



TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION

June 2006 - Update



Photo: USAID/Aceh Recovery and Reconstruction Office

Executive Officer John Peevey presenting power house to Acting Governor Azwar Abubakar.

INDONESIA

INFRASTRUCTURE HAND-OVER OF POWER HOUSE TO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

USAID handed over a power house facility with three industrial generators to the provincial governor's office in Banda Aceh. The complex's original backup generator, transformer and related power equipment was damaged beyond repair during the tsunami. The new generators will ensure backup power is available to the complex during the frequent power failures that cause significant disruption for the governor and his staff.

The three generators, along with a high-capacity transformer and a sophisticated control panel system, have a combined value of \$700,000. This backup power supply will serve USAID's newly-opened office facility also located in the governor's office complex. In presenting the power house complex to Acting Governor Azwar Abubakar, Thomas R. Morris, U.S. Representative to Aceh and North Sumatra, said, "We are here for the long-term to see the reconstruction of Aceh through to the end."

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FAST FACTS:

Total U.S. Government Humanitarian Assistance and Recovery Funds

Assistance Pledged 12/31/04:

\$350 million

Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction

Fund: \$656 million*

Assistance by country:

India:	\$17.9 million
Indonesia:	\$400.1 million
Maldives:	\$12.0 million
Sri Lanka:	\$134.6 million
Thailand:	\$5.3 million

Regional, other countries: \$33.4 million

Program Management: \$21.4 million

*\$656 million was approved for Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction Fund, but \$31.3 million is committed to Avian Flu.



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Indonesia continued -



Photo: USAID/Aceh Recovery and Reconstruction Office

(From left to right): Decentralized Basic Education 2 Project Advisor Arief Sadiman, Mission Director Frej, and Dean of the Syiah Kuala Teaching College Yusuf Aziz.

USAID TO IMPROVE SCHOOLS UNDER PRESIDENTIAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

As part of President Bush's Education Initiative to improve the quality and management of basic education in Aceh, USAID has signed an agreement with the municipalities of Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar to improve their school management, teaching and learning. The first 40 schools have already been selected with an additional 110 to be added later this year. USAID's education program in Aceh is investing a total of \$15 million to provide four years of technical assistance and training to improve the quality and management of basic education.

USAID also signed a \$14 million agreement with Syiah Kuala University to provide capacity building assistance for the university's teacher training faculty and to support the design and construction of the facility's new building to get underway this year. USAID Mission Director Frej commented that the partnership with the university, "represents a major investment to strengthen education in Aceh, which will contribute to future development and economic growth in the province."

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR HOUSING BEARS FRUIT IN ACEH BESAR

On May 23, 2006, the first homes constructed under an Aceh resettlement program were formally handed over to beneficiaries in Pulot village of Lepeung subdistrict, Aceh Besar. The homes were funded through a public-private partnership between USAID and the American International Group Disaster Relief Fund.

Beneficiaries of the first ten of 57 homes constructed in Pulot expressed gratitude and joy upon taking ownership of their homes. Zulkarnaini, a 45-year old fisherman who lost his wife, son and home as a result of the tsunami said, "I am very happy to get this home because I have no dream and money to build a home by myself. I hope I can get married again and start over in my *Rumah Idaman*," or a dream home, a term referring to all the homes in Pulot constructed under the partnership.



USAID/Aceh Recovery and Reconstruction Office

Mission Director Frej handing over the keys to a new house.



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ART FOR RECOVERY WINNERS RECEIVE AWARDS

Kevin McGlothlin, Deputy U.S. Government Representative for Aceh and North Sumatra, awarded prizes at an Art for Recovery Project event. Art for Recovery is part of USAID's Community Based Recovery Initiative to contribute to the psychological and social recovery of communities and rebuild their hope for the future. Participants from 56 villages submitted pieces which reflected their experience of the tsunami.

The Project provided art supplies and gathered children from tsunami affected villages to participate in the drawing sessions. The children created colorful and positive images – their versions of the future of post-tsunami Aceh. Child psychologists promote creative projects involving art and music as one way to help children move beyond personal tragedies and rebuild social networks. More than 200 people attended the prize-giving, and participants expressed their gratitude for USAID's sponsorship of the project.



Art for Recovery Ceremony Participants

Photo: USAID/Aceh Recovery and Reconstruction Office



Photo: Joseph Ravikumar

With USAID's help, Jenoba works in her new beauty parlor.

INDIA

NEW SKILLS HELP WOMEN IMPROVE FAMILY INCOME

Jenoba received beautician training with support from USAID through Exnora — a local NGO in Tamil Nadu. Her training was part of USAID's Tsunami Recovery Program's revitalization activity for families. After the training, she opened up a beauty parlour in Melathurai with a loan for 23,000 rupees (the equivalent of \$504).

Jenoba now employs four young women in the community who were also trained in beautician skills with USAID support. Jenoba earns about 4-5,000 rupees (\$87-109) each month. The four women who work with her part-time while also pursuing college educations, earn between 250-300 rupees (\$5-7) a month.

With new skills in hand, Jenoba can now earn as much as her husband. She is very proud of her contribution to her family's finances. Confident of repaying the loan on time, she is already planning an expansion of her business which will employ more women in the community. Jenoba is grateful for the support from USAID.



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Community and program partners sort and weigh solid waste from the Kamphuan landfill as part of a study to determine household waste composition.

Photo: CRC/URI

THAILAND

FINANCING WASTE MANAGEMENT

People living in the tsunami-affected areas of Kamphuan sub-district, Ranong Province, have limited access to waste management services, forcing them to dump trash and litter in a haphazard fashion that affects the health and environment of their communities.

To address this dilemma, USAID is supporting an effort to improve village sanitation by developing sustainable waste management systems through activities that promote recycling and waste reduction and increase public participation in solid waste management.

This plan brings together communities and the local government with waste management experts in an effort to reduce solid waste through the recycling of plastic, glass, and metal, and composting of organic waste. Proceeds from the sale of recycled material will go back to the communities and the income generated will provide incentives and support for waste management operations.

REGIONAL

BUILDING BETTER DISASTER RESPONSES

As part of USAID's regional program to support the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service is bringing over 100 years of regional coastal warning expertise in promoting opportunities for government authorities, emergency responders, scientists, and local communities to explore, adapt and improve disaster management practices.

Sri Lanka was one of the first countries in the region to introduce new system-wide disaster management procedures beginning with the adoption of the Incident Command System (ICS) — a process for governments to quickly reorganize and respond in any emergency situation. After consultations and training of 39 government officials and other partners, Incident Management Teams were formed.

To ensure the integration of the ICS into Sri Lanka's existing disaster response system, these teams identified and prioritized key issues and determined roles and responsibilities. USFS experts have been conducting "train-the-trainer" workshops to inform government agencies, universities, training centers, NGOs and Sri Lanka's Disaster Management Center about basic and intermediate ICS concepts.



Incident Command System Training workshop tasks small groups to prepare an operational emergency response plan.

Photo: S.H.M. Fakhruddin



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Photo: Courtesy IOM

A family paints a shelter in the Moderawila transitional shelter community in Panadura.

SRI LANKA

USAID SHELTER COMMUNITY UPGRADE BENEFITS 4,000 FAMILIES

Nearly 20,000 people will benefit from a new USAID/Sri Lanka program to upgrade 4,000 transitional shelters in need of care and maintenance, and to help improve overall conditions in shelter communities. A \$1 million grant will help fund a comprehensive program to assure that the shelters continue to meet the basic standards established after the tsunami and that communities remain safe, healthy environments. About 40 percent of all shelters are in need of upgrades.

Maintenance of infrastructure in the communities will include repairing leaky roofs, constructing kitchen extensions, waterproofing wood structures, and improving access roads. Power supply systems will be maintained and improved, and the inhabitants will be trained in the upkeep of their own communities. Fire extinguishing equipment and prevention training will be provided, and new site monitors will share information of importance to the communities.

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Water and sanitation upgrades will include new toilets and showers, drainage systems, and wells, maintenance of water and sanitation facilities, management of waste disposal, and training on hygiene and technical aspects of water and sanitation maintenance.

USAID/Sri Lanka funded the construction of nearly 10,000 transitional shelters, mostly in the Matara and Ampara districts.

DEVELOPING ECO-TOURISM

To help tap into Sri Lanka's vast potential for eco-tourism, USAID sponsored two workshops to introduce the concept in communities with much to offer but little experience in this niche market. Nearly 100 government officials, NGOs, and other stakeholders participated in the one-day workshop in the southern town of Rekewa, which has vast mangrove forests and beaches where a large population of rare turtle breeds nest. Part of the Sustainable Coastal Tourism in Asia program, the participants identified strategies for business development and will be followed up at the local level with continued USAID support.



Photo: USAID/Karim Fernando

A fisherman in Rekewa contemplates the potential for eco-tourism in the area.



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Sri Lanka Continued -



Photo: USAID/Gemunu Amerasinghe

USAID/Sri Lanka has nearly doubled its commitment to helping assure that post-tsunami housing construction and rehabilitation will be accessible to the disabled.

GREATER COMMITMENT TO DISABILITY ACCESS

USAID has nearly doubled its commitment to assure post-tsunami construction provides access to the disabled. The \$450,000 program funds “disability assessments” of new and existing public structures and supports a wide range of improvements.

The program will provide grants to ensure that repair and reconstruction of tsunami-damaged buildings and other buildings in tsunami-affected areas incorporate accessibility into the design. It will also increase awareness, knowledge, and understanding about architectural access in the building environment, including training to ensure standards are developed for implementing accessibility criteria in new construction. The prolonged conflict in Sri Lanka has left one in ten people with some kind of disability.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS REPORT

Vocational Schools – Ten sites in the South and East have been selected for vocational school reconstruction or rehabilitation by USAID under the Sri Lanka Tsunami Reconstruction Program (SLTRP). This month, the lead contract designer was in the field inspecting the sites that run along the tsunami-damaged coasts from Hikkaduwa in the Southwest to Trincomalee in the Northeast.

Initial focus will be on the two state-of-the-art “green” schools in Ahangama in the South, which will center on the hospitality industry, and Kaluwanchikudi in the East, which provides training in electronics, small engine repair, and construction, among other trades. USAID also has an agreement with the Joint Apparel Association Forum to provide apparel training with guaranteed employment for all graduates in two of the new schools.

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Photo: CH2M Hill/Ron Saunders

Students in the eastern town on Nintavur may well attend the vocational school being rehabilitated by USAID.



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PROGRESS REPORT CONT...

Harbors - USAID/Sri Lanka has approved the award of a \$211,000 contract for the “rapid response” part of the SLTRP Harbors component. The contract will accelerate results on the ground by improving water and sanitation systems and upgrading piers while preparations for the major infrastructure rehabilitation work are completed. This work is expected to take three months, by which point the breakwater repair and dredging work will have begun. The recently finalized master plans for the harbors at Hikkaduwa, Mirissa, and Dondra provided the groundwork for the final engineering plans.

Arugam Bay Bridge - USAID/Sri Lanka has released a tender document to invite bids for the Arugam Bay Bridge to pre-qualified international construction companies. Tsunami Reconstruction Program contractor CH2M Hill designed this major bridge and will manage the construction. Groundbreaking is projected for August 2006.

POST-TSUNAMI ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAM LAUNCH

A new USAID/Sri Lanka training program for government officials and civil society directors will strengthen measures to combat corruption and monitor the spending of tsunami-related assistance. The program will build capacity, increase citizen participation in monitoring and reporting on tsunami programs, and conduct an awareness campaign to combat corruption. It will also provide technical support to ensure accountability and transparency of post-tsunami relief and reconstruction programming.

The program encourages investigation and prosecution of wrongdoers, and promotes efforts to prevent corruption through internal controls; timely financial auditing of projects and programs; performance evaluation of project and program effectiveness; greater public participation in project oversight and performance review; and creation of a transparent culture of honesty, integrity and accountability in public administration. These strategies are expected to help establish trust and faith in the institutions of government.



USAID/Sri Lanka Mission Director Dr. Carol Becker (left) presents a technical manual to Justice Ameer Ismail (center), chairman of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, at the launch of the USAID/Sri Lanka Anti-Corruption Program. At right is project Chief of Party David B. Smith.