RISE: Recovery Initiative for Sumatera Earthquake

8. Support for the Mentawai Community - Post disaster livelihood recovery

The Mentawai Islands regency government has enacted a number of strategies that would be used over a six month period. Given the resounding success of this it is very likely that the GaKUP will continue to be an influential partner in developing the livelihoods of the beneficiary communities. These concerned the implementation of five different business sectors including:

1. Agricultural: cocoa.
2. Fish culture: catfish and tilapia fish (nila).
4. Fresh water fish cultivation: catfish and tilapia fish (nila).
5. Technical guidance by P3SD.

LIKE THE UNDP support for the first phase economic recovery, the assessment activity was followed by a community meeting, community based planning, and business group division. At this second level, the beneficiary communities were grouped into cocoa, patchouli and trading businesses. Subsequently, skill training and equipment/seed/capital distribution were conducted allowing the commencement of livelihood activities. The survey was followed by an assessment to study the feasibility of community based planning initiatives. This process contemplated a number of business sectors and was conducted in November 2011. The following activities identified no new resources in the annual budget for FY12. This is close to being taken into account in the development of an FY12 programme.

In November and December 2011 focus group discussions were held involving representatives of the community in order to have a two to three-depth identification of the community livelihood bases. This process engaged affected people in the construction of their own livelihood plans, which would be used to develop the livelihood recovery strategy. This implementation consisted of a number of activities:

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9. Support for local government in the provision of basic and social services

The initiation and planning phases decided the business sectors which were to be encouraged. These were:

1. Activity information dissemination.
2. Community economic livelihood assessment.
4. Capacity improvement training.
5. Budget planning formulation.

Following the completion of the initiation and planning phase the livelihood activity implementation phase commenced. The livelihood recovery programme the fifth phase commenced on October the 28th 2011. The assessment indicated several initiatives among others indicated that the majority of the community had fresh challenges for the community especially when faced with the tsunami disaster to safer locations. These new locations were to be encouraged. These were:

1. Technical guidance by P3SD.
2. Educational and community based planning.
3. Community based monitoring and spatial distribution conducted allowing the commencement of livelihood activities. The survey was followed by an assessment to study the feasibility of community based planning initiatives. This process contemplated a number of business sectors and was conducted in November 2011. The following activities identified no new resources in the annual budget for FY12. This is close to being taken into account in the development of an FY12 programme. Despite current conditions facing being identified as potentially benefitting from Government support.

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(1) Capacity improvement training.
(2) Available or existed self supporting funds.
(3) Total budget required for each business.
(4) Budget planning formulation.

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(1) Capacity improvement training.
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(3) Total budget required for each business.
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RISE has assisted the development of a website to track recovery progress, and an “ER Gateway” that allowed feedback from the communities to be relayed onto the website in real-time. RISE assisted the West Sumatra BPBD to develop and update the area information system, to expand the interactive site, and to include BMG/HRD engagement in the site.

The Mentawai earthquake and tsunami disasters, which occurred on December 22, 2009, had significant impacts on West Sumatra Province and the Mentawai Islands regency. RISE was tasked with the responsibility of coordinating the rehabilitation and reconstruction process of the area affected by the Mentawai earthquakes.

In the aftermath of the Mentawai earthquake and tsunami disasters, the West Sumatra BPBD and Mentawai Islands regency BPBD assisted by RISE, the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC), made significant contributions towards the streamlining of recovery processes through efficient coordination. By assisting and supporting the BPBD during this period, RISE also provided technical support for the preparation of Mentawai Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) action plan.

In order to assist main-streaming disaster risk reduction (DRR) in rehabilitation and reconstruction processes, RISE assisted the West Sumatra BPBD to develop and update the area information system, to expand the site, and to include BMG/HRD engagement in the site.

The community approved the permanent residential location proposal, which revealed that there was a strong wish for the community to be involved in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process.

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RISE has conducted a series of activities, which include:

1. Coordination during the initial recovery phase.
2. Capacity assessment of the BPBDs of West Sumatra Province and Mentawai Islands regency.
4. Facilitation of West Sumatra BPBD team building.
5. Developing the BPBD Information Technology Management System.

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This has been a successful partnership in terms of rehabilitation and reconstruction management. The team also held special administrative training for the regional government.

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