

**Update Report
Aceh Emergency Response and Transitional Recovery
Programme
24 February 2005**

Immediate support by UNDP in response to the Aceh crisis is being linked into medium-term recovery programming, in order to support an effective transition from immediate emergency relief activities towards sustainable recovery from the crisis. The programme provides grant and technical support to enhance the response and recovery efforts of Government and civil society in Aceh. The four components of the programme are: (1) Immediate employment and rehabilitation through cash for work; (2) Recovery of livelihoods; (3) Recovery of housing, settlements and associated infrastructure; (4) Capacity-building of Government and civil society for sustainable recovery and risk-reduction.

This programme is being undertaken through partnerships with local and national Government authorities, national NGOs, civil society groups, the private sector, and international organizations. Implementation of specific activities will be undertaken in partnership with UN specialized agencies, including UN Habitat, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). To support this programme, UNDP has established programme offices in Banda Aceh and Meulaboh, as well as a logistical support office in Medan.

Approximately USD 39 million has to date been committed to the programme by Germany, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UN Foundation, as well as core UNDP funds.

Programme Activities

1. Rubble clearing and cash-for-work

(i) Provision of heavy equipment inputs for clearing Tsunami debris

UNDP continues to support the clearing of Tsunami debris, and has provided local authorities with 55 pieces of heavy equipment, plus 25 dump trucks and 116 operators, to remove debris from the worst affected areas of Banda Aceh. The team has so far cleared more than 40,800m³ of debris from 23 hectares of land.

(ii) Labour intensive rubble clearing and “cash for work”

Ongoing labour intensive rubble clearing with support from UNDP continues to employ over 2,300 people throughout Banda Aceh and in Meulaboh. Labour teams have been working on the clean up at the General Hospital in Banda Aceh, the military airport in Banda Aceh (which receives most of the aid and logistical supplies in the area; waste at the site has been hampering helicopter take off and landing). These activities are intended to rehabilitate and improve access to public facilities, inject cash into IDP populations and ameliorate trauma among victims through the provision of work.

UNDP is currently finalising new agreements with six NGOs to work on a range of cash-for work initiatives, which will create new employment for over 11,000 people in the districts of Bireuen, Pidie, Aceh Besar, Banda Aceh, Aceh Jaya and Aceh Barat over the next six months. These projects include small-scale fisheries activities (fishing boats and nets), rehabilitation of paddy-fields, livelihoods revitalisation for disaster-affected women and children in Aceh, and other productive activities.

(iii) Waste management

Agreements are being concluded with the Municipality of Banda Aceh to support resumption of Municipal Solid Waste Management, as well as processing and recycling of tsunami-generated waste via labour-intensive cash for work. The main objective of these activities is to ensure coordinated, pragmatic responses to the waste problem, such that sustainable waste management strategies are incorporated into the redevelopment plans, including material re-use and segregation of hazardous wastes. Planning is also underway for expanding the project to other main cities (e.g. Meulaboh, Calang), and to develop larger scale waste management activities.

2. Livelihoods Recovery

(i) Emergency Public Employment Services Network in Aceh

ILO has established an emergency public employment services network with UNDP support, which is facilitating access to jobs for those who have lost their livelihoods as a result of the earthquake and Tsunami disaster. This service has registered around 4,087 skilled people from all over the province for permanent employment placements, and an additional 865 people for cash for work programmes. To date, 107 people have been placed in cash for work programmes and 10 people in permanent employment placements.

(ii) Livelihoods Recovery

A multi-agency framework for linking livelihoods assessments into funding for livelihoods activities is being developed together with other agencies and NGOs. The methodology uses DFID's sustainable livelihoods approach, and is intended to provide an informed basis for multi-agency collaboration in the

area of livelihoods. UNDP is currently consulting with FAO and ILO on collaboration in the recovery of livelihoods.

(iii) Livelihoods Coordination

The Livelihoods Recovery Working Group (LRWG), chaired by UNDP in Banda Aceh, Meulaboh and Jakarta and participated in by UN agencies, international and Indonesian NGOs, and local authorities, has established guiding principles for livelihood interventions, which include guidelines on common approaches, limiting market distortions, support to local initiatives and entrepreneurship, and ensuring participatory approaches. The LRWG has also developed specific guidelines on cash-for-work and is working on finalizing guidelines for micro-finance and grant-making initiatives.

3. Recovery of housing, settlements and associated infrastructure

Although immediate action has involved distributing tents to displaced persons and families, the primary objective for UNDP in this initiative is to secure direct access to populations in need of longer term recovery support, including recovery of livelihood and longer term shelters. UNDP is supporting MBPI (The Indonesian Society for Disaster Management), in cooperation with IIDP (The Indonesian Institute for Disaster Preparedness), who facilitated provision of over 500 tents for IDPs at a number of locations, ensuring that all temporary sites are in line with SPHERE standards, and who have mobilized an initial group of 50 Acehnese facilitators to ensure that community members have a channel to express their short and longer term needs in livelihood and housing aspirations. Additionally, 1,510 tents provided by DFID through UNDP are being distributed via UNHCR, 1,460 of which having been transported to Banda Aceh, and 50 to Meulaboh.

UNDP is collaborating with UN-HABITAT in the design of a programme of support to rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing and associated infrastructure in Aceh Province. A design team has completed the initial design of the programme which is currently being consulted with Government and other partners. The programme will assist households affected by the Tsunami disaster in selected areas of Aceh to reconstruct their living environments through support for rehabilitation and reconstruction of houses, as well as for the provision of community infrastructure. The programme will support the communities' own efforts through a process of community action planning (CAP) to determine the specifics of assistance required in each community.

4. Capacity Building for Recovery

(i) Institutional Support for local Government and Civil Society

UNDP is providing early institutional support for recovery of local Government and civil society capacities. UNDP is providing computer equipment for SATKORLAK, as part of institutional support for disaster management.

Support is also currently being provided to the BAPPENAS and the provincial BAPPEDA for the reconstruction planning process (see (ii) below)

UNDP is supporting the strengthening of local NGOs capacity through direct provision of institutional supports (such as equipment) as well as through the national NGO consortium Community Recovery Programme, which has been active in the Tsunami-affected region since prior to the disaster. The objectives of this initiative include developing the capacity of local NGOs in participatory needs assessments at the community level, fostering partnerships among civil society organizations in addressing the needs of the affected communities, facilitating civil society strategic planning and implementation of longer term reconstruction and recovery programmes, and monitoring the implementation of humanitarian aid programmes.

(ii) Technical Assistance for Recovery and Reconstruction Planning

UNDP is supporting and participating in the planning for reconstruction led by the National Development Planning Body (BAPPENAS) together with the World Bank, the ADB and UN agencies. UNDP has assembled a technical team to assist BAPPENAS and the provincial Development Planning Body (BAPPEDA) in undertaking a reconstruction needs assessment and reconstruction planning process. At the national level, UNDP has placed two staff at the BAPPENAS secretariat and 10 technical advisors with the working groups established for the reconstruction planning process. At the provincial level, UNDP and the World Bank are facilitating the establishment of a secretariat for the provincial reconstruction planning process, and UNDP is providing support for the 10 provincial working groups (POKJAs) to undertake sectoral planning and popular consultations, and for consultation forums with civil society, the private sector, local government officials and academia.

(iii) Aid Monitoring

UNDP is issuing a request for proposals to engage with organisations to monitor aid effectiveness, in order to generate information on how funds channelled by UNDP are translating into impacts for affected populations and local institutions on the ground in Tsunami affected areas. This information will feed into ongoing programme development and refinement, and will complement the monitoring systems being established both within the UNDP supported programme and the wider UN system.