

Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) or Bandung Institute of Technology was founded on March 2, 1959. The present ITB main campus is the site of earlier engineering schools in Indonesia. In 1920, Technische Hogeschool (TH) was established in Bandung, which for a short time, in the middle forties, became Kogyo Daigaku. Not long after the birth of the Republic of Indonesia in 1945, the campus housed the Technical Faculty (including a Fine Arts Department) of the University of Indonesia, with the head office in Jakarta. In the early fifties, a Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, also part of the University of Indonesia, was established on the present ITB campus. In 1959, Institut Teknologi Bandung was founded by the Indonesian government as an institution of higher learning of science, technology, and fine arts, with a mission of education, research, and service to the community.

In early 2003 ITB founded a Research Center for Disaster Mitigation. The aim of the establishment of the Center is to conduct research activities related to the risk reduction of natural disaster in Indonesia through collaborations with other related institutes in Indonesia and abroad. In the beginning, the research focus was on structural engineering and disaster risk management. Recently, the research areas have been broadened, which include seismology, volcanology, geology, geodesy, geophysics, geotechnics, oceanography and meteorology.

The Research Center for Disaster Mitigation has been active in supporting the Indonesian government through the dissemination of research results. The Center has just updated the Indonesian PGA map as shown in the following figure for renewing our national building codes.

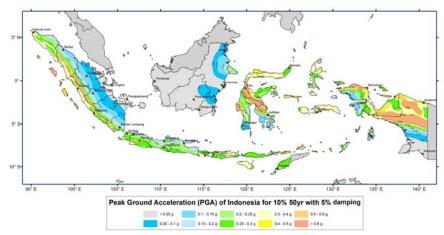


Figure 1. Map of the Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) for the Indonesian region for the 10% probability of exceedance in 50 years.

The Research Center has also collaborated closely with a new graduate program at ITB i.e. Graduate Research on Earthquake and Active Tectonics (GREAT) recently established with the support from BNPB, AIFDR, among others.