

NATIONAL TSUNAMI PROGRAM FOR ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



NEMO MISSION STATEMENT



• To coordinate the use of all available resources (local, regional, and international) to ensure that all the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines are better able to mitigate against disasters, prepare for disasters, respond to disasters and recover from the <u>impact of disasters</u> in the shortest possible time.



St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Tsunami Programme

- Began in 2008 following the Global Response to significantly increase awareness, information, knowledge and preparedness plans and actions for tsunami hazards and their related hazards
- Started with a focus on building knowledge and awareness in schools (i.e., training for teachers and students)
- 2014 the programme was enhance to focus on coastal communities of Clare Valley and Rose place (Kingstown).
- 2016 first National Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were drafted
- 2018 had the first pilot for the Tsunami Ready Communities Programme (St. George Parish, St. Vincent and Union Island)

Tsunami Ready Communities Pilot Program

The UNESCO IOC CARIBE EWS Tsunami Ready Pilot Programme - supported by the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Programme of The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with funding from USAID/OFDA.

BENEFITS OF THE TSUNAMI READY PROGRAM

- Public Education on the science, signs and impact of Tsunami in context of the national response.
- Development of Tsunami EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (EWS)
- Creation of Resource Material, Evacuation Maps and Hazard alert signage.
- Revitalization of community emergency response mechanisms for St. Vincent and The Grenadines.



WHY ST. GEORGE AND UNION ISLAND

Vulnerability due to:

- Active tectonic plates (we border on the Caribbean plate)
- The presence of the "Kick 'em Jenny" volcano underwater between SVG and Grenada.
- Increased activity of "Kick 'em Jenny"
- Most of our settlements are developed along the coast.
- Most of the Grenadine islands are low-lying.



With the majority of our economic activity/assets concentrated in St. George parish, the importance of preparation and protection of this area cannot be slighted.

Examples of Communities to benefit for the Pilot Programme:

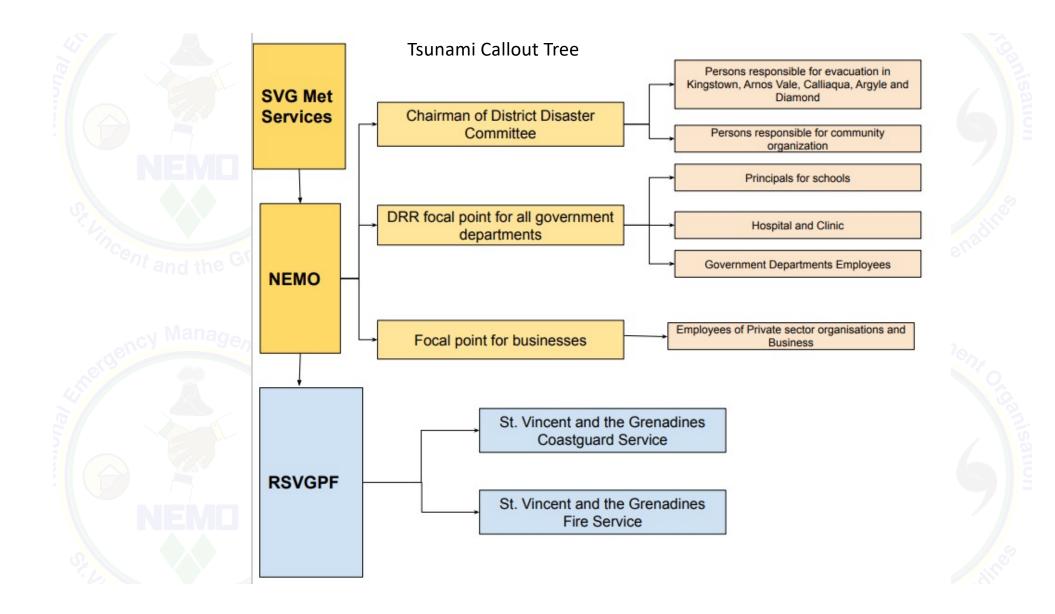
- Kingstown Capital
- Arnos Vale Major sporting facilities on island
- Indian Bay, Calliaqua, Villa, Ratho Mill Tourism Hotspot
- Argyle Main Airport
- Union Island (Tsunami Ready)

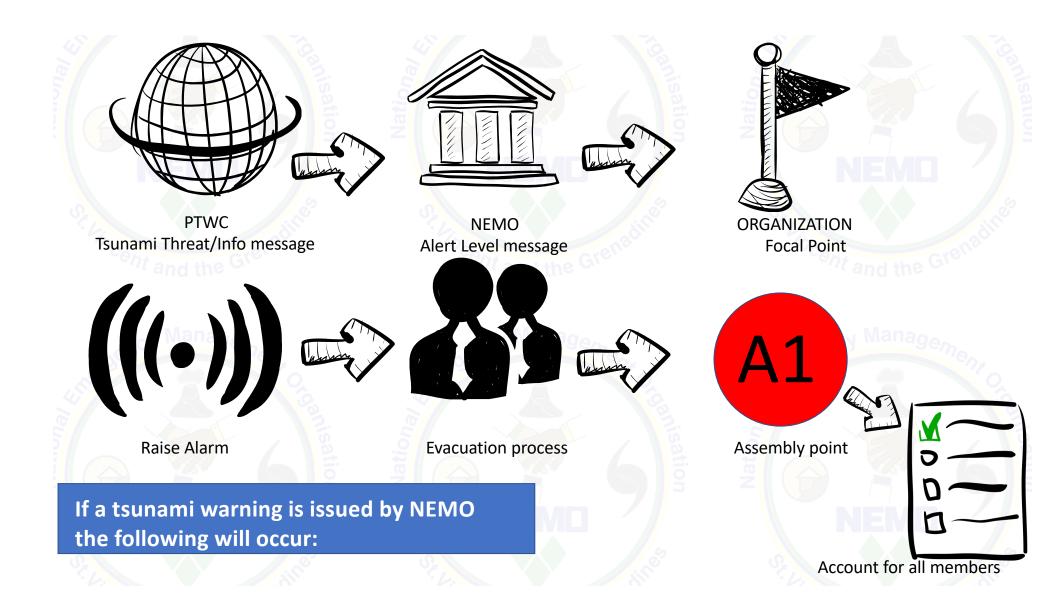
St. George Communities soon to be officially Tsunami recognised

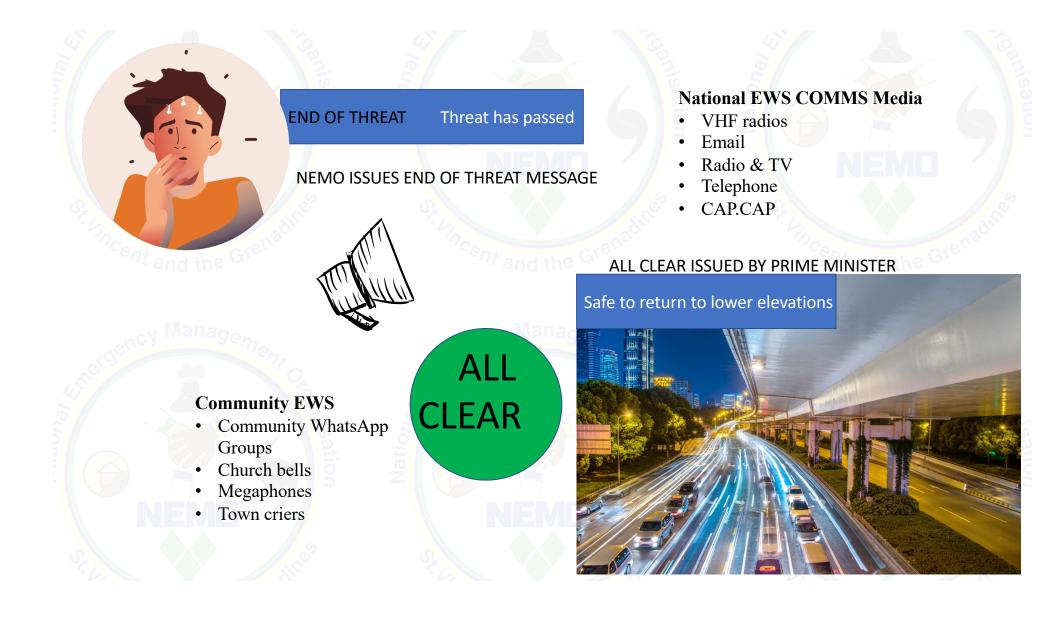
Institutional Mechanisms for Tsunami Warnings

- National Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP) SVG Meteorological Services
- Tsunami National Contact Ms. Michelle Forbes (Director of NEMO)
- 3. National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) NEMO
- 4. National Tsunami Board

Tsunami ready activities under the National DRR Programme Guided by the CDM framework and the CWP







Population must also be guided by natural signs.

If you

the earth move

If you SEE the water recede

If you HEAR

the rumbling of the ocean

Preventive Tsunami Evacuation Order – An evacuation order issued by national authorities based on natural tsunami warning signs and in the absence of any official product from the PTWC.





TSUNAMI MITIGATION IN SVG



Tsunami Signs

Move away from the Tsunami Hazard Zone

EVACUATION ROUTE



TO HIGH GROUND OR INLAND





TSUNAMI READY : UNION ISLAND

Union Island is a focal point for our Tsunami Ready Programme



Tsunami map

WORLD

AWAREN

5 NOVEMBER

Tsunami Ready includes District Disaster Committees and Sectoral cooperation to plan AWARENESS, READINESS and RESPONSE protocol.



Thursday 5th March 202 10:30am - 12:00pm

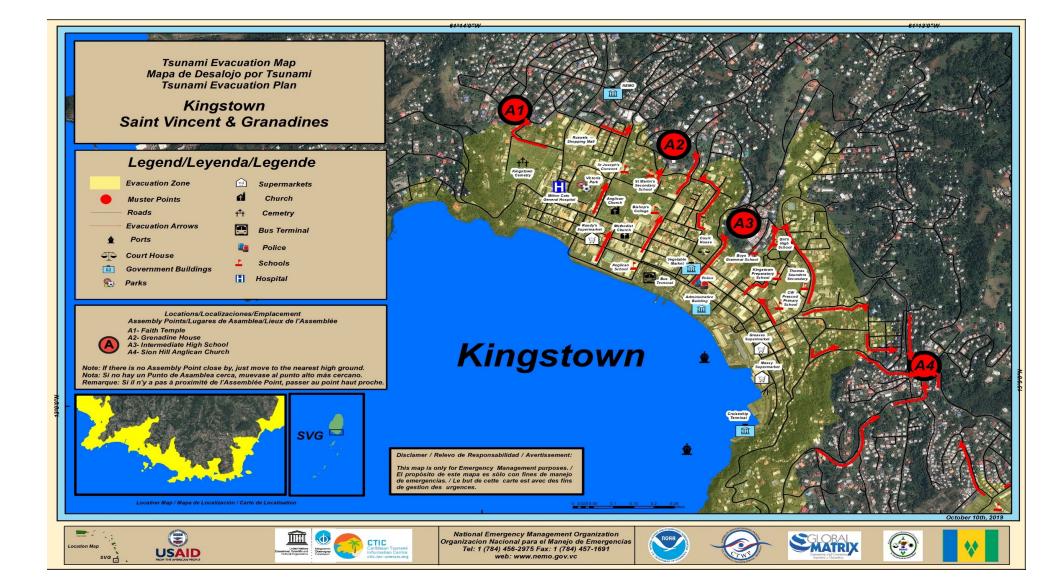


Tsunami Evacuation Exercise

#TsunamiDay #OnlyTogether #TsunamiReady



A message from the National Emergency Management Organisation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines | 784-4562975 | nemo.gov.vc | FB: NEMOSVG | IG: NEMOSVG20





Union Island exercise





Bequia Caribe Wave 2023 Exercise





Bequia Caribe Wave 2023 Exercise



Challenges to the Programme

- Finances Expensive (approximately EC \$100 000)
- Data
 - Increase situational Awareness
 - Support the public education
 - Support response and preparedness
- Political will leaders of society, greater representation at the cabinet level.
- Community Buy-in
- Risk Perception
 - Probability of occurrence perceived as low
 - Public Education Low



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTIVENESS

