



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ASIA AND THE NEAR EAST

TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION

Update – August 17, 2005

INDONESIA

USAID forms five public/private partnerships to encourage participation in reconstruction

Since the tsunami, USAID has negotiated five public/private partnerships to help direct resources to reconstruct Aceh and provide tangible assistance to Acehnese citizens. Listed below are highlights of these partnerships:

Unocal Foundation

The Unocal Foundation is donating \$1.5 million in grants to support a cluster of six villages near Blang Mee: Deah Mamplam, Meupasan Bak Lie, Mesjid Leupung, Lamsenuia, Pulot and Layeuh. The funds will be channeled through USAID programs that ensure community participation in all aspects of the recovery process, encourage partnership between communities and local government in the recovery process, and achieve measurable livelihood improvement in disaster-affected communities.



Chevron

On August 14, 73 additional students from Aceh left for Riau province to begin a three-month vocational skills building course with scholarships from a \$10 million USAID/Chevron public-private alliance. These students joined the first group of 60 students at the Politeknik Caltex Riau center in Pekanbaru. By the end of 2005, a total of 330 youth, aged 18-22, will be trained in skills such as computer troubleshooting, computer applications, bookkeeping, electronic repair, electric wiring installation, building construction, carpentry, road construction, and welding. These skills will help ensure Acehnese participation in the reconstruction process.

ConocoPhillips Indonesia

On August 2, USAID and ConocoPhillips Indonesia entered into a public-private alliance to support five tsunami-affected villages along the western coast of Aceh in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam.

ConocoPhillips Indonesia is providing \$1.2 million exclusively for livelihoods, small-scale infrastructure and other community development activities in the five villages of Saney, U Tamong, Teumareum, Kuala, and Bahagia. The partnership is an excellent example of a major private sector company making a powerful social commitment to assist with the recovery efforts in Aceh.

Microsoft

In June 2005, Microsoft provided \$200,000 to support the Baitul Qirath Division (Islamic revolving loan fund) of Pemuda Muhammadiyah Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (an indigenous Islamic youth organization). The funds assist with the reconstruction of the economy by increasing accessibility to micro-financing for Acehnese, particularly for vulnerable individuals. This joint program will make working capital accessible so people affected by the tsunami can engage in sustainable livelihoods and regain control of their futures.

Mars Candy

USAID and Mars Incorporated recently created an alliance to support disaster relief activities focusing on vulnerable families. The funds are being used to meet the basic needs of approximately 200,000 people through the provision of health services, water and sanitation, shelter and protection. USAID and Mars Inc. have each contributed \$1 million.

SRI LANKA

Promoting rural enterprise in Matara District

USAID's post-tsunami livelihoods restoration program is promoting five small rural enterprises in Matara District. A total of \$163,579 will provide more than 1,200 small entrepreneurs, farmers, and fishermen with technical assistance, working capital, materials, and equipment. Enterprises will center on coir spinning, yam cultivation, pillow lace weaving, fish processing, and other cottage industries. The program will also establish producer groups to encourage sustainability. Group members will pool funds to purchase raw materials at discount rates. The program will run through February 2006.



A jeweler in the shop of Y.R.S. Kumar is back at work thanks to a USAID grant to help Galle district jewelers re-start their businesses after the tsunami.

Photo: USAID

New equipment for jewelers in Galle

Y. R. S. Kumar is a jeweler in Galle whose business was badly damaged by the tsunami. His small shop was partially destroyed, and most of his tools and small stock of gold and gems were swept away. He is struggling to find enough work for the six craftsmen he employs. USAID is helping Kumar to re-start his trade under a new \$107,700 livelihoods restoration grant to the Sri Lanka Gem and Jewelers Association. The Association will provide 763 jewelers with new tools, stock, and display cases to help them recover more quickly.



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INDIA

USAID cash-for work program rebuilds salt pans

Prior to the tsunami, Balakrishnan earned a decent living harvesting salt with his one acre of salt pans. The pans were destroyed and he lacked the resources to rebuild them. Through a USAID-funded cash-for-work program, the silt deposited in his salt pans was removed and the damaged infrastructure was rebuilt. He is back in business and as the price for salt increases, his monthly income is 87 percent higher than the pre-tsunami days. The additional money helps pay for his son's education.

Balakrishnan and neighbors pose with their newly restored salt pans.
Photo: Joseph Ravikumar

FAST FACTS: U.S. ASSISTANCE AS OF AUGUST 17, 2005

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| Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged 12/31/04: | \$350,000,000 |
| Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction Fund: | \$631,000,000* |
| Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed: | \$101,550,957 |
| Total USAID Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Assistance Committed: | \$427,695,969 |
| Other USG Humanitarian Assistance Provided: | \$237,900,000 |

*\$656 million was approved for the Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction Fund, but \$25 million is committed to Avian Flu.

For more information on the tsunami and USAID's work, please see "Tsunami Relief" at www.usaid.gov.