**AN INFORMATION
AND RESOURCE TOOLKIT**
building global capacity
to respond to and mitigate
tsunamis

*Tsunami
Teacher*

UNESCO

The Indian Ocean tsunami of 26 December 2004 claim the highest toll in recorded history.

In just a few hours, stunning the world with its destructive power, the tsunami struck every country in the Indian Ocean, wreaking massive damage along coasts and causing deaths in 11 countries. Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and southeast India were the worst hit.

The tsunami was largely to blame for a surge in the death toll from natural disasters in 2004, to 250,000 globally – three times higher than in 2003, 10 times more than in 2002 and three times the annual average for the de-cade 1994 to 2003 – according to the World Disasters Report 2005 of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

A tsunami is an unstoppable natural hazard, but the 2004 event made it tragically clear that countries were poorly prepared for the phenomenon. The goals now are to raise the ability of people **to recognize and react in a timely manner** to an approaching tsunami, to grow the capacity of nations to respond rapidly and effectively to tsunami warnings when they are issued, and to mitigate the impacts when tsunamis occur.

"Tsunami disasters pose a major threat to the coastal populations of the Pacific and other world oceans and seas. They have been responsible for the loss of thousands of lives and great damage to property.

"Although understanding of the tsunami phenomenon has increased in the past four decades and early warning systems have been established, these advances have been partially offset by population growth and extensive development of coastal zones.

"Therefore the tsunami risk and vulnerability of people living in coastal areas will continue to increase in the future."

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

The IOC encourages the duplication and wide to the users

In the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami, national authorities across the Indian Ocean region were charged, among other things, with developing tsunami information, awareness, education and resource materials for the media, schools, decision-makers and the public.

● *TsunamiTeacher* pulls together a wealth of information on tsunamis that already exists, gathered down the decades on individual events and responses to them, and enriched by research and scientific advances. Many organizations and countries have also produced, or are developing, locally and regionally relevant materials on tsunamis.

● *TsunamiTeacher* is the first single, reliable and verified resource that pulls this material together at the global level and makes them widely accessible to people, groups and governments around the world.

● *TsunamiTeacher* contributes to build awareness and capacity to respond and mitigate the impact of tsunamis through the sharing of knowledge, research, and best practices.

Training Modules target the Media, Schools, and the Public and Private Sectors, including governments, non-government organizations, businesses, and community groups. Within the government sector, a large amount of training material has been assembled on earthquake and tsunami science and research, tsunami events, and the building of tsunami warning and mitigation systems. These topics include hazard and risk assessment, operational warning and dissemination systems, tsunami emergency response, alerting, and preparedness, environmental, engineering mitigation and policy, and education and outreach. Resource materials are provided as examples and guidance for decision-makers.

TsunamiTeacher is supported both as a dynamic, electronic, on-line resource that will be **continually reviewed, updated, and complemented by experts on a dedicated website: www.tsunamiteacher.org** and as an off-line set of DVDs which will run on PC and Macintosh platforms. The base language is English, with translations presently planned into Bahasa Indonesia, Bangladesh Bangla, French, Spanish, and Thai.

TsunamiTeacher is produced and distributed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission**. It was prepared under the supervision of the IOC's **International Tsunami Information Centre** in Hawaii, USA.

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TsunamiTeacher **content**

The content of *TsunamiTeacher* is divided into four main sections. It is recommended that all users read carefully through "1- Getting Started" before proceeding to Training Modules.

The "1- Getting started", "3- Workshops and Evaluation" and "4- Resource Collection" sections are common to all users and can be accessed at any point by clicking on the appropriate link button. Training modules for different *TsunamiTeacher* audiences are in "2- Training Modules".

There are a further three sections, always readily accessible as buttons on the screen – "Resources collection", "Glossary" and "Links and Contacts".

This product is not intended for sale.

how to run this computer-based training (CBT)

No installation required.

On a Windows platform
Insert the DVD and it will 'Autorun'.
Else, go to Windows Explorer and double click on the DVD icon and then double click on Tsunami.exe to enter the CBT.

On a Macintosh,
Insert the DVD, double click on the DVD icon and then double click on Tsunami to launch the course.

This course is designed for MAC 10.3 or above versions. In the lower versions, the course will run properly but the PDFs will not be launched and will have to be opened manually from their respective folder. Path: (data\Resource\PDF)

TsunamiTeacher can be run directly from your computer hard disk. For this, copy all files on the DVD to the hard disk.

Recommended System Requirements

Processor:1GHz or higher;
Memory: 256 MB RAM or higher
CD ROM: 8x or higher
Display: 800 x 600, 16 bit High Color
Operating System: Windows2000 or XP or higher;
MAC OS X.3 or higher

Additional Software Required

Adobe's Acrobat Reader 6.0 or higher. If you don't have one, the installers are packed with the TsunamiTeacher DVD for different platforms.