

This report was issued by OCHA New York, with inputs from OCHA Indonesia. It covers the period from 05/10/09 to 06/10/09. The next report will be issued on or around 07/10/09.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- On 30 September, a powerful earthquake struck West Sumatra; 582 aftershocks detected since.
- The National Disaster Management Agency has confirmed 704 deaths.
- The Government of Indonesia is leading emergency response efforts, and is being complemented by the national and international humanitarian community.
- Priority needs include emergency shelter supplies, drinking water, food, reproductive health services and educational supplies.
- The Provincial Government of West Sumatra has declared that reconstruction and rehabilitation phase will begin from 1 November 2009.
- On 6 October, in an All Member States meeting at UN Headquarters in New York, ERC Holmes briefed on Asia Pacific Disasters, including the West Sumatra earthquake in Indonesia. The Ambassador for the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations also complemented ERC Holmes' message.

II. Situation Overview

As of 6 October, the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) has confirmed 704 deaths, with majority of fatalities reported for Padang City. The number of casualties is expected to increase further. In addition, 295 people are reported missing. More than 100,000 houses are reported to be severely damaged.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has confirmed that recent landslides have destroyed entire villages and agricultural land in at least three locations in Padang Pariaman district. The options for recovery work in the landslide-affected areas are limited. Many slopes are unstable, and heavy rains are increasing the risk for further landslides. The SURGE team reports 70% to 100% of residential houses beyond repair in the outlying villages in Padang Pariaman. Villagers have established temporary shelters in front of their houses and have begun to reclaim and recycle the building materials, including roofing sheets, wood and bricks. It is estimated that between 40% and 70% of the building material can be reused. The remainder, mostly consisting of rubble, can be crushed and reused for roads, paths and general fill. In the short term villagers require assistance with demolition of unsafe buildings.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) Crisis Centre has reported the collapse of four hospitals, 12 community health centres (Puskemas), 10 supporting community health centres and two office buildings. The MoH has deployed 3,000 health workers to the affected areas and set up field offices in Sei Geringging, Lubuk Kalung, Padang Pariaman sub-district and near Dr. M Jamil Hospital. The Minister for health has expressed concern about the possible outbreak of diseases.

According to the World Food Programme, the main road to Padang is open although travel is slow. Roads between Padang and some outlying areas are in very poor condition and some food may need to be moved by pickup trucks and motorcycles.

Operating partners in the field and media reports indicate that signs of life are returning to parts of Padang: several businesses have reopened, classes have resumed in a few schools, and residents are clearing debris in front of their homes. According to education authorities in Padang, nearly 70,000 children turned up for classes today – around 40% of the provincial capital's school-age population.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Needs Assessments

SurfAid International conducted a rapid assessment in Agam district and West Pasaman district using the Joint Rapid Assessment form provided by OCHA. The most affected subdistricts in West Pasaman district include: Kinali; Luhak Nan Duo; and Sasak Ranah Pesisir. The most affected sub-districts in Agam district include: Lubuk Basung; Tanjung Raya; Tanjung Mutiara and Empat Nagari. About 60% to 90 % of houses are no longer inhabitable and damage to public facilities (mosque, school, health centre, market) is about 20% to 50%. Based on the assessment in both districts, priority needs include: tents; food; drinking water; blankets; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); cooking utensils; medicine; and restoration of electricity. Some communities have reportedly received some donations in small amounts.

On 4 October, a rapid joint assessment was conducted in Pariaman city and Padang Pariaman sub-district. Residents are reportedly sleeping outside their houses under makeshift shelters or in mosques and unaffected houses. There are reports of post-traumatic stress and fears of further earthquakes and people are reluctant to start building new houses. Electricity lines are damaged cutting off power supplies. Several wells are damaged. People rely on few operational wells and the water supplied by the government at central distribution points. According to those interviewed, the three key needs include: emergency shelter; tents; and improved provision of water. The joint assessment recommended that houses that were classified as repairable need to be rebuilt completely as they are structurally weak to survive additional earthquakes.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates 30,000 women need immediate assistance for urgent reproductive health services and psychosocial counseling.

Urgent needs in the education sector include establishing temporary learning spaces using school tents; provision of basic teaching and learning materials including schools-in-a-box, black boards, and other teaching aids; support and post-traumatic counseling for affected children and a pro-active search for out-of-school children.

Swiss Humanitarian Aid conducted a needs assessment in coordination with Red Cross and On-site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) in Solok and Padang Panjang and has determined that there is no urgent need for WASH, medical, shelter, and early recovery, as overall damage is assessed as slight in the area.

National Response

The Government of Indonesia, through the Provincial Government in West Sumatra, continues to lead and coordinate emergency response operations, and is being complemented by the national and international humanitarian community. The Provincial Government has declared that the emergency response phase will transition to reconstruction and rehabilitation from 1 November 2009.

International Response

13,000 tents, 37,000 tubs and 30,000 hygiene kits are en route to Padang. 8,500 tents have already reached Padang.

Search and Rescue (SAR)

Since the BNPB signaled the end of the search and rescue phase, international SAR teams have started to depart from Indonesia. A departure centre is set up at the airport to facilitate this process. Out of 21 teams, 13 teams have already departed, four are scheduled to depart within the next three days and the remaining four teams will transition to provide humanitarian assistance. The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team in Padang will help organize the departure of search and rescue teams. The UNDAC team will also shift its focus from search and rescue to humanitarian coordination. In this regard, the UNDAC team will provide surge capacity support to OCHA, in order to assist the BNPB in cluster coordination, information management and preparation of needs assessment reports and response plans.

On request of the BNPB, the Singapore USAR team is assisting national response organization on site at the destroyed library in Padang.

International/National NGO Assistance

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Direct Relief International accelerated and expanded a cash grant totaling US\$ 60,000 to Yayasan Bumi Sehat (YBS) based in Aceh. The cash grant will be used to provide emergency services and to support community-based maternal and child health programs.

Medical Emergency Relief International (Merlin) dispatched a surgical team to Padang.

The Indonesia Red Crescent (PMI) delivered relief items directly to people in seven locations including: five points in Padang City (Simpang Haru Padang Timur; Ganting; Kubu Dalam Parak Karakah; Andalas, and Sawahan Timur Villages) and in Cubadak Pariaman and Lubuk Pandan in Pariaman District. Logistics Division of PMI national headquarters reported that up to 19.5 tons of relief items have been distributed. The Blood Bank is also operational.

In addition, scores of national and international humanitarian organizations are operating in the affected areas providing relief items; medical personnel; food items and logistical support.

International Governmental Assistance

New Zealand has contributed an initial US\$ 420,000 as emergency relief: US\$ 230,000 to SurfAID International for assessments and relief supplies, and US\$ 190,000 to PMI, to provide emergency provisions like petrol, generators, sanitation equipment, food and shelter.

Two more field hospitals have arrived from US and Australia.

Saudi Arabia provided an air cargo plane with two trucks, one ambulance disaster response unit, one SAR team with four sniffer dogs and medical supplies.

United Nations

On 6 October, WFP distributed 8 metric tons of biscuits to cover 2,400 children under five years of age. As per WFP's vulnerability atlas, children in the affected areas were already suffering from nutritional deficiencies. In terms of logistics, WFP is transporting items between Java and Sumatra by military aircrafts (Indonesian/Australian/US) and by sea (Indonesian navy). Items procured or moved in Sumatra will be moved by road. A secure warehouse has been obtained in Padang. Tons of food items are en route to Sumatra from Java.

The MOH and World Health Organization (WHO) facilitated the activation of an Early Warning and Rapid Response System (EWARS) which includes one sms gateway and call system to be shared with all health workers. WHO has also raised US\$ 175,000 to support field operations.

UNFPA shipped emergency items, including hygiene kits and midwifery kits to the affected areas. UNFPA has allocated US\$ 100,000 to support 15 Puskesmas and two hospitals and to provide psycho-social support to affected women.

The International Office for Migration (IOM) has provided 20 heavy trucks and five pickup trucks, available for use by WFP in Padang. It is also providing free transportation for all humanitarian teams.

All humanitarian aid is tracked through OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and is reliant on information provided by donors and recipient agencies. Please inform FTS of all contributions (cash and in-kind) by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

IV. Coordination

The BNPB, through the Padang Provincial Governor, continues to lead rescue and humanitarian response from the Governor's residence in Padang. UNDP is providing equipment to support the setup of a UN field office in the UN-coordination tent and is working in coordination with other agencies and UN Department of Safety and Security, to locate a suitable office location.

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Clusters are working together on a joint response plan to complement the Government's ongoing response efforts. There are 112 NGOs and seven UN organizations conducting humanitarian operations in West Sumatra.

Daily Coordination meetings and cluster meetings are being held at the UNICEF tent near the Governor's house in Padang.

VI. Contact

Please contact:

Government

BNPB is the contact point for transporting goods from Jakarta to West Sumatra:

Halim Airport: Mr. Yolak 0813 8811 7181

Tanjung Priok seaport: Mr. Suwignyo 0816 1165 980 (takes two to three days to reach Padang seaport)

INGOs and other humanitarian actors who have difficulty in transporting relief assistance can contact them, but they will prioritize goods to be delivered based on the urgency of needs.

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