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NATNEG: the NATional Tsunami NETwork of Greece

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On 2005 the member states that participate in IOC/UNESCO decided to develop the North-East Atlantic and Mediterranean Tsunami Warning System (NEAMTWS). As a contribution to this effort the National Tsunami Network of Greece is under development. The network's primary goal is to develop the national tsunami warning system, along the Hellenic Arc which is the most tsunamigenic in the NEAM region, but also to create data bases that may support the tsunami warning system as well as further basic and applied research on tsunamis. At the initial phase of its development, the instrumental part of NATNEG will include: (1) a sub-network of 8 broadband seismographs telemetrically connected, in addition to the existing seismograph network of the National Observatory of Athens (NOA) in Athens, (2) a network of 7 pressure-type tide-gauges telemetrically connected with NOA for the real-time transmission of sea-level signals at a sampling rate of about 30 sec. The NATNEG also includes a Decision Matrix elaborated by experts, including NATNEG members, within the NEAMTWS group. The Decision Matrix is an empirical tool that supports the evaluation of the possibility for tsunami generation as soon as the focal parameters of an earthquake have been determined regardless sea level or other oceanographic signals are available or not. The NATEG will be completed by earthquake and tsunami catalogues, which are already existing, as well as by a data basis of pre-determined tsunami numerical simulations for the scenario tsunami generation, propagation and inundation that could support the decision making in parallel to the Decision Matrix. NATNEG is under development with the financial support of mainly two projects: Project of Marginal Funds, supported by the General Secretary of Research and Technology and the Region of Crete (contr. n. KP13/ 2006); Project of Marginal Funds, supported by the Region of Ionian (contr. n. OPS 109993/2007).