Final Report on an Action Plan to Improve Tsunami Countermeasures in Indonesia Development of Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center at Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia: A project on Tsunami Disaster Information System

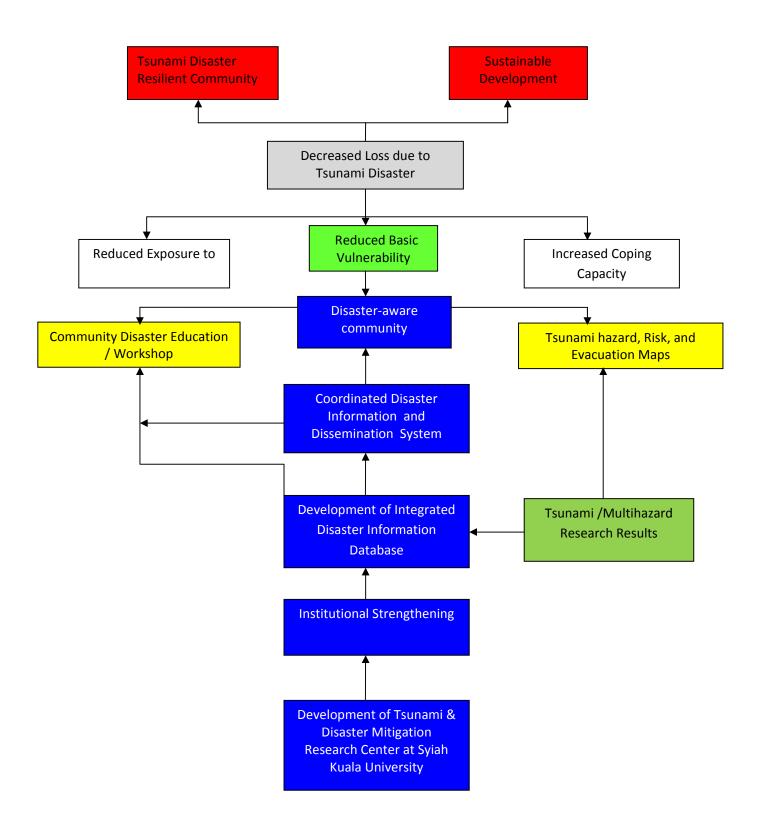
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One of the more serious factors contributing to the vulnerability of the people towards tsunami in the tsunami-prone areas is the lack of disaster information and its dissemination as well as people's awareness on the need for such information in order to minimize the risks of the disasters. This results in commonly high casualty rates in times of disasters where people often get caught by surprise and unprepared. The aim of the dissemination of disaster information is to educate people about measures that need to be taken in order to minimize the risks of a disaster. To achieve this goal, an effective information dissemination system should be devised.

The Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center (TDMRC) located at Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia was established in 2006 in response to the challenges associated with the 2004 tsunami impacts and the potential future geohazards in the western part of Indonesia, Sumatra Island in particular, due to the active volcanic and tectonic activities of the region. One of the core objectives of the Research Center is serving as the center of excellence in disaster information dissemination, datasharing, and data clearinghouse with a special emphasis on tsunami disaster. It is indeed a very crucial role in the tsunami and multihazard countermeasure initiatives.

Upon the completion of the training, I will begin with the assessment of the current resources that the TDMRC has and will proceed with the institutional strengthening phase which includes staff capacity building, supporting infrastructure development, and external linkage establishment. The development of a disaster information database using currently available data while allowing feedback from simultaneously conducted research will help in the creation of a coordinated disaster information system. At this stage, disaster information can be provided in the form of hazard, risk, and evacuation maps, and other disaster-relevant information. A web-based disaster information system using Information and Communication Technology will also be developed. Upon the completion of the system, community workshops and seminars will be conducted to socialize the disaster information system while at the same time generating feedback from the community for evaluation and improvement of the system. This socialization activity will also include a module for a disaster education program to be conducted at local schools. It is hoped that through this effort, losses due to tsunami disaster can be reduced.

Objective Analysis Tree



Development of the Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center (TDMRC) as the center of excellence at Syiah Kuala University	Number of qualified staff, improved infrastructure, availability of hazard maps	Improved staff & infrastructure, established disaster information database	Fully running disaster information datasharing / clearinghouse
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Activities	In ch	arge	1st year	2nd Year	3rd Year
1. Institutional Strengthening 1.1. HRD / Staff Capacity Building 1.2. Infrastructure Development 1.3. Establish links to governmental, local, national, and international disaster management agencies	Prov. UNDP	Gov't BRR			
2. Development of integrated Disaster Information Database 2.1. Development of geohazard maps 2.2. Development of disaster information data sharing / clearing house system. 2.3. Socialization / Community workshops	TDMRC	Unsyiah			
3. Development of multihazard research programs and tools 3.1. Definition of research areas 3.2. Procurement of research tools 3.3. Research implementation 3.4. Research results dissemination					

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1. Personnel			
2. Equipment & Material			
3. Budget			