

Large-scale slope failure and regional tectonics observed in the 1998 Papua New Guinea earthquake and tsunami area

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Single-channel seismic survey in the epicentral area of the M7.1 1998 Papua New Guinea Earthquake and Tsunami event off Sissano Lagoon, northern coast of Papua New Guinea, was carried out by R/V NATSUSHIMA. The purpose of the cruises was to locate the possible seismic faults and/or underwater landslides as the source of tsunami and to study the process which took place off Sissano and the driving force of the event. Off-Sissano amphitheatre topographic feature with slumps caused by landslides was extensively surveyed in the study area, which showed a remarkable contrast between the eastern and western part of the slope.