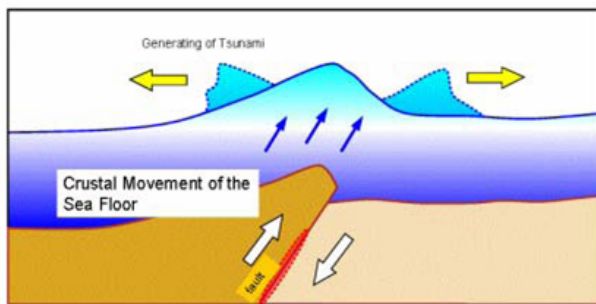




WHAT IS A TSUNAMI?

A tsunami is a series of water waves that is caused by a major disturbance of the sea floor. The disturbance can be:

- **A strong earthquake**
- **A submarine landslide, or**
- **A submarine volcanic eruption**



It is difficult to give effective warnings in PNG for tsunamis formed locally, say in the Bismarck Sea or Solomon Sea, because of the great speed of tsunami waves.

TSUNAMI EMERGENCY PLANNING

1. Identify tsunami escape paths.
2. Identify safe places. Ground more than 20 metres above sea level will be safe from most tsunamis.
3. Have a small tsunami evacuation kit ready at all times. The tsunami evacuation kit should include a small radio, torches, batteries, small amount of basic medicine, food and water.

WARNING SIGNS OF A TSUNAMI

1. **A STRONG EARTHQUAKE.**
2. **ANY UNUSUAL CHANGE OF SEA LEVEL.**
3. **A ROARING NOISE** from the tsunami itself when it is near and about to strike.

WHAT TO DO IF TSUNAMI ATTACK IS INDICATED

1. **MOVE FURTHER INLAND OR TO HIGHER GROUND IMMEDIATELY.**
In most cases, 20 metres above sea level will be adequate.
2. Help children, older people and disabled people where possible.
3. **LISTEN TO THE RADIO** for any information about possible tsunami attack.
4. **STAY AWAY FROM BEACH AREAS FOR SEVERAL HOURS** or until it is declared safe by authorities.

For more information, contact:

*Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory
PO Box 323, Port Moresby, NCD, Papua New Guinea
Tel: + (675) 321 4500, Fax: + (675) 321 3976
Email: pngo@daltron.com.pg*

*National Disaster Centre
PO Box 4970, Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea
Tel: + (675) 325 0239/325 0410/684 6976
Fax: + (675) 325 4168
Email: info@pngndc.gov.pg*

