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### Tackling volcanic ash

In 1995, when the Monserrat volcano began erupting, IOM scientists helped monitor and assess the health risks from inhaling its ash on the island. IOM's work ensured locals were kept informed and given reliable advice on establishing a safe zone on the island.

More recently, IOM conducted research in partnership with the Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience at Durham University testing a range of respirators and face masks frequently used by those affected by volcanic ash. The results of the research changed the policy on the types of respiratory protection international organisations distributed during volcanic crises and what information should be given to the general public in these situations.