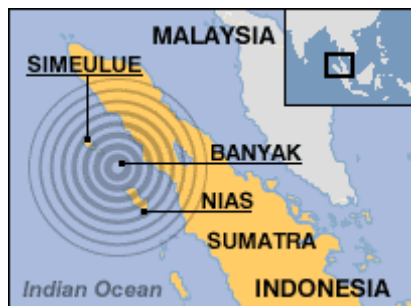


**Department for International Development
CHAD OPERATIONS ROOM
INDONESIA EARTHQUAKE
SITREP No 2 as at 15.00 hrs 30 March 2005
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General Situation

An earthquake measuring 8.7 on the Richter scale hit northern Sumatra at 22:09 local time (16:09 GMT) on Monday, 28 March. The earthquake was 30 kilometres deep. The epicentre was between the Indonesian islands of Nias and Simeulue (total population around 520,000). The official death toll stands at 430, but expected to rise to around 1,000. Oxfam report 20,000 people affected. President declares a state of emergency.



Nias

- Total population around 440,000 (REVISED FIGURE)
- Around 420 confirmed dead. Within Gunungsitoli: 200 dead, 500 injured and 2000 displaced. Rural areas not assessed at present but buildings generally made of timber so crushing deaths less likely.
- Gol estimates 85% of buildings were damaged or destroyed, in the main town of Gunungsitoli, from an aerial assessment. UNICEF however reports 10% of houses destroyed and 20% heavily damaged. The latter is probably on the low side.
- UN assessment has to date focused on capital city. Assessments of two other locations (unspecified) on Nias are ongoing. NGOs / IFRC assessments ongoing.
- Local government badly affected and traumatised, but a joint UN/governmental coordination mechanism has been established in the capital.
- Access around the island is an issue, as roads have been badly disrupted by the quake.

- Airport runway is damaged but can take Twin Otter aircraft and helicopters.
- Mobile phone network is functioning at present. It is expected that a Nias landline will be reconnected tonight (30 March).
- Electricity supply is limited. Government has brought in 'large electrical system' – expected to provide power for capital town in Nias tonight (30 March).
- UNICEF reporting (unquantified) needs of:
 - Emergency medical supplies
 - Plastic sheeting
 - Cooking utensils
 - Food
 - Water
 - Water containers

Simeulue

- Total population around 78,000 people.
- 6-9 dead, 40 injured.
- UN completed initial needs assessment. INGO assessments continue.
- Due to a timber and light corrugated steel roof construction minimal damage has been reported (Gol). Concrete buildings collapsed. This is in line with previous UN assessments. CARE report as much as 10% of buildings destroyed.
- UN has requested INGOs to take the lead in coordinating activities in Simeleu – UN will 'pick up the gaps'. Point agency in Simeleu to be appointed.
- Hospital in Sinabang damaged but in operation. Tents have been set up in support.
- Airport operational with normal flight schedule to/from Medan in operation.
- Recent report of a fire in Sinabang destroying 130 houses.
- Poor communications on island.
- OCHA report main needs of:
 - Tented hospital for 50 people
 - Food: 2 MT of dried biscuits for hospital
 - GP doctors
 - Medical: Oxygen, basic medicines, glucose drips.
 - Shelter: 200 tents for homeless families
 - Communication equipment

Banyak & Singkil Islands

- Total population around 5,000 people.
- UN undertaken low aerial assessment of islands and report little to no destruction or humanitarian needs.

National Response

- President planning to visit Nias 31 March.
- President allocated 35bn rupiah (approx. GBP 2m) for emergency relief.
- 800 Indonesian Army and Navy personnel providing immediate assistance. Three Indonesian naval vessels are sailing to the islands with medical supplies.
- Gol undertaken assessments in Nias and Simeulue.

- Gol Disaster Management Team is deploying a medical team from Medan to Nias.
- The national Red Crescent society (PMI) active.
- No request for international assistance given to date by Gol.

International Response

- UN and NGOs have drawn up a list of needs and resources available. Although it is not quantified there appears to be sufficient personnel and materiel in the immediate region, following December's tsunami, to meet any needs.
- Australia is sending two transport aircraft.
- An Australian medical ship and Spanish hospital ship are being deployed / returning (respectively) to the affected area.
- China and India have pledged USD 500,000 and USD 2m respectively. Australia has pledged an unknown sum.
- Singapore has deployed a 25 person medical team who are en route to Nias.

Coordination

- UN centre of international humanitarian operations remains in Banda Aceh.
- NGO coordination has improved during the last 18 hours in an attempt to optimise on the use of sea assets.
- Interface now developed (with prodding from DFID) between NGO de facto coordination and UN Operation team.
- Sectoral (UN agency) focal points have been appointed – to get a consolidated picture of needs and what is being supplied, by sector. This is a good step forward, though is late in the day.
- Possibility of HIC deployment to Nias is being reviewed.

Search and Rescue

- Pompiers sans Frontiers (French SAR team already in country), undertaking search and rescue in Simeulue and expected to redeploy to Nias shortly.
- Singapore has deployed a Search and Rescue team (at Gol request).

Logistics

- UNHAS to establish a logistic hub in Sibolga.
- Two DFID Mi8 helicopters to act as a ferry between Banda Aceh and Nias.
- 3 Chinook helicopters have been sent by Singapore and will be tasked out of Medan.
- Sibolga to be serviced by C130s (1 No has already done a run from Malaysia with a mixed cargo; the Australians are offering two more).
- No heavy aircraft can fly in to Nias (one Twin Otter succeeded in landing, but with great difficulty)
- There is no fuel in Sinabang (Simelue) or Nias

Nias

- Initial assessment missions completed by Gol and UN.
- UNICEF report that they have sufficient stock to meet the needs they have identified. Transport will be by road to Sibolga and then by ship.

- Medical evacuations are being carried out to Meulaboh and Medan. WHO is sending doctors from Meulaboh to Nias to deal with trauma and has 4 Emergency health kits available.

Simeulue

- Assessment missions (GoI, UN) underway.
- Generally considered that INGOs already on island can manage response.

DFID response to date

- DFID/CHAD OT staff in Banda Aceh and Jakarta.
- Some DFID funded tents (from tsunami response) are being moved to Sibolga for use on the islands.
- 2 DFID funded Mi8 and 1 Super Puma helicopter being used for assessment missions, transport of medical supplies / water to Nias and medical evacuations.
- CHAD OT continues to monitor the situation and gather information.
- UK Search and Rescue teams stood down.

Useful Websites

The following websites are helpful:

<http://www.reliefweb.int> - UN-managed central repository of reports relating to the crisis.

<http://www.alertnet.org> - Reuters Foundation humanitarian news network.

<http://ocha.unog.ch/virtualosocc/> - Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre, managed by UN.

www.cdma.org.uk - Commonwealth Disaster Management Agency website.

www.unjlc.org - UNJLC website for up to date logistics information.

<http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/sumatra> - UN Humanitarian Information Centre website.