![UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission logo]

(REVISED/NEW)

TERM OF REFERENCE

OF THE

UNESC-/IOC INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI INFORMATION CENTRE

(IOTIC)

Build capacity of the Indian Ocean at-risk communities with respect to tsunami hazards, awareness, preparedness, education, and mitigation measures

A. BACKGROUND

In response to the December 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (UNESCO-IOC) in 2006, with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), established the Jakarta Tsunami Information Centre (JTIC). The JTIC served in supporting the tsunami awareness and preparedness activities in Indonesia. The 8th session of the UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS) in Melbourne, Australia, in 2011, supported the initiative of expanding the role of JTIC to provide educational and awareness information to all Member States of the ICG/IOTWMS to prepare for and mitigate the impact of tsunamis across the Indian Ocean region. The 9th session of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2012, requested JTIC to change its role and develop it's Terms of Reference (ToRs) as the Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC). The ToRs of IOTIC were endorsed by the 10th session of UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS in Muscat, Oman, in 2015 (*http://www.ioc-tsunami.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=77&Itemid=75&lang=en*).

In 2017, UNESCO-IOC signed a Partnership Agreement (PA) with the Indonesian Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) to host and support IOTIC services (2017 – 2022) through the IOTIC-BMKG programme.

In 2021, The UNESCO-IOC Assembly approved the establishment of the UNESCO-IOC Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme, which includes the aim of making 100% of communities at risk of tsunami prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme TRRP) and other initiatives. The implementation of the UNESCO-IOC TRRP will be a key contribution to achieving the societal outcome 'A Safe Ocean' of the Ocean Decade.

The Parties are currently in the process of renewing the Partnership Agreement for the next 5 years (2023 to 2027) *(The PA renewal is in review and expected to be signed soon)*.To support the implementation of the latest IOTIC-BMKG programme and the UNESCO/IOC TRRP, the IOTIC will need to include these initiatives and related activities in its Terms of Reference (ToRs).

B. IOTIC GOAL

The overall goal of IOTIC is to support the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS in tsunami risk reduction for Indian Ocean at-risk communities through capacity building in tsunami hazard, awareness, preparedness, education, and mitigation measures.

C. IOTIC OBJECTIVES

- Strengthening the Indian Ocean (national and regional) tsunami disaster risk reduction and emergency response capacity for an effective tsunami early warning system,
- Supporting preparedness against tsunamis of at-risk communities, especially through the implementation of UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP).
- Providing resources in tsunami risk reduction, educational, awareness, and preparedness for the Indian Ocean region.

D. IOTIC Terms of Reference

The UNESCO-IOC IOTIC is hosted by the Government of Indonesia (and staffed by UNESCO-IOC and BMKG Indonesia) with the following Terms of Reference (ToRs):

1. Help reduce the overall tsunami risk across the Indian Ocean by working closely and in coordination with the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS, it's Steering Group, Working Groups, Task Teams, UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat, and the TOWS-WG Task Team on Disaster Management & Preparedness (TT DMP) to:
   a. Contribute to the development of global guidelines in tsunami risk reduction and their implementation in the Indian Ocean.
   b. Maintain close familiarity of the operations and needs of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and work closely with the Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs), National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWCs), and Disaster Management Organisations (DMOs) to assist, as needed, with the socialization, promotion, and capacity building required for an effective tsunami emergency response.
   c. In coordination with the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat and as needed, support the ICG/IOTWMS and it's Working Groups and Task Teams to conduct training programmes, workshops, and seminars.
   d. In collaboration with the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat develop project proposals and assist with project implementation in support of the ICG/IOTWMS programmes and activities in the Indian Ocean Region.
   e. Manage tsunami post-event performance surveys and compilation of reports in close collaboration with the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat under the overall direction of the ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group, assisted by the International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC), UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Unit, and teams of experts nominated by the UNESC)-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group as required.

2. Help Member States of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS reduce their tsunami risk by:

    a. Serving as the focal point under the guidance of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS to guide the implementation of the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP) in the Indian Ocean.
    b. Assisting national stakeholders in the overall improvement of tsunami preparedness and effective tsunami emergency response through tsunami risk assessment, warning guidance and emergency response, education and awareness, tsunami mitigation, and the implementation of national initiatives to reach certification against the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready indicators.
    c. Serving as an information resource providing for the development, publication, and distribution of resource materials on tsunami hazard, awareness, preparedness, and education for the Indian Ocean.
    d. Serving as a technical resource and help foster research and its application to strengthen technical and institutional aspects of tsunami preparedness and tsunami emergency response to prevent loss of life and minimize damage to property.

3. Coordinate activities and exchange materials, resources, and information with other Tsunami Information Centres (TICs) of the other ocean basins (Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC), International Information Centre (ITIC), and North-East Atlantic and Mediterranean Seas Tsunami Information Centre (NEAMTIC)) to ensure global consistency and potential use of derived products across all regions.

4. Share information on programmes, activities, and events, as well as information on tsunami education, awareness, and preparedness resources by managing and maintaining the IOTIC Website and social media channels as platforms for information exchange.

E. IOTIC GOVERNANCE

The IOTIC is a UNESCO-IOC entity operating under the overall authority of the Executive Secretary of UNESCO-IOC. The day-to-day management is performed by the UNESCO-IOC National Programme Officer stationed in Jakarta under the supervision of the Director of the UNESCO Office Jakarta and the Head of the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Unit in Paris. The operational and implementation of programmes and activities of IOTIC is in close coordination with the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat in Perth. The IOTIC reports to each session of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS and to the inter-sessional meetings of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group. IOTIC's activities and work plans are guided by and coordinated with the overall needs and requirements of the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS, it's Working Groups and Task Teams.