

Tsunami Ready

A Tool Box for the Hotel Industry

Indonesia is ultimate in diversity. Its tourism attractions range from ancient temples to rainforests, great shopping, and dining to golf and spa holidays. Since Indonesia is also an island kingdom blessed with magnificent beaches, most of its hotel industry is concentrated on its shores. The tourism industry is Indonesia's second largest income of foreign exchange but until recently it has remained quite vulnerable to natural disasters.

THE INITIATIVE

In order to improve the tsunami preparedness of the hotel industry in the country, the Indonesian Ministry of Culture and Tourism (BUDPAR) cooperates closely with Bali Hotels Association (BHA), an association of over 100 star rated hotels. Together they developed the 'Tsunami Ready Toolbox' which is geared to assist hotels to prepare for tsunamis. The initiative is supported by an integrated expert from the German Centre for International Development and Migration (CIM). Technical advisory was provided by GTZ IS GITEWS on issues related to the warning chain and procedures.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

The toolbox consists of check lists, background information, templates, and best practice examples. It can be used like a cookbook. The booklet describes step by step what it takes to prepare a hotel in case of a tsunami: where the bottle necks are, where to obtain information from and what to look out for. The toolbox is available in English and Indonesian. As a "living document" it is updated on a regular basis. Everyone is invited to contribute. So far the booklet has accumulated 52 pages.

A comprehensive check list at the beginning of the toolbox allows the user to conduct a thorough self assessment of his/her own state of preparedness.

A large part of the toolbox consists of practical templates and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) which have been implemented and approved by a large number of hotels. Because of its 'hands on' and no nonsense approach, the tsunami ready toolbox is not only used by Indonesian hotels but by the industry worldwide.

The creation of a common standard for evacuation route signs to be used within hotel grounds was another milestone. The signs resemble the official Indonesian tsunami evacuation signs to avoid confusion when crossing from public into private hotel space. The signs are already used by BHA member hotels and promoted by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism during workshops all over Indonesia.

Supported by BUDPAR, a 'Tsunami Ready' course, created on the basis of the toolbox is offered free of charge to hotels and hotel associations throughout the country from Banda Aceh to Papua.

The 'Tsunami Ready' Initiative of BUDPAR and BHA has been selected as a good practice example for 'Public Private Partnership in Disaster Risk Reduction' by the United Nations branch 'International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR).



BHA Member Hotel in Bali



BHA Tsunami Sign at Beach



Evacuation Sign



SOP for Warning Dissemination

CONTENT OF THE TOOLBOX

The Tsunami Ready Checklist enables hotels to assess their state of preparedness. The checklist consists of 6 sub categories: Information Sources and Interpretation, Evacuation Procedures, Evacuation Route and Shelters, Community Relations, Cooperations and Post Tsunami.

A chapter about the Indonesian Tsunami Early Warning Chain describes the set up of the warning chain and sheds light on major stakeholders.

Tsunami Facts collects the most important information about tsunami in a nutshell.

Tsunami Warning Sources describes the sources that are currently available in Indonesia and discusses their pros and cons.

Sensing a Tsunami is a poster template educating about natural early warning signs. The poster is available in English as well as in Indonesian.

Evacuation Planning describes concepts and strategies for fast and reliable staff and guest evacuation.

Department Close Down provides 25 very practical procedures in order to protect not only lives but also material assets.

Evacuation Spots & Signs discusses vertical versus horizontal evacuation. It provides guidance on how to select the right evacuation spot and how to equip an evacuation shelter. This chapter describes how to mark evacuation routes within hotel grounds and gives technical specifics for the production of evacuation signs.

Hotel Evacuation Sign Templates provide technical details and specifications like colour coding, minimum sizes etc. for the production of evacuation sign- ages 'Arrow' and 'Evacuation Spot'.

Official Indonesian Evacuation Route Signs gives the specifics of the official Indonesian evacuation route signs for public spaces.

A fact sheet about the **Tanjung Benoa Initiative** describes the cooperation between the village of Tanjung Benoa and the local hotel industry for evacuation purposes. The basis for the tsunami cooperation in Tanjung Benoa is a MoU which is provided as a blueprint for other cooperation elsewhere. The initiative was done in close cooperation with the GITEWS project.

The BHA Tsunami Early Warning Service: the BHA is operating its own tsunami early warning SMS service as a back up in addition to official warning sources like TV and sirens. The multi purpose system was also used after the 2009 Jakarta hotel bombings in order to coordinate the rapid response of Bali hotels to the terrorist threat.

In Indonesia most tsunamis are triggered by strong earthquakes above 7 on the Richter scale. Therefore earthquake preparedness is a vital part of tsunami preparedness. A chapter on **Earthquake Preparedness** provides some basic information on how to behave during an earthquake.



Tsunami Signage at a Beach Hotel



Tsunami Store



Tsunami Tool Box

Author:

Alexander Kesper
alex.kesper@gmail.com

CIM Integrated Expert at BUDPAR

Published by:

Deutsche
Gesellschaft für
Technische
Zusammenarbeit
(GTZ) GmbH

Photos:

© GTZ IS-GITEWS

GTZ Office Jakarta
Menara BCA 46th Floor
Jl. M.H. Thamrin No.1
Jakarta 10310

T: +62-21-2358 7111
F: +62-21-2358 7110
E: gtz-indonesien@gtz.de
I: www.gtz.de/indonesia

Further information:

www.gitews.org/tsunami-kit

Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the
Republic of Indonesia:
www.budpar.go.id

Tourism Security and Safety Resource Centre:
tsunami.toolbox@gmail.com

Bali Hotels Association:
www.balihotelsassociation.com

GITEWS: www.gitews.org