

# PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme

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## Deloitte and UNDP Join Forces for Tsunami Reconstruction

**United Nations, April 22, 2005** — Through its member firms, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, one of the world's leading professional services organizations, has begun providing 14,000 hours of pro bono advisory services to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to help ensure that tsunami reconstruction funds are used efficiently and transparently, UNDP announced today.

The first Deloitte team recently began work in Indonesia and will review UNDP reconstruction operations in affected areas. The team will recommend methods to improve reporting, review existing control mechanisms, and seek to identify opportunities to strengthen accountability. Deloitte teams will also tour UNDP operations in the Maldives and Sri Lanka.

Deloitte firms in Australia, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States are participating in this landmark initiative. Deloitte teams will work with UNDP to review and advise on opportunities to strengthen financial systems, processes, and procedures. Donor governments have contributed more than US\$112 million to UNDP for tsunami reconstruction programs.

"This is a critical time for UNDP. Deloitte's help will definitely increase our capacity to respond to pressing reconstruction needs in these hard hit areas," said Jan Mattsson, director of UNDP's Bureau of Management.

William G. Parrett, chief executive officer, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, says the initiative came about because people of Deloitte member firms wanted to support the relief efforts. "Following the tsunami, our people responded generously, donating millions of dollars," said Mr. Parrett. "Now, we are extending that commitment by contributing our expertise.

"Deloitte firms actively support communities around the world. This project is a clear example of how we see co-operation between business, government, and society addressing the world's development challenges. We are pleased to be supporting the good work of the UNDP, particularly in response to pressing needs in the wake of the tsunami," added Mr. Parrett.

This project between Deloitte and UNDP comes as the tsunami humanitarian relief effort winds down and attention turns to longer-term reconstruction projects. The tsunami killed more than 170,000 people, left more than a million homeless, and destroyed the livelihoods of many others.

The initiative builds on U.S.-based Deloitte Consulting LLP's long-term agreement to advise UNDP on financial issues, change management, organizational design, strategy and planning.

For Further information, please contact:

At Deloitte: Madonna Jarrett, Mobile: +1 (646) 388-2335, [mjarrett@deloitte.com](mailto:mjarrett@deloitte.com)  
UNDP: Dan Shepard, +1 (212) 906 5325, [dan.shepard@undp.org](mailto:dan.shepard@undp.org)

**About UNDP :** UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and our wide range of partners.

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