



# Roles of Tsunami Ready Focal Points (TRFPs)

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*ICG/IOTWMS Intersessional Meeting of Working Group 3  
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# Establishment of a Tsunami Ready Focal Point



The UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS) at its 13th Session in Bali, Indonesia, 28 November–1 December 2022, decided to establish a Tsunami Ready Focal Point (TRFP) for each Member State to enhance communication, coordination, and implementation of the [UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme \(TRRP\)](#) or similar initiatives across the Indian Ocean.

The aim is to contribute to 100% of communities at-risk being prepared and resilient to any tsunami threat within their Member State by 2030, in line with the objectives of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030 and those of the overall UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Programme.

# Role of a Tsunami Ready Focal Point

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- a) Act as a national advocate for national implementation of the TRRP or a recognised similar initiative to help make at-risk communities prepared and resilient to any tsunami threat within their Member State.
- b) Actively contribute to the national implementation of the TRRP or a recognised similar initiative.
- c) Routinely update the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS on the status of the national implementation of the TRRP or a recognised similar initiative.
- d) Inform relevant national authorities and organisations involved in the implementation of the TRRP or a recognised similar initiative on any information and/or updates provided by UNESCO-IOC on activities related to making at-risk communities Tsunami Ready.

# Criteria for a Tsunami Ready Focal Point



A person from a Disaster Management Organisation (DMO) or similar institution with significant experience or expertise in one or more of the following criteria:


1. Developing community preparedness against natural hazards, preferably the tsunami hazard.
2. Understanding of evacuation planning and procedures implementation.
3. Understanding of the requirements, protocols, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for national tsunami warning chains.
4. Training of at-risk communities in responding to natural hazards, including the planning and implementation of community exercises.
5. Strong leadership and/or advocacy for helping make at-risk communities prepared and resilient to natural hazards, preferably the tsunami hazard.
6. Member of National Tsunami Ready Board (NTRB) or similar national body responsible for coordinating the implementation of the [UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme \(TRRP\)](#) if already exists, or a similar initiative.

# TRFP Nominations received



In response to IOC Circular Letter No 2978 issued on 18 December 2023:

- 18 Member States have nominated including Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, and United Arab Emirates.
- Nominations have not been received from 7 Member States including Australia, France (Indian Ocean Territories), Oman, Singapore, Tanzania, Thailand, and Yemen.



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**IOC Circular Letter No 2978** (Available in English only) **IOC/VR/BA/RB/ah**  
18 December 2023

**To :** ICG/IOTWMS<sup>1</sup> Tsunami National Contacts

**C.c. :** Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and National Commissions for UNESCO in ICG/IOTWMS Member States  
UNESCO Offices in Doha, Islamabad, Jakarta, New Delhi, and Tehran  
ICG/IOTWMS Chair and Vice-Chairs  
ICG/IOTWMS Working Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs  
ICG/IOTWMS Tsunami Warning Focal Points  
ICG/IOTWMS National Tsunami Warning Centres  
ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat

**Subject:** Establishment of a National Tsunami Ready Focal Point for each Member State of the ICG/IOTWMS

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**Role of a Tsunami Ready Focal Point:**  
The role of the TRFP is summarized as follows:

- Act as a national advocate for national implementation of the TRRP or a recognised similar initiative to help make at-risk communities prepared and resilient to any tsunami threat within their Member State.

<sup>1</sup> ICG/IOTWMS Member States include Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, Djibouti, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor Leste, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

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*ICG/IOTWMS Intersessional Meeting of Working Group 3  
on Tsunami Ready Implementation, 21 August 2024*



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