

WORLD TSUNAMI AWARENESS 5 NOVEMBER DAY

#TsunamiDay #OnlyTogether



 Save the date



8th November 2021



13.00 – 15.30 hrs IST



Hybrid event

Launched from the Disaster Management Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka



Click here to register to receive the event link
<https://bit.ly/DMCSLTAD>

"LEARN, SHARE, ACTIONS" AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC: International Cooperation for Tsunami Warning and Mitigation

Commemoration of the World Tsunami Awareness Day

Tsunamis are among the most devastating natural hazards which impact nations across the world with coastal borders. Over the past two decades, tsunamis have accounted for almost 10% of economic losses from disasters, setting back development gains, especially in countries that border the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

Reducing tsunami risk is an investment and not a cost. According to the United Nations, by the 2030 and an estimated 50% of the world's population is expected to live in coastal areas exposed to flooding, storms and tsunamis. Scaling up international cooperation to developing countries will help ensure that 100% of communities at risk of tsunami are prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030.

The current COVID-19 response has further resulted in a shift of priorities, alterations in work processes and venues (home office), physical distancing, self-isolation and quarantine measures, as well as temporary lockdowns of entire communities. Ensuring that agreed tsunami preparedness measures are in place and adapted to COVID-19 conditions before a tsunami event (there will be no time to do so during an event) is a challenge, under the current context across the world.

The United Nations, through UN Resolution 70/203 adopted on 22 December 2015, has designated November 5th as the World tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD). In 2021, WTAD is an opportunity to advocate for reducing tsunami risk in Sri Lanka in the context of the "Safe Ocean" outcome of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and the promotion of International Cooperation, the chosen target F for this year's edition of the Sendai Seven Campaign.

Sri Lanka as a country which is planning to gain recognition as a "Tsunami ready country", is conducting a national event (hybrid mode) and the key topics under discussion are;

- Indian ocean Tsunami early warning and mitigation system, its guiding principles and principal stakeholders
- Effective international cooperation to reduce tsunami risk at local level
- Tsunami Early Warning Dissemination: Flow of tsunami threat and warning information from regional service providers to communities at risk
- Tsunami ready communities
- Are we Tsunami Ready? Communication from regional, national and to local communities



State Ministry of
National Security &
Disaster Management



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



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Speakers



Ms. Shairi Mathur

Disaster Recovery and Risk Reduction
Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub
United Nations Development Programme



Mr. Rick Bailey

Head of the Intergovernmental
Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean
Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System
Secretariat (ICG/IOTWMS) Secretariat



Prof. Dilanthi Amaratunga

Professor of Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management Head, Global Disaster
Resilience Centre, School of Applied
Sciences, University of Huddersfield, UK



Mr. M.M.P. Mendis

Deputy Director, National Meteorological
Centre, Department of Meteorology
Sri Lanka



Mr. Pradeep Kodippili

Deputy Director, Emergency Operations
Centre, Disaster Management Centre
Sri Lanka



Dr. Srinivasa Kumar Tummala

Director at Indian National Centre For
Ocean Information Services, Government
of India s through the Tsunami Ready
Programme



Prof. Richard Haigh

Global Disaster Resilience Centre
School of Applied Sciences
University of Huddersfield, UK

Panel Discussion

Topic: Are we Tsunami Ready?: Communication from
regional, national and to local communities

Moderated by:



Dr. Chandana Siriwardana

Senior Lecturer,
University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

Panellists



Major General (Retd.) Sudantha Ranasinghe

Director General
Disaster Management Centre, Sri Lanka



Mr. J.W.S. Kithsiri

Additional District Secretary
District Secretariat, Gampaha District
Sri Lanka



Dr. Hemantha Herath

Deputy Director General, Disaster
Preparedness and Response Division
Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka



Mr. Waruna Ettipola

Assistant Director
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority



Ms. Kalani Hewapathirana

Director Fishing Operations, Department of
Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Sri Lanka



Lieutenant Commander K.S. Lakmal Kadigamuwa

Sri Lanka Navy



Mr. Chevaan Daniel

Group Director
Capital Maharaja Organization (Pvt.) Ltd.
Sri Lanka



Mr. Asith De Silva

Group Senior Manager, Senior Manager -
Social Innovation, Group Sustainability
Dialog Axiata PLC, Sri Lanka



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