



# In fact....

## UNV Tsunami Response Indonesia: 700 days on

Throughout the year 2005, a total number of 8,122 volunteers from 168 nationalities were nationally and internationally recruited and mobilized by the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme. They willingly and successfully took over 8,470 assignments, making a tangible contribution to the efforts of the United Nations, governments and community groups in fostering peace and development in 144 countries of the world.

Following the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 26 December 2004, UNV was able to mobilize USD 7.8 million from the Governments of Japan, Germany and the Czech Republic. The "UNV Tsunami Framework" was developed to provide capacity support to different stakeholders in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, in a bid to ensure the delivery of a recovery and reconstruction package.

For Indonesia, the programme "UNV Support to Tsunami Rehabilitation and Recovery in Aceh and Northern Sumatra" was approved in June 2005. UNV support comes within the framework of UNDP's Emergency Response and Transitional Recovery (ERTR) and focuses on strengthening the outreach capacities of government, NGOs and UN agencies.

To date more than 100 international and national UNV volunteers have been assigned to a wide number of positions, including emergency aid coordinators, psychologists, education specialists, urban planners, project officers and community development specialists.

Fifty-eight of them are currently supporting rehabilitation, recovery and preparedness activities in affected areas of the Aceh province and Nias.

UNV's small grant programme, "Support to Post Tsunami Livelihoods Rehabilitation in Banda Aceh", has engaged one Aceh based NGO (YDS) and a consortium of four NGOs (collectively named TRIBAL) to implement two grant schemes to support the opening of a community centre, shelter provision, training schemes and economic and agricultural recovery activities.

TRIBAL is currently giving entrepreneurship training to a group of women, whose small businesses were lost or affected by the Tsunami. They will acquire basic skills to better create and sell their products.

Underway is the selection of an organization to implement a further component of UNV's longer-term support to the Tsunami Response. An NGO will be contracted to implement this important component that aims to strengthen the restoration of livelihoods in selected districts in Aceh and Northern Sumatra, through providing support to community driven reconstruction and rehabilitation activities.