



Junior Professional Officers (JPO) Programme

Terms of Reference

GENERAL INFORMATION

Title: Junior Professional Officer – Tsunami Resilience

Organizational Unit: UNESCO/IOC, Tsunami Resilience Section

Duty Station: Paris, France

SUPERVISION

Direct supervision by: Programme Specialist – Technical Secretary of ICG/PTWS

Under the authority of the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO and Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (ADG/IOC) and the general supervision of the Head, Tsunami Resilience Section (TSR), the JPO will be under the direct supervision of the Programme Specialist and Technical Secretary of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the authority of the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO and Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (ADG/IOC) and the general supervision of the Head, Tsunami Resilience Section (TSR), the JPO will contribute to the Section's activities in the Pacific Region to i) develop the warning systems' capability to issue actionable and timely tsunami warnings for tsunamis from all identified sources to 100 percent of coasts at risk, and ii) fulfill its objectives to ensure that 100 percent of communities at risk to be prepared and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through efforts like the IOC-UNESCO Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP). Within this context, the JPO will be responsible for:

- Supporting the implementation of the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (ODTP) in the Pacific Region, including capacity building programs associated
- Providing assistance to organization of ICG/PTWS Sessions and Workshops
- Support preparation of concepts papers, aide-memoires, memoranda, meeting reports and other documents
- Support the maintenance and improvement of an end-user database to support the warning systems' capability to issue actionable and timely tsunami warnings

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in Disaster and Emergency Management, Geology, Geophysics, International Relations, Oceanography or related field. A first-level university degree in combination with additional two years of relevant experience may be accepted in lieu of an advanced university degree.

Work experience:

- Preferably a minimum of 2 years of professional experience in the areas as listed under “Education” above.

Competencies and skills:

- Good organizational and project design skills
- Excellent (oral and written) communication skills, including the ability to draft and produce a variety of written material in a clear and concise manner
- Ability to work effectively in a team and to maintain good working relations within a multi-cultural environment
- MS Office Applications
- Experience in GIS applications desirable.

Languages: Excellent knowledge of English

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LEARNING ELEMENTS

The JPO will gain first-hand insight into the work of an intergovernmental organization and experience in navigating among various stakeholders in the general context of disaster risk reduction and in the specific context of tsunami resilience. The JPO will acquire skills in establishing partnerships, communication, and liaising with a wide range of governmental and non-governmental actors of science and disaster diplomacy. By working at TSR, the JPO will gain a greater understanding of UNESCO-IOC’s role in the technical and the policy domain to create tsunami resilient societies and countries.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The IOC Tsunami Programme aims at reducing the loss of lives and livelihoods that could be produced worldwide by tsunamis. In order to accomplish this, the IOC Tsunami Resilience Section supports IOC Member States in assessing tsunami risk, implementing Tsunami Early Warning Systems (EWS) and in educating communities at risk about preparedness measures. The IOC Tsunami Programme, through the coordination of regional meetings, capacity building activities and the support of national and regional projects, is a key stakeholder for tsunami risk reduction at global level. Four Intergovernmental Coordination Groups (ICGs) corresponding to the regions Pacific, Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Mediterranean have been established to address particular regional needs. The IOC Tsunami Resilience Section is compounded by the Technical Secretariats of these four regional systems, the Head of the Section, the International Tsunami Information Centre (ITIC) and technical and professional staff. Operational tsunami warning centres provide tsunami advisories, watches and warnings to the four regions. Additionally, each ICG counts on the strategic advisory of specialized Working Groups whose members are professionals from key disaster management and research institutions.