

UPDATE OF 26 APRIL 2011 ON POST-TSUNAMI SURVEYS IN TOHOKU

The conditions (gasoline, foods, and infrastructures) of the devastated area were gradually improved after the previous protocol (29 March, 2011 version). Now, we offer to the international researchers to join the field survey in Tohoku area. We continue to recommend that tsunami teams coordinate under the International Tsunami Survey Teams – Japan (ITST-Japan) organized by UNESCO IOC.

Please observe the following precautions and protocols:

- (A) Please include one or more Japanese researchers in your team. They will help you deal with these conditions, as well as helping with your own safety. Please take the initiative to identify Japanese counterparts who can accompany you. They should be researchers or engineers who have connections to earthquake and tsunami research communities.
- (B) Post your findings promptly. Japanese communities are sharing their results on the website [<http://www.coastal.jp/tsunami2011/>]. The results posted include inundation heights/depth and run-up heights with coordinates and photographs. We are doing this, even though the results are not published, to avoid duplication of effort under these difficult circumstances. Of course, the priority of the data belongs to each research team. We will ask you to post your results, through your Japanese counterparts, in the first few days after your survey ends. Your Japanese counterparts will be responsible for providing the data to the surveyed communities.
- (C) Respect private property. Fragments of houses and other material objects are private property in Japan even though they look like debris. These things legally belong to the local people.
- (D) Stay away from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plants. The zone within 30 km of these plants is strictly off-limits. Nobody can survey tsunami effects in this zone. Access outside this official Japanese government zone is your own responsibility. Some countries have recommended a larger radius. Please check and heed your government's recommendation.
- (E) Expect aftershocks. A large aftershock may potentially generate a tsunami. Your preparations should include multiple means of receiving earthquake and tsunami

information, such as radio, cell phone, and portable TV.

Dr. Laura S. L. Kong (l.kong@unesco.org) and Dr. Masahiro Yamamoto (m.yamamoto@unesco.org) of UNESCO IOC will coordinate international research teams. Research teams who would like to conduct a survey in Tohoku are recommended to inform them of your schedule and team members, including Japanese counterparts. Coordinators will help your planning and your contact with affected communities. ITST-Japan hosts a secure information coordination site for survey teams to share survey plans and preliminary findings and recommendations with the goal of reducing duplication and collecting a comprehensive tsunami data set. Under ITST-Japan, teams may receive ITST-Japan identification badges and Letters of Support that may help to facilitate research data collection.

26 April, 2011

**Two hundred Japanese researchers and engineers belonging to the
2011 Tohoku Earthquake Tsunami Joint Survey Group**

Secretary-General: Tomoyuki Takahashi (Kansai University)