



Java Earthquake Response Factsheet



The Consortium for Assistance and Recovery toward Development in Indonesia
A partnership of the International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council and Stichting Vluchteling

CARDI and the Java Earthquake

The Consortium for Assistance and Recovery toward Development in Indonesia (CARDI) is a coalition of the International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Committee and Stichting Vluchteling (the Refugee Foundation of the Dutch government). CARDI has been working in Indonesia for the last six years to assist populations affected by natural disaster or civil conflict through social, economic and community development programs. CARDI envisions an Indonesia where people of all religions and backgrounds can live in peace and harmony; where civil society is strong; economic opportunities are available to all; and ethnic tensions do not fuel conflict or deprive people of their basic human rights.



In the early morning hours of Saturday, May 27, 2006, an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale struck Indonesia's Java Island. Centred close to Indonesia's ancient city of Yogyakarta, the quake lasted for several minutes and was felt in towns and villages more than 60km away. The earthquake caused massive damage to homes and buildings, and devastated the district of Bantul where it is estimated that 90% of homes are destroyed or severely damaged. The death toll stands at 5,749 individuals, with 38,568 injured, many of them seriously. At least 127,037 homes are completely destroyed, and 451,011 more have been damaged. Nearly 100 schools are destroyed, more than 200 public buildings require reconstruction, and basic water and sanitation facilities are decimated.



CARDI's Emergency Response

In response to the devastating earthquake, CARDI immediately deployed an Emergency Response Team comprised of experts in Water and Sanitation, Shelter, Health and Child Protection. Within 48 hours of their arrival, the emergency team was providing direct health care to the injured as well as measuring the scale of destruction and assessing urgent needs of the affected populations.

CARDI's emergency staff visited villages that were hardest hit by the quake, and worked together with community members to assess damage, identify priority needs, and understand what communities needed to start the long recovery and reconstruction process. CARDI staff witnessed a strong sense of resolve and community spirit amongst the Javanese people, and emergency interventions have been designed to build upon and take advantage of this powerful and invaluable force.

It was made clear during CARDI's assessments that people are committed to working together in teams, house-by-house, to clear the rubble and start rebuilding each other's homes. While only simple tools are required to salvage the brick, tile and other reusable housing materials, many families lost most of their personal possessions during the earthquake. In discussions with CARDI about what was needed most, community members prioritized the donation of tools that could be shared between neighbors in each village. CARDI put together a community-approved shelter recovery kit, which contains a wheelbarrow, shovel, sledge hammer, claw hammer, saw and crow bar. This simple package of tools costs \$50 and is designed to be shared by ten neighboring households. To date, CARDI has distributed 400 kits of the 1,200 necessary to meet the needs of hardest hit villages, which would benefit more than 60,000 people. In addition to the shelter recovery kits, CARDI has also distributed 1,000 of the 5,000 needed household and hygiene kits, which include soap, laundry powder, towels, toothbrushes and sanitary items for women and girls. Costing only \$12, these kits replace some of the basic personal items that were destroyed by the earthquake, and allow families to maintain personal and household hygiene while living in temporary makeshift shelters.

Enabling Communities to Recover (continued)

CARDI carried out an emergency household survey in the week following the earthquake. The survey showed that the supply of water for drinking and personal use is adequate. However, toilets, hand washing and bathing facilities have been severely damaged by the earthquake. One-third of families interviewed were forced to defecate in the open, with some confirming that they were using a nearby river as a toilet, which is also used as a water source by the community. To prevent the outbreak and reduce the risk of disease, CARDI has partnered with communities to rebuild communal toilets with provisions for hand washing and bathing.

CARDI is in the process of building 400 communal toilets of the 1,000 needed. The reconstruction of each community toilet facility costs just \$116 and will be used by up to 50 people until families can rebuild their own homes.

Along with hundreds of thousands of houses, at least 100 schools were heavily damaged during the earthquake, leaving children and youth without access to education or the emotional support that is critical following a traumatic event. Working in partnership with communities and a local youth group, CARDI is in the process of constructing three Child Friendly Spaces that will provide daily recreational, educational, and psychosocial activities for up to 2,400 children and youth ages 5-15. Children are often reluctant to return indoors following an earthquake, and these programs can help to restore a sense of normalcy and begin the healing process. Child Friendly Space programming costs less than \$5 per child each month.



Survivors need your help

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs estimates that \$100 million in assistance is needed over the next six months to address the area's most immediate needs, a figure that may prove conservative. Not even a quarter of this has been pledged. Even less has been programmed toward essential services like clean water supply, sanitation, shelter materials, education, and physical therapy for the badly injured. Much of the money pledged is for emergency medicines and supplies that, two weeks after the earthquake, are no longer needed. International governments, donors, and foundations seem to feel the situation is under control and the need for outside help is minimal.

This is not the case. CARDI and other humanitarian agencies on the ground see multiple families, having lost everything, crowded into small numbers of tents. Many smaller villages off the paved roads have received little to no assistance at all. Children are begging in the streets, a situation almost unheard of in Java. Entire communities are without access to regular supplies of water, toilets and bathing facilities. The potential for the outbreak of diseases, even epidemics, is high and will increase as sanitation conditions worsen in the weeks and months ahead.

CARDI is committed to providing emergency humanitarian assistance to the people of Java, but has only been able to raise 25% of the funds required to meet their most urgent needs. A small contribution can have a large impact on affected communities and allow them to begin the process of rebuilding their lives.

Donation Amount

Donation Impact

\$250	20 families will receive kits of basic hygiene and household items
\$500	1000 families will receive toolkits that will enable them to start reconstructing their homes
\$1,500	650 people will have access to clean toilets and bathing facilities
\$5,000	400 families will receive plastic sheeting to allow them to erect temporary homes and protect any salvaged possessions
\$20,000	Three Child Friendly Spaces can operate for three months, providing emotional support and healing to more than 2400 children and youth

Your contribution can help families to rebuild their lives with dignity. For more information on the earthquake in Java and assistance in making a donation, please visit www.theirc.org.