

National Tsunami Drill in Indonesia

Commemoration and Preparedness

The 26th of December has been marked as commemoration day to the victims of the 2006 tsunami by conducting an annual tsunami drill to integrate preparedness efforts from the national government, local governments, and community. The drills are based on the end-to-end early warning system, starting from the issuance of warning from BMKG through community reaction. Each of the drill is an interesting learning process. A guideline for Tsunami Drill Implementation for City and Regency was published by RISTEK in 2008 to support the preparation of these kinds of drill.

2005 PADANG

The city of Padang is a densely populated city located directly on the Indian Ocean shore. Padang must overcome a long time perspective that preparedness is mainly the responsibility of the government, and that a disaster is a 'decision by god'. KOGAMI, a local NGO, plays a significant role in preparedness efforts in Padang. The first national tsunami drill was held on 26 December 2005 in Padang. BMKG issued a tsunami warning 10 minutes after the earthquake to the Governor of West Sumatra via SMS. Evacuation started after Pusdalops Padang, receiving instruction from the Governor, issued an evacuation instruction through siren. By the time the drill was conducted, evacuation maps and signboards were in place.

The drill revealed the need for the Padang community to understand how to react to a tsunami warning. Noting that the safe area, Bukit Pangilun, is quite far, the government needs to consider use of vertical evacuation buildings. The existing evacuation buildings need to be assessed to determine whether they are safe enough to be evacuation sites, or if it is needed to build new vertical evacuation shelters.

2006 BALI

The drill in Bali should show the international community that Bali is becoming better prepared. Approximately 10.000 people participated in the event. The activity was centred in Sanur. BMKG sent out warning to Posko Satlak PBP, which was then forwarded to the Mayor.

The communities started moving as they heard the siren activated by Posko Satlak PBP upon receiving instruction from the Mayor. In Bali, traditional alarm systems, such as the kul-kul (wooden slit drum), were used as well. People headed for Lapangan Made Pica as directed by the evacuation signs that had been previously installed.

2007 BANTEN

Banten is an industrial area. With 35 chemical factories and approximate 40.000 employees involved, Banten's industry community has been eager to have a drill conducted in their area. Five minutes after the simulated earthquake, BMKG sent out warning to RUPUSDALOPS Cilegon. This information was then forwarded to the Mayor of Cilegon who instructed activation of the siren and transformed RUPUSDALOPS into a Crisis Centre. Warned by the siren, the community started

INFORMASI DINI TSUNAMI (SIMULASI)

Terjadi gempa kuat 26 Desember 2005; 09.16 WIB; 125 km barat daya Kota Padang. Potensi timbulkan tsunami, segera tinggalkan pantai Kota Padang dan sekitarnya. (BMKG)

SMS Warning for Padang Drill

TEST UJI COBA WARNING I

AWAS TSUNAMI AKAN MELANDA KAWASAN PANTAI SELATAN BALI: BENOA, PADANGGALAK, SERANGAN, SINDHU ::: BMKG

First SMS Warning for Bali Drill

TEST UJI COBA WARNING III

TSUNAMI TELAH MELANDA KAWASAN PANTAI SELATAN BALI: BENOA (5M), PADANGGALAK (5M), SERANGAN (5M), SINDHU (5M), WKT GMP 26-DEC-2006 09:09:30 WITA, LOK 10.285 115.18E MAG 8.3 S, KEDLMN 30KM:::BMKG

Third SMS Warning for Bali Drill

TEST UJI COBA WARNING I

AWAS TSUNAMI AKAN MELANDA KAWASAN PANTAI SELATAN BANTEN: ANYER / CIWANDAN, KS, MERAK:::BMG

First SMS Warning for Banten Drill

to evacuate to Pancapuri Hill. Both households and industry workers were involved in the drill. The drill also simulated industrious waste management handling.

The industry sector stated that they wished to be linked directly to BMKG to ensure faster response to the warning.

2008 ACEH, BANTUL, GORONTALO, MANADO

Aceh. The Tsunami & Disaster Mitigation Research Center, together with the national team were involved in the preparation of the drill which was held on 2 November 2008. The drill was led by Vice of Governor. Aceh Province had build several escape building in the area. Four of them were used in the drills. During the drills, it was also noted that the use of siren was not clear yet.

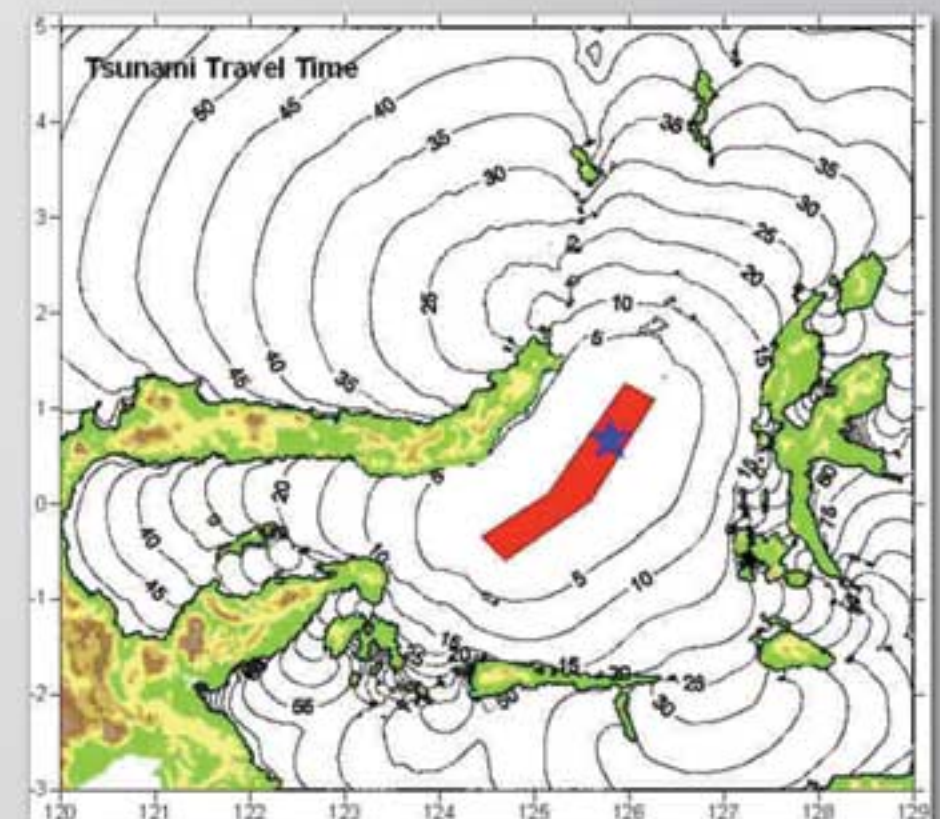
Bantul. As one of the pilot areas of the GITEWS Capacity Building project, the local government had been assisted since 2006 by the GTZ IS team to link them to the national warning centre in BMKG and to develop local procedures. A full scale drill involving approximately 2000 people was held on 24 December 2008. The scheme used in Bantul allowed PUSDALOPS to make a decision on evacuation once a tsunami warning message was received from BMKG. The drill was led by the Bupati of Bantul. The warning message from BMKG arrived 5 minutes after the simulated earthquake. The District Secretary pointed out that drill should be held annually in order to raise community awareness and preparedness.

Gorontalo. Approximately 6.000 persons participated in the drill, which was led by the Governor. The warning message from BMKG arrived 5 minutes after the simulated earthquake. Notes from observers indicate that the drill was successful. The community showed its capacity to respond to evacuation instructions. Pusdalops did run effectively, although some coordination problems were noted regarding evacuation and shelter. The drill needs to be repeated regularly so that it becomes a habit in the community.

Manado. Intending to become a world tourism destination, understanding and preparedness for coastal disasters is essential for Manado. The drill was led by the Governor of Sulawesi Utara. A misunderstanding occurred during the drill, as the “heads up message” received 2 minutes after the simulated earthquake from BMKG was understood to be the first warning, resulting in the evacuation instruction being issued ‘too early’. The incident showed that capacity building for local officials is still needed.

2009 INDIAN OCEAN WAVE EXERCISE

A regional wide tsunami drill (IOWave09) was conducted on 14 October 2009. Indonesia decided to run a full-scale drill in Aceh, as the event was based on the parameter of the December 2004 Aceh Tsunami. More information about IOWave09 can be obtained from the “Indian Ocean Wave Exercise 2009 Factsheet”.



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Published by:

Deutsche
Gesellschaft für
Technische
Zusammenarbeit
(GTZ) GmbH

Photos & map:

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