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Enhancing regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific

ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The present document contains a brief outline of the background, objectives, scope and operational principles of the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries. It provides an overview of projects supported by the Fund and the results achieved. The document also discusses unmet needs in end-to-end early warning systems for the subregion covered by the Fund. It concludes with a number of issues that the Committee may wish to consider.

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I. Overview of the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries

A. Background

1. The “Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries” was established in 2005, originally to support tsunami early warning systems through a multi-hazard approach. The Fund received contributions from the Governments of Thailand (\$10 million), Sweden (\$2.6 million), and Turkey, Bangladesh and Nepal. ESCAP acts as its administrator. The formulation of policies and the making of decisions on allocation of financial resources rest with the Fund’s Advisory Council.¹

2. In 2008, an evaluative review² of the Fund proposed broadening its scope to include overall disaster and climate preparedness within its core areas of support. This recommendation was made against the background of an increase in extreme weather events occurring in recent decades and the potential benefits of early warning systems. The number of disasters in the region has been increasing, mainly as a result of larger numbers of people living in hazard-prone locations as well as unplanned settlements and environmental degradation. Climate change is altering the face of disaster risk through increased weather-related risks and sea-level rise; investment in disaster risk reduction is a way of adapting to climate change.

3. The strategic plan³ of the Fund was approved by the Fund’s Advisory Council in June 2009, in line with the proposed expanded scope, while the two key donors, Sweden and Thailand, were considering the proposal. The expanded scope was approved by the founding donor, the Government of Thailand, in November 2010. As a consequence of the agreement between ESCAP and that Government being signed on 7 March 2011, the revised name “ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries” entered into effect.

B. Objectives and scope

4. The objective of the Fund is to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated approach to resource mobilization for building and enhancing capacities at various levels for tsunami, disaster and climate preparedness in accordance with the needs of Indian Ocean and South-East Asian countries. The Fund primarily focuses on early warning of coastal hazards, such as tsunamis, coastal zone flooding, storm surges and cyclones, adopting a multi-hazard approach. The Fund is expected to contribute to the narrowing of capacity gaps, including through the development of an integrated regional warning system comprising a network of collaborative centres connected to subregional and regional centres and linked to other centres

¹ For further information on the Fund, see E/ESCAP/CDR/INF/6.

² The *Evaluative Review 2008: Final Report* is available from www.unescap.org/pmd/tsunami_index.asp.

³ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, *ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness: Strategic Plan* (ST/ESCAP/2546) (New York, 2009).

outside the subregion covered by the Fund, such as those in the Pacific Ocean. The geographical scope of the Fund covers Indian Ocean and South-East Asian countries extending from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Timor-Leste.⁴

5. End-to-end early warning, defined broadly, is the overall framework for the Fund. Complete and effective early warning comprises four interrelated elements: risk knowledge; monitoring and warning services; dissemination and communication; and response capability. Early warning can encompass a broad range of activities, but within a clear framework that can be tested in an operational context, such as through drills. It is one of the five priorities covered by the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.⁵ The Incheon Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2010,⁶ which was adopted at the Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 25 to 28 October 2010, further underscores the need for strengthening early warning information and systems through, among other things, regional mechanisms.

6. It is understood that the primary responsibility for establishing effective national early warning arrangements rests with the national Government concerned. Subject to the availability of funding, the Fund may be drawn upon to supplement national resources in areas in which national centres do not have adequate funding. In that regard, least developed countries are given particular attention.

C. How the Fund operates

7. The following are the principles and policies that guide the operation of the Fund:

(a) *Demand-driven.* Governments and other organizations develop proposals in their own priority areas and these are submitted to ESCAP for competitive rounds of funding. Organizations submitting such proposals are encouraged to match their specific needs with priority areas;⁷

(b) *Regional.* As the only United Nations fund operating in this area of work in the ESCAP region, the Fund gives priority to strategic initiatives at the regional level. It does so also to avoid spreading resources too thinly. The initiatives that receive priority include resource-sharing arrangements, South-South cooperation approaches and those that can have value region-wide, such as model or pilot approaches. Support for national and subnational initiatives is considered for countries that are a priority

⁴ Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

⁵ A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

⁶ For the text of the Declaration, see www.preventionweb.net/files/16327_finalincheondeclaration1028.pdf.

⁷ The priority areas are identified in the publication entitled *Tsunami Early Warning Systems in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia: Report on Regional Unmet Needs* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.11.F.14).

because of high levels of disaster risk and vulnerability or significant capacity gaps;

(c) *Flexible.* Funds can be transferred to intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations or directly to Governments. Implementing organizations require a degree of capacity in project design and implementation and financial management. For proposals focused on high-priority areas of work where these conditions are not met, the Fund helps to identify implementing partners. Joint submissions between United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and Governments are encouraged;

(d) *Coordinated.* Programming and policy decisions are made by the Fund's Advisory Council, which consists of the Fund's key donors and the ESCAP secretariat.⁸ United Nations partners⁹ attend Council meetings as observers and participate in an inter-agency task force which undertakes technical appraisals of the proposals that the Fund receives and conducts other substantive reviews at the request of the Advisory Council;

(e) *Managing for results.* The Fund is guided by a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Fund as a whole and for individual projects. The monitoring of projects takes place on a regular basis to check whether the delivery of outputs is going according to plan and in accordance with the expected objectives and the financial and human resources available. Annual self-assessments are carried out by ESCAP in the context of annual reports to determine the Fund's progress in relation to key guiding principles, such as policy criteria, donor agreements and unmet needs. Independent evaluative reviews are carried out every two or three years. If the duration of the project and its budget are substantial, that is, at least two years in duration and involving funds of \$500,000, a midterm evaluation is required. All implementing partners are required to commission a terminal evaluation at the end of the project to assess whether the objectives have been achieved;

(f) *Transparent.* The organizations submitting proposals are provided with technical appraisals of them. All important documents relating to the Fund are posted on its website: www.unescap.org/pmd/tsunami_index.asp.

D. Projects supported and their financial status

8. To date, the Fund has conducted 6 rounds of funding and received 70 proposals from various regional, subregional and national organizations. Of those, 16 projects were approved, with the total budget being approximately \$11.3 million (see table). Through these projects, the Fund has balanced the programming of different aspects of early warning arrangements, including monitoring and warning services, risk knowledge, education and awareness, dissemination and communication of warnings and response capacity.

⁸ Any donor with a 20 per cent share in the unspent balance of the Fund is represented on the Advisory Council.

⁹ Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme and World Meteorological Organization.

Table
Overview of grants provided for various projects under the Fund

Project number	Title	Implementing Organization	Countries covered	Funds programmed (United States dollars)	Status (as of 31 December 2010)
TTF-01	Support for the establishment of capacities in the region to observe and evaluate anomalous sea-level conditions for early warning of tsunamis in the Indian Ocean	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	Myanmar, Philippines, Viet Nam	247 901	Completed
TTF-02	End-to-end early warning of tsunamis and other natural hazards for disaster preparedness and mitigation in the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia: phase 1	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam	2 358 985	Completed
TTF-03	Training programme for trainers on community-based hazard-map development	Asian Disaster Reduction Center	Bangladesh, India	79 819	Completed
TTF-04	Strengthening tsunami warning and emergency responses: training workshops on the development of standard operating procedures for the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO	Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Viet Nam	444 730	Ongoing
TTF-05	Strengthening national and community capacities for effective early warning dissemination and response	UNDP Maldives	Maldives	91 259	Completed
TTF-06	Enhancing national capacity for early warning dissemination in Sri Lanka	Disaster Management Centre, Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	199 880	Completed ^a

Project number	Title	Implementing Organization	Countries covered	Funds programmed (United States dollars)	Status (as of 31 December 2010)
TTF-07	End-to-end early warning of tsunamis and other natural hazards for disaster preparedness and mitigation in the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia: phase 2	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam	1 211 766	Completed
TTF-08	Towards sustaining the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia end-to-end multi-hazard early warning system	Maldives Meteorological Service	Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam	375 000	Ongoing
TTF-09	Making provincial communities safer through disaster risk reduction in development	UNDP Indonesia	Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand	2 000 000	Ongoing
TTF-10	Tsunami awareness and preparedness tools and materials assessment project	UNESCO Office in Jakarta	Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste	599 896	Ongoing
TTF-11	Assessment and awareness of the Makran fault's tsunami hazards	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO	Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan	220 861	Ongoing
TTF-12	Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union early warning broadcast media initiative	Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union	Cambodia, China, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam,	351 108	Ongoing

Project number	Title	Implementing Organization	Countries covered	Funds programmed (United States dollars)	Status (as of 31 December 2010)
TTF-13	Building risk knowledge to enhance early warning, preparedness and mitigation in tsunami-affected countries	UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre	Indonesia, Sri Lanka	344 386	Ongoing
TTF-14	Strengthening community-based disaster risk management in Asia: shifting from lessons observed to lessons learned	Raks Thai Foundation	Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam	600 000	Ongoing
Total				9 125 591	

^a The official project end-date was 31 December 2010. ESCAP is awaiting audit results before accounts can be formally settled.

Note: The table does not include two projects approved by the Advisory Council on 19 January 2011, for which ESCAP is in the process of concluding funding agreements. These projects focus on the development of operational early warning products for managing extreme weather events (Asia-Pacific Regional Centre of the United Nations Development Programme) and application of warning information products in decision-making (Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System of the World Meteorological Organization).

9. The remaining balance currently available for programming is about \$1 million. A decision regarding the next round of funding is expected at the next meeting of the Advisory Council, which is tentatively scheduled for September 2011.

II. Results of the Fund's operations

10. Significant work has been achieved under Fund-supported

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_5851

