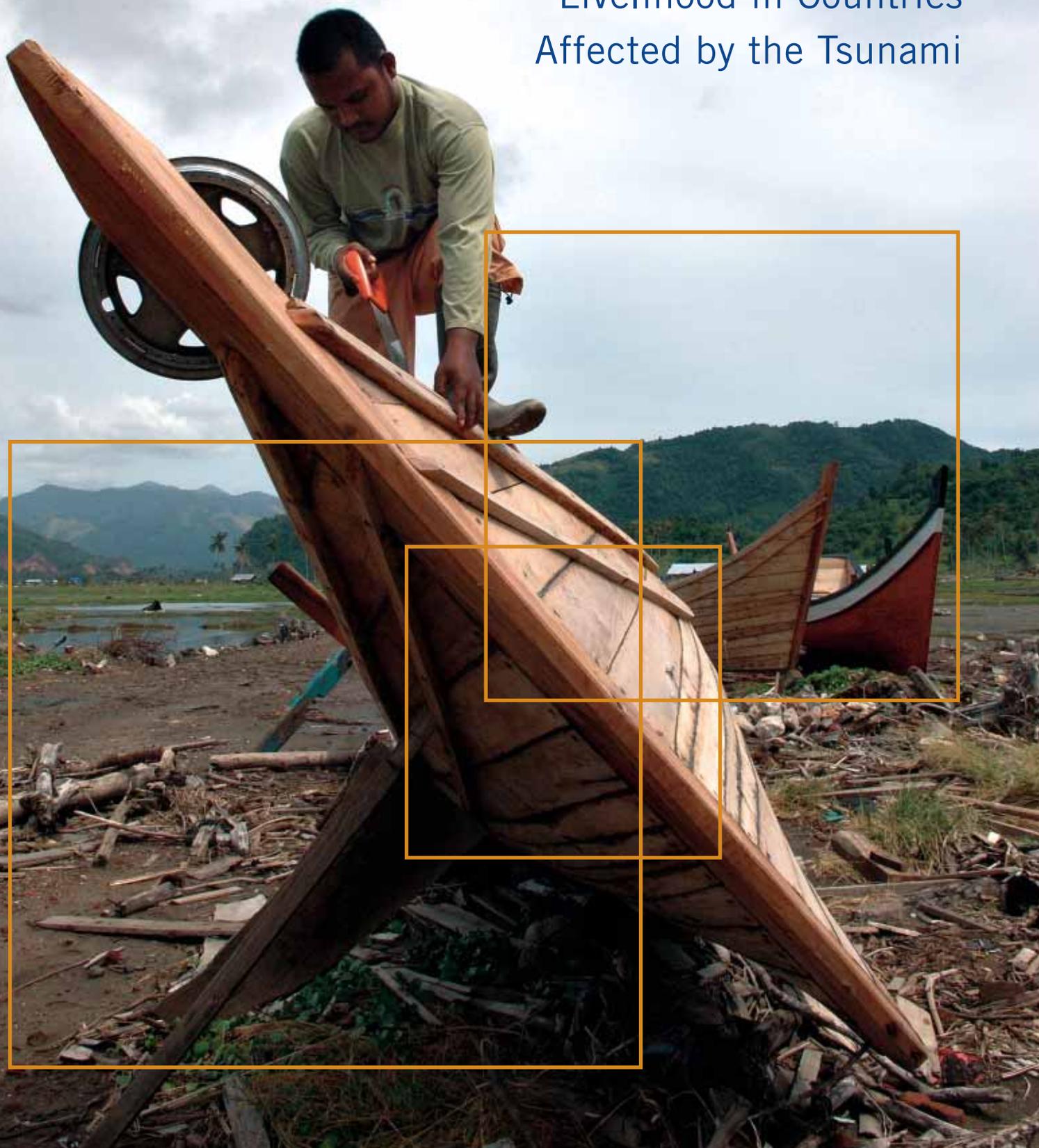




International
Labour
Office

WORKING OUT OF DISASTER

Improving Employment and
Livelihood in Countries
Affected by the Tsunami





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ILO

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PREFACE

In the early hours of 26 December 2004, a massive earthquake off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia triggered a series of tsunami waves that struck the coastal regions of Asia and Africa. The coastal regions of four countries in Asia – India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand – bore the brunt of the damage. In response to the unprecedented catastrophe, the International Labour Office, together with the governments and employers' and workers' organizations in the four countries, has been fully engaged in its largest-ever effort for regional income generation and employment creation, helping to restore the employment and livelihoods of people affected.

This book is dedicated to the many millions of people affected by the disaster who had the courage to get back to work quickly to rebuild their lives and those of their families. It is an attempt to provide a historical and photographic record of courage and initiative in the face of disaster.

The ILO believes that employment creation must be an explicit and central objective of the economic and social reconstruction effort. We have worked with local authorities and other national and international organizations to help thousands of people rebuild their lives through local economic activities and livelihood programmes.

The social partners – employers' and workers' organizations – both at the national and international levels, have played significant roles in ensuring the continuous support of their member organizations to assist employers and workers in the badly-hit areas to get themselves back on their feet. The ILO's strategic interventions depend on the support and advice of the social partners in order to achieve the target. This book describes what we have collectively achieved thus far.

We would like to acknowledge the support and contributions the ILO has received through partnership with the UN Country Teams in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand, as well as the many donor countries and organizations. In particular, the support of the Governments of Australia, Finland, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions-Asian and Pacific Regional Organisation (ICFTU-APRO), Migros, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has been essential to getting ILO projects moving and providing assistance to the affected communities.

I would also like to thank the main author and photographer of this publication, Thierry Falise, who interviewed survivors and vividly captured the reconstruction work in the four affected countries. The book has also benefited from earlier photographs taken by Marcel Crozet of the destruction caused by the tsunami. This publication also would not have been completed without the support of Mito Tsukamoto, who not only volunteered to come to the Regional Office to assist with our response to the disaster, but also tirelessly continued to manage the production of this publication on her return to Geneva. Finally, our gratitude to all colleagues in our offices in Jakarta, Colombo, New Delhi and Bangkok and their project teams who have facilitated with the groundwork and have provided valuable input to this publication.

Lest we forget, there is still a lot of work to be done in the coming months and years to restore the livelihoods of the bereaved families. Reconstruction and full recovery is a long-term process. Together with governments, employers' and workers' organizations and other partners, the ILO will continue to make the utmost efforts to support those affected in their struggle to find decent employment and rebuild their livelihoods.



Shinichi Hasegawa
Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok, December 2005

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ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
APINDO	Indonesian Employers' Association
Bakarnas	Indonesian National Coordinating Agency for Natural Disaster (Badan Koordinas Nasional)
BDS	Business Development Services
BRR	Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency, established by the Government of Indonesia
CFW	Cash-for-Work
CITU	Centre of Indian Trade Unions
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
EFSI	Employers' Federation of Southern India
ESPNAD	Employment Services for the People of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (Aceh Province)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FTUB	Federation of Trade Unions of Burma
HMS	Hind Mazdoor Sabha (Indian Trade Union)
HMI	Muslim Students Organization
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICFTU-APRO	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions - Asia and Pacific Regional Organisation
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
INRLF	Indian National Rural Labour Federation
IPEC	International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour
ITC	Indian Tobacco Company
ITUC	All India Trade Union Congress
JAM	Joint Assessment Mission
KSBSI	Confederation of Indonesia Prosperity Trade Unions
NASIR	Needs Assessment Survey for Income Recovery
NATR	North Andaman Tsunami Relief
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NWC	National Workers' Congress
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

PCC	Phuket Chamber of Commerce
PFHSL	Phuket Federation of Hotels and Service Labour
PTA	Phuket Tourist Association
REST	Responsible Ecological Social Tour
RIRP	Rapid Income Recovery Programme
SIYB	Start and Improve Your Business
SIDA	Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation
SPMAA	Sumber Pembinaan Mental Agama Allah
SYB	Start Your Business
TAFREN	Task Force to Rebuild the Nation, Sri Lanka
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNJLC	United Nations Joint Logistics Centre
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WHO	World Health Organization
WFP	World Food Programme

INTRODUCTION



“We need to get people back to work quickly to avoid exacerbating already existing and chronic poverty in many of the affected areas. In addition, we are also concerned over the prospect of prolonged unemployment leading to a serious long-term setback to development.”

Juan Somavía

Director-General, ILO, January 2005

INTRODUCTION

The immediate response

Following the devastation caused by the tsunami, the ILO very quickly set up a task force headed by the Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific to provide immediate support to the work of ILO offices in the four affected countries – India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The ILO was pro-active in its response to the disaster, concentrating efforts on the worst affected areas of Indonesia and Sri Lanka. It quickly reinforced the technical staff capacity and support facilities of its offices in Jakarta and Colombo to provide the immediate responses required, including participation in needs assessment missions, undertaking dialogue and partnership with governments, agencies and workers' and employers' organizations and initiating rapid action programmes focusing on employment creation and the protection of vulnerable groups.

Working in partnership

“The ILO believes employment creation should be an explicit and central objective of the economic and social reconstruction effort,” says Mr. Shinichi Hasegawa, ILO Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, noting that the organization is supporting the policies of national and local authorities who recognize that a critical part of rebuilding lives is getting people back into work.

The ILO has worked closely with the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and India, in the early stages on rapid damage and needs assessments; at the later stages on reconstruction and livelihood. Partnership has been strengthened with key agencies such as FAO, IOM, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN IDO, WFP and OCHA for coordinating response and joint action. The ILO has also been working closely with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank on the country strategies for the recovery and development phase.

“Although the ILO may be a small player in the overall scheme of crisis response and humanitarian relief, it has a key role to play in improving the employment and livelihood of those affected,” says Mito Tsukamoto, a Senior Development Cooperation Officer seconded to the Regional Office in Bangkok during the early stages of the tsunami response. “The ILO has the comparative advantage of having many decades of experience and existing tools that can be used quickly in times of crisis. These tools can be shared with others during any reconstruction effort, leading to a stronger overall impact on livelihood” (*see Annex, page 87*). She also stresses the importance of working as one seamless and coherent team, and as part of the overall international effort.

Standards and development, hand in hand

The reconstruction effort has demonstrated strong linkages between technical work and the overall ILO standards approach. Taking into consideration the human rights aspects in post-tsunami reconstruction – from protecting the many orphaned children from trafficking and the worst forms of child labour, to promoting gender equality, protecting the vulnerable from discrimination, and ensuring decent reconstruction working conditions – the ILO has worked towards the application of its guiding principles and to influence other partners in relief and reconstruction to apply them, especially in the areas of child labour and trafficking, discrimination, forced labour and freedom of association.

Learning from action

To improve its response capacity at the national, regional and global levels in dealing with natural disasters, the ILO organized a knowledge sharing meeting in May 2005, bringing together officials from ILO Headquarters in Geneva, the Regional Office in Bangkok and Country Directors from the four affected countries to Phuket, one of the affected areas. The aim of the workshop was to share reflections and experiences that would serve to increase understanding of how the ILO could best focus on its strengths and have an optimal impact, considering its limited resources.

One of the lessons learned from the experience of dealing with the tsunami was that the response differed from country to country. In Indonesia, the focus was more on an operational programme to bring back basic livelihood to the affected communities, including the establishment of [emergency employment service centres](#), a [cash-for-work programme for infrastructure projects](#), and so on. At a later stage, when the Government started the process of developing the blueprint for recovery and reconstruction, the ILO provided inputs to the government policy document.

In the case of Sri Lanka, the approach was more upstream. From the start, the ILO focused on advice to support the Government's efforts to develop [policy for recovery and reconstruction](#). This included the formulation of a [cash-for-work programme](#) in response to the tsunami disaster. In the meantime, the ILO provided support for the [protection of vulnerable groups](#), particularly the many orphaned children.

In India and Thailand, the emphasis was more on partnership with other UN agencies and ILO constituents. In the wake of the tsunami disaster in southern Thailand, the ILO took a leadership role within the UN country team on advocacy and support to help migrant workers regain productive employment. Together with the International Organization of Migration (IOM), the ILO has assisted [migrant workers](#), mostly from Myanmar, to re-establish registration documentation, facilitating re-registration and other necessary administrative tasks that have to be carried out prior to gaining employment. The ILO has also adjusted its ongoing work on [labour migration](#) to take into account the lessons learnt through the experience of responding to the tsunami disaster.

In India, the ILO has supported the social partners – employers’ and workers’ organizations – in their efforts to expand their services to help their members and families regain their livelihoods.

Together with three local and national employers’ organizations, the ILO has initiated pilot activities on a [livelihoods programme](#) for fishers; [entrepreneurship development](#), including [Start and Improve Your Business \(SIYB\)](#) programmes and [business development services \(BDS\)](#), especially for women and young people; and [working with local associations of trade and industry](#). Pilot activities on [skills development for income generation](#) and alternative livelihoods, awareness of available government and other schemes, and on rights and self-help groups, have been carried out in cooperation with local and national workers’ organizations.

“Ensuring the mainstreaming of decent work concerns into reconstruction and long-term development is one of the key steps for framing recovery,” says Alfredo Lazarte-Hoyle, Acting Director of the Crisis Response and Reconstruction Branch.

In this book, participants in some of these activities tell their stories in their own words. Published to mark the first anniversary of the disaster, the book is a tribute to all who suffered, to those who survived and found the courage to take up their lives again, and to the many millions of people around the world who have given their time, their money and their energy to support the reconstruction effort so far. These efforts will continue, drawing on the lessons learned, in the coming months and years.

Population dead, missing or displaced in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand

Note: For Sri Lanka, the number injured is also given.

Indonesia

Dead	128,645
Missing	37,063
Displaced	532,898

Source: BAKORNAS, May 2005

Sri Lanka

Dead	31,299
Injured	23,189
Missing	4,100
Displaced	516,150

Source: Sri Lanka Government, June 2005

India

Dead	10,749
Missing	5,640
Displaced	647,599

Source: National Disaster Management

Thailand

Dead	5,395
Missing	2,817

Source: Thailand Government, Ministry of Interior, September 2005



■ Areas of significant Indian Ocean tsunami impact



United Nations and IFRC presence in selected tsunami-affected countries

The organizations listed below sent teams to tsunami-affected countries: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); International Labour Organization (ILO); Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT); United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC); World Food Programme (WFP); and World Health Organization (WHO)

Indonesia

FAO	ICAO
IFRC	ILO
OCHA	UN HABITAT
UNAIDS	UNDP
UNEP	UNFPA
UNHCR	UNICEF
UNIFEM	UNJLC
WFP	WHO

Sri Lanka

FAO	HIC
IFRC	ILO
OCHA	UN HABITAT
UNAIDS	UNDP
UNEP	UNFPA
UNHCR	UNICEF
UNIFEM	UNJLC
WFP	WHO

India

ILO	UNAIDS
UNDP	UNFPA
UNICEF	WHO

Thailand

ICAO	IFRC
ILO	OCHA
UN HABITAT	UNAIDS
UNDP	UNEP
UNFPA	UNICEF
WHO	



INDONESIA



INDONESIA

Lambada Lhok was once a small busy fishing port, with its ice factory stretching along the docks on the outskirts of Banda Aceh, the capital of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province. Some 2,200 people were living here, working in the fishing industry. The tsunami basically flattened everything but the mosque and the municipal water tank, killing almost two thirds of the population.

Among the 636 survivors, here is a man pouring coffee (a renowned product from Aceh) for a couple of customers sitting at a table in his recently rebuilt shop. The man introduces himself as Adrian, 48, and adds unasked, as so many tsunami victims do, "I lost my wife and four of my five children."

After the tsunami, Adrian shared a camp with other survivors for two months. Then he borrowed money from friends to start rebuilding his small business. He was offered the opportunity to follow an ILO Start Your Business (SYB) training scheme and received his share from a budget gathered by the ILO from various donors for the community's recovery. "I received 8 million rupees (US\$ 800) which helped me to complete the coffee shop and to recover mentally. Today the business is coming back but I would need more chairs and tables because I also want to sell noodles and other food items."

RIGHT A man is busy rebuilding a house in a Banda Aceh area destroyed by the tsunami

BELOW Adrian (middle) in the coffee shop he was able to rebuild thanks to an ILO business training programme







ABOVE Faridah helping to rebuild her wholesale shop



LEFT Syamsudin Mahmud, 45 (left), lost his wife and two children in the tsunami. With his new wife, Uleananda, 27 (right), he rebuilt his food shop thanks to a loan secured by ILO through a local NGO



ABOVE Chairul Amri, headman of Lambada Lhok, shows a project for the reconstruction and development of his devastated community

A neighbour, Faridah, 34, was running a wholesale shop with her husband before the disaster, selling anything from cooking oil to underwear. She lost a child and her entire assets of 70 million rupees (US\$ 7,000). She also attended a SYB training scheme and took a loan of 10 million rupees (US\$ 1,000) to rebuild her shop and buy equipment. While she is piling bricks for a mason who is busy cementing a wall of her new house, she says that she is “impatient and hopes to restart her business within a month”.

Quickly back to work

“In this community,” says its headman Chairul Amri, who is also a teacher, “the ILO conducted meetings and together we identified the needs and proposed solutions and a budget. It took only a few weeks to get the ILO’s approval. Since then, in partnership with the local NGO Muslim Students Organization (HMI), we have distributed cash to the people through a revolving fund system. When their business returns to profit, they will give the money back through a cooperative, which in turn will disburse it to somebody else.” The community’s chief is all praise for the implementation of this system. “By empowering a local NGO, we will guarantee sustainability once the ILO has left,” he adds.



South of Banda Aceh in Meunasah Tuha village, a few metres from the ocean, surrounded by piles of debris and the putrid smell of rotting swamps created by the tsunami, a handful of people saw, scrape, nail and assemble wooden planks under the shade of a tin roof. Some planks have already definitely taken the shape of a canoe, while others are still a mere skeleton structure. Tarmizi, a community representative who lost a child, his parents and a sister in the catastrophe, recalls the visit of an ILO team on a survey a short while after the tsunami.

“The situation was very difficult. We could not think about what to do. We were still traumatized, but we agreed on a project to build 10 canoes,” he says. In April, the ILO gave its approval and launched the pilot project. “There were two skilled carpenters left alive. They started to make the boats in May and finished five months later. Those boats will provide work directly to 20 people and indirectly to a few more such as the fish sellers.”

ABOVE *Rebuilding boats and livelihoods in Meunasah Tuha village*

RIGHT *Children playing near a temporary shelter in Banda Aceh*





LEFT A man proudly shows the certificate he received after attending an ILO-run Start Your Business (SYB) training

BELOW Zalaeni, 59, was able to rebuild his fishing equipment shop thanks to a loan he got from the local community and an ILO SYB training





ABOVE *Destruction in Banda Aceh*

People's resilience

Indonesia's Aceh province, being the closest to the earthquake's epicentre in the Indian Ocean which triggered the tsunami, was by far the worst-hit area. According to official figures as of 30 April 2005, 128,515 people died in Aceh and 130 in Northern Sumatra, more than 37,063 are missing, while 513,278 have been displaced in Aceh and 19,620 in Northern Sumatra. Over 600,000 people have lost their jobs, mainly in the agriculture, fishing and services sectors. More than 35,000 children are now orphans or separated from their parents. Homes, schools and other community facilities have been destroyed. This unbelievable toll has only added to the long suffering endured by the people as a result of the many years of conflict between the Government and the local separatist movement.

The ILO has been working in Indonesia for almost four decades but did not have a presence in Aceh since this area had very limited access. Three weeks after the tsunami, the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) there, Freddie Rousseau, set up an ILO office in Banda Aceh. "On 9 February, we opened the first employment centre and registered more than 1,000 people a day for a job," he recalls, "which shows the strength of Acehnese resilience. They wanted to get out of the camps and bounce back quickly on to their feet, as they did not want to stay home and do nothing."

Three-pillar strategy

The local unemployment rate, which stood at 26 per cent before the tsunami, has risen to more than 40 per cent. An unprecedented effort had to be made on reconstruction.

“The loss of employment and income will result in many people having to face poverty and destitution,” says Alan Boulton, the ILO Country Director for Indonesia. The Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Master Plan designed by the Indonesian Government “recognized that for people to rebuild their livelihoods, the critical concern is to get people back to work,” adds Mr. Boulton. “It’s in line with the ILO’s belief that employment creation should be an explicit and central objective of economic and social reconstruction efforts.”

For that purpose, ILO developed a catalogue of projects “revolving around the central issue of jobs, with three main pillars: employment centres, vocational and skill trainings and enterprises,” says Mr. Rousseau. The ILO has been working closely with the Indonesian Government on all fronts on the various recovery activities.

BELOW Men at work on an ILO-run programme of construction of new government buildings





ABOVE Life is slowly coming back to normal in Calang's harbour

Reconstruction as a priority

Calang is about 200 kilometres south of Banda Aceh. This community of fishers, around 80,000 people, suffered the heaviest impact of the tsunami in the province: 90 per cent of its people were killed. Unlike other towns and villages where the killer waves allowed some kind of “normal” life to go on beyond a certain demarcation line, in Calang, the tsunami erased every single construction in sight. For two months, with the coastal roads wiped out, Calang was only accessible by air and sea. The place became a vast refugee camp where UN agencies and NGOs set up headquarters to deliver activities in the region.

“We arrived here in April,” says Zia Ul Azmi, the ILO’s office manager. “Our first mission, in cooperation with the Government, was to register jobseekers. About 2,000 of them registered and four months later, 500 of them had found a job. Then, we scoured the six sub-districts around to identify needs and acted as intermediary with NGOs to place people.”

The ILO focuses here on the construction sector, training people in cement mixing, carpentry and many other activities. “There are 14,000 families in the area,” adds Mr. Ul Azmi, “so as part of UN joint programming with NGOs, the immediate plan is to build a new house for each of these displaced families.”

Shahreal Umar, a 35-year-old fisherman from Keutapang village, near Calang, remembers the horrifying wave rushing in “like a huge cobra head”. He managed to escape with his wife and their three children, but lost his house, boat and fishing equipment.

“I am really lucky,” he smiles. After discovering ILO posters that were advertising the need for manpower, he followed a five-day ILO training course in construction and in June, he started to work on a government building project funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Calang. He earns 45,000 rupees a day (US\$ 4.50), “not enough to buy new equipment, which I hope to get from an NGO, but at least it gives my family a bit of cash and a job for me.”

BELOW Shahreal Umar, 35, a fisherman who lost his boat and equipment, found a job through the ILO as a worker on the construction of new government buildings in Calang





ABOVE Shelters, UN and NGO buildings in Calang, a town totally wiped out by the tsunami

RIGHT A man in Calang is building a new boat with equipment and raw materials provided by international help





Placing the unemployed

After 26 December 2004, the Indonesian Government set up the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias (BRR) to take forward relevant parts of the Master Plan. In March, provincial and district manpower offices, in partnership with the ILO, established a network of Employment Services for the People of Naggroe Aceh Darussalam (ESPNAD), with centres in the main towns.

“By the end of August, the ILO had registered 40,000 jobseekers, including more than 10,000 women,” says Dr. H. A. Manan Ganto, ESPNAD Director. “Some 2,000 have already found a job, leaving 38,000 still unemployed, which shows that there is still a big gap between available jobs and placement, mainly due to lack of skills in the construction sector. That’s why we want to continue to work with the ILO and get more training.”

A range of training initiatives targeting jobseekers has been provided by the Employment Centres in Banda Aceh, Calang, Meulaboh and Lhokseumawe. Some 1,700 people have already benefited and made use of the training facilities ranging from automotive mechanics, welding, carpentry and concrete mixing, to training in English, basic computer skills, sewing and tile-making for women. Dr. Ganto says, “ESPNAD is still registering and training jobseekers. We are pleased to be able to use our experience and facilities to provide employment services through ESPNAD. The number of people being reached by the service will further increase in coming weeks as the trainings are dedicated to finding more jobs and more income opportunities for the Acehnese.”

ABOVE Workers begin the slow task of rebuilding their ravaged community



RECONSTRUCTION ON NIAS ISLAND

The December 2004 tsunami caused considerable damage on the west coast of Nias Island, off the coast of North Sumatra, but it was the major earthquake on 28 March 2005, which measured 8.7 on the Richter scale, that resulted in larger numbers of lives lost amongst the 800,000 inhabitants and greater destruction across the whole island. It was estimated that over half the buildings in Gunung Sitoli, the capital city of Nias Island, were destroyed.

According to the North Sumatra Research and Policy Advocacy Institute, unemployment has increased 125 per cent. The number of jobless has reached 125,000, or 50 per cent of the island's workforce.

In Nias, the ILO has sought to build on its successful programmes in Aceh, including business development through Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) training, short-cycle skills training on reconstruction and labour-based rural infrastructure development. An interesting and innovative initiative is the collaboration with a sister UN agency, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The ILO and UNIDO have jointly supported local economic development, the ILO leading the work on employment and skills development, and UNIDO bringing its expertise to revitalize and develop industrial sectors such as rubber, fishing and coconuts.

"Given the fact that Nias has been underdeveloped and isolated for many years, the ILO has noted that there is a need not only to address the impact of the disaster, but also to implement a comprehensive local economic development strategy in which employment opportunities play a central role," says Peter Rademaker, Deputy Director of the ILO Office in Jakarta, who led a mission in Nias.

William Sabandar, the Head of the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR) in Nias, looks forward to the contribution the ILO can make to the reconstruction there. "The ILO team has had detailed discussions with BRR, district government and a number of communities and has proposed to replicate a range of initiatives already being implemented successfully in Aceh, promoting employment for the people of Nias," says Mr. Sabandar.

One important focus will be to employ labour-based methods to rehabilitate local infrastructure, for instance roads that provide access to markets and social services. Mr. Sabandar said that he is really eager to apply the ILO's tools on rural accessibility planning and labour-based infrastructure. "I believe they are appropriate to the Island and can be applied successfully here. The ILO team has committed to support BRR in this area immediately."

"Such activities will lay the foundation for sustainable development and employment creation, working closely with the communities," says Mr. Rademaker.



Dr. Ganto's analysis is confirmed by Rusli BR, representative of the Confederation of Indonesia Prosperity Trade Unions (KSBSI), a union with 4,000 members. "The main need today is job replacement," he says. "Many of our members have skills but no opportunity to find a job in their sector, so they need to take up another skill." KSBSI made a request to the ILO and to NGOs to provide them with skills training. The ILO started its cooperation with the union in June on a basic training programme, and then on other projects such as vocational training, which started over the period of August and September. "Another main issue reported by our members is the access to capital," says Mr. Rusli. "We need to be taught how to connect with financial institutions in order to start a new business."

The ILO, in collaboration with the Indonesian Employers' Association (APINDO), conducted a survey to assess the impact of the tsunami on the 316 enterprises registered with APINDO throughout the province. This survey found that on average, 40 per cent of the staff and 60 per cent of the equipment had been lost. The ILO has set up a plan to provide further technical assistance to support employers who restart businesses and create jobs. Mr. M. Dahlan Sulaiman, APINDO's chairman, also expects the ILO to provide "assistance in developing ways to get access to capital".

Together with the manpower offices, the ILO is now actively marketing placement services to contractors engaged in reconstruction projects. With UN-HABITAT, for instance, there will be placement of hundreds of jobseekers from Leupung Sub-District, Aceh Besar District, in the construction of 91 houses in Pulot and 64 houses in Lamsenia.

ABOVE A man makes concrete blocks under an NGO-run programme

Involving women

As it also quickly turned out, gender equity and child protection, two traditional missions of the ILO, became major post-tsunami issues in Aceh.

“When we arrived here in February, the job opportunities were and still are in the construction sector,” says Claudia Mueller, in charge of the ILO’s vocational and enterprise development programme for women. “And women traditionally don’t have that role, so the main challenge was to get the women somehow involved in Aceh’s reconstruction.”

To convince the women to do what is traditionally a man’s job “was not a problem at all”, she says. “A lot of them were bored in the camps, their husbands either dead or already working, and many had lost children, so they had nothing to do – they were begging us to give them some activities.”

The ILO started five-day training courses in activities such as building concrete blocks for houses or tile-making, and planned to expand these to building windows or door frames, for instance. By late August, about 150 women had been trained. Some of them were selected for a SYB programme and started new businesses, often as a group. “As a consequence, the women were able to gain self-confidence,” states Ms. Mueller.

BELOW A woman undertaking a construction-related activity



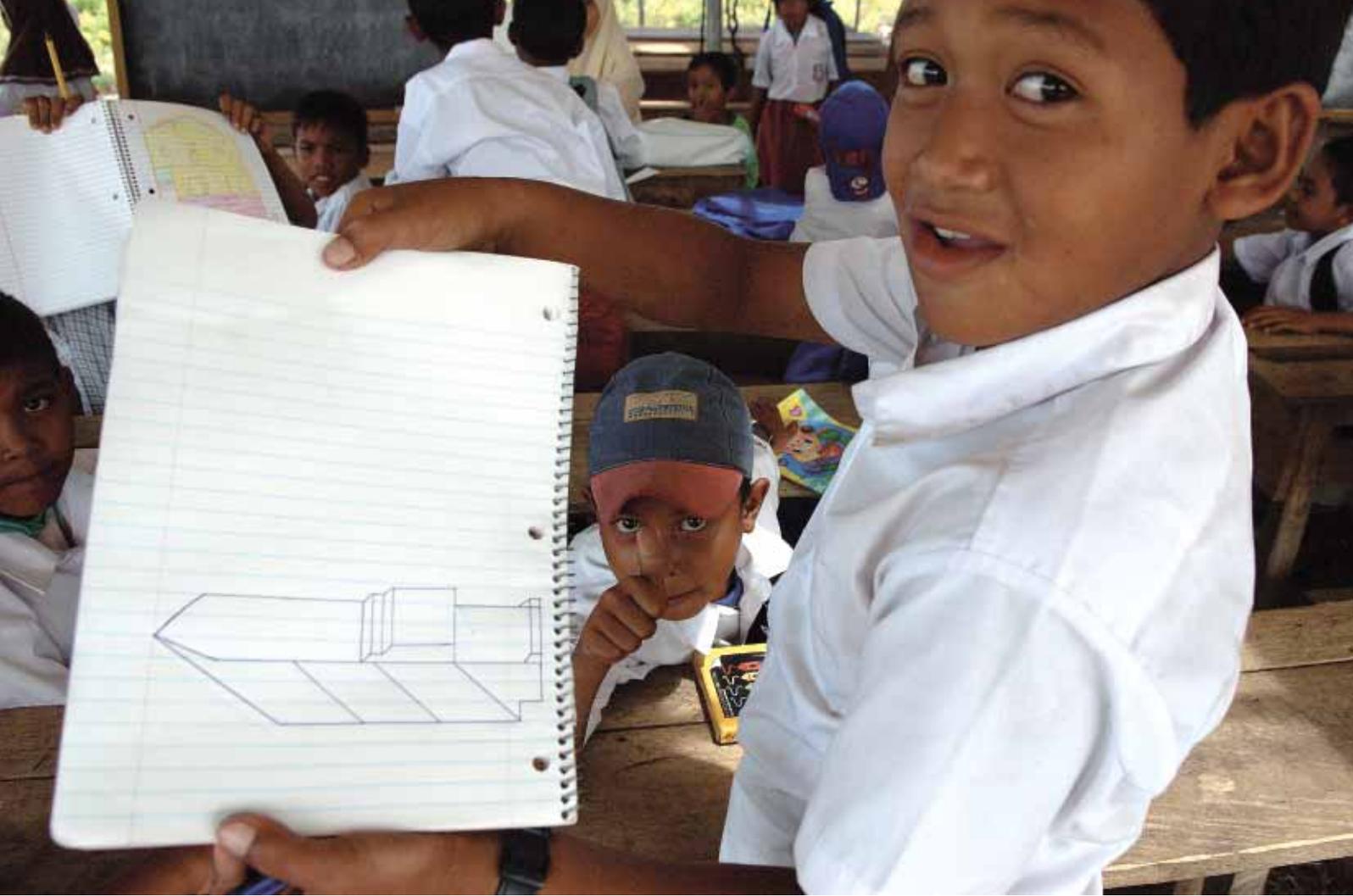
Nurlaini, a mother of three who used to sell cakes before the tsunami, followed a course in cement tile-making followed by a 10-day business management training course. She is now able to produce 500 tiles a day, which she can either keep for her future home or sell for 2,500 rupees (25 US cents) a piece for a small size and 6,000 rupees (60 US cents) a piece for a large one. "People still believe that it's not a woman's job," she smiles. "Yet I believe women and men have equal positions and opportunities. I just want my life back and to be able to earn a living." In August, the ILO finalized an agreement with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the order of 50,000 pavement tiles for their shelters, providing work to 25 women.

These programmes are designed on a community-based approach. "We train the women within their community, for their own community's benefit," says Ms. Mueller. "As soon as their business is set up, they are ready to work, and they have the customers on the spot."

The ILO also runs handicrafts training for products which people need in their new shelter or home, such as curtains, bed sheets and pillowcases. A group of 20 women learned how to make underwear. "Today, they are selling their first underwear 'made in Aceh'," smiles Ms. Mueller. All in all, in less than six months, the ILO trained some 300 women.

BELOW Women get tailoring training by a local NGO in Banda Aceh





ABOVE A boy shows the drawing of a boat he made in a temporary school

Protecting children

Among the tsunami's victims, children were quickly identified as a highly vulnerable group. Experience elsewhere in the world has shown that in post-disaster situations, children often drop out of school, and many drift into the workforce at an early age. There was also concern that some of the weakest children, especially the orphans, could be dragged into sexual exploitation.

Shortly after the tsunami, the International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) took steps to adapt to this unprecedented situation and decided to focus special attention on children between 15 and 17 years old, who are largely outside formal schooling but who may have no work opportunities and who often lack skills.

Edi Prima, a teenager whose family lost its home in the tsunami, says that there was nothing to do in the village except to grow a few beans and tomatoes for a small income. He heard from friends at school about a computer skills course. "Every day after school, I come to this workshop," he says. "It's very useful because I can go to school and work at the same time. Later I can find a job and earn some money to help my parents, who have no job now."



The precarious material situation of so many children was further aggravated by the massive trauma most of them endured. IPEC runs a few programmes with the aim of giving back some self-confidence to the children.

ABOVE AND RIGHT
Children playing and fishing in a swamp created by the tsunami in Banda Aceh



LEFT *A little girl and her father wait for food rations from the World Food Programme in a camp near Calang*



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR (IPEC)

One important component of the ILO's work in Aceh and Nias focuses on children and youth. Organized under the umbrella of the International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), it includes training programmes for unemployed 15-17-year-olds as well as activities aimed at preventing children from dropping out of school.

- Since March, a programme at the Vocational Training Centre of the Ministry of Manpower has provided sewing and computer courses to prepare young people for future entry into the labour market.
- In May, IPEC began working with the Provincial Education Office and a network of community learning centres. Initial pilot programmes as well as a new 12-month programme were developed and implemented in five community learning centres. The programme provides training in motorcycle repair, hairdressing, information technology, mattress production, and handicrafts.
- In this year's national school examinations, taken at Grade 9, the failure rate in Aceh was the highest in the country. Children who fail the exam can face difficulties gaining employment or continuing their education. Working with the Provincial Education Office, the ILO has supported a remedial education programme for children who wish to resit their examinations. The programme has made an important contribution to reducing the failure rate, and its success has led the Education Office to propose repeating it in future years.
- Through a programme with a local NGO, Yayasan Anak Bangsa (*see main text*), IPEC is supporting a children's centre in Lueng Bata. The centre provides services to the village community and outreach support through a mobile library for children in nearby temporary accommodation.
- Through a programme with the NGO Sumber Pembinaan Mental Agama Allah (SPMAA) and also working with the Ministry of Religious Affairs, programmes are being implemented in Krueng Anoi and the surrounding area to strengthen the role of Meunasah (a religious community centre) in providing life skills training to youth.





In Lamrabo, a village close to Banda Aceh, IPEC works in cooperation with Yayasan Anak Bangsa, a local NGO whose two child activity centres were destroyed by the tsunami. Here they opened a new centre where approximately 50 children or young teenagers are being cared for.

Zufli Hermi is a traditional Acehnese dance teacher who was running a youth club before the tsunami. "We started a dance programme in May", he says, "which we hope will help the children heal their trauma. Now they are able to perform in public, which brings them self-confidence." He says that "the children, especially the orphans, are now happier, although they still sometimes start to cry and talk about their lost loved ones."

Rian Aldiansyah, 15, is sitting in the front of a row of young boys and girls. At a signal from his teacher Zufli Hermi, he starts to sing and move his hands and head faster and faster, soon followed by the other students. "I was already part of the club," he says after a round of dancing. "The tsunami killed my mother and my grandmother, who were selling noodles at the market. I was not there when it happened." The souls of his loved ones still haunt him. "When I have nothing to do, I have nightmares. I see my dead relatives and friends coming back." He could not attend school for two months, and went for a while to help his father, who farms in another district. When he came back to Banda Aceh, he found some comfort in the dance group. "This activity is very helpful to me. It keeps me busy and besides, it helps preserve my country's culture."

ABOVE Zufli Hermi teaching traditional Acehnese dance to a group of children

BELOW RIGHT Rian Aldiansyah, 15, says that the dancing session gave him some comfort

BELOW Child activity centres are helping to ease children out of the trauma induced by the tsunami







Business culture

As Indonesia slowly works towards recovery, another issue raised by Freddie Rousseau is the threat to the very existence of traditional skills. “We fear that a lot of them will be destroyed because the skilled people have died. If we don’t do something drastic, they will be lost forever,” he says.

Mr. Rousseau believes that the task is still enormous. “Here, there is a general lack of serious business culture,” he says. “All manufacturing businesses are run from home and a copycat syndrome is prevalent. When somebody starts an activity, such as baking cakes, everybody around copies this. That is not sustainable. So this situation places a responsibility on the ILO to be more creative – to create opportunity, which is not traditionally our role. We became the innovator and not the implementer. It forced us out of our traditional role, and I believe it’s one of our major achievements.”

ABOVE Women display their wares in a makeshift marketplace – one of the many signs that life is slowly returning to normal in the tsunami-affected communities of Indonesia



BETTER ACCESS TO MICROCREDIT

In collaboration with the National Committee for International Year of Microcredit 2005, the ILO has played a coordination role, in an effort to promote better access of Acehnese people to microcredit.

Through a two-day Microfinance Conference, "Financial Services to Rebuild Livelihoods in Aceh", held in Banda Aceh in June 2005, the ILO, together with key microcredit institutions, considered how microcredit could be further developed in Aceh.

According to data from the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, in 2003 around 30 per cent of the population in the province (around 1.1 million people) were living in poverty. After the tsunami, the number has doubled, reaching almost 50 per cent of the population. As in other provinces in Indonesia, microcredit institutions and services are not yet well developed. They only reach about one percent of the whole target market in Aceh.

"Therefore", said Dipo Alam, Chair of the National Committee for International Year of Microcredit 2005, "in the post-crisis context of Aceh, microcredit can positively affect the social and economic welfare of the people. By contributing to business development, it enhances the capacity of people to generate income by restarting their businesses or engaging in (self) employment. Given the right opportunities, people of Aceh can make a vital contribution to rebuilding their lives and to enhancing the economy."

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SRI LANKA



SRI LANKA

Every morning at 8:30 a.m., K. Kusumawathi, a 56-year-old grandmother from Kalutara village in southern Sri Lanka, joins another half-dozen women and as many men on a road damaged by the tsunami. Here in Beruwela, a short distance from Galle, a main southern city, the road winds through coconut trees and the rubble of shattered houses a couple of hundred metres from the ocean. “For eight hours”, she explains, “we, the women, clean and prepare the road, help the men to heat the bitumen, and when they have laid it on the ground, we lay down the gravel.” The work brings her 360 rupees a day (approximately US\$ 3.60), the pre-tsunami government rate.

When the tsunami struck, she was at her daughter’s house playing with her 6-year-old grandson. “There was a first wave and then we ran and ran, jumping over fences, tripping on the ground but finally, as a second wave was rushing in, we managed to reach the school, which is on higher ground.” Luckily, everyone in her family escaped physically unscathed, but the house was destroyed and all their belongings lost. In the camp where she has since lived with her family since the tsunami, she heard that the local government was looking for people to work on a Cash-for-Work (CFW) project rebuilding the roads.

RIGHT *K. Kusumawathi, 56, is working on a road reconstruction programme run by the local government and the ILO*

BELOW *Women have taken on a major role in road reconstruction efforts in southern Sri Lanka*







This CFW project, which focuses on the reconstruction of 37 damaged roads, was initiated late in April 2005 as a partnership between the ILO and the local government. “We applied two conditions,” says S. H. Kusuman De Silva, chairman of the Beruwela council. “At least 50 per cent of the workers had to be tsunami victims and an equal salary for men and women was to be secured.”

The project provides a “very useful additional income”, says Ms. Kusumawathi. “Because of the tsunami, everybody lost their job, and in the camp there was nothing to do. I will do this work as long as I have the strength.”

The road repair project in Beruwela is a new one, specially developed and introduced as a result of the tsunami. Yet for years, the ILO has been operating a number of technical cooperation projects in the country, including JobsNet (*see box on page 43*), Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) and the International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). These projects have been expanded to meet the needs of those affected by the tsunami.

In Sri Lanka, according to government figures, 38,000 people were killed, more than 21,000 injured, over 5,000 are missing and nearly one million were displaced. The ILO estimates that some 275,000 livelihoods were directly lost and possibly another 125,000 indirectly, with two thirds in the informal economy, mostly in the fishing sector.

ABOVE Women working on a road in Beruwela as part of a Cash-for-Work (CFW) project

RIGHT Destruction along Sri Lanka's coastline





Supporting the Government's efforts

“With such a vast, well-intentioned response, a key challenge is the coordination and planning of interventions, in particular, those related to livelihood recovery, quality assurance, policy oversight, and monitoring of the myriad of interventions by more than 70 agencies,” says Claudia Coenjaerts, the ILO’s Country Director for Sri Lanka. In many villages, some people received three boats each (among these recipients were some who were not even fishermen), whereas other villages were accidentally left behind or “not yet adopted by a donor”, as some villagers call it. “It is with this in mind that the ILO in Sri Lanka decided to first and foremost focus its attention on supporting the Government, both nationally through the Task Force to Rebuild the Nation (TAFREN) and the line ministries, and at the district level to establish a planned approach and a coordinating framework for livelihood recovery,” adds Ms. Coenjaerts.

Since the completion of the massive relief effort, the recovery process has proceeded at a rather slow pace in Sri Lanka. The inexperience of the country’s authorities in dealing with the consequences of such a large disaster and also the constraints from two decades of war in the northern and north-eastern provinces and the ensuing troubled political situation have been major obstacles.

“It is very important to understand that, given 20 years of war, the capacity of delivery mechanisms is severely hampered,” says Ms. Coenjaerts. “Too often, there is little sympathy if resources are not spent directly on the tsunami victims. It is important for taxpayers and donors as well as the local population to understand our approach. As a technical agency, it is our mandate to promote decent jobs for the men and women of Sri Lanka; it is our duty to build local capacity to facilitate this process.”

ABOVE An ILO employee conducts a needs assessment survey

A long-term recovery programme

At the request of the Government, the ILO has developed the concept of a “Rapid Income Recovery Programme” (RIRP), aiming to quickly bring sustainable jobs for those who can work and social protection for those who cannot (*see box below*).

In April 2005, the ILO carried out a Needs Assessment Survey for Income Recovery (NASIR) on 1,612 households in eight tsunami-affected districts. This valuable information was used for the planning and delivery of government and non-governmental assistance provided under the umbrella of the RIRP.

JOBSNET

The JobsNet Programme is an ongoing public-private partnership project of the Sri Lankan Ministry of Labour Relations and Foreign Employment and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce with funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and technical assistance from the ILO. The objective of the programme is to deliver a comprehensive employment service, facilitating access to employment and vocational training, guaranteeing continuous monitoring of the labour market and the provision of crucial information for the design of appropriate policies. JobsNet has 19 centres in Sri Lanka, with more than 100,000 registered jobseekers. Eight of the 19 are in the tsunami-affected areas. The project is being extended to cater specifically to the needs of tsunami-affected communities.

RAPID INCOME RECOVERY PROGRAMME (RIRP)

The ILO has supported the Government in designing a strategic response focusing on reviving the local economy and restoring sustainable jobs and livelihoods as soon as possible. The Rapid Income Recovery Programme is now the foundation on which the restoring livelihoods section of TAFREN is building its programme. The programme focuses on coordination of the livelihood interventions undertaken by numerous stakeholders in the tsunami-affected areas to ensure that assistance is well targeted, relevant, and of high quality and contributes towards long-term development goals. The RIRP encompasses three broad types of instruments to provide a timed and phased approach to income protection and access to livelihood:

- temporary income transfers;
- an immediate income-generation mechanism (Cash-for-Work programmes);
- financial and other services to revive and develop economic activities and restore livelihoods.

A team of 20 staff is currently attached to this programme, collecting information, processing and building capacity through various resources.

The ILO has also started a number of programmes in the tsunami-affected areas to directly support the restoration of livelihoods. These include:

- a temporary income transfer scheme for the affected informal sector through employment intensive (Cash-for-Work) reconstruction of essential community and public infrastructure;
- providing employment services to tsunami-affected areas/communities through the extension of the JobsNet Programme (*see box above*);
- community-based skills training programmes.



Protecting the vulnerable

In the tsunami assistance plan, a major priority was the protection of vulnerable groups living in camps. Months after the tsunami, many people were still living in temporary shelters with uncertain prospects and with no clear knowledge of how they would re-establish their livelihoods. This lifestyle increased the risk of them becoming long-term dependants and had made already fragile groups, such as women and children, even more vulnerable. In addition to the suffering brought about by the loss of lives and assets, many recent reports point out that women have been suffering serious sexual abuse.

In Daru SETHA, Galle district, southern Sri Lanka, the child protection programme is run in partnership with the National Workers' Congress (NWC), a Sri Lankan trade union. In that region, the tsunami has left at least 70 per cent of the fishing community without any form of livelihood. "The loss of parents or family support and delays in reopening schools have made children more vulnerable to exploitation," says Gerald Lodwick, Deputy Secretary-General of the NWC. "After the tsunami, the union set up a monitoring group to identify cases of child labour. We recorded an increase in the demand for child labour and other forms of trafficking such as sex tourism."

ABOVE Months following the tsunami, many people still live in temporary camps along the beach



RIGHT A main objective of the IPEC programme is to get children out of labour. Here, a boy sells peanuts to passengers of a ferry

BELOW A child preparing food in a temporary camp





ABOVE A man learns how to mend fishing nets in an IPEC vocational centre in Beruwela



LEFT Young women learn how to type in a Beruwela vocational centre run by IPEC

On the first floor of an IPEC centre, about 20 children sit studying math. “Here, we give them formal and non-formal education after their school hours,” says Ms. Randika Jayasinghe, programme assistant. “The strategy is to keep them in formal education so that they won’t be used as divers to clean boat propellers or be sent to Colombo as house servants.”

In an adjacent room, a group of parents have gathered for a meeting with union representatives. A mother stands up and starts to speak: “Many of our children are still traumatized. They cannot concentrate on their books anymore. Please help them to regain concentration and confidence.”

In a building looking over a fishing port in Beruwela, IPEC runs a similar project along with a vocational training centre for livelihood recovery. Here, young women learn how to type and young men learn how to mend fishing nets. A group of mothers is waiting for their children to complete their morning class. None of them will speak openly about child labour. “They all know what’s happening here but there is almost nothing that they can do about it,” says Mr. Lodwick. “That’s one of the reasons why they bring their children here, to give them a better education and in the long run, move them away from the threat of exploitation.”

BELOW Children follow an after-school programme in a Daru Setha centre run by IPEC and National Workers’ Congress (NWC)



Helping tourism

In addition to the fishing industry, the tsunami also dealt a massive blow to the hotel and tourism industry in the southern region, including eco-tourism, which was starting to blossom in several districts. A few months after the tsunami, hotels, guesthouses and restaurants were gradually being rebuilt, and tourists were slowly coming back. Nonetheless, many needs had not yet been met.

K. J. Kanngara is the manager of the Sea Turtle Project in Bentota, a favourite beach resort with Western tourists. For 5 rupees a piece (5 US cents), he buys sea turtle eggs that would otherwise be destroyed by water, taken by birds or eaten by man. After nurturing the eggs in a hatchery for 48 days, he releases the baby turtles to the sea, contributing to the conservation of an endangered species. He has seven employees. Most of the project's revenue comes from visiting tourists. "The tsunami destroyed water pumps, tanks, pipes and more than 20,000 eggs. Today, we get no help and the income from tourists is hardly enough to make a living," he laments. Dr. Nanayakkara, district coordinator for the local government, who is on the ILO's payroll, pledges to relay the request to potential donors "for the sake of the country's environmental protection".

RIGHT *Tourists visiting the Sea Turtle Project*

BELOW *K. J. Kanngara, the manager of the Sea Turtle Project in Bentota*







ABOVE Women make coir from coconut fibres to be used for ropes. This kind of traditional activity can help tsunami victims recover from their suffering



LEFT A man amongst the rubble in north-east Sri Lanka

Where tsunami and war come together

In the northern and north-eastern provinces, the tsunami, coupled with relentless conflict, has further aggravated the already weakened situation of the most vulnerable groups.

Kinniya, a community of 75,000 people located near Trincomalee, a main town on the east coast, has paid a heavy price. Almost 400 people were killed in the tsunami, most of them women and young children. Half the population was displaced and 4,000 houses were totally or partially destroyed.

Sitting amongst other young women and children is Nasmiya, a 13-year-old girl, busy untangling a friend's hair. She has been living in this camp of tin roofs and plywood since the tsunami shattered her young life. Even though she puts on a brave face and claims that she is "OK now", 26 December 2004 is still playing over and over again in her head like a horror movie. "I was pumping up my bicycle tyres when I saw water rushing in. I tried to run to the road, but the water took me away to the river. I held on to a coconut tree and that's how I survived," she says, almost expressionless. But her mother and two sisters did not have the same luck. "They were inside the house, about 50 metres from the sea. They tried to get out, but the water took them and they died." She survived, along with her father and elder brother, both of whom are now jobless fishermen.

BELOW *Nasmiya, 13 (centre, in a red dress), is eagerly waiting for a new community centre to be built in Kinniya, north-east Sri Lanka*





ABOVE *Children in a camp in Kinniya*

On that same tragic day, Abdul Hamid Halim, a 50-year-old fish seller and a member of the same community, was on his way to the market. The wave suddenly dragged him away. “I swam back and saved my daughter (age 6) and son (age 5) trapped in the mangrove. I searched for my wife but did not find her. They found her body nine hours later. Now, without my wife, our life is miserable.” Like almost everyone in his community, not only did he lose a loved one, he also lost his equipment and therefore his job.

Before the tsunami, “the community was already affected by war,” says Mr. Ubaihulla, secretary of Kinniya Vision, a local NGO in charge of the camp. “We could not go and fish or cultivate rice paddy in areas controlled by either faction,” he says. “And now, besides those restrictions, people have lost their boats and nets. Equipment has gradually been replaced by NGOs, but the local labour sector is really bad and people have difficulty finding jobs. More than 10,000 youth are unemployed and most of them have attended only basic school.”

As a result, many women have left the community to work abroad as housemaids. “Today, more than 3,000 women are employed abroad, mostly in the Arab Gulf States, and they provide the bulk of the community’s income,” adds Mr. Ubaihulla. “It’s sad because they had to leave their children behind, who are now taken care of by their grandmothers, aunts or elder sisters who in turn have to drop out of school.”



*ABOVE Designs for
a new community
centre in Kinniya*

Kinniya Vision, with the ILO's support and funding from the US Department of Labor, finalized in July 2005 an agreement for the building of an eagerly anticipated community centre and the development of skills training and educational programmes, including a vocational school. "This centre," explains Mr. Arulvaratharajaah, IPEC field officer in Trincomalee, "will be used essentially for children. There will be education, rights awareness, trauma counselling, back-to-school programmes and a playground, which is sadly missing in the camp."

As Nasmiya hears the word "playground", for the first time since she told her story, she gives a slight smile.



INDIA



INDIA

Tamilselvi, a 30-year-old mother of five children, was buying fish a stone's throw away from her house, a thatched-roof hut built at the fringe of the beach along the Bay of Bengal in the village of Paliyar, Tamil Nadu State, southern India. Her husband was cruising along the coast in his boat, almost done with his fishing session, and her children were playing in the house with their grandmother, unaware of any danger.

Ms. Tamilselvi was preparing to collect her husband's catch for auction at the local market when suddenly she heard a roaring noise and saw a huge wave rushing towards the beach. "I tried to reach my house, but in a second, I was submerged by water up to my neck," she recalls.

"I managed to spot my eldest daughter, who had grabbed her little brother and sister, and I took them to a higher and safer spot near the house. As I would learn later, somebody had picked up my youngest child and taken him to safety, but he was badly injured. There were three waves. The third one caught the body of my little Bhomika, my 3-year-old daughter. My mother's body was found three days later. Of my house, there was nothing left, not even a drinking glass."

RIGHT *Temporary shelters house families displaced by the tsunami in southern India's Tamil Nadu State*

BELOW *The tsunami's destruction along the southern Indian coastline left thousands without homes*



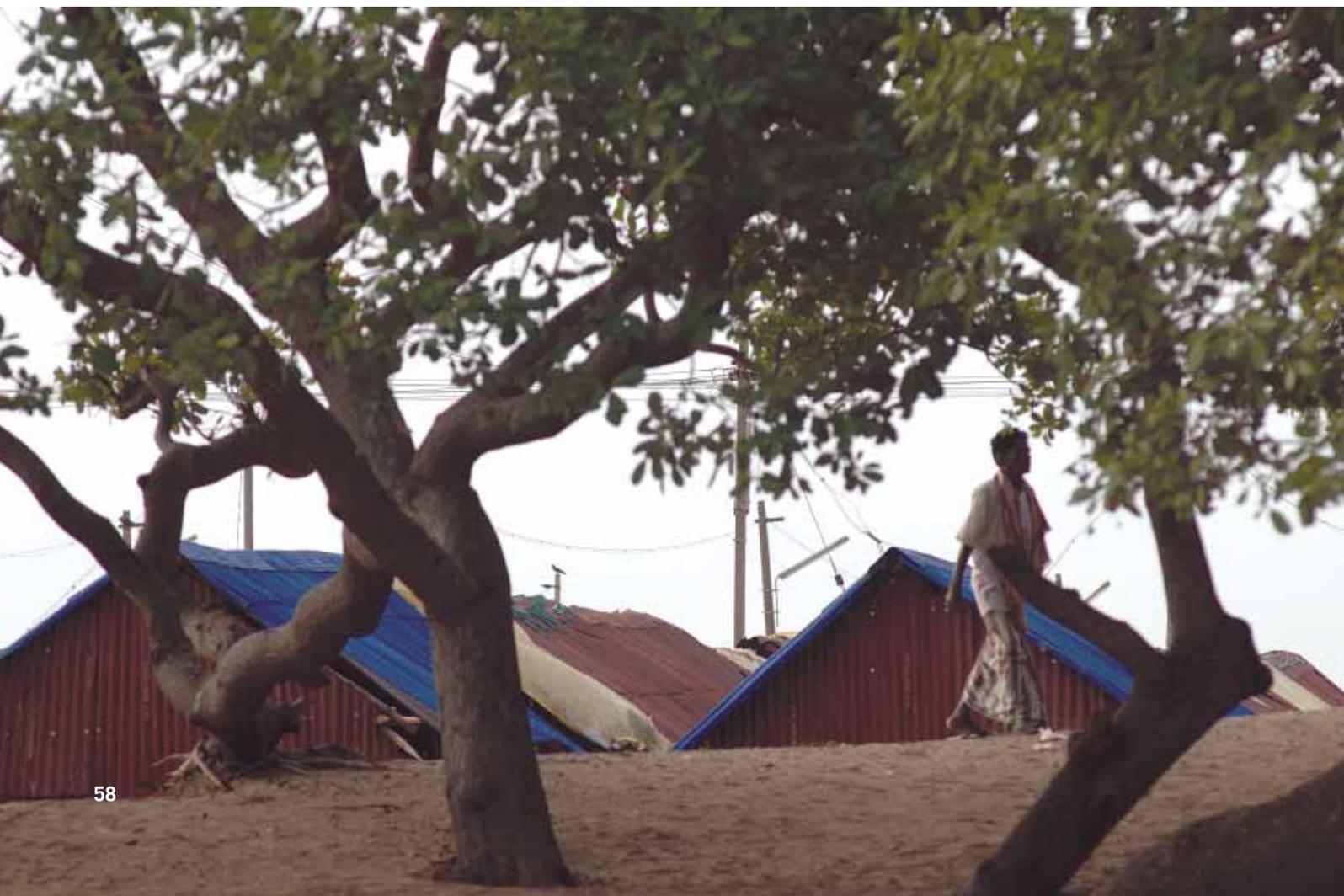


In India, where the tsunami struck along 2,300 kilometres of the southern coast and the entire Andaman and Nicobar Islands, according to government statistics, more than 11,000 people were killed by the waves and another 7,000 were reported missing. The Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) undertaken by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations in February 2005 estimated that some 645,000 families were affected and 1.2 million persons lost their livelihoods in one way or another.

The ILO helps during the relief phase

The immediate emergency response was a massive solidarity movement set up by local people. In Nagapattinam District, south of Pondicherry, Mr. Ramachandran, Tamil Nadu Vice-President for the Indian National Rural Labour Federation (INRLF) recalls: “For two days, the situation was very bad. Nobody from the NGOs or the Government had reached our place. So, with members of our union, we collected and buried the bodies and provided clothing, food and water to the survivors.”

BELOW Temporary camps in Nagapattinam provide shelter, while ILO programmes seek to restore livelihoods





ABOVE People in temporary camps

The Government of India did not request international support and established a National Crisis Management Committee to oversee the relief and rescue operations in the affected regions. Parallel to these efforts, the UN system provided support to the Indian authorities through the strengthening of ongoing programmes. The United Nations Disaster Management Team designated UNICEF as the focal point for relief activities, and other agencies supported UNICEF in carrying them out. To coordinate these activities, a UN Team for Recovery Support was established, with an operational unit in Chennai.

Though not a relief agency, the ILO took small initiatives in emergency operations, initially through staff contributions. Says Mr. Ramachandran: “The ILO was the first organization to give, to 200 families, hygiene kits containing medicine, disinfectants and torch lights, as well as instant food. After that, a lot of agencies started to arrive giving plenty of supplies.”



The disaster brings the ILO to the coast

Once the relief operation was over and most of the affected people were resettled in temporary shelters, new and unexpected major difficulties arose. In many communities, a majority of the dead were women, up to 80 per cent in some villages. This changed the gender balance and increased the vulnerability of the women survivors. Elsewhere, communities in poor rural areas not directly hit by the tsunami started to feel resentment towards the coastal population, who had suddenly gained the world's attention and material help.

In the devastated areas, rehabilitation was a major priority. A primary mission for the Recovery Group was to identify the needs for sustainable livelihoods. For many years, the ILO has been supporting projects in southern India's rural and most underdeveloped areas, but had no presence in the coastal areas. This quickly changed.

"The tsunami brought the ILO to the coast. We did not know much about the fishing sector, but we had experience in other countries and adapted quickly," says Susamma Varghese, the ILO's National Coordinator in Chennai in charge of the ILO Project on Workers' Education for Integrating Women Members in Rural Workers' Organizations. The need for long-term measures was absolutely clear: "Don't give us relief. Give us work."

ABOVE *A temporary camp near the beach in Tamil Nadu*

Close cooperation with unions and employers

With the close cooperation of local unions and employers' federations, priorities were defined in line with the ILO's mandate. T. M. Jawaharlal, Secretary of the Employers' Federation of Southern India (EFSI), says, "We told the ILO that capital investment should be avoided and that we should provide help for skills development in order to give people the ability to create income and sustainability, to overcome the shock." Unions adopted a similar approach in their areas of influence.

Starting as early as February, the ILO initiated a skills development training programme for women from tsunami-affected fishing communities in Kanchipuram District, one of the worst affected areas in Tamil Nadu. Fishing being the traditional activity of the local population, the affected communities had few other occupational skills to fall back on. Fishing equipment, including boats and nets, had been destroyed or severely damaged in the disaster. These communities faced an uncertain future with the loss of their source of livelihood.

Particular attention was paid to the needs of women, who often found themselves required to raise income more actively or for the first time.

BELOW *The ILO's Susamma Varghese (left), in conversation with a group of women involved in a work project in Uyallikupum*



Incense sticks: a model project for women

After consultations with *panchayat* (local government) leaders and fisherwomen, incense sticks production was chosen for the pilot skills training. “Through our affiliates in Vellore and the Indian Tobacco Company (ITC), a market was available,” says Mr. Ramachandran. In seven months, more than 176 women were trained to produce incense sticks. Trainees were then instructed to be trainers and by August 2005, ten tons of sticks had already been produced and marketed. By the end of 2005, the total of women trained should reach 1,000.

Sitting on the floor rolling sticks in charcoal powder and tree bark paste along with 30 other women, Ms. Tamilselvi is all praise for the project. “We started to get some hope. Maybe we can make a living again. We were very sad, and here we are sitting together in a group. It’s a nice feeling which helps us to forget about our sorrow.” As soon as her training is over, she hopes to make at least 50 rupees (US\$ 1.10) a day.

RIGHT Ms. Tamilselvi says that the incense sticks project helps her to forget about her sorrow

BELOW Women making incense sticks





Poriselvi, a 28-year-old training colleague of Ms. Tamilselvi, looks equally satisfied. She has to feed her two children, as well as the four children of her 19-year-old sister-in-law who died in the disaster. “Before the tsunami, my family was living rather well, thanks to my husband who is a fisherman in Saudi Arabia. We even had a TV. Today, I have nothing left. Everything is gone,” she says. The incense stick project brought her material and psychological comfort. “I was sitting idle at home and the money sent by my husband was not sufficient, so that project came at the perfect time.”

After the training, the first groups of women were able to start their own production at home. But quite quickly, most of them complained that they missed the communal atmosphere of the training. “Please, can you help us to set up a company so we can make incense sticks together?” one of them asked a visiting ILO team. After serious consideration by the ILO team, arrangements were made to extend the programme to support 50 women in two villages to set up a company-like unit for further production of incense sticks.

The incense sticks project is considered a success. “Now, the women of the community are confident, organized and armed with a new livelihood skill,” says Ms. Varghese.

To recover to a better situation

For Herman van der Laan, the Delhi-based Director of the Subregional Office for South Asia, “the idea was to construct models that could find greater applications in other parts of concerned countries. In this particular project, even if the number of women involved is not high, for unions it’s an incentive to pick up this kind of methodology.”

This fits perfectly with the whole philosophy of the ILO’s work in the tsunami-affected areas. “The tsunami offers an opportunity for us to reconstruct and recover in order to put ourselves in a situation that is better than before,” says Mr. van der Laan. It is also the chance to redress social inequalities, such as those based on social origin and gender, by facilitating inclusive participation in reconstruction efforts. Visiting officials from the Government’s Social Welfare Department have indicated that the ILO might request some of the trained women to conduct programmes in other parts of the country.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Key guiding principles

- Recovery should be nationally and local driven.
- Short-term rehabilitation should not be contingent on long-term reconstruction and livelihood packages.
- An adequate balance between governance and participation should be sought.
- Cultural diversity and specificities should be respected.
- Greater equity in access rights and the distribution of productive assets should be sought.
- Monitoring of the recovery process should be transparent and effective. Adequate attention should be paid to gender issues.

Cross-cutting issues

In moving from post-disaster relief to recovery:

- Protect the most vulnerable.
- Make temporary shelters more liveable.

In restoration of livelihoods and upgrading of infrastructure:

- Get people back to sustainable work.
- Restore and upgrade infrastructure and services wherever possible.
- Make recovery inclusive and broad based.
- Secure livelihoods through greater value-addition, including social protection.
- Maximize the use of local procurement in recovery efforts.

In prospective risk reduction:

- Aim for a healthy environment for long-term security and sustainability.
- Manage prospective risk for a multi-hazard context.
- Organize communities to respond to emergency situations.
- Provide timely information on risk, and early warnings that people understand. Keep specific issues in respect of women and children in focus.

ABOVE RIGHT

Ms. Poriselvi and her young son. “The project came at the perfect time,” she says

BELOW RIGHT

Life in a camp in Paliya



In early August 2005, the ILO initiated another project, this time in partnership with the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU). A hundred women from the fishing community of Neelankarai, south of Chennai, were selected for a six-month tailoring training programme and another 100 for a three-month soap, disinfectant and leather sandal production project. The ILO and the trade unions have facilitated the project by providing skills training, resources for equipment, raw materials, infrastructure, and so on, as well as technical support and marketing linkages.

In other districts of Tamil Nadu, employers' federations have joined the ILO in initiating a variety of programmes. "People in the organized sector had already received help, but this was not the case for the informal sector, which is much more prevalent in the affected areas," says Mr. T. M. Jawaharlal of EFSI. "So we decided to give priority to the informal sector and focus on a few activities such as coir making, which is chiefly used as rope and matting; also, the preparation of dry coconut for oil extraction, dry fish processing, tailoring and envelope making."

About 200 women were selected to join these projects. Besides supplying a source of livelihood, "the objective is also to raise the confidence level so the message will spread to friends and colleagues that it's possible to reach sustainability," adds Mr. Jawaharlal.

A rather unexpected result of these initiatives was to bring 4,000 fishermen to register for their union membership card. Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) activities are being initiated with the employers' federations.

BELOW About 100 women from the fishing community of Neelankarai, south of Chennai, were selected for a six-month tailoring training programme run by the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU)





ABOVE

Mr. Sivasankaran, 40, a fisherman and chief of the Uyallikupum community, says that he and his colleagues are still afraid to go back to sea

Switching activities

The impact of the tsunami on the social and economic structures of the affected communities will last for years. Many people firmly believe that another tsunami will strike soon. Eight months after the disaster, most of the fishermen were still scared to go back to sea. Mr. Sivasankaran, a 40-year-old fisherman and headman of the Uyallikupum community, Kanchipuram district says, “Today, we still don’t dare to go to deep sea. We just fish along the coast.”

Fear of the sea is not the only deterrent. Mr. Sivasankaran and many colleagues complain that they still have not got the proper nets to replace those destroyed. Standing on the beach, he points to a line of more than 100 brand-new boats lying on the sand. They all bear the name of an international or local NGO or private foundation. One shows the name of a former American tennis champion.

“We received a lot of new boats from all over the world, but nobody offered us the nets we need to catch the big fish, probably because they are expensive (from 40,000 to 100,000 rupees – US\$ 915 to 2,290). So today, we only have nets for small fish. Otherwise, I would be ready, maybe in four or five months, to go back to deep sea fishing,” he says.



Still, according to Mr. Ramachandran, “many young people are not interested any more in working as fishers, so they ask for some alternative income-generating activities.” The ILO, in partnership with four unions (Centre of Indian Trade Unions, All India Trade Union Congress, Indian National Trade Union Congress/Indian National Rural Labour Federation and Hind Mazdoor Sabha) set up projects for the fishermen. About 1,000 of them were approached to switch to activities such as auto-mechanics or scooter repair. As for those who will sooner or later go back to sea, “we want to empower them with some extra skills that will help them to survive through some kind of calamity or crisis situation,” adds Ms. Varghese. “We work on alternative income and skill development activities that are in accordance with long-term plans with good sustainability factors.”

In Tamil Nadu, the ILO received full support from various partners, including the Government and the unions. The ILO took the initiative to help the fishing community, which was not at all organized before the tsunami, to become aware of the Government’s social protection schemes. “Today, the victims are part of these programmes. They receive benefits for education, maternity and marriage,” says Ms. Varghese.

However, she concludes, “success in any measure calls not only for patience and understanding in the training process but a holistic approach as well, one that addresses issues such as psychology, education or medical assistance. The people must feel that there is an organization behind them and that’s what the ILO is trying to do.”

ABOVE Boats provided by NGOs and relief agencies line the beaches of Uyallikupum, a fishing community in Kanchipuram district

RIGHT Skills development training has been provided to residents of Palayar to help them switch from fishing to other income-generating activities





THAILAND



THAILAND

The rain has suddenly started to pour down on the roof of the big blue plastic tent, threatening the weaving machines lined up on the makeshift wooden floor. Rattiya Dammee, 28, and her colleagues rush to unroll the wall of the tent. Sitting down again at her machine, Khun Rattiya resumes the repetitive process of mixing threads of different colours, unfazed by the resounding hammering of the rain. Later, other groups will take over to cut and sew her newly made piece of cloth into a dress, a skirt or a handbag, which will be sold in selected shops and at exhibitions around the country.

A few months ago, Khun Rattiya was still deep in trauma. On 26 December 2004, she was working with her husband at the family shrimp farm in Baan Sak, a coastal village in Phang Nga province in the southwestern part of Thailand. Intrigued by an unusually low tide, her 9-year-old son went down to the beach to look at the fish stranded on the sand. "Suddenly, I heard a thundering noise and saw a massive wave," she remembers. "I ran to the beach to pick up my son and he tried to run back, stopped, and was suddenly taken away by the blue wave." Snatched into a whirlpool of water, she managed to grab hold of a piece of wood and run up to a dune just before a second killer wave arrived. Later, she found her husband alive but never recovered her son's body. "For many weeks, I could not concentrate," she says. "I wanted to give a proper funeral to my son."

BELOW *Rattiya Dammee, 28, who lost her only son in the tsunami, has found therapy in the Saori weaving programme*





ABOVE Destruction was widespread across six of Thailand's southern provinces

Then she heard about the Saori weaving project, initiated in July by two local associations, Thaicraft and Mayagotami, and supported by the ILO. About 50 women from Baan Nam Khem, an area badly affected by the tsunami, were trained for two weeks to weave, cut, sew and provide quality control. “Today, I feel better,” says Khun Rattiya. “Here I have a lot of friends. We are all in the same situation. We all lost somebody. We sing and talk while working. It’s a kind of therapy.” She decided to keep on working with the group, receiving a salary of 160 baht a day (US\$ 4). Other women, having young children to care for, choose to work at home where they are paid by the piece.

Shattered tourism

In six southern Thailand provinces, according to government figures, the tsunami killed 5,399 people, among them 1,972 Thais, 2,248 foreign tourists and 1,179 people whose nationality could not be determined. Tourism was the principal economic motor of those provinces. In areas such as Khao Lak, many hotels and tourist-related businesses were either wiped out or forced to close for renovations or for lack of clientele. Thousands of workers were sacked or had their income significantly reduced, and the once buoyant area, a busy tropical paradise attracting tourists and workers from all over Thailand and surrounding countries, became a shadow of its former self. In the Phuket area, where tourism accounted for 80 per cent of economic activity, tourists were scarce, having changed their travel destination following the well-publicized catastrophe, even though most tourist facilities were still intact and operational.

“Right after the tsunami emergency response had successfully been put together,” says Christine Evans-Klock, Director of the ILO Sub-regional Office for East Asia in Bangkok, “what is often called the ‘second wave’ of the tsunami unfolded in the tourist areas in the South. The lack of tourists caused more job losses than the physical damage of the tsunami itself.”

BELOW AND RIGHT
Workers rebuilding hotels in Khao Lak, a tourist area devastated by the tsunami





In April 2005, UNDP asked the ILO Sub-regional Office in Bangkok to prepare a small project addressing post-tsunami livelihood recovery in the tourism sector in Phuket and Phang Nga. Using its tripartite member-based structure, the ILO's first initiative was to organize meetings of workers and employers to identify priority issues and discuss common areas of interest. These meetings were complemented by a fact-finding mission in Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi. "We identified four components for an ILO project," says Ms. Ginette Forgues, Local Strategies for Decent Work Senior Specialist, who backstops the project: "capacity building for workers and employers in the formal tourism sector, technical assistance to the ever-growing informal economy, technical assistance for small business access to small loans and HIV prevention in the tourism sector." The six-month project was jointly signed in June 2005 by UNDP, the ILO and the Thai Ministry of Labour.

In addition to the damage to the formal tourism sector, the informal economy was also seriously disrupted. Because the tourists were no longer being brought in by travel agencies and airlines, informal economy workers such as masseuses and handicraft sellers also lost their customers. At the same time, the thousands of people who had lost their jobs in the formal tourism sector had moved into the informal economy for survival. There was an urgent need to help informal economy operators develop new products and services and gain access to new markets.

Handicrafts as a way out

The Saori weaving project is one of five income-generating activities to which the ILO has subscribed, run by Thaicraft and other organizations.

In Ban Thalaie Nork community, the Thai Labour Department initiated a soap-making project by women two months after the tsunami. It was soon joined by the local newly created NGO North Andaman Tsunami Relief (NATR) and Thaicraft. "Initially, we agreed to make soap for our own use and then we detected sales potential," says Chumnumporn Panchan, leader of the so-called "ladies soap group", who lost one child in the disaster. "We make a non-foamy soap and the foreigners seem to like it," she smiles. "At the beginning, the sales were good but then came the low tourism season and they dropped. Our problem is that we don't know anything about accounting, cost-benefits and all that," she says. The ILO has supported the project to provide additional training. Women were selected for a "get ahead" training package developed to build gender-based grassroots entrepreneurship knowledge and expertise.

Batik projects were also launched by local organizations. The ILO supports one of them in a camp sheltering survivors from Baan Nam Khem.

Here, sitting among a heterogeneous jumble of paint jars, tables, chairs, sewing machine, wooden frame and fans drying fresh paintings, Jerasak Meanthong, a 29-year-old man, is delicately drawing a fish with red paint onto a white canvas.

RIGHT *Jerasak Meanthong, 29, member of a batik project, discovered that he had some artistic skills. Here, he shows his own interpretation of the tsunami*

BELOW *Soap-making and batik projects initiated by local organizations and supported by the ILO have helped boost productivity and morale in areas of southern Thailand affected by the tsunami*







Two months before the tsunami, he had left his job as a house painter to become a temporary Buddhist monk at an island temple. While he was silently meditating in his second-floor room, a wave broke in and pulverized the building. “I survived because I managed to grapple myself onto a floating roof,” he recalls. Later he had to organize his own ceremony to leave the monastic life “because there was no temple or monk left to carry out the ritual”. He joined a batik programme started by a local foundation. “What I like here”, he says, “is our freedom to make our own designs, since each product is supposed to be different. I never thought I had any artistic skills. We share the profit per piece. It’s still unstable revenue, but hopefully we will have more sales opportunities in the future.”

The Phuket Federation of Hotels and Service Labour (PFHSL) has worked closely with the ILO and associations such as Thaicraft to provide income-generating activities for redundant workers from the Khao Lak area. With 170 hotels, only a handful kept on working after the tsunami. “Suddenly, many employees did not have a job and many were not eligible for benefits from the government,” says Sanan Sriprom, PFHSL Chairman. “So the main worry was that the temporary unemployment would last too long. That’s why we linked up with the ILO to develop income-generating activities for these workers while the tourism industry reorganizes.” Some 300 of the union’s 497 unemployed members participate in income-generating activities such as making artificial flowers, candles or batik and further developing their skills for future employment in hotels.

ABOVE AND RIGHT
*The rebuilding process
has been fast
in Thailand*

The 100 women who have been trained in batik are now producing for market consumption and are very excited about their first orders for batik shirts, T-shirts and tablecloths. “Our only concern is about sustainability. When the ILO completes its mandate, will the groups be able to provide services on their own?” asks Khun Sanan. The ILO is working with them to help address this concern by helping the Federation to access a revolving fund for credit to its members.

Community-based tourism

NATR and another local NGO, Responsible Ecological Social Tour (REST) have developed a community-based tourism project with support from the ILO. “People from selected communities will be trained to develop and design culturally and environmentally appropriate tour programmes,” says Nakorn Amornwatpong, ILO tsunami project field coordinator in Phang Nga. A network of guides and tour operators is developing proposals for tourist activities such as the observation of village life, nature tours of the wetlands and wildlife, fishing, rubber sapping, hill trekking, snorkelling around the islands and the provision of homestays.



The community-based tourism concept is warmly encouraged by the Phuket Chamber of Commerce (PCC). Eam Thavornvongwongse, PCC Chairman, has suggested that employees who lost their jobs in the hotel sector be integrated into these programmes. “Hardly anybody was concerned about the fate of these workers,” he says, “yet these people are trained and have good experience with tourists.” The PCC plans to open workshops in some areas. “If communities would like to organize homestays, for instance,” says Khun Eam, “we will tell them we have competent personnel and funding to help them with their project.”

RIGHT *A community-based tourism project includes visits of fishing villages and activities*

BELOW *Fishermen repairing motor boats*





Emergency response sessions

Other activities supported by the ILO “focus on enhancing capacity building, which will increase workers’ employability and the quality of service, and this can be used for marketing purposes,” says Ms. Forgues. For example, the ILO assists the Employers’ Federation of Thailand in organizing two-day emergency response training sessions for beachfront enterprises. In order to avoid panic and give confidence to tourists in case another natural disaster strikes, selected employees in tourism-related work are given basic emergency response training. In turn, they will teach other employees the exercises they have learned.

“Soon after the tsunami, we opened a Phuket Tourism Recovery Centre,” says Pattanapong Aikwanich, President of the Phuket Tourist Association (PTA). “The ILO contacted us and we said, ‘Let’s get together. You have the technical capacity, and we need to upgrade as many employees as we can.’ With the ILO, we set up two initiatives, a ‘get ahead’ programme for women entrepreneurs and a post-tsunami livelihood recovery training programme, including English studies for public transport drivers, beauty salons and spa businesses. Those initiatives, ending in December 2005, will have a positive impact on 400 people.”

The Phang Nga Tourist Association and the Krabi Tourist Association are also training tsunami-affected workers to upgrade their skills in the tourism sector or to acquire new hospitality skills.





ABOVE A worker rebuilds along the beachfront

Khun Eam of the Phuket Chamber of Commerce states that “the ILO helped us in a big way. We hope that next year there will be more training. Such initiatives help to improve relations between employers’ and workers’ organizations, which were not so good before the tsunami.”

According to Mr. Raghwan, the ILO Senior Specialist on Workers’ Activities, those relations have already started to improve. “The ILO has favoured discussions between employers and workers on issues and priorities and this has improved the platform for social dialogue between the two parties. The improved social dialogue also contributes to a better understanding between employers and workers of their individual and common needs and enhances their mutual respect; they now value each other more.”

MIGRANT WORKERS

Scores of migrant workers, mostly from neighbouring Myanmar, died in the disaster or were reported missing. Many of them were undocumented, which made the identification of bodies even more difficult than usual, because families were afraid to come forward to provide information.

The ILO is engaged in a project run by the Federation of Trade Unions of Burma (FTUB), funded by the Irish Government and in partnership with OCHA and IOM. "Our work is to distribute applications to migrant workers in order to assist them to re-register for their work permits," says Zaw Tun, FTUB representative.

Some 400 workers in Phuket and 100 in Ranong province were selected to receive aid of 1,900 baht (US\$ 47) to help cover initial medical care and the insurance policy needed as a prerequisite to renewing a work permit.

Than Zaw, a 33-year-old man from southern Myanmar, one of the beneficiaries of the scheme, has been working with his wife for five years on Patong beach renting mats to tourists on behalf of a Thai owner.

"I got swept away by a first wave and was then trapped behind a hotel fence," he says. "Luckily I was able to run before the second wave struck, but I lost my job and for six months had nothing to do. Now I am afraid of the sea. I don't even want to look at the Andaman Sea any more, so I am hoping for a new job in a hotel."

Many migrant victims were working as fishermen. Liman Sau is the headman of Had Seay Khao village, Ranong province, and the owner of eight fishing boats. He narrowly escaped from the tsunami, which carried him 300 metres away from his home, and had to spend a few weeks in hospital. The waves destroyed four of his boats and damaged two. His 35 fishermen, all Burmese, lived in the village with their relatives, forming a community of 90 people. An international organization gave him new boats, but he says he is "still waiting for the engines." He received assistance from the government, and FTUB helped to register his Burmese workers. "Business will take time to come back," he says. "Fish prices are low and we still need more fishing equipment."

O Gyi, 19, is one of Khun Liman's Burmese workers. On the morning of 26 December 2004, he had just left the bay with three companions. "The waves broke the boat and threw me into a whirlpool of water and debris, but I managed to grab hold of a plastic container and climb into a tree where people rescued me," he remembers. He says he is "very satisfied" with the assistance from FTUB and other NGOs. "We also received a loan from our boss, which will help us wait for better fishing times."





ABOVE LEFT AND RIGHT *Burmese migrant workers are one of the often overlooked populations affected by the tsunami in Thailand*

RIGHT *A Federation of Trade Unions-Burma (FTUB) member distributes a work-permit application to a migrant worker*

BELOW LEFT *A family of Burmese migrant workers in the Had Seay Khao fishing community*



ANNEX: ILO TOOLS ON CRISIS

Unless otherwise indicated, all the titles listed are available from the Recovery and Reconstruction Department, ILO InFocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction, International Labour Office, Geneva.

Coordination in crisis response and reconstruction

Piero Calvi-Pariseti and Donato Kiniger-Passigli.
Geneva: ILO, 2002.

Crisis response: Rapid needs assessment manual

International Labour Office.
Geneva: ILO, 2002. 138 pp.

Decent work matters in crisis: Factsheets

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2003.
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/crisis/download/decentwork.pdf>

Decent work matters in crisis: ILO response to crisis challenges

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2003.
88 pp. (in folder)

Employment intensive reconstruction works in countries emerging from armed conflicts: Guidelines

Kaj Thorndahl. Geneva: ILO, 2001. 126 pp.

Gender and natural disasters

Elaine Enarson. Geneva: ILO, 2000. 68 pp.

Gender guidelines for employment and skills training in conflict-affected countries

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 1998.
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/crisis/papers/gender.htm>

Gender in crisis response: A guide to the gender-poverty-employment link

Tamara Tutnjevic. Geneva: ILO, 2004. 34 pp.

Guidelines for employment and skills training in conflict-affected countries

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 1998.

Guidelines for establishing emergency public employment services

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2003.
96 pp.

Jobs after war. A critical challenge in the peace and reconstruction puzzle

Eugenia Date-Bah (ed.). Geneva: ILO, 2003. 452 pp.

ILO crisis response trainer's guide

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2003.
342 pp. + computer laser optical disc.

ILO generic crisis response modules

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2002.
144 pp.

Local economic development in post-crisis situations: Operational guide

Martin Gasser; Carmelo Salzano; Roberto Di Meglio; Alfredo Lazarte-Hoyle. Geneva: ILO, 2003. 194 pp.

Manual on training and employment options for ex-combatants

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 1997.
248 pp.

Powerpoint presentation made in Bonn on gender and DDR. International Labour Office. Bonn, 2003

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/crisis/download/genderddr.pdf>

Rising from the ashes

International Labour Office. Geneva: ILO, 2003.
1 videocassette (22 min.): sd., col.

Crisis Response Factsheets

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/crisis/activ/availtools.htm>

1. ILO Crisis Response: The Basics

- Decent work at the core of crisis response
- Country-level interventions
- Knowledge development/dissemination
- Building crisis response capacity
- Advocacy for employment-friendly crisis response
- Strategic partnerships
- Selected reading materials

2. ILO Crisis Response: How?

- Employment and labour markets in crises
- Emergency public employment services
- Training for employability in crises
- Labour-based infrastructure reconstruction

- Local economic recovery
- Micro/small enterprises for socio-economic revival
- Cooperatives restoring livelihoods and communities
- Social protection against crisis vulnerability
- (Re) building societies through social dialogue

3. ILO Crisis Response: For Whom?

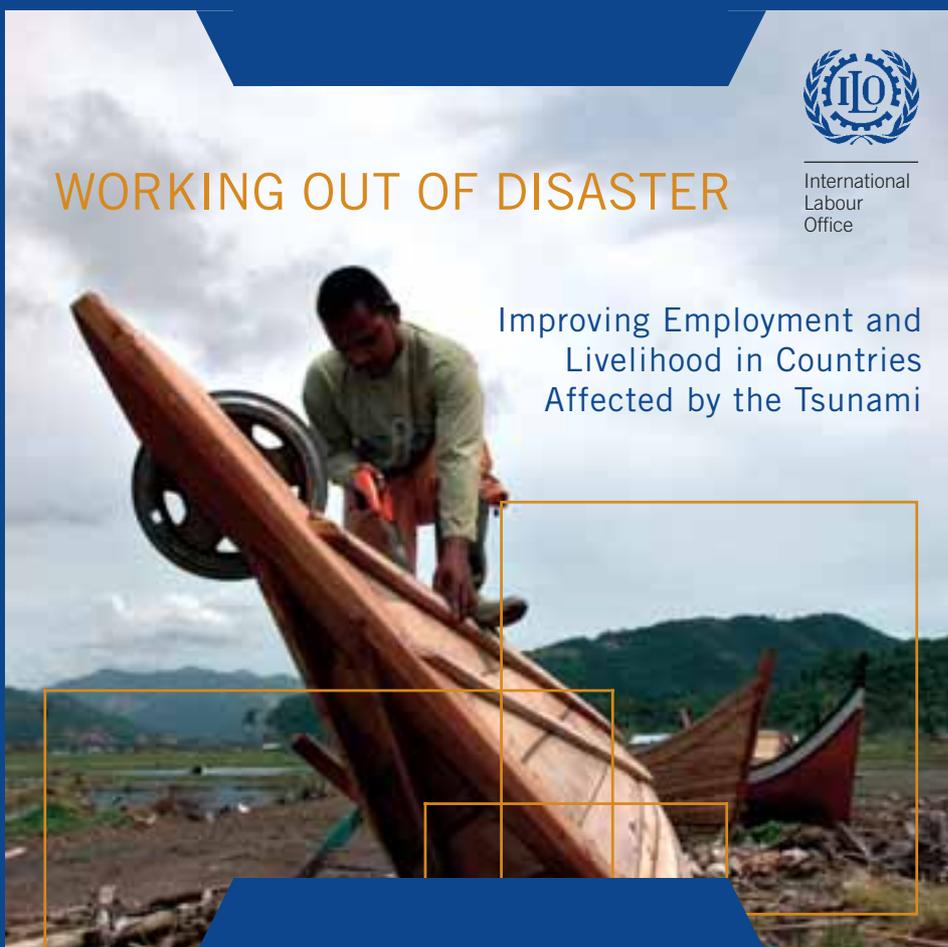
- Gender in crisis response
- Jobs for ex-combatants
- Reintegrating child soldiers
- Youth in crises: from victim to protagonist
- People with disabilities in crisis response
- (Re) integrating refugees and IDPs



International
Labour
Office

WORKING OUT OF DISASTER

Improving Employment and
Livelihood in Countries
Affected by the Tsunami





The International Labour Organization was founded in 1919 and became a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1946. It currently has 178 member states. The ILO has a unique “tripartite” structure, which brings together representatives of governments, employers, and workers on an equal footing to address issues related to labour and social policy.

The ILO formulates international labour standards aimed at promoting opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and dignity. In today’s globalized economy, international labour standards are an essential component in the international framework for ensuring that the growth of the global economy provides benefits to all.

Since the early 1950s, the ILO has been providing technical cooperation to countries on all continents and at all stages of economic development. In the last five years, an average of some US\$ 120 million was spent annually on technical cooperation projects. The projects are implemented through close cooperation between recipient countries, donors, and the ILO, which maintains a network of area and regional offices worldwide. The overall purpose of ILO technical cooperation is the implementation of the Decent Work agenda at a national level, assisting constituents to make this concept a reality for all men and women. An extensive network of offices throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East provides technical guidance on policy issues, and assistance in the design and implementation of development programmes.

The ILO’s Secretariat, the International Labour Office, has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and maintains field offices in more than 40 countries. On its 50th anniversary in 1969, the ILO was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The current Director-General of the ILO is Juan Somavía.