



United Nations

Office of the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator in Indonesia

PRESS RELEASE

UN launches the Humanitarian Response Plan, appealing for US\$ 38 million to support West Sumatera earthquake affected communities

Jakarta, 9 October 2009 – Today, the humanitarian community in close consultation with the Government of Indonesia locally launched a US\$ 38 million humanitarian response plan to further complement the Government's efforts in meeting the humanitarian needs of communities affected by the West Sumatra earthquake. In a coordinated manner and under the leadership of the Government of Indonesia, this plan identifies acute outstanding needs to be addressed within 90-days, together with roles and responsibilities, specific sectoral response plans and activities needing funding.

"Considering the scale of the recent earthquake in West Sumatra, UN agencies and international NGOs see the need to remain committed to the ongoing humanitarian efforts for the most vulnerable to give them a 'hope for the future'," the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Indonesia, El-Mostafa Benlamlih, stated.

The Plan targets some of the most affected areas in Padang City, Pariaman City, Padang Pariaman, Pesisir Selatan and Pasaman Barat districts. Eleven UN agencies, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and 18 international NGOs are requesting funds for 74 humanitarian projects.

The Humanitarian Response Plan was prepared in consultation with the Government, local communities, and donor representatives. Based on initial assessments, priority needs include: provision of adequate shelter, restoration of water and sanitation facilities, support to farmers in advance of the imminent planting season, the restoration of local government services, re-opening of schools, provision of nutritional support to infants and breastfeeding mothers, restoring access to medical care, guarding against the spread of disease, providing psychosocial support, and ensuring children are reunited with their families. These activities will need strong logistical and communications support to be effectively implemented.

Details information of the Humanitarian Response Plan for West Sumatera Earthquake can be obtained at: www.reliefweb.int

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