

DISASTER AID INTERNATIONAL
PALU, INDONESIA REPORT

Our Disaster Aid Response Team (DART) arrived in Bali, Indonesia on Friday November 23 and was able to clear Customs after showing the Memorandum of Understanding we have with PMI (Indonesian Red Cross) and explaining the purpose of our project. Tools and some fittings for installation and teaching were purchased in Bali as the Indonesian government had directed all equipment to be sourced from local suppliers.

The devastation of the September earthquake is visible in every street of Palu. It is estimated that in the areas visited so far that 40% of buildings are damaged or have collapsed and there is rubble everywhere.

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Accommodation was secured at the same hotel as representatives of the Australian, Turkish and Italian Red Cross. They are very supportive and have helped with valuable information to help get things started.

Met the head of the Palu PMI and visited one of the camps they have constructed and manage. He is very enthusiastic about DAI's water filters being installed in ten of the PMI evacuee camps.

Tomorrow, Monday November 26, it is intended to inspect some of the proposed locations for our water filters. Understanding the key details of camp populations, existing water source and quality, along with residents being able to manage the filters once commissioned are priorities of the assessment .

NOVEMBER 27, 2018

Today was not as productive as hoped. Arrangements made with Palu PMI to escort us to some of the evacuee camps to perform filter assessments failed - an assistant from Palu PMI did not arrive. Instead, a visit into the town to find plumbing supply shops was undertaken. There are several stores that retail pipes, hose, fittings and various size tanks. PMI have promised to take us to the camps tomorrow.

NOVEMBER 28, 2018

We had arranged to meet the head of the Palu PMI today but on arrival at Garuda PMI Camp he was not onsite. We had a telephone discussion where he explained they still wanted our water filters and there is an expectation from the Government for us to supply. It was explained that our filters require a water source to operate, something not fully understood previously understood by Palu PMI.

The current water filtration and delivery measures in place at the eight PMI camps that DAI initially identified as requiring our water filters are operating well and don't need our devices.

We were advised that these systems are to continue for the life of the Evacuee and Transition camps.

In a later meeting with the Shelter Delegate of the German Red Cross, two other locations that may require water filters were suggested. An assessment at Tipo Camp, 20 minutes from Palu revealed more of the same. Clean water from the PMI Wash camp is delivered daily to a couple of 2,200 litre tanks but it's only used for laundry and bathing.

A small truck arrives daily with a small filtration unit to fill their water bottles. They have safe drinking water and in adequate amounts, but the laundry tanks often run out. We will take advice about providing some additional tanks to the camp.

Tomorrow it is intended to visit Tompe village, about 2 hours north of Palu. There is a hospital under construction there which will be assessed for water needs.

NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Met the head of office this afternoon. Following the recent camp inspections, we have agreed the water supply strategies PMI have in place meets the needs of the evacuee camps. These 8 camps were earlier identified to receive SkyHydrants, but we agreed that the original plan for SkyHydrants at these camps is no longer needed. Palu PMI will arrange a meeting tomorrow involving the Indonesian Disaster Agency and Palu Public Water Office. They intend to deliver a proposal that would potentially have our SkyHydrants supply water in public areas where people remain in their homes.

Palu PMI has committed to supply additional water supply tanks at the Tipo camp after we identified that they run out of Wash Camp water almost daily.

We met some people who work at an orphanage in Palu that has 60 children residing there. The manager explained that they don't have a water supply following the earthquake. We arranged for a plumber to inspect and later in the day PMI and I visited the orphanage. The buildings are badly damaged, but the children continue to live there as there is no alternative available. A new well is required, and we have arranged for that to happen tomorrow, but they don't need a water filter. We will revisit later to check progress.

Palu PMI has shown interest in the tents we have stored in Palu and further discussions about placing them are planned.

NOVEMBER 30, 2018

Had a late meeting with Palu PMI and Palu Public Water Board. Palu Public Water Board has asked to receive our filters. They want to locate them around Palu City to service people who remain at home but have lost their water supply. This proposal will be a joint arrangement under the auspices of the BNPB and PMI. BNPB is a Government agency overseeing public agencies that are delivering public services. We discussed the possibility of the proposal and meeting is set for tomorrow morning with BNPB.

Palu PMI have advised that they can place our tents and survival kits and will provide staff to be trained to assist with the rollout. Locations will be advised over the next few days.