



# INDONESIA

## National Programmes in Disaster Management

### Disaster Context

Indonesia is a vast tropical archipelago populated by greater than 200 million people. Many are vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters. Natural disasters are frequent phenomena, causing loss of life, destruction of property, and often-irreversible damage to the environment.

The country is subject to a high level of seismic activities due to its location at the intersection of three crustal plates: Eurasia Plate, Ancient Australia-Indian Continent, and Pacific Ocean Floor in the northeast. Much of the seismic activity occurs at sea, bringing added risk of tsunamis or tidal waves.

Indonesia has more than 500 volcanoes (128 of which are active) occupying the zones of Sunda, Banda, Halmahera, and Minahasa. Furthermore, many parts of the country are susceptible to drought, most recently caused by the El Niño phenomenon. The result is crop failure and uncontrolled bush fires that exacerbate forest fires stemming from extensive logging. Added to this is the fact that there are greater than 5,000 rivers, of which 30 percent cross high-density population areas, posing flooding hazards.

### Project Titles

- Institutional Strengthening of Disaster Management in Indonesia (INS/94/006)
- Preparatory Assistance for Providing Technical Support in Strengthening the National Capacity in Disaster Management (INS/00/005)

### Sectors

- Institutional strengthening
- Disaster preparedness and mitigation

### Funding

- INS/94/006: \$1,063,432 from UNDP-IPF/TRAC
- INS/00/005: \$101,536 from the Government of New Zealand

### Partners

- Government of Indonesia
- Secretariat of the National Coordinating Board for Disaster and IDP Management (Bakornas PBP)
- UN Disaster Management Team
- Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, University of Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta
- Embassy of New Zealand

### Programme Activities

UNDP has supported national capacity-building in disaster management for two decades.

Through the projects INS/80/020, INS/82/0200 and INS/89/018. Concepts of natural disaster preparedness and natural disaster mitigation and training of personnel of concerned agencies were initiated. Further support to capacity-building in disaster management by the previous initiatives was pursued by INS/94/006 and INS/00/005.

The Institutional Strengthening of Disaster Management in Indonesia (INS/94/006) project was operationally completed in 2001. This project:

- Offered further support to the capacity-building of the Secretariat of Bakornas PBP
- Introduced the concept of disaster management as part of overall development planning to the Government of Indonesia at different levels
- Enabled training of personnel in disaster management, including a pool of competent personnel from different agencies who were identified to establish a national technical team for rapid disaster assessment

The Bakornas PBP Secretariat, with support from UNDP through project INS/94/006 and the Forest Fires Disaster Management Information System project (funded through UN Department for Humanitarian Affairs), has also developed a Disaster Management Information System covering modules on forest fires,

volcanic eruptions, tectonic earthquakes, tsunamis and social unrest.

The final evaluation of the project was conducted in 2002. It concluded that activities supported by the project had a positive impact on the operational conduct of disaster management, primarily in the areas of programming and individual capacity-building. It added that both areas should be nurtured and sustained in a more systematic and strategic manner.

Following an evaluation of INS/94/006, UNDP Jakarta, with funding from the New Zealand Government, has supported the Secretariat of Bakornas PBP with the Preparatory Assistance project (INS/00/005). Capitalizing on the achievements of the previous project, INS/00/005 was geared towards producing a “road map” of initiatives to be undertaken by the Government of Indonesia on disaster management. This highlights issues identified during assessment exercises, conducted as part of the Preparatory Assistance project, in the following areas:

- Legislation on disaster management
- The effects of decentralization on disaster management
- The capacity of Secretariat Bakornas PBP and selected regional disaster coordination bodies

While the issue of the disaster management information system was not specifically assessed, it was incorporated into the “road map” based on findings of the evaluation of INS/94/006. Currently, UNDP is working with the Secretariat of Bakornas PBP to refine the “road map” into an Indonesian Disaster Management Programme Plan for 2003-2007, and to develop and mobilize resources for a series of separate but related disaster management capacity-building projects to address the areas to be defined in the five-year plan.