THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON
TSUNAMI INUNDATION MAPPING
(TIM)

On 25/26 November 2015 a training course was organised by the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard (JHOD). This was achieved with the assistance of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Port and Airport Research Institute (PARI). The event was held in JHOD’s office in Tokyo.

According to Japan Coast Guard this was the first time such a workshop had been held among Hydrographic Offices in the East Asia region. The objective of the workshop was to improve capacity of Hydrographic Offices mainly in the East Asia countries for development and utilization of the tsunami inundation map (illustrated). They then went on to discuss the way forward to realize this understanding, through lectures given by researchers from Tohoku University, PARI, and others sharing experiences or challenges.

Lectures concerned lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011 and effective countermeasures adopted for tsunami by the local government of Kamakura city.

Nine participants attended from: Bangladesh, People’s Republic of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and, of course, the host country.

Following the workshop a study tour to PARI and Kamakura city was conducted. Here participants saw some experimental equipment related to tsunami protection. Also they were able to inspect various signboards that provide tsunami information or the evacuation route in Kamakura city, which were based on the tsunami inundation map and an actual townscape of the city.

It is understood participants were well satisfied with the event. Some mentioned that it was meaningful for considering an evacuation plan in their home countries, and it would be necessary for experiences and lessons of disasters to be shared in order to create a better evacuation plan for each country.

More can be found at:
http://www.hydro-international.com/content/article/embarked-on-tsunami-disaster-by-hydrographic-offices