



# Indonesia Earthquake

June 2011

## The Disaster

On September 30, 2009, a very powerful 7.9 earthquake struck off the coast of West Sumatra, Indonesia. Two subsequent earthquakes triggered massive landslides that wiped out several villages. The earthquakes left a trail of destruction that affected an estimated 250,000 families (1,250,000 people) by damaging or destroying their homes and livelihoods.

CRWRC, had already been operating in Indonesia since 1996, and had already been responding to the the December 2004 tsunami under the name "GenAssist." They quickly established a CRWRC project team which targeted 25 hard-hit villages in 9 sub-districts in the Padang Pariaman and Agam Districts, West Sumatra.

CRWRC is very pleased to report that, one and a half years later, its response

to this earthquake is complete! In late March, the project team and communities held a wonderful, joyous community celebration which marked the completion of this work. The following provides you with a quick glimpse of some of the results that your prayers and financial support made possible. Thank you, and — above all — thanks be to God!



## Reviving A Spirit of Togetherness

“CRWRC/GenAssist has generated the *gotong royong* spirit to raise up again” said Riva’I Marlaut, a 43 year-old farmer and village head for Kampung Palak village in Indonesia. *Gotong Royong* is an Indonesian term that can be defined as cooperation among many people to attain a shared goal. It is a central tenet in traditional Indonesian philosophy, but had been waning in some poor communities such as Kampung Palak.

“We had asked the government and other agencies to help us with our water many times. None responded. Only CRWRC/GenAssist were willing to listen and take action,” said Marlaut.

The people of Kampung Palak had struggled to access safe, reliable water even before the disaster struck. After the earthquake and landslides, the situation was even worse. Former sources of water were contaminated and people had to walk great distances to access water at other sources. This was a drain on the time and energy of women, who did the bulk of the water



collection. It was also impossible for the elderly and those with disabilities.

As CRWRC worked in 13 communities to rebuild homes, they also did an assessment of the water sources. They held long discussions with community members to hear their pressing concerns and identify solutions. In Kampung Palak, they decided that the community would work together to build a water pipe that would take water from a spring to the village. The young people of the village would take the lead on this project, and village members would volunteer their labor as they were able.

Today, that project is complete and the village has been renewed by what was made possible through their combined efforts.

“Now, in addition to having houses, the village members have water. The women and elderly no longer have to walk very far to fetch water, and I believe that my people will be healthier than before,” said Marlaut. “Thanks to the CRWRC/GenAssist team the *gotong royong* spirit has risen again in my village.”

In addition, because community members built the pipeline themselves there is ownership, and they are also equipped to repair the pipe should anything get damaged in the future.

“While we’ve provided material such as houses, wells, and water pipelines, one of the best things we can leave behind is not something tangible,” said CRWRC’s Director of Disaster Response and Rehabilitation, Wayne de Jong. “It is increased knowledge and capacity at the community, household, and individual levels. When I was in Indonesia in late March 2011, I frequently heard people say, ‘We have learned so much’ and ‘now we know.’ It was so great to hear. We’re also thankful that in all these vibrant, hard-working communities we’ve had the opportunity to demonstrate Christ’s love in a way that will make a lasting impact — not just in terms of the physical houses and other projects, and the increased knowledge we leave behind, but also in their hearts.”

## Reducing the Risks of Future Disasters

Ismael is a 25 year-old farmer and a resident of Labuk Laweh village. When the earthquake struck, the house he lived in with his parents collapsed and was covered by the mud of a landslide. He was trapped under the ruins for more than 18 hours.

"I tried not to panic," Ismael recalls. "I could hear people outside and I guided them to where I was so they could get me out."

Ismael was taken to the hospital, where he had surgery for a broken leg. When he returned to his village two weeks later, he was eager to do whatever he could to help the community rebuild. He didn't realize, however, that it would involve being trained to be a community leader and local expert in disaster risk reduction.

"One day the head of my village asked me to join the training organized by CRWRC/GenAssist. At first, I didn't want to participate. I had friends who had attended similar trainings by other organizations in the past. As soon as



**An emergency warning system developed by community members**

their training was done, they didn't receive any more assistance and they didn't know what to do," said Ismael.

"My village head kept pushing me, so I attended the training. I am glad I followed his advice. CRWRC/GenAssist gave us homework. We were given tasks to do in each of our villages, like organizing meetings with our communities. GenAssist/CRWRC also organized regular meetings where all those who had been trained could get together. We shared our experiences, problems, and success stories."

Ismael and 40 other trainees learned how to assess risks in their villages and drew a map of areas that were at higher risk of earthquakes or landslides. In the villages that experienced severe landslides, CRWRC insisted that safer locations be identified before construction of new homes could begin. The trainees helped to identify these areas and community members worked together to provide alternate land to those who needed it.

Ismael and the other trainees also learned about the importance of using improved techniques for making earthquake resistant buildings, and how to use their own, local resources to minimize damage in the case of a future disaster.

"Now, the community knows the disaster areas and where to evacuate in case of disaster," said Ismael. "We also know the early warning signs of a disaster, and have developed a warning system to tell others. Now I know how to organize my community and can really help them if another disaster comes."

## Earthquake Response At A Glance

### CRWRC provided:

- Emergency food and non food items to 2434 households. This included toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, feminine hygiene products, baby diapers, mosquito repellent, liniment oil, and laundry detergent.
- Emergency medical assistance and trauma counseling to 1,450 people
- Access to safe and secure shelter with 890 permanent, earthquake-resistant, two-room, brick, starter homes.
- Training in earthquake resistant construction techniques, which equipped 228 local laborers for future employment as well.
- Improved access for 801 households (4,006 individuals) to water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning through the construction of 4 wells, 14 repaired drinking water points, and 19 public bathing / latrine facilities. These families also participated in hygiene training.
- Training of 109 community members and 17 women's groups in water, sanitation, and hygiene which included instruction on boiling water, washing hands, brushing teeth, and the maintenance of public facilities and wells.
- Sanitation & hygiene training in 10 schools benefitting 1,426 children which would indirectly pass on the knowledge to the remaining 12,276 family members.
- Training for 40 individuals from 11 villages on disaster risk reduction, including assessing risks, developing new standards for buildings, identifying evacuation plans, developing early warning systems, and incorporating disaster drills into the school system.
- Training for 34 individuals from 11 villages on the needs of grieving people, how to deal with loss and grief, the psychological reactions of children to trauma, and how to provide basic psychosocial and trauma counselling



## Financials

### Revenue

Through March 31, 2011 CRWRC had received \$2.5 million for our Padang earthquake response. This included \$894,997 in donations from individuals and churches. These donations were leveraged through CRWRC's partnerships with other outside funders and aid organizations, to raise an additional \$1.6 million.

### Expenses

Through March 31, 2011, CRWRC spent all of the funds it had received for the Padang earthquake response. This included \$44,725 on meeting emergency needs; \$96,466 on water, sanitation, and hygiene; \$11,130 on medical assistance; \$55,471 on building the capacity of local people and partners; \$1,791,692 for housing, and \$500,504 on program management and administration.

### Special Thanks

CRWRC would like to thank the following funders for contributing to its Padang Indonesia Earthquake Response:

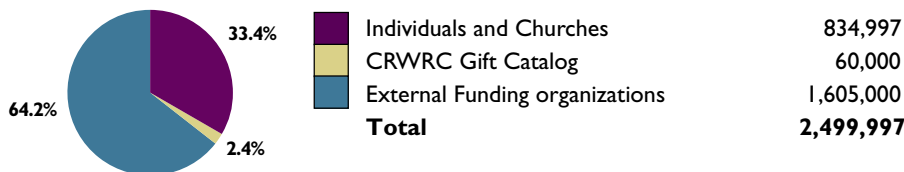
Individuals, churches, schools and businesses across the United States and Canada

- Tearfund UK, Tear Netherlands, Tear Australia
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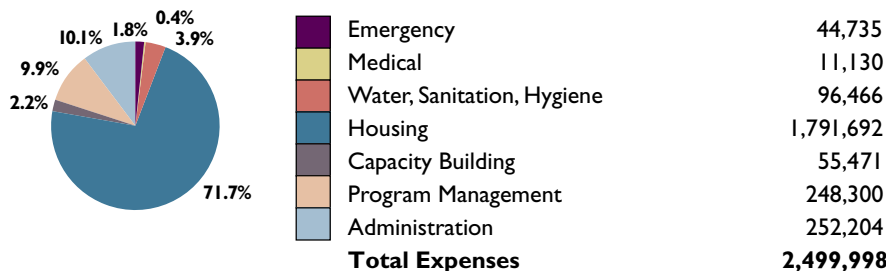
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\* donated through CRWRC's appeal to the ACT Alliance

### Where our Resources Came From



### Where our Resources Went



CRWRC

*Living Justice, Loving Mercy*

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