



THREE YEARS LATER

ACT Tsunami Response Fact Sheet

December 19, 2007

In its biggest collective response as an alliance, ACT International's members are marking three years of response to the tsunami that struck southeast Asia and parts of the east coast of Africa on December 26, 2004.

From those first moments of horror and disbelief, and shock and chaos, followed by despair and grief, the journey to recovery for the hundreds of thousands of people affected by the catastrophic events of that day has been a long and difficult one. For the members of ACT in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Somalia responding to the emergency, the journey has been one of many challenges, but also of learning, as they continue to assist communities in re-building their lives.

While most of the projects will be completed by the end of March 2008, three will run until the end of June, by National Christian Council of Sri Lanka, and Church World Service and YAKKUM Emergency Unit in Indonesia. Overall, the alliance is implementing programs in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Somalia.

In addition to the three-year response, several members are now also planning follow-on appeals to focus on continued rehabilitation, strengthening some of the earlier interventions, as well as reinforcing community-based disaster preparedness programs established during the appeal period. Most recently, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action, issued such a follow-on appeal through ACT to address housing and community infrastructure needs of marginalised dalit communities that had also been affected by the tsunami.

The summary of the ACT members' response can only ever be seen as one part of the overall picture. The people living in the areas hit by the tsunami (and the later Nias earthquake) for instance, were not living in a humanitarian vacuum. Nor were the people living in the conflict-stricken regions of Sri Lanka or Somalia. In India, massive flooding threatened tsunami-related projects repeatedly. In all cases, the most vulnerable in the communities—marginalised groups, women and children for instance—were especially affected.

ACT's 2006 evaluations underlined the importance of faith in the affected communities' healing process and that ACT members, already familiar with their multi-faith operating environments, were able to accommodate and incorporate the spiritual dimension in their provision.

The ACT response is one part of a response that started in those first chaotic moments, when many who were affected by the disaster were the first to provide assistance. The following summaries of the ACT members' responses provide only a snapshot of the overall work during the last three years. And, it constitutes a glimpse into the commitment by the communities affected by the disaster to reclaim hope, and to overcome overwhelming odds.

John Nduna
Director, ACT International

ACT
International
Action by Churches Together

THREE YEARS LATER

The ACT response

In India, **Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)**, **Lutheran World Service-India (LWSI)** and the **United Evangelical Lutheran Church of India (UELCI)** has been providing assistance to affected communities in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

In Indonesia, **Church World Service-Indonesia (CWS)**, **Yakkum Emergency Unit (YEU)**, and **Yayasan Tanggul Bencana Indonesia (YTBI)** have been responding in Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Aceh Barat, Nagan Raya, Aceh Utara, Nias, and Aceh Jaya.

In Sri Lanka, **National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)** has been responding in the Vanni region in Killinochchi and Mullaittivu, and in Thirukovil, Ampara, Trincomalee, Muttur, Batticaloa, Galle, Matara, Tangalle, Hambantota, Colombo, Kalutara, Wattala and Negambo.

The **Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India (JDCSI)**, as a temporary member, was part of the response in Jaffna and Mullaittivu.

In Somalia, **Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)** responded in 15 villages in Bender Beyla and Eyl Districts.

The response has been made possible through support of ACT members worldwide.

As of December 17, 2007, the ACT tsunami appeal for US\$98,775,815 has been fully funded.

All response details reflect ACT members' reporting through October 31, 2007.

Communications resources

ACT news

http://www.act-intl.org/act_news_title.html

ACT member web sites

CASA: <http://www.casa-india.org>

LWSI: http://www.lutheranworld.org/What_We_Do/DWS/Country_Programs/DWS-India.html

UELCI: <http://uelci-india.org>

CWS Indonesia: <http://www.cwsindonesia.or.id/index.php>

YEU: <http://www.yeuforaceh.org/>

YTBI: <http://www.ytbindonesia.org/>

NCCSL: <http://www.nccsl.org/>

NCA: <http://www.nca.no/>

Media contacts

The following persons from the ACT Coordinating Office in Geneva are available for internal and external interviews:

John Nduna, Director
Office: +41 791 6032; Mobile: +41 79 203 6055

Callie Long, Communications Officer
Office: +41 791 6039; Mobile: +41 79 358 3171

Photo credits

Page 1, 13 and 18: Paul Jeffrey/ACT International

Page 3: Sidney Traynham/ACT International

Page 12: Chris Herlinger/CWS-ACT International



INDIA

Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities	Villages
Life support (crisis assistance)	50,000 families	Relief kits, feeding programs	185
	44 launches repaired	Launches repaired, nylon ropes provided	
Temporary shelter	1,044	Provision of temporary shelters/ improvisation	13
Permanent houses	2,549 houses	Construction of disaster resistance houses (completed)	26
Nutrition	263,840 hours worked	Food and cash for work program	126
Psychosocial care	7,046 persons	Counselling, picnic, sports, cultural programs, playpens, film screenings, various competitions	47
Education	3,714 students	Distributed educational support materials, tuition centres	42
Livelihood	594 artisans and small businesses	Livelihood assistance to artisans and small businesses	44
	243 families	Supported with boats and gears	
	1,545 kits	Fish vending kits	
	9 centres	Fishery service centres	
	14 yards	Constructed net repairing yards	
Capacity building programs	169 programs	Programs including leadership training, women empowerment and youth awareness	44
Vocational skill training	47 programs	Computer training centre, jute product centre, food processing, palm products, copra and coconut mat production; marine engine and four wheeler training	30

CASA (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities	Villages
Alternative income generation	1,203 persons	Provided farm implements for agricultural support, dairy farming and goat rearing	28
	33 single headed households	Assistance to single headed households	
Community organization and networking	689 meetings	District and village level meetings, holiday celebrations	44
	45 centres	Village information centres	

Working challenges

- Fishing communities report a substantial decrease in the number of fish being caught. Dry fish processors have seen the price of fresh fish increase three-fold, decreasing the quantity available and the volume of sales.
- There has been a significant change in the seasonal availability of fish and a decrease of crabs in the coastal areas. Boats regularly return without a decent catch, creating a sense of uncertainty among the fishing communities. Also, new varieties of fish not seen before the tsunami are now found in the coastal areas.
- In the past, fishing communities used traditional methods to forecast the sea and weather conditions. Since the tsunami, communities have observed inconsistent sea conditions, which have created an uncertainty and anxiety among the people regarding their own professional future and that of their children.
- The influx of a large number of fishing boats after the tsunami has created new business patterns within communities. Fisher folk, who used to work as day labourers, are now boat owners. The loss of their labour has resulted in an increasing number of boys discontinuing school to work in the fishing industry. CASA has begun addressing this issue through its projects.
- A lack of coordination among NGOs has caused duplication of work in some of the project villages. CASA has been working to ensure proper coordination among NGOs in its project areas to avoid duplication.
- The complexity of the social fabric in India continues to influence coastal communities recovering from the tsunami. Caste hierarchies, land rights and power structures have hindered some of the work in vulnerable communities.
- In smaller villages, where the majority of the populations moved to new locations, programs have focused on improving the conditions of the relocated families. This has led to some tension between established families and the newcomers, which have at times led to interference in the rehabilitation work.
- The resettlement sites allotted by the government for reconstruction, many of which are located on wastelands, have suffered from shortcomings like topographical limitations, poor drainage and water logging. The work related to site drainage, sewage disposal, land filling, electricity and water supply still need to be completed by the government. Though some progress is being made on this front, much more needs to be done.
- Encouraging and empowering people to know their rights within the district administrative context have been challenging tasks.

Lutheran World Service India (LWSI)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Villages	Activities
Life support (crisis assistance)			
Non-food relief	16,100 people	11	Relief kits included family kit, hygiene kit, utensil kit and student kit
	15,176 people	11	Drinking water container
Livelihood restoration			
Fishing assistance	236 boats—4,720 people	15	Distribution of fibreglass boats, 10 HP engines, 2 sets of nets and other accessories like rope, leads, floats. In total, 160 boats were registered with government fisheries department
Fishing livelihood groups	42 groups—1,680 people	7	In additional, 37 groups opened bank accounts.
	2 programs—35 families/140 people	1	Awareness camp on fisherfolk federation
Shelter			
Temporary shelter	204 families/1,168 people	2	Constructed out of coconut leaves, bamboo
Permanent houses	762 families	10	Construction completed
	118 families		Construction in progress
Community infrastructure			
Construction	8 centres—14,283 people	8	Community centre (in progress)
	1 shed—265 people	1	Work sheds
	3 sheds— 2,062 people	2	Net-mending sheds
	36 wells—5,072 people	4	Tube well construction
	9,861 people	4	1.15 km concrete road
Renovation	2,120 people	1	Community pond renovation

LWSI (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Villages	Activities
Environmental and disaster preparedness			
Education and training	15 programs—2,984 people	8	Public awareness on Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP)
	8 programs—4,356 children	8	Awareness on CBDP for school children
	6 programs—360 people	8	Awareness on CBDP for elected Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members
	5 programs—148 families/592 people	5	Awareness on building and other infrastructure Maintenance
	27 programs—1,578 families/6,312 people	8	Awareness on water and sanitation
Disaster management teams	9 teams—12,977 people	8	Formation of disaster management teams
	12 programs	8	Leadership training with members of disaster management team
	8 DMTs—376 families/1,084 people	8	Skill training to Disaster Management Teams (DMT) members (search and rescue; first aid; psycho-social; water-sanitation and shelter management and networking and coordination)
	10 kits	9	DMT Kits (In Process)
First Aid	10 schools—6,000 people	8	First Aid kits to schools
Mock drills	2 drills—173 families/629 people	2	Mock drills
Community and homestead development	3 programs—134 families /536 people	3	Waste water management (kitchen-gardens)
	3,340 people	6	Homestead nutrition garden
	10,423 saplings planted around the homesteads of 2,089 families	8	Trees planted around the homesteads of 2,089 families
	389 saplings planted	3	Community plantation

LWSI (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Villages	Activities
Community awareness and training			
Self Help Groups (SHG)	16 programs—457 families /1,828 people	8	Orientation and strengthening of women SHG
	14 programs—413 families/1,652 people	8	Training on fund management and bookkeeping for women SHG
	16 programs—410 families/ 1,640 people	8	Leadership training to women SHG
Rights awareness	12 programs—337 families /1,348 people	8	Awareness on adolescent issues (mostly for girls)
	3 programs—135 families /540 people	3	Awareness on human rights
	2 programs—122 families/488 people	2	Awareness on child rights
	31 programs—1,255 families/5,020 people	8	Awareness on gender sensitization
	4 exercises—758 families /3,032 people	4	Gender: Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Exercise
Health awareness	22 programs—1,214 families/4,856 people	8	Awareness on HIV and AIDS prevention
	21 programs—1,283 families/5,132 people	8	Health and nutrition awareness camp
	2 programs—62 families/248 people	2	Awareness camp on reproductive health
	5 programs—812 people	4	Awareness programs on family life education

LWSI (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Villages	Activities
Community awareness and training (continued)			
Community observation of holidays	5 programs—1,720 families/6,880 people	5	Republic Day
	6 programs—1,338 families/5,352 people	6	Independence Day
	7 programs—790 families/3,160 people	7	International Women's Day
	4 programs—571 families/2,284 people	4	World Environment Day
	2 programs—135 families/540 people	2	Observation of World AIDS Day
Psychosocial care			
Games and sports	1,484 people	6	Activities for children

Working challenges

- Existing social customs, structures and caste barriers hindered the progress at the beginning of the programs. The task of bringing different groups together also presented challenges.
- Communities' poor experiences in working with other non-governmental organisations
- There are some delays in the government delivery of infrastructure services, such as electricity, water and access to roads to sites where housing construction has been completed.
- Major flooding in the region (both in 2006 and 2007) slowed down the pace of work.
- The cost of construction materials, including bricks and sand have increased. Manufacturers of cement and steel took advantage of huge demands and increased prices. Sometimes, even after paying the higher price, the supply of materials could not be assured.
- Inadequate coordination among different NGOs resulted in the overlapping of work and increased people's demand. Attaining the full participation of people became difficult at times.
- The need for relief and rehabilitation being paramount, there is still a visible mismatch between the adopted strategies of community based disaster preparedness and other awareness programs with community expectations and needs. The communities showed little interest for these initiatives.

LWSI (continued)

The way ahead

- There have been significant achievements, but there is still much work to be done. A culture of safe building practice has emerged among various stakeholders in the tsunami response efforts and also in the private construction sector—an effort that needs to spread wider, so that society in general adopts affordable and appropriate technologies.
- Other infrastructure work like community centres, roads and landfills have not yet been completed due to delay of land acquisition for instance.
- The capacity building of community level workers has to be continued in order to sustain efforts in providing a human resource base in communities.
- Fishing communities received huge support in different forms. Initiatives need to be taken to create sustainable alternative livelihood sources for fishing communities, as well as other underprivileged communities, which were indirectly affected.
- Disaster Risk Management will continue to be essential in preventing and mitigating the impact of future disasters.
- The intervention in the sectors like water and sanitation, health and nutrition, HIV and AIDS, child rights protection, gender, environment, communication technologies and coordination need to be continued in order to more fully empower communities.

United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India (UELCI)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Life support (crisis food assistance)	11,682 families	Rice, dal, oil and salt
Life support (crisis non-food assistance)	23,100 people	Men, women and children's clothing, household items, school kit, sleeping materials and female hygiene kits
Livelihood support	8,402 families	Livelihood kits, net packages and boats. Includes small and big catamarans, outboard motors and repair of outboard motors
Alternative livelihood support	816 families	Entrepreneurial Development Training Programs that includes follow-up
Temporary shelter	536 families	Included repair of 121 damaged houses
Permanent shelter	1,166 families	50 houses are in the final stage of construction
Community centres	304 households	Constructed 2 community centres
Water and sanitation	1,009 families	Supply of drinking water, plastic containers and restoring of water sources
	30 villages	Assistance with safe drinking water systems, appropriate sanitation and waste management

UELCl (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Advocacy	40 villages	Supported communities in putting forward the grievances of people impacted by the tsunami to the government, after which government resources were mobilized for housing construction programs
Emergency health assistance	5,000 people treated	Emergency medical assistance
	500 counsellors	Emergency/community based trauma counselling training
Health assistance	Some 30,000 people	Post-tsunami trauma counselling
	90,261 cases	Free out patient treatment including consultation, investigation and full course of medicines
	3,351 people	Blindness screening for senior citizens
	477 people	Free intra-ocular lens implantation
	747 people	Free glasses distribution
	Some 2,500 children	Eye screening of school children (10-16 years)
	252 children	Free glasses for school children (10-16 years)
	27,730 villagers	Free health care assistance through outreach health camps
	30 villages	Response to outbreak of water borne and respiratory illness, child nutrition, nutritional supplements, women and teen health assistance, promotion of public health, services to the aged and disabled
	62 young women in 30 villages	Trained as social health attendants
	300 young women in 30 villages	Trained in nutritional food powder preparation
	234 paramedic students	Emergency health care training
Alternative livelihood	66 dalit farmers	Environmentally friendly farming training
	50 women in 30 villages	Beautician training
	100 women in 30 villages	Candle making training

UELCI (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Alternative livelihood (continued)	15 young men in 30 villages	Photo and videography training
	40 young women in 30 villages	Prawn pickling training
	104 young women in 30 villages	Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) training
	348 children in 30 villages	Computer literacy
	30 villages	Education on available government assistance programs
Disaster preparedness	30 villages	Preparedness and awareness through street theatre and puppetry
	625 adolescent girls in 30 villages	Life skills and preparedness training
	340 young men in 30 villages	Youth response teams
	34 schools	School preparedness
Nutrition	30 villages	Improved nutrition in communities through education and training in promotion of kitchen gardens, nutritious food powder preparation and distribution of nutritious porridge

Working challenges

- Housing construction work was delayed due to the non-availability or late allotment of land for tsunami survivors.
- Material availability, transportation challenges and cost escalation delayed the construction activities.
- The initial budgets for housing construction have been continuously changing due to cost increases and site allocation challenges.
- Continuous and heavy rains lead to the flooding of some construction sites and significantly delayed the work.
- Some of the land provided to UELCI was wasteland and it had to be cleaned up and levelled. In some cases, UELCI had to wait until a temporary road was built to the site in order to start the construction work.
- The fish quantities caught has decreased after the tsunami due in part to the changed sea bed. The lack of a successful fishing industry has raised alternative livelihood issues.

UELCI (continued)

- In many situations, promises that were not kept were made to communities.
- In the beginning, the local panchayats in the fishing communities were dominated by men.
- Assistance to dalit and adivasi communities, which were indirectly impacted by the tsunami, was initially overlooked in many program designs and implementation.
- There were government changes in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh that had an impact on housing allocation, compensation and the selection of families for assistance.
- The health of staff working in post-tsunami assistance suffered after working under pressure and stress for prolonged periods.
- The tsunami spawned new “transitory communities” and created new dynamics, which required a constant change in assistance approaches.
- The desire by the local and international NGO community to assist people in the short term created an extremely competitive environment and initially benefited the fishing communities. The question remains what the long-term implications of this are for sustainable development.
- A major constraint in implementation is the “expectation syndrome” by some tsunami survivors and the tension between the affected and less-affected communities.



Two long-time friends who live in a fishing village near South Chinnoor, in Tamil Nadu's Cuddalore district in India. Photo by Chris Herlinger/CWS-ACT International.



INDONESIA

Church World Service (CWS) Indonesia

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities
Life support (crisis assistance)	Some 30,000 households	Emergency food and non-food items such as non-food item packages, health, hygiene, infant and children, and school kits
Health and nutrition	5,199 children	Supplementary feeding
	3,699 people	Health service
	1,040 people	Reproductive health
Psychosocial support	4,984 children	Early Child Development (ECD) and Fun Educative Activities in Tent (FEAT)
	810 women	Women support group
	428 adolescents	Support group activity
	100 cadres	Trainings on FEAT and ECD
Shelter	610 households	Permanent houses
	2,496 households	Family tents
Livelihood recovery	4,326 households	Distribution of seeds and tools, capital assets and capacity building
Water and Sanitation	53,677 people	Water supply, and construction of latrines, wells and boreholes
Capacity Building	109 trainings	Various

Total number of households assisted over three years:

37,432 households directly
 Some 30,000 households indirectly

CWS (continued)

Working challenges

- Access to some areas remains poor (and is likely to continue), because of poor infrastructure that existed even prior to the tsunami.
- Supply bottlenecks for everything from building materials (such as lumber and cement) to skilled labour and continuous increases in the price of building materials.
- Coordination in the field remains a challenge with a multitude of actors: government agencies such as BRR, local government (provincial, district, sub-district), UN agencies, international and local NGOs, and contractors.
- Limited capacity and lack of experience with relief and development programs of civil society organizations in Aceh and Nias.

YAKKUM Emergency Unit (YEU)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Life support (crisis assistance)	2,693 households	Micro business
	213 people	Micro finance and livelihood-related training
	197 people	Organic farming training
Shelter	671 units	Housing construction
	21 units	Kiosks
Nutrition	8,764 people	Integrated health care and supplementary food Feeding for babies, pregnant women and the elderly
Psychosocial care	329 people	Individual and group counselling
	415 people	Cultural-religious-based activities: such as Koran readings
Primary health care	37,446 patients	Health services: mobile and fixed clinics
	5 369 patients	Village health post, accupressure and acupuncture
	408 patients	Physical rehabilitation program in Nias
	817 people	Medical first aid and village health post and nutrition training
	15 people	Midwife training
	110 people	School health unit training
	519 people	Trainings in reproductive health and HIV and AIDS
	35 people	Accupressure and acupuncture training
Education	1,157 children	Established kindergartens and study clubs
Disaster preparedness	566 households	Discussion and knowledge-sharing on disaster preparedness, disaster simulation and trainings

YEU (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Water and Sanitation	92 units	Bathrooms
	14 units	Water pumps
	230 units	Latrines
	224 units	Wells
	48 units	Water reservoirs
	204 units	Waste disposal facilities
	68 units	Drainage and water systems
	60 units	Washing facilities
	34 people	Health and sanitation training

Working challenges

- One of the concerns regarding community empowerment is how to maintain participation as well as program quality. (In the housing construction sector for instance, the community provides the materials, but for more technical construction, professional labour is engaged, because of required competencies.)
- Community self-reliance remains a challenge, in that the massive influx of money and support has created, in many instances, a culture of dependency on NGOs and the aid they provide. However, needs still exist—a widely recognised fact—and people still need to be accompanied, especially with regard to capacity building.
- Concern that organisations with limited capacity in the field of disaster risk reduction will feel pressured into playing this role in the next phase of response, leading to confusion when implementing programs. However, the government has budgeted for these activities, and is planning on forming a special unit for disaster risk reduction to assist.
- Initial housing built during the emergency phase were mostly semi-permanent or temporary shelters, while those built during the rehabilitation phase, were permanent. Many people who only benefited from the more temporary homes would now like their houses renovated and even made more permanent.

INDONESIA

Yayasan Tanggul Bencana di Indonesia (YTBI)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities
Life support (crisis food assistance)	14,704 people	Food: rice, instant noodles, dried and canned fish, baby food, mineral water, spices, vegetable oils, beans, coffee and tea
Life support (crisis non-food assistance)		Baby clothes, basic pharmaceuticals, blankets, flash lights, gasoline and kerosene, hygiene kits, kitchen utensils, mattresses, lamps, clothes (sarongs), shoes, school fees, stationary, school uniforms, tents, water and sanitation and sarong/clothes
Livelihood	4,901 households	Traditional embroidery, agriculture, animal husbandry, barber shops and salons, becak drivers, building labour, coconut graders, Crafts, farmers, fishery (sea and river), fishponds, furniture labourers, home Industries (breads and cakes), kiosk/car wash, motor repair shop workshops and sewing machines (tailors)
Capacity building	685 times (implemented directly by YTBI or by its implementing partners)	Capacity building training (30 people X 3 times), administrative support, book keeping training, community development, disaster preparedness training for religious leaders, sewing training, Sphere standards and Codes of Conduct training, strengthening of women's and men's groups in Nias and psycho-social training
Psychosocial activities	486 activities	Psychosocial activities, badminton sets, batteries, educational toys, fees for education, sports, tapes, musical instruments, reading materials and school kits
Educational	7,732 students	1,358 students: alternative education; 112 student trained in computers; English courses for 212 students, and mathematics/science courses for 197 students. School kits distributed to 2,069 students and other forms of assistance, such as education program in post-crisis phase for elementary, high and secondary school students, and at university level.

YTBI (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities
Construction and water/ sanitation	5 community centres and 185 housing units	Housing, water and sanitation, and community centres
Environmental	367 hectares replanted	Casuarina and coconut tree replanting, mahogany and cocoa seed distribution, mangroves replanting
Health	21,912	Children nutrition development (including support for 1,826 school children)

Working challenges

- NGO rivalry in providing services has created unhealthy competition, while also influencing the attitudes of communities' that have been assisted. This is linked the limited inter-NGO coordination and cooperation, as well as the trend to focus on projects at the expense of process, because of deadlines and time working challenges.
- Access to some areas remains difficult due to long distances and limited infrastructure. This highlights the need for the government to fully take on board the responsibilities related to construction and rehabilitation of public facilities, in order to facilitate aspects such as transport for the communities affected by the disaster.
- There is much work that still needs to be done related to organisations and communities being fully self-supportive.
- Aceh, which bore the brunt of the tsunami, was also, prior to the disaster, an area mired in conflict. The last three years have seen the coastal regions benefit from the assistance given by many organisations around the world. However, many people living inland feel that this has been unjust, in that they too have suffered the consequences of a different emergency, albeit equally devastating—namely the conflict that ravaged the area for years. To forestall possible conflict as a result of feelings of injustice, future interventions should take this into consideration, so as to minimize to risk of new conflict flaring up.



SRI LANKA

National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Life support (crisis assistance)	10,720 households	Dry food rations brought some relief to those in need, as have household items, such as kitchen sets.
Livelihood	10,256 households	Fishing equipment, assistance to fisher folk, assistance to small businesses owners, coir makers, those engaged in animal husbandry and others have been carried out. Programs of livelihood support to widows and female headed-households (assistance of both materials and instructional), sewing training, and vocational training was carried out for women.
Shelter	948 households	50 Houses in the eastern province, 62 in the south and 11 houses in the west were completed in 2007. A large housing scheme planned in the West has been held up pending government approvals. A Community Centre in Mathagal, Jaffna, is nearing completion.
Water and sanitation	3,282 households and support for 600 school children	Latrines, tube wells and water tanks were constructed in the north, east and south to homes, villages and schools.
Nutrition	1,576 children	As most affected families are unable to provide regular nutritional meals to their children, support was provided to children at pre-school and other levels
Psychosocial care	4,168 children and youth	Many programs were facilitated and communities mobilized with regard to raising awareness of human rights, women's rights, the rights of children. Legal services were also provided for those in need in camps. The training focused on promoting peace and harmony amongst young people.
Primary Health Care	2,706 people	Health programs were carried for pre-school teachers (training of trainers) in the southern province, as well as training on health care, nutrition, HIV and AIDS, and breast feeding.

NCCSL (continued)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/ units	Activities
Education	8,211 students	Supplementary classes were held for students in camps erected to shelter people affected by the tsunami, as well as students of resettled families in the north, east, south and west. Regular attendance has been interrupted due to lack of transport, illness, other financial burdens as well as the ongoing conflict. Temporary and semi-permanent classrooms were constructed in some areas in Jaffna as extra space was needed to hold supplementary classes. Basic classroom furniture was provided. Bicycles were provided to school children to increase and encourage higher attendance. In the eastern province a bus route was instituted to make it easier for children living in camps to attend a school in town. Previously, the dropout rate was high due to a lack of public transport.
Disaster Preparedness	480 people	Workshops and seminars were conducted in Disaster Preparedness Management in some cities, preparing both clergy and laity in being able to respond to disasters. The NCCSL/Tsunami Rehabilitation Unit set up a Disaster Preparedness Centre to assist communities in disaster mitigation and response.

Working challenges

- The conflict in the east continues till the end of June 2007—leading to many people being displaced and many destitute, with loss of life and damage to property widespread. Rehabilitation construction projects were especially delayed and some self-employment projects ground to a halt during the hostilities. Since July, the east has seen a lot of resettlement—in some cases voluntary. The needs of the people have changed drastically. Construction costs have also increased substantially over the budgeted amounts, due to the high costs of building materials.
- The boats and nets projects, as well as the bicycle project in the Vanni could not continue, as the restricted area remained “closed” to anyone from outside. All communications, including land and mobile phone connections, have been cut off and NCCSL have not been able to contact any of the people involved in implementing programs. Since August 2006, fresh hostilities have broken out in this area with aerial bombings.
- The main priority of the south and west were focused on the housing and livelihood sector. Most housing projects continue, in spite of the escalating cost for cement. However, a major project in the west was held up while waiting for approvals from local Government authorities.
- Clergy in the affected areas have less time to attend to projects that they have been involved in for almost three years, and feel the need to be focusing on parish work. However, they are an invaluable part of the success of the projects and therefore continue to play a very important role in the context of carrying out the work.
- In spite of the conflict, escalating prices, migration of labour and lack of human resources, the fact that so much has been achieved is encouraging.

Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)

Assistance provided	Number of households/ individuals/units	Activities
Emergency relief	44,000 individuals (7,300 households)	<p>Access to clean and safe water made available to 15 villages, community capacity developed in the management of water, 96 demonstration latrines complete and hygiene and sanitation education completed.</p> <p>Also provided: emergency survival kits to IDPs</p>