



ACTIVITY BRIEF

Improving Waste Management

This activity is one in a series of debris removal, waste management projects after the tsunami. The activities not only serve short term needs but improve understanding of the on going effort to secure healthier, cleaner environments.



Tsunami survivors in a village in Suk Sumran Sub-District, Ranong Province, Thailand, clean out the village's sewer line with the help of USAID's Cash for Work program.

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Villagers in one of the remote Thai communities that were affected by the tsunami informed the Post Tsunami Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods demonstration communities were concerned that their main sewer line, which runs directly past the village market, was full of trash and needed to be cleaned out.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods project aims to help villagers learn how to build common vision for action. To accomplish this, villagers participate in identifying problems, systematically evaluate resources that can contribute to the resolution of a problem and then devise and implement an action plan.

In response to this proposal, USAID supported a Cash for Work project that hired 100 villagers from the community to clean out the sewer line. After workers picked out most of the larger items that were beginning to clog up the sewer, including bags, the line was flushed out with a high-pressure hose provided by the district administration. The local administration pitched in by using one of its trash collection vehicles to haul the debris to a local landfill.

Through joint efforts to contribute resources, such as labor and equipment, local authorities and communities jointly leverage resources to resolve challenges.