

## Indonesia: Magnitude 7.7 Earthquake Generates Local Tsunami off Western Sumatra (October 25, 2010, 14:42 UTC)

### Earthquake - Tsunami

On October 25, 2010, at 14:42 UTC, a magnitude 7.7 earthquake hit the Kepulauan Mentawai Region in western Sumatra, generating a tsunami; as of 22:30 UTC there had been twelve aftershocks, including two greater than magnitude 6.0. The epicenter of the Pulau Pagai Selatan earthquake was:

- 240 km (150 miles) west of provincial capital Bengkulu (309,700 people);
- 280 km (175 miles) south of provincial capital Padang (860,000 people).

Seven minutes after the earthquake, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued a local tsunami warning. The Mentawai Islands experienced 10-foot waves as far as 2,000 feet inland.

One year ago, in September 2009, Western Sumatra was hit by a powerful earthquake of 7.9 magnitude, which killed more than 1,000 people and caused massive infrastructure damage.

### Current Situation (as of October 27, 15:30 UTC)

- Over 270 deaths are confirmed by the West Sumatra provincial disaster management office.
- Approximately 600 families evacuated to higher ground and 412 people are reported still missing.
- Over 42,000 people in the area reportedly sought shelter in emergency camps.
- Heavy rain is preventing helicopters from reaching the area.
- Locally-situated non-governmental organization Surfaid reported public telecommunications are down.

### Government of Indonesia (GOI) Response

- Public Welfare Minister Agung Laksono declared an emergency and plans to visit the area.
- GOI announced a 14-day emergency period and is sending 500 million rupiah (about \$55,000) to finance relief efforts.
- GOI Ministry of Health dispatched twelve medical personnel from Padang.

