



NIAS SETTLEMENTS SUPPORT PROGRAMME (NSSP)

JL. T.M. Pahlawan No. 3A, Banda Aceh,

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HELPING COMMUNITIES TO REBUILD THEIR HOMES

“WE HAVE A PLACE TO CALL HOME”

ADB AND UN-HABITAT SUPPORTED RECONSTRUCTION OF 486 HOMES

After nearly two-years living in a make-shift house, Sokifhao, his family can now move into their new house in Silimabanua village. “We now have a place to call home” said Sokifhao. Sokifhao, a farmer and father of five is one of the beneficiaries of the Nias Settlements Support Programme (NSSP), a joint programme of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).



Under the “off-budget” programme being implemented by UN-HABITAT and four NGOs, (Muslim Aid, German Agro Action, Help eV, and Cordaid) ADB is financing the construction of about 3,000 new houses and the rehabilitation of about 1,050 houses across Aceh and Nias including Simeulue. One third of the new

houses are being constructed by UN-HABITAT.

A ceremony was organized in Silimibanua village in the island of Nias on 26 November 2007 to handover 486 houses to the beneficiaries. For UN-HABITAT the programme is part of the commitment made to the people of Nias by the UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-HABITAT Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka during her visit to Nias in April 2005

ADB and UN-HABITAT have taken a community-driven approach to reconstruction and rehabilitation in the tsunami-affected areas. “Right from the start, UN-HABITAT advocated that the ‘recovery’ strategy must put people at the very centre of decision making so that reconstruction becomes part of a continuous recovery process. We call this process as People’s Housing Process” said Chris Radford, Senior Human Settlements Officer UN-HABITAT in his speech.



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The Head of Mission for Asian Development Bank, Mr. Pieter Smidt said, "We believe that many lessons can be learned from community-based housing process, in areas funded by ADB. We hope that the local government will also see the process as a potential resource to use community-based in regional development."

Drs.FGM Zebua, in his speech on behalf of the people of Nias conveyed gratitude for the assistance provided. He praised the approach adopted by UN-HABITAT and ADB. "The approach has proven to be effective because the community is involved".

Mr. Bambang Sudiatmo, Deputy Director for Housing and Settlements, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR), recognized the challenge faced by most of the reconstruction agencies working in Nias. "Project locations, which are often remote and isolated, has become unique challenges for both community and donor organizations, particularly material delivery and distribution".

Currently in the neighbouring island of Simeulue ADB and UN-HABITAT are providing supports to 459 beneficiary households to reconstruct their homes in five villages.



UN-HABITAT
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