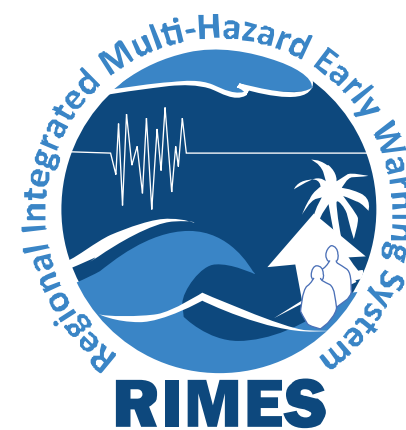


Reducing risks of tsunami, storm surges, large waves, and other natural hazards in low elevation coastal zones



About 3% of Asia's land area is classified as low elevation coastal zone, yet it is home to 13% of the region's population. Of the top 10 countries in the world with largest population counts in low elevation coastal zones, eight are in Asia. Most are with heavily populated delta regions and are exposed to flood risks from rising tides, tropical storms, sea level rise, and combinations of high tides, large waves, storm surges and/or high river flows, in addition to tsunami. Reducing risks through preparedness and mitigation is paramount, as migration away from these zones, though may be the most appropriate prevention measure, is not popular or acceptable.

This project shall reduce tsunami, storm surges, large waves and other hazard risks in low elevation coastal zones by strengthening institutional systems for end-to-end warning and building institutional capacities for the application of warning information products in decision-making.

Objectives

- 1) Strengthen institutional systems at national and local levels for end-to-end warning
- 2) Build institutional capacities for application of warning information products in decision-making

Approach

Regular multi-stakeholder national forums assess disaster risks and emergency preparedness capacities and plan to take proactive actions to reduce risks before the monsoon season; and at the end of the monsoon, review actions taken and identify gaps and recommendations for improving the end-to-end warning system.



Regular local level dialogues between forecast and warning providers and communities for risk and warning system awareness and receiving feedback.



Connecting communities at risk to the warning system and building capacity to receive and disseminate warnings 24/7 and respond to emergencies.



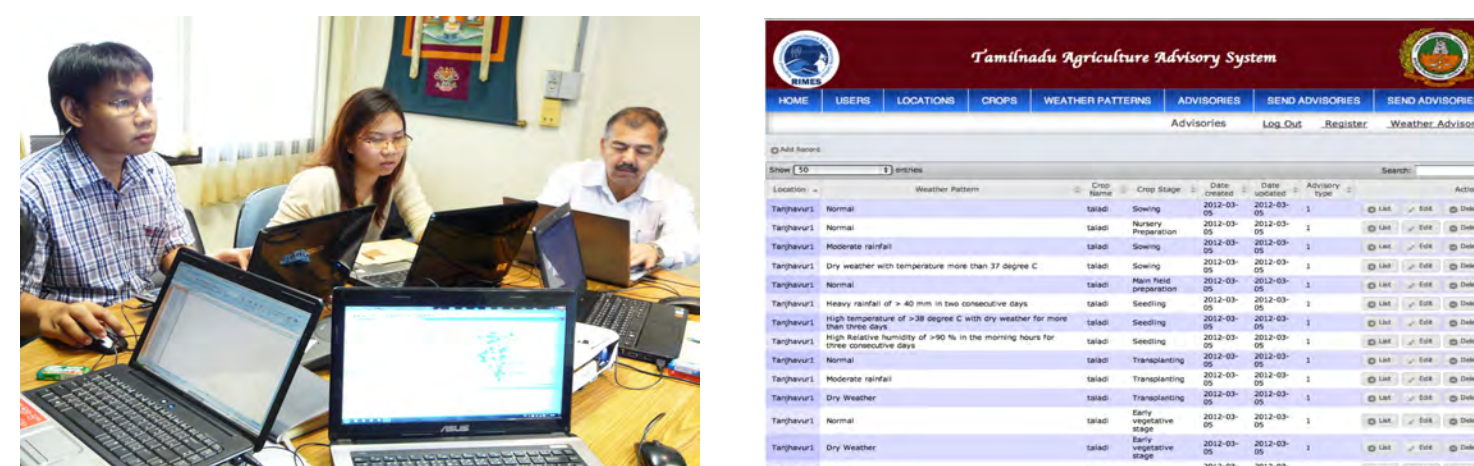
Generation of location-specific forecast and warning information products through the World Meteorological Organization infrastructure, with support from trained government institutions and local disaster management organizations.



Demonstrations on the use of location-specific risk information in decision-making, which involves translation of forecast and warning information into potential impacts and management options, communication and guided implementation of these options, and feedback on usability of information in reducing risks.



Research and tool development based on user feedback, for improving early warning system performance.



Stakeholders

- **Bangladesh:** Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Union Disaster Management Committees, Union Parishad
- **India:** Indian Meteorological Department, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, local Disaster Management Committees
- **Maldives:** Maldives Meteorological Service, National Disaster Management Center, Atoll and Island Councils
- **Myanmar:** Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Relief and Resettlement Department, General Administration Department
- **Sri Lanka:** Department of Meteorology, Irrigation Department, Disaster Management Center, Divisional and District Secretaries, Grama Niladhari
- **Thailand:** Royal Irrigation Department, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
- Sectoral agencies which are climate sensitive and involved in coastal-related concerns

