

# 2024 Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness in the Indian Ocean

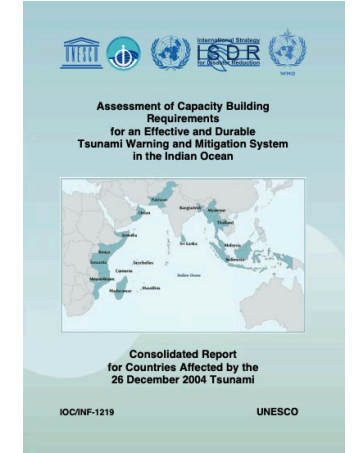
UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the  
Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS)  
Working Group 1 on Tsunami Risk,  
Community Awareness and Preparedness  
*19 August 2024*

Professor Richard Haigh  
Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga

# Background to Capacity Assessment

2005 Assessment of capacity building requirements for an effective and durable tsunami warning and mitigation system in the Indian Ocean ([IOC/INF-1219](#))

National Reporting Template coordinated by IOTWMS Secretariat



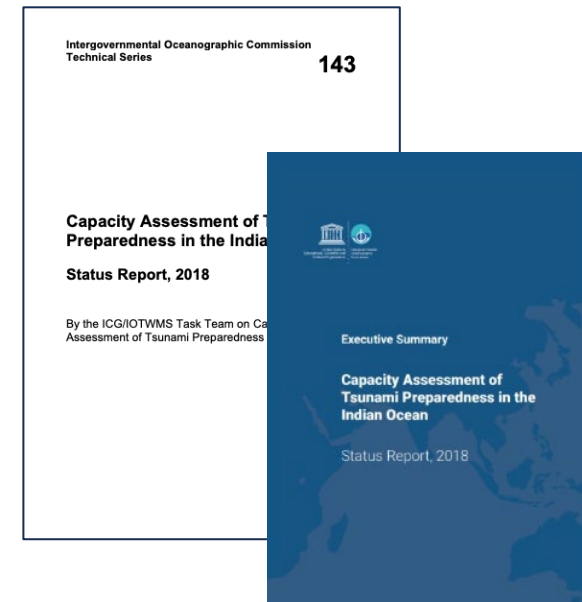
2015 ICG/IOTWMS at its 10th Session (Muscat) identified the need to conduct a reassessment of the state of tsunami preparedness

2017 ICG/IOTWMS established the inter-sessional “Task Team on Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness” (TT-CATP), led by Dr Harkunti Rahayu

2018 TT-CATP ([IOC/2020/TS/143](#)) provided a new baseline of the status of tsunami preparedness capacity in the region. It also identified specific gaps and prioritised capacity development requirements at both regional and national levels

2022 ICG/IOTWMS as its 13th Session (Bali, 2022) decided it was timely to conduct the next reassessment of the state of tsunami preparedness in ICG/IOTWMS Member States, reflect on progress made, identify remaining gaps, and prioritise capacity development requirements

2024 2024 reassessment being undertaken by the UNESCO-IOC through the ICG/IOTWMS Working Group 3 Tsunami Ready Implementation, with oversight and contributions by the ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group, and support from the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat. Further support by UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and Global Disaster Resilience Centre. Funding is being provided by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of Switzerland.



# 2024 Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness in the Indian Ocean

- Conduct the next reassessment of the state of tsunami preparedness in ICG/IOTWMS Member States
  - Reflect on progress made
  - Identify remaining gaps
  - Prioritise capacity development requirements
- The results will be presented to the 14th Session of the ICG/IOTWMS (Indonesia, 2024)

# Timeline of 2024 capacity assessment survey


January - March	Planning Meetings for 2024 IOTWMS Capacity Assessment Project
April - May	Updating of 2018 survey instrument and testing with IOTWMS WG leaders
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Letter sent to TNCs inviting them to complete survey
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Survey closed to member states
July	Analysis of survey responses
15 <sup>th</sup> July	1 <sup>st</sup> draft of analysis circulated to WGs for initial feedback
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of analysis circulated to WGs
August - September	Relevant WGs to draft the new 2024 recommendations
4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Review of 2018 recommendations and development of new 2024 recommendations and findings by each pillar/WG, Bangkok, Thailand
September	Draft Executive Summary by 16 September for subsequent review and endorsement by ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group
October	Final Executive Summary by 14 October (ie considering ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group review and endorsement) for publishing and also guidance for report being developed by UNESCAP for Policy-Makers and Donors
November	Draft full Summary Report by 31 October 2024 for ICG/IOTWMS review and endorsement in November 2024.

# Who completed the survey?

Responses to the survey were coordinated, compiled, and submitted by Tsunami National Contact (TNC) of each Member State. The survey had six distinct parts (I-VI). Each part may have needed inputs from different stakeholders based on their national responsibility in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system.

## Structure of the survey

- I Basic Information about TNC/NTWC/TWFP
- II Risk Assessment and Reduction
- III Detection, Warning and Dissemination
- IV Public Awareness, Preparedness and Response
- V Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP)
- VI Narrative



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
COMMISSION Océanographique InterGouvernementale  
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTALE  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ  
اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات  
政府間海洋学委员会

UNESCO - 7 Place de Fontenay - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France  
http://ioc.unesco.org - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18  
E-mail: ioc.secretariat@unesco.org

---

IOC/RJB  
15 May 2024

**To :** Tsunami National Contacts of UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS

**C.c. :** ICG/IOTWMS National Tsunami Warning Centre Contacts  
ICG/IOTWMS Tsunami Ready Focal Points  
ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group  
ICG/IOTWMS Working Group 3 on Tsunami Ready Implementation  
ICG/IOTWMS IOWave23 National Contacts  
ICG/IOTWMS Key Stakeholders  
UNESCO Disaster Risk Reduction Section

**Subject:** URGENT Attention: UNESCO-IOC 2024 Survey of Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness in ICG/IOTWMS Member States

Dear Tsunami National Contact,


We request your urgent assistance in coordinating input to the 2024 Survey of Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness in the Member States of the UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS), which is being undertaken by the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC) with the support of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and funding from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of Switzerland.

As the Tsunami National Contact, you are kindly requested to coordinate the completion of the survey described below in consultation with key stakeholders involved in the end-to-end tsunami early warning and mitigation system in your country by **14th June 2024** at the very latest.

A briefing on the overall assessment and guidance on how to complete the survey will be provided on 0700-0900 UTC 22 May 2024. The link to join the briefing session is provided below with other information on the assessment.

---

<p><b>Chairperson</b></p> <p>Yutaka MICHIDA, Prof. Special Presidential Envoy for UN Ocean Decade The University of Tokyo (Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute) Kashiwanoha 5-1-5 278864 Kashiwa JAPAN</p> <p><b>Executive Secretary</b></p> <p>Ms. Václav HLÍDEŠNÝ Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission – UNESCO 7 Place de Fontenay 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP FRANCE</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chairpersons</b></p> <p>Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE Directrice de Recherche Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) 3 rue Michel Ange 75016 Paris FRANCE</p> <p>Dr Nikolay VALCHEV Director Institute of Oceanology Bulgarian Academy of Sciences 40 Parva May Str. 8000 Varna BULGARIA</p>	<p>Mr Juan Camilo FORERO HALUZEUR Executive Secretary Caribbean Ocean Commission (COO) Avenida Ciudad de Cali No. 51 – 66 Edificio WBC, Oficina 308 11071 Bogotá, D.C. COLOMBIA</p> <p>Dr Srinivasa Kumar TUMMALA Director Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) Pragathi Nagar (BQ), Neelampet (SQ) Hyderabad 500090 INDIA</p>	<p>Prof. Ann Zakaria HAMOUDA President National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOT) Gatbay, Al-Amshah Alexandria EGYPT</p>
--	---	--	---



2024 UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS National Report on Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness

---

PART II: Hazard Assessment

**4i) On a scale of 1 (Very poor) to 5 (Very good), please rate your country's capability to undertake tsunami hazard assessment**

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good
Capacity to undertake tsunami hazard assessment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**4j) On a scale of 1 (Not a priority) to 5 (Essential), what is the priority level in your country to improve capacity in the following areas of tsunami hazard assessment?**

	Not a priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Essential
Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment (PTHA)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Deterministic Tsunami Hazard Analysis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Field Studies on Tsunami Impacts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hazard map	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inundation map	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Evacuation map	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What other areas of capacity in tsunami hazard assessment require improvement?

# Timeline of 2024 capacity assessment survey

January - March	Planning Meetings for 2024 IOTWMS Capacity Assessment Project
April - May	Updating of 2018 survey instrument and testing with IOTWMS WG leaders
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Letter sent to TNCs inviting them to complete survey
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Survey closed to member states
July	Analysis of survey responses
15 <sup>th</sup> July	1 <sup>st</sup> draft of analysis circulated to WGs for initial feedback
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of analysis circulated to WGs
August - September	Relevant WGs to draft the new 2024 recommendations
4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Review of 2018 recommendations and development of new 2024 recommendations and findings by each pillar/WG, Bangkok, Thailand
September	Draft Executive Summary by 16 September for subsequent review and endorsement by ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group
October	Final Executive Summary by 14 October (ie considering ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group review and endorsement) for publishing and also guidance for report being developed by UNESCAP for Policy-Makers and Donors
November	Draft full Summary Report by 31 October 2024 for ICG/IOTWMS review and endorsement in November 2024.

# Two documents were circulated

Draft analysis  
V1 15<sup>th</sup> July  
V2 2<sup>nd</sup> August

2024 UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Report on Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness  
DRAFT 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 – Please do not circulate without permission

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 BACKGROUND TO NATIONAL REPORT ON CAPACITY ASSESSMENT OF TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS**

Following the tragic tsunami of 26 December 2004, in which over 230,000 people lost their lives, UNESCO-IOC with the mandate of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) coordinated the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS). As one of the initial steps soon after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, UNESCO-IOC facilitated an assessment of capacity building requirements for an effective and durable tsunami warning and mitigation system in the Indian Ocean by facilitating Expert Missions to 16 Member States affected by the tsunami. This assessment (IOC/INF-1219), along with other subsequent assessments conducted at the request of Member States, provided a regional overview of capacity in tsunami preparedness, as well as identified requirements of Member States to build regional capacity in tsunami warning and mitigation.

The UNESCO-IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS; established by UNESCO-IOC in 2005) at its 10th Session (Muscat, August 2015) identified the need to conduct a reassessment of the state of tsunami preparedness of the Indian Ocean Member States in order to evaluate progress since the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, as well as identify specific gaps and prioritise capacity development requirements at both the regional and national level for strengthening the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system. At its 11th Session (Putrajaya, April 2017) the ICG/IOTWMS established the inter-sessional "Task Team on Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness" (TT-CATP) to oversee the capacity assessment of tsunami preparedness of the IOTWMS. The Task Team was chaired by Dr. Harkunti Rahayu (Indonesia) with representatives from Australia, India, Indonesia, Oman, Malaysia, Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC), the ICG/IOTWMS Working Groups, and invited experts from the Global Disaster Resilience Centre of the University of Huddersfield, U.K. The Task Team designed an extensive online survey covering all aspects of the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system. The online questionnaire was built upon the ICG/IOTWMS National Report Template, Post-IOWave Exercise Surveys, and UNESCO-IOC Post-Event Assessment Surveys.

In 2018, a total of 20 ICG/IOTWMS Member States responded to the reassessment survey. The results (IOC/2020/TS/143) provided a new baseline of the status of tsunami preparedness capacity in the region. It also identified specific gaps and prioritised capacity development requirements at both regional and national levels. The results clearly indicated that there had been considerable improvement across all components of the IOTWMS since the previous assessment in 2005.

**1.2 2024 REASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN MEMBER STATES**

Nevertheless, the IOTWMS is not a static system and must further improve, evolve, and adapt to better serve the needs of the Member States of the ICG. As we approach the 20th anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, the ICG/IOTWMS as its 13th Session (Bali, 2022) decided it was timely to conduct the next reassessment of the state of tsunami preparedness in ICG/IOTWMS Member States, reflect on progress made, identify remaining gaps, and prioritise capacity development requirements. The results will be presented to the 14th Session of the ICG/IOTWMS (Indonesia, 2024). The assessment was undertaken by the UNESCO-IOC through the ICG/IOTWMS Working Group 3 Tsunami Ready Implementation, with oversight and contributions by the ICG/IOTWMS Steering Group, and support from the UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat. Further support is being provided by the UN

1 of 50

Selected  
narrative  
responses  
2<sup>nd</sup> August

2024 UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Report on Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness  
DRAFT 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 – Please do not circulate without permission

**Annexure: NARRATIVE RESPONSES**

**Section 2: RISK ASSESSMENT AND REDUCTION**

**2.2 Risk Assessment**

	5f) Which coastal areas have been tsunami risk mapped? Please include the names of the Region / City and an approximation of the overall national percentage of risk prone areas mapped.	5g) How many Cities / Municipalities / Regencies are at risk from tsunami?
Australia	In Western Australia (WA), detailed hazard modelling based on the Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment 2018 has been undertaken from the Midwest (Geraldton) to the South West (Dunsborough), including the Greater Perth area, since July 2021. Older (about 10 to 15 years ago), less detailed hazard modelling has been undertaken in Broome, Port Hedland, Karratha/Dampier, Onslow, Exmouth, and Carnarvon. (See also response to 4f)	Australia is an island nation meaning that all coastal communities have potential tsunami risk. The PTHA shows how the offshore hazard varies around the country which could be potentially used to prioritise further work, however, there is not necessarily a direct relationship between high offshore hazard and high onshore hazard due to the nature of the nearshore environment and the source of the event itself.
Bangladesh	Chottogram, Cox's Bazar, Chandpur, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Pirozpur, Jhalakati, Barguna, Patuakhali, Bhola, Lakshimpur, Noakhali, Feni etc.	Chottogram, Cox's Bazar, Chandpur, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Pirozpur, Jhalakati, Barguna, Patuakhali, Bhola, Lakshimpur, Noakhali, Feni etc. 14 districts.
Comoros	All coastal areas of the archipelago	All Coastal city
France Indian Ocean Territories	same as tsunami hazard assessment	La Réunion : 19 municipalities (out of a total of 24 municipalities) Mayotte : 19 municipalities (out of a total of 19 municipalities) French Southern and Antarctic lands : bases
India	Entire Indian coast except Lakshadweep Islands	All coastal areas are under risk from tsunami due to both Makran and Andaman-Sumatra subduction zones.
Indonesia	Entire region of Indonesia	5,744 villages are at-risk of tsunami out of 81,800 total village in Indonesia, but still need to be verified further
Iran		
Kenya	Coastal counties of Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi and Lamu	Four coastal counties
Madagascar	Region Atsinanana / City of Toamasina Region Fitovinany / City of Manakara 12,5 % mapped (reference: Eastern Coast of Madagascar)	25 Cities
Malaysia	i) Category 1 (High Risk): a) Coastal area of Northern Peninsular Malaysia b) Coastal area of Eastern and Western part of Sabah, Malaysia. ii) Category 2 (Low Risk): a) Coastal area of Eastern	5 cities are at risk from tsunami other areas involve such as: i) Teriang and Chenang, Langkawi, Kedah ii) Kuala Muda, coastal area iii) Northeast coast of Penang Island iv) Northcoast of Penang Island v) Westcoast of Penang Island



# Sample

22 responses in 2024, an increase from 20 in 2022

- Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, France (Indian Ocean Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates

## NOTE:

- Four countries who did not complete the 2018 survey, responded to the 2024 survey (Maldives, Seyshelles, South Africa, United Arab Emirates)
- Two countries that completed the 2018 survey did not respond to the 2024 survey (Tanzania and Timor-Leste)



# Limitations

- Where possible, summary data from the 2018 survey is displayed alongside the 2024 results to aid comparisons.
- Caution should be used when drawing direct comparisons between the results.
  - Differences in the composition of countries responding to the 2018 and 2024 surveys
  - Changes to the personnel who completed the survey on behalf of each country

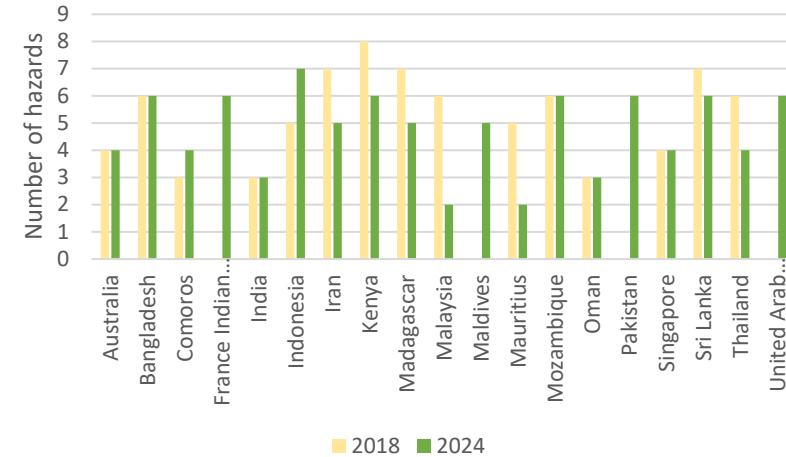


Figure 2: Number of hazards included in a multi-hazard assessment

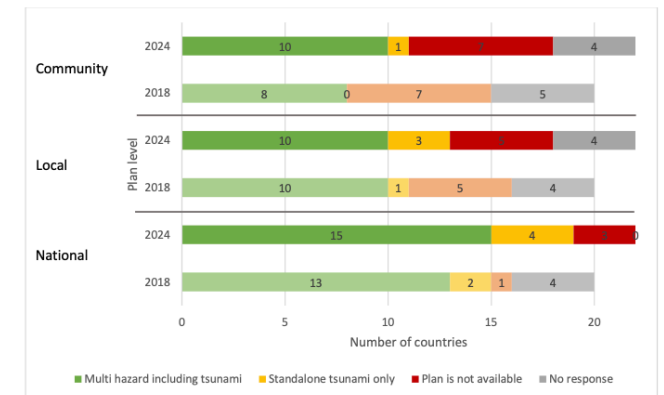
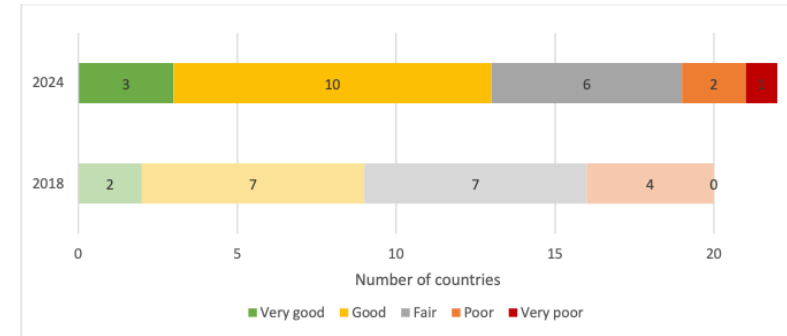
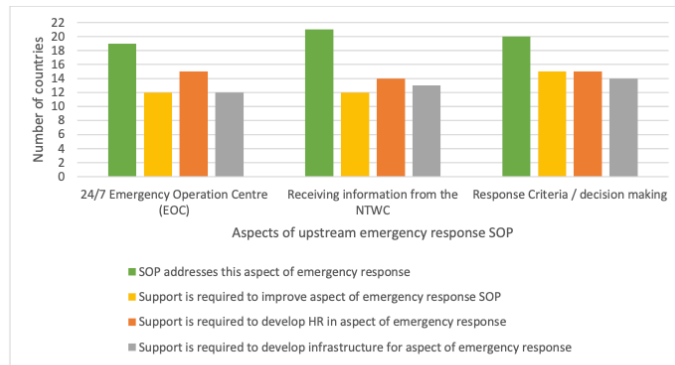


Figure 22: Availability of national, local and community level tsunami disaster risk reduction plans during emergency response phase

Table 1: Ranking of priority areas for capacity improvement in tsunami hazard assessment

Areas of tsunami hazard assessment	RII	2024 Rank (2018 Rank)
Evacuation map	0.85	1 (1)
Hazard map	0.81	2 (2)
Inundation map	0.81	2 (3)
Deterministic tsunami hazard analysis	0.76	4 (4)
Probabilistic tsunami hazard assessment (PTHA)	0.75	5 (6)
Field studies on tsunami impacts	0.67	6 (5)

# Where relevant, summary results and individual country responses are provided



	ASPECT OF UPSTREAM EMERGENCY RESPONSE SOP											
	24/7 Emergency Operation Centre (EOC)				Receiving information from the NTWC				Response criteria / decision making			
	SOP addresses this aspect	Support required to develop/improve SOP	Support required to develop human resources	Support required to develop infrastructure	SOP addresses this aspect	Support required to develop/improve SOP	Support required to develop human resources	Support required to develop infrastructure	SOP addresses this aspect	Support required to develop/improve SOP	Support required to develop human resources	Support required to develop infrastructure
Australia	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Bangladesh	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Comoros	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
France Indian Ocean Territories	●	○	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
India	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Indonesia	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Iran	○	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Kenya	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Madagascar	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Malaysia	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Maldives	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Mauritius	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Mozambique	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Myanmar	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Oman	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Pakistan	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Seychelles	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Singapore	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
South Africa	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Sri Lanka	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
Thailand	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○
United Arab Emirates	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	○	○	○

Figure 31: Support required to develop upstream emergency response SOP

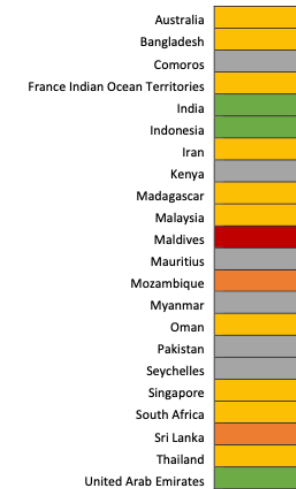


Figure 9: Capacity to undertake tsunami hazard assessments

# Actions as per 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 email from Rick Bailey

Review of 2018 recommendations and development of new 2024 recommendations and findings by each pillar/WG by end of Bangkok meeting 4-6 September 2024. Each of the following (with Rick Bailey's assistance as required) to work with the relevant WGs in their planned upcoming intersessional meetings to draft the new 2024 recommendations. We will then further workshop and coordinate these, and prioritise at the Bangkok meeting, along with agree summaries/findings for each pillar and area:

- Part I: Basic Information (including policies and plans)(Nora and Rick)
- Part II: Risk Assessment and Reduction (Mohammad and Sunanda and Harkunti)(WG1 and RWG-NWIO)
- Part III: Detection Warning and Dissemination (including downstream Response SOPs in Part IV of survey)(JP and Harald)(WG2)
- Part IV: Public Awareness, Preparedness, and Response (Harkunti, Weni, and Ardito)(WG1, TT IOWAVE23, and IOTIC)
- Part V: Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (Suci and Ardito)(WG3 and IOTIC)
- Part VI: Narrative, relation to MTS (2019-24 and towards new MTS 2025-2029) (Yuelong and Nora)(SG)