

Resilience, Rights and Resources: Two years of recovery In coastal zone Aceh



Information about natural resource management in the post-tsunami coastal area of Aceh

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Background

Official figures of human casualty in Indonesia from the Tsunami of 26th December 2004 are 164,891 people buried, 114,897 people missing and 412,438 people displaced. Nearly 211,000 houses were damaged, most of them completely. The Tsunami floods reached up to two kilometres inland and along rivers and estuaries, seawater went as far as six kilometres upstream. The total estimate of damages and losses is \$4.45 billion, nearly 97 per cent of Aceh's GDP. The impact on lives, families and communities was immense. The minimum costs of restoring environmental infrastructure are estimated at US\$175 million that includes rehabilitating damaged ecosystems and rebuilding capacity for environmental management.

Global response to call for relief operations for health, food and housing and recovery of livelihoods and further development was unprecedented. Hundreds of aid agencies both from abroad and within Indonesia poured into Aceh. Co-ordination was a challenge, information sharing was difficult. The Indonesian government set up a high level body BRR (Badan Rekonstruksi dan Rehabilitasi) to co-ordinate and channel the large amount of incoming assistance in different forms and amounts.

CGIAR and the Tsunami web-site

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Centers operating in Asia launched also quickly reacted with joint initiative in a meeting in Bogor, Indonesia to assist with information flows and analyses of the rehabilitation process in its various stages, linking NARS and universities to both local and international agencies directly engaged. ICRAF, WorldFish Center, IPGRI, IRRRI and CIFOR were directly involved. With an initial fund from the CGIAR, ICRAF Southeast Asia region provided support to assist on relevant research and development information on livelihoods and integrated natural resources management in the areas affected by tsunami and earthquake, particularly in Indonesia, the most affected country, hosted at <http://www.cgiar.org/tsunami>.

The website served as a semi-portal of CGIAR and information related to rehabilitation and reconstruction of the earthquake and tsunami affected areas. It created a 'one-stop' shop for information from the Centers and will link the Centers work to relevant other information on the Indian Ocean tsunami and earthquakes rehabilitation effort. This initiative, led by ICRAF, served as a common platform for relevant research and development information on livelihood and integrated natural resources management in the tsunami affected areas mainly in Indonesia. The website functions as a source of tsunami related information for researchers, students, practitioners, aid agencies, NGOs as well as government institutions.

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Information on the web site include information generated by the CG centres input from various discussion forums and other relevant articles and news. Publications and references including data on remote sensing and GIS maps are accessible through hyperlinks directing the user to original information source. This enables users to obtain information from diverse relevant sources through a single window.

Example web pages from the Tsunami web-site

The main page of CGIAR Tsunami website



Collected and stored information generated by the CG, and discussion forums as well as articles that written by the communications officer. News updates clipped from various available online news sites and mailing lists, paying due attention to access and copyright provisions. Publications/references including remote sensing and GIS maps will be linked from the website to its original location. Ongoing research updates (CG, external), events, and personal accounts of organizations, individuals in working on related issues will be included as appropriate.

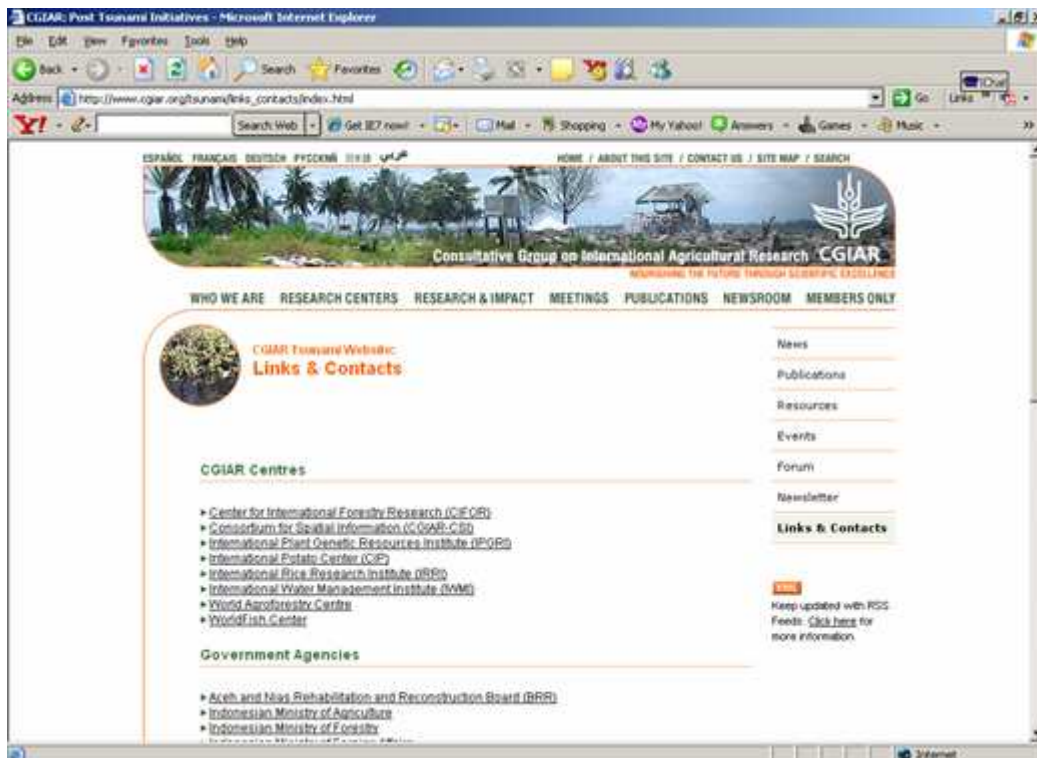
Publications

At this category, all related publications reflecting the rehabilitation and reconstructions of Aceh/Nias aftermath tsunami are linked as a bridge to their original sources. Regularly based report, fact sheets, best practices, and lesson learned from related organization activities arranged at the field are forms that usually published in this part.



Links & Contacts

Provide information on personal accounts of organizations, individuals in working on related livelihoods and INRM issues.



Observations and lessons so far

The CGIAR Tsunami information has received recognition for its role in INRM based rehabilitation initiatives due to the actions that a Ford Foundation grant to ICRAF allowed the collaborating centres (WorldFish, CIFOR) to undertake. This includes funds for support of graduate student INRM research in Aceh.

Based on the contacts made with the seed fund, ICRAF further obtained funding the European Pro-ECO program to work with national and international partners on 'Re-building Green Infrastructure with Trees People Want', with a base-camp in Meulaboh. CIDA recently approved a further grant to ICRAF to build livelihoods through "Nurseries of Excellence on the West Coast of Aceh" to train Aceh farmers, farmer groups and extensionists in agroforestry based livelihood enhancement systems. ICRAF continues the provision of Tsunami information through its web at <http://www.icraf.cgiar.org/sea>.

KEY MESSAGE

- A single door approach to relevant information has proved very useful
- Quick response on information 'co-ordination' was a useful input from CGIAR
- Activities conducted with CGIAR input became a major leverage for additional funding from other donors to CG centres for more intensive R&D activities, particularly in Aceh.

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) is one of 15 organizations under the CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) umbrella. ICRAF aims to stimulate and conduct innovative research, development and capacity building to promote and support agroforestry for both human and environmental benefits. ICRAF has its headquarters in Kenya and six regional offices in the tropics and now cover 21 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The research bulletins are summary results of collaborative activities of ICRAF and partners in the "Recovery and Resilience of Livelihood and Natural Resources", mainly in West Aceh, after the Tsunami of 26th December 2004. These bulletins were prepared, first in Indonesian language, for a workshop in Meulaboh on 30 November 2006. The primary objective was to share relevant result findings and observations among government and non-government organisations and individuals involved in the post-tsunami recovery in West Aceh. The workshop and preceding research activities were supported by Ford Foundation Indonesia, EU Asia Pro-Eco Program and CGIAR.

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