

# **Oxfam International Tsunami Fund Quarterly Report** *December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004—March 31, 2005*

## **I. What Your Donation has Helped Oxfam Accomplish So Far**

The outpouring of money donated to Oxfam after the December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004 tsunami struck South Asia was unprecedented. Because of your generosity, the members of the Oxfam International confederation reached approximately 1,100,000 people in seven countries with emergency aid and long-term reconstruction assistance during the first three months of its response.

Approximately 428,000 people (85,700 households) have been helped by Oxfam and partners in Sri Lanka. In India, over 520,000 (104,093) people are receiving assistance from Oxfam affiliates and partners. Oxfam affiliate and partner operations in Aceh and Nias have given basic services and support to 139,000 people trying to rebuild their lives. And in the Maldives, Burma, and Somalia, a total of 17,500 people have benefited from Oxfam's assistance.

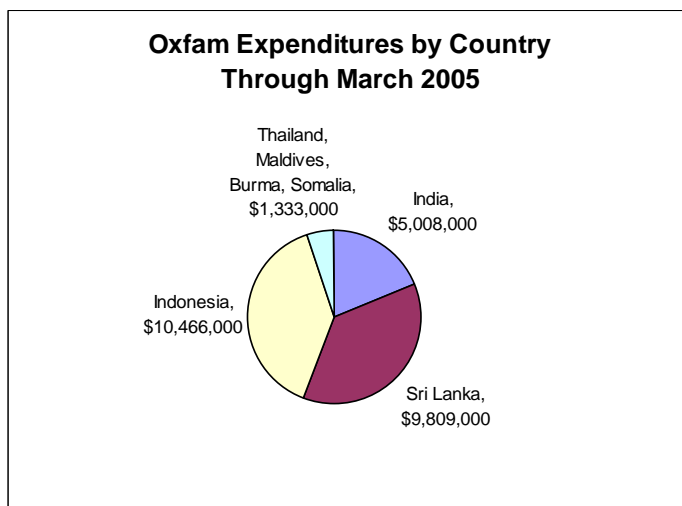
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## **II. What is the Oxfam International Tsunami Fund?**

Oxfam's response to the tsunami is the single largest humanitarian effort the agency has undertaken in its history. It was clear from the start that this response would require maximum coordination of Oxfam's global resources—that thousands of lives depended on our capacity to move staff, equipment, and funds rapidly to where they were needed most.

In January of 2005, therefore, soon after launching our emergency response, Oxfam's executive directors created the Oxfam International Tsunami Fund—a trust fund composed of monies raised by all twelve affiliates of Oxfam International. Its purpose is to ensure the highest level of coordination and effectiveness of our program and to provide the public with the means to track their tsunami donations carefully.

The Tsunami Fund will total more than US \$250,000,000—a sum that Oxfam intends to spend in its entirety over the course of five years. We are committed to spending no more than six percent of the OITF to cover the administrative costs of Oxfam's tsunami program.



## **III. Where the Oxfam Tsunami Funds Have Been Spent**

Oxfam strives to develop a long-term presence in the countries where it works. By supporting local civil society organizations, Oxfam is able to develop long-term solutions to the poverty that made millions of people in the Indian Ocean region so vulnerable to the tsunami in the first place. In almost all of the countries where Oxfam is responding, we have been present for decades prior to the tsunami. Through this long-term presence on the ground we are able to establish lasting relationships with

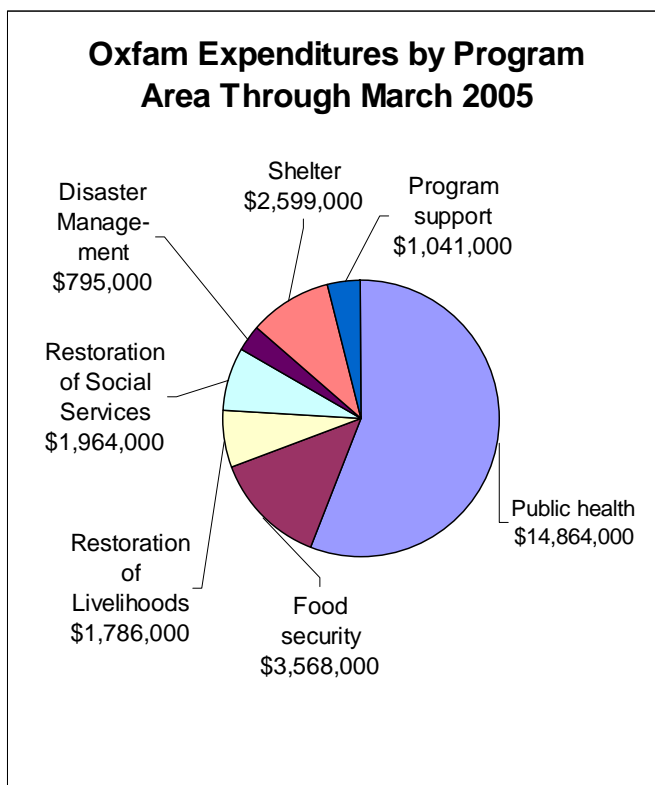
the communities we assist, improving the quality and cultural appropriateness of Oxfam's emergency response.

As of March 31, 2005, the OI Tsunami Fund had spent US \$26.6 million to fund Oxfam's tsunami response in seven countries: India (including the Andaman and Nicobar Islands), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Maldives, Burma, and Somalia. More than 96% of the fund's expenditures to date have supported program work to save and protect lives, rebuild devastated communities, and restore livelihoods.

Oxfam launched major programs in Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka, three of the countries most affected by the disaster. In the first quarter of this year, Oxfam spent \$10.5 million in Indonesia (39% of total expenditure); \$9.8 million in Sri Lanka (37% of total); and \$5 million in India, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (19% of total). In addition, Oxfam spent \$1.3 million (5% of total) in other affected countries, including the Maldives, Somalia, and Burma.

#### IV. What Oxfam has Accomplished with Your Donations

In the tsunami-affected countries where Oxfam is responding, staff and local partner organizations are implementing programs in the areas of public health provision (including water and sanitation), food security, construction of temporary and permanent shelter, restoration of basic social services, rehabilitation of livelihoods, and disaster management.



#### Public Health

*In the days and weeks following the tsunami, the threat of the rapid spread of infectious disease was a key concern in countries hit hard by the tsunami. Oxfam's speedy deployment of dozens of water engineers, sanitation specialists, health promoters and equipment played an important role in preventing mass outbreaks of cholera and other water-borne illnesses.*

#### INDIA, ANDAMAN, AND THE NICOBAR ISLANDS

A central component of Oxfam's emergency response after the tsunami was establishing water and sanitation facilities for approximately 7,000 households, a program that included the rehabilitation of existing water supplies affected by sea water and

debris. Oxfam hygiene kits were handed out to over 30,500 families in need of basic supplies.

On the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, hygiene training was conducted for 6,873 households. Oxfam constructed temporary latrines and washrooms in three islands, facilities that benefited approximately 7,500 people. By cleaning and repairing water sources used by the local population, 75 pre-existing sources are now back in use. Public health awareness training is

being conducted, and health workers, working with partners, are being trained. A solid waste management approach is being piloted in Nancowrie islands.

#### INDONESIA

During the first three months after the tsunami struck, Oxfam engineers and other staff have delivered 55 million liters of clean water. Throughout the affected area in Aceh, 1,864 wells were built or repaired. To stop the spread of infectious disease through human waste, 3,853 latrines and other sanitary facilities were built. Water and sanitation services were provided during the initial emergency phase by 58 Oxfam engineers working along 900 kilometers of affected coastline in Aceh.

Oxfam has worked in partnership with local newspapers and radio stations to communicate key messages and critical information around hygiene. This successful effort also helped recruit health promoters from the local population. The distribution of radios ensured that these important public health messages were heard over a large area.

#### SRI LANKA

During the first three months, Oxfam directly provided 400,000 liters of water a day in seven districts, and we facilitated the delivery of an additional 300,000 liters of water a day. To ensure that water being collected from standing water supplies, such as rivers and wells, is safe to drink, 5,000 water filters have been distributed to households across affected districts. In camps for people that have been displaced and other transitional settings, Oxfam engineers have installed 700 permanent and transitional latrines; local partner organizations have constructed latrines for an additional 800 families.

Oxfam has distributed relief items to over 85,000 families that have helped improve sanitary conditions. Materials that families have received include soap, detergent, menstruation cloths, mosquito nets, supplies for babies, stoves, cooking utensils, buckets, mattresses, and undergarments.

In addition to providing water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion materials, Oxfam has helped increase awareness about the importance of good hygiene among the local population. Oxfam staff identified and trained 300 volunteers as public health educators to teach people in the camps, especially children, basic hygiene protocol through plays, performances, murals on water tanks, and printed materials. Another similar program is reaching 2,000 families in ten camps. To help people in urgent need of medical assistance, 1,000 families in several camps have received preventive and curative care from a medical team.

#### **Food security**

*Ensuring that everyone who lost homes, livelihoods and family members were able to feed themselves in the wake of the tsunami was a top priority for Oxfam. Partner organizations played a crucial role in helping to keep ravaged communities fed and replace basic items needed to survive.*

#### INDIA, ANDAMAN AND THE NICOBAR ISLANDS

Oxfam distributed food to 2,000 households in southern India following the tsunami. Since most people affected by the tsunami lost everything they needed to cook with, immediate and mid-term food relief also included the provision of replacement kitchen utensils for 21,000 households. One Oxfam program helped distribute 1,350 metric tons of rice to nearly 14,000 households. In the Andaman Islands, food and relief items were provided to 15,000 displaced men, women and children.

#### INDONESIA

Basic food items were distributed to over 18,000 individuals across 78 locations during the emergency phase of Oxfam's response in Aceh.

#### SRI LANKA

Oxfam local partner organizations provided food to 44,500 families. Rice, lentils, sugar, flour, tea, vegetables, oil, and noodles were among the food items supplied. Oxfam partners also assisted in transporting government rations to families living in remote areas.

#### **Restoration of livelihoods**

*Oxfam began its efforts to enable communities impacted by the tsunami to support themselves as soon as it could. Working in close consultation with affected populations, Oxfam will work hard over the next five years to help people in tsunami affected areas alleviate poverty, not just rebuild the often unacceptable status quo that existed before the tsunami came.*

#### INDIA, ANDAMAN AND THE NICOBAR ISLANDS

Oxfam has played a key role in restoring the livelihoods of 184 households that depend on fishing to make a living. This assistance has included boat and engine repairs. Another way Oxfam has supported the fishing industry is through sponsoring a seafood festival for 1,500 participants in Tamil Nadu, which encouraged fishing and fish consumption by the local population.

Those who support their families through non-fishing livelihoods have received assistance as well. Cash grants were made to replace assets lost in the tsunami and cash-for-work programs were established. These programs assisted over 7,000 households. An additional cash-for-work program established by Oxfam has benefited over 1,000 participants.

#### INDONESIA

More than 10,000 beneficiaries participated in Oxfam's cash for work program to remove debris, drain saltwater from agricultural fields, and find recyclable material in the rubble. The program has quickly injected cash into affected communities, allowing the local economy to be supported as people's ability to generate long-term income is restored.

Oxfam has worked to develop, reestablish, and/or train village financial institutions across Aceh. This project came about because communities wanted to see projects implemented with community-wide impact, rather than simply receiving grants on an individual basis only. Based on local input, Oxfam recruited three team leaders and trained more than 20 community development organizers, who currently are active in nearly 80 locations. Twelve villages have received tools and grants through this community managed process that Oxfam will continue to support.

#### SRI LANKA

More than 22,600 individuals have benefited from Oxfam's cash-for-work and livelihoods programs in Sri Lanka. Local partner organizations have assisted an additional 1,500 families with cash-for-work programs, and 1,200 families were provided with material assistance such as fuel, fishing nets, and tools used in the coir (coconut fiber) industry. Plans have been developed to provide livelihoods assistance to an additional 12,000 people in Galle and Matara.

#### **Restoration of social services**

*The damage caused by the tsunami affected every sector of the communities it struck. Oxfam is continuing to help communities restore basic services wiped out on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004.*

#### SRI LANKA

More than 400 children received materials needed to return to school, such as uniforms, books, satchels, and pencils.

## **Disaster management**

*Because of its commitment to supporting local organizations in the countries where it works, Oxfam has been actively involved in helping civil society groups in tsunami affected countries recover from the disaster and play a lead role in the reconstruction of their own communities.*

### INDIA, ANDAMAN, and NICOBAR ISLANDS

In the first three months of its response in India to the tsunami, Oxfam has helped partners reestablish their offices, replace equipment, and hire staff, as well as supporting HIV/AIDS awareness programming.

### INDONESIA

Local partner organizations in Aceh have signed 35 contracts with Oxfam to complete over \$740 thousand worth of projects. Oxfam has worked with these groups to help them rebuild their offices, restore and expand their operations, and provide training to local staff involved in all phases of the response.

### SRI LANKA

Oxfam provided ten community-based organizations with assistance in rebuilding offices, providing additional staff and training, and replacing critical resources required to respond to the current emergency and prepare for future disasters.

## **Temporary and permanent shelter construction**

*Providing people displaced by the tsunami a safe, sanitary, and economically viable place to live, both right now and in the long-term, is a central focus of Oxfam's tsunami response. Shelter will be a major part of what Oxfam does over the next five years in the countries where it is responding to the tsunami.*

### INDIA, ANDAMAN, and NICOBAR ISLANDS

In southern India, temporary shelters have been provided to 1,166 households and electricity is flowing to approximately 1,000 households. Oxfam is in the process of constructing 300 intermediate shelter units on the Andaman Islands, which are designed to last over a year. A shortage of materials is causing some delays.

### INDONESIA

6,000 households received tents, plastic sheeting, and other temporary housing materials to provide shelter for displaced people during the initial emergency phase of the response in Aceh. Ten pilot houses were constructed, and the expansion of the shelter component of Oxfam's work in Indonesia will be an essential part of the long-term reconstruction program for affected areas where we are working.

### SRI LANKA

By the end of March, Oxfam had constructed 600 single-family units. By the end of May, we expect to have completed an additional 2,400 shelters. Responding to a request from the government of Sri Lanka, Oxfam has ordered enough materials to construct 12,900 houses. The timber will be donated to other agencies involved in shelter construction.

## **Cross-cutting Issues Being Tackled by Oxfam's Tsunami Response**

*Providing basic services, food, water, sanitation, and shelter is important, but Oxfam knows that more than just relief supplies and technical assistance is*

*needed in the tsunami-affected region. Throughout the next five years, Oxfam's core principles will guide all of its tsunami work.*

*Oxfam is committed to make sure that aid is delivered on the basis of need, and that all communities equally receive what they need to live with dignity. Oxfam strives to ensure that the voice of communities are heard by aid groups and governments, and that men and women alike are equal partners in rebuilding their communities.*

### **Gender Equity**

Oxfam's emergency response programs place special attention on meeting the needs of women. The inequities that many women experience in their daily lives are often amplified at times of emergency. Our programs aim to ensure that women have access to income and livelihoods, physical protection, dignified living conditions, and a say in the decisions that affect their lives.

Oxfam has worked to ensure gender equity in all aspects of our tsunami response. In the emergency phase of our work, we provided women with relief items such as sanitary pads, maternity dresses, and baby-care materials. Latrines that meet the needs of men are not always sufficient for women—including pregnant women—in terms of protection and access; Oxfam solicits input from women in camps for displaced people about how best to make the water and sanitation facilities work well for everyone.

Oxfam shelters are designed and constructed with input from both women and men; one result is that whenever possible shelters have included space for women to carry out income-generating activities from their homes. Oxfam works to ensure full participation of women in our cash-for-work projects, aspiring for at least 50% of all participating beneficiaries to be women when possible.

Our livelihoods programs are supporting not only the traditionally male activities of fishing and carpentry, but also the industries that women traditionally participate in such as sewing, lace-making, and coir (coconut husk fiber) production. Recognizing the need for strong women's voices at all levels of decision-making, Oxfam is supporting women's organizations and networks throughout the tsunami-affected region.

Ensuring that women are safe and protected in camp and other transitional environments is a critical aspect of Oxfam's response to the tsunami. In Sri Lanka, local partner organizations that are part of our long-running "We Can" campaign to end violence against women are training security forces and camp managers to prevent sexual abuse and harassment, and report any cases that take place on their watch. With the launch in March of Oxfam's groundbreaking report on the tsunami's impact on women, advocacy efforts to raise the issues facing women affected by the tsunami took place in capitals in the region and around the world.

### **Community Participation and Informed Consent**

When governments and aid agencies respond to emergencies, they sometimes fail to consult sufficiently with the disaster-affected communities. Forced resettlement, for example, can impose hardship on an already-suffering population. Soliciting input and leadership from disaster survivors helps ensure that the aid provided is appropriate, and it facilitates the recovery process by empowering communities.

Oxfam is committed to community consultation and participation in all its emergency and development programs. In the aftermath of the tsunami, for example, before implementing cash-for-work programs to carry out public-works projects, Oxfam staff have helped residents draft community action plans to identify their priorities. Our staff receive local input as they develop

their designs so that housing can be tailored to the needs of the residents. We advocate with policy makers on a range of issues around informed consent; for example, in Sri Lanka we have lobbied successfully at the district level for clarification of entitlement and resettlement plans, and in Indonesia we have monitored the movement of residents from camps to government barracks to their original villages to help ensure that the transitions are both informed and voluntary.

**ENDS**