



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SUPPORT PROGRAMME
(UN-HABITAT)
PROGRAMME IN ACEH, INDONESIA



anchoringHOMES

People's Process in rebuilding homes and
livelihood in Aceh and Nias

The Aceh Nias Settlements Support Programme helps people to organise their own recovery. UN-HABITAT gives the process a structure with commitments, rights and obligations. It provides technical assistance so that homes will be safer than they were before.

A full colour book and a documentary film are expected to be published by mid 2007. The authors are two UN-HABITAT staff, Veronica Wijaya, a young Indonesian photographer and Aryo Danusiri, a young and already accomplished Indonesian film maker who specialises in anthropological themes. Both have been tracing communities at work in Aceh and Nias as they are rebuilding their homes and livelihoods.

*"It takes a village to
build a village.
UN-HABITAT's
People's Process is
about people who
solve most of their
own problems."*

Veronica followed people in five districts during 10 consecutive months in late 2005 and early 2006. Aryo lived for 10 months in one village to document the unfolding of community-based reconstruction in a typical settlement. Veronica's work shows people at work: women taking charge of the rebuilding of their settlements; men and women becoming managers of their own People's Process; and children regaining the protection of shelter and subsequently of homes.

The film *In-Between Two Elephants* captures the community reconstruction experiences of Desa Geunting Tumor in Pidie District. It shows the power of the "People's Housing Process" in action and particularly the struggle of leadership. The portrayed village leader tries to build trust. He shows initiative and courage but also experiences moments of deception and disappointment. However, problems lead to solutions and in the end we witness the triumph of the people. Aryo's film traces challenges and pitfalls of community leadership.

**United Nations Human
Settlements Program
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