

# FACT SHEET

## U.S. PLAN FOR AN IMPROVED TSUNAMI DETECTION AND WARNING SYSTEM

### Key Components to an ideal Tsunami Warning and Response System:

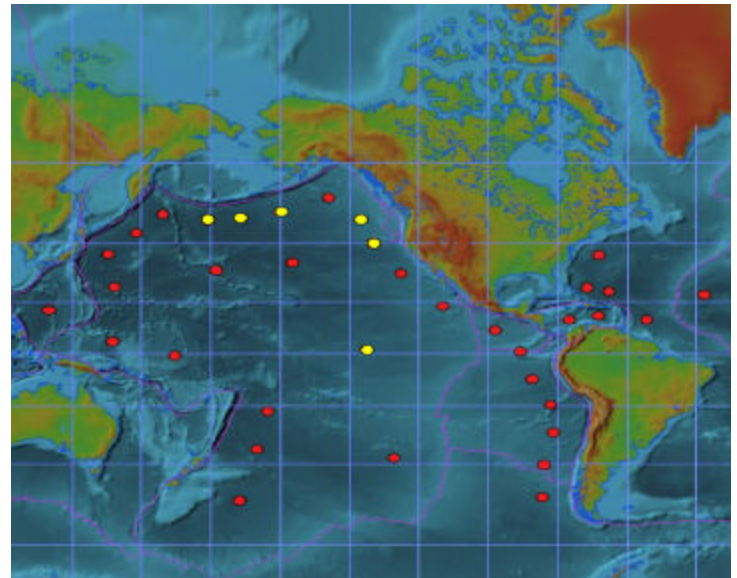
1. Risk Assessment
2. Detection
3. Warning
4. Response Plan
5. Ready Public
6. Situational Awareness
7. Lessons Learned

### President Bush is acting to improve tsunami protection for the United States and the world:

- Adding deep-sea buoys and other sensors to enhance tsunami detection along the U.S. coast (Pacific, Atlantic, Caribbean, and the Gulf of Mexico).
- Working internationally to build a global warning system, including in the Indian Ocean.
- Improving seismic sensor data and infrastructure for better earthquake detection and warning, including in the Caribbean.
- Expanding research on tsunami forecasting.
- Improving response capacity with enhanced emergency warning systems, community response plans, and public education.

### Improving U.S. protection from tsunamis:

- The Administration will commit \$37.5 million over the next two years to expand U.S. tsunami detection and monitoring capabilities
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will deploy 32 new advanced-technology Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunami (DART) buoys for a fully operational enhanced tsunami warning system by mid-2007.
- The United States Geological Survey (USGS) will enhance its seismic monitoring and information delivery from the Global Seismic Network, a partnership with the National Science Foundation.
- These measures will provide the United States with nearly 100% detection capability for a U.S. coastal tsunami, allowing response within minutes.
- Expanded monitoring capabilities throughout the entire Pacific, Atlantic, and Caribbean basins will provide tsunami warning for regions bordering half of the world's oceans.



Yellow dots are existing DART system; Red dots are NOAA estimated DART system locations for an expanded Pacific, Caribbean, and Atlantic tsunami monitoring system.

### How will the United States help improve protection around the world?

- The United States will work to build a global tsunami warning system, with coverage that includes the Indian Ocean, through international bodies, including the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), the international effort to develop a comprehensive, sustained, and integrated Earth observation system.
  - GEOSS includes 54 participating nations, including India, Indonesia and Thailand.
  - The GEOSS plan focuses around nine societal benefit areas, including “Reduce loss of life and property from disasters” and “Protect and monitor our ocean resources.”
  - The G-8 called for establishing a global observation system in June 2003 and President Bush’s Administration launched the GEOSS process by hosting first Earth Observation Summit in 2003.
  - For more information on GEOSS, visit <http://earthobservation.org>
- The GEOSS implementation plan is scheduled to be adopted at the third Earth Observation Summit that will be held in Brussels this February.