electricity; 6) Geophysical instrumentation and technology; 7) Global seismology and nuclear test ban monitoring; 8) Physics of the Earth’s interior and seismo-tectonics; and 9) Seismological data analysis and computational geophysics. The Institute has 7 technical centers: 1) ChinArray Instrumental Center; 2) ChinArray Data Center; 3) Center for Earthquake Emergency and Rescue Technology; 4) Backup and Data Service Center of the China National Seismograph Network; 5) Management Center of the China National Geomagnetic Observatory Network; 6) Instrumental Testing and Quality Control Center of the China National Seismograph Network; and 7) Center for Geophysical Data, Information, and Networking. The Institute has 3 coordination/service groups: 1) Coordination Group for Earthquake Forecast; 2) Coordination Group for Earthquake Emergency Response; and 3) Engineering Seismological Service.

Features of Research Activities: Besides researches on fundamental scientific problems related to earthquakes, the Institute of Geophysics is responsible for providing several nation-level operational services facilitating the mitigation of earthquake disasters, which include: 1) Coordination Office for the National Seismic Zonation Map; 2) Secretariat of the National Committee for Standardization; 3) Beijing Digital Seismograph Network Laboratory; 4) China Testing Center of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP); 5) Coordination Office for the China Geomagnetic Chart (2005.0, 2010.0); 6) Data center and network maintenance center of the China Digital Seismograph Network (CDSN); 7) Coordination Office of the National Earthquake-Safety Service Engineering Project; 8) Chiu Feng Seismological Station for Public Outreach; and 9) Key Laboratory for Geophysics of the China Earthquake Administration (CEA).