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OFDA
Disaster
Case Reports

Indonesia Floods/Landslides
December 26, 1980

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

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INDONESIA - Floods/Landslides

Data

Date: December 26, 1980 (FY 81)

Location: West Java (Province), Majalengka (District)

No. Dead: 153

No. Injured: 149 (24 seriously)

No. Affected: 2,946

Damage: 478 buildings, 10 bridges, 3 dams, 5.5 km. of roads destroyed or damaged; livestock and farmlands (437 hectares) destroyed. Damage estimated at \$3.4 million.

The Disaster

On December 26, 1980, flash floods resulting from four days of continuous heavy rains struck the villagers of Sangiang and Sunia at the foot of Mount Ciremai when the villagers were resting or sleeping. The force of on-rushing water, released by the sudden collapse of an unstable earth dam (formed by earlier landslides on Mount Ciremai), swept boulders, rocks, trees, mud, and sand down on the village below. People, livestock, crops, homes, and public buildings caught in the torrent were buried or swept away.

Mud and debris reached a height of 1.75 meters in the village of Legok which suffered the greatest loss of life (42). Water and debris entered villagers' homes and inundated surrounding farm land. People unable to escape were buried alive.

In Sangiang village, where 40 people were killed, a new river and ravine appeared after the disaster. The human toll (number dead) in other villages was as follows: Barujaksi - 36, Tagerang - 31, Pasir Bitung - 4. In all, 143 bodies were recovered; 19 persons still missing when the search was terminated were presumed dead. 456 private dwellings were destroyed or damaged.

Action taken by the Government of Indonesia (GOI) and Local Voluntary Agencies

A search and rescue team from Jakarta began operations the day following the disaster. In addition to conducting an around-the-clock search to locate survivors and bodies buried under debris, the team assisted in transporting the injured to hospitals and evacuating others to safer areas. Members of the armed forces removed debris and cleared roads which have since been paved with gravel by the Department of Public Works.

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The local government of Majalengka set up a central relief center (POSKO) in the Talaga sub-district from which supplies were distributed to sub-relief centers in each of the stricken areas.

Government relief efforts were well organized and effective. The local government, with community assistance, constructed emergency camps in Sangiang, Legok, Barujaksi, and Pasi Bitung to serve as temporary shelters for about 215 families. Other homeless people found refuge with relatives and friends. The disaster victims were also provided with clothing, eating utensils, and basic health care, including vaccination against cholera.

The government's emergency feeding program for 2,793 people consisted of a daily ration of 1/2 kg. of rice per person plus Rp. 150 for the purchase of supplemental food for 40 days (beginning December 27), and milk for children.

GOI assistance included the provision of 102.5 metric tons of rice, 1,500 pieces of children's clothing, 1,000 sarongs for adults, 20 tents and \$56,800 in cash. In addition to an initial allocation of \$150,400, the GOI presented \$1,600 to the Majalengka District for the construction of 40 low cost shelters. Plans to resettle the homeless and those whose homes are located in disaster-prone areas are being processed and involve the construction of 643 houses costing Rp. 250,000 each (\$25,720). The GOI has apparently earmarked sufficient funds for the rehabilitation phase. (\$400,000 has been allocated by the Department of Manpower and Transmigration.)

Assistance Provided by Local Voluntary Agencies and Private Groups

Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) - donated \$3,600 in cash, 625 kg. of skimmed milk, 3,000 packages of dried noodles, 2,200 pieces of clothing, 1 MT of rice

Indonesian Community in Japan - gave \$504 in cash

Indonesian Community in the Netherlands contributed \$4,750

Goodyear Indonesian Tyre Factory (director and employees) - donated 840 pieces of clothing and \$5,383

American Embassy Employees (local and Americans) - gave \$318 in cash

The Jakarta Chamber of Commerce and Industry - contributed \$16,000

Indian Students of the Gandhi Memorial International School - supplied 500 blankets, 50 stoves, \$800 in cash.

Cash donations through "KOMPAS" newspaper - \$96,256 (as of March 10, 1981)

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Additional public response - eating utensils, clothing, and total cash gifts in the amount of \$99,413 (as of February 25, 1981)

Assistance Provided by the United States Government (USG)

In response to a request for USG assistance from the Director General of the GOI Department of Social Affairs (DEPSOS), and upon declaration by the U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia, Edward E. Masters, that an emergency situation existed in Majalengka, \$11,616 was released from the Ambassador's Disaster Assistance Authority as a grant to CARE.....\$11,616

A prior assessment by CARE of emergency requirements had determined that USG funds should be used to procure the following: 1,500 pillows, 1,500 sleeping mats, 1,500 cooking pans, 300 kerosene pans, 1,500 liters of kerosene, 300 containers (5-liter capacity) for kerosene, and rental of 5 trucks. All items were distributed by CARE and local officials between January 19 and 23, as confirmed by a follow-up visit to the stricken areas by two USAID/VHP representatives.

No use was made of P.L. 480 Title II commodities during the emergency relief phases.

TOTAL \$11,616

Assistance Provided by U.S. Voluntary Agencies *

CARE - 3 water hand pumps, 27 sacks of cement for reconstruction worth \$327

Church World Service (CWS) - 500 blankets valued at \$2,040.

World Vision International - 350 plastic pails, 350 cooking pans, 350 sleeping mats, 350 pieces of soap, all valued at \$2,100

TOTAL \$4,467

Assistance Provided by the International Community *

UN and Inter-governmental Organizations

UNICEF - supplied cots and tent materials from prepositioned stockpile established by DEPSOS and UNICEF for disaster relief use

World Food Program (WFP) - 1 MT of skimmed milk valued at \$825

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Governments

France - \$1,600 In cash

Germany, Federal Republic - \$3,200 In cash

TOTAL \$5,625

* Please note: the figures for total U.S. voluntary agency and International assistance are an approximation. In many cases the value of in kind aid is unavailable.