

International Post-Tsunami Survey for the 25 October 2010 Mentawai, Indonesia Tsunami
International Tsunami Survey Team - Mentawai (ITST-Mentawai)

FRAMEWORK AND PROTOCOLS

The purpose of this framework is to guide the ITST-Mentawai work and ensure an understanding by all scientists of what is requested, to foster a shared and collective ownership of the research and survey work, and to provide details of data sharing mechanisms and collaborative team publication. The purpose is to reduce stress, improve survey dynamics, show respect for each other and ensure ITST-Mentawai work delivers results appropriate for enhancing community resilience to future tsunamis in Chile and elsewhere.

1. Framework for UNESCO ITST-Mentawai Survey - why, what, outcomes

The Mentawai, Indonesia tsunami of 25 October 2010 was local tsunami event that resulted in damage and loss of life in Indonesia. The government of Indonesia (GoI), other governments, and the wider scientific community are asking many questions about what, why, how and what can be done to reduce future losses for similar events in Indonesia and around the world. The ITST-Mentawai can play an important role in addressing these and other tsunami recovery questions.

The ‘outputs’ of the ITST-Mentawai will include an immediate summary report (completed within six months) to the GoI, and scientific research publications in discipline specific journals dealing with various aspects of the ITST-Mentawai research findings.

The ‘outcomes’, while harder to quantify, are intended to result in safer communities that will be less prone to tsunami disasters. Information gained will be useful for planners and disaster risk managers, who in turn will work with local governments and communities to reduce their tsunami risk and vulnerability.

2. ITST-Mentawai Team Conduct and Ground Rules - daily briefings

The ITST-Mentawai will consist of independent Survey Teams that will conduct their own investigations. *On a regular basis (daily if possible), each Team is requested to provide a summary of their fieldwork through email to the ITST-Mentawai and/or upload to the Basecamp ITST-Mentawai site.* Each Survey Team should have a Team Lead who will be the point-of-contact to the ITST-Mentawai Coordination Team (ICT). The Team Lead should report the Survey Plan and Summary brief / field notes by email and/or Basecamp upload. A template is provided that can be used.

3. Data sharing and repository

We do understand that each scientist has specific questions that they wish to answer scientifically, and as volunteers, it is essential that we respect and honor their right to publish the data they have collected. No data, nor results, should be released to the public or published in papers without the prior permission of the scientists collecting the data. Nevertheless, we hope that we can all share data and collaboratively publish.

Data collected can also be uploaded to Basecamp by the Team Lead or members. All team members will have access to Basecamp so that all data is available at the end of the ITST-Mentawai. These data will also be made available to the ICT in order to compile, in coordination with Survey Teams, an ITST-Mentawai Summary Report to the GoC.

Basecamp ITST-Mentawai Welcome Message:

Welcome to the ITST-Mentawai Post-Tsunami Field Survey team.

You are receiving an email as an ITST-Mentawai Survey Team member. We ask that you respect the data collection rights of each team by not publicly distributing information shared in Basecamp without their permission.

Please login to Basecamp to establish a username and password to activate the account. Simple instructions are

1. After receiving welcome email, visit URL to choose a username/password. Log in.

2. To upload a file, use the 'Overview' tab with 'New file' option, or use the 'Files' tab with 'Upload a file' button. Before upload begins, you can choose to send a message to all or some addresses. You can also specify to upload your file to a Category.
3. Files uploaded are only available to those with a Basecamp username and password. Emails are distributed to your email address, along with the uploaded attached files (if any) and you access your email through your normal method (web browser, etc). When you reply to a Basecamp email, the email is sent to everyone on the original email distribution.

The ITST-Mentawai is an effort organized by UNESCO, IOC, JTIC, ITIC, and the Indonesia Ministry of Research and Technology, to assist them in immediately assessing the tsunami and its impact. We hope that you will be able to contribute by sharing your data immediately, thereby helping the Indonesian government in their early recovery from this devastating earthquake and tsunami.

UNESCO, IOC, JTIC, and ITIC are committed to preserve the data and intellectual property rights of the scientists who collect and interpret these important data, and so has chosen to use Basecamp as its in-field secure data repository. No data will be released publicly without the permission of each scientist.

The ITST- Mentawai Coordination Team and Survey Teams can collaborate and share information through Basecamp. Basecamp is an easy-to-use (intuitive) tool that provides a secure method for uploading, hosting, and sharing files. Access is provided to users who then create their own username and password. Notification of new files that are uploaded is through the user's regular email address. The file uploader is able to specify who receives an informing email. File download is similarly easy from a received email (after providing user password for security), or by logging into Basecamp.

The URL for the Basecamp login is <https://itictsunami.basecamp.com/login>
ITIC (laura.kong@noaa.gov) will be the system administrator for Basecamp ITST-Mentawai

For general information available to all, there is an ITST-Mentawai web site (<http://193.191.134.38/itic/>). The site provides overview of the coordinated post-tsunami field survey, and includes summary survey team information, and background and reference documents. There is no security for this URL. Survey metadata will be ported to the web site, but actual data will remain within Basecamp and accessible only to the Survey team members and the Coordination Team. At the end of ITST-Mentawai, on agreement by participants, ITIC can open all files to enable full or limited data sharing.

ITST-Mentawai guidance and other documents are available through the ITST-Mentawai folder.

4. Survey Forms for Data Collection

A comprehensive Tsunami Questionnaire is provided for scientists to fill out or use as guidance in collecting data. An Eyewitness Survey is also provided to facilitate the collection of tsunami experiences from people.

Guidance on conducting Post-Tsunami Field Survey can be found in IOC Post-Tsunami Field Survey Guide, IOC Manuals and Guides, 37, First Edition, 1998, 6a pp., English, French, Spanish, Russian.

Basic templates for Survey Plan and Daily Summary Reporting are provided, or you may wish to use your own format.

5. Caring for each other and professional conduct

Working in post-disaster situations is stressful and can be upsetting. We must take care of each other, take time to ask if we are ok, take time to sit and listen to each other at the end of each day – formally if needed but definitely informally.

We must also respect each other professionally and understand our roles and responsibilities as researchers.