



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ASIA AND THE NEAR EAST

# TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION

Update – February 23, 2005

## INDONESIA

**Safe deliveries for mothers** – Midwives provide 90 percent of all maternal and newborn health care in Indonesia. Preliminary estimates from three districts hit by the tsunami indicate 20 percent of midwives were killed. To ensure safe delivery for mothers and newborns and to help the remaining midwives get back to work, USAID brought equipment and additional midwives from Jakarta to Banda Aceh to help rebuild the local midwives organization. USAID also provides counseling services and training to improve midwives' skills and supports mobile midwife services in camps for the displaced, resulting in safer deliveries.

**Assisting hospital maternity wards** – This woman gave birth to her child only eight hours before the photo was taken. USAID's support for the maternity ward in this Banda Aceh hospital contributed to her safe delivery.



## INDIA

**Training for fishermen** – Fishermen from Akkaraipettai, one of the worst hit villages near Nagappattinam, learn new job skills. USAID teaches the young men how to mix cement for toilet rings and foundation slabs, reinforce the concrete with steel wire and then construct toilets. The training program gives new skills to youth who lost their fishing livelihoods, while rebuilding sanitation facilities for local communities.



Photo: USAID/EXNORA

**Replacing assets for local businesses** – In villages in Cuddalore District, USAID helps local businesses re-open their doors by providing replacement livestock and other supplies and offering training for groups of entrepreneurs. In the same communities, children are back in school thanks to USAID assistance, and people have used the rubble to rebuild their homes.



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## SRI LANKA

**Rebuilding unites ethnic adversaries** – Sinhalese volunteers from inland towns have come by the hundreds to help repair the devastated Tamil and Muslim communities on the hard-hit eastern coast. USAID provides the volunteers with food, tools, transportation and lodging. Schools are the top priority because they help restore stability to children’s lives. Working side-by-side, former ethnic adversaries remove debris from classrooms and repair desks and chairs. Local organizations provide school supplies. Here children in Trincomalee return happily to school in clean, donated uniforms.

**Longstanding relationships mean quick response** – As the only international organization with local offices in Ampara District at the time of the tsunami, USAID was able to get to work immediately. The destruction of the causeway connecting the district to the rest of the country made it difficult for outside help to arrive. However, USAID’s long-standing relationship with local suppliers meant they were able to get orders for crucial equipment filled quickly, including generators, 2000-liter water tanks, lights for refugee camps, bulldozers and backhoes.



Photo: USAID/Julie Fossler

## THAILAND

**Reopening tourist-based businesses** – Occupancy rates in many areas have decreased to 10 percent, hurting the livelihoods of most people in the communities. USAID helps the tourism, fishing and retail industries in Phuket and Phang Nga with loan paperwork and business plans to restart businesses. The goal is to strengthen the industries quickly and re-instill confidence in tourists, so they return. Partnerships with local banks, government agencies and industry associations help focus USAID’s programs on the people most in need of the services.

### FAST FACTS: U.S. ASSISTANCE AS OF FEBRUARY 23, 2005

Value of USAID Programs Funded: \$82,706,823  
Value of Total U.S. Government Relief and Programs: \$122,746,667

For more information on the tsunami and USAID's work, please see "Tsunami Relief" at [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov).

### TSUNAMI IN ASIA

Dead:	169,680
Missing:	127,369
Displaced:	1,096,569