

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

INDONESIA: BENGKULU EARTHQUAKE

Information Bulletin
no. 5/2007
10 October 2007
Glide number
[EQ-2007-000157-IDN](#)

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

Summary:

In the transition period from post disaster to reconstruction phase, the ministry of social affairs and national coordination board for disaster management is providing living supplies such as food items and cash support to the most affected communities.

The Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia/PMI) continues conducting the psychosocial support programme in the Bengkulu Utara district. To date, they have conducted various activities involving over 700 children.

The Situation

Entering the fourth week after several earthquakes hit the west coast of Sumatera island, the national coordination board for disaster management (Bakornas) has issued their latest data of casualties and damage up to 4 October 2007. According to data given, figures are as in the following table:

<i>Area</i>	<i>Fatalities</i>	<i>Severe injuries</i>	<i>Minor injuries</i>
Bengkulu	15	12	26
West Sumatera	10	29	25
TOTAL	25	41	51

Additionally, in the Bengkulu province, 7,360 houses have completely collapsed, 16,810 are heavily damaged, and 35,041 have sustained minor damages. In the Jambi province, eight houses were heavily damaged and 63, less so. In West Sumatera, the total number of damaged houses is gauged at 32,615.

The ministry of social affairs and national coordination board for disaster management (Bakornas) has agreed to provide living supplies to the affected people whose houses have completely collapsed. Each family will receive IDR 3,000/person/day (CHF 0.4 or USD 0.3) for additional meal expenses and ten kilograms rice/person/month. This programme started a week ago for the post-emergency period and will continue until the reconstruction programme begins next year. The focus areas for this assistance are Bengkulu Utara, Muko-Muko, Kepahiang, Seluma and the Bengkulu municipality of Bengkulu Province. In the West Sumatera province, the focus areas are Mentawai and Pesisir Selatan. The local government will assign a special team to monitor the cash and rice distribution.

Additionally, the provincial coordination unit for the disaster management (Satkorlak) in West Sumatera continues to provide food supplies and tents to Mentawai Island while Satkorlak in Bengkulu continues to distribute medical supplies to the health post, in addition to blankets, lantern and food items.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The psychological needs of the affected communities have been a fundamental concern in the Bengkulu earthquake operation. From early in the operation, the Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia/PMI) started their psychosocial support programme for students of elementary schools in Bengkulu. In order to implement this programme, PMI deployed a six-person PSP team who have undergone previous post-disaster experiences such as the tsunami in 2004.

Based on their assessment, not only were school children afraid to go back to school but they were also forbidden by their parents who were as frightened. According to the PSP team coordinator, if this trauma is not dealt with immediately, it will impact the children's long term development. People with traumatic experience due to disaster are in a high risk group for psychological disorders and antisocial behaviour.

The PSP programme, therefore, aims to strengthen the community by facilitating their engagement in social activities, as well as motivating the students and teachers to keep classes going, despite challenging circumstances. Additionally, the PSP team promotes this programme among the local PMI volunteers and board members to develop their knowledge and capacity for future implementation of the programme in this area. The programme targets 30 schools and will last for another three months.



PMI volunteers visit children in villages as part of the psychosocial support programme.

The programme has made significant progress in Bengkulu Utara district. At least ten volunteers are engaged in each activity. The activities vary from drawing, colouring, games, and focus group discussions with teachers. These activities are expected to help the children regain a sense of normalcy and help them slowly overcome their trauma. At the same time, the PMI volunteers take the opportunity to disseminate risk reduction information to the children and teachers on how to respond and what actions to take during an earthquake. To date, PMI has conducted activities in several locations, reaching a total of 742 children with their activities. The implementation of PSP in Muko-Muko district has been delayed due to Ramadhan and will be started two weeks after the Idul Fitri.

Additionally, PMI has purchased 100 tents to be set up as PSP service centres in the field, and about 40 out of the 100 tents are on loan to schools to serve as temporary classrooms.

Meanwhile, the distribution of tool kits to the affected community in Mentawai Island has been delayed due to the limited stock of tool kits in Padang. Currently PMI is organizing the procurement for 500 tool kits in Jakarta, which consist of shovel, hoe, pliers, saw, axe, hammer, nail puller, assorted nails, bucket, wires and related items.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out **four broad goals** to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- *Indonesian Red Cross (PMI): Arifin M. Hadi (Head of Disaster Management Division); arifinmhd_dm_pmi@yahoo.com; mobile: +62.811.943.952; phone: +62.21.7992325 ext. 222.; fax: +62.21.7995188*
- *Federation Delegation in Indonesia: Bob McKerrow (Head of Delegation); email: bob.mckerrow@ifrc.org; phone: +62.21.7919.1841 (ext. 104); fax: +62.21.7918.0905;*
- *Federation Secretariat in Geneva (Asia Pacific Department): Josse Gillijns (regional officer); email: josse.gillijns@ifrc.org; phone: +41.22.730.4224; fax: +41.22.7330395 or Priya Nair; email: priya.nair@ifrc.org; phone: +41.22.730.4296*
- *Asia Pacific Zone in Kuala Lumpur: Amy Gaver (Disaster management delegate), phone: +60.3.2161.0892, fax: +60.3.2161.1210, mobile: +60.12.220.1174, email: amy.gaver@ifrc.org; Kuala Lumpur regional logistics unit: Ilir Caushaj (Regional logistics coordinator); email: ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org; phone: +60.1.2628.2707; fax +60.3.2168.8573 or Jeremy Francis (Regional logistics delegate); email: jeremy.francis@ifrc.org, phone: +60.1.2298.9752; fax +60.3.2168.8573*

[Click here to return to the main page](#)