5 October: National fundraising day for victims of the tsunami in Indonesia

In response to the alarming situation and tremendous damage caused by the earthquake and tsunami which struck the island of Sulawesi in Indonesia, Swiss Solidarity and the SSR are holding a national day of solidarity in support of the victims of this natural disaster. Our four call centres in Zurich, Geneva, Lugano and Chur will be taking pledges from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. All money raised will be used to fund relief work by seven Swiss Solidarity partner organisations conducting emergency operations on the ground.

Following an earthquake off the coast of Sulawesi on Friday, waves over three metres high slammed into the island, and rescue workers are now arriving to find scenes of death and devastation. According to the latest estimates, hundreds of thousands of people require humanitarian aid. With reports of destruction mounting by the day, Swiss Solidarity’s partner NGOs are sending in numerous teams to help victims in desperate need of food, water, medical care and shelter. ADRA, Caritas, the Swiss Red Cross, HEKS/EPER, Medair, Save the Children and Solidar are all mobilising, supported by local partners already active on the ground.

The money raised by Swiss Solidarity will first be used to meet the most urgent needs. It will then be used by our partner NGOs to help affected populations recover from the disaster, in particular by repairing and rebuilding their homes.

How to donate

Donations can be made at [www.swiss-solidarity.org](http://www.swiss-solidarity.org) or through postal account 10-15000-6. Please mention “Indonesia tsunami”. Swiss Solidarity payment slips are available at all post offices in Switzerland. On the fundraising day itself, the public may also call the traditional solidarity hotline on 0800 87 07 07.

For questions or to be put in touch with Swiss NGOs working on the ground, please contact Swiss Solidarity spokesperson Sophie Balbo on +41 78 815 9639.

“Swiss Solidarity” is the expression of the solidarity of the Swiss population with the victims of disasters and conflicts. It is an independent foundation created by the SSR. Swiss Solidarity is not itself operational, it uses donations from the public, businesses as well as cantons and municipalities to co-fund the projects of 26 Swiss NGOs which assist victims on the ground. Through its experts, who conduct in-depth analyses and field assessments in compliance with international standards for emergency aid, rehabilitation and reconstruction, the Foundation ensures that these donations are used effectively and appropriately. In Switzerland, Swiss Solidarity works with specialised organisations to support people in distress. In the wake of severe weather in the country, SwS supports individuals, communities and SMEs suffering major damage. Since 1946, Swiss Solidarity has collected over 1.7 billion Swiss francs in donations.  
For more information, please visit [www.swiss-solidarity.org](http://www.swiss-solidarity.org).