

Hello!

Intro Slide:

My Name is Amelia Cope, and together with my professor, Dr. Sarah Hall, we completed the Tsunami Mitigation Research Project.

2nd Slide:

This slide shows a brief overview of the work we did while in Indonesia; We went to 4 different islands, creating 2 different types of surveys, one for locals and one for tourists. We then taught classes, specifically in the elementary, junior and high schools based on the findings from the surveys. This is a picture of us teaching at a local middle school, and the next picture is of us leading an evacuation drill, taking students miles up mountains in preparation of a tsunami. This is a picture of an evacuation sign, and surprisingly many of them on the islands were not accurate. This last picture is us implementing the education, specifically through a chutes and ladders tsunami game we created, and then left behind for them to continually use.

3rd Slide:

Just a little geography lesson about Indonesia, in 2004 a tsunami hit the island of Sumatra, and unfortunately they weren't prepared. Over 200,000 people were killed in this event. I'm no geologist, but Indonesia is considered in the "ring of fire", and because so tsunamis are estimated to occur every 4 years. Again, it was our goal while there to better educate and prepare communities. We conducted over 2500 surveys in total, and the results were rather shocking. 32% of locals don't believe a tsunami will ever happen in their lives. On the other hand, in the case of a tsunami, 70% of locals said they would wait to evacuate until they heard what to do from the government officials.

4th Slide:

With the startling results found from the surveys, it was our goal and mission to better equip the people of Indonesia. We taught over 4,000 people on 4 different islands. Like I mentioned earlier, we created a game of Tsunami Chutes and Ladders, allowing students in schools to learn while also creating a fun atmosphere. We created songs for the elementary schools, and implemented evacuation drills in the school system. This lady, on the far left, was a key component in our tsunami education plan. Her name is Irena, and she lives in Indonesia. It was through her, that we were able to meet with each Island's government, and inform them about our findings. We were able to leave most of our supplies and teaching techniques with Irena, where she continues to implement education and growth.

5th Slide:

Overall, this trip was an amazing opportunity for me. Because of this global experience, I've been not only published in a geography magazine, but I now have an internship this summer in India and Nepal. The tsunami mitigation project helps differentiate myself for Graduate School, and I now plan on studying Global Social work. I am beyond honored to among each of you right now, and the many future opportunities that await. Thank you.