

## **Education strategy, key of communication between stakeholder and community: Kelud volcano, as an example**

**Supriyati D. Andreastuti<sup>1</sup> and Eko T. Paripurno<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation, Geological Agency, Indonesia Universitas Pembanguan Nasional 'Veteran' Yogyakarta, Indonesia,

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Education is an important tool to improve the way communities anticipate and avoid disasters. The aim of community education is to foster awareness and independent preparedness of community members. The process of education both for the community and stakeholders includes transfer and sharing knowledge of hazards, problem identification and solution, planning and implementation. It can be a lengthy process to establish equal risk perception between communities and stakeholders. Communication and the disaster mitigation planning depend on community knowledge and hazard perception. Lesson learned from community around Kelud volcano show that disaster mitigation planning needs to be carried out jointly by both parties and needs to be supported by policy and regulation. Participation of community members in formulation of disaster mitigation plans strongly encourages understanding of the hazards and risks. The process of education in disaster mitigation results in gradual changes from individual to community needs. Education also stresses the importance of communication among members, identification of hazards and risks, formulation and implementation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and distribution of tasks during crises. By the end of the education/socialization process, communities will have risk maps of their threatened areas, SOPs and contingency plans. At this point, communication between communities nearby and stakeholders is well established. One important point that shall be highlighted is that the improvement of community capacity around Kelud was started during the quiet period of activity when the development of knowledge and procedures was more steady and consistent. Understanding of hazards and threats and communication from stakeholders to communities and vice versa has become a daily part of life. Consequently, disaster preparedness of communities is now an important factor in decision making.