



Australian Government
AusAID

Australia's response to the Indian Ocean tsunami

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING
30 NOVEMBER 2005



© This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyrights Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Commonwealth. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to the Commonwealth Copyright Administration, Attorney-General's Department, Robert Garran Offices, National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600, or posted at <http://www.ag.gov.au.cca>.

ISBN 1 920861 52 1

For further information about the
Australian overseas aid program, contact:

AusAID Public Affairs Group

AusAID

GPO Box 887

Canberra ACT 2601

Phone 02 6206 4727

Facsimile 02 6206 4695

Internet www.ausaid.gov.au

Designed by GRi.D, Canberra

Printed by Trendsetting

COVER PHOTOS:

1. *Devastation and recovery of Aceh.*
2. *Women at temporary shelter, Aceh Besar.*
3. *Kajhu Village hall.*
4. *Demolition at Ulee Lheue Port.*

PHOTOS: AusAID



Ministerial foreword

Australia's contribution to the successful international humanitarian relief effort following the 26 December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster involved tens of thousands of Australians – members of the defence forces, officers at Australian overseas diplomatic missions, staff from AusAID and other government departments, humanitarian workers from Australian non-government aid agencies, businesses which donated goods and services to the relief effort and, in particular, individual Australians who volunteered their time and gave generously to relief appeals.

In recognition of such contributions from ordinary Australians to the tsunami relief effort I agreed earlier this year with the leaders of key Australian non-government organizations that there should be regular public reporting of the outcomes of Australia's humanitarian relief and reconstruction assistance. This is the third such report.

Many of the survivors of the disaster will continue to need humanitarian assistance until they are rehoused in permanent dwellings and have regained their livelihoods. In parallel with this continuing international humanitarian effort a wide range of longer-term reconstruction projects is now being implemented – in health, education, infrastructure, housing, livelihoods support, reconstruction planning and in other areas.

As we approach the first anniversary of this terrible disaster it is clear that the momentum behind the initial humanitarian relief effort is being maintained into the reconstruction phase. There will be many difficulties and challenges to be overcome before the reconstruction task is successfully completed. The Australian Government is proud to be a part of this international reconstruction effort and is committed to continue helping the survivors rebuild their lives and their communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexander Downer'.

The Hon Alexander Downer MP,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Overview

THIS THIRD PUBLIC REPORT OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S POST-TSUNAMI ASSISTANCE FOCUSES ON THE PROGRESS OF RECONSTRUCTION IN INDONESIA'S DEVASTATED ACEH AND NORTH SUMATRA PROVINCES.

Earlier reports, released on 1 June 2005 and 6 September 2005, detailed total expenditure of \$75.9 million on emergency and humanitarian assistance and early reconstruction work in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and other affected countries from 26 December 2004 until 30 June 2005.

In addition, Australian Defence Force and other government agency contributions to the immediate relief effort were valued at \$46.9 million, meaning that the value of Australian Official Development Assistance to the tsunami relief and reconstruction effort totaled \$122.8 million to 30 June 2005.

This funding helped meet immediate humanitarian needs for food and clean water, medical care and shelter. Australia's assistance contributed to a massive international relief effort aimed at protecting the tsunami's survivors from hunger and sickness. Measured against this simple objective the international relief effort has clearly succeeded.

The initial funding also helped start the process of recovery and reconstruction in affected communities – restoring basic education services, rehabilitating hospitals and health clinics, and helping to re-establish individual livelihoods.

In the time since funding for the \$1 billion Australia Indonesia Partnership for Reconstruction and Development (AIPRD) was appropriated by the Commonwealth Parliament on 23 March 2005, the focus of Australia's post-tsunami assistance has



been on the longer-term reconstruction challenge in Indonesia's Aceh and North Sumatra provinces.

This report details Australia's official post-tsunami contributions to Indonesia to 30 November 2005. It also details the major outcomes and achievements flowing from this expenditure, which now totals over \$95 million.

Although there has been no new expenditure to report for this period for Sri Lanka and the Maldives, tsunami reconstruction and recovery operations continue. The Australian Government has provided more than \$25 million in tsunami related assistance to affected South Asian countries and will continue to support tsunami affected communities.

INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI

LOSS AND DAMAGE SUSTAINED BY ACEH AND NORTH SUMATRA.

- > More than 150,000 died or are still missing
- > 127,000 houses were destroyed and a similar number damaged
- > In Nias 850 were killed and 35,000 houses destroyed or damaged
- > Over 500,000 were left homeless
- > 2 hospitals were destroyed and 5 others badly damaged
- > 26 primary health care centers were destroyed
- > 1,488 schools were destroyed
- > 150,000 children were left without a school
- > 230 km of roads were destroyed
- > 9 seaports were destroyed
- > 11,000 hectares of land were damaged, 2,900 hectares permanently
- > The economy of the affected regions may shrink by about 14 percent, including US\$1 billion in lost productivity (half in fisheries)
- > 90% of surface coral and vast areas of mangroves were damaged
- > At least 654 villages were damaged or destroyed.

Source: World Bank Rebuilding a Better Aceh and Nias, Preliminary Stocktaking of the Reconstruction Effort Six Months after the Earthquake and Tsunami.



Indonesia

ACTIVITIES AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1 JULY 2005 – 30 NOVEMBER 2005

The Australian Government has now provided Official Development Assistance valued at over \$95 million for tsunami-affected areas in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces in Indonesia.

This has provided humanitarian assistance such as food, drinking water, shelter and medicines. Repairing, rebuilding and re-establishing vital public services such as hospitals and health clinics, schools and community infrastructure have also been priorities.

A longer-term program of work to assist Indonesia achieve broad-based economic growth and improve emergency preparedness and response is now being developed through the \$1 billion Australia Indonesia Partnership for Reconstruction and Development (AIPRD). As at 30 November, over \$23 million of AIPRD grant funds have been expended on reconstruction and longer-term development assistance to Aceh and North Sumatra.

SUMMARY OF AUSTRALIA'S POST-TSUNAMI RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURE RELATING TO INDONESIA

Humanitarian funding through AusAID to 30 June 2005	\$34.4m
Other Government Department expenditure to 30 June 2005*	\$37.4m
AIPRD estimated expenditure dedicated to Aceh and North Sumatra to 30 November 2005	\$23.7m
Total estimated expenditure from 26 December 2004 to 30 November 2005	\$95.5m

* This represents total Official Development Assistance for post-tsunami relief and reconstruction efforts in Aceh and North Sumatra through Australian Government agencies other than AusAID. The main component of this assistance is the Australian Defence Forces' contribution to the tsunami relief effort in Aceh and North Sumatra under Operation Sumatra Assist. The contribution included logistical support to the delivery of vital humanitarian aid, providing medical care, particularly through a field hospital, and the provision of sanitation and potable water.

TOP: Australia funded a major restoration and refurbishment of the emergency wing of Banda Aceh's major provincial hospital. MIDDLE: Student nurses in Banda Aceh welcome the announcement by the Australian Ambassador, David Ritchie, that Australia will provide tuition support for over 1450 nursing students so that they can continue their studies. BOTTOM: Pharmaceutical services and major infrastructure have now been restored at Banda Aceh's major provincial hospital. PHOTOS: AusAID





Australia has provided 1300 nurses uniforms and 1000 pairs of shoes for staff in two hospitals and three health academies in Aceh and Meulaboh. Manufacture of the clothing provided employment for local businesses. PHOTO: AusAID

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES IN ACEH

The Australian Government has contributed substantially to restoring infrastructure and services, principally in the health, education and local government sectors. These are areas in which the Australian Government has extensive development experience, they are complementary to the activities of other donor countries and non-government organisations and, most importantly, are critical for the recovery of communities in Aceh.

Australia's achievements to date are in five major areas.

RESTORING HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES

The earthquake and tsunami impacted profoundly on Aceh province's health system. Many health workers, along with students and staff of health training schools, either lost their lives or lost their families and homes. The disaster destroyed or seriously damaged six hospitals, including the provincial tertiary hospital (Zainoel Abidin), 41 of 259 health centres and 57 of 821 health sub-centres.

The Zainoel Abidin hospital was the focal point for providing medical treatment to victims of the tsunami disaster. Prior to the tsunami the hospital provided 210 out-patient services daily.

The earthquake and tsunami severely damaged the hospital and most of its equipment was either damaged or destroyed. One in 10 staff was either missing or dead. The task of restoring hospital services was a priority, for without these services the pace of the community's recovery would be greatly impacted.

Indonesian and Australian military and civilian personnel, together with experts from other countries, including Australia, worked together to clear mud and debris, clean flooded buildings, replace equipment and provide medical and surgical services. Funded by Australia, Australian and Indonesian medical personnel worked to restore hospital services. These included surgeons, doctors, nurses and pharmacists.

A \$10 million program to restore the Zainoel Abidin Hospital has been underway since the disaster. All services and major infrastructure have now been restored. This has included the restoration of the three storey emergency building, pharmacy dispensary and pharmacy warehouse, as well as repairs to other buildings and water, sanitation and drainage systems damaged by the earthquake and inundated by the tsunami.

In addition, hospital administration systems have been re-established and over 350 hospital staff have undergone training or further professional development.

The range of clinical services that existed at the hospital prior to the tsunami has been fully restored, while anaesthetic and pharmacy services are being supplemented by Australian funded staff.

More broadly, Australia is assisting in the restoration of health services and systems as well as in re-establishing the health workforce. This assistance includes the development of an efficient system for dispensing pharmacy supplies. An electronic pharmacy system is now being developed for the major provincial hospital, which also can be applied to other districts.

Significant support has also been provided to restore the health workforce by providing training, equipment, as well as supporting training organisations and academies. Re-equipping classrooms, restoring libraries and laboratories – including educational mannequins as well as the provision of uniforms for students – are examples of practical assistance provided to institutions in

recent months. In addition, tuition fees have been paid for over 1450 nursing students to enable them to continue their training.

REBUILDING SCHOOLS AND REVITALIZING HIGHER EDUCATION

More than 2,000 schools were damaged or destroyed by the disaster. About 2,500 teaching and non-teaching staff and 40,900 students died and many were left homeless. In total about 150,000 students lost access to proper education facilities.

Australia is providing significant support to the Islamic education sub-sector which educates approximately 50 per cent of students, many of whom are very poor. In this sector 21 per cent of classrooms were destroyed or damaged. Often religious boarding schools provide the only accommodation for children who were left homeless or orphaned, or whose families



The launch of construction at Min Merduati primary school, where three out of four students perished in the tsunami.
PHOTO: AusAID

cannot afford to support them. Damage to school buildings, dormitories, destruction of text books and equipment and the loss of teachers and staff as a result of the tsunami have had a serious impact on children's education services in Aceh.

Enabling children to return to school is important to their recovery, brings normal routine back into their lives and provides a focal point for families and the community to come together. Re-establishing education services and reconstructing facilities is therefore a high priority.

A program to re-establish functioning education services in Aceh is providing much needed teacher support, renovating or rebuilding schools, implementing strategies for retaining children in the school system and improving education management. Achievements to date include work on the reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of eight schools, including religious schools (madrasah), and one religious boarding school (dayah) and provision of text books, furniture, and teaching equipment for all facilities being reconstructed.

Australia is also making an important contribution to the tertiary education sector. Work includes the restoration of the library at the State Islamic Tertiary Institute (IAIN) and construction of a micro-teaching laboratory at Syiah Kuala University, as well as housing support for 850 university academics and other staff.

A program to re-establish the Research and Training Institute at Syiah Kuala University in Banda Aceh has been designed and will support research into the effects of the tsunami and reconstruction efforts in Aceh. In addition, 33 post-graduate scholarships for study in Australia have been awarded to Acehese students in the first intake of 370 Australian Partnership Scholarships.



A temporary school in the basement of the Grand Mosque, Banda Aceh. The Partnership has provided grants for school construction works, procurement of teaching supplies and equipment. PHOTO: AusAID

BELOW: Construction of a terminal building underway at Ulee Lheue Port. PHOTO: Peter Davis RIGHT: Workers help to restore Ulee Lheue Port. PHOTO: AusAID



REPAIRING ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

There was almost total loss of physical infrastructure in parts of Aceh with all public buildings, roads, bridges, commercial and community centres damaged beyond repair or completely destroyed. This destruction was mainly concentrated in a 3-6km band along 200km of coastline. In some areas, such as Banda Aceh, this included densely populated urban villages. More than 500,000 people were left homeless and without access to essential services.

In these circumstances, reconstruction is both difficult and complex. After the disaster, construction materials were in short supply, difficult to source, and damage to ports and roads limited freight transportation.

The disaster and continuing earth tremors have also made the community more aware of the need to improve building design. Thus construction is not simply a matter of rebuilding what was there; rather designs require extensive consultation to ensure that new infrastructure results in buildings with improved functionality and better able to withstand earthquakes.

Physical reconstruction has been central to Australia's support to Aceh, with this work focused primarily on the health, education, and governance sectors. To date approximately 1,400 Australian aid-funded construction, procurement or logistics-related contracts and sub-contracts have been awarded in Aceh and Nias, with much of the work going to local businesses, trades and community groups who work alongside Australian engineers, advisers and other contractors.

The Australian Government has worked to identify opportunities for Australian, New Zealand and Indonesian businesses with the required expertise.

Australia has also funded more than 30 experts from around the world to carry out investigation, design and construction management in Banda Aceh, and Australia was also among the first donors to provide practical, on-the-ground support to the Aceh Reconstruction Agency – the authority responsible for implementing the Aceh reconstruction master plan.

A before and after aerial view of Ulee Lheue Port shows its destruction. PHOTO: UNDP



One of the major infrastructure projects funded by Australia is the Ulee Lheue Port – an economic lifeline for Banda Aceh. Before it was completely destroyed by the tsunami, the port provided daily passage for 600 travellers, 400 small traders, 15 tonnes of goods and 25 trucks. Restoring port services is vital to the recovery of the city.

The tsunami caused the land to sink and the road to the port was washed away. The surge of water deposited five tonnes of rocks onto the jetty and swept away the ferry pontoon. The Ulee Lheue Port also harboured the mooring for a large floating power station that provided base load power for Banda Aceh. The tsunami picked up the power station and deposited it intact about 3.5km inland. The station remains there today.

The first phase of the port restoration is now nearing completion. The restoration of the port will enable vital aid supplies, other goods and construction materials to be brought in, passenger ferry services to resume and the fishing industry to fully function.

Funding from Australia has enabled the access road to be reconnected to the port. The harbour has been cleared and the remains of the terminal and other buildings have been demolished. It is now possible to get barges into port, and freight and passenger services will shortly be able to resume operations.

The Australian Government has provided \$2.5 million for the first phase of this project.



The centre of village life – 180 community halls are being built with funding and technical expertise provided by Australia.
PHOTO: AusAID



Extensive consultation with communities is required to re-establish property boundaries destroyed by the disaster.
PHOTO: AusAID

REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

The aspiration of all tsunami victims is to recover their property and rebuild their homes. However, with approximately half a million people displaced and 300,000 parcels of land affected by the earthquake and tsunami, this mammoth task will take time.

Australia is helping to rebuild and re-equip local government offices and 180 village halls. A computerised system is also being developed to replace identity cards lost in the disaster.

Property boundaries have been destroyed and land title records have been lost. Australia has contributed to permanent resettlement by re-establishing property boundaries for more than 15,000 individual parcels of land in just four months. Seventy five land mappers have been trained to accelerate the mapping process and an Australian-designed certification process has been adopted by provincial authorities to authenticate land ownership.

Community consultation processes have been supported to ensure that villagers are able to participate fully in the planning and reconstruction effort. This gives communities confidence that reconstruction is being properly planned and individual property rights are being respected.



Australia's funding helped farmers get back on their feet after the tsunami, with seed for crops and other support. AusAID is also helping to restore shrimp hatcheries and fisheries, rebuild markets and address salination caused by the tsunami. PHOTO: Austcare

Over 150 staff, mostly Acehnese, are working with local communities to support these processes and deliver practical reconstruction programs.

Australia has also contributed towards housing reconstruction by providing expertise to strengthen planning processes and building preparations. A technical team has been mobilized to assist international agencies and other donors with logistics, site planning and water and sanitation to upgrade or replace temporary shelters.

At the district level Australia has provided training to government agencies and worked with them to develop their own reconstruction plans. Technical assistance has also been provided to the Aceh Reconstruction Agency in the fields of education and health, economic development, housing, strategic management and program planning.

RE-ESTABLISHING LIVELIHOODS

The massive destruction from the earthquake and ensuing tsunami devastated people's livelihoods, leaving them unable to generate an income. More than 600,000 people are estimated to have lost their employment.

Assisting people get back to paid work is vital to restore their self-sufficiency and prevent their long term dependency.

Australia's funding for Aceh includes support for institutions and services that enable people looking for work to be effectively matched with job opportunities. Australia has provided funding for the establishment of emergency employment centres. These provide access to jobs for people who have lost their livelihood as a result of the disaster, as well as analyse labour market trends and identify skills shortages. The program also works with Indonesian Government vocational training centres to deliver short courses in masonry and carpentry in order to service the demand for skilled construction workers.

Since February 2005 an employment service centre and an employer service centre have been established in Banda Aceh, with three satellite employment service offices set up in other locations across the province. Over 7,200 workers have been placed in employment.

The agriculture and fisheries sectors are important sources of employment and income. Before the tsunami, aquaculture was a major industry in Aceh, directly employing over 94,000 people. The disaster damaged over 11,000 hectares of land, many fishing boats and markets were destroyed and shrimp hatcheries were inundated with debris. Australia's assistance with essential infrastructure to support the aquaculture industry in Aceh, coupled with practical help to small-scale hatcheries, will contribute to the restoration of local livelihoods.