

Training Workshop on Coastal Hazard Assessment in Risk Management



Photo: Kushani de Silva

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GDRC partnered with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS) on Training Workshop on Coastal Hazard Assessment Applications in Risk Assessment, Management and Mitigation held from 2-5 June 2015, in Colombo, Sri Lanka

Kushani de Silva, Project Coordinator, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Sri Lanka, who is also a PhD researcher at the GDRC, University of Huddersfield, UK, led an exercise on assessment of vulnerability and preparedness



Photo: Group of resource persons and participants

Several steps including Identification of vulnerable groups and infrastructure; Identification of role of stakeholder (Standard Operating Procedures) and improve shared understanding; Developing Preparedness Plans for schools and others sectors/agencies; EW towers and alerting mechanisms ensuring last mile early warning; Building codes need to be incorporated; Evacuation routes, places need to be identified; Evacuation signage; Orientation; Conducting drills; Evaluation; and Reviewing and amending preparedness plans and evacuation plans, were identified as part of the process associated with assessment of vulnerability and preparedness.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO is a regional focal point of the IOC to coordinate and facilitate the development and implementation of oceanographic science programs and initiatives, as relevant to the balanced strategic and tactical scientific priorities. The IOC aids and advises policy makers and managers in the reduction of risks from tsunamis, storm surges, Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and other coastal hazards by focusing on implementing adaptation measures to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities, their infrastructure and service-providing ecosystems.

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