



Spot report : Massive eruption at Merapi volcano, Indonesia

Background



Mount Merapi, located 28km from the city of Yogyakarta showed a phreatic eruption on May 11, 2018. The height of smoke was approximately 5 km. The Indonesian Center of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG) announced ALERT Level I. The peak morphological condition of Mount Merapi was prone to landslides, therefore the National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) advised general public to maintain a 5 km radius safety distance from Mount Merapi. About 1.5 million people are potentially affected. A total of 362 residents of Hamlet Takeran and Dukuh Stabelan in Tlogolele Village, Boyolali District were evacuated independently to the refugee camp in Tlogolele Village. The number of independent refugees continues to grow. The Adi Sucipto International Airport in Yogyakarta was temporary closed on 11 May and resumed its function on 20 May.

The PVMBG raised to ALERT Level II (WASPADA) for Mount Merapi on the 1 of June 2018. Indonesian government raised the flight warning around the Mount Merapi volcano area. A towering plume of grey ash covered more than 6 km distance in the air. The Volcano Observatory Notice for Aviation (VONA) issued a code red warning alert which means a volcanic eruption is underway with significant emission of ash into the atmosphere. However, the National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) reported that the Adi Sucipto International Airport in Yogyakarta remains open.

Action taken

Residents were advised to evacuate to a temporary shelter. Local people of vicinity were advised wear a facemask or N95 for health reasons. Climbing activities are temporarily suspended except for investigation and research activities related to disaster mitigation.

ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS -

Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.

Section	Ranking	Issues identified	Recommendations
Massive eruption at Merapi volcano, Indonesia	G	No casualties reported. Indonesian authorities advised people stay away from the danger zone and wearing a facemask. The assessment for this situation is green.	AMS monitor the situation closely.

Remarks:

R: Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.

Y: Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring

G: Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.

NA: Lack of /unreliable data: Further assessment required.

ACMM Recommendations,

According to the situation, the ACMM is monitoring the situation intensely for providing medical information update to member countries.

References:

1. <https://abcnews.go.com>
2. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com>
3. <https://ahacentre.org>