

ITU/ESCAP Joint Regional Workshop on Disaster Communications Bangkok, Thailand, 12-15 December 2006



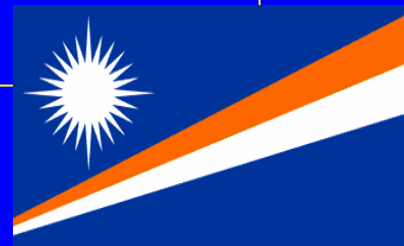
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COUNTRY STATUS
REPORT

Ministry of Transportation & Communication - Republic of Marshall Islands



Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Disaster Threats
- Response and Damage Control
Agencies/Authorities
- Initiatives and Strategies
- New Initiatives
- Challenges & areas of Assistance





Introduction

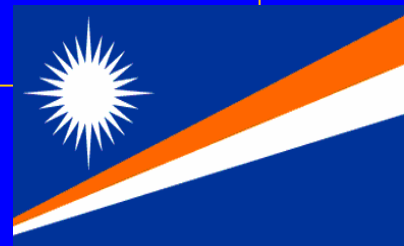
- The Marshall Islands, officially the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), is a Micronesian island nation situated between approximately 155 degrees E and 175 degrees E and 3 degrees N and 12 degrees N. The nation is composed of 34 low lying atolls and isolated islands scattered over an ocean area of roughly a quarter of a million square miles in the western Pacific. However, the land mass based on its physical composition is a mere 70 square miles with a population of 53,000 (1999).





Disaster Threats in RMI

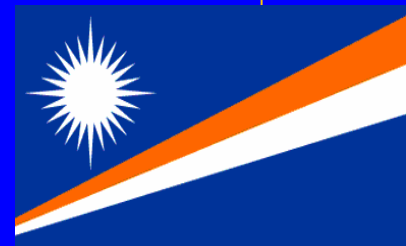
- Typhoon
- Tsunami
- Earthquake
- Fire (man-made or otherwise)
- Contamination
- Drought

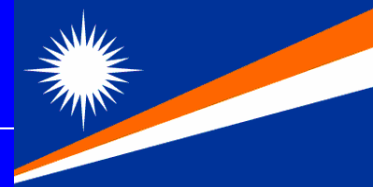




Response and Damage Control Authorities/Agencies

- Organization
 - Office of the President (Cabinet):
 - Full responsibility
 - All Ministries and Agencies of the RMI Government are considered to be part of the disaster response Organization.
 - Disaster Committee:
 - Chief Secretary, (Ex-officio, Chairman)
 - Secretary of Foreign
 - Secretary of Finance
 - Secretary of Education
 - Secretary of Health
 - Secretary of Resources and Development
 - Secretary of Public Works
 - Secretary of Transportation and Communication
 - Secretary of Internal affairs
 - Chief of the Department of Public Safety





Initiatives & Strategies

- Coordination & Control
 1. Warning
 2. Disaster Declaration
 3. **Communications**
 4. Command Post
- Review and Analysis
 1. Function
- Support Measures
 1. Public Awareness Programs



Ministry of T&C New Initiatives:

- Ensures general readiness of Dep't to response to disaster
- Ensures Nat'l Disaster Plan accurate/appropriate from Department's own viewpoint
- Ensures Dept operational procedures are current and & personnel are aware of their responsibilities
- Ensures, as far a possible, that equipment and facilities are available and serviceable for Diaster Tasks, when required





Challenges & Areas of Assistance need in Disaster Management

- Challenges
 - Preparation
 - Planning
 - Readiness
- Assistance?
 - Equipment, Training, Human Resources, funding & Implementation

Thank you !

Komol Tata!