TEMPLATE FOR NATIONAL REPORTS

National Reports will be posted to the ICG/CARIBE EWS-XI web site without TWFP contact details

NATIONAL REPORT 2016
Submitted by (St. Kitts-Nevis)

BASIC INFORMATION

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

The person designated by a Member State to an Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) to represent his/her country in the coordination of international tsunami warning and mitigation activities. The person is part of the main stakeholders of the national tsunami warning and mitigation system. The person may be the Tsunami Warning Focal Point, from the national disaster management organization, from a technical or scientific institution, or from another agency with tsunami warning and mitigation responsibilities.

Name: Mr. Carl Herbert  
Title: National Disaster Coordinator  
Organization: National Emergency Management Agency  
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2. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)

The 7x24 contact person, or other official point of contact or address, is available at the national level for rapidly receiving and issuing tsunami event information (such as warnings). The Tsunami Warning Focal Point either is the emergency authority (civil defense or other designated agency responsible for public safety), or has the responsibility of notifying the emergency authority of the event characteristics (earthquake and/or tsunami), in accordance with national standard operating procedures. The Tsunami Warning Focal Point receives international tsunami warnings from the PTWC, or other regional warning centre.

Name:  
Title: Commissioner of Police (Ag)  
Responsible Organization: Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force  
Postal Address: Police Headquarters, Lozack Road, Basseterre, St. Kitts  
E-mail Address:  
Emergency Telephone Number:  
Emergency Fax Number:  
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number:

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), if applicable**

   *(Person, Committee or Agency managing Tsunami Mitigation in country)*

   Name:
   Title:
   Postal Address:
   E-mail Address:
   Emergency Telephone Number:
   Emergency Fax Number:
   Emergency Cellular Telephone Number:

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

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

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

   For each situation, please provide the following:

   - What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?
   - What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?
   - What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?
   - How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country? Who is it disseminated to?
   - How is the emergency situation terminated?
   - For Distant Tsunami Procedures:
     What actions were taken in response to warnings issued by PTWC and/or US NTWC, during the intersessional period?

   NB. The above are identified in the Draft St. Kitts-Nevis Tsunami Protocols and SOP.

7. **National Sea Level Network**

   Please include a table with position and description of stations/sensors, and a map,

8. **Information on Tsunami occurrences/Tsunami Exercises**

   Please include sea level observations, pictures, wave arrival descriptions, public, media, or other responses to warnings, lessons learned, etc.

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

   Such has not been developed.

10. **Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements.** This information will be used to aid the development of the CARIBE EWS Implementation Plan.

    Several avenues are being explored to acquire sirens, source funding for signage and the incorporation of various technologies to communicate with residents via text messages, emails, social media etc.
NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES INFORMATION

11. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brief statement of no more than one page addressing all items discussed in the Narrative section of the National Report (below)

The Government of St. Kitts-Nevis endorses the ongoing pursuits of the disaster management agency to enhance tsunami readiness and is most grateful to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the support it provided for the development of very much needed Tsunami Inundation Maps via consultancy. The support of the USAID towards the further enhancement of readiness activities is most appreciated by the Government and people of St. Kitts and Nevis. In view of financial constraints and lack of expertise in many areas, discussions continue with friendly governments to secure technical and financial resources to address needs. Residents continue to receive information disseminated by the disaster management offices in their ongoing Earthquake and Tsunami Multi-Media Campaign. Specific outreach continues to students, teachers and administrators of educational facilities, towards having the information shared with relatives, friends and other individuals across communities. However, information is also shared with other groups and organizations. Written materials such as brochures and posters continue to be distributed across sectors on both islands.

The participation of the supervisor at the 24 hrs TWFP and the Communications Officer at the Nevis Disaster Management Department, in a Regional Training Workshop on the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre Enhanced Tsunami Products for ICG/CARIBE EWS 7–10 December 2015 in Barbados, contributed to the continuous strengthening of our Readiness programme. Our country's participation in the annual Caribe Wave/Lantex Tsunami Exercise in March continues to be an asset, a national reminder of the hazard and in building capacity to prepare for and respond to a Tsunami threat.

Our Readiness Programme received a significant boost, with the development of Tsunami Inundation Maps last November/December. Such resources addressed a previous national concern, deficiency and now provide local authorities with much needed data for planning considerations, including evacuation sites, routes etc. The maps will be incorporated in the design and implementation of local exercises.

A vigorous Public Education campaign continued, via multi-media, focus group discussions, distribution of literature to groups and organisations, especially to educational institutions.

12. NARRATIVE

Earthquake and Tsunami Public Education and Awareness Campaign

St. Kitts-Nevis continues its multi media campaign via radio, television, websites, Face book and twitter. A key aspect of the educational outreach is the distribution of related fliers, brochures and posters to schools, business establishments, community groups and organizations. The disaster management office on both islands, have been collaborating with the Ministry of Education, with the evaluation of evacuation drills conducted at Primary and Secondary Schools. This partnership contributes to the development and improvement of School Safety Plans, which is ongoing.

Tidal Gauge

The Tidal Gauge situated at the St. Kitts-Nevis Coast Guard Pier was temporarily non functional, as the sensor became defective. The Head of the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Programme (CTWP) was informed accordingly, a replacement was sourced and shipped to St. Kitts. Having installed the sensor, the equipment remains in good working condition and is managed by the Department of Physical Planning.
CARIBE WAVE/LANTEX 2016 Tsunami Exercise

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) coordinated the participation of five (5) educational institutions which are in close proximity to each other, in an evacuation exercise to a single large Gathering Point. Students, 5 to 18 years of age, teachers and other support staff, a combined total of approximately 2,650 individuals participated. Exercise Turning Point, was organised to test aspects of the Draft St. Kitts-Nevis Tsunami Protocols and SOP, including information dissemination from the TWFP to first responders, media etc. alert mechanisms and evacuation procedures in the education sector, movement to and from the Gathering Point, safety and security and traffic management. The institutions are in the Capital, Basseterre.

The Nevis Disaster Management Department (NDMD) also coordinated an evacuation exercise of two schools, one in the Capital, Charlestown and the other on its outskirts. Several of the areas tested on St. Kitts were also examined during the participation of approximately 60 children and staff. Both exercises were extremely beneficial in addressing such areas as roles and responsibilities, evacuation procedures, alerting mechanisms and multi agency coordination.

Tsunami Inundation Maps

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Secretariat on Barbados financed a short consultancy that resulted in the development of Tsunami Inundation Maps for St. Kitts and Nevis. A map of each island was developed last November/December, by Mr. Carlos J. Rodriguez, Chief Executive Officer, Global Matrix Engineering, and Puerto Rico – Republica Dominicana, who had undertaken similar assignments in some Caribbean countries. Disaster managers and other key entities involved in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), now have access to much need scientific data in relation to likely vulnerable areas, evacuation routes and zones, gathering points etc. critical for ongoing planning. The Caribbean Tsunami Warning Programme (CTWP) on Puerto Rico and the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) provided invaluable assistance in arranging the consultancy and providing important inputs, in helping to make best use of the small amount of funds available for this important initiative. Our country is deeply grateful to the UNDP, CTIC and the CTWP. Data from the maps were incorporated in the design of the Caribe Wave 2016 Evacuation held on St. Kitts and Nevis. The maps were submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval.

TsunamiReady Recognition Pilot Project

St. Kitts-Nevis has been selected to participate in this project, with support provided by the USAID OFDA. The Project aims to achieve Tsunami Recognition for St. Kitts-Nevis and help to save lives and livelihoods when the next Tsunami strikes. Activities will include but not limited to the development of Tsunami Evacuation Maps, signage, and publicity of information. The CTWP, the CTIC and the Tsunami Board (Group of Regional/National Tsunami stakeholders that oversees the implementation of the Recognition Programme) will be integral in the role out of related activities. It is expected that in May 2016 a Recognition Ceremony will be held, as St. Kitts-Nevis will join Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands as having met the criteria to achieve TsunamiReady Recognition.
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

Inspector Lyndon David, Supervisor at the 24 hrs TWFP and Mr. Jacob Ngumbah Communications Officer at the Nevis Disaster Management Department, attended a Regional Training Workshop on Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre Enhanced Tsunami Products for ICG/CARIBE EWS 7–10 December 2015 in Barbados. The training was organized to enable Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFPs), National Tsunami Warning Centers (NTWC), and Tsunami Emergency Responders (TERs) to effectively receive, analyze and take appropriate actions in response to the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC) enhanced tsunami forecast products for the Caribbean and its adjacent regions. The workshop addressed tsunami warning operations and the use of the PTWC Enhanced Products for a tsunami threat decision-making, with specific attention to the tsunami warning chain and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The officers found the workshop very informative, interesting and useful and signaled their intention to use the information to enhance the local mechanism.

Name: Carl Herbert, TNC
Date: 14th March, 2016