Course Overview

Tsunami Warning and Emergency Response SOPs, and Development of PTWC Enhanced International Products

Laura Kong
UNESCO/IQC – NOAA International Tsunami Information Center

Charles McCreery
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center
We cannot prevent tsunamis but we can mitigate with an Early Warning System

**TWO major tasks:**
- Detect, assess/predict, warn, evacuate
- Raise awareness and preparedness

A perfect warning is useless if people do not know what to do.

Awareness and preparedness at the country / community level are essential.
IMPLEMENTING an EFFECTIVE EWS

2 KEY ENTITIES CRITICAL

1. NAT’L WARNING CENTER issues warning
   Local (educate), distant (monitor / warn)

2. NAT’L / LOCAL DMO (recognized safety authority) receives warning,
   rapidly evaluates community threat, disseminates public action.
   Also, hazard / risk / preparedness

➢ BOTH MUST WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER
End-to-End Tsunami Warning

Tsunami Awareness

UNESCO/IOC-NOAA International Tsunami Information Center

EQ Tsunami

Country Alert System

Emergency Alert System & Mass Media

Natl / Provincial /Local Govt

Public

TSUNAMI WARNING! EVACUATE

ITIC, SeismicReady Consulting 2009, after Japan Cabinet Office 20
TIMELY WARNINGS - HOW?

ACT FAST AND WITHOUT CONFUSION

=> KNOW WHAT TO DO

*Develop TWC and TER SOPs*

=> PRACTICE

*Test communications end-to-end*

*Conduct Drills since tsunamis are infrequent*
SOP Working definition:
“**A description and procedure on agreed steps** by institutions used in coordinating **who, what, when, where and how** for tsunami early warning and response”
PTWC Proposed New CARIBE-EWS Products

- New Products: Text + Graphics

- Content
  - Current: assigns a Watch
  - New: gives a threat forecast only
  - Forecast a maximum tsunami amplitude: <0.3m, 0.3-1m, 1-3m, >3m

- Benefits
  - Provide expected levels of impact
  - Reduce confusion between PTWC advice and NTWC authoritative alerts

- Target Start: Mid-late 2015
1. Mon-Wed – TWC and TER

2. Thurs – meet separate sections
   TWC operations – SOPs
   TER operations – SOPs
   Tsunami exercise preparation

3. Thurs – last session, 4:00-4:30 pm
   Tsunami exercise – format, conduct

4. Friday
   Tsunami exercise, hotwash
   Next Steps – regional and national
Thank You

Laura Kong
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