

# National recovery planning and coordination

United Nations Development Programme



Empowered lives.  
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The 2004 Asian Tsunami killed approximately 230,000 people, about half of whom were in Aceh, Indonesia. This bridge in Peunayong, Banda Aceh, was covered in debris. Photo: Faisal Ridwan/UNDP Indonesia

## Post-disaster recovery planning

Disasters cause large-scale damage and economic and social losses to countries on a regular basis, hindering their progress to achieve development goals. Disasters can destroy public infrastructure, disrupt basic services and cause loss of lives and livelihoods. In the aftermath of a disaster, governments invest significant resources in recovery processes to reconstruct damaged infrastructure, and restore livelihoods and access to services. Yet, poorly implemented recovery processes increase people's vulnerability and over time create chronic conditions of risk. Unless action is taken from the beginning to plan disaster recovery and to address the underlying social and environmental problems, the risks accumulate, resulting in even higher economic and social costs in the next disaster.

It is critical, therefore, that recovery programmes are well thought through, making best use of available resources and capacities. Within the UN System, UNDP has been assigned as the global lead agency for early recovery, and is often asked by governments to support post-disaster recovery efforts.

**UNDP Indonesia:** Following the Asian Tsunami in 2004 and successive disasters in Indonesia, UNDP worked with the national government to establish policies, guidelines, processes and capacities to manage recovery processes. UNDP helped establish a law and recovery policy which mandates the government to develop a recovery and reconstruction plan on the basis of a post-disaster needs assessment for allocation of national resources for recovery programmes. UNDP assisted the government to develop national disaster assessment guidelines with procedures to define the role of the Disaster Management Agency and government ministries in assessing and implementing recovery. UNDP worked with the Disaster Management Agency to develop a Disaster Recovery Index (DRI) to monitor and track the progress and impact of recovery assistance on affected communities over several years of the programme.

UNDP's role is to assist national and local authorities to design and deliver benefits and services that empower people and communities, as well as equip them to be better able to manage future disasters. In the process, national and local institutions, capacities and systems are strengthened to deliver recovery programmes that are effective and address underlying disaster risks.

## UNDP Crisis Response Package

UNDP's Crisis Response Package National Recovery Planning and Coordination will provide Country Offices with the specific programming advice, operational processes, and technical capacity to support governments plan and coordinate national recovery. This Crisis Response Package will include guidance notes on National Post-Disaster Recovery Coordination and Planning, guidelines on Post-Disaster Needs Assessments and the Disaster Recovery Framework guide. It will also include assessment and project management tools such as questionnaires, monitoring guidelines, and sample project documents and budgets.

Through UNDP rosters and stand-by partners, deployable capacity will also be available to support Country Offices in implementing the Crisis Response Package. Areas of expertise will include disaster recovery, post-disaster needs assessments and recovery planning. UNDP will put into place Long Term Agreements (LTAs) for procurement of essential goods and services like assessment data analysis and database development. Fast Track processes in procurement, financial management and human resources will also ensure rapid implementation of the interventions supported by this package. Communication and advocacy tools tailored to this specific package will also be available to UNDP managers and national counterparts.



Workers supported by a UNDP Cash-for-Work programme clear rubble from different sites affected by Typhoon Haiyan. Photo: UNDP Philippines



Photo: Peunayong bridge after rubble and debris clearance activities were complete. Faisal Ridwan/UNDP Indonesia

**UNDP Philippines:** Consistent partnership with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in Philippines for DRR and post disaster recovery has resulted in pre-established mechanisms for Recovery Coordination at the National and local level with representation of relevant ministries, emergency services and army and civil society within the council. The structure designates four cabinet ministers as leads for different aspects of a disaster management cycle – preparedness, response, prevention and mitigation, and rehabilitation and recovery. Following the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan, this coordination mechanism was immediately activated to coordinate relief assistance and recovery programmes. Under NDRRMs leadership, UNDP and other international partners conducted a post disaster needs assessment in the Philippines, which led to the development of national and local level recovery plans. With UNDP support the local Government offices was given additional capacities to establish recovery resource centres to provide an interface between the Local Government Units (LGUs) and the affected communities to channel information on recovery assistance and address concerns and grievances with regard to the recovery process.

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