



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ASIA AND THE NEAR EAST

TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION

Update – September 14, 2005



*The bridge over Arugam Bay was destroyed by the tsunami. Its replacement is the largest of three USAID projects under a contract signed September 7.
Photo: USAID/Lionel Jayaratne*

SRI LANKA

USAID/Sri Lanka signs \$33 million contract for infrastructure projects

USAID will soon begin work on a new 700-meter bridge, vocational schools, and three fishing harbors that will benefit thousands after signing a \$33 million contract with a U.S. firm last week to help Sri Lanka “build back better.” Groundbreaking is scheduled to take place before the end of the year.

The contract was signed on September 7 with CH2M Hill International of Englewood, Colorado. The firm will be responsible for overall management of the infrastructure program. A three-part

construction package will be implemented through various subcontractors, including three American and at least five Sri Lankan firms.

INDONESIA

USAID facilitates community dialogue

Recognizing that citizen participation is crucial to successful tsunami reconstruction, USAID is facilitating an open community dialogue between residents of Banda Aceh and the City Regional Planning Development Agency. The dialogue is part of a series of public consultations on rehabilitation and reconstruction planning being held in Banda Aceh. Approximately 70 people participated in the community dialogue, representing nine directly-affected villages, international NGOs and government.



*Members of the community gather to participate in open dialogue.
Photo: USAID/ Restu Pratiwi*



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*Children of Jantang participate in harvesting crops.
Photo: USAID/ Caroline Gredler*

INDONESIA

USAID assists Jantang to rebuild livelihoods

Jantang is a small coastal village located in Lhoong, Aceh Besar, one of three districts severely devastated by the tsunami. With USAID assistance, 53 villages in the District of Aceh Besar are cultivating and replanting crops, rebuilding schools, and employing community health workers to promote nutrition and health practices with families in the target areas.

In June, Jantang villagers started sowing 90-day cash crops in 12 hectares of tsunami affected soil. By September, they were celebrating their first harvest. The 12 hectares of land produced income upwards of \$9,650 for the 413 villagers involved in the projects. The harvest marks the beginning of recovery for Jantang.

INDIA

USAID donates tricycles and bins to assist in the tsunami clean up

Sometimes it is small things that can make a big difference. To ensure that tsunami clean up efforts continue in Nagapattinam, USAID supported the distribution of fifteen tricycles and waste collection bins to municipal officials and local village councils (panchayats) for the door to door collection of municipal solid wastes from households. The municipality and panchayats will pay the costs of the staff employed for the collection but they needed the equipment to get it started.



*The District Collector of Nagapattinam District distributes tricycles in an informal ceremony on September 1, 2005.
Photo: EXNORA*



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Eight community groups were recipients of micro-finance sub-grants awards.
Photo: USAID/Suzanne Ross

THAILAND

New businesses build self-sufficiency

Over 100 villagers in tsunami affected southern Thailand received loans from a USAID-funded community revolving fund project that provides seed money for micro-enterprise development. Before the tsunami, sub-district communities specialized in the production and trade of only one product. As a result of the tsunami, the communities decided to produce and trade multiple products, in an effort to reduce economic shocks.

Although most of the community members have had some education, for many, consumer buying assessments were their first exposure to systematic micro-enterprise development planning. After assessments of local consumer behavior, eight products were identified as essential to all members of the community. Community members agreed to support newly formed cooperative groups as they develop the eight identified products. Loan recipients and revolving fund managers participated in a four day intensive training seminar that provided an opportunity for each of the enterprises, and the managers of the revolving funds to learn about the fundamentals of financial management, including basic accounting, bookkeeping and loan repayment, as well as product development, quality control, packaging, distribution, monitoring and evaluation of consumer satisfaction.



A women's group in Krabi, Thailand recently received a \$500 loan to purchase supplies for a hijab embroidery cooperative business.
Photo: USAID/Suzanne Ross

FAST FACTS: U.S. ASSISTANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged 12/31/04:	\$350,000,000
Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction Fund:	\$631,000,000*
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed:	\$101,550,957
Total USAID Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Assistance Committed:	\$474,236,034
Other USG Humanitarian Assistance Provided:	\$237,900,000

*\$656 million was approved for the Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction Fund, but \$25 million is committed to Avian Flu.

For more information on the tsunami and USAID's work, please see "Tsunami Relief" at www.usaid.gov.