

NATIONAL REPORT
Submitted by (Dominica)

BASIC INFORMATION

1. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC)

Name: Fitzoy Pascal
Title: National Disaster Coordinator
Organization: Office of Disaster Management (ODM)
Postal Address: Jimmit, Commonwealth of Dominica
E-mail Address: odm@dominica.gov.dm
Telephone Number: 767 266 4412/ 266-4477
Fax Number:
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2. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)

Name: Fitzoy Pascal
Title: National Disaster Coordinator
Responsible Organization: Office of Disaster Management (ODM)
Postal Address: Jimmit, Commonwealth of Dominica
E-mail Address: odm@dominica.gov.dm
Emergency Telephone Number: 767 266 4412/ 266-4477
Emergency Fax Number:
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number: 767 618 3252
National Tsunami Warning Centre (if different from the above) Person in Charge:
Title:
Responsible Organization:
Postal Address:
E-mail Address:
Emergency Telephone Number:
Emergency Fax Number:
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number:

3. Tsunami Advisor(s), not applicable

4. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Local Tsunami (when a local tsunami threat exists, less than 1 hour travel time)

A Local Tsunami is a tsunami from a nearby source for which its destructive effects are less than 1 hour tsunami-travel-time from nearby coasts. It is sometimes confined to coasts within about 100 km from the source, for example, in smaller magnitude earthquakes. A local tsunami is usually generated by an earthquake but can also be caused by an undersea landslide (Slump) or a pyroclastic flow or Lava from a volcanic eruption.

Due to the extremely short timeframe, only core agencies are involved. The **Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)** and **Seismic Research Centre (SRC)** handle seismic analysis, while the **Office of Disaster Management (ODM)** rapidly disseminates information and issues evacuation warnings. At the community level, **police, village councils, disaster committees, CBOs, and assigned persons with megaphones/town criers** are responsible for mobilizing residents to evacuate immediately.

Action Principles:

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of PTWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Media, Decision Makers, Public

Rapid Notification of Emergency Staff

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters # of Minutes after EQ	National Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
0 – Strong ground shaking felt				
1 – 5	Seismic information received and analysis initiated DMO, Government Officials and Media provided initial information.	PTWC, SRC ODM	Communities receive initial information	ODM
5 – 15	Seismic information processed. Watch/Monitor sea level data	PTWC PTWC	Self Evacuate	
5 – 15	Issue Evacuation Warning to Dominican Public	ODM	Community leaders (CBOs) etc. mobilize persons to evacuate	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones et., Village Council, Disaster Committee, town criers, CBOs

5. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Regional Tsunami (when a regional tsunami threat exists, 1–3 hour travel time)

A Regional Tsunami is a tsunami capable of destruction in a particular geographic region, generally within 1,000 km or 1-3 hours tsunami travel time from its source. Regional tsunamis also occasionally have very limited and localized effects outside the region.

The **PTWC** monitors seismic and sea level data and provides graphical products to decision makers. The **ODM** coordinates national communications, evacuation orders, and shelter activation. **Local Government** assists with shelter management. At the community level, **police, fire service, village councils, disaster committees, CBOs, and town criers** handle public notifications and evacuations. **Fisheries departments and fisher folk** are specifically responsible for securing boats, and **emergency shelter managers** oversee shelter operations. Post-event, the **Red Cross, police, fire services, disaster committees, and village councils** assist with damage assessment and the return of residents.

Action Principles:

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of PTWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Media, Decision Makers, Public

Rapid Notification of Emergency Staff

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters

Activate Emergency Shelters # of Minutes after EQ	National Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
0 – Strong ground shaking felt				
1 – 5	Seismic information received and analysis initiated DMO, Government Officials and Media provided initial information.	PTWC, SRC ODM	Communities receive initial information	ODM
5 – 15	Seismic information processed. Watch/Monitor sea level data	PTWC PTWC	Communities receive initial information by ODM	Police, Fire Service, Village Council Disaster Committees, CBOs
15– 30	DMO, Government Officials provided PTWC graphical products issue	PTWC	Communities receive second announcement / notice by ODM through media etc	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones et., Village Council, Disaster Committee, town criers, CBOs

30 – 60 If NO Tsunami is forth coming	DMO informed Media and Public informed	PTWC ODM	Reassure public / community members that no Tsunami is forthcoming	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committee, town criers CBOs
60+ If a Tsunami IS forth-coming	DMO informed All relevant agencies informed. Public informed. Government informed	PTWC ODM ODM and Media ODM	Community leaders to ensure all stakeholders groups are informed and on alert Fisher folk to secure boats on higher ground utilizing trucks, trailers etc	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs Police, Fisheries, Village Council
1 - 3hrs	Tsunami confirmed Issue Evacuation Activate Emergency Shelters	PTWC ODM, EOC Local Gov't	Community leaders (CBOs) etc. mobilize persons to evacuate Open Emergency Shelters	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs, Town Crier Emergency Shelter Managers, Village Councils, Disaster Committees etc
3hrs+	All Clear	PTWC to ODM to Public	Assess the damage along the coastal area Assist persons to return to their homes	Police, Fire Services, Disaster Committee, Village Council, Red Cross Police, Disaster Committee, Village Council

6. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Distant Tsunami (when a distant tsunami threat exists, more than 3-hour travel time)

A Distant / Tele-Tsunami is a tsunami originating from a far away source, generally more than 1,000 km or more than 3 hours tsunami travel time from its source (an Atlantic-based Tsunami would take 6-8 hrs to reach the Caribbean islands).

Action Principles:

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of TWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Decision Makers

Rapid Notification of the Public

Rapid Notification of Media

Rapid Notification and Recall of Emergency Staff

Rapid Notification of Government agencies; NGO's; other organizations

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters

Activate Emergency Shelters # of Minutes after EQ	National Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
0 – Strong ground shaking felt	Not applicable			
1 – 5	Seismic information received and analysis initiated	PTWC, SRC		
5 – 15	Seismic information processed. Watch/Monitor sea level data. DMO is notified.	PTWC PTWC PTWC		
15– 30	DMO, Government Officials provided PTWC graphical products issue	ODM	Community leaders (CBOs) and community members informed	Police, Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs

a) If the earthquake is not possible to become tsunami (No imminent threat):

30 – 60	DMO informed Media and Public informed	PTWC ODM	Reassure public / community members that no Tsunami is forthcoming	Media, Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc, Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs
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b) EQ with tsunami (**ADVISORY**)

# of Minutes after EQ	Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
30 – 60 Wait for the information from PTWC about possible Tsunami hit	DMO informed All relevant agencies informed. Public informed. Government informed	PTWC ODM ODM and Media ODM	Community leaders to ensure all stakeholder groups are informed and on alert	Police, Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs, Assigned persons with megaphones etc.,
60+ ODM to advise public how far to stay away based on the DART buoy info	Inform the public to stay away from coastal areas.	ODM / Media Broadcast	Mobilize persons in low lying areas and along coasts to move to higher ground Open Emergency Shelters	Police, Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs, Assigned persons with megaphones etc. Emergency Shelter Managers, Village Council etc.
1-3 hours	Continue to monitor	ODM & EOC	Be on alert for further messages	All

PTWC Cancellation Post tsunami impact	DMO informed All relevant agencies informed. Public informed. Government informed (NEPO)	PTWC ODM ODM and Media ODM	Assess any damage along the coastal area Assist persons to return to their homes	Police, Disaster Committee, Village Council, Police, Disaster Committee, Village council
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EQ with positive possibility to become tsunami (**WARNING**)

# of Minutes after EQ	Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
30 – 60	DMO informed All relevant agencies informed. Public informed. Government informed	PTWC ODM ODM and Media ODM	Community leaders to ensure all stakeholders groups are informed and on alert Fisher folk to secure boats on higher ground utilizing trucks, trailers etc.	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs Police, Fisheries, Village Council
60+	Tsunami Watch Inform public to stay away from coastal areas.	PTWC ODM / Media Broadcast	Mobilize persons on low lying areas and along coasts to move to higher ground	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs
1-3 hours	Tsunami confirmed Issue Evacuation Activate Emergency Shelters	PTWC ODM, EOC Local Gov't	Community leaders (CBOs) etc. mobilize persons to evacuate Open Emergency Shelters	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs, Town Crier Emergency Shelter Managers, Village Councils, Disaster Committees etc.

3+ hours	All Clear	PTWC to ODM to Public	Assess the damage along the coastal area Assist persons to return to their homes	Police, Fire Services, Disaster Committee, Village Council, Red Cross Police, Disaster Committee, Village Council
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7. National Sea Level Network

Station Name	location	latitude	Longitude	Sensors
Dominica Coast Guard Base	Roseau	15.313	-61.39	1 Pressure sensor 1 radar sensor 1 Bubbler Sensor type Operator: University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (USA)
Portsmouth Fisheries Terminal	Portsmouth	15.558969	-61.468456	2 radar sensors 1 pressure sensor

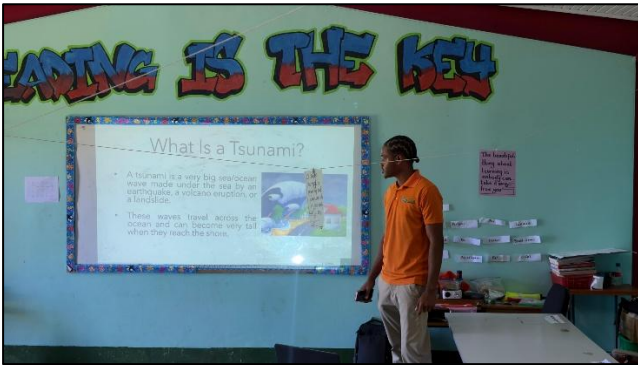
8. Information on Tsunami occurrences/Tsunami Exercises

Tsunami Exercises

The Office of Disaster Management (ODM) conducted nine (9) educational outreach sessions on tsunami awareness at different school across the island. This included the Bense Primary School, Colihaut Primary School, Coulibistrie Primary School, Thibaud Primary School, Wills Strathmore Primary School and Castle Bruce Primary School. Students were introduced to key concepts such as the causes of tsunamis, how they develop, natural warning signs, safety measures, and the role of emergency kits in disaster readiness.

Students took part in a hands-on group activity where they assembled a Tsunami emergency reinforcing the practical aspects of preparedness. The discussions also highlighted the appropriate steps to take before, during, and after a tsunami. Both students and teachers actively contributed to the session by asking questions and exploring realistic situations relevant to their community.

The sessions sought to strengthen knowledge, encourage proactive planning, and reinforce the importance of listening to guidance from adults and emergency personnel while being personally prepared for emergencies.



Awareness Session at Thibaud Primary School



Awareness session at Bense Primary

Tsunami simulation exercise was held with staff and students of the Coulibistrie Primary School on March 20, 2026.



Tsunami simulation exercise was held with staff and students of the Castle Bruce Primary School on March 26, 2026.



9. Web sites (URLs) of national tsunami-related web sites

The national tsunami-related websites and URLs are those of the Office of Disaster Management of Dominica

ODM website: www.odm.gov.dm

ODM Facebook page: <https://www.Facebook.com/ODMDominica1>

10. Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements.

Evacuation drills to be held in the town of Portsmouth in the last quarter of 2026.

NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES INFORMATION

11. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main highlight of Dominica's Tsunami readiness progress is the achievement of the town of Portsmouth Tsunami Ready Recognition. Portsmouth became the first community in Dominica to receive international Tsunami Recognition under the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme in alignment with the UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme's goal of ensuring 100% of tsunami-prone communities are prepared and resilient. The programme produced ten key deliverables, including a national scientific tsunami hazard assessment, updated national tsunami plans and SOPs, a community evacuation map, tsunami signage, emergency equipment for first responders, and the successful conduct of a community tsunami exercise.

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12. NARRATIVE

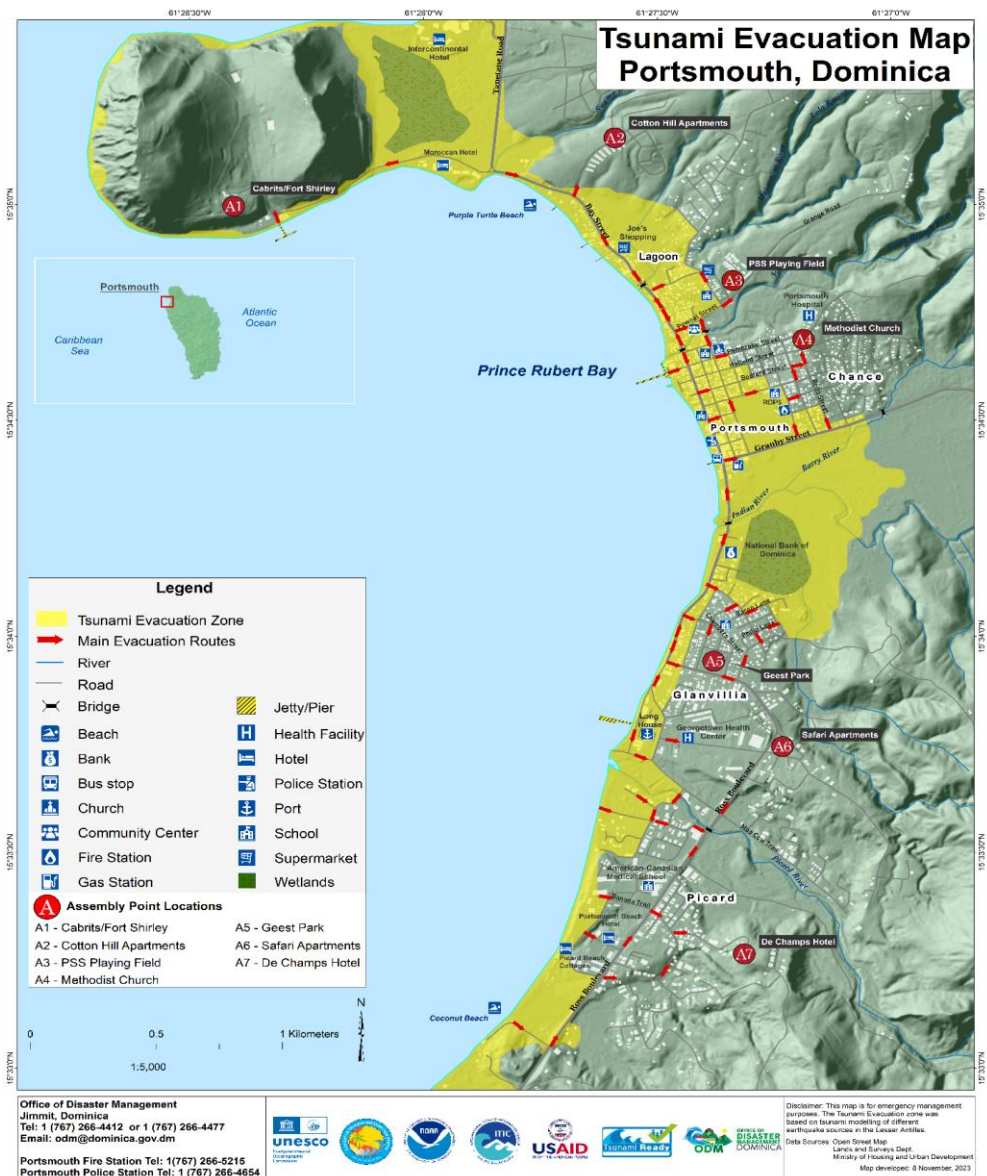
Tsunami ready recognition programme 2023-2024

The town of Portsmouth was internationally recognized as Tsunami Ready under the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme on September 26, 2024.

This Programme was supported by the UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme goal of 100% of tsunami-prone communities being prepared and resilient to tsunamis, as well as the implementation of the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme.

Output deliverables of program implementation in Portsmouth included:

1. A scientific tsunami hazard assessment for Dominica [includes a tsunami hazard map for Dominica – SINAMOT report]
2. A national tsunami ready board
3. An updated /revised national tsunami plan & SOPs (December 2023)
4. Tsunami Ready SOPs for the town of Portsmouth
5. An evacuation map for Portsmouth
6. A tsunami community exercise that tested warning & evacuation
7. Tsunami signage installed in Portsmouth
8. 15 megaphones distributed to key first responders & other institutions
9. Community awareness and education outreach
10. Official Tsunami Ready Recognition



Public Awareness and School Outreach programme

Throughout March 2026, ODM conducted nine (9) educational outreach sessions on tsunami awareness at different school across the island. This included the Bense Primary School, Colihaut Primary School, Coulibistrie Primary School, Thibaud Primary School, Wills Strathmore Primary School and Castle Bruce Primary School. Students were introduced to key concepts such as the causes of tsunamis, how they develop, natural warning signs, safety measures, and the role of emergency kits in disaster readiness.

Students took part in a hands-on group activity where they assembled a Tsunami emergency reinforcing the practical aspects of preparedness. The discussions also highlighted the appropriate steps to take before, during, and after a tsunami. Both students and teachers actively contributed to the session by asking questions and exploring realistic situations relevant to their community.

The sessions sought to strengthen knowledge, encourage proactive planning, and reinforce the importance of listening to guidance from adults and emergency personnel while being personally prepared for emergencies. Two simulation exercises were also conducted at two of the primary schools.

Sea Level Networks

In February 2026, the tide gauge equipment at Roseau Coast Guard Base and the Portsmouth Tide Gauge Station were upgraded by Mr. Jerard Jargin of the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center, strengthening Dominica's real-time coastal monitoring capability.

Radio Programs

Tsunami awareness radio sessions were held in April 2026.

Next steps

ODM continues to build on the achievements mentioned above by expanding Tsunami Recognition program to other communities located on the East and northeast of the island.

Other awareness programs will continue including the radio sessions as well as the school tsunami awareness program.

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Date: Name: