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## KNOWLEDGE IS SAFETY

### NEAMTIC

The Tsunami Information Centre for the North-Eastern Atlantic, The Mediterranean and Connected Seas (NEAMTIC) is part of the activities coordinated by IOC of UNESCO and carried out by Member States to develop the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the NEAM region.

Its purpose is to make citizens aware of risks of tsunamis and other sea level hazards to acquire knowledge on safe behaviour to be adopted.

NEAMTIC has developed educational products and good practices on tsunamis and other sea-level related hazards available through its web portal.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tsunami Programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

[www.ioc-tsunami.org](http://www.ioc-tsunami.org)

NEAMTIC Website:

[neamtic.ioc-unesco.org](http://neamtic.ioc-unesco.org)

## TSUNAMI WARNING AND MITIGATION SYSTEM

In June 2005, The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO) received a mandate from the international community to coordinate the establishment of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS) which was formally established through Resolution XXIII-14.

### STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF ICG/NEAMTWS

#### Tsunami Watch Provider

Disseminate tsunami warning messages to other Member States.

#### Tsunami National Contact

Is the person designated by the Member States of the ICG/NEAMTWS to represent his/her country.

#### Tsunami Warning Focal Point

A 24x7 point of contact (office, operational unit or position, not a person) officially designated by the NTWC or the government to receive and disseminate tsunami information from an ICG Tsunami Watch Provider.

#### National Tsunami Warning Centre

Collects, records and processes earthquake data for the rapid initial warning messages.

IOC/BRC/2014/6

# EXERCISE NEAMWAVE 14

## A TSUNAMI WARNING AND COMMUNICATION EXERCISE FOR THE NORTH-EASTERN ATLANTIC, THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND CONNECTED SEAS REGION

28-30 OCTOBER 2014

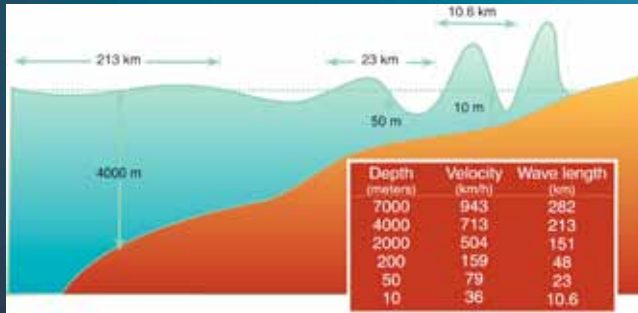


Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

# WHAT IS A TSUNAMI?

A tsunami is a series of enormous waves created by an underwater disturbance usually associated with earthquakes occurring below or near the ocean.

Although less frequent than in the Pacific, tsunamis can hit the Mediterranean and North-East coastal areas causing extensive loss of lives and properties.



Tsunamis slow down but grow in size as they come ashore.

In the Mediterranean basin they propagate in a very short time.

In fifteen minutes, a large area of the coast near the source of the tsunami is hit, and within an hour the tsunami has crossed the basin and arrived on the opposite coast.



Tsunami generation

# TSUNAMI WAVE EXERCISES

Tsunami Wave Exercises are designed by the IOC at the international level, but they can be adapted to national, provincial and local levels.

The local and national governments of countries, along with Non-governmental agencies, can use these exercises to evaluate its capability to execute one or more components of its response or recovery capability to tsunami events.

It is important that local authorities, emergency services, local infrastructure providers, government agencies and other partner agencies work, plan, train, exercise and respond together.

National and local exercises are good to measure the effectiveness of plans and allow to practice skills according to a scenario in a simulated environment.



Bali school children follow a designated tsunami evacuation route as part of an Indonesian Tsunami Drill, December 2006.

# NEAMWave 14 OBJECTIVES

- Validate and evaluate the Candidate Tsunami Watch Provider (CTWP) dissemination process of issuing tsunami messages in the NEAM region, utilizing new communication technologies adopted during the last Tsunami Wave Exercise (NEAMWave 12).
- Validate and evaluate the procedures for countries to receive and confirm the tsunami messages issued by the CTWP through their National Tsunamis Warning Centre (NTWC), or the country Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) or the country Tsunami National Contacts (TNC).
- Test the dissemination of the warning messages to the relevant agencies that are responsible for emergency response (CPA).
- Assess the organizational decision making process about public warnings and evacuations thus sensitising/ launching/ contributing to the development of a national policy to tackle the tsunami risk.
- Identify the best practices to be shared, criticalities to be addressed by the programme in future activities, and room for improvements process.
- Test the existing procedures within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism framework (UCPM) to request international assistance via the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) of DG ECHO.

ACTORS

ACTIONS



Flowchart of the Exercise NEAMWave 14