The “3 Langkah Tanggap Tsunami” Concept
Explaining InaTEWS Tsunami Warning Services to the public

Background
The chances to survive a tsunami depend very much on the capacities of the affected people to quickly assess the situation and take the right decisions and actions in an emergency. Being able to access and properly understand tsunami warnings can be decisive in such situations.

In Indonesia tsunami warnings are provided by the Indonesian Tsunami Early Warning System (InaTEWS). The Indonesian Meteorological, Climatological and Geophysical Agency (BMKG) operates the National Tsunami Warning Centre and is in charge of the timely dissemination of tsunami warnings to interface institutions and the public media in the country.

In 2011 a new warning scheme was launched. The new scheme includes the provision of three different warning levels which are in accordance with the predicted level of threat for each of the affected areas.

The Concept
To inform the public on the new tsunami warning scheme and to improve public understanding how to react in an appropriate way a set of information materials was developed. The idea was to keep it short and simple, providing just the basic and essential information in a self-explanatory and easy to remember way as a quick reference for the public in general.

Working with a communication agency, the “3 Langkah Tanggap Tsunami” concept was developed. The concept is based on a 3 step approach how to respond to a tsunami threat by explaining basic earthquake, warning and evacuation procedures.

The “Tanggap Gempa” message raises awareness on the possibility that a strong or long lasting earthquake might be followed by a tsunami. Thus, in such case, people are advised to move away from the coast and riverbanks and look for further information.

“Tanggap Peringatan” informs that tsunami warnings from BMKG can be accessed via public media and how to read them properly. Furthermore it explains about the three warning levels and what reaction is expected in each case. It also emphasises that people should be alert for local public announcements and that the sounding of a siren is a call for immediate evacuation.

The “Tanggap Evakuasi” message reminds people in coastal areas to evacuate immediately once experiencing a strong or long lasting earthquake. It also provides
To facilitate extensive dissemination of the “3 Langkah Tanggap Tsunami" concept, a variety of products have been developed which can be used for public information activities or campaigning:

The core product is an A5 Leaflet, which explains the procedures and offers some additional background information. It includes a visualization of a TV screen with a BMKG tsunami warning, explaining the different features of the warning message. The leaflet can be used as a stand-alone product as it is designed to provide all relevant information in a self-explanatory way.

Other formats like Poster, Banner or Calendar only display key messages and are considered complementary products. T-Shirts and Sticker can play a role as advertising media to keep the “3 Langkah Tanggap Tsunami" concept in the public awareness.

Acknowledgement

The “3 Langkah Tanggap Tsunami” Concept was developed in collaboration with PT Kreatif Senterindo based on inputs from BMKG, LIPI, UNESCO and PROTECTS and consulted with BNPB, KOMINFO and KEMENDAGRI.