

INDONESIA STATUS REPORT

31 MARCH 2006

Coordination:

FAO is working closely with the Government of Indonesia, line Ministries and NGOs in providing technical and policy guidance to plan and coordinate rehabilitation efforts in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors. FAO's emphasis is on optimizing sustainable outcomes and rebuilding livelihood opportunities for vulnerable fishing and farming families to enhance their food security and incomes. FAO has provided technical guidance and expertise to the Government of Indonesia through its close collaboration with the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Ministry of Forestry. As a result, the Government of Indonesia was able to develop a rehabilitation and reconstruction strategy in Aceh and Nias for agriculture, fisheries and forestry. FAO is also working closely with the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR - Badan Rehabilitasi dan Rekonstruksi) for Aceh and Nias to help coordinate humanitarian efforts in the region.

Agriculture:

In the agriculture sector, procurement of over US\$423 000 worth of agricultural supplies is underway to assist 12 000 farmers for the coming May-June cropping season. Inputs for farmers include 100 metric tonnes of certified rice seed, 47 metric tonnes of secondary crop seeds (maize, groundnut and soybean), and 3 500 vegetable kits consisting of watermelon, chili, tomato and long bean seeds. To help improve soil fertility, 855 metric tonnes of fertilizer (Urea, Super Phosphate, NPK and KCl) will also be provided and the added nutrients to the soil will help boost crop yields. Rice harvest yields this year are expected to reach an average of five tonnes per hectare, in comparison to an average of only four tonnes per hectare last year. In addition, 7 000 rakes and 7 000 hoes will also be distributed for farmers to prepare agricultural lands for planting and 250 hand tractors are currently under procurement.

FAO is nearing distribution of 300 head of livestock, including pregnant cows and buffaloes to livestock farmers in and around Aceh Besar, helping to provide financial capital to poor herders. Once new born calves reach six months of age, farmers are encouraged to donate the cow/buffalo to the next vulnerable member of the community, thus allowing a larger section of the community to benefit from one round of livestock distribution. All FAO procured livestock is treated for parasites and vaccinated prior to distribution. FAO has also provided the Dinas with medicines and equipment to treat the livestock and administer drugs for up to three months following distribution.

Fisheries:

FAO is helping fishing communities resume their livelihoods through the building and distribution of fully equipped boats (engine, gears, security kit, and navigational kit), the rehabilitation of tambaks, water canals and distribution of tools and seeds for aquaculture reactivation and the distribution of small-scale fish processing units and processing sheds .

A total of five quality and fully equipped boats have been distributed to the fishers in Aceh Jaya; beneficiaries were selected according to FAO selection criteria and in close collaboration with the fishermen association Panglima Laot and the Aceh Jaya district office of Dinas Perikanan.

A further 29 boats have been completed in the boat yards of Sabang (10), Krueng Raya (5), Sigli (5), Loksumawe (3) Banda Aceh (1), and Simeulue (5). A team of FAO specialists is following the building activities to provide technical guidance and improve the designs with the objective of assuring the quality standards and sea worthiness of the finished product. A total of 50 labourers are working in these boat yards, enabling them to earn extra income. Additionally, a total of two boat yard facilities have been built in the communities of Gamo and Olor in Nias Gunung Sitoli in the District of Nias.

A total of 288 hectares of tambaks were repaired and cleaned jointly, by tambak farmers and internally displaced people through a CFW scheme supported by FAO in the district of Aceh Besar (42), Bireuen (160) and Pidie (41). FAO's aquaculture activities are progressing in close collaboration with the Loka Ujum Bate Aquaculture Research Centre to provide technical assistance and advice to farmers on improving bio security ponds design and increasing production. Fish farmers will also receive of agroinputs including fish and shrimp seed, feed and fertilizer to farmers who lost their capacity to resume income-generating activities as a result of the tsunami.

The repair of water supply canals is on-going to supply water for tambaks; between February and March, 14.5 kilometres of canal have been repaired in Pidie and Bireuen. FAO is also providing technical assistance to fish farmers on improving biosecurity, pond design and fish production. During the first quarter of 2006, a total of 70 ice boxes, 140 fish rattan baskets and 70 bicycles were distributed in Lhoksumawe and Pidie districts to help small scale fish processors re-establish links with the trading community.

Forestry:

FAO is utilizing participatory approaches, in the context of integrated coastal area management, to develop programs to build the capacity of provincial, district and village-level communities in planning and implementing forest rehabilitation programs, reforestation, sustainable management of coastal trees and forests and agro-forestry. FAO has prepared two sets of guidelines on "Required Documentation for Timber Transportation within Indonesia" to facilitate the use of transportation documents from the Department of Forestry for the transportation of timber and "Procedures for Timber Clearance" to help NGOs, institutions and agencies involved in the procurement of imported timber in Aceh for rehabilitation and reconstruction. The first regional meeting of the "Forestry Programme for Early Rehabilitation for Early Rehabilitation of the tsunami affected Asian countries" from 12-14 March in Bangkok and two participatory rural appraisals were carried out from the 15-20 March on the east coast and from the 23-27 March on the west coast.