

Thailand Tsunami Situation Report

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1. Key Issues:

- WHO has pledged 2 million US dollars to support Thailand's Tsunami rehabilitation efforts
- WHO, IOM, UNICEF and MOPH conducted assessment on the situation of migrant workers and will soon release a joint report
- Recovery and reconstruction is proceeding rapidly
- Disease surveillance reported no significant outbreaks of GI and respiratory infection such as cholera, measles, influenza or encephalitis.

2. Situation Update:

Province	Reported Missing	DEAD				Injured			
		Thai	Foreign	Unknown	Total	Thai	Foreign	Unknown	Total
Phang Nga	1,768	1,219	1,633	1,372	4,224	4,344	1,253	0	5,597
Krabi	604	357	203	161	721	808	568	0	1,376
Phuket	642	151	111	17	279	591	520	0	1,111
Ranong	9	156	4	0	160	215	31	0	246
Trang	1	3	2	0	5	92	20	0	112
Satun	0	6	0	0	6	15	0	0	15
TOTAL	3,024	1,892	1,953	1,550	5,395	6,065	2,392	0	8,457

Source: Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DPM), Ministry of Interior (as of 9-2-05)

- Count on DEATHS are based on the number of bodies recovered
- Count on INJURED are based on the number of people rescued, treated at hospitals, and this includes people discharged from hospitals.
- Count on MISSING are based on the number of people reported missing to the officials.
- NOTE: There are a number of bodies recovered but unidentified, which may overlap with the number of people reported missing.

3. Health Status and Trend:

The disease surveillance activities have been handed over to provincial health authorities – the routine works are getting back in place. The Bureau of Epidemiology and the Surveillance and Rapid Response Team will continue to monitor the surveillance results from afar and respond immediate if any outbreak is identified.

3.1 Disease Surveillance :

Between 1-7 February 2005, The Bureau of Epidemiology, Ministry of Public Health investigated 348 cases, of which 303 suffered from diarrhoea (152 in Phuket, 118 in Phang Nga, 32 in Krabi and 1 in Ranong); 8 suffered from malaria and 6 suffered from food poisoning.

No significant outbreaks of gastro intestinal or respiratory infection such as cholera, measles, influenza, encephalitis was detected.

3.2 Mental Health:

Summary Report of Mental Health Services for Tsunami Victims
The Mental Health Center (MHC) for Thai Tsunami Disaster (Source: Mental Health Department) <http://www.dmh.go.th/english/>

3.2.1 Cumulative Reports on 4 January - 8 February, 2005

No.	Province	No. of Services	Types of Services					Comments
			Psychiatric Drugs	Counseling		Medical Treatment	Referral	
				Group	Individual			
1.	Krabi	1921	551	830	966	423	56	
2.	Phang Nga	5067	1154	2108	2409	430	33	
3.	Phuket	1328	212	448	786	111	45	
4.	Ranong	949	74	137	641	23	27	
5.	Satun	682	35	34	130	398	5	
6.	Trang	175	0	39	126	28	3	
Sum :		10,122	2,026	3,596	5,058	1,413	169	
Sum All :		11,933	2,026	3,596	5,058	1,413	169	

Comments :

- One patient may receive more than one service and more than one time.

4. Recent WHO actions:

- RD visited tsunami affected areas in Southern Thailand (Phang Nga and Phuket provinces) between 8-9 February 2005. WHO has pledged support of 2 million US dollars for the disaster rehabilitation in areas of capacity building, research, trainings in
 - Forensic science
 - Architectural engineering aspects of building hospitals and other public health infrastructure in disaster prone areas
 - Mental health training, particularly in relation to long term psychological effects of disaster on children
 - Capacity building on disease surveillance

- WHO, IOM, UNICEF and MOPH conducted an assessment on the situation of migrants, and will soon issue a joint report.

5. Key actions by Government/NGOs:

- The country is in the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase. The government is looking into construction of permanent shelter for persons displaced by the tsunami who do not want to return to their localities. Compensation is being worked out for residents who wish to return to their localities.
- Body identification activities are ongoing – have been handed over from the emergency group led by Ministry of Justice Forensic Institute to the Thai Police and Disaster Victims Identification (DVI), which is coordinated by Interpol. Some 1,500 corpses of foreigners have been moved from Wat Yan Yao temporary morgue in Phang Nga Province to Mai Khao Cemetery in Phuket. Unidentified bodies of presumed Thai nationals remain at the temporary morgues in Phang Nga and Krabi.

6. Key action by country UN agencies:

- Former US presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton are due to visit tsunami affected areas in Southern Thailand next week.

7. Media Report:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has praised Thailand for its medical relief operation during the tsunami tragedy. Thailand's relief operations, the identification of bodies, and the physical and mental support provided to victims of the 26 December tsunamis were praised during a recent meeting between WHO and the Thai government, according to government officials. The experience gained during the catastrophe is invaluable and should be shared with other nations to help create better preparedness for unprecedented natural disasters, the Permanent Secretary for Public Health, Dr. Vichai Tienthavorn, told TNA. WHO plans to provide two million dollars to fund the study and development of a disaster relief management blue print based on Thailand's recent experience. The organisation plans to work with the Thai health ministry to gather information and experiences to share internationally. The WHO plans to send experts to work with local health officials in affected areas. The Thai government is scheduled to hold a national conference of government agencies and individuals involved in the relief and rescue operations. Issues to be considered by the conference include man power management, the distribution of medicines, the treatment of the physically and mentally injured, the provision of clean water and the handling of the corpses. The massive tsunami waves hit Thailand's coasts along the Andaman Sea, killing more than 5,000 people. More than 3,000 are still missing. (Thai News Agency, 8-2-05)
<http://etna.mcot.net/query.php?nid=35600>

8. Contact Persons:

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