Hot Mud Flood, Sidoarjo, East Java

**Highlight**

- The number of IDPs has increased to an estimated 8384 people after an emergency pond the firm erected to contain the mud collapsed on Wednesday, 16 August 2006.
- The disaster caused 4 deaths and at least 23 000 people have been treated at local hospitals for breathing difficulties, severe headaches and stomach pain after inhaling sulfurous gases arising from the mud.
- The mud now covers an estimated 190 hectares of land in the area.

**Background**

Gas and mud continues to spew out of cracks (around 2743m depth) everyday at Banjarpanji-1, natural gas well owned by oil and gas firm Lapindo Brantas Incorporated in Porong Sub-district, Sidoarjo Regency, East Java Province. The hot mudflow was first spotted on 29 May 2006 at 04:30 local time. It caused sulfurous mud to overflow and bury the surrounding paddy fields, five villages and the Surabaya-Malang toll road.

**Place**

Sidoarjo District, East Java Province.

Map of East Java: the star shows the location of the hot mud flood. Sidoarjo District can be reached in 30 – 45 minutes by car from Surabaya.
Current Situation

- So far the mudflow has caused four fatalities and hospitalized nearly 25,000 people, most of them suffer from respiratory obstruction. The mud has also displaced more than 900 villagers and cut the major highway and railway links to Surabaya.

- The mud has now covered about 190 ha of land, which includes the four villages, paddy fields and sugarcane plantations as well as part of the Sidoarjo highway south of Surabaya, the country's second-largest city. In some areas the sludge is 6 m deep.

Below is the official patient data updated 17 August 2006:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>In-patient</th>
<th>Out-patient</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>464</td>
<td>24,761</td>
<td>17 patients are still under treatment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internally Displace Persons (IDPs)

- The number of IDPs has increased to an estimated 11,000 people after two emergency ponds the firm erected to contain the mud collapsed on Wednesday, 16 August 2006.

- Jatianom is only one kilometer from the first pond that collapsed. Thousands of houses were inundated with mud which reached as high as the roof in a number of them. At least 2000 people took refuge at Pasar Baru Porong market, increasing the number of IDPs staying in that market. Most of them had already taken refuge there a few days before the incident. Only around 50 people decided to remain in their homes during the incident, making the evacuation easier.

- Each displaced family will be offered 2.5 million rupiah a year to rent a house while the company settles the mud-flow problem and repairs the damage to their homes.

Below is the total number of IDPs as of 17 August 2006 based on the official report from Sidoarjo DHO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pasar Baru Porong</td>
<td>2168</td>
<td>8348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Renokenongo Village Hall</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rent House/House of Relatives</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2491</td>
<td>9581</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Problems encountered and needs

- Emergency relief operations, food, water and shelter are the main concerns.
- Masks are needed.
- Water and sanitation.
- Wednesday, 16 August 2006, hundreds of people from three affected villages: Siring, Jatirejo and Renokenongo, staged a rowdy demonstration by blocking the main Porong road and the railway line linking Surabaya and the eastern parts of East Java. They demanded compensation for their properties submerged by the hot mud. Lapindo agreed and said it would appoint another firm to handle the technicalities.
Government Action
- President Bambang Susilo Yudhoyono visited the market on Friday, 11 August, and asked the residents to remain patient.
- Sidoarjo Regent said if the mudflow could not be stopped in the next three months, the affected residents would be permanently relocated.
- The government has given a go ahead for water extracted from the sludge to be dumped in the Madura Strait. The water would be treated first rendering it harmless to the environment. PT Lapindo Brantas will bear all the costs needed for this project.

MOH Action
DHO Sidoarjo has opened 11 medical posts: 6 in-building medical posts, 5 out-building medical posts. Ambulances (118) from Dr.Sutomo Hospital are on stand by and ready if needed. Masks were already distributed to the IDPs.

WHO Indonesia Action
WHO Indonesia country office is in close communication with MOH in monitoring the situation.

Status of International Aid
So far the government has not officially requested any international aid. The local authorities, with support from central government and ministries, so far are trying their best to manage the situation.

Contact people in Indonesia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Rustam S. Pakaya, MPH</td>
<td>Head of Department</td>
<td>Crisis Center (PPK) MOH</td>
<td>021-5265043 08129602324</td>
<td>0215271111</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ppkdepkes@yahoo.com">ppkdepkes@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kyaw Win (Vijay Nath)</td>
<td>Medical Officer</td>
<td>EHA, WHO</td>
<td>021-5204349 0811933821</td>
<td>0215201164</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wink@who.or.id">wink@who.or.id</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. UN system
3. Crisis Center (PPK), MOH
4. Local and international news media.