A M6.5 earthquake occurred in the Sumbawa region of Indonesia at 9:02 AM MST, Nov. 25, 2007 (Nov. 26 at 2:02 AM local time). The earthquake occurred off the northeast coast of Sumbawa Island (8.294°S, 118.360°E). On the map below, the epicenter is shown just south of a subduction zone. Three people were killed, hundreds were injured, and hundreds of houses were destroyed.

The earthquake had the following intensities. Felt (V) in the Bima-Dompu-Raba area. Felt (IV) at Sumbawabesar; (III) at Taliwang. Also felt (IV) at Mataram, Lombok, and (III) at Denpasar, Bali, and Labuanbajo, Flores. Felt at Kuta and Ubud, Bali.

Damage occurred almost exclusively to non-engineered buildings. It is customary in Sumbawa to use bamboo and rattan as reinforcement in buildings. Structures are weak due to concrete shrinkage and poorly detailed joints. Non-engineered buildings continue to be at high risk in much of the world. More work on affordable, easily constructed, and earthquake-resistant small buildings is needed.