

waste that was washed back out to sea. In addition, much of the sand, sediment and soil that was stripped from beaches and agricultural areas was directly deposited on healthy reefs. Urgent measures are needed to remove the waste and sediment from the corals to protect against further damage and to maintain ecosystem health, and fish productivity;

- **Environmental infrastructure and industrial sites:** Much of the environmental infrastructure, such as water and sanitation systems, solid waste disposal sites and waste treatment centres, was damaged, particularly in urban areas. Damage to this infrastructure created additional secondary risks from waste and sewage. There was minimal damage to industrial sites, except in Aceh, Indonesia;
- **Resource-dependent livelihoods:** Disproportionately many of the victims of this disaster were poor people who depended on ecosystem services and natural resources for their livelihoods. Where such sources of income and food were unsustainable prior to the tsunami, it would be regrettable if the opportunity is not taken to find sustainable alternatives. Many victims were involved in fisheries for a living. Particular attention needs to be paid to improved management of coastal fisheries, including control of blast fishing, destructive fishing gear, cyanide fishing, and physical destruction of coral reefs. The sustainable balance between mangrove forests and aquaculture in the coastal areas must be re-established, and small-scale operators mining coral sand or making cement from coral reefs will need to be helped to find alternatives;
- **Environmental Risks of Reconstruction:** There are a number of potential environmental risks associated with the recovery and reconstruction phases that have been identified by the assessments. Issues such as deforestation to meet timber demands for reconstruction, inappropriate routing of transport routes, haphazard groundwater drilling or poor waste disposal practices could all lead to long term environmental damage that would increase vulnerability to natural disasters and undermine both sustainable development and poverty reduction.

As the recovery and restoration phases gets underway, mainstreaming environmental concerns is a prerequisite for sustainable reconstruction and for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. A key feature of the rehabilitation and reconstruction must be to ensure the sustained livelihoods of the people in the areas affected by the disaster and to empower civil society to engage in the reconstruction process. Major projects are needed in all affected countries to address environmental risks to human health and livelihoods, to restore ecosystem goods and services, to plan environmentally sound reconstruction, to develop sustainable livelihoods and to build capacity of the environmental authorities.

4. REVISIONS TO THE COMMON HUMANITARIAN ACTION

4.1 Food

Distribution: In Indonesia, the Government has made WFP responsible for food aid deliveries to all Tsunami affected populations. In doing so and reaching out to beneficiaries, WFP has partnered with the following aid organisations the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI), Save the Children Fund-US (SCF/US), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), CARE, World Vision (WV), Action Against Hunger (ACF), HELP and Muhammadiyah. In Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Thailand, and Myanmar, local authorities and NGOs carry out relief distributions, monitored by WFP. Further partners are currently being identified for rehabilitation and recovery.

Phase II (March-June)—Transition to Rehabilitation and Recovery

- Improved targeting and reduction in relief distributions with return of IDPs to home locations;
- Expansion of supplementary feeding and FFW; increased focus on recovery of livelihoods;
- Mid-year Emergency Needs Assessments / nutritional assessment.

Phase III (July-December)—Recovery

- Longer-term FFW projects with higher technical input aimed at asset creation and rebuilding of livelihoods;
- Possible continuation of Vulnerable Group Feeding / nutritional interventions.

Strategy for Rehabilitation and Recovery: Rehabilitation/recovery activities will commence in parallel to relief distributions. Initially, FFW will be focused on feeding people, not on activities with high technical input, while they clear debris and rebuild their homes and livelihoods (emergency FFW). In many cases, FFW programmes will run in parallel with nutritional interventions, such as supplementary feeding, mother-and-child health programmes and emergency school feeding, aimed at containing the already fragile nutritional status of the affected population.

A longer-term strategy and analysis of the potential role for food aid in recovery is being developed. Governments will lead reconstruction efforts and WFP is starting to actively engage in governments' planning processes, together with other partners [UN agencies, World Bank, ADB, etc].

4.2 Health

Due to the evolving context, WHO is planning to focus on three additional broad priority areas of regional activities that remain consistent with the objectives identified initially:

Health Protection and Disease Prevention

- Further strengthening disease surveillance systems;
- Establishment of health information systems used as management tools.

Health Policy and Coordination

- Lessons learnt workshops for staff involved in the relief phase of the response to the Tsunami to critically review and analyse WHO performance;
- Organisation of a conference on the health aspects of the tsunami disaster co-hosted by Royal Thai Government and to take place in Phuket, Thailand on 1-6 May 2005;
- Consolidating and Coordinating Regional Support to implement the country work plans in terms of technical, information, logistic and organisational aspects.

Health Services Delivery

- Strengthening of nursing and midwifery, which forms the base of the health workforce in the affected countries, so as to further enhance delivery of basic health services;
- Strengthening of project management through technical and administrative support for monitoring and tracking.

4.3 Protection, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Integration and Livelihoods

UNIFEM's programme focuses on recovery and reconstruction, as well as on developing the long-term capacities of government agencies and women's groups to respond to crises. Activities will be extended until December 2005.

5. PROJECTS AND BUDGETS

5.1 Coordination and Support Services

Coordination

Technical assistance is provided to the government to first meet priority humanitarian needs, and reduce risks especially as they relate to vulnerable groups. Further technical assistance priorities relate to issues of livelihood and environmental recovery. All projects have been analysed as to implementation capacity within the required time frame, and preference has been given to projects that coincide with long-term development priorities.

UNDP proposes a project that would facilitate two tasks. Firstly, the project would aid in the transfer of the coordination support from OCHA to UNDP in the three most affected countries: Indonesia, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka. The second component of the project would help in the development of a consolidated regional tracking mechanism, as agreed to during the ADB meeting of 18 March 2005 in Manila. This system will capture all forms of aid, including official development assistance as well as nongovernmental organisation and private sector support for reconstruction and development.