

PR Component of the NTHMP Accomplishments 2012.

The Puerto Rico Seismic Network

University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

The Puerto Rico (PR) component of the NTHMP (National Tsunami Hazard and Mitigation Program), that is entirely funded by NTHMP, is managed by the Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) in partnership with local authorities (EMA), FEMA, NWS/WFO and the municipalities.

Objective 1. Full participation of Puerto Rico in NTHMP activities thru participation in meetings and sharing of NHTMP related products.

- PRSN participated in NTHMP CC and subcommittees related meetings (02/2012, 07/2012, 11/2012)
- All PR NTHMP related documents are available online.
- Results of PR tsunami program were presented in several forums (NDPTC, Colombia, Curacao, Dominican Republic, SSA, AGU)

Objective 2. Regenerate tsunami inundation maps for all Puerto Rico which include the local faults, landslides and regional and teleseismic sources.

- Final PR MOM (Maximum of maximum) tsunami flood map, from local sources, was compiled and the State tsunami Advisory committee approved.
- Flood map are available online in different formats: google, gis, pdf and pptx
- Local landslides sources were identified.
- Regional and teleseismic scenarios were compiled.

Objective 3. Improve the understanding of communities, emergency managers and operators of critical facilities in Puerto Rico to tsunami hazard, their associate risk and level of preparedness and empower them to mitigate the potential effects of a tsunami.

- Feb/2012: EMWIN workshop for emergency managers and first responder.
- Full support and participation in the Lantex 2012 tsunami exercise.
- A preliminary version of the Puerto Rico Tsunami decision support tool is available online.

Objective 4. Improve planning, zoning, permitting and engineering practices to support tsunami resilient practices.

- **One hundred and thirty participants**, including community leaders, engineers, architects, surveyors, scientists, planners, bankers, technicians, local and state government and public utilities professionals and emergency management officials from mostly Puerto Rico, but also Hawaii, Washington, British Virgin Islands, Venezuela, Colombia and Haiti attended the 3 day tsunami vertical evacuation and construction best practices workshop.

Objective 5. Prepare and distribute tsunami evacuation maps for the remaining tsunami threatened communities.

- Tsunami evacuation maps were approved for the following communities: Maunabo, Yabucoa, Humacao, Naguabo, Ceiba, Fajardo, Luquillo, Culebra and Vieques.
- 26000 copies were distributed.

Objective 6. Increase and improve awareness of the tsunami hazard and appropriate response by people at risk in Puerto Rico with a special focus on children, elderly, handicap, visitors and maritime community.

- The PR Tsunami Curriculum developed under this grant was approved by the ED (Education Department) and is being used officially in the public education system.
- A user friendly web page was developed to provide the public tsunami evacuation routes and related information.

Objective 7. Improve the capability of the Puerto Rico to have reliable TWC product reception and capability to distribute the message to those at risk.

- Ten EMWIN units were acquired,
- One hundred NOAA radios were distributed and installed,
- A siren protocol was established,
- PRSN is fully supporting the establishment of the IPAWS protocol in the Island.
- A Full PR alert system was testing during the LanTex and ShakeOut exercises.

Objective 8. Maintain and strengthen the TsunamiReady program in Puerto Rico.

- Following communities were recognized as TsunamiReady: Maunabo, Yabucoa, Humacao, Naguabo, Ceiba and Fajardo

Submitted by: Victor A. Huerfano, PhD
Interim Director
Puerto Rico Seismic Network
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
victor@prsn.uprm.edu