

National Reports will be posted to the ICG/CARIBE EWS-XVI web site without TWFP contact details

NATIONAL REPORT
Submitted by COSTA RICA

BASIC INFORMATION

1. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC)

The person designated by a Member State to an Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) to represent his/her country in the coordination of international tsunami warning and mitigation activities. The person is part of the main stakeholders of the national tsunami warning and mitigation system. The person may be the Tsunami Warning Focal Point, from the national disaster management organization, from a technical or scientific institution, or from another agency with tsunami warning and mitigation responsibilities.

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2. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)

The 7x24 contact person, or other official point of contact or address, is available at the national level for rapidly receiving and issuing tsunami event information (such as warnings). The Tsunami Warning Focal Point either is the emergency authority (civil defense or other designated agency responsible for public safety), or has the responsibility of notifying the emergency authority of the event characteristics (earthquake and/or tsunami), in accordance with national standard operating procedures. The Tsunami Warning Focal Point receives international tsunami warnings from the PTWC, or other regional warning centres.

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National Tsunami Warning Centre (if different from the above)

Person in Charge: Silvia Chacón-Barrantes
Title: Coordinator
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3. Tsunami Advisor(s), if applicable

(Person, Committee or Agency managing Tsunami Mitigation in country)

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4. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Local Tsunami (when a local tsunami threat exists, less than 1 hour travel time)

What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?

SINAMOT obtains seismic parameters from OVSICORI, RSN and/or LIS (the three seismic networks in Costa Rica). These parameters include M_w , depth, location and source (local fault, subduction, etc.)

What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?

A coastal earthquake $M_w \geq 6.5$

What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?

CNE

*How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc.) disseminated within country?
Who is it disseminated to?*

If time is enough, it is sent to Municipal and Communal Emergency Committees through radio and telephone. They should disseminate the warning.

How is the emergency situation terminated?

When SINAMOT recommends and CNE decides. If there are no tsunami reports near the source region within two hours.

5. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Regional Tsunami (when a regional tsunami threat exists, 1–3 hour travel time)

Same as for distant tsunami.

6. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Distant Tsunami (when a distant tsunami threat exists, more than 3-hour travel time)

- *What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?*

SINAMOT receives seismic parameters from PTWC, USGS and CISN.

- *What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?*

There are several criteria. Seismic magnitude, depth, travel time, historical events, etc.

- *What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?*

CNE

- *How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country? Who is it disseminated to?*

The CNE communicates the information to radio bases in coastal communities, to the officer in turn and to the link officers of the affected regions. They shall communicate to the Regional, Local and Community Emergency Committees, and those Committees to the public.

- *How is the emergency situation terminated?*

When SINAMOT recommends it to the CNE, the CNE decides and communicates it further.

- *For Distant Tsunami Procedures:
What actions were taken in response to warnings issued by PTWC and/or US NTWC, during the intersessional period?*

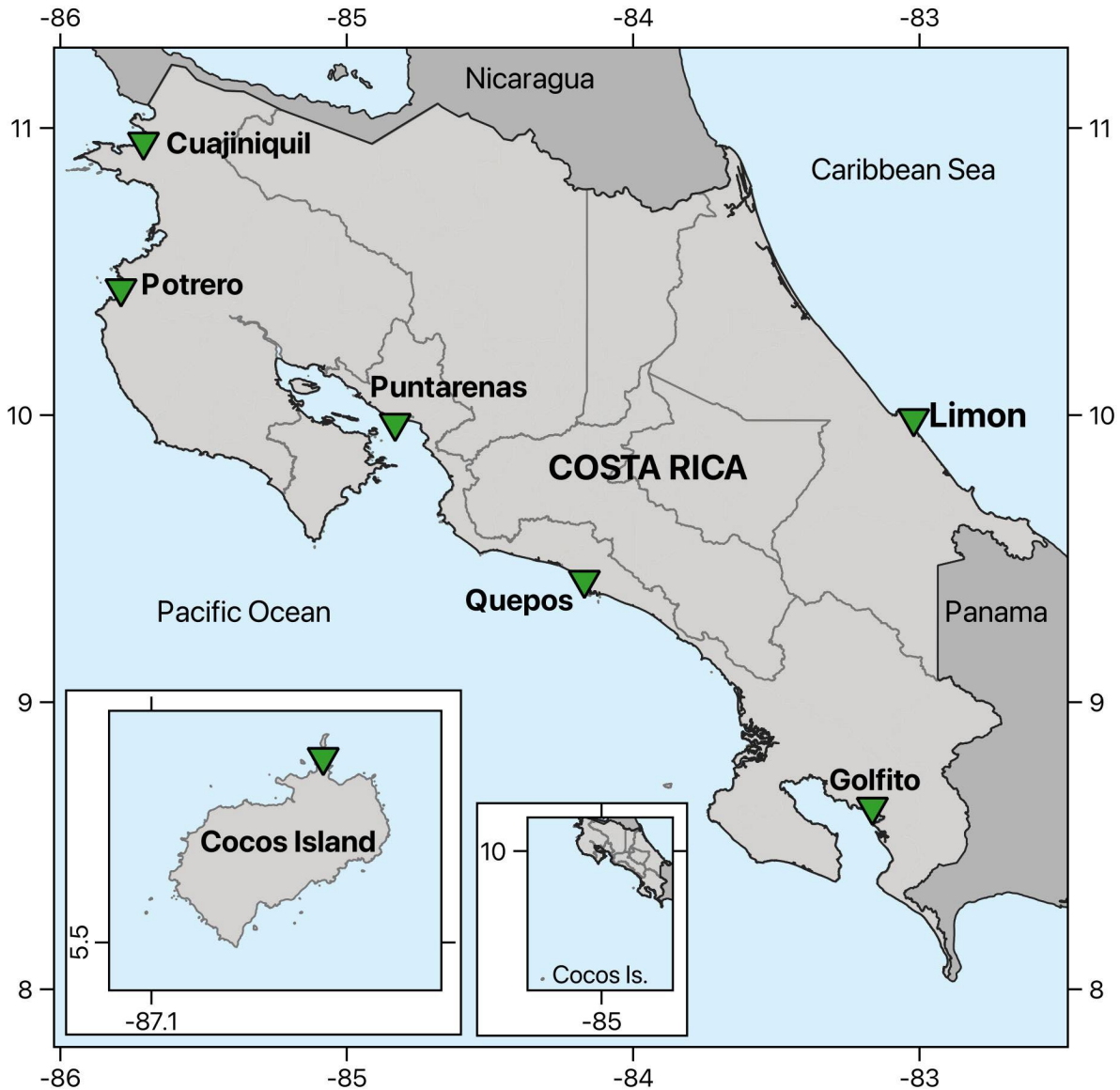
SINAMOT analyzed the information for all the Tsunami Bulletins issued for the Caribbean coast during the intersessional period, created a product (Bulletin or Report) using the App UNA Costa Segura and sent the product by email to CNE and other institutions in our email list. We also shared the information in Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. In all the cases there was no tsunami threat for Costa Rica.

7. National Sea Level Network

Please include a table with position and description of stations/sensors, and a map.

#	Name	Code	Lat.	Lon.	Status	Sensors	Rec. Rate	Transm. Rate
1	Limón	limon, limn	9.9886	-83.0203	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min
2	Cuajiniquil (Pacific coast)	cuaji	10.952044	-85.7099056	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min
3	Potrero (Pacific coast)	flam	10.441066	-85.78875277	Op.	1. Radar	1 min	5 min
4	Puntarenas (Pacific coast)	punta	9.9724444	-84.8309555	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min
5	Quepos (Pacific coast)	quepo	9.4255	-84.1702	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min
6	Golfito (Pacific coast)	golfi	8.636167	-83.1671389	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min

7	Isla del Coco (Pacific coast)	cocos	5.556083	-87.04783	Op.	1. Press. 2. Radar	1 min	5 min
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8. Information on Tsunami occurrences/Tsunami Exercises

Please include sea level observations, pictures, wave arrival descriptions, public, media, or other responses to warnings, lessons learned, etc.

We didn't have tsunami occurrences during the intersessional period.

9. Web sites (URLs) of national tsunami-related web sites

www.tsunami.una.ac.cr

10. Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements. *This information will be used to aid the development of the CARIBE-EWS Implementation Plan*

NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES INFORMATION

11. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brief statement of no more than one page addressing all items discussed in the Narrative section of the National Report (below).

SINAMOT Program is working through the four pillars of the Ocean Decade Tsunami Program (ODTP) through an integrated and transdisciplinary approach. This is being done through updating tsunami hazard assessments, forecast tools, staff capacity building, a mobile App and preparedness work with Municipalities to booster Tsunami Ready coverage.

12. NARRATIVE

Detailed description of innovations or modifications to National tsunami warnings procedures or operations since last National Report, tsunami research projects, tsunami mitigation activities and best practices (especially in preparedness and emergency management), tsunami exercises, as well as public education programmes or other measures taken to heighten awareness of the tsunami hazard and risk.

SINAMOT Program has currently two projects to improve tsunami resilience at both shores. One of the projects is focused on Pillar 1 of the ODTP-SC and the other in Pillar 4. Pillar 2 and 3 are addressed directly at the Program.

Project 1 on Threat Assessment is using an stochastic approach in the Pacific to redefine inundation areas by local seismic sources. On a later stage the same procedure will be applied to the Caribbean coast. This project has been endorsed as an Ocean Decade Project: No. 64.9. Updating Tsunami Hazard Assessments for Costa Rica.

Project 2 on Tsunami Ready Implementation is working at a Municipality level to increase Tsunami Ready coverage.

Regarding pillar 2, SINAMOT continues improving its procedures and tools. Staff received training in 2025 in Hawaii and Chile. Results from Project 1 will improve tsunami forecast as well.

Related to pillar 3, SINAMOT relaunched its Mobile App named UNA Costa Segura. This App notifies when there is a Tsunami Threat and guides the user through the tsunami evacuation routes giving estimated distances and times.

Our previous Ocean Decade endorsed project (No. 25.4) ended on December 2025 and performed Tsunami Hazard Assessments for two National Parks at the Caribbean Coast for which tsunami inundation areas were defined. One of the neighbouring communities, Cahuita, was recognized as Tsunami Ready in 2024. The other National Park presents a challenge for tsunami evacuation and the authorities have already received our report.

Date: 16 April 2026 Name: Silvia Chacón Barrantes