Massive earthquake in Indonesia leaves hundreds dead: UN chief 'deeply saddened'

Following a major, 7.5 magnitude earthquake in Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province on Friday, the United Nations Secretary General <u>António Guterres</u> has said he's "deeply saddened" by the "terrible loss of life" and injuries from the disaster.

Casualty numbers are expected to rise, and thousands of buildings in the city of Palu, Central Sulawesi, have collapsed. A tsunami was also triggered by the earthquake, generating waves of up to 3 metres (10 feet) high, according to reports.

Rescue efforts are reportedly underway, but are hampered by a major power cut, and a landslide that has blocked the main road to Palu.

The UN chief has extended his condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government of Indonesia, adding that the United Nations stands ready to support the Government-led ongoing rescue and relief efforts.