

Strengthening Haitian capacities for tsunami early warning and preparedness

Context

- Very limited knowledge about tsunamis among the population*
- No knowledge about tsunami exposure and scenarios*
- No knowledge about the structure of the regional warning system*
- No available infrastructure to establish a real time early warning system*
- Low level of risk perception among decision-makers and representatives of the DRR National System.*

Key achievements



- Knowledge enhancement

-Around 210 national DRR system representatives have participated at tsunami related trainings (inundation modelling, tide gauge installation, sea level data interpretation and standard operating procedures for tsunami warning, local evacuation plans)

Local disaster management

-Draft inundation maps available for 6 cities

-2 cities (Cap Haitien and Port de Paix) and 2 communities (Anse à Fouleur and Saint Louis du Nord) have draft evacuation maps.



Key achievements



Institutional linkages and advocacy

- A tsunami steering committee is established and functioning
- Participation of Haiti at the regional tsunami meeting in the Caribbean and regional simulation exercise

Information, education and communication:

- Strategy for tsunami public awareness developed and 30,000 materials distributed to ECHO partners, CRH, DPC, ONGs and local DRR committees.
- 70 teachers in Cap Haitian trained on tsunami risk



Key tools/procedures/initiatives

- Inundation models for local and distant tsunamis available to finalise warning operating procedures*
- Draft document on warning operating procedures*
- Education and public awareness materials developed and validated by the National System*
- Methodology for identification of safe zones and evacuation routes developed and being implemented in two cities.*
- Sign posting translated to Creole and validated at local level*
- Good cooperation with ECHO partners to conduct public awareness campaigns in the field and include tsunami in KAD surveys*



Key tools/procedures/initiatives

- Methodology to conduct tsunami simulation exercises being developed with local actors*
- Tsunami education modules being developed and to be tested in schools.*
- "Gid sou sounami" being developed in Creole to present knowledge gained with the project*