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Information bulletin

Indonesia: Volcanic Eruption

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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29 November 2017

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Indonesian Red Cross, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time. The IFRC, however, has released funds from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 27 September for CHF 169,320 and additional CHF 41,097 on 24 November. The Canadian Government has replenished part of the DREF allocation.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

On 22 September 2017 at 2030hr, the Indonesian Authorities (PVMBG) increased the status of Mount Agung in Bali from Level Three (High Alert: Orange/Ready to erupt) to Level Four (Red alert/Danger), the highest level for a volcano. The alert remained at Level Four until 29 October 2017, when the status was downgraded. Families gradually started to return home and resumed their normal lives.

The volcano of 3,031-metres is located in the district of Karangasem, in the province of Bali, roughly 72 kilometres to the north-east of the popular tourist destination of Kuta.

On 25 November, the volcano erupted and emitted ash and smoke into the air. By 27 November, the alert level was raised up to Level Four. The exclusion zone covers an area of eight kilometres in all directions from the crater of Mount Agung, with additional sectoral expansion to the North-Northeast and Southeast-South-Southwest to ten kilometres from the crater. It is noted that the estimated danger zones are dynamic, are continuously being monitored and changed at any time as per situation. There are 22 villages in Karangasem District affected by the eruption, with an estimated population of 100,000 residents. On 27 November, Bali's Ngurah Rai Airport was closed due to poor visibility from the volcano, disrupting 196 international flights and 249 domestic flights in just two days (27 and 28 November respectively). Passengers are being diverted to other islands.

The ongoing eruption has disrupted school examinations, resulting in thousands of elementary and junior high students forced to sit their examinations at schools near evacuation sites.



PMI volunteers assist at risk families to evacuate to safe locations. This is the second time in recent months that families have had to pack up and leave their homes. Photo credit: PMI Bali Chapter

The Humanitarian Coordination Team (HCT) will hold an ad hoc meeting in Jakarta on Thursday, 30 November to discuss the situation. At this stage, most UN agencies are not responding and most national clusters (apart from Health Cluster) are not activated.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Indonesian Red Cross (known locally as Palang Merah Indonesia or PMI) has been active since the 18 September, when the alert level was progressive raised. In support of PMI, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) released funds from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 27 September for CHF 169,320 (IDR 2.3 billion). This operation aimed to support the immediate needs of 7,750 people. A second allocation of DREF was released on 24 November 2017 with the operation plan and budget revised to CHF 210,417 (IDR 2.8 billion). The DREF allocation will support the emergency and live saving needs of 11,000 women and men, girls and boys.



Emergency shelter set up by PMI to provide protection to those who have evacuated. Photo credit: PMI Bali Chapter

Since the start of the operation:

- PMI have deployed 86 staff and personnel and have mobilised some 37 fleet (including water trucks, ambulance, trucks and cars).
- PMI has distributed over 800,000 litres of safe water to displaced communities.
- A four-person mobile medical clinic is providing emergency health care.
- PMI has deployed seven ambulances to assist with referral to health centres and hospitals.
- PMI has dispatched 3,500 tarpaulins to be used as emergency shelter in displacement sites.
- PMI is providing sanitation in camps, as well as installing waste water drainage and taking care of solid waste management.
- PMI is providing health and hygiene promotion as well as psychosocial support to displaced communities.
- PMI is distributing masks to affected people, as well as to PMI staff and volunteers involved in the response.

- PMI is distributing household items, such as blankets, baby kits and hygiene kits, based on need.
- PMI monitors the situation in camps for sexual and gender based violence (SGBV).
- PMI remains on standby to restore family links, if required.

In response to the raised alert level, PMI, in close coordination with local authorities, continues to support families to evacuate. PMI continues to assess the situation and will develop robust plans for the immediate to midterm, taking into account contingencies such as prolonged evacuation and potential of a large-scale eruption and the impact it would have, not only on Bali but also neighbouring islands.

The IFRC County Cluster Support Team (CCST) in Jakarta and Asia Pacific regional office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur continue to support PMI in monitoring the situation, DREF request and information sharing, and scaling up response. The IFRC Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) will provide support to PMI's Infrastructure and Facilities Bureau if there is a need. In view of the observed cases of SGBV in camps, IFRC is exploring potential short deployment of a Protection RDRT to Bali.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 Disaster 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:



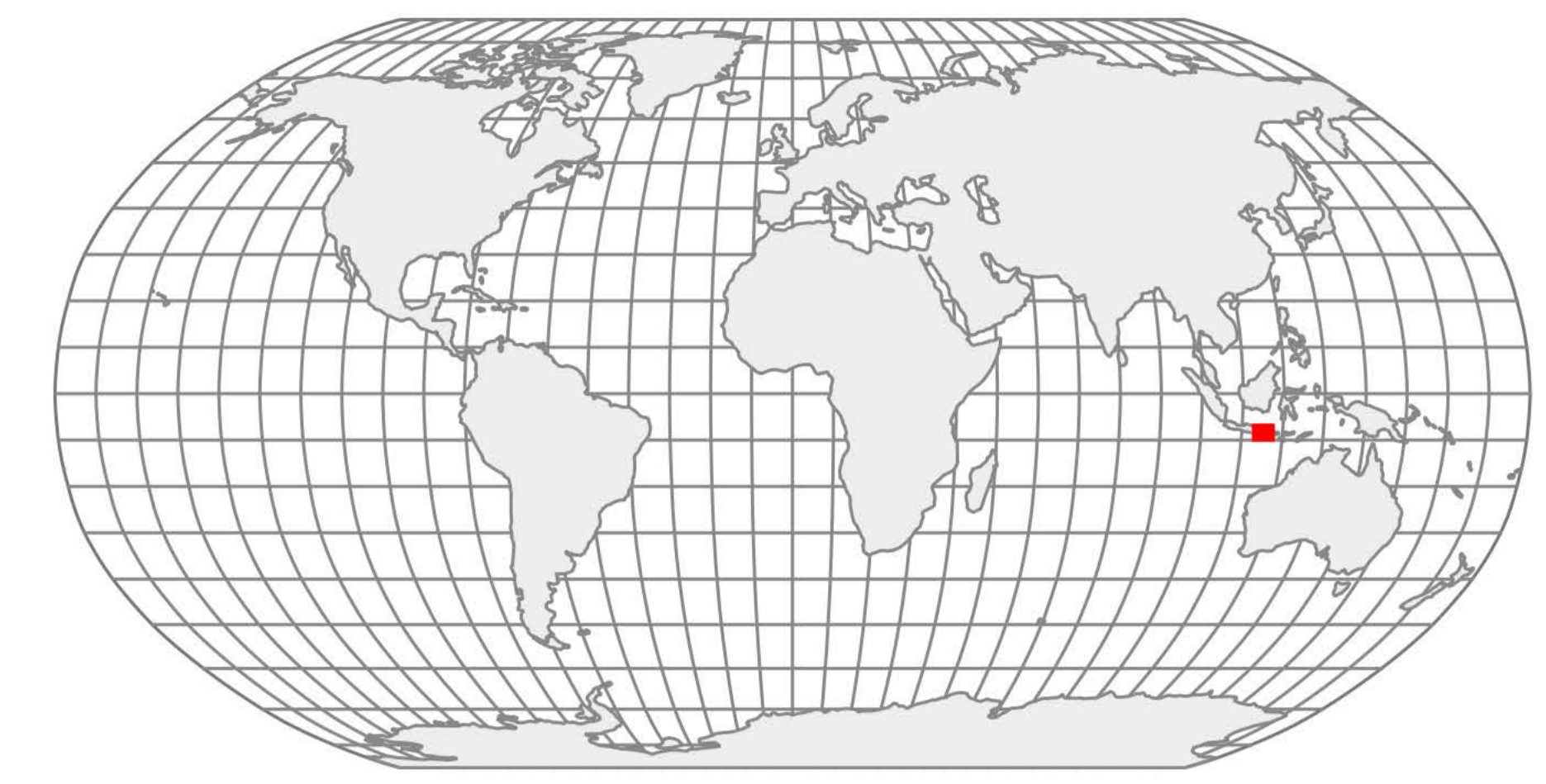
Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



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



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



Indonesia, Mt Agung Volcano

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