



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

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IOC/VR/BA/AB/eba
12 January 2022

- To :** CARIBE-EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP)
CARIBE-EWS National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWC)
CARIBE-EWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC)
ICG/CARIBE-EWS Chair and Vice-Chairpersons
- cc. :** Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO, and
National Commissions for UNESCO of ICG/CARIBE-EWS Member States
Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in the Caribbean Region
Regional Organizations cooperating with UNESCO/IOC
Director, Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center (NWPTAC)
Director, International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

Subject: Towards a Safer Ocean in the Caribbean through Tsunami Ready Communities Project in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago

I am happy to inform you that with support provided by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and Australian Aid (AUSAid), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (UNESCO/IOC) will directly work in 2022 with one community in each of the following countries: Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago through the implementation of the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (see detail in annex).

Increased support and visibility for the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme is unfolding through collaboration within the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS) community, working groups, task teams, as well as other key partners including:

- UNESCO Field Offices
- National Commissions for UNESCO in project countries
- Other communities in Barbados, Dominica and Saint Lucia executing the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme with support from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) International Tsunami Information Center/Caribbean Office (ITIC/CAR)

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- Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
- Seismic Research Centre of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine (SRC)

Should you require any additional information on the project, please contact Bernardo Aliaga, Head of Tsunami Unit (a.i.) and Technical Secretary of ICG/CARIBE EWS at b.aliaga@unesco.org.

With your cooperation and involvement, selected communities will improve understanding of the tsunami risks and enhanced capacity to prepare and respond to tsunami threats. Through strengthening the capacities of early warning and response for tsunamis in the Caribbean, we will contribute to the achievement of the UN Decade Societal Outcome 5—A Safe Ocean where Life and Livelihoods are Protected from Ocean-related Hazards.

On behalf of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, I thank you for your ongoing involvement with the ICG/CARIBE EWS.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Enclosure (1): Project summary

Annex:

Towards a Safer Ocean in the Caribbean through Tsunami Ready Communities (Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) Project

Organization ►	UNESCO/IOC
Title of Project	Towards a Safer Ocean in the Caribbean through Tsunami Ready Communities (Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago)
Area of influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48 Member States and Territories of the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS) • National emergency management system and select communities in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as other communities undergoing Tsunami Ready recognition • Regional partner organizations
Start / end of the project	01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022
Project amount	USD 290,000
Risk scenarios covered	Tsunami Hazard
Local Implementation Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>National</u>: National Disaster Management Offices, First Responders and other Members of the National Emergency Management System e.g. National Tsunami Warning Focal Points & or National Tsunami Warning Centres (including Meteorological Offices), National Tsunami Contacts, Tsunami Advisors, Ministries of Education, Ministries of Tourism etc. • <u>Local</u>: District/Community Emergency Organizations, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
Other institutions and stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDEMA Coordinating Unit • Seismic Research Centre of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine (SRC) • US National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration International Tsunami Information Center/Caribbean Office (ITIC/CAR) • Community Organizations/Institutions/Businesses e.g. schools, clinics, municipal centres, churches, hotels, banks, shops • General public
Contact persons	Bernardo ALIAGA, UNESCO/IOC b.aliaga@unesco.org Alison BROME, UNESCO/IOC-CTIC a.brome@unesco.org Celine TIFFAY, UNESCO/IOC c.tiffay@unesco.org CTIC Project Assistant (<i>to be confirmed shortly</i>)
Brief summary	<p>In seeking to build a Safer Ocean and strengthen the capacities of early warning and response for tsunamis in the Caribbean, the overall objective is to build resilience through emphasis on coordination, hazard assessment, warning communication, preparedness, response and resilience at regional, national and community levels.</p> <p>This initiative of the ICG/CARIBE-EWS resulting in enhanced regional coordination. It will also significantly advance global tsunami preparedness through the framework of UNESCO/IOC; including the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG) concerned with progress and harmonization of initiatives across the four global ICGs - Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (CARIBE-EWS), Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS), North Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (NEAMTWS) and the Pacific Tsunami Warning System (PTWS).</p> <p>The actions of the project will be implemented based on a risk analysis and they strengthen response capacities at regional, national and local levels. Resilience is built by ensuring participation of different actors at community level, namely through: (i) participatory mapping exercises to define exposure and vulnerability; (ii) community-based simulation exercises; (iii) improved response skills of different</p>

Organization ►	<p style="text-align: center;">UNESCO/IOC</p>
	<p>groups including women, children, youth, adults and seniors; enhanced links between the scientific community and disaster practitioners; (iv) advocacy efforts and lessons learned (e.g. Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme) to raise awareness on the needs to ensure sustainability of actions in the long term.</p> <p>Achievement of the project objective contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Decade Societal Outcome 5: A Safe Ocean where Life and livelihoods are protected from ocean-related hazards, as well as a key Decade Goal to make 100% of communities at risk of tsunamis prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the Tsunami Ready Programme and other initiatives. • Samoa Action Plan for SIDS, the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and within this context, the key outputs will support the development of multi-hazard early warning system • CDEMA-led Regional Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy and Programming Framework 2014–2024
Main project results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Result Area 1:</u> National level inter-agency coordination mechanisms on early warning for tsunamis enhanced in the Caribbean with special emphasis on Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago • <u>Result Area 2:</u> Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (Tsunami Ready) enhanced through the recognition of 5 new communities (1 each) Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago
Project Outputs	<p><u>Result Area 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced country-specific tsunami standard operating procedures and protocols for Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago <p><u>*Result Area 2:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Tsunami inundation and evacuation maps developed • Community preparedness activities and capacity building, including training for structured teams of local emergency management/civil protection teams conducted • Tested community emergency operations plans developed, signage and response equipment installed • Tsunami simulation exercise conducted <p><i>*For selected communities in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago</i></p>
Sustainability elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All project products will be embedded within the ICG/CARIBE-EWS systems which monitor the regional and national level actions on an annual basis and this provides a critical framework for sustainability and enhancement • Through the ICG/CARIBE-EWS Reporting to the Global Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG) on an annual basis, additional sustainability is ensured at the international basis • Sustainability will be ensured through the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme itself which requires a high level of local validation and has a requirement for the execution of annual renewal and reassessment on a four-year basis • The project is focused on implementing Tsunami Ready in one community within each pilot country and enhancing local technical capacity for replication and this approach provides a high measure of sustainability for tsunami preparedness and response

Organization ►	UNESCO/IOC
Publications, videos, communication activities/products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signboards, display panels, banners and plaques• Press releases, press conference, other media outreach• Publications, printed material• Social media• Partners' websites• Audiovisual products, photos, public service announcements etc.• WTAD 2022 (November) and CARIBE WAVE 2022 (10 March) will provide and allow wider reach and public awareness opportunities