

United Way Crisis Preparedness & Response Response to Indian Ocean Earthquakes and Tsunamis

The United Way Tsunami Response Fund (www.unitedway.org/tsunamiresponse) was established to assist with long-term reconstruction and recovery efforts in impacted regions in South Asia and East Africa. While the need for immediate relief is crucial to short-term stabilization efforts in the region – an effort United Way is currently supporting in some local communities by providing fresh water, food, medical assistance and temporary shelter – United Way is urging generous support for the rebuilding of the infrastructure on which these fragile fishing and tourist economies rely.

To assist in this effort, United Way International (UWI), United Way of America (UWA) and United Way affiliates in India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, and Thailand are convening partners from across the international community, such as the UN Foundation, Peace Corps Encore, Interaction and many other potential sources of assistance. Together, they will work with local government, nonprofits, businesses and civic leaders to assess and prioritize the range of long-term, unmet needs and develop projects that help affected communities, families and individuals heal and rebuild.

Allocations from the United Way Tsunami Response Fund to affiliates are anticipated to commence in late first quarter or early second quarter 2005. The initial priorities are the rebuilding of homes, schools, public works, and health facilities; the restoration of destroyed fisheries, farms and other small businesses escaping the notice of lenders and government; educational support for children left orphaned by the tsunami; the provision of mental health assistance and additional support for at-risk populations, as well as other needs as determined over time.

Local United Ways will submit project proposals to an evaluation team comprised of United Way grants management staff, senior management, and volunteers. United Way affiliates and any local project planners or sub-grantees sharing in the funding will be required to meet United Way's stringent due diligence requirements and will agree to report to United Way periodically on their progress.

Fund recipients will be required to have the sizeable grant funds they receive professionally managed (preferably pro bono) by licensed, highly rated financial services firm and to secure professional project managers with relevant expertise to oversee proposed reconstruction initiatives. Strong, credible, transparent, and efficient infrastructure and administrative practices are a vital requirement for all grantees.

Additionally, United Way has assembled an advisory group consisting of local United Way professionals with crisis response and recovery experience, pertinent corporate partners with business interests in affected area, volunteers with applicable expertise, and financial and project management professionals to provide support, advice, coordination and other assistance to the United Way member organizations working in the affected areas in order to ensure that the most appropriate, efficient and effective reconstruction and recovery methods are being utilized.

United Way staff and volunteers in Indonesia, Thailand, India, Malaysia and Kenya are all safe and facing their crisis with grace, intelligence, and a lot of hard work.

On Monday, January 10, Gino Latief in Indonesia, Nareewan Chintakanond in Thailand, Sushama Oza in Baroda, India, and Shibani Sachdeva in Mumbai, India all participated in the first of what will now be regular conference calls throughout the reconstruction process for United Ways serving the impacted area. Various UWI and UWA staff members who participate on the Coordinated Crisis Response teams will also be available on these calls to provide support, identify resources, and give technical assistance when needed. Additionally, United Way professionals and volunteers with crisis response experience will be invited to participate; on this first call, Wen Liang Chen of United Way Taiwan shared his own United Way's post-earthquake experiences and advice.

According to the United Ways participating on the call, the situation in the affected countries is still chaotic, with governments coordinating relief work, but nonprofit relief organizations not as well coordinated. All three are dealing with issues related to identification of remains, shock and bereavement, the need for short-term shelter under sanitary conditions, and the timely distribution of aid despite damaged roads. Each UWI affiliate is already working closely with key NGOs and corporations in their communities to develop long-term response plans. They will soon provide preliminary information about their work and plans, which we will share as it is developed.






Although the United Ways in the impacted region have provided some support for immediate disaster relief, they will be concentrating on long-term reconstruction and rehabilitation projects will take at least 2-5 years to complete, and in seriously-affected regions like Indonesia, probably longer. The immediate need is for funding, but a couple of the United Ways have indicated they will also be working with volunteers after they launch their projects.

United Ways around the world outside of the impacted region are mobilizing support in their own communities. A few examples are:

- The Community Chest of Korea has pledged a US\$300,000 donation to the South Asia Tsunami Response Fund. This represents ½ of the money donated to this fund in the first two weeks.
- The United Way of Northern Utah has been active in controlling community fundraising and education on organizations role in recovery efforts including providing a special recognition pin to donors and creating a crystal blue reminder bracelet as a fundraising option for youth.
- Matan in Israel, United Fund for Belgium, and United Way of Trinidad & Tobago are helping local companies who want to assist the affected communities.
- United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area in conjunction with the Asian Pacific American Society (APAS) and Hibernia Bank has collected more than \$200,000 to assist in disaster relief efforts starting with a lead gift from corporate partner Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. which provided a lead corporate contribution of \$50,000.
- United Way of Taiwan and the Red Cross are conducting a joint fundraising campaign for tsunami relief until 2 February; after that United Way Taiwan will continue to raise funds, but for the United Way Fund for long-term reconstruction.
- United Way of Chittenden County (VT) has posted a guide for individuals and organizations who wish to contribute to Indian Ocean response efforts on their website.
- China Charity Federation has approved a donation of 50,000 body bags for disease-prevention in Indonesia.

United Way of America and United Way of International have mobilized their staffs, assigning over a dozen people working through the United Way Coordinated Crisis Response Team to help in various ways, from communications to the media and key international organizations, to fundraising among multinational companies and their employees, providing the online credit card donation mechanism for the global fund, and more. Additionally, the Response Team will soon be convening a network of advisors who have lived through similar disasters and can provide colleagues in the affected region with advice and support during the reconstruction process.

Additional details from the impacted United Ways:

India	Indonesia	Kenya	Malaysia	Thailand
 <p>United Way Mumbai is seeking funding totaling US\$3.13 million to implement projects for coastal Tamil Nadu province in the following service areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reconstruction of permanent housing • restoration of fishing industry with purchase of boats and nets • microfinance and vocational training for economic recovery in other areas • scholarships for children left without parents <p>United Way of Baroda has already donated 600,000 rupees as well as materials to support immediate relief in one of the southernmost village in Tamil Nadu.</p>	 <p>The situation is still chaotic in Aceh province, with insufficient coordination among local and international NGOs and material aid piling up in major cities like Jakarta and Maidan due to damaged roads.</p> <p>Yayasan Mitra Mandiri is convening a coalition of 3-4 local and 2 international NGOs to perform a thorough, refugee camp-to-camp assessment and census before finalizing a long-term recovery plan.</p> <p>Due to the scale of the disaster in Aceh, it is likely that many people will need to live in refugee camps for up to two years. Therefore, the first phase of Mitra Mandiri's work will focus on the camps and camp residents, with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trauma counseling • installation of sanitation systems • construction of clinics • establishment of temporary schools 	 <p>Two people died in Kenya, and more than 200 families who relied on fishing lost their boats and other property. Tourist beaches were closed in the coastal city of Mombasa. But this is not a yet another story of Africa the victim, in need of outside help. The tsunami has generated more than local need in Kenya, however, where a groundswell of support prompted the Kenya Red Cross to launch an appeal for those most affected in South Asia.</p>	 <p>The number of deaths in Malaysia currently stands at 68, with 6 missing. Houses in some fishing villages along coastal areas were damaged. The Malaysian government announced that cash support would be given to the families of victims, those who had sustained injuries from the tsunami, and to residents whose homes or fishing boats were destroyed.</p> <p>Despite its proximity, Malaysia thankfully escaped the widespread damage that affected other South Asian countries. The island of Sumatra largely shielded Malaysia from the worst of the tsunami.</p> <p>The country's worst affected areas were the northern coastal areas and some outlying islands.</p>	 <p>United Way Thailand (National Council for the Social Welfare of Thailand) provided 160,000 Baht for immediate relief, which ensured that families in Phuket received grants of 1,000 baht each to tide them over in the short-term.</p> <p>For the long-term recovery, United Way is prepared to rebuild permanent homes for only 100,000 Baht (US\$2,500) each thanks to the help of military volunteers, material and expertise.</p> <p>Many small businesses that relied heavily on the tourist industry don't have insurance or access to bank loans. Plans will be developed to help restore these businesses or provide occupational rehabilitation for those who cannot return to their former work.</p>

United Way South Asia Response Fund

Please note that all donations to the United Way Tsunami Response Fund are subject to a 2% administrative fee. Additionally, American bank credit card donations are subject to a \$1.50 plus 2.25% transaction processing fee. The complete donation is U.S. tax deductible.

Make a Secure Online Credit Card Donation*

Go directly to the Response Fund giving page: www.unitedway.org/tsunamiresponse

Non-U.S. currency credit card transactions will be available in the near future.

*The Credit Card transaction process is provided through United eWay

Mail Check or Money Order (US Dollars only)

Make check payable to:

United Way South Asia Response Fund

c/o United Way International

PO Box 9193

Uniondale, New York 11555-9193 USA

Make a gift of Stock or pay by Bank Wire

Stock gift arrangements or bank wire transfer instructions can be obtained by calling 800-892-2757, ext. 595 (toll free in US) or +1-703-519-0092 (toll call for everyone) or via email at uwi@unitedway.org.

Donor Advised Gifts through the Response Fund

Donations made to the general fund will be pooled until allocation decisions are made based on need. Donors interested in more specific designations should contact Mila Medina, +1 703 519 0092, ext. 114 about making a donor advised gift of US\$5,000 or more.

Local Collections

In many American communities United Ways are providing local collection opportunities for the fund.

The fund will be open to new donations through December 31, 2005.

United Way South Asia Response Fund Contribution Report – 8 February 2005, 5 pm ET

[US Currency]

Credit Card Donations	\$368,247.00
Checks and Wire Transfersires	\$717,712.00
Pledges	\$2,791,750.00

Total \$3,877,709.00*

*Total does not include reports from local United Ways and National Corporate Leader partners which are operating campaigns on behalf of the Fund. Funds will be reported only when receipted at UWI.

UWA Crisis Preparedness & Response Contact:

Tamara L. Schomber

703.836.7112, ext. 391

Tamara.Schomber@uwa.unitedway.org

UWI South Asia Response Contact:

Leila Roberts

703.519.0092, ext. 125

Leila.Roberts@unitedway.org