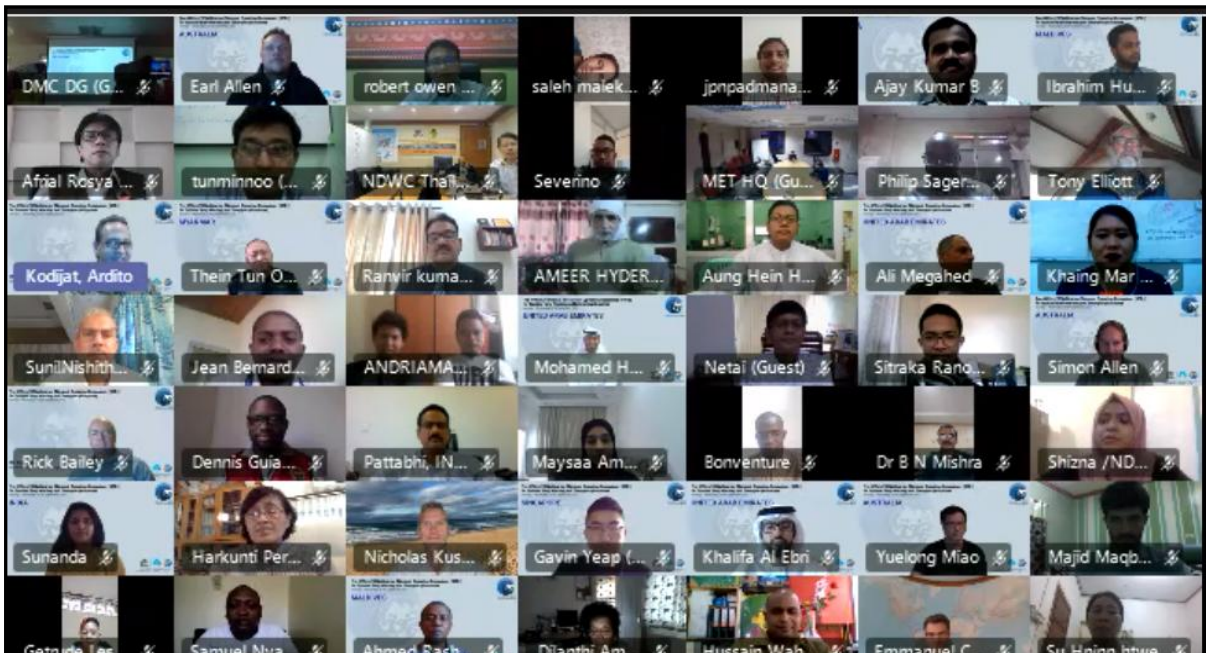


Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC)
ESSO - Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS),
Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, Hyderabad

Pre-IOWave20 Webinar on 'Tsunami Standard Operating Procedure for Tsunami Early Warning and Emergency Response' during 28 – 30 September 2020.

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services took active part in the pre-IOWave20 Webinar on “Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Tsunami Early Warning and Emergency Response” that was conducted by the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (ICG/IOTWMS) and Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC) of the IOC-UNESCO during 28-30 September, 2020. More than 150 officials from 23 Countries of Indian Ocean Region participated in webinar, including 46 Indian officials representing coastal States/UTs, Disaster Management Organizations, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, NDRF, Critical Installations and Port & Harbors.

Scientists from the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) at INCOIS participated as trainers to deliver presentations on Tsunami Service Providers, Preparation and Plan for IOWave20 Exercise, end-to-end National Tsunami Warning Chains, and Timeline based Tsunami Early Warning SOPs.



Screenshot of SOP Webinar Participants

The Webinar was conducted in preparation to IOWave20 Exercise, which is an Indian Ocean wide tsunami drill that is being coordinated by the IOC-UNESCO on 6th, 13th and 20th October

2020. The IOWave20 exercise will provide an opportunity to the participating agencies to test communications protocols, assess organizational Standard Operating Procedures as well as plans and policies for tsunami warning and emergency response. Considering the present COVID-19 pandemic situation, it has been decided to limit the IOWave20 Exercise to test communication channels (COMMs test) instead of full-scale exercise.

Accordingly, ITEWC is also planning to conduct IOWave20 COMMs test in India in two phases- Phase-1 on 13th October 2020 (0930-1030 hrs) for States on the East coast of India and Andaman & Nicobar islands followed by Phase-2 on 20th October 2020 (1130 – 1230hrs) for States on the West coast of India and Lakshadweep Islands. As a Tsunami Service provider for the Indian Ocean, the ITEWC will also issue Tsunami bulletins to 25 countries on the Indian Ocean rim during all the 3 exercise dates.