

FAO'S RESPONSE TO THE EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI DISASTER AND ITS FUTURE ROLE IN REHABILITATION

INDONESIA

FAO is working with local authorities and NGOs in Indonesia to restore disrupted local productive capacity in agriculture and fisheries through emergency provision of inputs, technical advice and training. For the agriculture sector, procurement has been carried out for inputs targeting 8 700 beneficiary households for the current rice planting season. FAO will cover both the east and west coasts of the Nagroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD), including the districts of Aceh Besar, Aceh Jaya, Aceh Barat, Naga Raya, Simeulue, Aceh Barat Daya on the west and the districts of Pidie, Bireuen, Aceh Utara, Aceh Timur on the east.



Rice seeds for sowing ready for distribution

Beneficiaries are being provided with agricultural input packages consisting of 20 kg of certified rice seed, and 150 kg of fertilizer, sufficient to cultivate 5 000 square meters of paddy each. Additionally, 545 hand tractors and 100 threshers are being provided to farmer groups for rice farming activities. The total value of these inputs is about US\$1.23 million. Moreover, to provide income and livelihood opportunities to communities and allow early resumption of food production FAO is supporting cash-for-work to clear debris from farm land.

In the fisheries sector, procurement of 373 inboard boat engines, 25 different items of fishing gear (including hooks, handlines, etc.) and 3 114 multi-filament fishing nets amounting to about US\$500 000 is ongoing for distribution to beneficiaries by the end of June 2005. In addition, FAO is seeking cooperation with NGO partners in boat repair and fish processing activities upon which the fishers depend for their livelihoods.

Many farmers and fishers in tsunami-affected areas are dependent on forests and trees for their livelihoods. Efforts to rehabilitate mangrove forests, to plant coastal shelterbelts, and to replant timber and fruit trees would serve to protect human lives and inland assets, and improve household economies. FAO is developing a program to facilitate district and village level land use planning to identify opportunities for forest rehabilitation, reforestation, and agroforestry to provide for coastal protection and livelihood needs of local populations. In addition, FAO's assessment of wood demand and supply for reconstruction of houses and other infrastructure has produced positive results concerning government action to protect natural forest and wildlife reserves and address the danger of accelerated illegal logging and deforestation.



Paddy tractors for distribution to beneficiaries