

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: SULAWESI FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES

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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 over 183 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.

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The Situation

Flash floods and landslides struck South Sulawesi province at 2am local time on 20 June, triggered by three days of continuous torrential rains. Eight districts were inundated by the one to two metre high floods that damaged houses and livelihoods, submerging rice fields, overflowing fish ponds and killing livestock: Bantaeng, Bulukumba, Gowa, Jeneponto, Luwuk Utara, Selayar, Sinjai and Takalar. Of the eight districts, Sinjai suffered the most damage, with the Sinjai Tengah sub-district still not accessible. Statistics combined from the latest United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA) field situation report, which draws on local government sources, and Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia or PMI) South Sulawesi chapter office indicate the number of dead and missing, as well as the number of damaged houses as follows:



A villager hugs her relative after a flood swept her house in Sinjai district on Indonesia's eastern Sulawesi island. Reuters/ Stringer/Indonesia, courtesy www.alertnet.org.

District	People		Houses		
	dead	missing	swept away	heavily damaged	lightly damaged
Sinjai	185	118	279	0	-
Bulukumba	23	5	40	92	19
Bantaeng	2	6	100	854	100
Jeneponto	4	6	5	73	50
Luwu Utara	1	-	-	-	384
Bone	1	-	-	-	-
Gowa	-	-	-	3	-
Sidrap	-	-	-	8	-
Total	216	135	425	1019	553

Estimates from various sources within the country tend to vary because of the early stage of the disaster, exacerbated by poor communications with remote areas that make it hard to pin down exact numbers. The PMI adds on to these figures by reporting eight people are seriously injured and 20 are slightly injured in Sinjai district. Information from PMI also shows three people are hospitalized in Bantaeng.

Search and rescue work continues even as the heavy rains and floodwaters recede. Damages to roads, houses and bridges mean affected areas can only be accessed by boat, making the hunt for survivors increasingly challenging. Along the riverbanks in the affected areas, floodwaters have flattened traditional wooden houses and left concrete buildings caked in mud. The local government, supported by the PMI volunteers, the military and police, continue their search for the missing, focusing on rivers, riverbanks and coastal areas, as many are suspected to have been swept into the sea or waterways. The provincial coordinating unit for disaster management (SATKORLAK PB) reports that 7,500 people are displaced across three affected districts: 3,000 in Sinjai district, 3,000 in Bulukumba district and 1,500 in Bantaeng district. Media sources report difficulties in the food relief effort as distributions are hampered by the mountainous landscape and remote locations of many villages. In the meantime, the government has begun to repair the local electricity network. The floods have damaged water pipelines and contaminated some of the wells however, raising water and sanitation concerns.

Other than leading the search and rescue process, various government bodies are distributing food, water, tents, blankets, clothing and evacuation kits. They are also mobilizing medical units, health posts/centres and a surveillance team for emergency sanitation in the affected areas. A delegation with representatives from the national coordinating board for disaster management (BAKORNAS PB) and ministries of health and social affairs is visiting the disaster area to monitor the emergency response.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Together with local governments units, PMI district-level field action teams (SATGANA volunteers) are actively involved in the rescue and evacuation process. An additional ten volunteers from the PMI South Sulawesi provincial chapter have engaged in emergency response initiatives. The national society has a long history of responding to natural disasters and has established national emergency response team (Tim Khusus) and SATGANA teams (rapid response and DP/risk reduction) that are able to provide basic services to beneficiaries. The PMI has also capacity to effectively provide populations with shelter, water and sanitation, health, food, and psychosocial support, which will be drawn on to support the flood operation. The PMI has carried out initial rapid assessments among the affected communities, revealing a need for 1,000 family kits, ten platoon tents, ten field kitchens, emergency medicines and a rubber boat for transportation. More assessments are ongoing to determine further needs that will help shape the scope of the relief operation.

Responding to the needs identified in the initial assessments, the PMI has deployed three field kitchen in Sinjai district that is providing hot meals to the displaced, while volunteers have distributed family kits containing household and hygiene items – 184 kits in Sinjai, 50 kits in Bulukumba, 75 kits in Bantaeng and 77 kits in Jeneponto. With the support of the Federation, the PMI has received 60 family tents and emergency medicine from the Jakarta warehouse by air cargo, which is now awaiting distribution. An additional 200 family tents are expected to arrive from Sulawesi on 23 June. More goods are on standby in the Surabaya warehouse ready for deployment: tarpaulins for 1,000 families (5,000 people), 2,000 family kits, 1,000 hygiene kits, 1,500 food parcels and one new emergency health kit (NEHK) that has the capacity to serve 10,000 people for three months. In the

meantime, extra platoon tents are in the pipeline. All affected sites are to establish PMI command posts that will coordinate the relief effort.

At PMI national headquarters level, close coordination and information sharing is ongoing between the PMI-affected branches, the South Sulawesi chapter and the Federation country delegation. PMI also cooperates closely with government units, especially the local SATLAK, SATKORLAK and BAKORNAS. The PMI senior national board member and the disaster response coordinator are in South Sulawesi to survey needs and strengthen the national society's response and coordination capacity. Neighbouring PMI branches and their SATGANA volunteers, field kitchens and mobile medical units are on standby to address any additional needs.

The German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Singapore Red Cross as well as other regular donors have expressed strong interest to support the emergency operation in cash or in kind. The Federation country delegation continues to coordinate support to the field as well as with the PMI and donors. Further information and needs pending the ongoing assessments will be reflected in the next information bulletin to be published when necessary.

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The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.*

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 \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.