

Scientific Committee for the UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (ODTP-SC)

4th Meeting of ODTP-SC

25-26 January 2024

Paris-France

<https://oceanexpert.org/event/4046#overview>

ODTP-SC 2024 WORK PROGRAMME

1. OPENING AND UPDATES / FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE ODTP RDIP

The 4th Meeting of the ODTP-SC was opened with an introductory presentation by its Chair, Srinivasa Kumar Tummala. He introduced the ToR of the ODTP-SC, highlighting the achievements and the remaining issues. He briefed the members on the important milestones in the Development of the 10-Year Research, Development and Implementation Plan for the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (TS-180), which was presented and endorsed at the 32nd session of the IOC Assembly in June 2023. The IOC-UNESCO tsunami programme will oversee the overall implementation of the ODTP through contributions and engagement of Member States, in coordination with the ICGs, and with the collaboration of academic institutions, researchers, industry, philanthropic organisations and other stakeholders. He reminded the members on the Objectives of the ODTP, namely

- 1) to develop the warning systems' capability to issue actionable and timely tsunami warnings for tsunamis from all identified sources to 100% of coasts at risk, and
- 2) 100% of communities at risk be prepared and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through programmes like the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP).

Lastly, he presented the key elements of the Research, Development & Implementation Plan, as follows:

1. Tsunami Risk Knowledge: Identify and prioritise at-risk communities
2. Tsunami Detection, Analysis and Forecasting: Expand existing, and deploy new observing technologies and warning systems
3. Warning, Dissemination and Communication: Access to data, tools, communication platforms, protocols and training to effectively warn coastal and maritime communities
4. Preparedness and Response Capabilities: To build tsunami-resilient communities
5. Capacity Development, SIDS and LDCs, Multi-hazard Framework: Underpinning elements
6. Governance and Pathways to Implementation

ODTP-SC noted the inclusive approach adopted to ensure the collaboration of non-ICG Member States with the IOC and TICs.

2. UN OCEAN DECADE INITIATIVES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH ODTP

2a) Communities of Practice

Communities of Practice are voluntary groups of endorsed Decade Actions that work on similar themes or in similar geographies. They allow Decade Actions to connect, collaborate, and exchange ideas to collectively fulfil the objectives of the Ocean Decade. As no specific report was provided to the ODTP-SC concerning Communities of Practice, the ODTP-SC decided to keep this item in its agenda to accommodate possible input in the future.

2b) Capacity Building Facility

ODTP-SC appreciated the presentation provided by Mary Frances Davidson, Coordinator of the UN Ocean Decade CD Facility (CDF). CDF aims to build on the unique strengths and expertise of UNESCO-IOC in terms of capacity development and provide a flexible and evolutive means of supporting the capacity development needs of individuals and institutions involved in the Ocean Decade, with a focus on SIDS and LDCs, ECOPs. This will include support to actors wishing to

engage in co-design of future Decade Actions, as well as support to proponents of existing Decade Actions who require support on targeted capacity development initiatives. ODTP-SC recognized the need to respond to this OD action and requested the TSR Secretariat to closely monitor the progress of the CDF, especially the next call which is expected to be dedicated to Capacity Building facilities/resources and needs, and inform the ODTP-SC for possible actions. ODTP-SC decided to share past and ongoing capacity building efforts within the IOCs Tsunami Program, including the UNESCAP Regional Tsunami Capacity Assessment Project approved for the IOTWMS with an option to also include PTWS subject to the approval of its Steering Committee.

2c. Thematic / Regional Decade Collaborative Centres / Coordination Offices

ODTP-SC recognized the need to initiate a line of communication with the DCCs/DCOs to connect the ODTP with the actions undertaken by the DCCs/DCOs, specifically DCC-PICT (DCC Pacific Islands-J  rome Aucan), DCC-PRED (Ocean Prediction-Enrique Alvarez), DCC-CR (DCC Coastal Resilience-Nadia Pinardi) and DCC-IOR (DCC Indian Ocean Region-Srinivasa Kumar) which include elements of interest such as digital twins, use of AI and deep learning in ocean observations and forecasting, which can be linked directly to the ODTP through TOWS TT-TWO. ODTP-SC also noted the possibility to connect meteo-tsunami focused efforts with the [CoastPredict](#). Since the IOCARIBE Secretariat is also a Regional DCO for the Caribbean Region, ODTP-SC also noted the strong coupling between the ODTP in terms of strengthening collaborative mechanisms in the region of Caribbean EWS to strengthen ocean observations to expand into multi hazard early warning systems. ODTP-SC also noted the request of DCO-CR to be involved in the 2nd Tsunami symposium to take place during 11-14 November 2024.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT WORK PROGRAMMES OF TOWS-WG TASK TEAM ON TSUNAMI WATCH OPERATIONS AND TASK TEAM ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND PREPAREDNESS

ODTP-SC noted the work progress of TOWS-TT-TWO and TOWS-TT-DMP, especially in connection to volcano-origin and meteo-tsunamis. ODTP-SC further noted the prior initiative by TOWS-WG on the tsunami hazard assessment, and the need to explore the need for TOWS-WG to revisit global tsunami hazard/risk assessment, which is currently undertaken at the ICG level.

4. REVIEW LIST OF ENDORSED ACTIONS RELATED TO ODTP AND OR CHALLENGE 6 AND COORDINATION WITH TOWS-WG WORK PROGRAMMES

ODTP-SC noted the need to identify gaps and work closely with the IOC/DCU for future calls to encourage national projects relevant to IOC's tsunami programme to be submitted and endorsed. It was noted that various important ongoing initiatives such as SMART Cable, New Zealand DART Project, and UNESCAP IOTWMS Capacity Assessment project are not in the table provided by the IOC/DCU. Several other initiatives do not get submitted as Decade Actions or reported to the respective ICGs. Several reasons could contribute to this including awareness of UN Decade at the national level or the initiatives not being perceived as "transformative" enough in the context of the Decade by the implementers. It is important to clarify that even small projects can lead to transformative outcome in enhancing tsunami early warning. Proper communication through multiple means including by the DCU, TSR, ICGs, National Decade Committees, etc is required to change this scenario. Also, further granularity is needed in the calls for action and/or DCU summaries to facilitate proper mapping to relevant programmes and monitoring.

5. ICG INITIATIVES/COORDINATION WITH RESPECT TO ODTP

ODTP-SC noted the progress made at each ICG and emphasized the need to have a mechanism to relate this progress with respect to ODTP goals as described in the appendices of the Research, Development & Implementation Plan (IOC Technical Series 180). It was also suggested to explore alignment to the extent possible with the Global Tsunami Performance Monitoring Framework (expected to be approved at the upcoming TOWS-WG-XVII Meetings). More specifically, the need to have standardized reporting at the Member State/ICG level is emphasized, which then can be compiled at the global level by the IOC/TSR. In this regard, ODTP-SC decided to recommend TOWS-WG to request ICGs (through Member States) to report with respect to ODTP Appendices through an online interface to be provided by the IOC/TSR. All efforts in this regard should be synchronized with the IOC/DCU, which has its own assessment tools.

Moreover, ODTP-SC appreciated the presentations on Optimal Sensor Locations in the Pacific and progress in the implementation of cabled systems in the ICG/NEAMTWS, also useful for planning purposes at the Member States level.

ODTP-SC also noted ongoing efforts by the IOC/TSR towards determination of the total number of communities subject to TRRP.

6. ODTP INVOLVEMENT IN:

6a) 2nd UNESCO IOC Global Tsunami Symposium

With respect to the 2nd International Tsunami Symposium to take place during 11-14 November 2024, ODTP-SC expressed its appreciation to BMKG and suggested reorganization of sessions in alignment with ODTP and to ensure a focus on the whole (end-to-end) warning system. Further recommendations addressed the conceptual flow of the symposium program, tentative list of speakers and the structure of the public sessions.

6b) 2nd UN Ocean Decade Conference

ODTP-SC noted the Ocean Decade Conference 2024 (12-14 April 2024, Barcelona) side event “Coastal Futures” and satellite Event “Coastal Cities and Communities Joining Tsunami Ready”. Lorna Irniss and Silvia Chacon Barrantes will also provide talks in relation to IOCs tsunami programme.

6c) EW4All

ODTP-SC appreciated the presentation of the WMO and expressed the need to have clarity on which hazards are covered under the EW4All, noting that no geo-hazards are reflected in the guiding/reference documentation and tsunami hazard being reflected among hydro-meteorological hazards. IOC/TSR declared its readiness to cooperate with the WMO to support the initiative. In addition to the ODTP, ODTP-SC decided to share documentation on existing/ongoing capacity assessments with the WMO, and Ocean Decade White Papers.

7. REVIEW OF ACTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE UNOD 6TH CALL REFERRING TO ODTP

IOC/TSR will work through all possible means to promote the ODTP especially in the next call.

8. AGREE SC-ODTP 2024 WORK PROGRAMME

ODTP-SC agreed in its 2024 Work Programme as presented above.