



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



UNESCO/IOC – NOAA ITIC Training Program in Hawaii (ITP-Hawaii)  
TSUNAMI EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS  
AND THE PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER (PTWC) ENHANCED PRODUCTS  
TSUNAMI EVACUATION PLANNING AND UNESCO IOC TSUNAMI READY PROGRAMME  
7-18 August 2023, Honolulu, Hawaii USA

# TR RESP-1 and RESP-2

## Making Tsunami Emergency Response Plan and Managing Response Operations

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# Tsunami Ready Indicators



UNESCO/International Tsunami Information Center

UNESCO IOC TSUNAMI READY INDICATORS	
<b>I</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT (ASSESS)</b>
1	ASSESS-1. Tsunami hazard zones are mapped and designated
2	ASSESS-2. The number of people at risk in the tsunami hazard zone is estimated
3	ASSESS-3. Economic, infrastructural, political, and social resources are identified
<b>II</b>	<b>PREPAREDNESS (PREP)</b>
4	PREP-1. Easily understood tsunami evacuation maps are approved
5	PREP-2. Tsunami information including signage is publicly displayed
6	PREP-3. Outreach and public awareness and education resources are available and distributed
7	PREP-4. Outreach or educational activities are held at least three times a year
8	PREP-5: A community tsunami exercise is conducted at least every two years
<b>III</b>	<b>RESPONSE (RESP)</b>
9	RESP-1. A community tsunami emergency response plan is approved
10	RESP-2. The capacity to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami is in place
11	RESP-3. Redundant and reliable means to timely receive 24-hour official tsunami alerts are in place
12	RESP-4. Redundant and reliable means to timely disseminate 24-hour official tsunami alerts to the public are in place



# Introduction

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The main **purpose** of a Tsunami Emergency Response Plan (TERP) is to **prepare for effective response** in order to saving and protecting the general public

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The TERP covers **arrangements for warnings and evacuations** and **public awareness of these arrangements**

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Arrangements for **disaster response** (after the tsunami impact) are another important part of a TERP, but not explicitly addressed in the Tsunami Ready Programme.

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The TERP is a **written set of instructions** detailing what must be done during a tsunami emergency, how people and property are protected and how resources are used

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A TERP is supported by agency-specific **SOPs** that will be activated on the receipt of a tsunami warning or during a local source earthquake that may generate a tsunami

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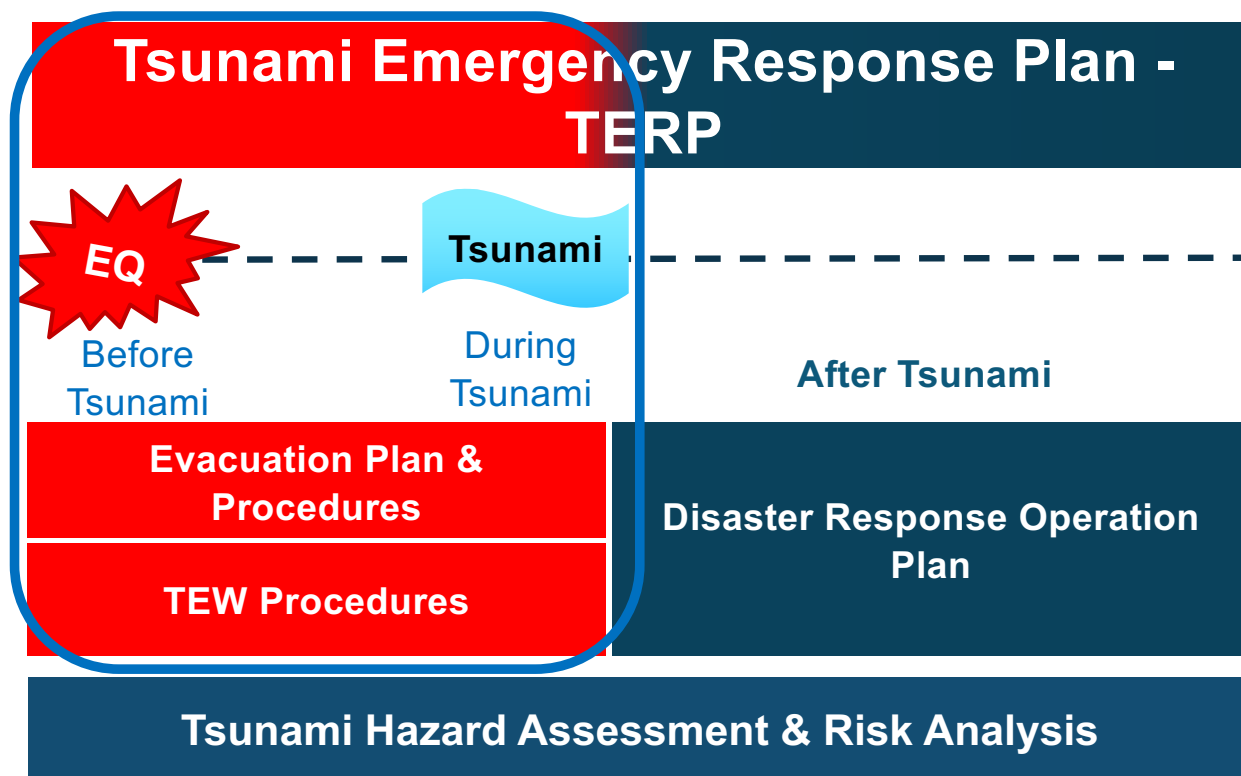
**RESP-1:  
A community tsunami emergency response plan  
is approved**



# Scope and Focus

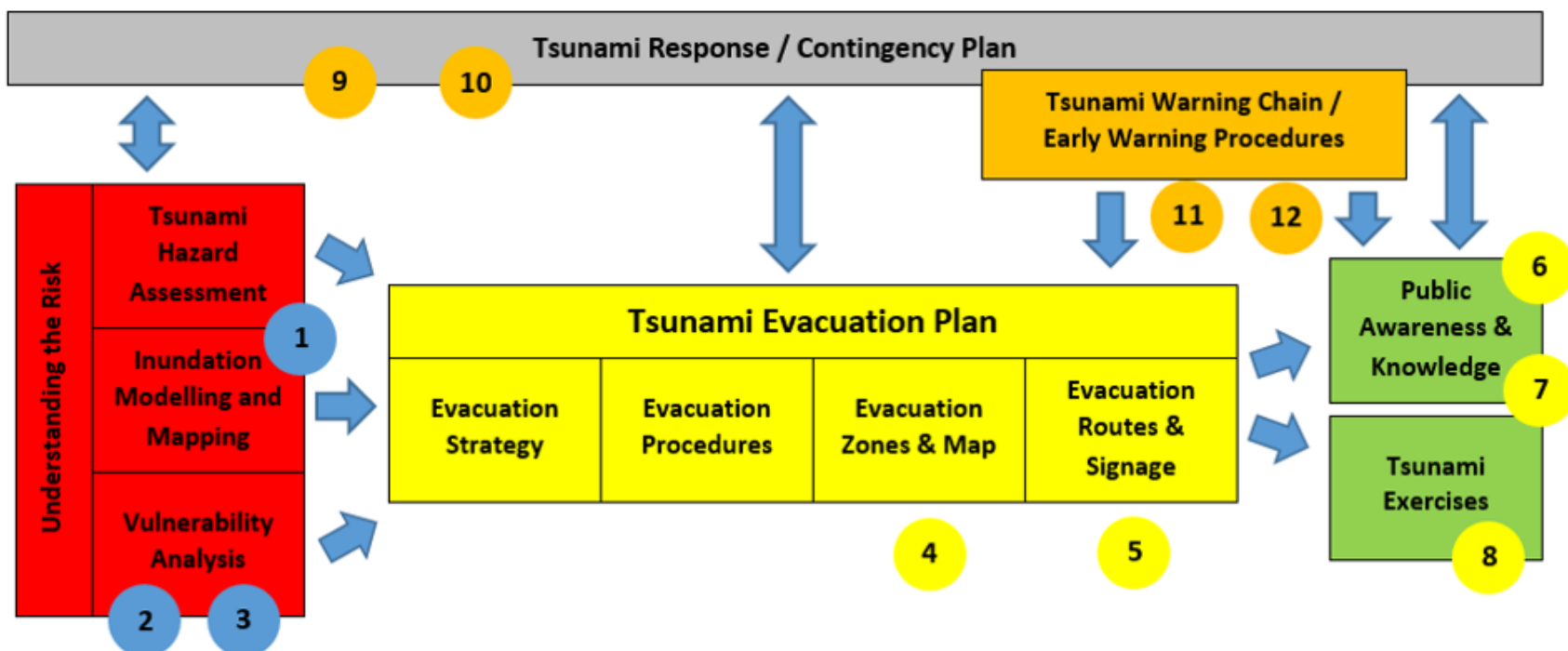
The **Focus of TsunamiReady** is on before and during a tsunami event – but a TERP should of course consider all three phases

Identify **steps** or **measures** in each phase, assignment of **responsibilities**, chain of **authority** and **organization**, identification of **resources**

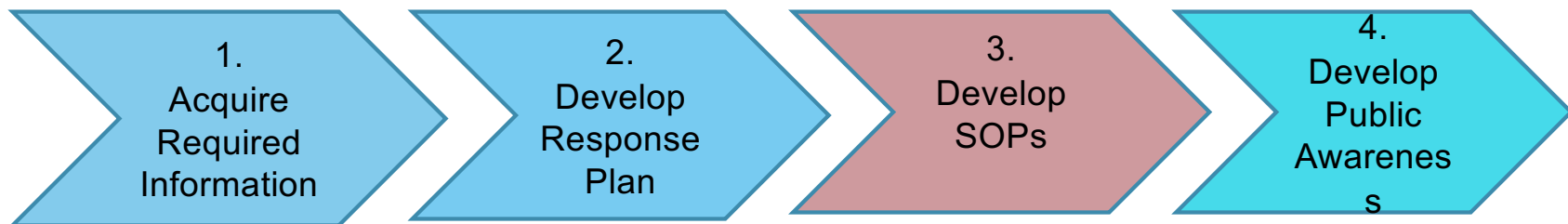


# Scope and Focus

## Tsunami Emergency Response Plans and their relationships with the Tsunami Ready Indicators



# Steps for Tsunami Emergency Response Planning



There are 4 basic sequential steps to develop a TERP:

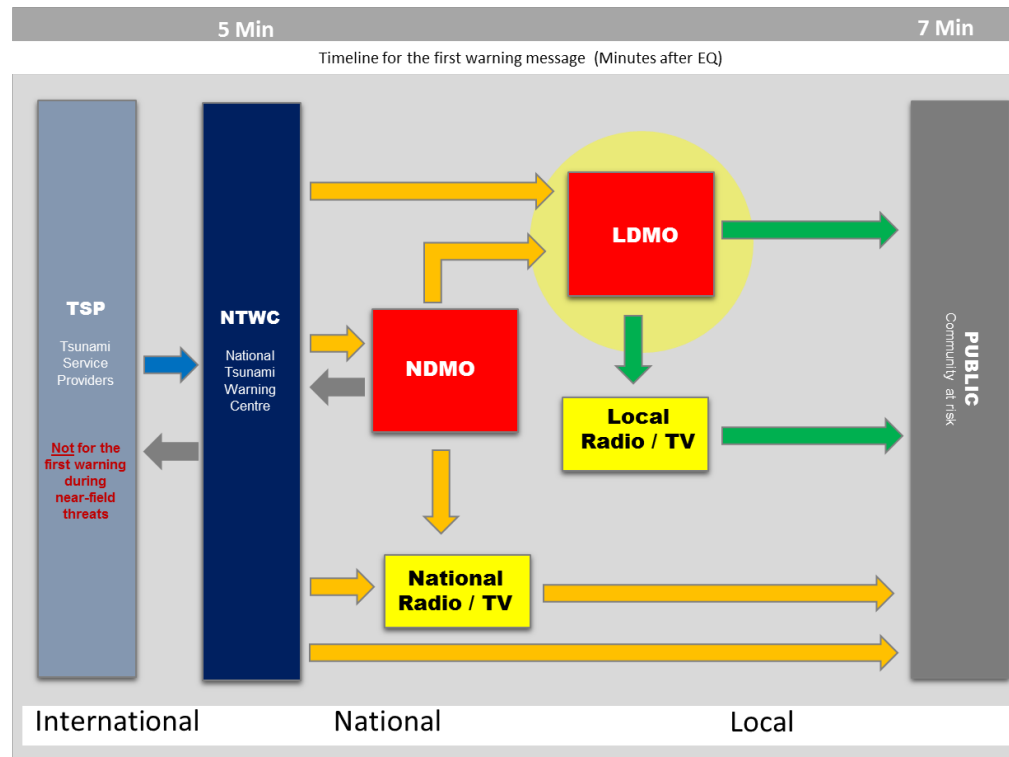
- Steps 1 and 2 are concerned with developing the TERP based on the information that is specific to the community's circumstances as well as national references
- Step 3 relates to the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for specific activities by agencies within the TERP
- Step 4 is vital to ensure that the community is aware of the TERP and understands what actions to take in the event the TERP is activated





# Step 1 - Acquire required information

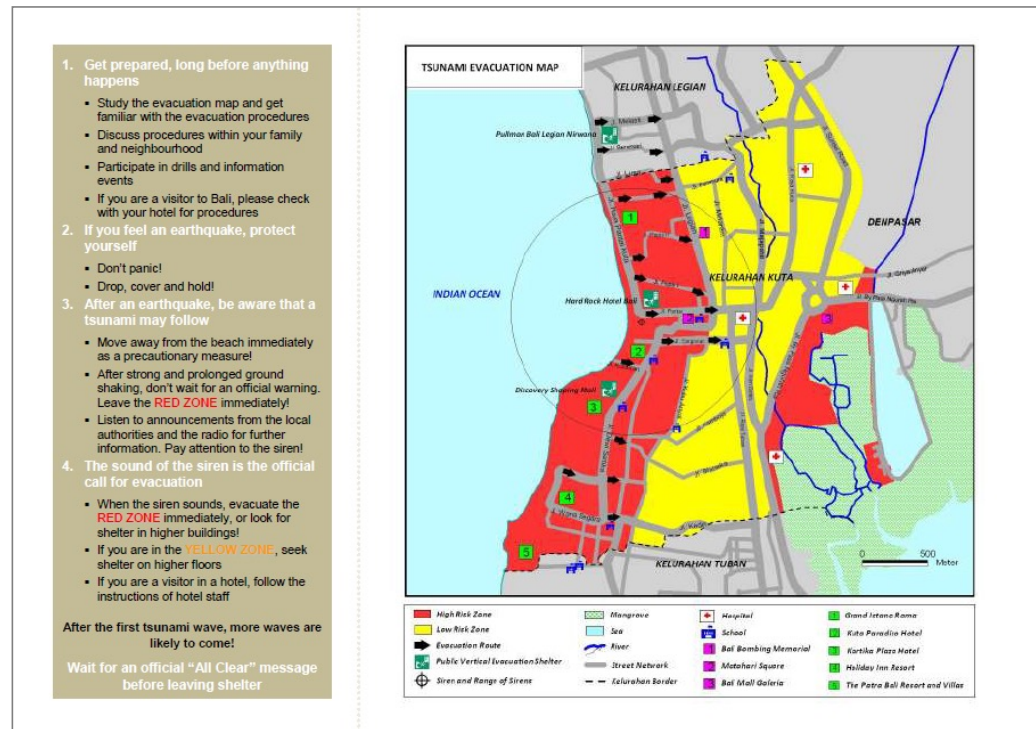
## 2. End-to-end tsunami warning process including clarification on roles & responsibilities



# Step 1 - Acquire required information

## 3. Local Evacuation Plan and Maps

- Evacuation strategy and zones concept
- Evacuation trigger (what and who triggers)
- Public procedures
- Vulnerability profile (demographic and geographic realities inside the evacuation zones, critical infrastructure)



# Step 2 – Develop Response Plan

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## Establish the writing team

- The local DMO should take the lead but will require contributions from key stakeholders including Emergency Services, relevant government agencies, critical infrastructure, selected NGOs and members of civil society

## Format and design

- A TERP is effective when emergency managers understand it and are easily able to locate information.
- A template for a TERP is provided in MG82 and is available [here](#).

# Step 2 – Develop Response Plan

## Format and Design of a TERP

### Organisation

- Should be structured so that it is easy for users to find information. Separate sub-divisions are useful and allow revisions of particular sections without requirement to re-publish entire plan

### Progression

- Should have a logical sequence and avoid unnecessary duplication

### Consistency

- Terms and concepts should be used consistently between different sections

### Adaptability

- Emergency managers should be able to adapt as an event evolves and the TERP should facilitate this

### Compatibility

- The TERP should align with other plans so that it will not hinder coordination among different stakeholders

# Step 2 – Develop Response Plan

*A TERP should incorporate the public warning arrangements and procedures that apply. The emergency management agency should evaluate the tsunami information received from the NTWC and decide on appropriate actions. A significant challenge associated with tsunami warnings is the decision-making about evacuations*

**How is the NTWC warning received by the local emergency management agency (LDMO)?**

**Who evaluates the NTWC warning information and takes decision on appropriate action? Who decides on evacuation?**

**Who will process and disseminate official warnings to the local communities?**

**Warning templates need to be developed to allow for quick dissemination**

**Who will receive warning messages from the local LDMO?**

**What kind of communications systems are already in place and will be used?**

**Who can hear or read the alert?**

**How are people who cannot hear or read the alert notified?**

## Step 3 – Develop SOPs

- A SOP is a written document that describes the **actions to be taken in a system or process**.
- A SOP describes each individual activity in a sequence of activities, documenting **who does what, when, where, and how** for each activity.

Source: IOC Manuals and Guides, 76

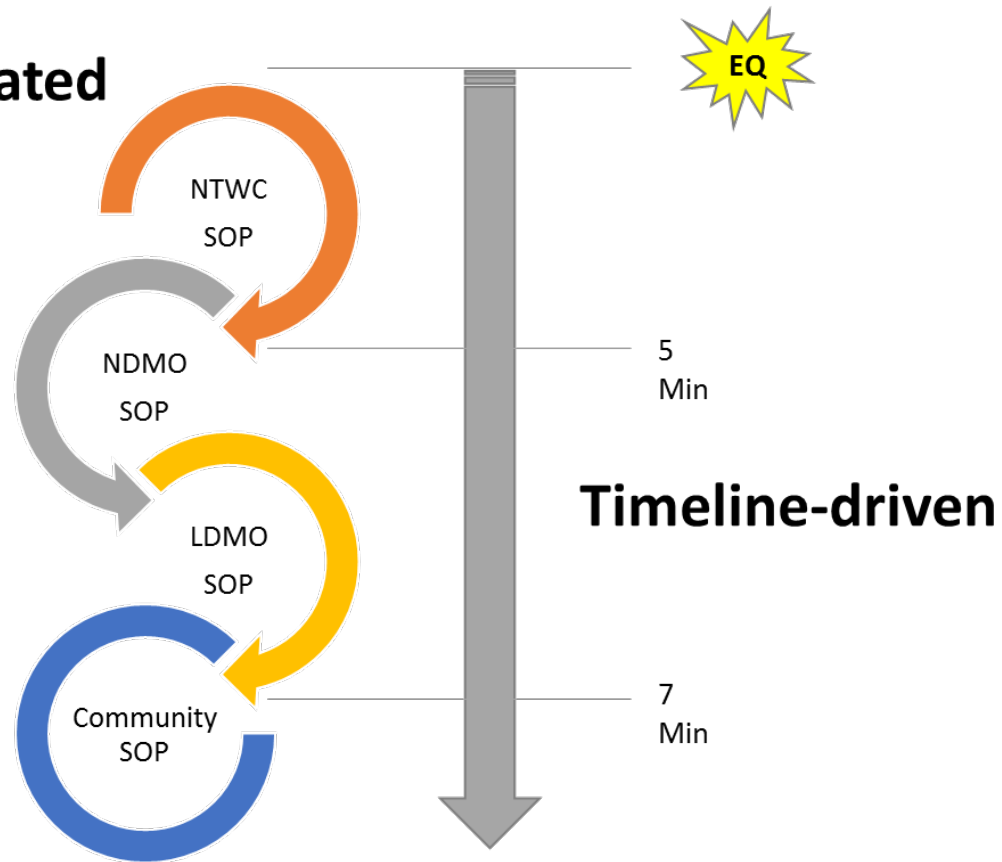
“A description and **procedure on agreed steps** by institutions/agencies/groups/teams used in coordinating **who, what, when, where and how** for tsunami early warning and response”\*

\*From Indonesian Local SOP Workshops: Capacity Building for Development of Local SOPs for Tsunami Early Warning and Response. 2006-2007

- All warning and response systems require SOPs. In case of tsunamis **the rapid evaluation, warning, and response is essential** to save lives.
- SOPs are “living documents” and should be developed, practiced and modified as necessary

# Step 3 – Develop SOPs

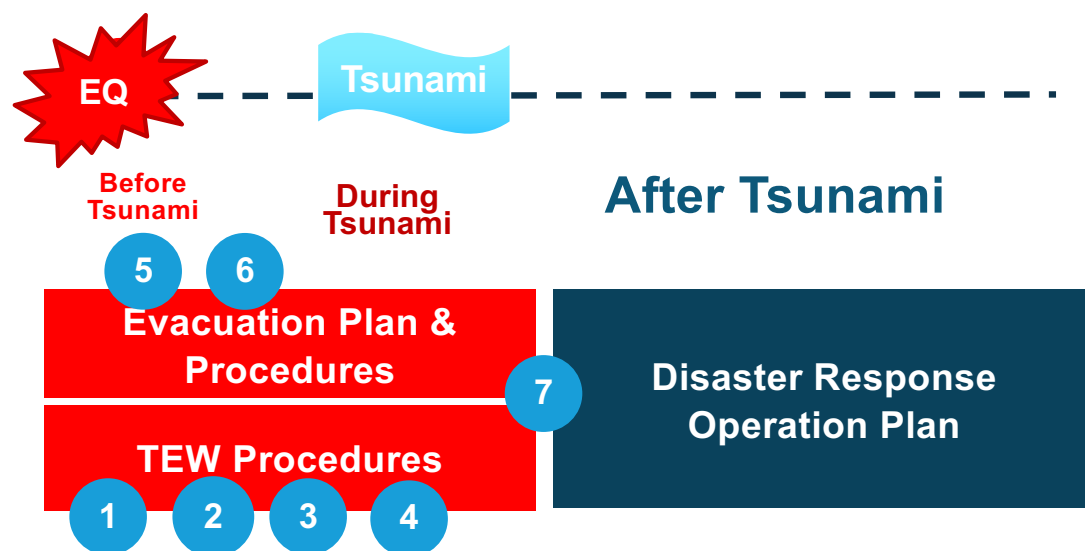
**Integrated**



## Step 3 – Develop SOPs

### SOPs related to the TERP at local level

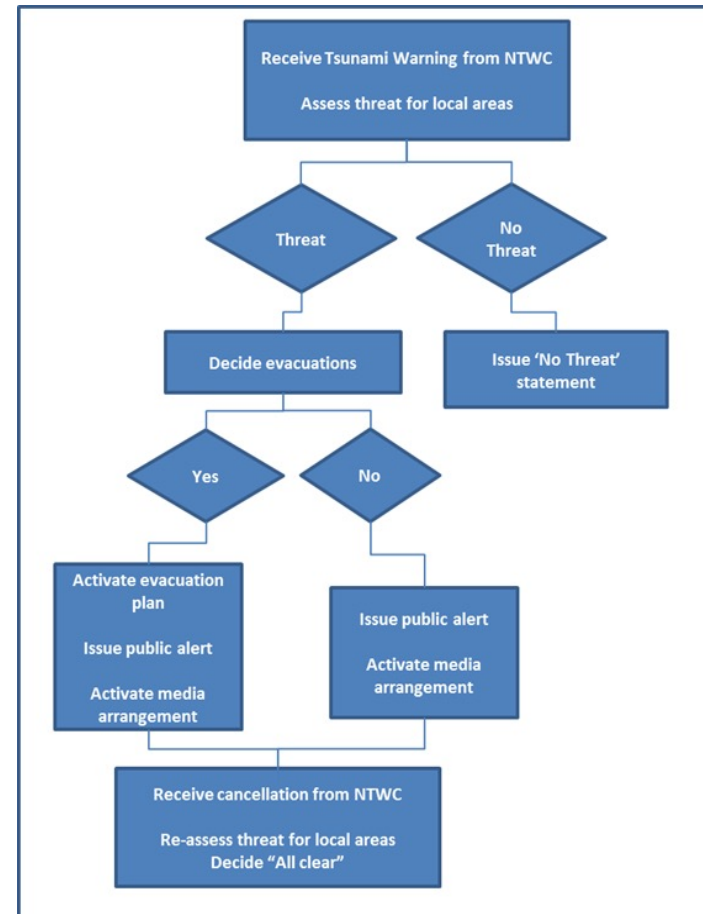
1. SOPs for receipt of warnings and cancellation messages from the NTWC
2. SOPs for decision making on evacuations
3. SOPs for public alerting
4. SOPs for media arrangements
5. SOPs for support and manage evacuations
6. SOP for traffic management
7. SOP for all clear and safe return





## Step 3 – Develop SOPs

Example of simplified flow chart for tsunami response at local level



# Step 4 – Develop Public Awareness

## Local or traditional knowledge

- A powerful tool to support scientific knowledge in community preparedness, but will not be enough to ensure an effective response

## Community needs

- Awareness activities and material should be tailored to the country or area-specific community needs. Geography, demography, language, culture, religion will influence the awareness approach

## Coordination and collaboration

- Essential that different agencies work together

## Public policy

- A formal tsunami education and awareness programme able to sustain itself over political cycles can be highly effective

## A multi-faceted approach

- Awareness programme should use a variety of formal and informal education and awareness-building and preparedness activities such as exercises and drills

## Step 4 – Develop Public Awareness

**Basic information about tsunami hazards**, with specific reference to the country or area. This should be supported by information on historical tsunami events and their impacts, including local and/or traditional knowledge of past events.

**The country's tsunami warning system** – where will warnings come from, how and when will they be communicated and what information will they contain

**Tsunami evacuation arrangements** – what the evacuation zones and routes are, how the instruction to evacuate will be issued, what to take, where the assembly sites are, and where to listen or look for the all-clear

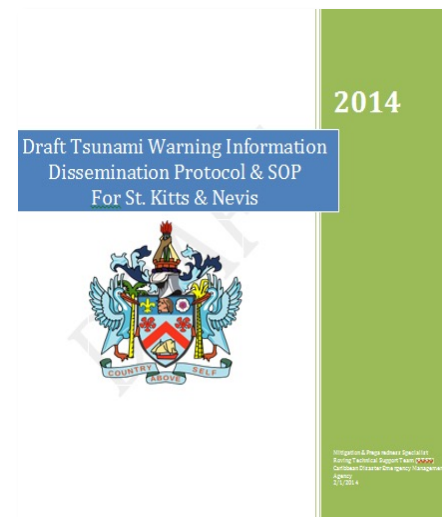
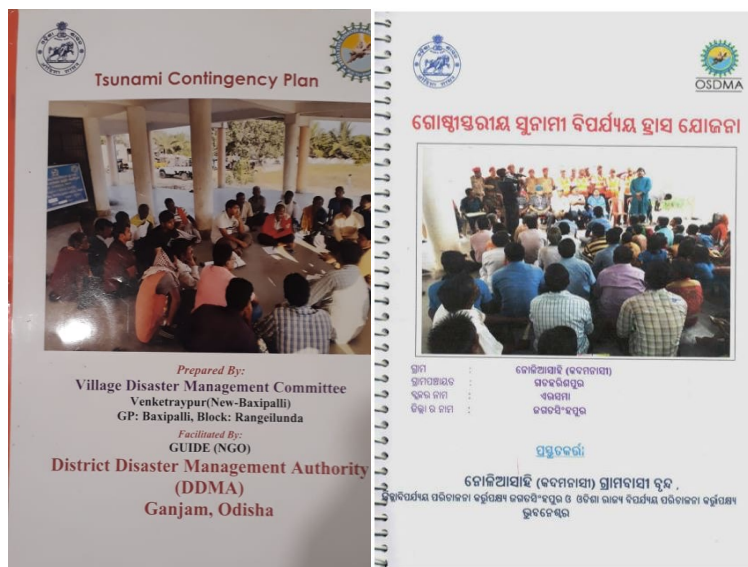
**Understanding natural warning signs** and how to respond to them (self-evacuations).

**Tsunami safety rules** (for people on land, in the water and in small boats)

# Examples



Cedeno, Honduras  
Emergency Response Plan, 2017



Draft Tsunami Warning  
Information Dissemination  
Protocol and Standard  
Operating Procedures (SOP)  
for St. Kitts and Nevis which  
satisfies RESP-1

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## **RESP-2:**

**The capacity to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami is in place**



# Introduction

*In addition to having an Emergency Operations Plan for tsunamis, communities should have the means to ensure that community officials can execute tsunami warning functions (public notifications) and response functions based on predetermined SOPs related to tsunami warning information and/or tsunami incidents. This may involve the use of an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).*

*Emergency Operations Centre, Kos, Greece*



*National EOC, Oficina Nacional de Emergencia del Ministerio del Interior (ONEMI), Chile  
(Courtesy of ITIC)*

*St. Kitts Emergency Operations Center*



# Capacities needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami

1. People **who will carry out** the emergency response operation

SOP

Knowledge

Skill

2. Facilities and Infrastructures **to implement the emergency response operations**

Tools

Equipment

Logistics

# Arrangements needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami

**Communities should have the means to ensure that tsunami warning and response functions can be executed by the designated community officials. This may include the activation of an Emergency Response/Operations Centre (EOC)**

1. Has 24-hour operations or plan to activate EOC for tsunami incidents
2. Has warning reception and dissemination capability
3. Has ability and authority to activate the public alert system
4. Maintains the ability to communicate within and across jurisdictions
5. Maintains communications links with NTWC and/or DMO
6. Has capacity to manage evacuations and respond to the consequences of a tsunami

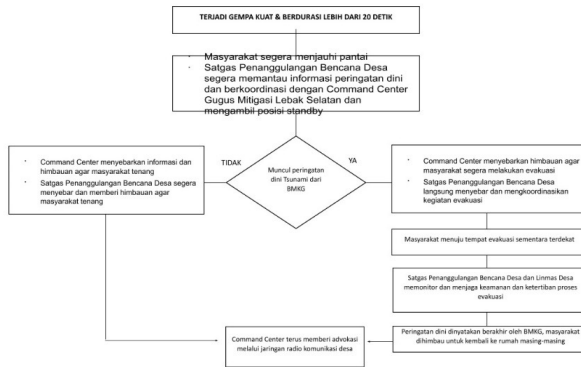


# Arrangements needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami

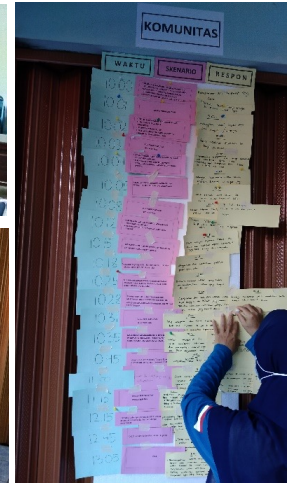
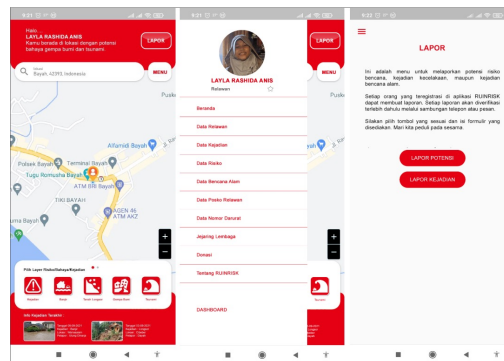
- ✓ The Emergency Response roles that must be fulfilled are:
  - Control: a local controller should be in charge and coordinates response activities
  - Operations: the appropriate and relevant agencies and organisations should be activated
  - Planning and Intelligence: to conduct threat analysis and to identify gaps and shortfalls
  - Finance and Administration: to keep track of costs and ensure continuity of operations

# Capacities needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami

## SOP PERINGATAN DINI DAN EVAKUASI GEMPA TSUNAMI



Continuous capacity building, training, and exercises



# Capacities needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami

## Emergency Operation Team 24/7





# Capacities needed to manage emergency response operations during a tsunami



**Pangandaran Village Alert Car**



**Smart Poles at four locations**



**Command Centre**



**TAGANA Pangandaran Disaster Preparedness Equipment**

**FKDM Personnel Training with BPBD and BASARNAS**





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# Thank You

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