



UN-HABITAT AND UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP) JOINT PROGRAM IN ACEH

Participatory Reconstruction Process at Work: Re-Building Homes in Aceh and Nias

HIGHLIGHTS

3,446 HOUSES BUILT

LOCATION:

22 VILLAGES IN 12 SUB-DISTRICTS IN 6 DISTRICTS

PROJECT COST: US\$ 24.0 MILLION

As the lead agency for human settlements within the United Nations system, UN-HABITAT in collaboration with United Nations Development Program (UNDP), formulated the **Aceh-Nias Settlements Support Program (ANSSP)** in January 2005 to support affected families to rebuild their houses in six districts (Aceh Besar, Banda Aceh, Pidie, Simeulue, Nias and Nias Seletan) in Aceh and North Sumatra Provinces.

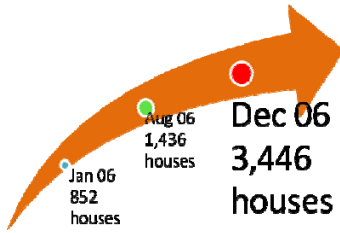
Through this program UN-HABITAT is directly involved in: rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing and community infrastructure, mapping of basic information, spatial planning support, housing sector monitoring, and policy support to Aceh and Nias Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR).

“People’s Process placed trust in people and encouraged the communities that they are capable to lead in assigning priorities, in decision making and in taking action.”

This program strategy ensures that affected families are at the centre of the recovery process. A people-centered approach also fosters local innovation in dealing with local problems, to resolve be it land disputes, determine village priorities, share common resources like water and forest, or in the production/procurement of building materials. The end result is a cohesive community and families that are fully engaged in shaping their future and that of their community. As communities take on these responsibilities, they gradually regain confidence and begin to revive networks premised on mutual help at times of distress. This not only improves efficiency, but is central to sustainable recovery.



Community at work.



As of 31 December 2006, 3,446 units of houses have been constructed and occupied by the beneficiaries. UN-HABITAT is amongst the programs with the highest delivery numbers during the past two years.

Mr . Bo Asplund, Resident Representative of UNDP Indonesia noted that” the key to ANSSP’s success has been in the community involvement at every step of the rebuilding process – from choosing a design, choosing a supplier, taking responsibility for managing finances, and organizing all phases of the construction. It is a process in which we are proud to have participated, developing a permanent housing project that has given great satisfaction to the people who need it most.”

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Similarly Mrs Anna Tibajuka, Under Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director UN-HABITAT pointed out that “the ANSSP’s success must be attributed to the process it applied in providing assistance to the communities. Eventually the people felt that they had rebuilt their own home.”



Completed Houses

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What has been demonstrated is that the beneficiaries of a housing project, with proper facilitation, can contribute in design decisions, select material and labour, manage construction phases, and manage finances. This form of total user participation has increased beneficiary satisfaction. Therefore Unsyiah third party settlement recovery monitoring has shown that the beneficiaries find the UN-HABITAT’s people’s housing process is excellent in terms of transparency and satisfaction.