Indonesia is composed of 17,583 islands and home to 245 million people (2007), the fourth largest population in the world. The islands lie on the edges of the Pacific, Eurasian and Australian tectonic plates, making them the site of recurrent seismic activity including earthquakes and associated tsunamis causing displacement and destruction to the population of Indonesia.¹

26 Dec 2004: Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD)
More than 125,000 estimated to be killed in NAD after a 9.0-magnitude earthquake, which triggered tsunamis up to 10 metres high. An estimated 750,000 people required humanitarian assistance. Flash appeal launched for US$396,890,823.³

27 May 2006: Yogyakarta
5,744 killed, 45,000 injured, over 350,000 houses destroyed and 278,000 suffered lesser damage after a 6.3-magnitude quake in Central Java. In total 2.7 million affected, of them 1.5 million homeless. Flash appeal launched for US$80,111,735.⁴

17 July 2006: Jawa Barat/Jawa Tengah
650 killed and 6,672 displaced after a 7.7-magnitude quake struck Java followed by a 1.8-metre tsunami.¹

12-13 Sep 2007: Bengkulu, Sumatera Barat and Jambi
25 killed and 56,000 houses damaged in Bengkulu West Sumatera Barat and Jambi after a 8.5-magnitude quake off the southwestern coast of Sumatera on 12 Sep and subsequent quakes in Sumatera Barat and Jambi on 13 Sep.⁶

17 Nov 2008: Gorontalo
4 people killed , 800 houses destroyed after a 7.4-magnitude quake in Gorontalo, in Sulawesi Tengah, Humanitarian response led by provincial and national government.⁷

26 Nov 2007: Sumbawa
3 killed, 200 injured and over 7,000 houses damaged after a 6.5-magnitude quake in Nusa Tenggara Barat. Emergency response efforts by local government.⁸

2 Sep 2009: Tasikmalaya District
81 killed, 47 missing, over 1,000 injured and over 178,000 displaced after a 7.0-magnitude quake in Tasikmalaya. 8% of the houses in the area severely, moderately or lightly damaged.⁸

Between 2004 and 2008, earthquakes and tsunamis in Indonesia left over:
- 135,000 people killed
- 37,000 missing
- 460,000 houses heavily damaged
- Rp43,000,000 million (approximately US$4.5 billion) in damage

References:
² UN OCHA. Indian Ocean Earthquake - Tsunami 2004 Mid Term Review of Flash Appeal. 5 Apr 2005.
³ UN OCHA. Indonesia: OCHA Humanitarian Update. 30 Apr 2005.
⁹ UN OCHA. Indonesia Earthquake Situation Report No. 6. 17 Sep 2009.
¹⁰ UN OCHA. Indonesia Earthquake Situation Report No. 6. 5 Oct 2009.
¹¹ Gov’t of Indonesia. Disaster Data and Information. assessed 5 Oct 2009.