

SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATIONS ABOUT TSUNAMI



A Tsunami is a series of intense waves that are triggered by the shifting of the sea floor from an earthquake. It's not just the first wave that is dangerous, but also the waves that usually follow. ***Tsunamis can happen at any time, during the wet or the dry season, in the daytime or at night.***

What should you do if a tsunami happens?

Immediately move to a safe area, move to higher ground, and as far away as possible from the coast. Stay away from rivers, Tsunamis can travel a long way up rivers that go to the sea. If you can't run to higher ground, hold onto a tree to avoid being swept away, keep your eyes on the coming waves, and do your best to avoid debris that the wave may be carrying as they come in and also as they recede back out. Remain hanging onto the tree until the Tsunami is completely over.

Reducing the risks and impacts of a Tsunami

- **Avoid living in flat coastal areas,** less than 10m above sea level. These areas suffer the most damage from Tsunamis, storms and cyclones.
- **Plant trees along the coast that can protect you from waves,** including various mangrove species, palms, baringtonia asiatica, hibiscus, banyan and other coast-loving trees.



The risk of Tsunami in the Mentawai Islands

Scientific research doesn't and can't predict the day, month, or year that a Tsunami will occur. If there are any predictions or forecasts of an impending earthquake at a particular time, this information is NOT TRUE, and it is certainly not from a competent expert.

Research shows that earthquakes and Tsunami can indeed happen between the areas of Batu and Pagai Islands sometime in the future, as well as along the coastline of West Sumatera. But it cannot be determined exactly when the earthquake will happen.

This means, the younger generations now living in West Sumatera, are likely to experience that earthquake. There are many actions that should be done now and in the future, to reduce the loss of lives and property.

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Remember! No one can predict when an earthquake will happen!