

TSUNAMI RECONNAISSANCE DATA PRESERVATION WORKSHOP

San Diego, California, USA, 21-22 September 2005

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The ITIC Director participated in a Tsunami Reconnaissance Data Preservation Workshop 21-22 September 2005 sponsored by the US National Science Foundation. The workshop was hosted by the San Diego Supercomputer (SDSC) and Oregon State University (OSU) to discuss the development of centralized tsunami reconnaissance data repository. Participants were from a broad range of disciplines, including the private sector, and had conducted post-tsunami surveys after the December 2004 tsunami. Project funding is being provided by the U.S. National Science Foundation through the NEES Program (Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation) to the SDSC and OSU for implementation. The central repository will be hosted by the SDSC, and will include not only data management capabilities, but also tools for searching, exploring, analyzing and extracting data. The Information will be curated by experts, with special functions allowing the broader community to add commentary about the usefulness of data and its application in studying tsunamis and other hazards.

The objectives of the Tsunami Reconnaissance Data Repository are to:

- Preserve key data about the Dec. 26th tsunami that would otherwise be scattered or even lost.
- Make data widely accessible via Web interfaces and tools. New methods will be developed for searching and presenting data in ways that make sense to non-scientists as well as specialists.
- Create methods and tools compatible with emerging standards, so that tsunami reconnaissance data can be linked and cross analyzed with related information from other sources.

The site will be mirrored by the IOC at its IODE (International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange) Project Office in Ostend, Belgium. The ITIC and the World Data Center/National Geophysical Data Center are encouraging broad usage of this facility for the archiving of tsunami data from the 26 December 2004 tsunami. Data being compiled by the IUGG Working Groups can be digitally archived by this facility. While the repository is being initially developed to archive the Indian Ocean data, it is being designed so that it can support the multi-media tsunami data preservation needs of all historical and future tsunami events. Further information can be found at <http://www.tsunami.nees.org/workshop.php>.

Located in Honolulu, the International Tsunami Information Centre (ITIC) was established on November 12, 1965, by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In 1968, the IOC convened the International Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific (ICG/ITSU).

The present 28 Member States are:
Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Thailand, Russian Federation, United States of America, and Vietnam.

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