

Volcanic Activity, Mount Soputan, North Sulawesi Province, Republic of Indonesia, Update No.1

Date of Incident

Tuesday, 14 August 2007, 05:30 local time (GMT+8)

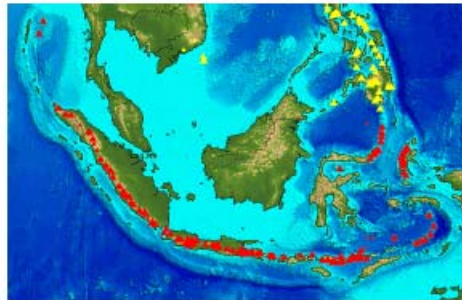
General Information



The small Soputan stratovolcano on the southern rim of the Quaternary Tondano caldera on the northern arm of Sulawesi Island is one of Sulawesi's most active volcanoes. The youthful, largely unvegetated volcano rises to 1,784 m and is located SW of Sempu volcano. It was constructed at the southern end of a SSW-NNE trending line of vents. During historical time the locus of eruptions has included both the summit crater and Aeseput, a prominent NE-flank vent that formed in 1906 and was the source of intermittent major lava flows until 1924.

Location

Mt Soputan is located between Minahasa and Minahasa Tenggara districts, North Sulawesi Province.



Situation

As of 14 August

Official reported that Mt. Soputan showed signs of increased activities and continued to spew ash. The mountain still showed activity until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday and spewed hot lava afterwards. The 1,783-meter-high volcano mountain began producing hot cloud and ash at 5.30 Tuesday morning. No casualty and damage reported.





On 15 August 2007

Mount Soputan showed signs of decreased activity after it belched out ashes from its crater. The Mount Soputan observatory post stated that since early Wednesday the tremor amplitude was only 0.5-1 mm compared to 35 mm on 14 August.

Level of Alertness

The local administration has put the mountain and its immediate surroundings in level-3 (Orange) status (SIAGA) and asked people living on the slopes of the volcano to keep a close watch on the mountain activity.

Alert level code

Stages	Name	Code	Criteria	Interpretation
1	Aktif Normal		Monitoring of visual, seismicity and other volcanic event do not indicate changes.	No eruption in foreseeable future.
2	Waspada		Increasing activity of seismicity and other volcanic events, and visual changes around the crater.	Magmatic, tectonic or hydrothermal disturbance, no eruption imminent.
3	Siaga		Intensively increasing of seismicity with supported by other volcanic monitoring, obvious changes of visual observation and crater. Based on observation data analysis, the activity will be followed by main eruption.	If trend of increasing unrest continues, eruption possible within 2 weeks.
4	Awas		Following the main eruption, the initial eruption begins to occur as ash and vapor. Based on observation data analysis, the activity will be followed by main eruption.	Eruption possible within 24 hours.

Vulnerable Population

Total number of vulnerable population is 85,976 people from 6 sub-districts.

Casualty and Damage

Up to date, there is no casualty and damage reported.

IDPs

Communities living near volcano is closely monitoring the situation are on alert level 3 and no one has been evacuated as yet.

MoH – WHO Indonesia Action

- Regional Crisis Centre North Sulawesi has distributed 500 masks.
- WHO Indonesia in close coordination with the Ministry of Health is on alert while closely monitoring the situation and ready to provide emergency support needed base on the rapid assessment team request.

Important Contacts

Name	Designation	Organization	Phone	Fax	E-mail
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Source of Information from Indonesia

Information is gathered from the following sources. This report is for reference only and should not be quoted as factual accuracy can change.

1. WHO
2. Crisis Center (PPK), MoH
3. UN System
4. BAKORNAS
5. Local and international news media