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Evacuation Planning in Tanjung Benoa: Successful Cooperation between Communities and the Private Sector

THE INITIATIVE

Tanjung Benoa, a small village located on the northern tip of the Nusa Dua peninsula in Bali, is setting an example by developing procedures for tsunami evacuation in cooperation with the neighboring hotel sector.

For some time now, community leaders and local hotels have been concerned about how to deal with the evacuation of local residents and hotel guests in the event of a tsunami warning or emergency.

The Tanjung Benoa peninsula is flat and sandy. Its only main road is small and badly maintained. In the event of an emergency, the population would not be able to reach higher ground in time. The only viable option is a vertical evacuation into existing buildings. However, the majority of buildings, which are strong and high enough to provide a vertical evacuation shelter, are the neighboring hotels.

Community leaders expected the hotels to open their doors to the local population in case of emergency. However, the demands and needs of the locals were never officially discussed with the hotel community, or vice versa.

The Bali Hotels Association (BHA), with the support of a CIM Expert from the Indonesian Ministry of Culture and Tourism, had trained the hotel sector to prepare for a tsunami. The hotels agreed, in principle, to provide shelter for the neighboring communities, but were worried that they would not be able to accommodate all evacuees due to the limited space on the upper floors. There was also concern about possible chaos, crowd control and damage to assets and property caused by masses of people seeking shelter in their buildings.

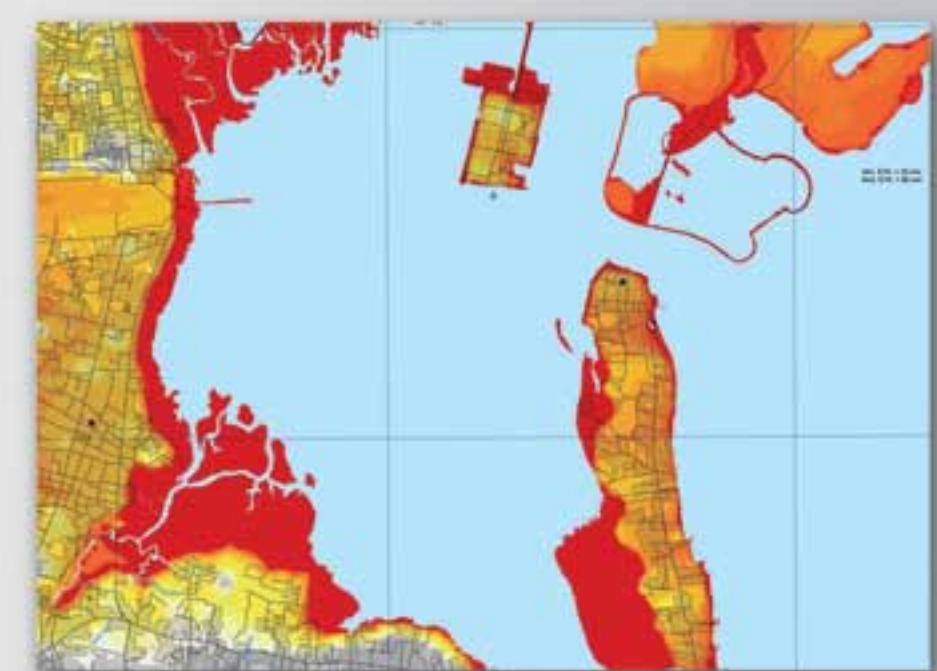
When the GTZ IS-GITEWS team offered to facilitate a dialogue between the community and the hotel sector, and to support the stakeholders in developing a local evacuation plan, both parties quickly realized the mutual benefits of this kind of initiative and decided to participate.

THE GOAL

The hotel sector provides temporary evacuation shelter for the community at risk. Both parties agree on clear procedures for temporary evacuation during tsunami warnings and emergencies.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

During the first meeting, the GTZ IS team provided basic information about the tsunami hazard in southern Bali, and information on early warning procedures.



Palang
Merah
Indonesia



Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Republic of Indonesia



Centre for International
Migration and Development
a joint operation of GTZ and the
German Federal Employment Agency

Then, all relevant data was compiled: the potential tsunami affected areas, the number of people to be evacuated, the hotels suitable and ready for vertical evacuation and their capacity to accommodate evacuees. Based on this data, suitable evacuation space within the hotels was assigned to the Banjar (traditional sub-village units) of Tanjung Benoa.

For the next step, the stakeholders formulated and agreed upon a series of simple evacuation procedures for the community. It was agreed that the sounding of the BMKG siren installed in the village would be the official trigger for evacuation to the hotels.

The arrangements and procedures between the hotel sector and the Banjar have been condensed and visualized on a map, and socialized within the community and hotel sector.

Further agreements were made to:

- Establish contact persons within the hotels and the Banjar to ensure effective communication and coordinated task forces to attend to the needs of the community and hotels in emergency situations.
- Define internal procedures and train hotel staff and the community on their individual tasks and rights.
- Socialize and practice the procedures within the participating hotels and communities.

All agreements were formalized by the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the two parties.

The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI), the Bali Hotels Association (BHA), the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ IS) and the Centre for International Migration (CIM) supported the initiative.

LESSON LEARNT & POTENTIAL FOR REPLICATION

Cooperation between communities and local tourist hotels, which open their doors to provide tsunami evacuation shelters, can be an effective option for coastal tourism areas around the world. The dialogue process in Tanjung Benoa, and the resulting partnerships and procedures, can serve as a model for other tourism areas, especially in southern Bali.

Procedures for Tsunami Evacuation in Tanjung Benoa

The following procedures have been agreed upon between representatives from Tanjung Benoa and adjacent hotels to facilitate temporary evacuation before and during tsunami events in southern Bali:

- 1. Get prepared - long before something happens**
 - Study the evacuation plan and get familiar with the evacuation procedures
 - Discuss procedures within your family and neighborhood
 - Participate in drills and information events
 - 2. If you feel an earthquake - protect yourself**
 - Don't panic!
 - Drop, cover and hold!
 - 3. After an earthquake, be aware that a tsunami may follow**
 - Don't wait for an official warning. Leave the beach immediately as a measure of precaution!
 - Prepare yourself for an imminent evacuation!
 - Listen to the radio for further information and pay attention to the siren!
 - 4. The sound of the siren is the official call for evacuation**
 - When the siren sounds, go directly to the hotel that has been assigned as shelter area for your Banjar
 - Hotel staff will be ready to receive people from the Banjar assigned to the hotel
 - Follow the instructions of hotel staff – they will guide you to the shelter areas
- After the first tsunami wave, more waves are likely to come!**
Wait for an "All Clear" message before leaving shelter

Pay attention to natural warning signs

- If the water retreats quicker and further than during normal tides, a tsunami is imminent to strike
- A strong wind or a roaring sound may be observed prior to the arrival of tsunami waves

If you observe any of these signs, look for shelter immediately!

Get familiar with safety rules for earthquakes and tsunamis.
For further information please contact the Lurah office or the local SIBAT Team.



Evacuation Map and Procedures for Tanjung Benoa, Bali

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