

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMANITARIAN / RESIDENT COORDINATOR ON THE USE OF CERF GRANTS

Country	INDONESIA
Humanitarian / Resident Coordinator	Mr. Ianfranco Rotigliano, HC/RC ai
Reporting Period	January- June 2007

I. Executive Summary

Wide spread flooding in December 2006 severely affected areas in North, East and Central Aceh districts in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces. The worst affected districts included Aceh Tamiang, Langsa, Aceh Timur, Aceh Utara, Gayo Lues, Aceh Tengah, Aceh Utara, Lhokseumawe and Bireuen. Almost 400,000 persons were directly affected by flooding at its peak, with more than 100 deaths and several hundreds missing. Immediate needs included food, water, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits.

The provincial and district governments officially requested the UN to lead the relief coordination in partnership with the Government and NGOs, especially in Aceh Tamiang.¹ The UN was quick in responding to the emergency by establishing the main coordination cell in Banda Aceh, led by the UN Office of the Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias (UNORC), to coordinate overall emergency response operations. An Operations Centre was established in the SATKORLAK office in Banda Aceh, with representatives from BRR, SATKORLAK, Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) and the Governor's office. At field level, a joint UNORC/WFP floods response centre for Aceh Utara located in the UNORC Lhokseumawe field office was also set up, and response coordination meetings were initiated on 25 December 2006. The urgent need of the response called for a CERF rapid response funding at a time when most agencies needed to deliver without delay.

Total amount of humanitarian funding required (per reporting year):	Sudden onset emergency
Total amount of CERF funding received by window	Rapid Response: \$1,904,864
Total amount of CERF funding for direct UN/IOM implementation and total amount forwarded to implementing partners	UNICEF: Shelter and non-food items: \$770,383 WFP: Food : \$884,481 IOM: Coordination and support services: \$183,766.61 (\$66,233.39 was unspent and returned to the CERF)
Total number of beneficiaries targeted and reached with CERF funding (disaggregated by sex/age)	Over 190,000 people benefited with the support provided by agencies with CERF funding with food assistance; 700 families received agricultural and basic construction tools; more than 120,000 drinking water.
Geographic areas of implementation	Nangroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) province affected by floods, specifically the districts of Bireuen, North Aceh, Aceh Timur, Aceh Tamiang, Bener Meriah, Aceh Tengah and Gayo Lues.

¹ On 23 December 2006, the Government of Indonesia officially requested the United Nations to lead the emergency response for the Aceh Tamiang district, in what appeared to be the most severely affected. On 22 December 2006, the Aceh Utara district government had officially requested assistance to the UN through its letter to the WFP Lhokseumawe office. According to the letter, the preliminary figure for the affected population was 34,090. The local government however anticipated up to 70,000 persons to be affected and government authorities took the lead in the response with the assistance of the UN response team in Lhokseumawe.

II. Decision-making

In response to this emergency, UNORC convened an extraordinary expanded UN Team/IASC meeting on 23 December 2006 to discuss floods response, in particular for Lhokseumawe and Aceh Utara. A response team for Lhokseumawe/Aceh Utara was established with its base in the UNORC Lhokseumawe field office. According to reports from the initial aerial assessment via the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) on the same day, the densely populated areas around Aceh Utara capital Lhoksukun, including Nibong, Tanah Luas, Matang Kuli, Paya Bakong and Syamtalira Aron were heavily affected by flooding. By the evening of 23 December, it was reported that 23 villages were submerged and over 300 villages affected by the floods and were urgently requiring boats to evacuate - subsequently 97,421 persons were evacuated; and 18 IDP camps were set up. The first air lift of initial relief items by UNHAS took place in the early morning of 25 December 2006, carrying some 1.5 metric tons of food items supplied by the World Food Programme (WFP) and non-food items by relief organisations, and later distributed through Indonesian Red Cross (PMI).

At the national level, an emergency UN Country Team met in Jakarta on 24 December 2006, where agencies expressed their readiness to respond by making relief items from their stockpiles available to support aid operations in Aceh. However, these supplies needed to be quickly replenished in order to ensure availability of relief items for emergency response purposes. The Humanitarian Coordinator a.i., in consultation with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Country Team, approached the Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator requesting \$2 million from CERF in support of immediate life-saving efforts.

The Humanitarian Coordinator, a.i. also called for an extraordinary UN/NGO/Donor meeting on 26 December 2006 in Jakarta and encouraged donors for flexibility in funding to allow quick impact response. The relief community initially relied on temporarily diverting the stockpiles that were in country for tsunami recovery and other on-going programmes, but which needed to be replenished in near future. Considering the needs on the ground and the limited resources from agencies, on 5 January 2007, the Norwegian Government approved a total allocation of NOK 5 million (\$800,000) towards the emergency relief in Aceh, channelled through WFP (\$400,000), the International Organization for Migration (IOM - \$100,000), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF - \$200,000) and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA - \$ 100,000).

Needs assessments were difficult to conduct due to a lack of access as a consequence of the flooding and the limited number of landing spaces. Access to many villages was impossible due to the collapse of basic infrastructures and increased level of water. A rapid inter-agency assessment required technical expertise which was lacking at the time in Aceh, as most people were away for the Christmas holidays.

OCHA RDRA from ROAP office was deployed to help the team in Aceh conduct an inter-agency needs assessment. Several UN agencies (UNORC, DSS, UNICEF, WFP and FAO), IOM, NGOs (IRC and Save the Children) participated. They were joined by the local authorities represented by the Agency for Rehabilitation and Reconstruction in Aceh and Nias (BRR). This assessment was finalized on 9 January 2007. The assessment team was split into two groups: UNICEF led the group that focused on Aceh Tamiang district and IOM led the Central Highlands assessment team. Additionally, IOM also carried out two agency assessments of the Central Highland districts.

IOM's assessment in Bener Meriah showed that villages remained flooded, houses destroyed and many villages inaccessible. Medical needs were also part of the assessment and IOM deployed a female doctor to facilitate access to women in communities, ensuring gender-specific needs. Looking at the distribution of agricultural and basic construction tools among the most vulnerable population, IOM interviewed in March 2007 1,400 severely flood-affected households in Pinding sub-district of Gayo Lues. Based on the data, 700 families were selected, in close coordination with the local authorities and the heads of villages, to receive IOM support.

Six weeks after the floods, most of the approximately 400,000 temporarily displaced people had returned home, while roughly 50,000 remained displaced in Aceh Tamiang district. Clearing of mud and debris left by the floods was still ongoing and most of the affected areas were by then accessible by road, except for the sub-districts of Tenggulun, Bandar Pusaka, Tamiang Hulu and Sekerak in Aceh Tamiang, which still remained difficult to reach. The international community continued its support by deploying staff to the area and providing relief items. The focus of the response had then shifted towards identifying outstanding needs and planning for the restoration of houses, infrastructure and livelihoods while

ensuring that those who were still temporarily (or permanently) displaced continued receiving necessary aid such as food, water, tents and hygiene kits.

III. Implementation

With the allocation of CERF for projects in Aceh, the UN was well positioned to rapidly respond to the urgent needs of those affected by the December 2006 floods. Initial provincial government requests to the UN to support emergency relief in Aceh Tamiang, were soon expanded to five additional districts as the impacts of the floods became known.

Since road access to affected areas was limited, WFP established aerial access using the UNHAS helicopter and two landing sites. On 25 December 2006, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and Indonesian military helicopters carried the initial WFP food assistance, diverted from the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 10069.1), to Aceh Tamiang District. Additional WFP food assistance was dispatched from Banda Aceh through Lhokseumawe using 24 trucks provided by CARE, Save the Children, IFRC and IRC. A first team of two WFP programme staff were sent to Aceh Tamiang to supervise food distribution through PMI.

In the Central Highland areas, IOM took the coordination support lead and established relationships with government emergency response units. IOM was instrumental in helping the government to set up POSKOs (government coordination hubs) to facilitate and carry out the distribution of relief materials, including both food (as well as water) and non-food items. IOM also quickly mobilized local partners to carry out assessments and identify and respond to immediate needs in these remote communities.

UNICEF's interventions, focusing on water and sanitation, child protection, education, and health sectors, were also built on key partnerships and inter-agency collaboration. UNICEF was the key emergency coordination agency for the Water and Sanitation sector, and worked together with UNORC, the local district government and public water works (PDAM). UNICEF was the only agency present in Aceh Timur and Aceh Tamiang, however UNICEF coordinated with OXFAM, IRC, IFRC on the overall planning of the emergency response to Aceh Tamiang. In the Education sector, UNICEF worked together with government authorities during the assessment and response phases: the Head of District (Bupati) of Aceh Tamiang, the heads of the sub-districts in Aceh Tamiang, the District Education Office and the sub-district Education Office. For Child Protection issues, the Government responded to the emergency situation by sending a Crisis Unit from the Department of Social Affairs in Banda Aceh. This unit had previously received training by UNICEF under their Child Protection programme, and later during the implementation phase, UNICEF worked closely with the Provincial Office of Social Affairs, focusing its response on Aceh Tamiang, where other agencies were absent working on child protection issues.

UNICEF also conducted a rapid health assessment together with officials from the District Health Office. Given their limited capacity, officials from the other district health offices participated jointly with officials from the Ministry of Health and from the Provincial Health Offices of Aceh and North Sumatra, while Syiah Kuala University provided expertise. Other agencies involved in the health sector included the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA,) Save the Children, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Indonesian Red Cross and the military.

(a) Partnerships

Interagency collaboration provides its most valuable result in information sharing and in establishing a clear task division to avoid overlap, which ensured that all needs were covered. A major added value was the enhancement of efficiency and cost reduction in the agencies' operations, through sharing of resources such as UNHAS flights and logistics systems. UNICEF warehouse in Medan, for example, was designated as the logistical hub for all supplies and one UNICEF logistics staff member was deployed temporarily to UNORC to provide logistics support and coordinate the supply data.

IOM built on established relationships with local authorities, notably in Aceh Tamiang, Brner Meriah and Gayo Lues, and provided technical support to the POSKOs to facilitate the distribution of relief goods. Assistance provided focused on logistics and transportation support, including secondment of experienced staff, as was the case in Aceh Tamiang, where IOM seconded at the request of the

Government one staff member to the POSKO.² One of WFP's cooperating partners, Keumang, provided eight volunteers on the ground in Aceh Tamiang.

IOM also advocated for mobile IT-Media Coordination Centre (POSKOs), and supported the deployment of POSKOs closer to those affected communities as roads re-opened. In Bener Meriah, for example, the main access route to affected communities through the valley was blocked by landslides. IOM and local NGOs partners supported the POSKO use motorbikes to travel impassable roads and reaching affected communities where temporary POSKOs and helicopter drop points were established, to deliver emergency food items closer to those in need.

(b) Implementing Partners

In the case of UNICEF's contributions, all non-food items were handed over to the relevant government entities for further distribution.³ As for IOM, the following agencies were implementing partners in response to the floods:

- **International agencies:** CRS, WFP, Budha Tzu Chi, Oxfam, IRC, UNICEF, CWS, IMC, German Agro Action, CARDI,
- **Governmental agencies:** Posko PDAM, Satlak Aceh Tamiang, other Satlak
- **Local non-governmental agencies:** Ummat, Muhammadiyah, Ibu for Aceh, WALHI
- **Civil society groups:** Mapala NAD⁴, Himpunan Mahasiswa Tamiang⁵

Food from WFP was distributed through local NGO partners, including existing partners, and PMI. The Government coordinated the efforts both at the central and local levels.

IV. Results

WFP food assistance was delivered to 295,539 beneficiaries (144,814 female and 150,725 male) in the affected districts. WFP reached 100 percent of the targeted people affected by floods. Some 572 metric tons of commodities (440 metric ton of noodles and 132 metric ton of biscuits) were distributed in Aceh. The pre-packaged food commodities given to the beneficiaries allowed them to focus more on clean-up and reconstruction and less on finding their next meal. Even though the Government of Indonesia supplied assistance to those affected by the floods, there was not sufficient supplies of pre-packaged foods to reach all intended beneficiaries.

UNICEF INTERVENTIONS

UNICEF focused its response activities to the floods on Aceh Tamiang, the worst affected district, and the CERF contribution was used for to replenish non-food items taken from its own distribution centre.

Water and Sanitation

Public Water Works (PDAM), NGOs and UNICEF worked together on the provision of clean drinking water to more than 120,000 IDPs in Aceh Tamiang, Aceh Timur and Aceh Utara districts. UNICEF provided operational support for the water treatment plant in Aceh Tamiang and water tankers were temporarily dispatched from regular programme activities in other areas of Aceh province to Aceh Tamiang, serving 21 locations. Some 75 water bladders (including tap stands) of 5,000 litres capacity each, were placed strategically and jerry-cans were distributed to allow water transportation and storage at home. UNICEF also distributed water purifying products with instructions for safe use, as well as over 38,000 family hygiene kits which included buckets, towels, clothes, toothbrushes, toothpastes, combs and nail clippers. With other funds, UNICEF also provided PDAM with cash assistance for its operational costs during the floods and its aftermath.

With its partners, UNICEF assisted in cleaning up the environment and diverted two dump trucks for solid waste from other programme areas in Aceh province to the flood affected areas. Government health staff/sanitarions, volunteers and NGO workers were trained in public waste management and sanitation.

² This IOM staff member seconded to the Aceh Tamiang POSKO provided technical assistance over a six week period to support the tracking and distribution of donated food and non-food items from the POSKO to flood-affected communities.

³ A detailed list of expenditure of CERF funds for UNICEF is attached at the end of this report.

⁴ Association of Students for the Environment, Aceh

⁵ Tamiang Students Associations

A well-cleaning campaign was conducted by the Government through volunteers, with technical and material support from UNICEF,⁶ prioritizing communal wells located at health centres and schools. At least 800 communal wells have been cleaned by the combined efforts, benefiting 16,000 people.

Meanwhile, UNICEF continues to support the Government with post-emergency rehabilitation activities in Aceh Tamiang. UNICEF provides water pipes to allow households re-connect to the water system, and so far 700 households out of the 1,400 planned have been re-connected.

Child Protection

In Aceh Tamiang, UNICEF and its partners, particularly local social affairs officials, conducted an initial assessment and continuously monitored the situation. The focus was on cases of separated and unaccompanied children and on any reports of abuse. A children's centre was set up in the capital of Aceh Tamiang district and managed by Social Affairs authorities, and 45 recreation kits were distributed, each serving 80 children.

Health

UNICEF, the District Health Office and other partners assessed the health situation with a focus on the prevention of communicable and vector-borne diseases. Most of the 148,100 treated bed-nets were distributed in three districts (Aceh Tamiang, Aceh Utara, and Aceh Timur) along with information materials on proper use and maintenance. Malaria control supplies were also provided to the District Health Office: 1,840 rapid diagnostic kits and malaria medication enough for 3,000 patients. UNICEF also handed over 50 doses of liquid malaria medicine for acute and severe cases. Additionally, an emergency measles vaccination round was conducted, covering 7,800 children under five years old in Aceh Tamiang. UNICEF also supported ten public health centres with essential supplies such as cold chain equipment, microscopes and midwifery kits.

Education

Due to the floods, 61 primary schools were inundated in Aceh Tamiang district and many school supplies were lost or damaged. Given that the floods occurred just before the exam period, urgent action was taken to establish temporary learning spaces and encourage teachers and students to get back to school. In coordination with the Provincial and District Education Offices, UNICEF provided 23 school tents, and benefited approximately 1,840 students.⁷ In addition, 98 "school-in-a-box" sets each containing school supplies for 80 children, and 90 blackboards and rulers were also distributed.

At a later stage, an in-depth school assessment was undertaken to determine the safety of school buildings and estimate the structural damage. A construction engineer joined the assessment mission to provide technical advice. UNICEF also provided human resources to plan community mobilization efforts for a school cleaning campaign, which recommended by UNICEF, was also launched by the Head of the Aceh Tamiang District Education Office. The National Army led this campaign, with active community and teachers' participation.

IOM INTERVENTIONS

IOM, in response to the Aceh flooding, procured 216.8 tons (21 truckloads) of food and non-food items. As a result of its proven transportation capacity and close coordination, a wide range of partners donated an additional 4,486.02 tons of food and non-food items. In total, IOM distributed 4,702.82 tons (522 truckloads) of food and non-food items to flood-affected populations. Specifically with CERF funding, IOM was able to mobilise and establish a procurement and logistics system which was used by IOM and other governmental and non-governmental agencies until 21 February 2007.

IOM transported emergency and relief items using trucks along several main routes, from logistics hubs and warehouses in Banda Aceh, Medan and Meulaboh to the UN distribution hub in Lhokseumawe where storage space was made available. From this location, goods were transported to the government-led POSKOs in affected districts and sub-districts, where items could be stored prior to on-ward distribution. With CERF funding, IOM transported some 387 truckloads of items from warehouses to POSKOs located

⁶ This support consisted in logistics support, chemicals to treat wells and pumps.

⁷ One school tent offers sufficient space to host two classrooms of up to 40 students each.

in or near flood-affected communities.⁸

As a result of the urgency to deliver needed items, WFP released 572 metric tons of food items for immediate distribution from its regular stocks, which needed to be replenished. The CERF grant was critical in ensuring that costs were covered for the more than 572 metric tons of micro-nutrient-enriched noodles and high energy biscuits dispatched to the worst affected locations in Aceh. Nearly 300,000 of the neediest people were served with WFP provided food.

The CERF grant helped WFP fulfil its strategic objective to help those in a crisis situation. In coordination with other assistance offered by governments and private organizations, WFP was able to reach the intended beneficiaries. Additionally, the CERF mandate was met as WFP was able to supply time critical, life-saving activities to Aceh flood victims.

The CERF grant allowed WFP Indonesia to respond quickly to the floods to immediately divert food from the core programme to flood victims yet, still maintain normal operations elsewhere in the country. The grants will be used to replace the fortified biscuits and noodles as well as the rice used for those affected by the floods. The Fund directly benefits the pre-existing programmes by helping to ensure they stayed in operation with no pipeline breaks.

Similarly, UNICEF distributed non-food items from their contingency stocks which also needed to be replenished immediately. Finally, thanks to its existing infrastructure and CERF contribution, IOM was well positioned to rapidly respond to the urgent needs of those affected by the December 2006 floods in Aceh.

Initially, in response to immediate needs, and later to provide a variation in diet from donated foods, IOM procured food items and some non-food items. With funding received from CERF, IOM purchased some 35 tons of baby formula, oil, salt and sugar. The need for food procurement was more limited than expected due to large scale contributions of food from WFP and others, thus IOM purchases aimed to provide variety to the large contributions of rice.

Non-food items procured consisted of a range of materials needed in the short and medium term to rebuild homes, infrastructure and livelihoods damaged by the flood waters. With CERF funding, IOM procured in late December non-food items for emergency relief, including plastic sheeting and water bladders.⁹ However, generally needs were less than anticipated as the Government discouraged the establishment of tent camps and non-food items contributions from various partners was significant. In granting nearly \$2 million CERF funding to be used for immediate life-saving relief assistance, agencies were able to provide without further delay, much needed assistance, as the scale of the disaster was in fact much larger than the immediate capacities and resources available on the ground.

(a) Monitoring and Evaluation

During the emergency phase, UNICEF staff based in Banda Aceh was deployed to the affected area to implement and monitor the emergency response. Similarly, staff from UNICEF's Water and Sanitation section in Banda Aceh monitored ongoing follow-up activities.

Similarly IOM logistics staff was located at key points, including Banda Aceh, Medan, Takengon, Lhokseumawe and Kutacane, to oversee storage and distribution and ensure a smooth operation. IOM drivers conducted road damage assessment on an ad-hoc basis, with bottlenecks reported to government authorities and partner agencies for coordination and action.

⁸ Within Aceh Tamiang, Bener Meriah and Gayo Lues districts, IOM provided additional logistics support to the POSKOs, providing necessary transportation to ensure that food and non-food items were delivered to flood-affected communities. The majority of this assistance was provided to Aceh Tamiang which was the worst affected district. In the Central Highlands, IOM worked with local government counterparts to duplicate the model established in Aceh Tamiang, with distribution to affected communities undertaken by the POSKOs. However, as strengths varied, IOM and national NGO partners supported this further distribution, often using four-by-four vehicle or motorbikes to reach affected communities and distribute emergency supplies.

⁹ Later in March, IOM procured agricultural and construction tools kits to revitalize destroyed livelihoods and support repair of houses and small infrastructure.

(b) Prioritization process

IOM closely coordinated with the UN humanitarian country team, local government and national/international agencies. Regular inter-agency meetings were convened in Banda Aceh, and IOM worked at Bupati-level in Banda Aceh and Lhokseumawe. This intensive coordination and immediate action enabled IOM to secure resources in the form of food and non-food contributions. Partner agencies donated food and non-food items stored in warehouses, primarily located in Banda Aceh, Medan and Meulaboh, which were then transported to POSKOs by IOM trucks.

In Aceh, the WFP assistance occurred in areas outside of their programme sites. Once targeted beneficiaries were reached, WFP completely pulled out of the affected areas. Although Food for Work in the affected areas was previously discussed, a lack of resources and logistical problems prevented this from occurring. However, UNORC continued to organize assistance in the area through their office based in Lhokseumawe along with the local government agencies. According to UNORC, the region was slow to recover due to continual flooding and lack of infrastructure (several roads damaged in the flooding have yet to be repaired). But progress is being made and the CERF grant was crucial in the initial survival period.

Detailed list of expenditure CERF funds for UNICEF			
Non Food Items	Amount	Value in \$	Remark
Tarpaulin roll 4mx50m	80	20,380.94	23 rolls distributed, 57 rolls were stocked
Jerry can 10 litres	400	680.00	
Jerry can 20 litres	900	2,250.00	
Tarpaulin sheet 4mx5m	5,000	43,200.00	
Water purifier	1,265	455.40	
Domestic cooking set	1,218	13,398.00	
Family tent 16m2	600	52,510.00	295 tents distributed during this emergency, 305 tents were stocked
Hygiene kit	33,288	199,728.00	
School tent 72m2	130	178,422.08	23 tents distributed, 107 were stockpiled and used for the response to the Padang (West Sumatra) earthquake on 6/3/07
Kerosene stoves	912	5,472.00	
Pressure lantern	500	9,750.00	
Water bladder	75	93,162.00	
Freight costs	-	100,591.53	
Total		719,999.95	

V. CERF IN ACTION

After Aceh floods, relief efforts help families cope with effects of 'tsunami from the river' By Bronwyn Curran

TAMIANG DISTRICT, Indonesia, 12 January 2007 – After the Tamiang River burst its banks late last month, Rachwaty and her four children spent three days and nights on the roof of a mosque while their village was submerged in floodwaters up to three metres high.



A displaced family finds temporary shelter in a UNICEF-supplied tent near the banks of the Tamiang River in southeastern Aceh Province, Indonesia. © UNICEF Indonesia/2007

The flood, which occurred after a prolonged flood, killed around 70 people and affected some 450,000 residents across five districts. Relief workers have compared the damage to that caused by the 2004 tsunami.

“In this area there is normally seasonal flooding. But this flood has been particularly devastating and widespread. The aftermath looked just like the tsunami. The irony is that this area was not affected by the tsunami two years ago,”

said Water and Sanitation Officer Tai Ring Teh, who has been leading UNICEF’s Emergency Response Team.



A home on the Tamiang River in Indonesia's Aceh Province, destroyed by floodwaters up to three metres high in late December. © UNICEF Indonesia/2007

Approximately 90 percent of the buildings in southeast Aceh were damaged by the flood. In Tamiang, the worst-hit district, an estimated 200,000 residents are suffering from lost livestock, destroyed crops and severed supplies of safe water.

Ensuring the water supply

“Everything is gone. There’s nothing left, no crops,” said Rachwaty’s neighbour Noor Basty, whose husband is a farmer.



Children from flood-affected families play in the UNICEF provided temporary Children's Centre in Kuala Simpang, the main city in southeastern Aceh's Tamiang district. © UNICEF Indonesia/2007

In addition to destroying lives and property, the floodwaters left one to two metres of mud inside existing wells. Now, some 54,000 wells need to be properly cleaned and disinfected before they can be used again.

“Before the flood, we got our water from the river and our wells. But now the wells are filled with muddy water which we can only use for washing and bathing,” said Rachwaty.

The existing water supply network is not wide enough to reach all of the flooded areas, and UNICEF installed 74 water bladders at key points in affected villages, focusing on health centres and camps for displaced persons.

Shelter and immunization

In Kuala Simpang, UNICEF issued 600 family-sized tents to help accommodate people whose homes were damaged or destroyed. UNICEF has also set up a Children’s Centre and provided recreation kits, sports equipment, toys and other supplies.

There is now a possibility of outbreaks of malaria and diarrhoea. Several cases of malaria and one child fatality from dehydration have already been reported. With 80 percent of sub-district health centres damaged beyond use and 77,000 people living in temporary shelters, UNICEF plans to launch a mass measles immunization campaign in late January for children under the age of five.

IOM Central Highlands Flood response

On 26 December, the extent of the damage caused by heavy rain in Aceh became apparent. In Bener Meriah, the sub-district of Permata suffered significant infrastructure damage and loss of food stocks, while Syiah Utama had little damage to housing but was remote, with road and bridge damage leaving it completely isolated. Reports and conversations with flood relief efforts throughout Aceh could not believe that these areas had not received any food, and in one very remote village called Samar Kilang, food had run out.



Building on its strong presence in the Central Highlands of Aceh province, and its network of partner organisations, IOM supported the national and international community's response to the flooding in Aceh, providing direct assistance to flood-affected populations. In close cooperation with local government and national and international agencies, IOM:

- procured, transported and distributed essential food and non-food items;
- facilitated the efficient delivery of relief goods to flood affected regions through the provision of logistics support and
- supported the local government to reach out to distant affected communities in the Central Highlands.



By 29 December, IOM had six trucks of emergency supplies on their way into Permata and was coordinating with UNORC to get helicopters to ferry food to Samar Kilang. In total, IOM distributed a total of 4,703 tons (522 truckloads) of food and non-food items to flood-affected populations with funding from Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and other donors, with relief items ranging from rice and drinking water to clothing, water bladders and stoves. With funding received from CERF, IOM was able to mobilise quickly and establish a procurement and logistics system which was utilised by IOM and other governmental and non-governmental agencies until 21 February 2006.

In nine villages in Pinding sub-districts of Gayo Lues, all of which were significantly damaged, IOM recognized the need for intervention to reduce the rapidly emerging dependence on outside aid, abandonment of communities and absence of livelihoods. With funding from CERF, IOM provided agricultural tools, assistance which was appreciated by the beneficiaries and kick started livelihoods activities in this area.

The impact of this assistance went beyond emergency relief. Civil society groups, former combatants and local government staff all rallied together and managed village depots and mobilised supply lines. *“Even now, these civil society groups continue working with these communities. In this way, the bonds forged during the relief operation continue to be the basis for ongoing and constructive relationships.”* believes James Bean, IOM Project Manager. The relief effort became something of a healing process, not only for the devastated communities, but also among previously warring parties who worked together, cementing the peace in this remote part of Aceh.