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Information bulletin

Indonesia: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Information bulletin n° 2

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation Indonesian Red Cross Society/ Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not international funding is not required.

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The situation

Heavy continuous rains in Sumatra Island from 7 February 2016 have caused deadly landslides and flooding in five provinces (Aceh, North Sumatra, West Sumatra, Bangka Belitung and Riau), killing at least seven people, damaging more than 16,257 houses and displacing or isolating at least 22,000 families. The floods have also rendered some villages inaccessible, due to damaged bridges and blocked roads, and inundated public facilities including health centers and schools.

In Aceh Province, the on-going heavy rainfall has raised the river water debit and delayed the water subsiding. Three main rivers in the area – Kreung Peuto, Kreung Pirak and Kreung Arakundo rivers – have overflowed and flooded several districts, particularly Aceh Besar and Pidie Districts.

Table 1: The number of affected households in Aceh Province

No.	District	Affected Household	Affected Individual	Remark
1	Aceh Besar	169	725	No displacement
2	Pidie	1,630	6,775	704 households have returned home from temporary shelter to clean their houses
TOTAL		1,799	7,500	

At least 287 houses are still inundated in these two districts as well as public facilities, such as mosques, primary health care centres, police offices, post offices and schools. Bridges and roads connecting villages have been damaged, affecting the communities' livelihood. Furthermore, basic needs like clean water have been disrupted due to contamination of wells by mud and other dirt. The displaced people have been accommodated at eight sites composed of emergency tents in Padang Tiji and Muara Tiga sub-districts.

In North Sumatra Province, heavy rains over the past weeks in the district of Binjai have led two rivers to overflow and flood five sub-districts which has affected over 2,000 people. The floods have caused the displacement of 688 families and submerged a number of public facilities, including schools, places of worship and rice fields, covering a total area of 120 hectares located near the banks of the Wampu River.

In West Sumatra Province, the local disaster management office (known as Badan Penanggulangan Bencana Daerah (BPBD) reported that floods have forced around 4,000 people to evacuate their homes and take temporary shelter on higher ground. The heavy rainfall has caused a deadly landslide in Solok Regency. BPBD data mention that at least five people have died and one is still missing. Flooding is also affecting the sub-districts of Sungai Pagu, Pauh Duo and Sangir in Solok. According to BPBD, the flooding was triggered by three rivers - the Batang Bangko, Batang Suliti and Batang Lolo - overflowing their banks. Water is up to 1.5 metres deep in some locations, and as many as 5,000 homes have been damaged. Roads and rice fields have also suffered significant damage. In Solok city, the Batang Lembang River has burst its banks, damaging 36 houses. Flooding has also occurred in Limapuluh Kota District, where around 100 houses have been inundated and one person killed after being swept away by the floods.



*The flood in Pangkal Pinang City, Bangka Belitung Province.
Photo: PMI POSKO*

In Riau Province, according to the Indonesian National Board for Disaster Management/ Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB), four rivers – the Rokan, Muara Bandar, Palis and Batang Lubuh – overflowed after continuous rains which started on 5 February 2016. Flooding has been reported in several districts, including Rokan IV Koto, Pagaran Tapah and Rambah. Updated reports show that 1,050 houses have been inundated, affecting 3,696 people in Rambah. Evacuations are being carried out and relief supplies distributed to those affected. The floods have also affected the two districts of Kampar and Rokan Hulu, displacing 4,887 families, damaging five bridges and submerging 2,032 houses as well as other public facilities, such as health centers, mosques, police station and schools.

The most updated information gathered by the Indonesian Red Cross Society/ Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) Bangka Belitung Chapter recorded at least 8,800 inundated houses which affected around 39,150 people from the four districts of Pangkal Pinang City, Central Bangka, West Bangka and South Bangka,, killing one person and displacing 2,316 people in 16 displacement sites.

In addition to the humanitarian impact, the floods have rendered the outage of electricity and disruption of roads connecting between villages. The disruption of communication network has now been recovered and the exchange of information between districts has returned to normal. However, daily activities are significantly

affected due to the damages to the public and education facilities such as schools, mosque, police offices, etc. The floods have contaminated the individual wells that people use as water source and it may cause further impact on public health.

Table 2: The number of total affected by floods

No	Affected Province	Affected District	House Damaged	Affected Families	Affected People	Dead	Missing
1	DI. Aceh	2	297	1,799	7,500	0	0
2	North Sumatra	1	74	688	2,225	0	0
3	West Sumatra	8	5,000	4,000	20,000	6	1
4	Riau	1	2,032	4,887	11,438	0	0
5	Bangka Belitung	4	8,854	11,162	39,150	1	0
Total		16	16,257	22,536	80,313	7	1

The local government authorities in the provinces of Bangka Belitung, West Sumatra and Riau Province declared a state of emergency on 9 February. Meanwhile, in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces, the local government authorities have issued a flood alert.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

PMI together with BPBD, the army, the police and other local government agencies have conducted evacuations, established emergency shelters, opened field kitchens and continue to provide relief assistance to affected families. PMI have also provided rubber boats and other vehicles to assist the evacuations, mobilized a number of their water, sanitation and health resources in the region as part of emergency response.

More than 200 volunteers are currently available for deployment across all districts in the affected provinces of Sumatra. Thanks to PMI's regional warehouse in Padang, West Sumatra, pre-positioned relief aids such as family kits, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, baby kits, have been distributed to the displaced families. PMI continues to provide emergency aid while focusing on activities to transition to recovery phase.



Relief distribution by PMI West Sumatra. Photo: PMI POSKO.

The Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has contributed AUD 200,000 (approximately CHF 135,000) directly to PMI's disaster response contingency fund, in which enables PMI to provide assistance to at least 5,000 people affected by the floods, especially the most vulnerable like children, pregnant women, and the elderly, in eight districts of three affected provinces in Sumatra – Aceh, West Sumatra and Bangka Belitung. This assistance will be provided for 45 days (from 15 February to 30 March 2016). Based on PMI's analysis of current needs and emergency response capacity of the government and other stakeholders, PMI with support from IFRC, will ensure that the operation meets the immediate needs of the most vulnerable people through the establishment of health services (such as mobile clinics) to treat symptomatic diseases including first aid and community health promotion. More serious cases will be referred for treatment to hospitals.

As the needs of the affected people is growing in line with the impact of the flood that contaminated water sources like individual wells, PMI is also providing clean water distribution to at least 5,000 people in the affected districts. This will also include sharing information about hygiene practices either through community meetings or via SMS gateway. As the access to clean water is limited, PMI will therefore distribute hygiene kits and cleaning kits to the affected families, and PMI WASH specialists and related equipment will assist community to properly clean the wells to prevent water borne diseases.

PMI will once again work in close relation with the Indonesian government to respond to the immediate needs of the affected people as well as to ensure effective coordination with other Red Cross Red Crescent partners in the country, relevant UN agencies and INGOs involved in the emergency response.



PMI Beneficiaries received relief aids in West Sumatra. Photo: PMI POSKO

Table 3: Actions taken by PMI in response to the floods

No	Province	Target Beneficiaries	Number of Distribution to Date	Distribution Plan by 21 Feb 2016	PMI Early Action	Operational Plan
1	West Sumatera	20% of the total affected population (1,890 individuals)	900 Hygiene Kits, 200 Family kits, 500 Tarpaulin, 1000 clothes, 100 boxes of mineral water,	50 boots	80 volunteers mobilized, including 2 doctors Health service Field kitchen Water and sanitation Relief distribution	Health service, including first aid and hygiene promotion Clean water distribution Well Cleaning Relief distribution
2	Bangka Belitung	100% of the total affected population (1,800 individuals)	Food items 100 family kit 25 baby kits 100 tarpaulins	100 family kit 25 baby kits 100 tarpaulins	82 volunteers ready Health service 3 ambulance mobilized Field kitchen and relief distribution	Health service, including first aid and hygiene promotion Well Cleaning Relief distribution Clean water distribution
3	Aceh	20% of the total affected population (1,323 individuals)	500 hygiene kits 1089 family kits 400 tarpaulins 209 sarong 209 Mosquito nets 8 Cleaning kit 400 Toilet Cleaning kit	250 hygiene kits 200 family kits 200 tarpaulins	45 volunteers Water and sanitation Relief distribution Health service	Health service, including first aid and hygiene promotion Well Cleaning Relief distribution

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives.
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and peace.
