

Emergency response to tsunami- and earthquake-affected areas

Indonesia

UNHCR quickly mobilized resources to help those in Indonesia affected by the December 2004 earthquake and tsunami, and the March 2005 earthquake off the coast of Sumatra. The organization has not traditionally been involved in natural disasters, but given its presence in the country and its emergency resources, it responded to the Secretary-General's call for all agencies to help those affected by the disaster. Following its efforts in the initial, emergency phase of the disasters, the Office has continued to assist with rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's objectives with regard to populations affected by this disaster were to:

- distribute emergency life-saving assistance;
- aid early return and recovery for communities; and
- find durable solutions for those affected by the tsunami in the province of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD), primarily along the west coast, and for victims of the earthquake on the island of Nias.

Activities

A reconstruction programme was launched in 2005 in the NAD sub-district of Krueng Sabee, with the goal of building 1,134 family homes. Due to circumstances outside UNHCR's control, only 564 houses could be completed by the end of 2006. Of these, 473 were handed over to families in the five villages in Krueng Sabee.

UNHCR completed the reconstruction of four community halls in the district, as well as a village office and a women's centre in the village of Keude Krueng Sabee. It also repaired the only junior high school in the

sub-district. In addition, in the first half of 2006, UNHCR delivered more than 830 tents and large quantities of other non-food items such as jerry cans, kitchen sets and plastic mats to various NGOs for distribution to the needy.

In Nias, UNHCR provided the agencies involved in reconstruction with timber. It also implemented shelter projects for fishing communities in three isolated villages along the coast which had been the most severely affected by the earthquake.

In order to assist equitably the affected populations, based on the needs assessment, UNHCR supported the rehabilitation by:

- distributing timber and roofing materials for rural communities in partnership with other agencies that were constructing houses in different parts of the island; and
- rebuilding the three coastal villages of Botohaenga, Tagaule and Bozihona that had been destroyed by flooding.

Following a final assessment of outstanding needs in mid-2006, a final order for 600 cubic metres of timber was placed in October 2006 for agencies working in reconstruction. By the end of December 2006, a total of 7,117 cubic metres of timber had been delivered and distributed to benefit some 2,366 families.

UNHCR also supported reconstruction efforts by providing 180,000 square metres of corrugated iron for roofing.

Constraints

Local contractors had seriously underestimated the difficulty of ensuring a steady supply of building material. Heavy seasonal rains also disrupted deliveries, as the only road leading down the coast was frequently flooded and temporary bridges washed away. Mobilizing and holding on to qualified manpower was also difficult for the contractors, as workers were in high demand everywhere and preferred to take jobs closer to urban areas. Furthermore, the willingness of the beneficiaries



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Kreung Sabee district, Aceh, UNHCR reconstructed four community halls, a women's centre, a village office and the only secondary school in the district.

to help rebuild their own houses, which had shaped UNHCR's planning, waned with time. This happened for a variety of reasons, not least the tremendous demoralization wrought by the tsunami.

Working with others

UNHCR worked closely with the national authorities, particularly the government Agency for Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of NAD and Nias (BRR) from the start of its projects in both areas. In August 2006, UNHCR and BRR jointly assessed the progress of the construction project in NAD and the performance of each of the contractors. It was found that the contractors could not fulfil their commitments to complete all the planned houses before the end of 2006.

To ensure that the homeless were housed as soon as possible, UNHCR established a partnership with BRR.

The national agency took over the construction of about 300 plots on which work had not yet started and began overall supervision of the building contractors. To provide for a seamless transition, the engineers and UNHCR field staff, who had been associated with the project from the outset, continued their work under BRR. The national agency was also provided with other assets, including office equipment, to carry out its work.

According to BRR, the 570 houses that still need to be constructed in NAD should be finished during the course of 2007. UNHCR maintains regular contact with BRR, and its Jakarta staff carried out monitoring visits to the area.

Sri Lanka

Activities in Sri Lanka are included in the relevant country chapter.

Budget, income and expenditure (USD) Supplementary programme budget

Final budget ¹	Income from contributions ²	Other funds available ³	Total funds available	Total expenditure
24,868,575	332,577	25,590,686	25,923,264	22,313,524

¹ The budget does not include a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.

² Includes income from contributions earmarked at the country level.

³ Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	Indonesia	Sri Lanka	Total	
Protection, monitoring and coordination	1,877,559	1,219,093	3,096,652	0
Community services	0	618,309	618,309	0
Crop production	0	7,742	7,742	0
Domestic needs and household support	0	553,624	553,624	0
Legal assistance	0	14,593	14,593	107,226
Operational support (to agencies)	196,305	295,846	492,151	6,552
Sanitation	0	365,587	365,587	0
Shelter and infrastructure	5,471,971	2,463,288	7,935,259	307,768
Transport and logistics	1,840,725	17,099	1,857,824	2,137
Water	0	52,857	52,857	0
Instalments with implementing partners	6,858,561	460,365	7,318,926	(423,683)
Sub-total operational activities	16,245,122	6,068,402	22,313,524	0
Programme support	0	0	0	0
Total expenditure	16,245,122	6,068,402	22,313,524	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	8,007,761	4,169,622	12,177,384	
Reporting received	(1,149,200)	(3,709,258)	(4,858,458)	
Balance	6,858,561	460,365	7,318,926	
Previous years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1st January				643,202
Reporting received				(423,683)
Refunded to UNHCR				(138,561)
Adjustments				(80,958)
Balance				0