

- 1) A total of 37 aftershocks of above magnitude 5.0 were recorded after the initial magnitude 7.5 was recorded on 26 Feb 2018, 0044hrs UTC+7 ([AHA Centre DMRS](#))
- 2) The earthquakes occur largely along the fault lines and are recorded in the highlands and remote areas of PNG, resulting in landslides and impeding communications. Quake assessment is affected and death toll is at least 15 with dozens injured. 4 oil and gas fields have halt work as a result of the earthquake.
- 3) Indonesian Disaster Management Agency ([BNPB](#)) is coordinating with local authorities in Papua on the damage and impact assessment.
- 4) Immediate needs of victims are 1) food, 2) water supply, 3) Medical services (personnel, equipment and medicines)
- 5) However, minor damage was reported in Mindiptanah, Waropko and Arimop districts in Boven Digoel Regency ([BNPB](#), 27 Feb 2018):
 - Mindiptanah district: 4 houses, 1 mosque and 1 health center
 - Waropko district: 2 houses, 1 water service building;
 - Arimop district: 1 house, 1 school and 1 district office;
 - Remote field conditions, limited accessibility and difficult communication networks inhibit data collection.

DATA SOURCES

ASEAN Disaster Monitoring & Response System (DMRS); Pacific Disaster Center (PDC Global); Indonesian National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB); Local Disaster Management Agency of affected areas (BPDDs); Centre for Volcanology and Geological Disaster Mitigation, Geological Agency (PVMBG); USGS; Various news agencies.

DISCLAIMER

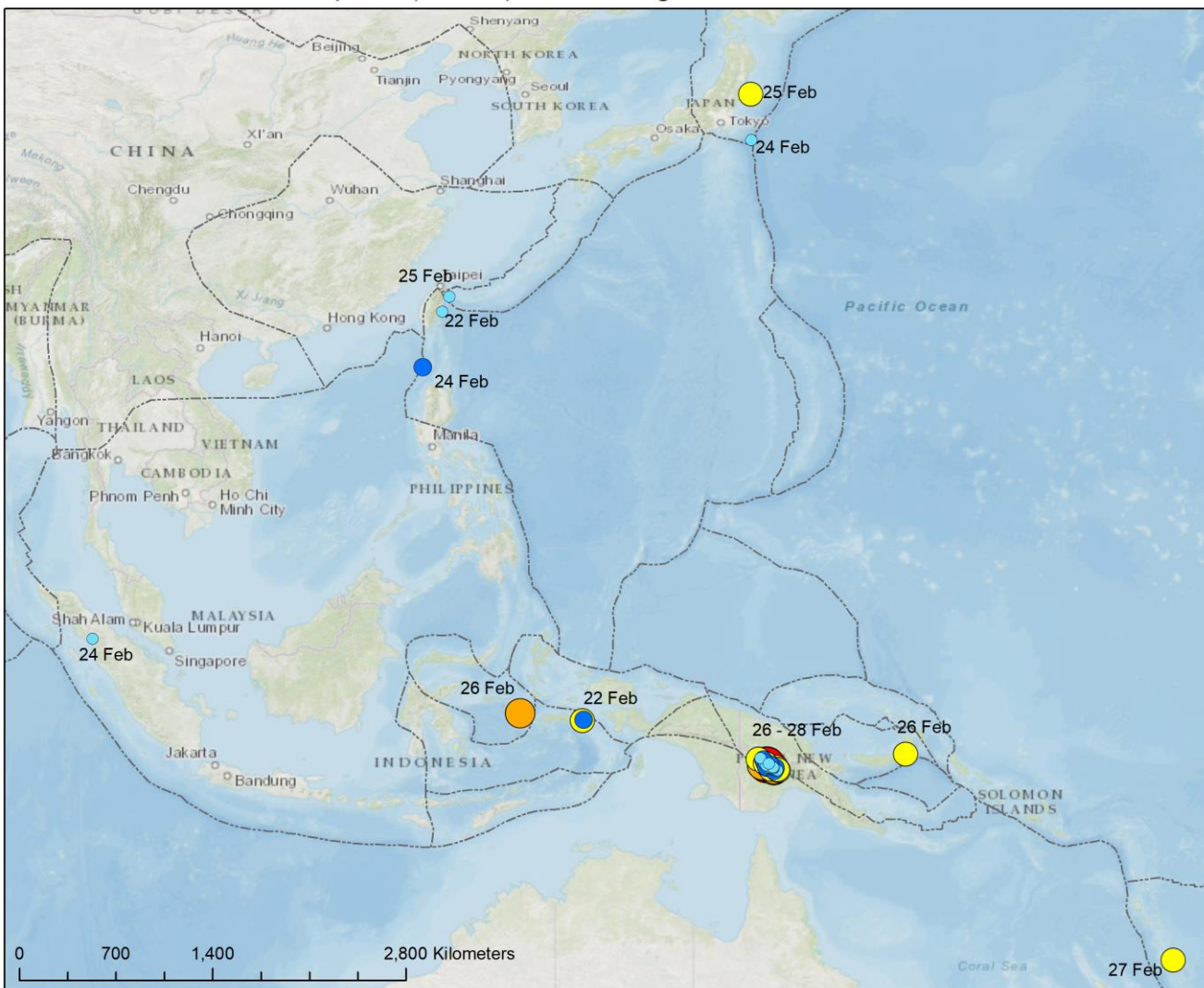
The AHA Centre was established in November 2011 by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States to facilitate cooperation and coordination among Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations and international organisations in disaster management and humanitarian assistance.

The use of boundaries, geographic names, related information and potential considerations for response are for reference, not warranted to be error free or implying official endorsement from ASEAN Member States.

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Earthquake (>M 5.0) in APAC region between 21 Feb and 28 Feb 2018



Legend

Earthquakes

Magnitude

- 5.000000 - 5.100000
- 5.100001 - 5.300000
- 5.300001 - 5.700000
- 5.700001 - 6.200000
- 6.200001 - 7.500000

----- Fault lines



ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE

Data Source:
United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- Accurately forecasting earthquakes is practically impossible but analysis of past data by geologists revealed some distinctive patterns.
- According to [Bendick and Bilham's research letter](#) published on Aug 2017, they stated the following key points:
 - ❑ Large earthquakes are synchronized;
 - ❑ Therefore, the likelihood of earthquakes with particular characteristics varies in time in a quantifiable way;
 - ❑ Changes in length of day can excite sets of earthquakes with short renewal intervals.
- Bilham commented that their study suggests that there is going to be an increase in intense earthquakes in the coming year as the correlation between the Earth's rotation and earthquake activity is strong.
- However, this does not mean that 2018 will be a year marked by increased intense earthquakes.
- [US Geological Survey](#) explained that a temporary increase or decrease in seismicity is part of the normal fluctuation of earthquake rates. Neither an increase or decrease worldwide is a positive indication that a large earthquake is imminent.
- In layman terms, we need to understand that any movement along fault lines will create resultant movement along other fault lines.