Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program

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US NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program

- Established by NOAA NWS in 2010
- Co-Located with the Puerto Rico Seismic Network in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
- Supporting improved observations (Seismic, Sea Level and GPS),
- Tsunami Operational Procedures training
- CARIBE WAVE exercises
- TsunamiReady and Tsunami Ready Program, Education and Outreach
The CTWP serves 48 Countries and Territories in the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions

Population
Islands: 40 Million
Continental: 430 Million
Over the past 500 years more than 75 tsunamis have occurred killing 4484 people

Then and Now

1867 - US Virgin Islands
30 deaths

1918 - Puerto Rico
140 deaths

1946 - Dominican Republic
1790 deaths
Community/People Centered Tsunami Warning System Model

CARIBE EWS
Tsunami Service Model

Monitoring Network Operation Services
(Seismic, Sea Level, GPS)

Regional Tsunami Services Provider(s)

Sub Regional Tsunami Services Provider(s)

Response

Community

Standard Operating Procedures

ICG-CARIBE-EWS SOPs (Communication Plan/PTWC enhanced products manual)
Member state and territory SOPs for alert dissemination
Public information according to ICG-CARIBE-EWS guidelines

Natural Signs

Local Networks automatic triggering

Subscription
All

National Tsunami Warning Center
Tsunami Warning Focal Point
Real Time Seismic Data – All Seismic Networks are Contributing data to the TWC, increase from 10 to 100 stations since 2004
Sea Level Data – Increase from 5 Sea Level Stations to almost 80 stations.
Operational Training/Support for NWS WFO and also internationally (with ITIC)

Implementation of Enhanced PTWC International Products (new text, tables, Graphics) and support for transition from NTWC to PTWC for PR and VI
Annual Tsunami Exercise: CARIBE WAVE

- Individuals thru major institutions
- Test communications and response plans
- Close to 200,000 participated in 2014 and 2015
- In 2015 every MS participated and completed post exercise questionnaire
Supporting CARIBBEAN AND ADJACENT REGIONS CARIBE WAVE Exercises
Next CARIBE WAVE exercise
March 17, 2016

Venezuela Scenario
Northern Hispaniola Scenario

Registration and Promotion thru TsunamiZone.org
TsunamiReady® Communities: 47 US and 2 International

TsunamiReady® in Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands

47 TsunamiReady Communities™:
44 Municipios (Puerto Rico), 3 Islands (U.S. Virgin Islands)

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CARIBE EWS
Tsunami Ready Guidelines

10 vs 16 guidelines of the US Program
Additional Comments

- Each country will be identifying target number of communities for recognition. Recognition will also be for 3 years.
- Current Pilot Project in Saint Kitts and Nevis.
Closing Remarks

- Also contributed to testing of TWEB and translation into Spanish
- Protecting the lives and economies of foreign countries but also of US Citizens who live in the US Territories but also almost 40 million, mostly US tourists who come to the region on Cruises and to stay at hotels right along the beaches.
- US NTHMP has provided great best practices
- Mutual collaboration for continuing to strengthening the preparedness

Thank you
For more information:

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