

African Conference on “Priority Setting & Partnership Development for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development”

Current Status, Challenges and Opportunities

10-12 May 2022 (Hybrid with Limited Physical Presence in Cairo, Egypt)

Side Event

Resilient and Safer Coasts

From Regional Planning to Ocean Decade Actions

Organized by
IOC-UNESCO / NIOF

Date and Time of the Side Event: Wednesday 11 May 2022 – DAY 2, 09:00am-11:45am

Item	Description
Organizing Entities	IOC-UNESCO / NIOF
Name of Applicants	Denis Chang Seng and Derya Vennin (IOC-UNESCO HQ)
Organizing Team	Denis Chang Seng, Derya Vennin, Esmeralda Borja Aviles, Claire Jaffrézic, Alejandro Aldana
Email Addresses of Applicants	d.chang-seng@unesco.org d.dilmen-vennin@unesco.org
Title of the Side Event	‘Resilient and Safer Coasts’

Background

In 2020 the tsunami and other sea level hazard group (TOWS WG) endorsed the document of “*Protecting Communities from the World’s Most Dangerous Waves: A Framework for Action under the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development*” as a guiding document to develop a Draft 10-Year Research, Development and Implementation Plan that will be registered as an Ocean Decade Action called the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (the programme) and recommended a governance structure for the programme. The plan for the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (the Programme) is dedicated to achieving transformational advances in tsunami detection, measurement, and forecasting, including tsunamis generated by non-seismic sources.

The IOC Assembly in June 2021 approved the establishment of the IOC Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme, with the aim of making 100% of communities at risk of tsunami prepared for and resilient

to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme and other initiatives. The implementation of the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme will be a key contribution to achieving the societal outcome ‘A Safe Ocean’ of the Ocean Decade.

At a regional level, a new ICG/NEAMTWS 2021-2030 Strategy has been developed with key objectives to continuously improve North-eastern Atlantic, Mediterranean and connected seas Tsunami Warning System (NEAMTWS) and to meet stakeholder requirements during the period 2021–2030. It will also contribute to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030, by responding to the needs of society for a “safe ocean” where people are protected from ocean hazards.

IOC-UNESCO CoastWAVE (funded by DG ECHO) Project:

In the context of Africa and the Mediterranean Region, the new IOC-UNESCO DG ECHO ‘CoastWAVE’ project is in the process of receiving endorsement as a UN Ocean Science Decade project. The CoastWAVE project aims to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities in Northeast Atlantic, and Mediterranean Seas to tsunamis and other sea level-related hazards. At the end of the project, selected communities in seven countries will have improved understanding of tsunami and sea level related risks, will create better communication strategies to govern sea level related risks, and will be recognized as Tsunami Ready. The 3-year project is financially supported by the European Union Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EU DG ECHO).

Objectives of the Side Event

The Resilient and Safer Coasts side event organized by ICG/NEAMTWS Secretariat will emphasize the sea level related hazards and risk challenges. It will then introduce the IOC-UNESCO Decade Tsunami Programme and highlight how global and regional strategies will shape tsunami risk governance, and disaster risk reduction. The new IOC-UNESCO EU DG ECHO NEAMTWS CoastWAVE project is a testimony of renewed and strengthened collaboration with key international and national partners to shape resilience, and coastal safety in the North Africa and Mediterranean regions. It will draw on experiences from the Caribbean and Indian Oceans. It will demonstrate how the project will contribute to the Safe Ocean Challenge of increasing community resilience to ocean hazards by:

- 1) Highlight key challenges, strategies, and actions to enhanced sea level related risk governance, and risk reduction, as well as advancing tsunami detection, measurement, forecasting and alert systems,
- 2) Capture how youth and young professionals are inspired and contributing to achieving effective EWS, risk reduction and Safe Ocean,
- 3) Showcase the ongoing work and key messages related to managing sea level related risks, in particular tsunami.
- 4) Demonstrate how to contribute to make 100% of communities at risk of tsunami prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Programme and other initiatives.
- 5) Engage and inspire communities prone to tsunami risk, aspiring to become Tsunami Ready, as this recognition includes many aspects of preparedness essential for an effective local tsunami response.
- 6) Identify lessons learnt and best practices for communities to become Tsunami Ready.
- 7) Inspire collaboration and new partnerships.

Benefits to Targeted Audience

- Better understanding of ocean sea level related risk, impacts and challenges, as well as new strategies, tools and solutions proposed and in the process of being implemented to better govern and manage ocean related risks for safer and resilient coasts.
- Targeted audience inspired regarding the ongoing efforts towards addressing and managing sea level related coastal risks through a multi-hazard approach to saving lives and reduces loss and damages.
- Audience will have opportunities to engage and interact with IOC-UNESCO and Member States experts.
- Targeted audience inspired to collaborate and support the ongoing or future projects and programme.

Event Format Preference

Hybrid

Language

Side event in English only

Technical Implementation

The side event will consist of opening remarks, keynote presentations introducing the major challenges we face regarding sea level related coastal risks. It will then highlight how the UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme, strategies and approaches will address these challenges towards a resilience and safer coast, as well as how new tools will enhance countries capacities and capabilities in coastal sea level risk governance and reduction, by contributing to target G of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The side event will highlight how governance, partnerships and collaboration, technological enhancement, as well as community-based recognition tools are contributing to resilient and safer coasts. The side event aims to also draw on the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Community and the implementation of new CoastWAVE project. The side event will be animated by an interactive panel discussion consisting of key regional experts, young professionals and supporters.

Target Audience

- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), climate experts and practitioners
- Education sector (students and teachers)
- Tourism sector/establishments
- Government officials and decision makers
- Academia representatives
- Youth & Young Professionals
- NGOs and SCOs
- Financing Partners

Proposed Agenda

Timing	SESSION / CONTENT	Key Topics/ Themes and Speakers/Presenters/Panelists Moderator: Suzan M. El-Gharabawy, NIOF, Vice-chair of IOC-Africa
09:00am-09:20am	SESSION 1 HIGH LEVEL REMARKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maria Ana Baptista, Chair of ICG/NEAMTWS ○ Peter Billing, Unit Head of EU DG ECHO ○ Vladimir Ryabinin, IOC-UNESCO Executive Secretary ○ Amr Hamouda, President of NIOF, Egypt ○ Mohamed Taher Elsherief, Governor of Alexandria, Egypt
09:20am-09:30am	SESSION 2 KEY OPENING PRESENTATIONS SETTING THE CONTEXT & CHALLENGES INTO PERSPECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ocean Sea Level Related Risk: The Challenges [Denis Chang Seng]
09:30am-10:15am	STRATEGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decade Tsunami Programme [Bernardo Aliaga] ○ ICG/NEAMTWS 2021-2030 Strategy [Alessandro Amato, INGV, Italy] ○ Governance, Partnerships and Collaboration Enhancing and Scaling-up Actions including CoastWAVE Project [Denis Chang Seng] ○ Video 1 - CoastWAVE Project ○ Technological (Detection, Forecasting and Alert Systems- CoastWAVE Project) [Derya Vennin] ○ Video 2 - Early Warning Systems (EWS)
10:15am-11:15am	SESSION 3 PANEL DISCUSSION SOLUTIONS & TOOLS	<p>Moderators: Denis Chang Seng and Derya Venin</p> <p>Experts (6) Indian Ocean (1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indonesia-invited speaker Mediterranean (5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Egypt- Amr Hamouda- President of NIOF, Egypt ○ Greece- Elena Daskalaki-Seismologist at NOA ○ Morocco-Khalid El Khalidi-Prof at Chouaib Doukkali University ○ Spain- Ignacio Aguirre Ayerbe, Technologist at IHCantabria ○ Turkey- Ahmet Cevdet Yalçmer, Prof. at METU Young Professionals (4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Egypt- Mohamed Salah Hassan, PhD Student ○ France- Claire Jaffrezic, MSc Student ○ Morocco- Imane Joudar, PhD Student ○ Turkey- Gozde Guney Dogan, PhD Student </p>
11:15am-11:35am	SESSION 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Q & A
11:35am-11:45am	SESSION 5 WRAP UP / FINAL ROUND AND CLOSING KEY TAKE AWAY MESSAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moderator and all

Background Information on CoastWAVE Project and IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognized Community

CoastWAVE Project:



The IOC-UNESCO EU DG ECHO NEAMTWS CoastWAVE Project action will contribute to the ICG/NEAMTWS 2021-2030 Strategy, as well as the vision and mission of the Decade. It will achieve that by enhancing scientific knowledge and understanding of sea level hazards and risks, as well as community risk perspectives so that better risk communication can be achieved to effect/trigger appropriate behaviors. It will contribute to the technological component of the NEAMTWS by improving the detection, monitoring, alerting capabilities in several countries, especially regarding local and rapid onset tsunami hazards. The CoastWAVE Project will contribute to the transformative of ocean science solutions for sustainable development, by connecting people and our ocean through the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Communities, contributing to Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems and Safe Ocean societal benefits. The target is to have seven IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognized communities by 2023 in the Mediterranean with two in Africa: Morocco (El Jadida) and Egypt (Alexandria). The CoastWAVE actions will influence the 40 ICG/NEAMTWS Member States on further advancing coastal hazard and risk preparedness, contributing to Ocean Decade Action on multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS), as well as Target G of the Sendai Framework on disaster risk reduction, on access and availability to multi-hazard early warning information.

IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme



The IOC-UNESCO Assembly approved the establishment of the IOC UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme in 2021, with the aim of making 100% of communities at risk of tsunami prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme and other initiatives. The implementation of the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme will be a key contribution to achieving the societal outcome 'A Safe Ocean' of the Ocean Decade.

The Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme contributes to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), but most specifically addresses Goal 11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable". Communities recognized as Tsunami Ready contribute to increasing the number of settlements adopting strategies to become disasters resilient. The IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme is achieved through a collaborative effort to meet a standard level of tsunami preparedness through the fulfilment of a set of established indicators. It is implemented as a voluntary, performance-based community recognition programme that promotes an understanding of the concept of readiness as an active collaboration and shared responsibilities among national and local warning and emergency management agencies, and government authorities, scientists, community leaders and the public.

The Tsunami Ready Indicators were developed based on decades experience of the experts on tsunami awareness, preparedness, education, and early warning. Implementing the *12 IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Indicators* will advance the community of their awareness and preparedness. Working on the 12 indicators, that are based on a consistent standard of assessment of the risk, preparedness and respond to tsunamis, should be done in a participatory approach. The process itself will be a learning process for and by the community. The Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme is considered as a creative

approach as it brings the ownership of preparedness and sense of belonging to the community. The community will be responsible for the recognition.