

# ***INDONESIA: EARTHQUAKE IN IRIAN JAYA***

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## ***Latest events***

The latest report from the Indonesian Red Cross Society (PMI) on the earthquake which struck Irian Jaya on 17 February provided the following information:

- 106 people have been killed;
- 56 people seriously injured;
- 376 people slightly injured;
- 58 people missing;
- 3,329 people are being accommodated in tents.

An estimated 989 houses were totally destroyed in the earthquake, a further 2,669 seriously damaged and 975 houses lightly damaged.

## ***The Response so far***

With the co-ordination of the Indonesian government, relief materials such as food, medicines, clothing, blankets, plastic tents and sleeping mats are continuing to arrive in the affected area. Two ambulances from 118 Ambulances Services and a medical team were also flown by Hercules transport plane from Jakarta to Biak on 24 February.

USAID has donated 200 rolls of plastic sheeting, 300 family tents, 2,000 water jugs and 11,300 blankets which were shipped by air to the stricken area on 28 and 29 February. The local Red Cross chapter in Irian Jaya made an air-drop of two metric tonnes of rice and medicines valued at two million Indonesia Rupiah, as well as donating 20 plastic tents and 100 boxes of noodles.

## ***Red Cross Plan of Action***

The Director of the Disaster Department of PMI will fly to Biak on 1 March to assess the Red Cross involvement in the rehabilitation phase. He will be accompanied by 25 Red Cross volunteers from Sorong, 10 from Jayapura and 15 from Biak who are doing the relief distributions in the affected area. These volunteers are also ready to perform other tasks such as cleaning dwellings and rebuilding houses. This volunteer operation is intended to last for a two-month period.

So far, the PMI has received cash contributions from the Japanese Red Cross Society (JPY 2,000,000 — CHF 22,100) and the Japan Volunteer Network Active in Disaster (USD 15,000 — CHF 18,000). Further Information Bulletins will follow as more details become available.

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