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WG-PICTs

Report to

PTWS SC

PTWS Steering Committee Meeting

06 – 09 March. 2023

Paris, France

Outline of Presentation

- Background
- WG-PICT Progress Report
- Ninth Meeting WG-PICT Outcomes

Background

- 7th Meeting Oceania Regional Seismic Network - Nukua'alofa, Tonga 17-19th October, 2022
- 8th Meeting of WG 2 Task Team Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific – Nuku'alofa, Tonga 20th October, 2022
- Meeting of the WG-PICT Task Team Capacity Development - 02 February, 2023
- Ninth Meeting of WG-PICT – 03 February, 2023

Progress Report

TOR	Progress Update
<p>1. To continually review and evaluate capabilities of, and make recommendations for improvements to countries in the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICT) Region for providing end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services within the multi-hazard framework.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 January, 2022 Hunga-Tonga Hunga Ha’apai (3)x Post Event Debrief – ICG/PTWS• 15 January, 2022 Hunga-Tonga Hunga Ha’apai Post Event Evaluation Survey –ICG/PTWS• ORSNET countries capability review and evaluation conducted by SPC/PREP Project• PICT Regional PacWAVE22 Exercise to test the PTWC HTHH Interim Products• Limited progress on the development of templates/guideline to conduct Hot Wash/Debrief
<p>2. To support the involvement and contribution of PICT in the activities of the ICG/PTWS.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In coordination with Task Team PacWave Exercise – conducted 1st ever Regional PICT PacWave22 Exercise in 2022• Review of the Competency Framework for NTWC• Review of Local-source Tsunami Guideline• Review of Seismic data sharing among ORSNET countries and with PTWC to improved seismic visibility

Progress Report

TOR	Progress Update
3. To promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HTHH inundation report and papers published• Collaboration with SPC on the consolidation of baseline data for tsunami hazard assessment• Upcoming Expert Meeting on New Hebrides, San Cristobal and New Britain Trench• SPC published – Earthquake Scenario Selection for Tsunami Inundation Hazard Assessment: Guidelines on using the 2018 PTHA in the Pacific
4. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of earthquake and tsunami monitoring networks in the region and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SPC reviewed seismic data sharing capability among ORSNET countries and with PTWC to improve seismic visibility. SPC/PREP Project provided all PICTs with SeisComP5 Application and Server Unit with training.• ORSNET data sharing agreement signed by Fiji and remaining ORSNET countries encouraged to sign before next ICG/PTWS• Tonga received support from Geoscience Australia –Post HTHH Volcano/Tsunami recovery - 8 RDKs deployed and now in operation.• USGS have an approved proposal to install 1 post-hole station in Fiji and 2 Permanent Stations in Tonga to replace RDKs from GA including training.

Progress Report

TOR	Progress Update
<p>5. To facilitate training and capacity building in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing review and finalization of Tsunami SOP in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji and Cook Islands in 2021 -2023 via JICA & IOC/ITIC support.• Installation of Tonga’s National EWS with installation of 75 Sirens around the country supported by Japan Government• Ongoing extension of Fiji Tsunami Siren Network with 33 new Sirens –via Japan Government Support• First Regional Tsunami Ready Training conducted in Nadi, Fiji on 29-31st January, 2023 – supported by NORAD/UNDRR/USAID/AUSAID
<p>6. To encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ORSNET data sharing agreement signed by Fiji and all countries encourage to sign before next ICG/PTWS• Objective 1 of Regional PICT PacWave22 completed; Countries continue to use WhatsApp platform to share tsunami information from actual tsunami events.• Interim Task Team set up to develop information sharing modality and protocol.

Progress Report

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<p>7. To facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All PICTs have tsunami awareness programmes for community and schools• Most PICTs integrated tsunami awareness in school curricula• Existing efforts to include UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Recognition Programme in community based DRR approaches such as CBDRM in Fiji and Solomon Islands and CCDRM in Samoa• Annual 5th November World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD) Activities included mass dissemination of public educational materials via Mass Media. WTAD22 observed in Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands
<p>8. To work in cooperation with PTWS Working Group 1, 2, & 3 and relevant task teams, especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation & emergency response. Support the implementation of Tsunami priorities under the UN Decade.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WG-PICT Task Team Capacity Development collaboration with WG 2 Task Team Minimum Competencies Levels for NTCW Operations• WG-PICT Collaboration with ORSNET and WG 2 Task Team Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific• WG-PICT collaboration with Task Team PacWave Exercises• WG-PICT Task Team Capacity Development in collaboration with PTWS WG 3 Disaster Risk Management and Preparedness• WG-PICT collaboration with Task Team UN Decade

Ninth Meeting WG-PICT Outcomes

- The meeting was attended by representatives of Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu as well as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (UNESCO/IOC), IOC International Tsunami Information Centre (ITIC), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Plan International and the Pacific Community (SPC). The meeting convened experts from national seismic observatories, national tsunami warning centers, national meteorological services, geohazards, tsunami scientists and disaster risk management community.

Ninth Meeting WG-PICT Outcomes

The meeting recommended;

- Greater coherence across the efforts (activities, ToR) of the task teams, working groups and its members.
- The Secretariat develop a matrix to track implementation of recommendations and provide quarterly updates of progress to member states
- Members update Tsunami National Contact (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) and National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) to ICG/PTWS (*Secretariat to share details*)
- members formalize their intent to implement the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme to ITIC (*ITIC to share details*) and encourage members to incorporate it into national tsunami ready programmes

Ninth Meeting WG-PICT Outcomes

The meeting recommended;

- guidelines be developed on the use of non-traditional platforms like WhatsApp to be used for unofficial communication during exercises and tsunami warning operations noting the need for differentiation of official and shared content for operations (*consider the establishment of a task team. Lead – FP supported by SB*)
- the Secretariat facilitate monthly testing of non-traditional communication systems e.g. HF radio, WhatsApp, satellite phones between countries
- Request PTWC to extend first bulletin to report (forecast and ETA) to 6 hrs. (not 3 hrs.').
- that members to continue to explore options in relation to a communications strategy in order to enhance national tsunami warning systems

Ninth Meeting WG-PICT Outcomes

The meeting recommended;

- Secretariat facilitate the completion of the tsunami warning and capacity assessment of members within 2023 for inclusion in the next national report to ICG/PTWS, in order to guide interventions of countries and support from partners
- the submission of the remaining national PacWave2022 evaluation forms by the **10 FEB** for inclusion in the PacWave 2022 Summary report
- the sharing of educational materials between members for tsunami preparedness activities
- lessons and learnings from HTHH are shared and considered in the revision of standard operating procedures for tsunami warning by PICTs
- the use of a World Meteorological Organization (WMO) dissemination method through the Global Telecommunication System (GTS) and Common Alert Protocol (CAP) in order to share national tsunami warnings between countries. This will be piloted by Solomon Islands and Tonga



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