



Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS)

Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment (ESCAP Phase II)

**Informational Webinar
13 February 2025, 2300 UTC (1h)**

A decorative graphic of stylized waves in shades of grey and white, located at the bottom left of the slide.

Agenda

- **Opening and Introductory Remarks – PTWS Chair**
- **Overview of UNESCAP Phase-I and Phase-II – Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness Programme Manager**
- **PTWS Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment – ITIC Director**
- **Q&A**
- **Closing – PTWS Chair**

PTWS Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment Webinar
13 February 2025



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Introductory Remarks

by

Yuji Nishimae
Chair of ICG/PTWS

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**A brief overview of
ESCAP Phase-I (IOTWMS) and Phase-II (PTWS)**

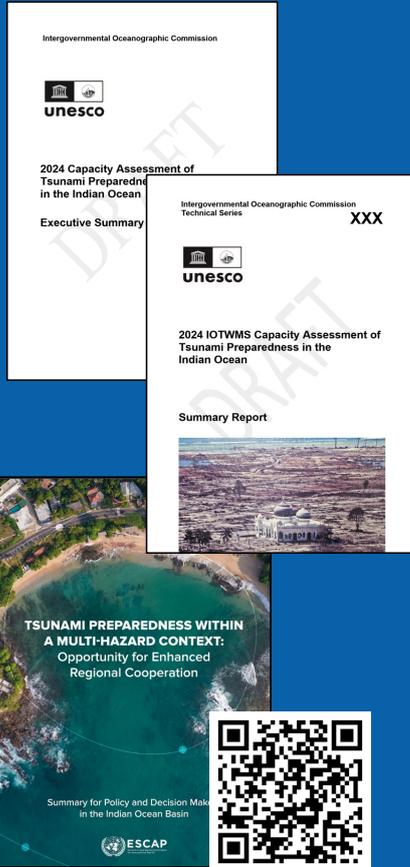
by

Ms Temily Isabella Baker



ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific

A brief overview of ESCAP Phase-I and Phase-II



Phase I – Indian Ocean Basin

Nov 2023- Dev 2024

20th Commemoration of IOT

1A/1B IOTWMS Technical Capacity Assessment Report and Exec Summary

3A/3B Tsunami Preparedness summary for ESCAP Indian Ocean policy makers

Phase II – Pacific Ocean Basin

Sept 2024- Sept 2025

60 years of PTWS

2A/2B PTWS Technical Capacity Assessment Report and Exec Summary

3C Tsunami Preparedness summary for ESCAP Pacific Ocean policy makers

A brief overview of ESCAP Phase-I and Phase-II



The Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness, was established in 2005 directly following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, to fill the gaps in regional early warning, focusing on high risk, low-capacity countries.

Project Period: 23 months (Phase-I and Phase-II)

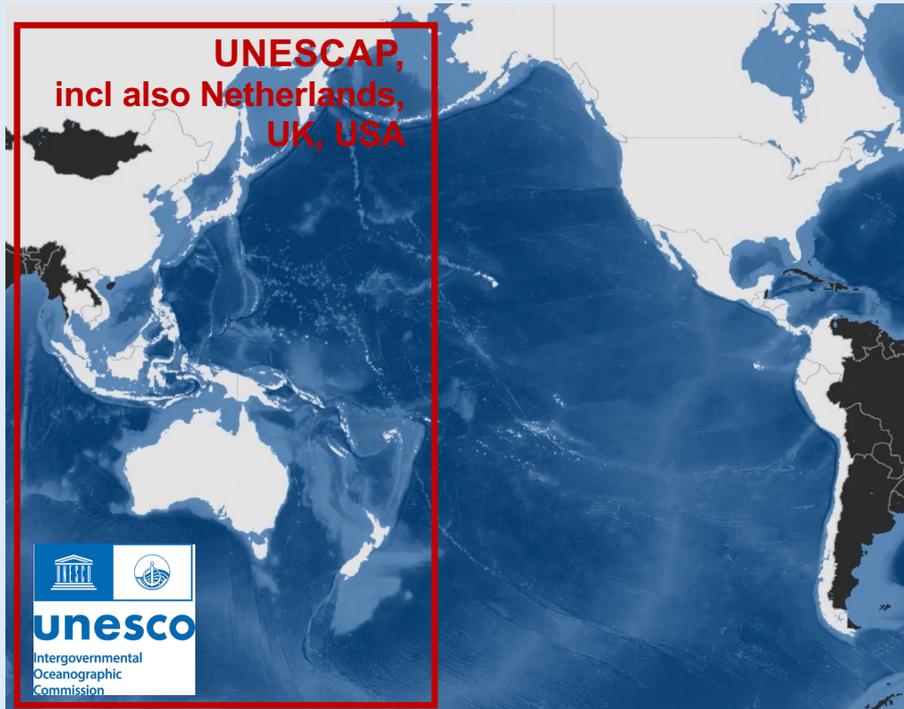
**Resources: In-kind support from UNESCAP, UNESCO-IOC, and partners
Extra-budgetary activities funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB),
the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the
Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation through the
ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness.**



PTWS and ESCAP Scope

PTWS: 46 member states, Pacific Ocean and its Marginal Seas

Of 46, 4 are UNESCO, not IOC (Brunei, Cambodia, RMI, FSM), 1 is UNESCO Assoc MS, not IOC (Tokelau)



UNESCAP: 53 member and 9 associate member states in Asia-Pacific.

→ 33 out of the 46 PTWS members are under ESCAP

Full member states [edit]

The following countries are the full member states of the commission:^[3]

- Afghanistan[#] (24 April 1953)
- Armenia (26 July 1994)
- Australia (28 March 1947)
- Azerbaijan (31 July 1992)
- Bangladesh[#] (17 April 1973)
- Bhutan (06 January 1972)
- Brunei Darussalam (26 July 1985)
- Cambodia[#] (20 August 1954)
- China[#] (28 March 1947)
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea (the) (31 July 1992)
- Fiji (03 August 1979)
- France[^] (28 March 1947)
- Georgia (25 July 2000)
- India (28 March 1947)
- Indonesia (28 September 1950)
- Iran (the Islamic Republic of) (10 July 1958)
- Japan (24 June 1954)
- Kazakhstan (31 July 1992)
- Kiribati[#] (26 July 1991)
- Kyrgyzstan (31 July 1992)
- Lao People's Democratic Republic (the) (16 February 1955)
- Malaysia (17 September 1957)
- Maldives (05 August 1976)
- Marshall Islands (the) (31 July 1992)
- Micronesia (the Federated States of) (31 July 1992)
- Mongolia (21 December 1961)
- Myanmar[#] (19 April 1948)
- Nauru (20 July 1971)
- Nepal[#] (06 June 1955)
- Netherlands (the Kingdom of the)[†] (28 March 1947)
- New Zealand (08 March 1948)
- Pakistan (30 September 1947)
- Palau (18 July 1996)
- Papua New Guinea (27 August 1976)
- Philippines (the) (28 March 1947)
- Republic of Korea (the) (20 October 1954)
- Russian Federation (the)[†] (28 March 1947)
- Samoa (05 July 1963)
- Singapore (21 September 1965)
- Solomon Islands[#] (03 August 1979)
- Sri Lanka (10 December 1954)
- Tajikistan (31 July 1992)
- Thailand (28 March 1947)
- Timor-Leste[#] (18 July 2003)
- Tonga (20 July 1971)
- Türkiye (18 July 1996)
- Turkmenistan (31 July 1992)
- Tuvalu[#] (26 July 1985)
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the)[†] (28 March 1947)
- United States of America (the)[†] (28 March 1947)
- Uzbekistan (31 July 1992)
- Vanuatu (27 July 1984)
- Viet Nam (23 August 1954)

Associate members [edit]

The following countries and territories are the associate members of the commission:^[3]

- American Samoa[#] (28 July 1988)
- Cook Islands (the)[†] (11 July 1972)
- French Polynesia[†] (31 July 1992)
- Guam[†] (24 July 1981)
- Hong Kong, China[†] (25 November 1947)
- Macao, China[†] (26 July 1991)
- New Caledonia[†] (31 July 1992)
- Niue[†] (03 August 1979)
- Northern Mariana Islands (the)[†] (22 July 1986)

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PTWS Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment

by

Dr. Laura Kong, ITIC Director
Lara Bland, New Zealand, NEMA

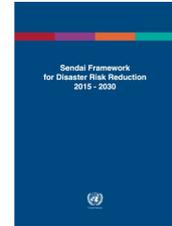
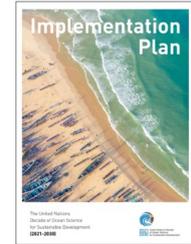
PTWS Medium Term Strategy, 2022-2030 (IOC TS 172)

Strategy

- Provides structured pathway for governance and co-ordination of PTWS
- Is implemented using following will oversee / conduct work to deliver goal of Strategy:
 - Steering Committee to provide guidance
 - Working Groups aligned with Objectives of Strategy to deliver on work programmes
 - Task Teams to work on specific projects

Aligned with

- UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021– 2030): [Implementation Plan](#)
- UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2022–2029 ([41 C/4](#)).
- [Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission \(IOC\) Medium-Term Strategy 2022–2029](#) (PTWS parent body's Strategy) that identifies early warning systems as an important part of its strategic vision - Framework for Global Tsunami and Other Ocean Hazards Warning and Mitigation Systems.
- Global targets and priorities for action of [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction \(SFDRR\) 2015–2030](#) – specifically SFDRR Target G, which is to *Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi- hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030*)
- ICG/PTWS [Framework Future Goals and Performance Monitoring of Tsunami Risk Reduction, Hazard Warning, and Mitigation](#) (2018)



PTWS Vision, Goal, Objectives

VISION

*The countries of the Pacific Ocean and its marginal seas are **resilient to tsunami risk** they face. Our Pacific communities are **empowered to manage this risk**, and **actionably build their resilience** so they can live, work, and thrive in a diverse, tsunami prone environment.*

GOAL

*To **build strong, knowledge aware communities** regarding tsunami hazard and risk, by leading and delivering a modern and effective tsunami warning and mitigation system, **improving access to tsunami hazard and risk information**, and **enabling prepared and aware communities**. Subsequently, we **agree to work together**, via Member State participation to reduce risk and build resilience to tsunami hazards.*

We will achieve this by delivering on the following Objectives:

1. Understanding and Managing Tsunami Hazard and Risk

2. Tsunami Detection, Measurement, Warning & Dissemination

3. Enhancing tsunami preparedness for effective community response

4. International Cooperation and Partnerships

Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment Objectives

- 2025 is the 60th anniversary of the PTWS (ITSU)
- Assessment is the 1st ever done for the PTWS
- Establishes baseline to measure progress against over life of PTWS MTS.
- Accordingly, the Objectives are:

1. To evaluate the existing technical capacity of the Pacific Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System (PTWS)

2. To identify specific gaps and capacity development requirements at regional and national levels for strengthening the technical and policy aspects of the tsunami warning and mitigation systems in the region

3. To reinvigorate political commitment and provide recommendations for investments in tsunami preparedness, aiming to address the identified gaps in the PTWS area through regional and subregional cooperation

Assessment also aligns with the goals of ...

**Early Warnings
for All
(EW4All)**

**Early
Warnings
for All**

**Sendai
Framework on
Disaster Risk
Reduction**



**UNESCO-IOC
Tsunami Ready
Recognition
Programme**

**United Nations
Decade of Ocean
Science for
Sustainable
Development 2021-
2030**



**2021
2030** United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

SENDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

**Agenda 2030 for
Sustainable
Development**

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Announcement

 **INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION**
COMMISSION Océanographique Intergouvernementale
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGOBIERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ
اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات
政府間海洋学委员会

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IOC Circular Letter No 3027
(Available in English only)

IOC/VH/ON/ah
5 February 2025

To : ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC)
ICG/PTWS National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWCs)
ICG/PTWS Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP)
ICG/PTWS Chair and Vice-Chairs

C.c. : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with IOC
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC ICG/PTWS
Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in Asia/Pacific Region
Permanent Observers to ICG/PTWS
Regional Organizations cooperating with UNESCO-IOC
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Subject: Survey to assess tsunami preparedness capacities in the Pacific Ocean

As part of the ongoing efforts to improve disaster risk reduction through early warning systems, and in line with existing mandates, UNESCO-IOC, with the support of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), proposed to conduct a comprehensive reassessment of tsunami preparedness capacity, focusing on the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS) in Phase I and the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS) in Phase II. Initial communication on this assessment was made to the Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) of ICG/PTWS via a letter from the ICG/PTWS Chair dated 4 November 2024 (Annex 1), accompanied by a concept note on the assessment in the Indian and Pacific Oceans (Annex 2). Phase I (in the Indian Ocean) was completed in 2024, and Phase II will begin with an online survey dedicated to the Pacific Ocean, available at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PTWS-Tsunami-Capacity-Assessment-2025>. Information on this survey and the questions it contains can be found in Annex III. If access to the above link is not possible, the response to the survey can be sent to the Secretariat using the file in Annex 3.

This capacity assessment aligns with the United Nations Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, with a focus on the importance of early warning systems for geophysical hazards, and the needs to develop the capacity of these systems to reduce the loss of lives and livelihoods from disasters. The assessment also aligns with the goals of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030, UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Programme, UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

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- Letter to Member States from ICG/PTWS Chair – 4 November 2024
- [IOC Circular Letter 3027](#) issued 5 February from IOC Executive Secretary
 - Letter of the ICG/PTWS Chair
 - Concept Note (2024 IOTWMS and 2025 PTWS Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment)
 - Survey
 - Survey deadline – completed online by 4 March 2025
- OceanExpert website (information) : <https://oceanexpert.org/event/4696>



PTWS Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment Survey

Online completion using

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PTWS-Tsunami-Capacity-Assessment-2025>



SURVEY INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

Background information on the Tsunami Preparedness Capacity Assessment in the Pacific Ocean is provided in the IOC Letter 24.113 as provided as an Annex to the CL-3027. Below is an overall description of the survey provided together with the set of survey questions prepared for this assessment. The link of the survey is also provided in the CL-3027. While the questions of the survey are provided both in English and Spanish, responses would be required only in English, to better facilitate the analysis and evaluation of the survey data and results. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding on this matter.

The Tsunami National Contacts (TNCs) are requested to coordinate the completion of the online survey, in consultation with other national stakeholders involved in end-to-end tsunami early warning and mitigation within the country. Considering the importance of this survey, all Member States are requested to complete the survey before 04 March 2025 EOB (UTC).

Part	Topic of the Survey	Stakeholder Inputs
I	Basic Information: TNC/TWCF/TWFP contact details	Tsunami National Contact
II	Risk Assessment & Reduction: Hazard assessment, Risk Assessment, Policies, Plans, Guidelines	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or any other agency responsible for Hazard/Risk Assessment in the Country
III	Detection, Warning and Dissemination	Inputs to be obtained from the National Tsunami Warning Centre and/or other agency responsible for generation and dissemination of tsunami early warnings within the country.
IV	Public Awareness, Preparedness & Response: SOPs, Evacuation, Tsunami exercises, Public Awareness	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or other agencies responsible for public awareness, preparedness, and response in the country
V	Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP)	Inputs to be obtained from the Tsunami National Contact, Tsunami Ready Focal Point (TRFP), if identified, and/or other agencies responsible for the TRRP or any other similar initiative in the country.
VI	Narrative: Important recent developments and summary of future plans.	Tsunami National Contact

Responses to this survey need to be provided by the Tsunami National Contact (TNC) of each Member State. The survey has to be completed in consultation with other national stakeholders based on their national tsunami early warning and mitigation plans.



INFORMACIÓN Y PREGUNTAS DE LA ENCUESTA

Los antecedentes sobre la evaluación de Capacidad de Preparación ante Tsunami en el Océano Pacífico son entregados por la carta circular de la COI 24.113 según lo dispuesto como Anexo a la CL-3027. A continuación, se encuentra una descripción general de la encuesta entregada, junto a el conjunto de preguntas preparadas para esta evaluación. Mientras que las preguntas son entregadas tanto en inglés como español, las respuestas serán requeridas sólo en inglés, con el fin de facilitar el análisis y la evaluación de los datos y resultados de la encuesta. Agradecemos de antemano su comprensión sobre esta disposición.

Los Contactos Nacionales de Tsunami (CNT) deberán coordinar la respuesta del cuestionario en línea, bajo consulta de los órganos involucrados en los procesos de alerta temprana y mitigación en su país. Considerando la importancia de esta encuesta, los Estados Miembros deberán completarla hasta el 04 de marzo 2025 (UTC).

Parte	Tema de la encuesta	Aporte de los órganos involucrados
I	Información Básica: Datos de contacto	Contacto Nacional de Tsunami
II	Evaluación y Reducción de Riesgo: Evaluación de la Amenaza, Evaluación del Riesgo, Políticas, Planes, Directrices	Aportes obtenidos desde la Oficina de Manejo de Emergencias y/o cualquier otra agencia responsable de la evaluación de Amenaza/Riesgo en el país.
III	Detección, Aviso y Difusión	Aportes obtenidos desde el Centro Nacional de Tsunami y/o cualquier otra agencia responsable de la generación y difusión de alerta temprana de Tsunami al interior del país.
IV	Concientización Pública, Preparación y Respuesta: Procedimientos Operativos Estándar (SOP por sus siglas en inglés), Evacuación, Ejercicios de Tsunami, Concientización Pública	Aportes de la Oficina de Manejo de Emergencias y/u otras agencias responsables de la concientización del público, preparación y respuesta en el país.
V	Programa de Reconocimiento Tsunami Ready	Aportes obtenidos del Contacto Nacional de Tsunami, Punto Focal Tsunami Ready (PFTR por sus siglas en inglés) si está identificado y/u otras agencias responsables del Programa de Reconocimiento Tsunami Ready u otra iniciativa similar en el país.
VI	Desarrollos recientes importantes y resumen de planes futuros.	Contacto Nacional de Tsunami

Las respuestas a esta encuesta deben ser coordinadas por el Contacto Nacional de Tsunami (CNT) de cada Estado Miembro. La encuesta debe completarse en consulta con otros actores nacionales involucrados en los procesos de alerta temprana y mitigación en su país. Considerando la importancia de esta encuesta, los Estados Miembros deberán completarla hasta el 04 de marzo 2025 (UTC).

QR code available



English with Spanish translation

As of 12 Feb 2025, a total of two response have been received.

Assessment Structure - Survey

The survey has six (6) parts – 100+ questions

Each part requires inputs from the responsible stakeholders of the tsunami warning and mitigation system

Topics

Part	Topic of the Survey	Stakeholder Inputs
I	Basic Information: TNC/NTWC/TWFP contact details	Tsunami National Contact
II	Risk Assessment & Reduction: Hazard assessment, Risk Assessment, Policies, Plans, Guidelines	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or any other agency responsible for Hazard/Risk Assessment in the Country
III	Detection, Warning and Dissemination	Inputs to be obtained from the National Tsunami Warning Centre and/or other agency responsible for generation and dissemination of tsunami early warnings within the country.
IV	Public Awareness, Preparedness & Response: SOPs, Evacuation, Tsunami exercises, Public Awareness	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or other agencies responsible for public awareness, preparedness, and response in the country
V	Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP)	Inputs to be obtained from the Tsunami National Contact, Tsunami Ready Focal Point (TRFP), if identified, and/or other agencies responsible for the TRRP or any other similar initiative in the country.
VI	Narrative: Important recent developments and summary of future plans.	Tsunami National Contact

Stakeholders:

Science, DMO

NTWC, TWFP

DMO, NTWC,
Science, NGO

Tsunami Ready
focal points

Part I

I	Basic Information: TNC/NTWC/TWFP contact details	Tsunami National Contact
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- **Recommend:** One person (TNC or representative of TNC) should fill in and submit the survey during 1 session (not multiple) after collecting input from all relevant stakeholders
- **Some rules / further advice (same as for PacWave survey filling using Survey Monkey):**
 - While inside Survey, can review (back, next) and change answers.
 - If you do not finish, can return to continue or edit (same device/web browser)
 - BUT if you click DONE, this submits the survey and it CANNOT be changed. To change, you submit new survey (using a different name) OR email PTWS Technical Secretary or ITIC for us to delete incorrect survey)
 - For a copy of what you submitted, request to PTWS Technical Secretary
 - If you are not able to submit online, you may use the fillable PDF (sent with IOC CL 3027). Return by email to PTWS Technical Secretary

Part II

II	Risk Assessment & Reduction: Hazard assessment, Risk Assessment, Policies, Plans, Guidelines	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or any other agency responsible for Hazard/Risk Assessment in the Country
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Question	Topic
4a-g	Hazard assessment done – type, multi-hazard, coverage, source scenarios
4h	Data / data layer availability
4i	Hazard assessment products – PTHA, Deterministic, Field, hazard/inundation/evacuation
4j,k	Country capacity, priority to undertake assessment, e.g., produce products
4l	Country capacity to provide training and/or consultancy to do hazard assessment
5a-l	Risk assessment done (same questions as for hazards assessment)
6a,b	Tsunami Policies – national, local (mitigation, preparedness, response, reconstruction)
7a,b	Tsunami Disaster Risk Reduction Plans – national, local, community (same topics)
8a,b	Tsunami Disaster Risk Reduction Guidelines – national, local (same topics)

Part III

III	Detection, Warning and Dissemination	Inputs to be obtained from the National Tsunami Warning Centre and/or other agency responsible for generation and dissemination of tsunami early warnings within the country.
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Question	Topic
9a	Country capability – assess or receive threat information, and warn
9b	TSP information used
9c	Local tsunami sources (types such as EQ, landslide, volcanic, etc)
9d,e, g, t	Responsible agencies
9f	24x7 communication methods
9h-q	Data (seismic, GNSS, sea level, other) – access, real-time, operating?
9r,s	Threat analysis, Modeling – national capacity
9u	Warning thresholds
9v,y	Events, Damaging events – action taken
9w	Communication testing
9z	Major enhancements to SOPs or alerting

Part IV

IV	Public Awareness, Preparedness & Response: SOPs, Evacuation, Tsunami exercises, Public Awareness	Inputs to be obtained from the Disaster Management Office and/or other agencies responsible for public awareness, preparedness, and response in the country
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Question	Topic
11a,b,c	SOPs – emergency response, dissemination and communication – support required (training, infrastructure) ?, SOP sharing
11d	Hazard assessment, evacuation planning, SOPs, decision support tools, staff competency, exercises – ITIC or other support required?
12	Evacuation
13 a	Exercises
13 b-d	Education and Awareness – materials, sharing, activities (incl WTAD, Global DRR)
13 f	Awareness support by ITIC (materials, develop programmes, participation)
13 g	Awareness support to others

Part V

V	Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP)	Inputs to be obtained from the Tsunami National Contact, Tsunami Ready Focal Point (TRFP), if identified, and/or other agencies responsible for the TRRP or any other similar initiative in the country.
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Question	Topic
14 a,b	TRRP interest, other similar national initiative?
14 c,f,g	Communities at risk – number, name
14 d,e	TRRP implementation progress
15 a-l.	Country capacities to achieve each Tsunami Ready indicator
	3 choices:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes done nationally• Yes done nationally with some international• No need technical support (ITIC, PTWS)
15 m.	Challenges for implementation (TRRP or similar national initiative), such as priority, resources, lack of interest, etc

Part VI

VI	Narrative: Important recent developments and summary of future plans.	Tsunami National Contact
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- | Question | Topic |
|-----------------|---|
| 16. | Describe any major innovations or modifications in national tsunami disaster risk reduction since 2020 (research, seismic/sea level monitoring technologies, source characterization, forecasting, cancellation, mitigation, preparedness, emergency management, education, etc |
| 17. | Challenges for implementation (TRRP or similar national initiative), such as priority, resources, lack of interest, etc |
| 18. | List topics where your country would like to capacity development support |

Next Steps

- **Preliminary compilation** of survey results to be presented at 31st Session of Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXXI), 7–11 April 2025 in Beijing, China.
- **Dedicated ICG/PTWS Steering Committee Evaluation Workshop** to be held during 14–16 May 2025 in Manila, Philippines
- **Draft Technical Report and its Summary** will be made available at the next IOC Assembly (25 June–3 July 2025).
- **An Executive Summary of the Technical Report** will be submitted to the ICG/PTWS Steering Committee in September 2025 for final review before publication.
- A **Policy Report targeting ESCAP Member States** will be produced.
- **All reports to be distributed** to ICG/PTWS Member States in October 2025.

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Q&A

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Closing Remarks

by

Yuji Nishimae
Chair of ICG/PTWS