



Photo: Oxfam GB

ESCAP TRUST FUND
FUND
FOR TSUNAMI,
DISASTER AND
CLIMATE
PREPAREDNESS

ENHANCING TSUNAMI RESILIENCE IN PAKISTAN



Beneficiary Countries
Pakistan

Implementing Partners
Oxfam GB Pakistan

Budget (US\$)
\$230,000

Duration
Nov. 2014 to Sep. 2016

Related SDGs



PROJECT CONTEXT

As Pakistan's major economic hubs, e.g. Karachi, are located in low-lying coastal areas, tsunamis are a severe threat on both public safety and economic development. In 1945, the most disastrous tsunami recorded in the history of the Northwest Indian Ocean, the Makran Tsunami, caused hundreds of fatalities and adverse impacts on economic development. With an estimated return period of 100 years and a rapid coastal population growth, enhancing tsunami resilience in Pakistan is an urgent matter. Despite these risks, a lack of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for early warning and emergency response has been observed. Disaster risk management (DRM) plans and tsunami warning systems of some cities have been observed to be outdated.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project aimed at reducing disaster risk from coastal hazards by enhancing institutional capacity, setting up early warning systems (EWS), and implementing community-based DRM strategies in targeted districts.

KEY OUTCOMES

- The capacity of different stakeholders for dissemination of tsunami hazard information could be improved by training government officials through activities and planning exercises.
- Furthermore, a Tsunami EWS was put in place and complemented by the distribution of low-cost EWS equipment to volunteers in remote and isolated areas.
- Community-based DRM strategies were put in place by providing orientation sessions, trainings and hazard mapping, especially targeting school children and women. Through participatory processes hazards and evacuation maps were developed for target villages, which cannot be reached timely for official disaster warning.
- The project has reached over 21,000 direct beneficiaries and over 30,000 indirect beneficiaries.

