

This report was issued by OCHA Headquarters in New York. It covers the situation for 2 September 2009. The next report will be issued on or around 3 September.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- An earthquake of magnitude 7.3 Richter Scale struck Tasikmalaya, West Java, at 2:55 p.m. local time on 2 September.
- The Government of Indonesia reported at least 15 deaths.
- The most affected districts are Tasikmalaya and Garut Districts. Some villages in Garut reported 40 percent damage to buildings and houses.

II. Situation Overview

On 2 September at 2:55 p.m. local time, an earthquake of magnitude 7.3 on the Richter Scale (RS) struck Tasikmalaya District, West Java Province, at a depth of 30km. A second earthquake at 5.1 RS followed at 3:15 p.m. at a depth of 38km. A third earthquake at 5.4 RS struck at 4:28 p.m. at a depth of 15km. A tsunami warning was issued but withdrawn one hour later.

The limited available information suggests that the most affected districts are Tasikmalaya and Garut Districts in West Java Province. According to Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB), Indonesia's National Coordinating Agency for Disaster Management, the earthquake claimed at least 15 lives: four people in Tasikmalaya; 10 people in Cianjur and one person in Sukabumi. Twenty people are reported injured in Garut sub-district. No casualties were reported in Bandung city while in Jakarta, 27 people were injured and treated in Metropolitan Medical Center and Jakarta Hospital.

The earthquake was reportedly felt in Jakarta and all the way east to Bali. Flight schedules across Indonesia have not been affected.

Garut District:

There were no reports of significant damage in Garut city. On the other hand, several houses were heavily damaged in South Garut, according to the Social Affairs Office. The sub-districts affected include Cikaret, Cibalong, Singajaya, Cilawung, Pancatura, Banjarwangi, and Pameungpeuk. In some of these sub-districts, the share of heavily damaged houses reportedly reached almost 40 percent. No damages were reported to water facilities. People living along the coastal areas evacuated to more secure areas.

In Pameungpeuk sub-district, the local health centre has requested additional beds for injured patients. Telephone and electricity networks have been disrupted. Near Mt. Guntur in Cipanas sub-district, 12 houses were damaged by a landslide triggered by the earthquake.

Tasikmalaya District:

The most affected area is Cipatujah Sub-district. The local government reported that 70 percent of the houses and buildings collapsed in Ciheras village. Tasikmalaya city had no significant damage, and the electricity and cell phone networks have been restored.

Ciamis District:

Electricity remains cut off and communication lines are disrupted in southern part of Ciamis. There have been no damages reported in Ciamis city. A number of houses have reported cracks on the walls.

Cianjur District:

The earthquake was felt mildly. Some buildings reportedly have cracks on the walls. About 5,000 people fled to Sindang Barang following the earthquakes.

Sukabumi District:

Some buildings reportedly have cracks on the walls.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

BNPB fielded an assessment team to the affected areas on 2 September. In the meantime, four trucks have been deployed from Bandung to provide assistance, including: 10 units of platoon tents, 20 group tents, 25 family tents, 250 folded tents, one set of public kitchens, hundreds of articles of clothing, hundreds of children's necessities, 100 family kits, 250 blankets and 150 mats. The Head and the Deputy Emergency Response of BNPB is departing to the affected areas in the evening of 2 September.

UN Joint Assessment team consisting of UNDP, WFP, OCHA, World Bank, UNICEF and UNDSS will depart Jakarta for Bandung on 3 September, 5:00 a.m. local time.

IV. Contact

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