NEAMTIC is part of the activities to develop the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System for the NEAM region (NEAMTWS).

The objectives of NEAMTIC are:

- Providing information to civil protection authorities on warning systems for tsunamis and other sea-level related hazards, and on the activities of IOC and European Union (EU) in the field of tsunami preparedness.
- Making citizens, especially youth, aware of risks of floods from the sea in coastal areas, such as tsunamis, storm surges and strong swells and acquiring knowledge on and practicing safe behaviour.
- Identifying, sharing and disseminating good practices in plans, methods and procedures to strengthen preparedness for sea level related hazards.
- Fostering linkages between the EU and IOC on intergovernmental and transnational actions to develop NEAMTWS.

**Tsunami Risk in the NEAM Region**

Although less frequent than in the Pacific and Indian Ocean, tsunamis can hit the Mediterranean and North East Atlantic coastal areas causing extensive loss of lives and properties. Major tsunamis with ten-thousands of casualties and severe damage to coastal cities happened for example in 1940 (Crete), in 1775 (Lisbon), in 1908 (Messina), in 1956 (Aegean Sea), and in 1999 (Izmit, Turkey).

Even recently a tsunami has been generated in the Izmit Bay and affected the coastline extensively following the 1999 Izmit earthquake. At some locality the inundation distance ranged up to 35 m. Furthermore, tsunamis have been generated in 2002 in Stromboli and in 2003 in Algeria though fortunately not very damaging.

The Mediterranean area represents the collision between the European and the African plates, and comprises a number of geodynamic regions affected by different seismic activity extended from West to East. Furthermore volcanic and geomorphological processes could be at the origin of tsunamis in the area.

**Knowledge is Safety**

NEAMTIC PROVIDES YOU KNOWLEDGE!

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