

## **Relief Activity Report No. 6 Indonesia: Earthquake Java**

Cologne, 3 July 2006

### **Overall situation**

According to latest data provided by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 5,778 people died due to the earthquake on 27 May; 38,000 were injured. More than 350,000 homes were damaged beyond repair, 280,000 other houses have suffered lesser damages. The directly affected population is 2.7 million people of whom 1.5 million were rendered homeless, three times the number in Aceh after the tsunami on 26 December



Eruption of M. Merapi - photographed by program coordinator Volker Stapke

2004. Many health care centers and almost 1,900 school buildings have been damaged and need immediate emergency assistance before the new school term starts on 17 July. The total damage and losses are estimated at 3.1 billion dollars, comparable to the devastating earthquakes in Gujarat and Kashmir.

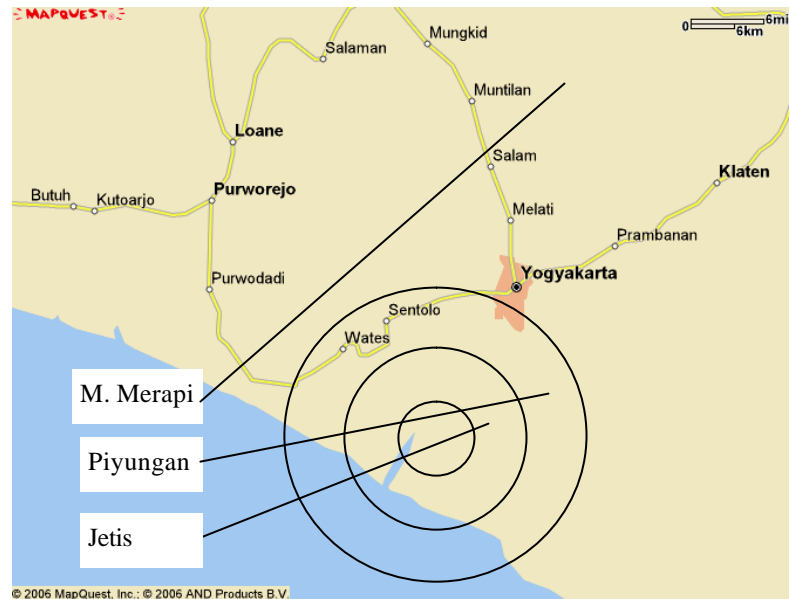
More than one month after the earthquake, the activity of international and Indonesian organizations shifts from emergency aid to rehabilitation measures. According to OCHA, funds for over \$ 20 million have been committed towards the Earthquake Response Plan. 120,000 families have received tarpaulins or tents; 300,000 liters of water are trucked per day, more than 300 wells have been cleaned and repaired and over 800 emergency toilets have been constructed. The current food coverage has reached more than 1.7 million beneficiaries in all affected villages and urban areas. A surveillance system covering 11 diseases has been set up; immunization campaigns against measles and tetanus have been undertaken. Nevertheless, by mid-June more than 70 cases of tetanus have been reported; 22 of the infected died. OCHA also stated, that there are still missing tarpaulins for people who have not received any form of emergency shelter, also water and sanitation assistance and that funding for food supply is assured only until the end of July.

On 3 July, the Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono visited the areas hit by the earthquake to hand over a \$ 130 million reconstruction fund to the victims. The fund was given to the local governments in Klaten reGENCY and Yogyakarta province, both severely hit by the earthquake.

After an eruption on 9 June, the activity of the volcano Mount Merapi north of Yogyakarta is on the decline. However, the alertness status remains at the highest level. Some villages surrounding Mount Merapi are facing a water shortage, because water installations and spring wells have been damaged.

## Malteser International Activity

Malteser International gave medical treatment to far more than 1.000 patients in the aftermath of the earthquake, of which about 20 % were severely injured. Our staff mainly works in the sector of Piyungan in the district of Bantul. The Indonesian authorities have entrusted to Malteser International the coordination of the medical aid in this sector. It essentially consists of four components:



### 1. Emergency Hospital

In Piyungan, an emergency hospital with 20 beds and an out-patient department has been set up for acute medical aid and follow-up treatment. In June, 70 in-patients have been treated in the hospital, 10 of them have been operated. Almost 900 out-patients have received medical care. Four doctors and eight nurses are working in the hospital. Project coordinator is Dr. Gudrun Müller (since 23 June). There are still many patients whose wounds could not be treated properly directly after the earthquake and who have got infections. Patients who suffered severe injuries as well as people who remain disabled are in need of special attention. Follow-up treatments as well as rehabilitation therapies will be of high importance in the coming months.

### 2. Surgery in Bethesda hospital

A surgeon of Malteser International undertakes difficult operations in Bethesda Hospital in Yogyakarta, where patients who cannot be operated in the emergency hospital are referred to. At the moment, Dr. Bernd Dietz is operating at Bethesda Hospital. He is the fifth surgeon of Malteser International in Bethesda, after Dr. Julio Vidal, Dr. Pierre Tandonnet from France, Dr. Isaac Krishnamoorthy and Dr. David Wong (the latter two from Singapore).

### 3. Support of the local health care system

Malteser International supports the health care center in Piyungan and three health care sites in the villages, for example by transporting patients. The health care center and the sites are damaged and work in temporary shelters for the time being.

### 4. Clinic in Jetis

In the sector of Jetis, Malteser International runs a mobile clinic in which two doctors, three nurses and a driver are on standby duty 24 hours a day. The Indonesian team goes to the villages in the sector, examining about 100 patients a day.

Malteser International is also included in the emergency plan in case of an eruption of Mount Merapi. A medical team is ready to treat fleeing inhabitants of the area around the volcano at an evacuation point in a health care center near Mount Merapi.

Malteser International also supports public kitchens in Piyungan, which also provide former patients of the emergency hospital with food.

By mid-June, Mr. Schlaugraff from the German embassy in Jakarta visited the emergency hospital in Piyungan and stated that he was impressed by the work of Malteser International. The Federal Foreign Office of Germany is one of the major donors for our relief activities in Indonesia.



Treatment of an earthquake victim in our emergency hospital- photo: B. Betzelt

On 3 July, Amb. Ret. Theodor Wallau, one of three Vice-Presidents of Malteser International, and the Secretary General of Malteser International, Ingo Radtke, left for a one-week-visit to Indonesia. At first, they are going to visit the tsunami projects in Aceh province on Sumatra. On Saturday, 8 July, and Sunday, 9 July, they will be in the earthquake area on Java where they will be joined by Piers Birtwistle, member of the British Association of the Order of Malta and a professional photographer.

We are grateful for all the support from the associations of the Order of Malta, from companies and private donors, who enable us to respond to the needs of the affected people quickly and professionally.

We will keep you informed about the ongoing activity.

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Yours sincerely,

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