

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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: EARTHQUAKE

29 October 2002

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 30/02

Launched on 18 October 2002, seeking CHF 383,000 for two months for 6,000 beneficiaries (including contingency for 2,000 beneficiaries)

Operations Update No. 1

Period covered: 18-25 October 2002

Next Update No.2 expected 5 November 2002

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 25% (including 'known' pledges for which PMNs are awaited)

Related Appeals: 01/33/02

Outstanding needs: CHF 300,000

Summary: The Indonesian Red Cross - Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) - with support from the Federation and ICRC has made a good start in bringing much needed assistance to victims of the earthquake in Indonesia's Papua Province on 10 October. A consignment of family kits and plastic sheeting has reached the disaster zone and distributions were underway this weekend (26/27 October). Assessments in some areas have still to be concluded, including the area hit by a second earthquake on 18 October. A further update, with budget revision, will be issued very shortly thereafter.

Operational Developments w

After a major earthquake - 6.4 on the Richter Scale - on 10 October and several strong aftershocks over several days, the affected population are trying hard to resume normal life. The District Disaster Management Committee (SATLAK) Manokwari together with the district army and police division and health department have visited the most affected sites at Ransiki (including Rumberpon Island) and Oransbari. The local government's paramedics team visited Rumberpon, bringing food packages and medicines. Some 234 tents were distributed in the affected places prior to a needs assessment. SATLAK have received 15.8 mt of rice, 9,600 packs of instant noodles, 618 kg of sugar, 620 boxes of tea, 200 kg of coffee, 672 tins of sardines, 500 pieces of used clothing and 50 sacks, donated by eleven local NGOs. These provisions are held for the next distribution due to lack of transportation. According to SATLAK, food is not a problem since stocks are available in the

local government's warehouse; sufficient medicine is also available in the local government health department stock for the next three months. The local health authority warns of some risk of respiratory infections, diarrhea, skin diseases and malaria, as some of the most affected families, many in Ransiki, are living still under plastic sheeting tarpaulins only. There water shortages in some places - notably Ransik - as local wells have been contaminated by sea water following the earthquake. People have established second homes in higher and safer areas, while going back to the shore only during the day, fearing another earthquake or tsunami.

Coordination w

On 25 October, the PMI/Federation team arranged a coordination meeting with the SATLAK coordinator, deputy coordinator, head of district social welfare, health, works, and representatives from the army, navy, police and a women's association. The five-hour meeting reviewed the various assessment findings, the Red Cross Red Crescent distribution plan/policy and collaboration possibilities and defined the roles and responsibilities of local government and other agencies, as well as further action. Without any major debate, the PMI's assessment findings and distribution plans were accepted by SATLAK, which made commitments to support with manpower and local transportation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action w

The major challenge of transporting emergency provisions for 4,000 earthquake victims (800 pieces of plastic sheeting and family kits) to Manokwari district has been accomplished, through the joint efforts of the Federation and ICRC logistics expertise. An aircraft was chartered from Surabaya to Biak and a ship chartered from Biak to Manokwari. As a result, the supplies were in place for the start of distribution over the last weekend (26/27 October), in accordance with PMI's action plan, supported by the Federation and in close coordination with the local district management committee.

Assessment Findings and Distribution Plans w

Ransiki Sub-district (including Rumberpon Island) is the most affected area as reported by SATLAK on 23 October. Four people are dead (including two children) and five injured; 536 houses; one mosque, 17 churches, 12 office buildings, three schools and six market places are badly damaged, with 233 houses, five churches, seven offices and five schools partially damaged; the land line between Ransiki and Oransbari has been temporarily restored.

Government Plan: A rehabilitation programme for shelter, school and water is under preparation.

PMI action: In Ransiki and Rumberpon 318 and 298 most vulnerable families respectively are registered under the plastic sheet and family kits distribution programme; distributions started over the weekend. Further field surveys and interviews will be conducted simultaneously with the distribution in Rumberpon Island to identify additional rehabilitation needs - a one metre high tsunami swept the whole island and the islander lost all their belongings.

Oransbari: One dead and 13 injured; 228 houses badly damaged and 284 partially damaged, as reported by SATLAK on 23 October.

Government Plan: A rehabilitation programme for shelter, schooling and water provision is under preparation.

PMI action: More than 80 of the most vulnerable families are registered for the plastic sheet and family kits distribution programme, with distributions due to start over last week.

Angi: Two dead, 10 injured, 127 houses badly damaged and two partially damaged, as reported by SATLAK on 23 October.

PMI action: The assessment is not yet completed due to lack of transportation. According to the SATLAK report, there are no immediate major water, food or health difficulties identified by the sub-district authority.

However, the SATLAK coordinator recommends that 100 family kits and plastic sheet be distributed in Angi initially, ahead of the completion of the ongoing assessment being conducted with SATLAK members: Distributions will commence accordingly.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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