

Alert note

Indonesia - East Nusa Tenggara (Nusa Tenggara Timur-NTT) Earthquake 15 August 2026

Completed by: ACT Indonesia Forum

Date completed: 15 August 2026

Forum: ACT Indonesia Forum

Type of emergency: Earthquake

Date of emergency (if rapid onset): 15 August 2026

1. The nature of the emergency

On Saturday, 15 August 2026 at 05:58:24 AM WITA (GMT+8), a strong and shallow tectonic earthquake struck the Flores region of East Nusa Tenggara. BMKG (Indonesia's Meteorology) initially reported the earthquake at M7.0 with a depth of 10 km and subsequently updated it to M7.7 at a depth of 15 km. The epicentre was located at 8.41°S, 121.39°E, approximately 30 km northeast of Mbay, Nagekeo Regency, offshore north of Flores. BMKG's analysis indicates that the earthquake was shallow and associated with active faulting, with a thrust-fault mechanism.

The earthquake generated a tsunami. BMKG issued the first tsunami early warning approximately two minutes after the earthquake, followed by subsequent updates based on revised earthquake parameters and sea-level observations. The tsunami warning by BMKG showed threat status levels:

- Alert (0.5 – 3 m) occurred in North Manggarai, North Ngada, Ende, East Flores, Jenepono
- Vigilant (<0.5 m) occurred in East Flores, Bima, Dompu, Wajo.

BMKG officially ended the tsunami warning for Indonesia at approximately 08:31 WITA (GMT+8). However, the end of the tsunami warning does not eliminate ongoing risks from aftershocks, damaged structures, falling rocks, landslides, electrical hazards and disruption to critical infrastructure.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

The earthquake was centred offshore approximately 30 km Northeast of Mbay, Nagekeo Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province¹, with the most severe impacts reported in:

1. Nagekeo Regency: Aesesa and Mbay – VII MMI, Wolowae – VI MMI
2. Ngada Regency: Riung – VII MMI, Bajawa – VI MMI
3. Ende Regency: V MMI
4. Manggarai Regency: Ruteng – V MMI
5. East Manggarai: Borong – V MMI

The earthquake was also felt across Flores and in parts of Sumba, Adonara, and Solor.

Based on the latest information from Indonesia Metrology department and IFRC, the emergency is currently assessed as a **Medium-Scale Emergency, with potential to escalate pending further verification**. This assessment is based on the earthquake's high magnitude (M7.7) and shallow depth (15 km), strong ground shaking reaching VII MMI, a confirmed tsunami event with sea-level observations at 10 locations, the geographical spread of impacts across several regencies in Flores, continued aftershocks, and the potential for further structural damage and secondary hazards. The emergency has also resulted in initial reports of structural damage, road disruption, landslides and rockfalls, which are exacerbated by Flores' mountainous terrain and steep geography.

¹ <https://www.bmkg.go.id/gempabumi/berpotensi-tsunami/20260815073130>

The latest reports indicate **53 people killed** and around **135 injured**. Rescue teams are still searching affected areas, so the figures may increase. the time of this alert, a consolidated official figure for the total number of people affected, displaced persons and damaged houses is not yet officially available, and the overall scale of the humanitarian impact therefore cannot yet be fully quantified. The preliminary situation report from the NTT Provincial BPBD Operations Control Center (Pusdalops) records **38 casualties** across several regencies, including Sikka (3), West Manggarai (1), Manggarai (6), and East Manggarai (3)². The total number of injured persons is still being verified.

According to media and local reports, around **5,000 people** have been moved to temporary shelters or are staying outdoors because of continuing aftershocks and unsafe buildings. More than **1,350 houses have been damaged**, including hundreds that were destroyed or severely damaged. Schools, health facilities, government buildings and other public infrastructure have been damaged. Structural damage has been reported across several regencies, affecting residential buildings, public facilities, roads and other critical infrastructure. Preliminary reports include damage to the Laurens Say Port in Maumere; sections of the Ende–Maumere road (Km 17), Ende–Aegela road, and Waelengga–Mborong road; university/colleges; bank office; public offices; school facilities; places of worship; and residential houses.

The earthquake has also affected health facilities and the continuity of health services. Several hospitals have reportedly sustained damage and/or required precautionary evacuation of patients, with emergency tents established within or around hospital compounds to maintain essential services. The affected health facilities currently reported include RSUD Ruteng, RS Pratama Reo and RS St. Rafael Cancar in Manggarai Regency; RSUD Ende in Ende Regency; and RSUD Aeramo in Nagekeo Regency.

Communities in coastal areas were potentially exposed to tsunami impacts and were required to evacuate following the tsunami warning. Although the tsunami warning has now ended, the risk associated with aftershocks, damaged buildings, landslides and rockfalls remains. Communication disruptions and power outages have also been reported in affected areas, constraining coordination, access to information and the timely delivery of assistance following the mainshock.

At-risk groups—including children, older persons, pregnant and breastfeeding women, persons with disabilities, people requiring regular medication or treatment, patients dependent on affected health facilities, people living in coastal areas, fishing communities, and households whose homes have been damaged or declared unsafe—may face heightened risks. Potential longer-term consequences include inadequate or prolonged temporary shelter, disruption of health and other essential services, limited access to humanitarian assistance, prolonged psychosocial distress, increased protection risks, reduced access to markets and essential services, and loss or disruption of livelihoods, particularly among fishing and other coastal communities.

3. Local and national capacity

BMKG continues to monitor earthquake activity, aftershocks, and tsunami-related conditions and provide updates to authorities and the public. At the local level, BPBD Ende Regency has conducted a rapid assessment of the impact, coordinated with relevant sectors for emergency response, and temporarily evacuated patients from Ende Regional Hospital (RSUD Ende) to tents prepared within the hospital compound. No situation updates have yet been received from BPBDs in other affected regencies.

At the national level, there is currently insufficient information to confirm the activation or implementation of a specific national emergency response or contingency plan for this event. The Regent of Manggarai has issued a disaster declaration; however, an emergency response status and duration have not yet been formally established. Information also remains limited on how

² <https://en.antaranews.com/news/427215/east-nusatenggaras-quake-death-toll-rises-to-38-bnpb-says>

affected households are coping, including their access to Food, Shelter, Water, Health services, MHPSS, Markets and Livelihoods, and other essential services. Further assessment is therefore required.

The Indonesian Humanitarian Coordination Platform (IHCP) has initiated an initial flash update and facilitated coordination and information sharing among humanitarian organisations to support situational monitoring, impact verification, and coordinated humanitarian response. At the time of this alert, there is also insufficient confirmed information to determine whether the UN cluster system or any specific UN cluster/working group has been activated for this emergency.

4. Key needs and gaps

Based on initial information and priorities identified, the major anticipated needs include:

a. Health and Emergency medical care

Immediate needs include treatment and referral of injured people, continuity of essential health services, access to essential medicines, and continued care for people requiring regular treatment. Further assessment is needed to determine the safety and functionality of affected health facilities.

b. MHPSS

Affected communities may require PFA and Community-based PSS, particularly for children, older people, injured individuals, and other at-risk groups. RCCE is also needed to provide clear information on ongoing risks and safety measures.

c. Food

Further assessment is needed to determine food availability and household access. Immediate and sustained food assistance may be required, particularly for the most vulnerable and at-risk groups.

d. Emergency Shelter and NFIs

Households unable to safely return home may require temporary shelter, emergency shelter materials, and essential household items. Assistance should ensure safe and dignified living conditions, particularly for at-risk groups.

e. WASH

Affected communities require continued access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, particularly where water systems have been damaged or disrupted. In several areas, this condition is worsened by El Nino which has caused long drought. Further assessment is needed to identify priority WASH gaps.

f. Protection, access, and information

Displaced and vulnerable groups may face heightened protection risks due to damaged homes, inadequate shelter, disrupted services, and limited access to assistance. Particular attention should be given to children, older people, pregnant and lactating women, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, and households with damaged homes. Clear communication is also needed to reinforce that while the tsunami warning has ended, earthquake and aftershock risks remain. Road clearance and restoration of access are also required where rockfalls, landslides, and debris have affected access to communities and essential facilities.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	X
Appeal (<i>intended for large scale emergencies</i>)	

5. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

The ACT Indonesia Forum is monitoring the situation closely and coordinating with relevant stakeholders to assess emerging humanitarian needs and response gaps. The Forum is considering submitting an RRF based on the outcome of ongoing assessments.

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
PELKESI	Nagekeo Regency, East Manggarai Regency	Health, MHPSS
YAKKUM Emergency Unit - YEU	Nagekeo Regency, East Manggarai Regency,	Shelter, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Protection
YCWS – Yayasan Sita Wadah Swadaya	Ende Regency	WASH, Shelter, Cash
YMBM - Maha Bhoga Marga Foundation	Manggarai Regency (Ruteng), West Flores	Health, MHPSS

6. Potential responses

Based on the initial information available and the medium-scale classification of the emergency with potential to escalate pending further verification, the ACT Indonesia Forum may consider submitting a Rapid Response Fund request to support life-saving and essential assistance for the most affected and underserved communities for emergency response for about 5-6 months.

Potential response may include:

- a. Health and referral support
Support access to essential health services for injured people and at-risk groups, including children, older people, pregnant and lactating women, persons with disabilities, and people with pre-existing medical conditions. Support may include emergency health services, essential medicines and supplies, and referral assistance for cases requiring further treatment.
- b. Community-based Psychosocial Support (PSS) and Protection
Provide community-based PSS to address fear, stress, and distress related to the earthquake, evacuation, and continued aftershocks. Support should prioritize children, older people, injured individuals, and other at-risk groups. Protection measures should also be integrated to ensure safe and equitable access to assistance.
- c. Food and basic needs assistance
Provide short-term food assistance and essential household support to affected families while further assessments and initial recovery efforts continue. Assistance may include food packages and nutrition-sensitive support, particularly for at-risk groups.
- d. Emergency Shelter and NFIs
Provide emergency shelter materials and essential non-food items to households whose homes have been moderately or severely damaged and to families staying in temporary shelters, open spaces, or with relatives. Potential assistance may include tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, family kits, lighting, and other essential household items.
- e. WASH support
Support access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services for affected communities, particularly in areas where water supply systems have been damaged or disrupted. Potential assistance may include emergency water supply, water containers, hygiene kits, cleaning materials, and hygiene promotion.