



GOVERNANCE

Council is composed of heads of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and national scientific and technical agencies generating multi-hazard early warning information. The Council is empowered to make policy decisions, on behalf of governments, concerning regional early warning arrangements for enhanced preparedness, response, and mitigation of natural hazards. India currently chairs the Council.

Secretariat carries out the decisions assigned by the Council, and provides support to the Program Unit in managing the regional early warning facility. Currently, the Government of Mongolia serves as the Program Secretariat, supporting resource mobilization, program coordination, and acceleration of the process of signing of the RIMES Cooperation Agreement by Collaborating Countries. The Government of the Maldives serves as the RIMES Administrative Secretariat, representing RIMES in the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS).

Program Unit is responsible for day-to-day operation and management of the regional early warning facility, and the implementation of programs and activities. The Program Unit has financial and administrative autonomy through delegated powers, and the financial and staff regulations approved by the Council. The Program Unit is co-located within the RIMES Regional Early Warning Centre.

Photo credits: S.H.M. Fakhruddin, Patchanok Srivihok

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The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia

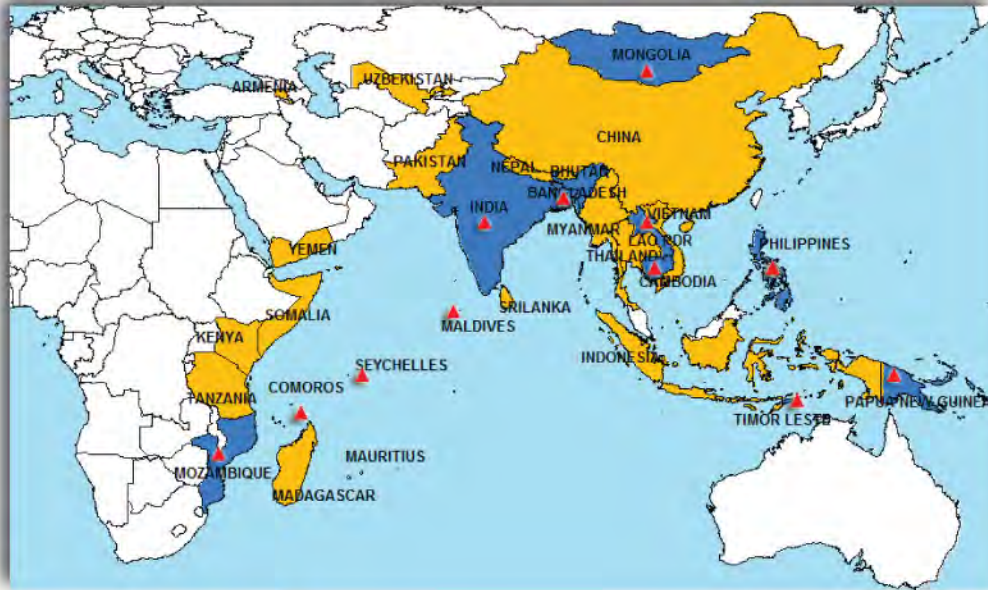
Building capacities to provide actionable warning information towards forearmed, forewarned, and resilient communities



About RIMES

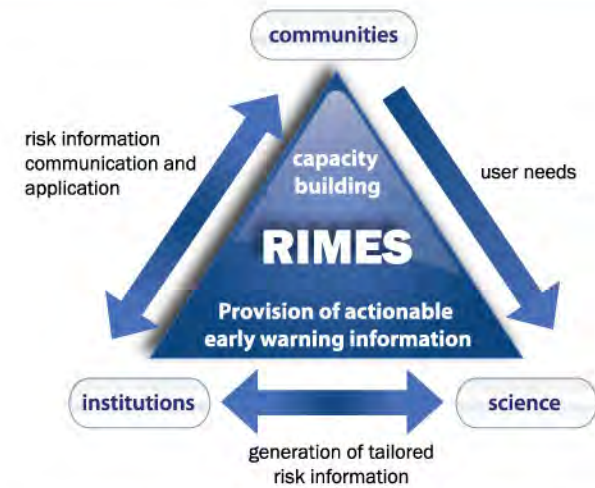
The **Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES)** is an international and intergovernmental institution, owned and managed by its Member States, for the generation and application of early warning information. RIMES evolved from efforts of countries in Africa and Asia, in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, to establish a regional early warning system, within a multi-hazard framework, which generates and communicates early warning information, and builds capacity to prepare for and respond to trans-boundary hazards. RIMES is located at the campus of the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand.

RIMES was established on 30 April 2009, and registered with the United Nations, under article 102 of the UN Charter, on 1 July 2009.



Member States Collaborating Countries

The RIMES Regional Early Warning Centre was established with support from the Tsunami Regional Trust Fund administered by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).



RIMES caters to differential needs and demands of its Member States by enhancing capacities for end-to-end multi-hazard early warning:

- ◆ Hazard monitoring, detection, analysis, prediction and forecasting
- ◆ Risk assessment
- ◆ Potential impact analysis
- ◆ Generation of tailored risk information at different time scales
- ◆ Risk communication
- ◆ Application of tailored risk information in decision making

Maximum benefit at minimum cost

RIMES addresses both high-impact, low-frequency hazards such as tsunamis, as well as low-impact but high-frequency hazards such as extreme weather events, making it more resource-efficient.

Member States financially support RIMES operations, at a cost much lower than that required for establishing individual early warning systems for high-impact low-frequency hazards.

Meets early warning information needs of different users

RIMES integrates risk information at different time scales to meet early warning information needs of different users.

Engages multi-level stakeholders

RIMES provides an interface between global centres of excellence and national and local level institutions to bring the best of science and practices for enhanced performance of early warning systems.

A test-bed for emerging technologies and research products

RIMES acts as a test-bed for identifying promising new and emerging technologies and research products; and pilot testing and making these operational through demonstration of tangible benefits.

RIMES

Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES) is an international and intergovernmental institution established for the generation and application of early warning information related to natural hazards such as tsunami, severe weather and water related hazards.

RIMES caters to differential needs and demands of Member States by enhancing capacities for end-to-end-multi-hazard early warning. Information on RIMES Member and Collaborating States can be found at www.rimes.int

Seamless Use of Risk Information on all timescales*



RIMES promotes the seamless use of risk information at different time scales for disaster risk and resource management

*This is not an exhaustive list of applications

WORK PROCESS

RIMES' generation, communication, and application of risk-based early warning information products involve the following process:



Tsunami Watch Service to National Tsunami Watch Centres

- Provision of earthquake alerts & regional tsunami bulletins in collaboration with the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)

Tsunami Watch Provision

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Capacity Building in End-to-End Early Warning

- Assistance in establishing and maintaining observation and monitoring stations of regional benefit
- Training of scientists – both in-country training and through secondment to the Regional Early Warning Centre
- Development of decision-support tools (e.g. risk assessment, interpretation and translation of early warning information products into impact outlooks and response options) and their application
- Application of tailored risk information of different time scales in decision-making
- Early warning system audits
- Strengthening national early warning provider and user interfaces
- Enhancing community responses to early warning

Program Management and Support

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Weather, Climate & Hydrological Research and Development Support to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services

- Customization of climate and weather forecasting models for generation of more reliable, location-specific severe weather and short and medium-term weather forecasts, and seasonal climate outlook, with longer lead times
- Downscaling of global climate models for generating high-resolution climate change information
- Development of decision-support tools
- Translation of research products into operational forecast products and testing these for local level application

Hydro-Meteorological Research & Development Support

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