



Acronym: ITIC
Full Name: International Tsunami Information Centre
Website: ioc3.unesco.org/itic/
Established: 1965
Location: Honolulu, Hawai'i

Areas of expertise: Monitoring the international tsunami warning activities in the Pacific and other oceans and recommending improvements in communications, data networks, acquisition and processing, tsunami forecasting methods, and information dissemination; bringing to Member and non-member States information on tsunami warning systems, assisting Member States in the establishment of national and regional warning systems, and the reduction of tsunami risk through comprehensive mitigation programmes; acting as a clearinghouse for the development of educational and preparedness materials, event data collection, and the fostering research and its application to prevent loss of life.

Main Partners and collaborations: Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), NOAA's Richard H. Hagemeyer Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), Japan's Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Centre (NWPTAC), NOAA's West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Centre (WC/ATWC), International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG); World Data Centers (WDC); World Meteorological Organization (WMO); International Hydrographic Organization (IHO); United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), Asia Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

Short Description:

The International Tsunami Information Centre (ITIC) was created by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). ITIC maintains and develops relationships with scientific research and academic organizations, civil defence agencies, and the general public in order to carry out its mission to mitigate the hazards associated with tsunamis by improving tsunami preparedness for all Pacific Ocean nations. ITIC is also assisting in the development and implementation of tsunami warning and mitigation systems globally.

Main activities:

ITIC aims the following activities:

- Tsunami Education, Preparedness, and Training: ITIC's mitigation programme is directed towards coastal residents, their national and local officials, school teachers, mass media, policy makers, and the general public. It includes training classes, lectures, community briefings, and media broadcasts. ITIC materials include informational booklets, textbooks, lecture materials, audio-visual aids, posters, photographs, television and radio materials, and other publications. A prepared and aware public will know immediately how to respond when a tsunami emergency is declared. ITIC works with governments and civil society organizations to implement community-based mitigation programmes that will reduce tsunami impacts and save lives.
- Tsunami Research: For each tsunami, ITIC assists the World Data Centre (Solid Earth Geophysics-Tsunamis) in soliciting and collecting seismic information and tsunami wave records, together with supplementary data and descriptive information on tsunami damage. ITIC prepares and disseminates a report on the tsunami through its Tsunami Newsletter published quarterly.
- Tsunami Technology and Information: ITIC arranges for the availability of technical information required for an effective tsunami warning system. It ensures that knowledge of new technology and mitigation countermeasures is available to all Member States.

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