

Water and Sanitation

Immediately after the 26th December tsunami, TRO began to provide accommodation to people who were displaced by this disaster. A vital part of this was ensuring that people had access to potable water and sanitation facilities. This is an ongoing need as people have been moved from emergency to temporary shelters and will then be resettled in to permanent housing. Expertise and assistance from OXFAM is continually being received for the water and sanitation needs of those affected. Under the direction of Professor Kalanithy, TRO developed high quality strategies for dealing with the challenge of clean water and sanitation. Widespread field tests were undertaken, water purification units provided and thousands of water purification tablets distributed to Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Amparai, Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.



Many wells have been disrupted through salination after the tsunami, it was essential that the surveying and cleaning of wells began immediately to ensure the provision of safe drinking water. TRO received full technical support and back up from experienced water and sanitation specialists TOTA – UK and well cleaning

equipment, training and vehicles provided by both THW Germany and Arche Nova Germany.

The well cleaning process can be a difficult and time consuming activity as it involves extensive surveying and specific cleaning directions. However it is an extremely necessary activity in the overall rehabilitation and sustainable redevelopment of the areas affected. Surveys undertaken indicate 20% of tsunami affected wells are located in the 300 m government buffer boundary and another 25% of affected wells are located at fully damaged houses. Many wells may not be able to be used again until after the next monsoon season at this time the water levels will get flushed out and become useable.



Toilets and bathing facilities are available at all TRO transitional shelter camps. TRO is investigating and intends to implement the latest and most relevant technology for permanent housing. To ensure that water supplies are of a high quality and ones that will be sustainable. Disposing of toilet waste can become an environmental hazard and ensuring that water supplies are not contaminated is vital. TRO is continuing to use the expertise available through

Diaspora and international agencies to ensure that these issues are solved in a manner that can be included in to all future housing development projects.

District	Village	Wells Surveyed	Wells Cleaned
Trincomalee*	Eachchilmpattu	87	87
*Field work 19/03/05 – 31/05/05	Kinniya	94	94
	Trincomalee Town	1	1
Batticaloa**	Kaththankudi 01	320	320
**Field work 08/03/05 – 31/05/05	Kaththankudi 02	255	40
	Kaththankudi 03	600	0
	Kaththankudi 04	400	0
	Kaththankudi 05	350	0
	Kaththankudi 07	325	0
Vadamaradechi East***	Aaliya valai	64	34
*** Field work 25/02/05 – 04/05/05			
Mullaitivu****	Mullaitivu Town	47	38
**** Field work 31/01/05 – 31/05/05	Vattuvagal	83	6
	Selvapuram	198	127
	Naiyaru	8	4
	Chinnathankadu	19	5
	Mulliwaikal	47	0
	Vannankulam	49	9
	Manal Kuddiyurrpu	68	25
	Kovil Kuddirurrpu	18	46
	Sillawthai	77	1
	Alambil	9	0
	Semmalai	65	0
	Unnapulavu	9	4
	Karachchikuddiyurrpu	1	1
	Valayan Madam	33	3
	Kallapadu	223	4
Total		3450	849

Agreements have been entered in to with both UNICEF and Oxfam to continue to ensure that water and sanitation facilities are made available at a community and dwelling level to ensure that potable water is available through out the village.





Community Mobilisation and Capacity Building

Community mobilisation is a fundamental component of rehabilitating and developing communities. TRO believes that to rebuild community spirit and a social environment for a village to be sustainable that the members of the community must be involved in decision making for that community.

TRO enables this to happen by encouraging members of the community to be involved in the decision making processes around development. By including all facets of the community the results can be embraced by all members and are sustainable.

Community mobilisation programmes are being conducted in all of the tsunami affected districts through the TRO district offices and district level DMU. The community mobilisation programme includes gender programmes – promoting women as decision makers and as active members of society who too are faced with problems that the community needs to address. Youth programmes encouraging the 'next generation' of the village to develop themselves as members of the community; to articulate their needs and wants and their vision for the community. The aged also are a key component they have knowledge and experience that can be harnessed to ensure that the community nurtures tradition and care for all aspects of the community.

After the tsunami it became apparent that TRO's capacity was stretched beyond its means. To address this situation TRO employed approximately 200 staff they were employed to meet the needs in the areas of project management, project accounting, operations, computer support and office support. TRO also found it necessary to purchase new computers to ensure that proper tracking and management of projects and finances. Communication which has been difficult around the island was made easier with phone and internet connections. TRO also purchased several new vehicles (motorbikes, lorries, bowsers etc) to enable timely project delivery. These vehicles were bought only after identifying specific needs for each district.

People who participate in the capacity building and social mobilisation programmes gain a highly diverse set of skills that leaves them highly flexible and adaptable to many situations. These people are full time workers in the camps as well as villages affected by tsunami; providing their skills to people who live in all areas to the benefit of the whole community.

The social mobilisers completed tasks including cleaning the camps, preparation of food, giving tuition to children, taking patients for medical care and to hospitals, participating in relief work, educating in social awareness, collecting data in relation to rehabilitation and development work. The social mobilisers helped to devise means to assist people to move out from camps to the temporary dwellings houses and to look after themselves. People were confident in approaching the social mobilisers to ask for help and to express their needs



In addition to these community development activities TRO also helped to establish village level community centres, preschools, sports clubs, social economic development councils, fishing industry and cooperative societies. These groups and forums provided people

with a secure environment where they can confidently identify and meet their needs.

Potential social problems were avoided due to the practical and pragmatic approach adopted in regard to women, widows, children, disabled, pregnant women, and injured people. Due to the realistic approach by the TRO they were able to be included from planning phases and project activities. This enabled all people within the society to participate in social interactions and where appropriate commence work again.

TRO helps communities to set up community based organisations that can be involved in the implementation of projects. TRO provides these organisations with skills through training programmes. The programmes cover areas of financial management and reporting, problem identification and solving, women's rights and gender equality, youth programs and child rights programmes. The tsunami brought two things to light, the first being the way TRO was able to meet the needs of those affected and the second were areas where TRO needed to increase capacity to do this on an ongoing basis.

TRO swiftly commenced training in the area of welfare centre management to ensure that each TRO managed welfare centre was done so in a standard manner to ensure that support for people living in them was available. A priority was educating TRO staff to ensure that they were able to help people gain access to support services – health, education, aged care, women's issues.

TRO has increased capacity in the following ways

- ✚ Increase number of staff unskilled and skilled
 - o Engineers
 - o Social workers
 - o Project management
 - o Finance and accountants
- ✚ Opened new offices in tsunami affected areas

- ✚ Purchased new vehicles for transport of people and resources and allocated them based on need – vehicles include motor bikes, tractors, cars, water bowsters and pick up trucks
- ✚ Purchased computers and office equipment
- ✚ Purchased new phone lines and other communication tools
- ✚ Training in the areas of project management, project accounting
- ✚ Introduced new organisational structure and decision making processes



TRO will continue to assess our capacity and what core abilities we need to strengthen to enable a smooth delivery of aid.

Education and Early Childhood Services

Understandably the tsunami was a major interruption to education services in all areas. The government run schools in Sri Lanka were all reopened by mid January. This gave much needed positive encouragement to all children to continue their education. Some schools were not able to reopen due to the extent of the structural damage, in these situations temporary structure were erected and transportation for teachers and students was provided. The GoSL does not provide education or child care facilities for children under school age.

Immediately after the tsunami struck the affect on children was horrifically visible there many reports of children sitting not playing, talking or eating. TRO with the financial support of Save the Children in Sri Lanka (SCiSL) embarked on a project to provide 5,000 children with toys and educational material. The toys were selected to be used as therapy tools as well as equipment such as cricket kits to encourage group play. The children were also provide with school bags to assist them in returning to school. SCiSL also funded the provision of 5,000 baby care kits for babies less than one year old. These kits included clothes, soap, bottles and feeding implements and linen to assist in the care of babies.

A school was constructed by TRO in Maruthankemy to provide children with access to education; TRO will also manage the school. The school will be attended by 150 children all of whom would normally attend schools which were devastated by tsunami.

Many pre-schools in the NorthEast were devastated by the tsunami. Their reconstruction is essential for children to be able the resume their emotional, intellectual and social development. Currently the GoSL does not provide preschool education and there is no budgetary allocation for pre-school development. Through the provision and management of preschools TRO tries to minimise this gap in access to education.

Save the Children in Sri Lanka and TRO have joined together to build thirty six (36) preschools in Batticaloa, Amparai, Jaffna and Mullaitivu Districts. Each preschool will have a classroom, access to water, sanitation systems, classroom furniture and staff. Preschools will be built with access to playparks which will also be available to the rest of the community. The programme also includes the development of parents associations to encourage community mobilisation and development.

SCiSL and TRO have again joined funds and resources to build and provide equipment for fifty (50) temporary libraries in the NorthEast of Sri Lanka. These libraries will be made available to students of all ages, to assist them study. Through the provision of a centralised resource centre it is an aim of the project to build community structures. Each library will be staffed by a librarian and two assistants; children selected from the camp trained through the programme.

Previous to the tsunami TRO was catering for needs of over 1,500 children living in children's homes, unfortunately the tsunami left many more children in need of these services. Some children have had both parents die, others have lost one parent. As parents are required to be away from the home during the day and support networks for childcare were destroyed by the tsunami TRO has been working to provide care for these children by supporting extended family. The students are encouraged to study and when their families have been able to re-establish themselves they will be able to live together.

TRO has extended several childrens homes and built another. TRO has attempted to combine children living in all homes to ensure that they are encouraged to interact with children who have had similar experiences and also children who have had unrelated experiences. Carers at the homes are provided with training to identify children who are suffering from traumatic psychological problems and assist them with their concerns.

Income generation - Back to Work

The effect that the tsunami had on the fishing industry in Sri Lanka is unfathomable; approximately 90% of the total population of the fishing community lost their primary source of livelihood (that is, 72,945 families out of 77,284). Approximately, 13,698 fishing boats of all varieties (valued at over \$US 40m) were damaged beyond repair.

TRO is working towards filling the gap in conjunction with the activities of providing people with temporary and permanent shelter. TRO also has activities including community mobilisation and economic rehabilitation. Without these concepts, developing at the same time as and supporting each other, the development would not be sustainable.



To meet this aim TRO has consulted the communities that we are working with and have started to create employment opportunities. TRO has embarked with its funding partners on the building of several boat yards, fishing net manufacturing operations, small business support (ie sewing machines), support for fisherman and education and training programmes.

The boatyards which are being built by TRO cover all districts in the NorthEast Vaharai, Eachilampattu, Amparai, Kilinochchi, Vadamarachchi East and Mullaitivu. TRO has employed a positive discrimination towards women with the aim of assisting female headed households. Boatyards in Mullaitivu and Amparai have been completed and are still under way in Vadamarachchi East and Amparai. These boatyards are providing direct and indirect assistance to the communities that they serve employing people to build the boats that will then be used by others to create an income. The boatyards are able to meet the gap between the supply and demand of new fishing boats. The boatyards will be able to support and repair fishing boats in to the future as well as making boats which are appropriate to the needs of the local fisherman.

The provision of fishing boats to fisherman has been done with the assistance and support of fishing cooperatives. TRO has attempted to coordinate this delivery with the identified needs of the individual fishermen and the wider fishing community ensuring that the boat nets and other items that have been delivered.

It was not only the fishing sector that was devastated by the tsunami the high flowing water swept away small businesses, with people losing, stock, tools, machinery, buildings and most notably with the business owner and customer needing to evacuate the area trading was not possible. These small businesses that offer goods and services to the community are a necessary part of a village economy. TRO has provided assistance through several means including financial, education and goods in kind.

TRO believes that by allowing people, who have lost their livelihoods, to recreate an income and hence support their family financially that they will continue to develop and be able to support not only their only family but in turn their community. Allowing the community to continue to fully rehabilitate and develop into the future is essential to the success of the post tsunami work.

Phase III – Sustainable Village Redevelopment

The third phase of TROs post tsunami recovery strategy is self sustainable village development; the plan is for a tsunami affected village to encompass all basic infrastructure. Facilities that are available in similar villages such as water and sanitation, community centre, preschool, multi purpose hall, roads and markets.

The third phase of rehabilitation would also include all of the sectors that have been catered for in Phases I and II – Water and Sanitation, Income Generation, Health Service, Education and Child Care, Shelter and Capacity Building and Social Mobilisation. Each of these will be approached in a sustainable and long term manner.

Water and Sanitation

TROs consultant team of water engineers also have experience in working in local conditions. TRO will rebuild houses and village infrastructure ensuring that they have access to potable water. TRO is continuing to ensure that wells are cleaned. TRO has surveyed a significant number of wells across the tsunami affected areas, where necessary wells are being cleaned and hence made available to be used by villagers. As part of village redevelopment programmes TRO is endeavouring to ensure that all houses have access to their own water supply.

Much like the water and sanitation programmes that are currently being implemented as part of the provision of transitional shelters TRO is going to continue to apply high standards in these establishment using those set by SPHERE as a minimum. TRO has developed these further to obtain a higher level of standard.

The issues related to water supply and quality, sanitation, hygiene, and the disposal of solid and faecal waste are all being addressed systematically. A community awareness programme on the benefits of clean water is being carried out by TRO social mobilisers in the NorthEast.

Income Generation

This sector has been developed largely as part of phase II of post tsunami rehabilitation. TRO has built boat yards in several districts which are now open and producing boats. Economic development of the villages in the surrounding area has benefited, these boat yards are also enabling fisherman to return to work. As more fisher men are able to work they are able to prompt and promote other related industry. Drying fishing, fish auctioning and transporting, net repairing and day to day boat maintenance has all contributed to increasing rates of employment. Particularly in the boat building factories TRO actively promotes the employment of women where feasible.



Income generation projects will continue through out Phase III of redevelopment. To enable people to become gainfully employed TRO is providing education and skill development programmes. In

Muliyawalai, Mullaitivu district, a vocational training centre is being constructed and will be completed by the end of September 1995. This is being sponsored by the Asian German Sports Exchange Programme (AGSEP) on its completion the training centre will be staffed by permanent and guest specialised teachers and lecturers. Mulliyawalai is located centrally within the Mullaitivu district, with access being provided by main bus routes, but not directly on the shore land not using land that would have been used for housing. The courses offered will be in a wide range of areas including small business management, computer skills, brick laying and building, machinery repair and agricultural education classes. They will be tailored to meet the needs as identified by the community it serves. Similar programmes are being carried out in Trincomalee and Amparai districts in partnership with international NGOs.



Phase III income generation activities will also see TRO working with community based organisations to identify areas of supply and demand within the community. Financial assistance will be made available through grants and via loans. Revolving loans have been used successfully previously and TRO will continue to offer these through the Social Economic Development Bank (SEDB). People will

be encouraged to open small businesses which are needed to support and sustain a village.

Health Services

For the past several years TRO has been able to facilitate the provision of care of people from underprivileged situations to access high quality highly specialised health services. TRO has also run education programmes in areas of public health these have been supported with the provision of preventive health tools – mosquito nets, water purification tablets and medicines. TRO recognises the specialised skills required to provide a quality health services however we do recognise and wish to address the need. Hence TRO will build health care centres. The health care centres will be furnished and local public hospitals will coordinate visiting medical professionals – and part-time nursing staff. The services offered at these clinics will be general health checks, preventive health services and pregnancy checks. On identification of serious problems then patients will be referred to area hospitals and general practitioners.

This health programme will continue to offer the services that are currently available to people in temporary shelters. Essential for sustaining good health is the upkeep of accurate medical records including information regarding medications, dates of visits – physical and mental health can be monitored in this way.

Health care centres will be built centrally in most villages and so that all villages have access to a health centre. In some instances they will be built in conjunction with the village community centre – accessible by all. Through these centres TRO will be able to run health promotion and nutrition programmes.

TRO has been providing psychosocial support for people affected by the tsunami. TRO has employed volunteers trained to assist people who are suffering after the tsunami.

Education and Child care

One of the first things that TRO recognised as a high priority after the tsunami was to address the needs of children. Immediately this was in the form of food and shelter it has now become a process ensuring that they are in a safe and secure environment. The future of the devastated people in the NorthEast is with the children. Providing them with access to a comprehensive high quality education will enable them to lead their communities into the future. TRO has established temporary preschools located strategically close to transitional housing for tsunami victims. They are staffed by trained preschool teachers and TRO continues to provide this training to staff. These staff, many of whom are volunteers, have also been trained to recognise the signs of psychological trauma in young children, they have been instructed in ways that they can work with the children to express their experience through arts and drama. These programs have been constructed through funding from Save the Children.

TRO will be constructing preschools as part of the development of permanent villages. The curriculum for these will be the same as for other TRO preschools which has been developed with Forut Teacher education programmes. A model preschool is being built at Muliyawalai, Mullaitivu. Funded by ABC Foundation Germany and located at the same site as the AGSEP vocational training centre it will be used for children whose parents/carers are studying at the vocational training institute. At the model preschool facilities will be available for teacher training and accommodation. It will become a district preschool training centre.

TRO will expand its education programmes for Phase III of rehabilitation. The breadth of skills and subjects taught will increase and training programmes will become more advanced. Skills taught will be inline with employment opportunities and areas of interest, small loans will be available to some people on completion to assist in initiating income generating activities.

TRO will continue providing catch up education classes for high school students who due to the tsunami have had their education

interrupted, encouraging and supporting students to stay at school to complete both their O level and A level examinations. Students will be provided with exercise and text books, stationery and uniforms to enable them to continue their education.

Many women were widowed due to the tsunami and are now required to earn an income for their family – with no formal training or skill base this would be very difficult without coordinated and structured support. Through community based organisations TRO will work with women to identify areas of interest and build on skills that they already have to enable them to generate an income.

Before the tsunami TRO was responsible for the administration of 12 childrens homes. Over 2,500 children were cared for by TRO – the care for these children includes food, shelter, clothing, education, health care all provide in a secure environment.

In Batticaloa a new home is being built for both boys and girls who had one or both parents die on the tsunami. Some children may still have a parent but they may not be capable of providing adequate care for the child – either financially and/or emotionally.

Community Mobilisation and Capacity Building

TRO has put a lot of effort in the areas of community mobilisation and capacity building since the tsunami. Phase III of rehabilitation will see this work continue to grow and diversify. Currently volunteers within each transit camp are involved in community mobilisation and community assistance programmes. These volunteers have been provided with training which has enabled them to offer support to people who are in need, playing vital roles in camp maintenance, dispute prevention and resolution. Phase III community mobilisation will include the continued promotion of participation in CBO and other community groups at the village level. Encouraging community members to actively partake in village redevelopment.

Village Infrastructure

TRO has been involved in the resettlement and relocation of IDPs due to the war. TRO recognises that it takes more than housing and access to potable water to create a sustainable village. As such TRO is also rebuilding community centres, preschools, roads, markets, a variety of income generation activities and community mobilisation programmes. Currently TRO has commenced work on the complete village redevelopment of Kalladi, Trincomalee District and Punochchimunai, Batticaloa District.

Kalladi village, redevelopment funded by Operation USA, will have the following structures and services provided;

- ✚ 235 houses
- ✚ 100 wells with water tanks and pumps
- ✚ 125 “Deep Sea Fishing Packages” (boat, net, outboard motor)
- ✚ 34 “Back to Work Packages” for agricultural families)
- ✚ Mobile Health Unit (will also service other villages in the area)
- ✚ Health Centre
- ✚ Multi-purpose community centre
- ✚ Pre-School (funded by Room to Read)



Punochchimunai Village redevelopment is being funded by Emergency and will include the following development;

- ✚ 133 houses (including toilets)
- ✚ 133 wells with water tanks and pumps
- ✚ Fishing boats and nets (66 canoes and 33 18' fibreglass boats)
- ✚ “Back to school” pack for 193 children
- ✚ Primary Healthcare Centre
- ✚ Road reconstruction, Community centre, Women's programs, Vocational training, Agriculture income generation projects