



# NDYS in Action, Newsletter

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## LET'S EXCHANGE IDEAS IN THE WORLD!

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NDYS Youth Editors



# New generation, good policy

The effort of these people has contributed in an important part to their society. Here is the article coming from Indonesia in which is described how to develop children's interest in mitigation of natural disasters. Their parents and teachers were all encouraging them. This is a really good example for other societies to follow.



Youth service for Natural Disaster preparedness in Padang, Indonesia



On February 3rd 2008, was marked with a beneficial event in Padang, Indonesia. The students from SMA 1 Padang (Senior Secondary School), as well as a schoolteacher, organized a community service. This service intended to improve the preparedness of the students in facing the natural disasters like earth quake and tsunami. This service primarily focused on distributing pamphlets that can give contribution in increasing the people knowledge especially the students related with the ways that can be implemented to reduce the number of victims if natural disasters occur in the future. In addition, the volunteers also trained the elementary school students in arranging safety maps containing the school sketch, escape areas and routes that can lead them to the safe places. Each participants successfully participate in the activities.

This event took place at Baitul Rahman Institution, exactly at the elementary schools. In this event, there were about fifteen students from SMA 1 Padang joined as volunteers. They went to this institution to conduct several activities related with the preparedness in facing Natural disasters. At this institution, there are three elementary schools Fifty children attended this event, accompanied by their teachers.

Firstly, the volunteers distributed pamphlets to the elementary schools students containing the information about earthquake and tsunami to the elementary students. These pamphlets were designed by the volunteers from SMA 1 Padang, under guidance of the schoolteachers. The volunteers divided the children into several groups, and then they explained several things that can be done to anticipate the natural disasters, especially earthquake and tsunami. The elementary students were delighted listening to the information presented by the volunteers and they actively asked them several questions. The children enthusiastically acquired knowledge regarding the preparedness improvement in facing natural disasters such as earthquake and tsunami.

Next, After distributing several pamphlets the volunteers from SMA 1 Padang trained the children in making safety maps. In this activity, the children worked nimbly in their groups with the things and tools provided by the volunteers in making safety maps. In finishing their works, the children shared their job, with the help of the volunteers.

In organizing this project, the volunteers had prepared everything needed since the first week of January 2008. They shared the jobs to be handled assisted by the teachers, in order to they could conduct this community service successfully.

This service provided the volunteers a sense of solidarity with the children, and an appreciation for the importance of improving children preparedness in facing the natural disasters. Similarly, this activity can add the sense of awareness among youth, particularly with something dealt with their own surroundings. Furthermore, this community service can recruit any self-motivating, success oriented, and hard working generation that can be harnessed in progressing a country.

In short, energetic, wonderful, and lovely iEARNers from Padang enjoyed this meaningful



*Reported by: Wiwi Rosaria*

PICTURE 1



The volunteers distributed pamphlets containing the information about earthquake and tsunami to the elementary students, and they explained several things that can be done to anticipate the natural disasters, especially earthquake and tsunami.

PICTURE 2



The elementary students were coloring the corks as one of the things needed in making safety map, under the guidance of volunteers from SMA 1 Padang.



PICTURE 3

The volunteers trained the children in making safety map



PICTURE 4

The volunteers were interacting with the children. They also had a game, quiz, and the winners got a prize.

PICTURE 5



After finishing creating the safety maps, the students took pictures with the volunteers from SMA 1 Padang.



### Topics

#### Natural Disasters and Disaster Reduction

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# Cyclone and disaster in Africa

Ivan cyclone has caused lots of damage in the northeastern of Madagascar coast last week, with winds of up to 210km per hour it caused landfall. It took two days to see that it was diminishing its strength. The human losses have climbed to 28 and the authorities fear this will get worse.



Ivan goes through Madagascar.

# Flood in Asia

From the 34 cities of Afghanistan, 21 are expected to be damaged by the spring floods. These floods killed dozens of people and damaged lots of houses last year.

The Afghan Government and UN started running a plan which consists on sending Gabion Boxes to 21 cities. These Gabions are cages, cylinders, boxes or “mattresses”, (often made of heavy-duty wire mesh or netting) filled with earth or sand that are commonly used to stabilize shores against erosion. They plan to send 62,500 gabion boxes of which 6,500 reached their destination. Gabion boxes will be used to create resistance walls across and/or near to riverbanks and other risky locations to prevent flooding. They will be sent by trucks to provinces and filled with earth or sand on site.

Food has also been sent to these vulnerable zones. The Afghan government plans to continue sending food till May when this season stops. The Ministry of Public Health said adequate measures would be taken to prevent any outbreak of seasonal diseases such as diarrhea during the flood season.

Despite preparations by aid agencies and the Afghan government to mitigate the impacts of winter disasters, over 1,000 people died due to cold weather and diseases in the past three months. Officials said there was uncertainty about the severity, timing and exact location of spring floods, which complicated their preparation efforts.



Diseases such as diarrhea are expected to attack people during this season.



*"Communication saves*



**Comments:** People continue dealing with their problems against Nature, but it has better result if we all work together. There will may be ruined houses or human loses but if we work like that everything will turn in a good way to our side. The decision is on us. Let's start now, maybe tomorrow can be late.

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