Photo: UN Photo/Mark Garten

ESCAP TRUST FUND

FOR TSUNAMI, DISASTER AND CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS

COASTAL HAZARD EARLY WARNING AND RESPONSE: TOOLS AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Beneficiary Countries

Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand

Implementing Partners

RIMES

Budget (US$)

$480,000

Duration

Jul. 2012 to Dec. 2014

Related SDGs

PROJECT CONTEXT

Identifying high-risk areas is crucial for disaster risk management. Inundation modelling is an important tool for this purpose but it requires extensive computational capabilities and high quality near-shore bathymetric, topographic, and exposure datasets. Many countries lack the financial resources required for this. Therefore, the development of tsunami early warning systems (TEWS) has taken a multi-hazard approach to ensure resources are used effective and sustainable in long-term. Furthermore, early warning is increasingly integrated into broader disaster risk reduction and development.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

This project aimed to build tsunami risk assessment capacities by building on IOC-UNESCO efforts and taking advantages of low-cost methodologies developed by RIMES.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Tsunami risk assessment capacities were built within relevant technical agencies and research institutions. A pool of personnel has been trained on tsunami risk assessment and equipment, methodologies, and user manuals have been transferred to the respective agencies in the project countries.
- Through trainings in the project countries, tsunami warning capabilities within national tsunami warning centres and response capabilities within disaster management organizations and communities have been strengthened.
- The regional resource sharing for warning information generation and dissemination was improved. Regional data sharing policy and mechanism for regional online interaction of forecasters during tropical cyclone occurrence were adopted by RIMES member states.

UNITED NATIONS ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific