81st Session of ESCAP Side Event

Resilient Coasts: Enhancing Disaster Preparedness Through Regional Collaboration

12:45-13:45 (BKK), 25 April 2025 **Conference Room 4, UNCC Bangkok, Thailand & Microsoft Teams**









TRUST FUND FOR TSUNAMI DISASTER AND CLIMATE







Housekeeping Announcements for Online Participants

- 1. This meeting will be recorded.
- 2. Please type questions on the chat box or use the "raise hand" function if you would like to speak
- 3. Please mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- 4. Please rename your profile as "NAME-COUNTRY/ORG"





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Opening Session

Opening Statement



Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP













Opening Session

Statement on India's Renewed Contribution to the Trust Fund



H.E. Nagesh Singh

Ambassador of India to Thailand and Permanent Representative to ESCAP



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Presentation

Strengthening Tsunami Warning in the NWIO Through Regional Cooperation

as funded through the Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness on behalf of UNESCO-IOC, INCOIS, ESCAP



Ms Temily Baker

Programme Management Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction Section,

ESCAP



Govt. of India











Targeting Coastal Hotspots

Exploring Tsunami In Multi-Hazard contexts

- Most disaster impacted region. Since 1970, over two million people have lost their lives
- The LDCs/SIDS accounts for mortality five times as compared to the rest of the Asia-Pacific.
- Economic damages from disasters are on the rise
- By 2030 more than 50 per cent population is expected to be in 26 cities in extreme high-risk areas
- Tsunamis remain a major threat for coastal ESCAP members Coastal risk hotspots exposing 68 million people and US\$2.4 trillion building stock

Population exposed to tsunami and multi-hazard hotspots in the Asia-Pacific Region (500-year return period)



ESCAP's Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness

Following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness was established with a founding grant of \$10 million from Thailand and soon joined by Sweden, to address gaps in regional early warning systems.

10 other donors have since contributed, for a currently **total of \$17 million of regional commitment** to strengthen early warning systems, directly **benefitting 23 countries.**

Investments in tsunami preparedness can also **achieve economies of scale and scope** when adapted through a multihazard approach



How Far Have We Come In The Last Two Decades? Global Tsunami Warning Systems



How Far Have We Come In The Last Two Decades?

Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment in the Indian and Pacific Ocean basins 2024-2025



Tsunami Preparedness within a Multi-Hazard Context: Summary for Indian Ocean basin countries



Pillar 1: Disaster Risk Knowledge

- Increase in tsunami hazard assessment, also now incorporated into multi-hazard assessments
- □ Low levels of data availability and local level assessments

😰 Pillar 2: Observation, monitoring and forecasting

- All countries covered by Tsunami Service Provider ocean wide observations, forecasts and assessments
- Decline in sharing and availability of data and stations

Cross-cutting Pillar: Governance and Institutional arrangement

- Tsunami included in national DRR policies. Nearly all countries conduct tsunami drills at national level.
- D More focus required at local level and multi-sectoral

Pillar 3: Warning Dissemination and Communication

- ✓ Upstream SOPs available and improved
- 2 national tsunami warning centers without 24/7 operational capacity.
 Most countries requesting NTWC capacity support.

Pillar 4: Preparedness and Response capabilities

- Impressive development of public awareness materials, guidelines, school programmes, Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme
- Downstream SOPs require improvement and testing. Requests for public awareness and evacuation planning support

Cross-cutting Pillar: Sustained cooperation and financing

- Regional cooperation through IOTWMS ensures sustainability of the tsunami warning system
- Operations and maintenance funding incl. for shared infrastructure; untapped potential of public-private-partnership















Achievements of the Trust Fund together with IOC-UNESCO and IOTIC

Strengthening tsunami early warning in the NWIO region through regional cooperation

Resulting in formation of the NWIO WG under the ICG/IOTWMS, a unified Makran assessment, updated national tsunami warning chains, translated guidelines, inundation & evacuation maps in North West Indian Ocean Countries.





North-West Indian Ocean Regional Workshop on Tsunami Inundation Mapping and Tsunami Evacuation Planning in Muscat, Oman, 2024 (UNESCO-IOC)





Strengthening tsunami early warning in the NWIO region through regional cooperation

Taking a Programmatic Approach









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Strengthening Tsunami Early Warning in NWIO Region through Regional cooperation

Phase 3 Proposed: (2025-2027) – Achieving tsunami readiness in key coastal cities





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Aligning with EW4All and UN ODTP

UN Ocean Decade: 100% of at-risk communities to be tsunami ready by 2030

Tsunami Ready consists of 12 key indicators designed to strengthen local tsunami risk reduction capacity.

EW4All: "for every person on Earth to be protected by early warning systems within five years" – UN Secretary General, 2022





Components of EWS



Disaster Risk Knowledge



Warning Dissemination

ESCAP



Preparedness and Response

















2021 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



Panel Discussion

Enhancing Coastal Urban Disaster Risk Resilience Through Regional Cooperation

Moderator



Ms Sunanda Manneela

Chair of the North West Indian Ocean Working Group of the ICG/IOTWMS



Mr Nasser Said Al-Ismaili

Director of Forecasting and Early Warning Systems National Multi-Hazard EWC, Oman & Vice Chair of NWIO Working Group of ICG/IOTWMS

Panelists



Dr Sudheer Joseph

Scientist 'G' & Division Head of Applied Research and Research to Operations (ARO), INCOIS

Dr Srinivasa Kumar

Tummala, Head of the ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat, UNESCO-IOC











Oceanographic Commission



Closing Remarks

By representative of the Advisory Council to the Trust Fund and the Government Of Thailand



Ms Duangnapa Uttamangkapong

Director of Research and International Cooperation Bureau, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation













THANKYOU

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