

Sulawesi

INDONESIA



PEOPLE GROUP FOCUS

Makassar

Bugis

Gorontalo



**MUPG
POPULATION**
9,338,000

Sulawesi is an Indonesian island east of Borneo. It is home to three Muslim unreached people groups (MUPG) that have a population of more than one million.

Language

The national language of Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia. Sulawesi displays a high linguistic diversity, with 114 native languages spoken on the island. Three that are widely distributed and vigorously used are:

- Buginese (6 million speakers)
- Makassarese (2.5 million speakers)
- Gorontalo (1 million speakers)

Religion

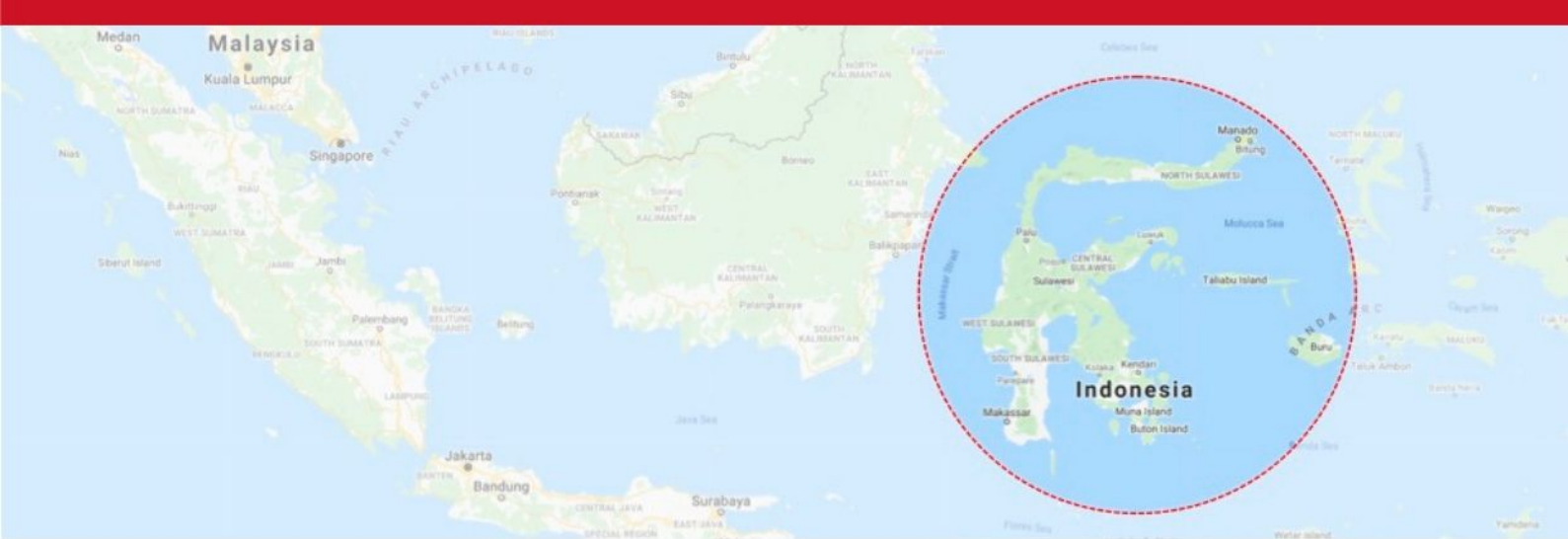
Islam (Sunni) is the predominant religion, mixed with traditional beliefs. The Muslims maintain beliefs in gods and ancestral spirits; giving ritual offerings in the required manner. They believe the ancestral spirits have a direct influence on their daily lives.

Economy

Among the six provinces of Sulawesi, South Sulawesi is the strongest. It has the most political power; economic power and it is the most populated with over one third of the islands total population (c.20 million).

Makassar is the capital of Sulawesi, home to two million people and the busiest port on the island. Millions of people live in the rural areas outside of Makassar. These rural areas have never heard a clear presentation of the gospel and there are no known followers of Christ.

The economy of Sulawesi is heavily centred around agriculture, fishing, mining, and forestry.



HOPE

Christians from the northern city of Manado and Torajan Christians from the southern mountainous region are mobilising people to reach out to the Bugis. Currently, most of this is taking place in the city of Makassar.

There are reports that ministry efforts on the Island of Java have had impact on Bugis students, with many turning to Isa Almasih. They have brought their faith and Discovery Bible Study ministry to their home areas in South Sulawesi.

These are the seeds of an emerging movement, but so much more still needs to be done to reach the Muslim people of Sulawesi.

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. [Isaiah 43:19]



There is a blanket of spiritual darkness that lies over South Sulawesi. While most of the ethnic groups of Indonesia are basically friendly, the Bugis are known to be hard and suspicious of outsiders. They are also communal and will close ranks as a group.

PRAY

- Pray that students returning home from university will have boldness to share their faith with their friends and family.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal Christ to the Muslims of Sulawesi in dreams and visions.
- Pray for local Christians to love their Muslim neighbours and share the Good News of Isa Almasih with the Gorontalo.
- Ask God to soften the hearts of the Bugis people.

OPPORTUNITIES

Study visas are granted for language learning in Sulawesi: Bahasa Indonesia (two year visa) or Buginese (in Makassar).

It is also possible to enter Sulawesi to work. Opportunities exist for: English Teachers, Engineers, and Agriculturalists.