



Photo: ESCAP

ESCAP TRUST FUND
FOR TSUNAMI,
DISASTER AND
CLIMATE
PREPAREDNESS

END-TO-END EARLY WARNING OF TSUNAMIS FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION PHASE 1



Beneficiary Countries

Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam

Implementing Partners

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

Budget (US\$)
\$2,900,000

Duration
Jul. 2007 to
Jun. 2010

Related SDGs



PROJECT CONTEXT

The devastating Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004 has revealed serious gaps in the functioning of tsunami early warning systems (TEWS) and emergency response systems. The lack of seismic stations has severely limited the operability of TEWS. It is therefore important to establish a regional network of stations to respond to such transboundary hazard. This includes not only the increase of the numbers and geographical distribution of stations but also trainings on operating and maintaining those stations in the long term to ensure sustainability of the system. In addition, a regional early warning centre is necessary in order to process and evaluate collected measurement data, and furthermore, prepare and disseminate tsunami warnings.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project aimed to improve end-to-end multi-hazard early warning systems (EWS). This contributed to improving disaster preparedness and mitigation in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia.

KEY OUTCOMES

- A network of four real-time broadband seismic stations was established in Son La and Dalat (Viet Nam), Santa, (Philippines), and Sittwe (Myanmar).
- The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) assumed institutional ownership and financial responsibility for the now operational regional early warning centre.
- Capacities were enhanced at national institutes and within communities, e.g. through training courses on incident command systems and coastal community resilience assessments. Several existing tools were adapted to the specific countries' context. Trainings on these tools produced various outcomes, e.g. on concept of operations for the Maldives and Myanmar, standard operating procedures for the Trincomalee District in Sri Lanka, and tsunami alert rapid notifications systems for the Maldives, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka.