



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Emergency humanitarian assistance to flood-affected populations in Indonesia

Location of operation: Indonesia

Amount of Decision: EUR 1,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/IDN/BUD/2007/01000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale:

Between 17 and 23 December 2006 heavy downpours flooded vast areas in Sumatra's Provinces of Banda Aceh and Northern Sumatra. The affected districts include Aceh Utara, Aceh Timur, Aceh Tamiang, Bener Meriah and Gayo Lues and to a lesser extent, Lhokseumawe, Bireuen, Aceh Tengah and Langsa in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam and the district of Langkat in Northern Sumatra.

The area had already been hit in early December 2006 by three earthquakes with magnitudes between 4.9 and 6.1 on the Richter scale which triggered landslides in seven districts of Banda Aceh and Northern Sumatra and killed 17 people¹. The landslides were favoured by the first rainfalls of the monsoon season and extensive deforestation in the affected areas. Following these events, which were classified by the Government of Indonesia (GoI) as "Regional Catastrophes", heavy rainfalls set in starting from 17 December onwards.

Following the landslides caused by the earthquakes, the riverbeds were filled with earth, trees and other debris and vegetation. The torrential rains led to disastrous inundations, because the erosional force of the water loaded with the debris was far higher than normal and consequently, many houses, bridges and public infrastructure were damaged by devastating muddy waters up to three meters high. The flooding

¹ Indonesia: Sumatra Flash Floods, IFRC, Information Bulletin n°3/2006, 29 December 2006

was declared a “National Catastrophe” by the GoI on 22 December 2006. It is to be noted that the monsoon season is just beginning and more rainfall is likely to hit the region over the coming weeks.

Out of a total population of 1,664,000 people in the affected districts, around 400,000 people have been affected. Up to 300,000 people were displaced. In some districts, the percentage of the affected population reaches 80%. The most recent figures provided by the Inter-Agency Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment mission (carried out between 29 December and 2 January²) establish that around 6,500 houses have been completely destroyed, 88,000 houses have been damaged at different degrees and that some 80,000 people are still displaced. Up to 65 bridges, 463 km of roads, 212 schools and 307 health facilities have been affected by the disaster³.

Further damage was done by the mud deposited by the water when it receded; this mud made the equipment of hospitals, dispensaries, schools and official buildings unusable, congested roads and made them impassable by vehicles for days. The mud also covered rice paddies and in general heavily affected the agricultural sector. Domestic and public water and sanitation infrastructures as well as the public electricity network (wherever such a network existed) have also been largely hit.

These floods have hit some areas already affected by the tsunami of 26 December 2004 (Aceh Utara), and some areas that have endured a 30-year long conflict between governmental forces and the GAM (Free Aceh Movement), which came to an end with the signature of the peace agreement on 15 August 2005 (mainly Gayo Lues, Aceh Tengah and Bener Meriah).

Government relief bodies (BRR, Aceh and Nias Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency and Satkorlak, Provincial Coordinating Body for Disaster Management) requested the UN to provide and distribute relief items by using its air asset (mainly helicopters from Bakornas, the National Coordinating Board for Disaster Management, with a capacity up to 400kg, and Puma helicopters from TNI, the Indonesian Armed Forces and other governmental assets). Subsequently, other local government authorities also made requests for international assistance.

UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) present in the region, especially those with left over funds from the tsunami, quickly began bringing relief items to the most accessible areas. Non-food items (NFIs), water and food are being delivered. However, in the inner highlands (in particular Gayo Lues, Aceh Tengah and Bener Meriah) up to 70,000 people were still in areas very difficult to access and had only benefited from airdrops made by helicopters.

DG ECHO's⁴ field offices in Banda Aceh and Jakarta have been and are monitoring the situation closely and participating to all coordination meetings happening in both cities.

² Participating agencies: WHO, PMI, UNICEF, CARE, Save the Children, FAO, IOM, Merlin

³ "Floods in East, North and Central Aceh, NAD, Indonesia, December 2006 - Inter-Agency Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment Report, 5 January 2007

⁴ Directorate-General of the European Commission for Humanitarian Aid - ECHO

1.2. - Identified needs:

The first need is water supply for drinking and hygiene purposes to help avoiding diarrheic and other waterborne diseases. Sanitation is also paramount because many latrines are rendered useless by the floods, the ground water level being still high and many septic tanks having been destroyed. Wells are also full of mud and need to be cleaned and rehabilitated.

The access to some isolated areas is still extremely problematic and logistics is an important issue. Ensuring transport of food, NFIs, rehabilitation material and other emergency relief aid is a priority. The emergency rehabilitation of bridges and roads is also crucial to allow relief to reach the affected populations. The authorities are now clearing some roads and repairing some bridges⁵ but given the scale of the destruction, their capacity is insufficient and it is foreseeable that the international community will have to assist.

The emergency restoration of livelihoods also appears to be a priority, since in some areas, up to 100% of cultivated fields have been washed away by the floods or covered by mud. Crops have been lost and many other rural assets have been destroyed. Since, according to the region, up to 90% of the population is relying on agriculture to live, the quick rehabilitation of fields and other rural assets is crucial in order to maintain the already fragile food security.

As far as shelter is concerned, displaced population is being provided with tents. People returning to their villages are already clearing the debris and repairing their houses but small-scale rehabilitation materials will have to be provided.

The immediate emergency needs to be covered are:

- Water and sanitation: provision of safe drinking water, restoration of water and sanitation systems, hygiene promotion
- Provision of food and non-food items,
- emergency shelter and small-scale rehabilitation of houses and public infrastructure
- Logistics: support to transport of relief items and emergency restoration of bridges in order to deliver relief items to remote and inaccessible affected areas
- Emergency livelihood recovery.

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

The floods hit an extended area comprising districts in the North, East and Central Aceh and Northern Sumatra provinces: Aceh Utara, Aceh Timur, Aceh Tamiang, Bener Meriah, Gayo Lues, Lhokseumawe, Bireuen, Aceh Tengah and Langsa in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam and the district of Langkat in Northern Sumatra.

Villages in conflict-affected areas, particularly in the highlands, have received relatively less development aid from the government, NGOs or international donors, both during the conflict and in the immediate post-conflict period. Relief efforts in these areas are thus very important in order not to jeopardize the fragile progress in the stabilization of these communities.

⁵ Floods in North, East and Central Aceh regions, Sumatra, Indonesia, Situation Report n°6, 5 January 2007 2100hrs, Office of the United Nations Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias (UN-ORC)

Throughout the affected region, 50% of households are under the poverty line.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

Access to remote areas is a challenge and will need to be improved in order to bring relief to the affected populations in an efficient way.

As the monsoon season is just beginning, there is a risk of major rainfall in the region which could eventually trigger further floods. Earthquakes are also very frequent in the area. Both further rainfall and new earthquakes could trigger new landslides and inundations that would lead to additional humanitarian needs and would make more difficult the transport of relief goods.

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:⁶

2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective: To respond to the humanitarian needs of flood-affected populations in Indonesia

Specific objectives:

- To provide integrated relief assistance to the vulnerable flood-affected communities in Indonesia

2.2. - Components:

The activities funded under this Decision include the following:

- provision of safe water supply (water distribution, water treatment, restoration of water systems) and activities restoring minimal sanitary and hygiene conditions
- provision of emergency food and non-food items
- emergency shelter and support to small-scale rehabilitation of houses and buildings damaged by the floods
- logistics: support to transport of relief items
- support to emergency rehabilitation of roads and bridges in strategic places damaged by the floods and landslides and which are hampering access to the affected populations in the highlands.
- emergency livelihood recovery, rehabilitation of fields, distribution of seeds and other necessary materials.

⁶ Grants for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid are awarded in accordance with the Financial Regulation, in particular Article 110 thereof, and its Implementing Rules in particular Article 168 thereof (Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002, OJ L248 of 16 September 2002 and No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of 31 December 2002).

Rate of financing: In accordance with Article 169 of the Financial Regulation, grants for the implementation of this Decision may finance 100% of the costs of an action.

Humanitarian aid operations funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) (in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation) and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA). The standards and criteria established in DG ECHO's standard Framework Partnership Agreement to which NGO's and International organisations have to adhere and the procedures and criteria needed to become a partner may be found at http://ec.europa.eu/echo/partners/index_en.htm

- as much as possible, rehabilitation activities should integrate disaster-resistant techniques.

3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid operations shall be 6 months from their starting date.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from **1 January 2007**.

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this Decision is suspended due to *force majeure* or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in Indonesia the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	62,000	DG ECHO	11,033,667		
Belgium	500,000	Other services			
Cyprus	17,544				
Czech republic	139,860				
Denmark	1,293,566				
Estonia	31,955				
Finland	400,000				
France	949,588				
Germany	1,124,331				
Greece	200,000				
Hungary	65,320				
Ireland	500,000				
Italy	855,000				
Latvia	25,000				
Lithuania					
Luxemburg	305,000				
Malta					
Netherlands	2,500,000				
Poland					
Portugal	1,500,000				
Slovakia	160,000				
Slovenie	125,000				
Spain	500,000				
Sweden	4,901,250				
United kingdom	7,342,541				
Subtotal	23,497,955	Subtotal	11,033,667	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	34,531,622		

Dated : 08 January 2007

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.ec.europa.eu>
Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

Pledges from other donors as of 8 January 2007:

- UN-ORC has released an amount of EUR 2,000,000 from the CERF, with the following breakdown: \$850,000 for WFP, \$770,000 for UNICEF, \$230,000 for OCHA and \$150,000 for IOM.
- Norway: \$800,000, of which \$400,000 for UNICEF, \$200,000 for logistics, \$100,000 to OCHA and \$100,000 to IOM.
- USAID: \$100,000 for the PMI (Indonesian Red Crescent)
- AUSAID: AUS\$200,000 for the PMI
- Saudi Arabia has donated 150 tons of non-food items
- BAKORNAS, \$22,000

6 - Amount of decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 1,000,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To respond to the humanitarian needs of flood-affected populations in Indonesia</i>			
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Potential partners⁷
Specific objective 1: To provide integrated relief assistance to the vulnerable flood-affected communities in Indonesia	1,000,000	Sumatra (provinces of Banda Aceh and Northern Sumatra)	- ACF - ATLAS - IOM - IRC-UK - SOLIDARITES
TOTAL:1,000,000			

⁷ ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR), ATLAS LOGISTIQUE, (FR), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), International Rescue Committee UK, SOLIDARITES, (FR)

7 - Budget Impact article 23 02 01

-	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2007	485,000,000
Supplementary Budgets	
Transfers	
Total Available Credits	485,000,000
Total executed to date (by 09/01/2007)	224,435,694,95
Available remaining	260,564,305,05
Total amount of the Decision	1,000,000

COMMISSION DECISION
of
on the financing of emergency humanitarian operations from the general budget of the
European Communities in
Indonesia

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid⁸, and in particular Article 13 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Between 17 and 23 December 2006, heavy downpours flooded vast areas in Sumatra's provinces of Banda Aceh and Northern Sumatra.
- (2) The floods affected at least 400,000 people, leading more than 300,000 to temporary displacement. In some districts, the percentage of the affected population reaches 80%. Around 6,500 houses have been completely destroyed and 88,000 have been damaged to different degrees, together with 65 bridges, hundreds of kms of roads and other public and social infrastructure. Water and sanitation facilities as well as livelihoods have been heavily affected.
- (3) Humanitarian aid operations financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months.
- (4) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 1,000,000 from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to over 50,000 flood-affected people in local communities, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors.
- (5) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002⁹, Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002¹⁰ and last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1248/2006¹¹, and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of the EC¹².

⁸ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 16

⁹ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1

¹⁰ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1

¹¹ OJ L 227, 19.8.2006, p.3

¹² Commission Decision of 06.02.2006, SEC(2006)131

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 1,000,000 for emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to 50,000 people in Indonesia by using line 23 02 01 of the 2007 general budget of the European Communities.
2. In accordance with Article 2(a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:
 - To provide integrated relief assistance to the vulnerable flood-affected communities in Indonesia.

The total amount of this decision is allocated to this objective.

Article 2

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid operations funded by this Decision shall have a maximum duration of 6 months from their starting date.
2. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from **1 January 2007**.
3. If the operations envisaged in this Decision are suspended owing to force majeure or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

Article 3

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission