

CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND INC.

Psychosocial and Child Protection Program - Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Sumatra, Indonesia

FINAL REPORT

Grant Agreement No. DFD-G-00-05-00052/Indonesia

January 19 - October 19, 2005



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ANACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

CCS	Child Centered Space
CF	ChildFund
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CP	Child Protection
CRC	The Convention on the Rights of the Child
CWBC	Child Well-Being Committee
DINSOS	Dinas Sosial – Social Department of Government of Indonesia
ECD	Early Child Development
FTR	Family Tracing and Reunification
GAM	Gerakan Aceh Merdeka – Free Aceh Movement
HFA	Height for Age
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
OFDA	Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance
Plumpy Nut	A nutritional supplement recommended for rapid renutrition or supplementary feeding, containing peanuts. Ready-to-eat food. Can be eaten as it is, without dilution or cooking. Open the sachet and consume directly.
SD	Standard Deviation
SOAP	A monitoring tool used in Social Services in the USA - subjective progress, objective progress, assessment, and plan
SPHERE	The Sphere Project - The Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
TOT	Training of Trainers
TNI	Tentara Nasional Indonesia – Indonesian Army
UAM	Unaccompanied Minor
UEPLM	Un Enfant Par La Main
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFA	Weight for Age
WFH	Weight for Height

PROJECT SUMMARY IN BRIEF

Program Title	Psychosocial and Child Protection Program
Implementing Partner	ChildFund Indonesia on behalf of Christian Children's Fund Inc.
USAID/OFDA Grant Number	DFD-G-00-05-00052-00
Country/Region	Indonesia, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (Districts: Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Bireuen, Aceh Barat, Aceh Jaya)
Type of Disaster/Hazard	Indian Ocean Tsunami
Time Period Covered by the Report	January 19 - October 19, 2005
Beneficiaries details	Children age 0-19yrs, parents, religious/community leaders, teachers.
Amount contributed by OFDA	USD 393,188.00
Amount contributed by other donors	USD 273,820.00
Total Budget	USD 667,008.00
Final Cost	USD

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ChildFund Indonesia (ChildFund) was one of the first Child Protection agencies to enter Aceh in January 2005. Our Emergency Response Team found that the children who survived, not only experienced the earthquake and tsunami of 26 December 2004, but were at that time coping with many different consequences of the devastation which occurred. These numbered many, bodily injury, which was incurred during the disaster and from debris thereafter, loss of loved ones, separation from parents/siblings/other family members, loss of housing, loss of security, loss of any kind of financial support and high exposure to air and water-borne diseases.

These events interrupted the lives of the children of Aceh, deprived them of opportunities to enjoy their childhood as it would have been and participate in schooling and play activities as they would normally. The importance of children being able to rapidly return to normal life and pastimes was recognized by ChildFund. At that time, the possibilities for children to participate in normalizing activities was not available, and this presented a significant threat to maintaining their healthy physical, emotional and social development. The loss and displacement suffered by the thousands of families in Aceh Province had an overwhelming psychological impact on the population, which will be ongoing for many years, as people continue to come to terms with their loss.

The damage to the education system was overwhelming. The Ministry of Education reported that approximately 1,500 primary and secondary school teachers were dead or missing and 560 primary and secondary schools had been completely destroyed. As a result, registration

of displaced children to return to school took place and the Ministry of Education and the communities themselves worked to integrate the majority of children into non-damaged schools. Additional temporary schools were established to receive the children who were not absorbed by the existing schools, and ChildFund set up Child Centered Spaces (CCS) where children could engage in recreational and normalizing activities in a safe environment.

To respond to this situation, ChildFund began psychosocial programming with kind support from OFDA in order to support children and their families in five districts of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam: Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Bireuen, Aceh Jaya and Aceh Barat which were worst affected by the emergency.

ChildFund continues its response in these 5 districts, working within 27 sub-districts, covering 96 sites. The sites consist of IDPs living in camps, host communities, and government-constructed barracks. At the height of the emergency ChildFund established 120 Child Centered Spaces (CCSs). ChildFund succeeded in creating CCSs, which form a unique entry-level response for children trying to cope with the aftermath of an emergency and also a safe place where children can engage in structured activities, positively socialize with others, receive care and a variety of other essential services. In an emergency situation, the immediate protection of children is the purpose of CCS in order to reduce the risks to harm from their environment. 14,271 children of all ages still regularly participate in CCS activities.

With funding from OFDA, ChildFund was able to establish 102 CCSs and provide services reaching children in 5 districts. Children between the ages of 0-19yrs regularly attend the CCS activities which were established to provide psychosocial support and protection for children. Through supervised games, art and songs, the community volunteers at the CCSs help children to re-establish a normal routine and rebuild trust and relationships. Thousands of youth now engage in their own activities through youth clubs and thousands more children participate on an *ad hoc* basis in ChildFund activities, including children & youth festivals.

From the start of the initiative, ChildFund was instrumental in delivering normalizing activities for children and providing a support network of trained community-based volunteers who could respond to the needs of distressed children. This network comprised several members; Child Well-Being Committee members - who function as the first port of call between CF and the community, identify and address the needs of vulnerable members of the community, mobilize the community to respond to their needs and who in a fair and democratic fashion identify the beneficiaries of projects; the CCS Coordinators - who liaises between the CWBC and the CCS, and the CCS Animators who facilitate CCS activities.

While maintaining the objectives of the project, ChildFund requested a no cost extension due to some problems and challenges encountered, which resulted in budget realignment and some changes in the original activities and outputs.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

CF programs cover 5 districts (See Appendix 1 – **Map of Aceh showing CF Impact Areas**) Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Aceh Jaya, Aceh Barat and Bireuen. **Banda Aceh**, is an

urban area and the provincial capital, the population mainly engage in trading and small businesses. **Aceh Besar** (the name refers to greater Banda Aceh), is a sub-urban area around the capital. The main sources of income are farming of crops and livestock, petty trading in fish and other goods, and small businesses. Programs are located in Sampoinet and Teunom, which are sub-districts in the north and south ends of **Aceh Jaya** respectively. They are rural areas with populations of mainly subsistence farmers of food crops, livestock, petty trading in fish and small-scale forestry. **Bireuen** town, is the capital of the district of Bireuen, it is a small provincial town located on the east coast of Aceh, it has a population of many subsistence farmers and also a well-developed aqua-culture industry, including fisheries which supply many areas around the island of Sumatra. The district of **Aceh Barat** is located further down the West Coast of Aceh below Aceh Jaya, programs cover three sub-districts Arongan Lambalek, Woyla Barat and Meurebo. Arongan Lambalek and Woyla Barat are rural areas where the main occupations are fishing, subsistence farming of crops and livestock and forestry. Meurebo is the sub-district which is home to the capital of the district Meulaboh, populations here engage in petty trading and small businesses, as well as subsistence farming of crops and livestock, and forestry.

The Indonesian victims of the tsunami and the earthquake of March 2005, as reported in December 2005, stand at 130,736 deaths and 37,000 people still missing¹. Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar suffered the highest death toll and devastation from these disasters, leaving 92,166 people (or 22% of the population) either dead or missing. In Aceh Jaya, 16,874 people (17%) are either dead or missing, in Aceh Barat 13,785 people (7%) and in Bireuen 519 people (0.14%) are either dead or missing². In addition to the effects of these disasters, excepting the urban areas of Banda Aceh, Meulaboh (capital of Aceh Barat district), populations in all CF impact areas were affected by the civil conflict prior to the emergency, in particular Bireuen which was a GAM stronghold. These populations have for many years been harassed, injured and killed by either being involved with, or caught up in, the conflict between the GAM and the TNI.

In Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Aceh Barat and Bireuen there was extensive damage to the majority of schools, for example in Aceh Besar of 360 schools, 100 were damaged by the tsunami, of which 88 were completely destroyed, in Aceh Barat of 262 schools, 98 were damaged of which 46 were completely destroyed³. In Aceh Jaya, access to the area after the tsunami is still so poor that it was not possible to conduct the survey, but anecdotal evidence suggests that there was extensive damage.

¹ Aceh and Nias one Year After the Tsunami, December 2005 Report, A Joint Report of The BRR and International Partners.

² Temporary data of Tsunami and Earthquake victims, 02 May 2005, Humanitarian Information Centre, www.humanitarianinfo.org/sumatra

³ Education Data Pack, 29 July 2005, United Nations Humanitarian Information Centre.

AREAS OF ACTIVITY

Program Goal:

Reduce children's vulnerability and promote the recovery and functioning of children, youth, parents and communities through community-based psychosocial and protection support for vulnerable children in 50 IDP sites and affected villages in five affected districts in Aceh Province.

Strategic Objective 1: To promote normalization, healing and recovery for children and adolescents within their communities

Intermediate Result 1: 50 Child Centered Spaces (CCS) established in the District of Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Bireuen and Aceh Jaya.

Child Centered Spaces

Over 10 months, with funding from OFDA, ChildFund was able to establish 102 Child Centered spaces (CCS) in five districts of Aceh. Trained community animators organized structured activities as an essential part of the process of normalization of the children's experience. With some fluctuations due to movement of populations, CF has managed to maintain regular participation of 16,158 children in CCS activities in our most successful month and many more participating on an *ad hoc* basis, in Children's Festivals for example.



Some CCS engaged in extra creative activities, including the organization of children's festivals. Across Aceh, we have seen a number of different kinds of festivals which communities have been designing for the children. In Bireuen, communities have organized three to four hour festivals with song and dance. In Aceh Jaya, in Sampoinet, communities organised full-day festivals that include games, competitions, dance, songs and prayers. The festival involves the entire community's participation. In Banda Aceh, a few CCSs organized week-long children's festivals where each afternoon, instead of the normal CCS activity,

children have organized sports competitions after school. At the end of the week the children gather and winners are announced.

ChildFund staff, during monitoring of the CCS activities, indicated that communities saw a positive change in their children's behavior as a result of engaging in these activities. The activities provide comfort for the children as well as help with informal education that they were/ are missing in schools.



Intermediate Result 2 5000 children (3 to 6 years) have access to regularly held age-appropriate stimulating activities.

N.B. Results for Intermediate Results 2 & 3 are stated together because many of the trainings and activities are similar for both 3-6 and 7-12 years age groups, with small adaptations being made for age-appropriateness.

Intermediate Result 3 5000 children (7 to 12 years) have access to regularly held age-appropriate stimulating activities

CCS Activities

Each CCS provides recreational activities for 100-150 children in three different age groups, 0-5, 6-12, 13-19 years old. In the emergency phase, four community volunteers (CCS Animators) per age group were selected to engage the children in weekly activities. CCS Animators were trained in curriculum development, including culturally- and age-appropriate activities. Activities included sports, arts and craft projects, informal education, traditional dancing and religious prayer lessons. CCS Kits containing didactic materials such as origami sets, drawing books, crayons, traditional drums and footballs, were standardized to ensure each CCS had access to similar activities, recreational and learning materials. In addition to trainings, CCS Animators were also provided with a learning book on traditional Acehnese games and sports to ensure the Acehnese culture and traditions were tied into the activities.

During the implementation period, ChildFund witnessed high levels of population movements. Families were reuniting or moving in with family members, schools reopened, allowing children to access education again and other people were moving into housing organized by the government. In some situations where children have returned to school, the need for a full-time CCS is no longer present. Consequently, in some areas it is now only used as a centre for after-school programs, where school children receive support with their homework and take part in extra sports activities. In these instances, where the attendance at daytime CCS activities lessened, ChildFund merged two CCS into one, and phased out one. This reduces the number of CCSs but is nevertheless regarded as a success considering that the children were returning to normal daily activities as a part of rebuilding their lives. At the end of the clustering of CCSs the total number of CCSs remaining is 96 (one per community), the number of CCS Animators has already been reduced to 4 per CCS.

Training for CCS Animators

The CCS Animators and CCS Coordinators received a number of different trainings during the course of the program in order to build the local capacity in creative and didactic techniques which they could bring to the CCS activities.

Creative trainings are a ChildFund initiative of developing materials and instructions on creative techniques for activities with children. CF's Child Protection team designed and implemented a creative TOT workshop for all CF field staff (mobilizers). The workshop prepared the mobilizers who then trained the CCS Animators on designing and implementing creative workshops from which they developed activity materials to be used in the CCSs for daily activities.

One week after the TOT on August 15-19, the mobilizers carried out this same training to 148 CCS Animators from the CCS programs, these Animators received TOT level training and so were able to train other community members. The CCS Animators also received the Creative Training Handbook produced by the CF team.

Every Wednesday, the mobilizers organize a workshop for animators around a specific theme. The themes include games, songs, dance handicrafts and the CRC. The outcome of the initial workshop was the development of a Creative Training Handbook which the CF team was able use in training the community members.

CCS Animators and other community members have also received training in ECD, psychosocial training (see **Intermediate Result 7**) and first aid, to assist them in their work with children at the CCSs and in the community.

Intermediate Result 4: 600 primary and secondary school teachers participate in trainings, support groups, and other activities to gain awareness of psychosocial approaches for children.

Teacher Training was conducted by CF staff for community teachers in how to provide psychosocial support to children. The model of the training works on a peer education principle, whereby a selection of teachers receive TOT level training from CF and then they are able to take the training to their colleagues (with a target of 20 colleagues to be trained by one pair of teachers who received the TOT training) and conduct further workshops within

the community. This works well because they can adapt the program to the specific issues which the individual communities are addressing and also this way the program is able to reach more teachers in remote locations. To date 760 teachers have received psychosocial training. Topics included:

- What is psychosocial support?
- Developmental Stages of the Child
- The Role of Community and School in Child Development
- Resilience of the Child
- Communicating with Children
- Communicating with Distressed Children

Nutritional Snack Program

The establishing of canteens at the CCS sites had to be reconsidered due to issues regarding the SPHERE guidelines; because it could increase the risk of spreading communicable diseases, since many people would be fed from one source.

The prevailing malnutrition problem prior to the disaster is being aggravated due to scarcity of food, infectious diseases among IDPs and host communities, inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene.

To determine the nutritional status of children attending the CCS activities, a nutritional assessment was conducted with support from CIDA and Fondation de France through UEPLM (See Appendix 3: **Final Report on the Nutritional Assessment, Aceh Barat and Aceh Jaya**). The aim was to determine how many children were suffering from different forms of under nutrition so that appropriate intervention measures could be provided.

A standard assessment survey questionnaire was developed. A standard measuring scale for height (microtoise) and weight scale (Salter scale) was used. The CF social workers and CCS Coordinators received training in how to collect the data. Children below 6 years attending the CCSs were targeted. The three anthropometric indices used to determine under nutrition among targeted children were: 1) Height for Age (HFA), 2) Weight for Age (WFA) and 3) Weight for Height (WFH). These nutrition indices identify children with current or acute malnutrition, stunting or chronic malnutrition and those who are underweight. Children with Standard Deviation (SD) below -2SD were considered wasted, stunted or underweight (Low anthropometric levels). The cutoff for very low anthropometric levels (severe malnutrition) is below -3SD.

The assessment was conducted in twenty-three CCS and showed a high prevalence of under nutrition (all forms). It was also found that the CCSs with the highest prevalence of under nutrition were found in IDP camps.

Following this assessment, (combining funding from OFDA and CIDA) as an alternative to the canteens, but still aimed at improving the nutritional intake of the children, a snack program was developed by our health team and provided three times a week to children attending the CCSs. The snack included water, peanuts, fruit, biscuits and chocolate

containing cashew nuts. This program ran with enormous success for variously between 6-10 weeks in all 5 districts; benefiting 10,748 children.

Strategic Objective 2: To promote the psychosocial wellbeing of adolescents and youth through peer group mobilization and support

Intermediate Result 5: 5000 youths (13 to 19 years) have access youth club activities that provide peer and mentor support in recovering from the effects of the emergency

Youth Activities

Similar to the case of younger children, CF organizational experience shows that, engaging youth in normalizing activities is essential to recovery after an emergency. In the case of youth, their sense of loss of control and increased pressure to contribute to the household in economic terms and in sharing domestic responsibilities, are two factors which compound the, already devastating, effects of the emergency. For this reason, being able to participate in decision-making relating to issues affecting them, and being the drive and imagination behind activities specifically for youth, has proved to be valuable as part of the recovery process.

Regular youth participation in CCS activities alone, while slow in the beginning, had risen to a high of 4,901 for the month of September across all program areas (See Appendix 2: **CP Matrix Cumulative** attached for figures from January to October 2005). Further, the formation of Youth Committees and many different youth clubs across all districts significantly increased the level of participation of youth in program activities. To date 96 Youth Committees have been elected and 418 youth clubs established, with 6,987 members regularly attending. Also, during the course of the program, an estimated 1,975 youth have participated in children's festivals, child right events, or public children's debates.

Youth Committees

In all communities, mobilization workshops by the CF team were carried out, including training on the role and function of Youth Committees. The **Youth Committees** form the basic structure for youth to come together to discuss their own needs and plan their own youth club activities. This structure has proved to be a valuable way of increasing youth agency and participation in CF and community activities. The structure of the Youth Committee includes a President and a Vice-President (one male and one female) these two youth then make up the youth contingent of the Child Well-Being Committees (one per community, 96 in total) in order to represent the views of children & youth, to ensure youth participation in decision-making, consultation on future development projects and issues relating to the protection of children in the community.

Training for Youth

As part of the process of increasing youth participation, among other trainings, 20 community youth received training in **Youth Empowerment and Leadership**. The workshop included topics such as challenges and risks facing Acehnese youth, the importance of youth participation, how to mobilize youth participation, facilitation and group-work skills, action planning and preparations for the "Global Youth Service Day" (a

public awareness campaign on the contribution of youth to community work). Following this training, youth in different districts were able to mobilize an estimated 400 youth from their communities to participate in forming youth clubs and committees, and holding community events; the number of youth participating has increased overtime as more youth are mobilized to join the youth club activities.



Youth Clubs

Youth received training from CF Youth Mobilizers in several aspects of setting up **Youth Clubs**. This training included the action planning process where they identify a common interest with other youth, come up with a club name, develop a goal/aim and objectives, set up a plan on how they will achieve their goals, design a timeframe and determine the various resources they are in need of. Youth are encouraged to think about how they, the youth, can contribute, where the community can contribute and how ChildFund can assist.

Equipment for setting up Youth Clubs was distributed to all areas according to the requests from youth themselves on what activities they would like to do. In many areas, youth chose to have volleyball, football, sewing and traditional dance clubs, among other activities. Many youth clubs have succeeded in mobilizing mentors/ instructors (adults from community) to provide instruction to the youth in their chosen activities. The instructors are mainly volunteers from schools and also other members of the community who have skills in these areas. Many youth clubs are functioning regularly, especially sports and traditional dance clubs, which meet on a weekly basis.

Jambo project

Youth from target areas have also had very active participation in the **jambo construction** projects. Following agreed changes, CF was able to reallocate funds for purchasing tents to the construction of traditional semi-permanent wooden structures (jambos) to house the CCS activities. This was very beneficial to the continuation of the CCS activities because during the rainy season many tents were destroyed by heavy rainfall. The jambos provide a sheltered and safe place for CCS activities within the heart of the community. Across Aceh 45 jambos have been constructed, 1 in Banda Aceh, 13 in Aceh Besar, 18 in Bireuen, 5 in Aceh Barat and 8 in Aceh Jaya.



Through involvement in the design and construction of the jambos the project drew in some of the most isolated and vulnerable youth, taught them new skills (from professional carpenters), provided a means for earning some extra income, and created ownership of a 'centre' that is now dedicated for use by both children and youth for their activities.

In Bireuen and Aceh Jaya, much of the construction took place in the holy month of Ramadan and many youth took part even though they were fasting. Many communities were keen to get started on jambo construction and worked long days during Ramadan and the Lebaran holiday, which marks the end of the fast, which is usually a time of rest and celebration for everyone. In one rural community, Kulam Kaju – Aceh Barat, the new jambo will form a much needed community school, as well as housing the CCS and other community activities.



Strategic Objective 3: To improve protection of vulnerable children through establishing community-based and inter-agency child protection and referral networks that address urgent protection issues and support vulnerable children

Intermediate Result 6: 50 CWBCs trained on child protection principles and means of supporting children affected by the tsunami.

As part of the psychosocial training, CWBC members received training on Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) and how to identify separated children and unaccompanied minors (UAMs) within their community and the process of tracing. The CWBCs identified all separated children & UAMs in the community and they were then referred to the CF social workers for registration, follow-up and support.

More than 1,438 community members, including CWBCs, were trained on child protection and psychosocial support. Training took place in 5 districts and was attended by CWBC members, CCS Animators and also community volunteers (details of training are given below – see **Psychosocial Support Training**).

CF, in collaboration with Save the Children, held 3 Inter-Agency Trainings on Community Mobilization for NGO staff in 3 central locations in Aceh's tsunami-affected areas. The CF teams who took part, then in turn took this training to the community by organizing a Community Mobilization training for CWBC members in all target areas. The training provided useful skills to motivate community members to continue to come together to address the needs of children and to facilitate the transition from emergency to development programming, where the communities gradually move towards a more independent relationship with CF and other donors.

Intermediate Result 7: 2500 parents and religious/ community leaders trained in positive parenting, child rights and psychosocial support for children.

1,438 parents and religious/community leaders have been trained in child rights, psychosocial issues/support, early childhood development (ECD) and issues concerning vulnerable children, specifically separated and unaccompanied children.

ECD Training

ChildFund was able to take advantage of its in-country technical expertise by inviting 10 community ECD trainers working with Christian Children's Fund (CCF) in other provinces in Indonesia to come to participate as facilitators in a series of three 2-day workshops on ECD. Training with all 10 ECD facilitators was held in the months of February and May after the Tsunami. CCS Animators (most of whom are also parents themselves) were invited to participate in the workshop, which included both a theory-based approach and on-site technical learning methodologies. The ECD trainers accompanied CCS Animators to CCS sites after the two-day workshop and provided one-on-one support to community volunteers while observing the interaction between them and the children

The purpose of the ECD training was to provide a better understanding of child development to CWBC members and CCS Animators who were working with the children on a daily basis at the CCSs. In addition, the national curriculum in Indonesia recently

changed to include ECD. Prior to the tsunami, the new curriculum had not reached Aceh Province. This training allowed the ECD trainers to introduce the new curriculum to the animators and CWBCs members, and work together with the participants in developing their skills and creativity in working with young children.

All CCSs participated in the ECD trainings. Participants in each district that joined the training were greatly interested and enthusiastic about it. The training covered the following activities:

- Stages of child development:
 - Physical
 - Cognitive
 - Social
 - Emotional
 - Mental
 - Religious
- Limitations of a child
- Active Learning Approach
- What is play and the importance of play
- How to measure success
- How to make learning creative

The training also incorporated activities such as how to keep a daily journal of the child's individual development. Observation techniques were also taught and participants engaged in a number of age appropriate games, each containing activities which build on the skills of the child.

In Bireuen, Early Childhood and Development activities including practicing the alphabet and numbers, playing games, recognizing shape and colour, story time and daily prayer reading are held several times each week at the CCSs. Following the training, and with materials from CF, mothers and caregivers focus groups have been organized and run routinely at 9 CCS in the district of Bireuen. While the children engage in the ECD activities, the mothers and caregivers meet to discuss good parenting and how to communicate and provide positive stimulation to their children.

Parents and teachers have reported that children who go to ECD activities are more able to socialize with friends, more independent and find it easier to follow lessons when they start elementary school.



Psychosocial Support Training

ChildFund's community-based activities include a Child Well-Being Committee and a CCS. To link the two together more effectively, CCS Coordinators were selected from the community who could undergo additional intensive training on psychosocial support as well as other future trainings, for example, health and/or hygiene.

Many of the CCS Coordinators and CCS Animators are parents themselves and some of them are community leaders. Ninety percent of all CCS Coordinators have a university degree, in addition to a significant desire to work with children and children's issues. The CCS Coordinators and CCS Animators participated in a three-day in-depth training on psychosocial support and basic counseling techniques. This training was designed to raise awareness about the different ways that trauma can affect the children's behaviour and how to build up on their existing positive coping mechanisms of the children. This was particularly useful to this group of "para-teachers" who were facilitating the CCS activities, because they would see the children regularly and with increased awareness they were able to monitor and address any children showing signs of not coping. Themes of the workshop included:

- Exploring the current situation of children
- Understanding the protection issues of children
- Identifying signs of stress in children's lives
- Recognizing positive coping mechanisms and resilient factors in children's development
- Identifying and responding to distress in children
- Developing specific communication techniques with children
- Developing specific communication techniques with distressed children
- Using story-telling in communicating with children
- Developing skills on anger management and identifying positive approaches to expressing anger
- Applying the basic principles of psychosocial support

CRC booklets

In order to increase the reach of the key messages of the trainings, ChildFund has also distributed 10,000 child-friendly copies of the CRC to all impact areas, along with a workshop on the CRC. These booklets were specifically designed with children in mind but are also a good way to reach adult members of the community in order to raise awareness about the convention. The booklets have been distributed to 9,000 children and 1,000 adults in all CF target areas, specifically targeting caregivers, teachers, religious leaders and children and youth.

Intermediate Result 8 % of identified separated and vulnerable children who receive assistance and consistent support and monitoring

Family Tracing and Reunification

To date 342 separated children and unaccompanied minors (UAM) have been registered across all districts where CF are operating. This number represents 100% of all children identified by CF teams and community members as separated children and UAMs in CF target areas. ChildFund continues to be an active member of the Interagency Family Tracing and Reunification Working Group.

The social workers received training in registration, follow-up and monitoring of separated children and UAMs. The registration forms were developed in collaboration with Save the Children (who were managing the Family Tracing and Reunification database for Aceh until it was handed over to DINSOS) and DINSOS.

ChildFund social workers visit the children on a fortnightly basis and conduct a general follow-up using standardized “SOAP” notes (standing for: subjective progress, objective progress, assessment, and plans) that are typically used in social work in the United States. Once a month they conduct a more in-depth follow-up with the child using the follow-up form developed by the interagency Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) working group.

Social workers went through the process of identifying which children know for certain that both of their parents have died and are no longer seeking any other relative to live with. If a child is in a situation where they need no further tracing there is no need for them to be on the mass tracing list any longer. In the beginning, many children were uncertain if their parents were dead or alive, but as time went on bodies were uncovered or children heard about the whereabouts of their parents. These children have already spontaneously been reunited with relatives in most cases. Of the children who were registered, 17 cases of reunification have occurred and the social workers have been able to issue these children with an official reunification certificate and remove the child’s name from the mass tracing list. These children, however, continue to be followed-up for a further 2-3 months, to ensure that their care arrangement is secure and protected.

On the West Coast (Aceh Barat and Tenoum – Aceh Jaya) all registered children received a traditional gift to mark the end of Ramadan – a new set of prayer clothes. In Muslim tradition, in Aceh, at the end of each Ramadan children are given the gift of a new set of clothes by their families, including a prayer hat (for boys) or headdress (for girls). These clothes are worn to the Lebaran religious celebrations which mark the end of the fasting month. Many families were unable to afford these gifts this year due to the effects of the

Tsunami on livelihoods and the economic burden of supporting additional family members, so ChildFund gave this support to the most vulnerable of the children that we work with.

ChildFund has also identified 54 child-headed households and 598 single-parent households. Children from these vulnerable groups have been able to benefit from CF projects through, for example, the jambo project, where youth were able to participate (out of school hours) in the planning and construction of the jambos and received skills training from professional carpenters who were working on the project; also, stipends were received by youth for their participation in the project. These vulnerable groups were also included in the 'foster family support and support to vulnerable children' project (see below).

All these vulnerable populations are given special attention in terms of planning who will be the beneficiaries of new projects. One of the functions of the CWBC is to come together to decide who are the people in the community who are most vulnerable and therefore most in need of any assistance that new programming would offer. The fact that this decision is made within the community mitigates against problems of jealousy because it is recognized and understood that certain families and specific children are more vulnerable to everyday risks to the child well-being and they need to be prioritized in receiving assistance.

Foster Family Support and Support to Vulnerable Children

In addition to regular monitoring of the registered children to check on general well-being and family situation, problem solving and making referrals, the social workers were also responsible for dispensing small bursaries to assist the families who fostered children who became separated as a result of the Tsunami and otherwise vulnerable children, such as children from child-headed households and single-headed households. This included conducting a needs assessment, distribution and follow-up of each beneficiary family. These bursaries were used in a number of different ways following assessment and interviews with the families and the children regarding their needs. All bursaries are aimed at assisting foster families in the care of the children, for example, paying school fees, school dinners, transportation for disabled and other children to school and provision of school materials. Some families requested new clothes for the children, some received assistance in their normal income generating activities to help to sustainably cover the cost of an additional family member, e.g. additional livestock, additional stock for trading.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation was conducted on an ongoing basis by all Child Protection mobilizers and social workers. Depending on the type of data, it may be collected from, for example, registers which are used at the CCSs to track the attendance of the children, self-reports from community members on challenges, successes and suggestions on CCS, CWBC or other CF activities, feedback forms filled out by participants in trainings, camp or community profiles and activity schedules. Social workers used the American SOAP notes format to record case notes on separated children, UAMs and vulnerable children.

The information collected, including data on number of children attending CCS activities by age group, number of separated children, number of UAMs, number of IDP children, and

so on was collected on a weekly basis during the emergency when there was large movement of populations and then later on, on a monthly basis. This information was then collated at the satellite offices and reported to the CP Manager in Banda Aceh.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS (See table below).

Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
Objective 1: To promote normalization, healing and recovery for children and adolescents within their communities				
50 Child Centered Spaces (CCS) established in the District of Banda Aceh, Aceh Besar, Bireuen, Aceh Barat and Aceh Jaya	5 CCS in Banda Aceh 17 CCS in Aceh Besar 30 CCS in Bireuen 23 CCS in Aceh Jaya 21 CCS in Aceh Barat Total CCS established: 96	The rainy season has created significant difficulties in access to some communities, many of the routes which were being used after the main roads were destroyed are regularly flooded by the heavy rains and become impassable. Transportation of materials to communities was impeded also as heavy vehicles are unable to use the roads.	<p>Mobile Libraries 15 libraries, containing books for different age groups, have been established in order to provide additional learning materials, which are accessible through the CCSs. Many schools lost all library resource materials. The mobile libraries offer an opportunity for children to resume reading and learning.</p> <p>Children's Playgrounds 45 Children's playgrounds have been established in 5 districts.</p>	<p><i>“Before we had CCS, we didn’t have any activities and didn’t know where to play or just stayed at home but after we had the CCS we didn’t spread around anymore, we study in the CCS and play with our friends”. - Child beneficiary, 11 yrs.</i></p> <p><i>“Every afternoon the children went to the CCS so they weren’t spread around and we didn’t worry anymore because we knew the children were in the CCS and it was not so difficult to take care of them anymore.” - Caregiver.</i></p> <p><i>“Through playing and studying in the CCS the children learn to forget the bad memories of the tsunami”. – Caregiver.</i></p>

Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
5,000 children aged between 3-6 years participating in CCS activities	4,134 children between 3-6 years participated in CCS activities in the most successful month	Over estimation; the west coast suffered more casualties than originally estimated. Fewer children participate in CCS activities in areas with high mortality rates. As children return to schools the number of children participating from this age group is decreasing. Activities of the CCSs in some communities are frequently interrupted during the rainy season because they are still housed in tents which are damaged by heavy rainfall and have big holes in them.	Children's Festivals Estimated 1,975 children between 3-6 years participating in Children's Day celebrations during July & August	<p><i>"I like going to the CCS because I have a lot of friends there, and we learn to draw and sing and because of the snack." – Child Beneficiary, 5 yrs.</i></p> <p><i>"Going to the CCS makes me happier, I look forward to going". Child Beneficiary, 5 yrs.</i></p>
5,000 children aged between 7-12 years participating in CCS activities	7,123 children between 7-12 years participated in CCS activities in the most successful month	Activities of the CCSs in some communities are frequently interrupted during the rainy season because they are still housed in tents which are damaged by heavy rainfall and have big holes in them.	Children's Festivals Estimated 3,550 children between 7-12 years have participated in children's festivals	<p><i>"We like to go to the CCS because we meet with our friends, play sport, it is different from the school and the teacher is also nice." – Child Beneficiary, 10yrs.</i></p> <p><i>"Before we had the CCS we were always sad when we remember about tsunami". Child Beneficiary, 8 yrs.</i></p>

Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
600 primary and secondary school teachers participate in trainings, support groups, and other activities to gain awareness of psychosocial approaches for children	76 teachers have been trained to date.	<p>Trained teachers will work in pairs to train 20 of their colleagues, this was delayed due to logistical challenges, projected number of teachers trained will then reach 760.</p> <p>CCS Animators also received training since the Animators function in a role similar to teachers at the CCSs.</p>	<p>Training Manual A training manual for teachers on psychosocial support to children was developed & distributed.</p>	<p><i>“The training helps me a lot to deal with the children and I understand more about children’s rights now, I know a lot about children from the training...”.</i> Teacher.</p>
Canteens established in 50 CCS sites	<p>With support from CIDA and OFDA, 10,748 children benefited from receiving nutritional supplements through the snack program.</p> <p>Instead of establishing Canteens, we decided to develop a snack distribution program for children attending the CCS.</p> <p>The number of children receiving nutritional snacks in total was: 3,500 in Meulaboh, 3,232 in Banda Aceh/Aceh Besar, 3,394 in Bireuen and 622 in Sampoinet.</p>	<p>Full canteens for the CCS were not developed as they do not follow Sphere Standards.</p> <p>It was a challenge to avoid “food” as a pull factor for children attending CCS.</p> <p>There were technical difficulties in establishing the canteens, for example, how to make ensure that the food handlers are preparing food properly and hygienically.</p>	<p>Nutritional Supplements for Malnourished Children With support from UNICEF, nutritional feeding of moderate to severely malnourished children started in September with severely malnourished children being given “Plumpy Nut” as a nutritional supplement. 34 children have benefited from this project and 16 continue to receive Plumpy Nut until improvement in their weight is seen.</p> <p>Hygiene Kits A total of 6,402 Hygiene Kits from UNICEF have been delivered by CF to children attending CCSs.</p>	<p><i>“We got a cake and a drink after studying and the snacks made us happy and we didn’t need to ask our parents for money then.”</i> Child Beneficiary, 8 yrs.</p>

			Cookbook In Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar, with support from CIDA, CF developed a cookbook and trained mothers in how optimize the use of locally available foods to prepare meals with high nutritional content.	
Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
<i>Objective 2: To promote the psychosocial wellbeing of adolescents and youth through peer group mobilization and support</i>				
5,000 youth aged between 13-19 years participating in CCS activities and organized youth clubs	4,901 youth aged between 13-19 years participated in CCS activities in the most successful month. 96 formalized Youth Committees have been established. 418 Youth Clubs have been established. 6,987 youth regularly participate in Youth Club activities. Training was held on structuring and function of Youth Clubs and committees in all target areas. 150 youth club mentors/ instructors (adults from community) have been found to assist with youth club activities.	Activities of the CCSs in some communities are frequently interrupted during the rainy season because they are still housed in tents which are damaged by heavy rainfall and have big holes in them.	Children's Festivals Estimated 1,975 youth have participated in children's festivals, child right events, or public children's debates. Jambo Project Jambos were constructed, with significant Youth Participation, for 45 CCSs which lacked a suitable place to be held, to shelter from rain and stop activities from being interrupted.	

Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
Objective 3: To improve protection of vulnerable children through establishing community-based and inter-agency protection and referral networks that address urgent protection issues and support vulnerable children				
50 CWBCs trained on Child Protection and Psychosocial support	96 CWBCs trained on Child Protection and psychosocial support.	In some areas movement of IDPs remains a continuous challenge. As IDPs relocate, CWBC members shift. Nominations and selection of members starts over and training begins again.		<i>"I didn't know that children have rights like in the CRC after I got the training and I knew more about it and I learnt to understand about their rights and I am more sensitive to children's issues now." – Caregiver.</i>
2500 parents and religious/community leaders trained in positive parenting/child rights/psychosocial support	1,415 parents and religious/community leaders trained in child rights & psychosocial support. 1,438 parents took part in ECD training. During the no-cost extension time frame (July19-Oct. 19th) a total of 96 CCS and CWBCs benefited from the community trainings. 1,000 parents and religious/community leaders have received CRC booklets and a workshop on introduction to the CRC.	In the beginning of the emergency, coordination of agencies was a challenge. Ultimately, UNICEF asked CF to operate in different districts to those originally specified in the proposal. As a result, CF switched from Pidie and Aceh Utara (North) to Aceh Jaya where logistical challenges are greater than other districts and also the death toll in that area was the second highest in the country. These factors contributed in making it difficult to reach the original target.	CRC booklet 10,000 child-friendly copies of the CRC were distributed to communities. 1,000 to adults and 9,000 to children	

Intermediate Result	Actual Output	Challenges/ Amendments	Additional Activities	Qualitative Data
<p>% of identified separated and vulnerable children receiving support and monitoring</p>	<p>342 separated and unaccompanied children have been registered.</p> <p>17 children have been successfully reunified with surviving family members.</p> <p>54 child-headed households have been identified and receive support from CF trained social workers.</p> <p>598 single-headed households have been identified and receive support from CF trained social workers.</p>	<p>Lack of qualified social workers. Due to the fact that this is a new concept in Aceh, training is from scratch. Time is required for social workers to fully gain the needed skills and techniques. Further workshops are needed in social work. Turnover of staff; called back to civil service; rehiring and training.</p>	<p>Foster Family Support 13 families and 51 children benefited from bursaries to assist foster and vulnerable families in the care of children.</p> <p>243 separated children and UAMs received a new set of religious clothes.</p>	

SUCCESS STORIES

- On the commemoration of the National Children's Day, held on 8 August 2005 in the Governor's office in Banda Aceh, ChildFund was among a number of NGOs that received an **award from the Ministry of Social Affairs**. This award was presented to ChildFund as an appreciation for its contribution, dedication and assistance in post-tsunami child protection efforts in Indonesia.
- Nine children from Aceh Jaya and Aceh Barat districts were selected to participate in a "**children's congress**" where the "rights of the children" based on the National Convention on Children's Rights were discussed. As a result, a letter to their local government highlighting their opinions was finalized. In addition, children from all CCSs participated in an art competition wherein pictures were displayed in an exhibition as a "wall of child rights".



- **Participation in Child & Youth Participation Fair and Forum** organized by UNICEF in Phuket, Thailand. The aim of the event was to share the experiences of child and youth participation in the response to the tsunami and to other emergencies, to raise awareness and understanding of child and youth participation in emergencies, and to influence aid and relief agencies to involve children and young people in their work. The forum also provided the opportunity for children to present and share materials and to strengthen networks and links between key agencies supporting child and youth participation. The activities were conducted on November 11-16, 2005. 23 children and 78 adults participated in this event. There were several workshops running in parallel to the forum on child and youth participation in emergency relief and recovery, rehabilitation and protection, reconstruction (planning, design and implementation), capacity development for children and youth participation, youth centers and campaigning and advocacy among other topics. Through advocacy efforts from ChildFund's staff on behalf of our beneficiaries, 6 children (2 boys and 4 girls) (with sponsorship from UNICEF) and 2 children (1 boy and 1 girl) (with sponsorship from Save the Children) aged 15

to 18, were able to participate in the Forum and CF's Child Protection Coordinator for Banda Aceh acted as chaperone to these children so that they could attend.

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

Community-based approach

ChildFund's community-based approach relies on a substantial amount of capacity building for parent and youth, which serve to ensure program ownership on the part of the community and the sustainability of programming. CF organizational experience shows that, long-term, this approach has proved successful and sustainable but it takes time; considerable training and close work with the community members is required in order to establish the foundations of a secure and sustainable working relationship, including building a contract of trust between CF and the community. After a series of community mobilization activities and trainings, communities responded positively to the programs and themselves mobilized other community members and supported activities through their own initiatives and participation in various trainings and meetings. An example of the community ownership of projects was when the communities came together to resolve the problems of tents which were used for CCS activities being damaged by weathering and requiring frequent replacement. The communities led the initiative of constructing traditional Acehese jambos to replace the tents. The CWBCs and Animators held workshops with the children to design the jambos themselves, which then formed a blue-print for the construction itself. In this way, the community is very much involved in the projects which take place in their villages and this promotes sustainability, community contribution and good relations with CF. However, the planning and realization process is more lengthy, which is challenging in the context of a large-scale emergency.

Declining weather and road Conditions

The main trade route which used to run by the beach along the entire West Coast of Sumatra up to Banda Aceh was almost completely destroyed by the Tsunami and in some places remains underwater due to the receding of the coastline. In some areas the Indonesian Army responded swiftly by cutting through rainforest to open up passage to Tsunami-affected populations which had become completely isolated. Along most of the West Coast the beach road remains in a state of disrepair, forcing traffic onto the beach in order to access coastal towns. The monsoon rains and winds seriously impeded programming in these areas because make-shift roads and bridges frequently collapsing or become impassable due to flooding. On the West Coast (Aceh Barat and Aceh Jaya) especially, roads remain flooded for most of the season due to rains that fall for two to three days continuously.

The weather conditions frequently interrupt the CCS activities because they destroy tents and seasonal flooding is common to some villages, also affecting where the children play. The above factors led to the need for more permanent structures to house the CCSs. Fortunately, the jambo project solved this problem in many of our target communities.

Collaboration with other Partners

As NGO partners in emergency response and development, one way through which we can efficiently serve the beneficiaries is through a coordinated and collaborative approach. ChildFund values collaboration with other partners, especially in the areas of training with

other implementing partners, which can have positive effects such as avoidance of duplication, efficient use of scarce resources and enhance shared learning. Because we serve different beneficiary groups in different locations, collaboration proved very difficult at the onset since other partners have their own time lines. Collaboration was pursued and achieved through patience, skill and experience.

Movement of Displaced Populations

Movement of IDPs remained a continuous challenge throughout the implementation of the project. As IDPs relocate, children and parents shifted to new locations or returned to the sites of their original homes. Thus also CWBC members, CCS Coordinators and CCS Animators along with their children and families went back to their homes, some children were able to return to school, some families were reunited and some people were simply following directives from the government to move into temporary shelter. This disrupted the program implementation and further reduced the number of children participating in CCS activities in many areas. Of course, this was a very positive outcome for our program considering that one of the aims of the intervention was to enable people affected by the Tsunami return to normalcy. Where possible, ChildFund attempted to locate those that had begun participation in the program, however, at times, we were unable to reach or find them and so nominations, selection of CWBC members and CCS volunteers had to start over, and training had to begin again.

Concept of Social Work and staffing

Another big challenge was the non-existence of the concept of social work in the province, which presented a total lack of qualified social workers. Because this is a new concept in Aceh, training needed to begin from scratch. Time was therefore required for social workers to gain a good grounding in the skills and techniques needed. Several trainings and workshops are needed in social work if people with the required skills are to be engaged. The challenge here was balancing this multiple training and retraining with program implementation.

The turnover of staff; due to them being called back to civil service and the subsequent rehiring and training of new staff was also a major challenge.

LESSONS LEARNED

Effective and Continuous Training

Over the course of the project, with increased training of the CF Child Protection Team, the CF staff started to understand in more depth the existence and role of gender disparity in community life. As a result, their engagement with community members became stronger on these issues and the communities' own highlighting of certain gender issues increased towards the end of the project.

Female participation in all activities was a very sensitive issue during the first few months of the project. Women members of CWBC found it difficult to speak out in meetings when their male counterparts were present. In a number of situations, the majority of female participants felt segregated from complete participation. Future programs involving the participation of both genders in predominately male dominated community should include prior discussions on how to engage both sexes equally, an understanding of non-

discrimination and provision of further trainings and workshops in gender disparity. While many more women died in the Tsunami than men, those who survived have seen their role in society changing as a result, many more of them are forced to work and perform roles traditionally carried out by men, such as being head of the household.

To raise awareness within the CWBC and community on protection issues, more in-depth trainings or workshops covering specific protection topics should be held. Communities received training and awareness-raising sessions at the start of the program; however, trainings held every two months or every month would strengthen the CWBCs understanding and commitment towards the protection of children.

Full Community Participation

The members of the CWBC underwent two-day training sessions on basic principles of child rights, child protection and psychosocial support. Following this training, the CWBC met once each week to discuss child protection issues. Despite the fact that the CWBC discussed issues/challenges and represented the community, there was no mechanism to deliver these concerns or proposed initiatives to the wider community. Thus, in some respects, the full involvement of the community became limited. To strengthen full community participation, a wider community meeting should take place at least once a month to enable information sharing.

Sustainability vs. Dependency

Throughout the program, the demand for stipends from the community volunteers (Animators), the CWBC members, and the CCS Coordinators was an issue. ChildFund began its program by mobilizing the community to volunteer their time with the children; however, pressure from other NGOs who were paying volunteers for performing similar activities obliged ChildFund to do the same. Payment of community volunteers, during the emergency phase was a good idea especially considering the fact that people lost all they had. But this is not a sustainable approach in terms of engaging and mobilizing the community around the protection of their children on a long-term basis. Anticipating that this will be a potential problem CF has taken steps to gradually phase out the stipend and put in place a system for a greater involvement of the CWBCs and increased training of community members. Part of this process was identifying more community volunteers each of whom can give just a couple of hours of their time each week, such that they can still maintain a full time job. In the future, ChildFund will need to seek alternative approaches in order to strengthen community participation, empower the community to address protection concerns on their own and decrease the likelihood of further dependency.

Capacity of Social Workers and meeting targets

With the lack of qualified social workers in Aceh Province because the field of social work is a new sector in Aceh, ChildFund found it difficult to track some of the more vulnerable children over a longer period. Generally, social workers would be linked to the CWBCs and CCSs and be able to monitor attendance or non-attendance by all the children within the communities, while also conducting individual follow-up sessions to ensure the safety and protection of the most vulnerable children. ChildFund Social Workers are now beginning to move into this role, however, the approach was slower due to the need to train and build up the capacity and skills of the ChildFund Social Workers. CWBC members and CCS

Animators were engaged in identifying vulnerable children; however, they were not encouraged to track the progress of these children within the CCS activities. In future programs, especially where the level of social work skills is minimal, a greater participation of the CCS Animators and CWBC members should be encouraged, accompanied by more in-depth training for community members and linked to referral systems.

Request for No-Cost Extension

The nature and scale of the Tsunami emergency, the adverse weather conditions, challenges of coordination and staffing and rapidly changing situations on the ground all contributed to making the Tsunami response a very complex emergency. For these reasons, implementation had to be constantly monitored and evaluated. A similar dynamism was also necessary to adjust plans and activities in response to the changing situation, while still maintaining the same objectives, achieving the best results and having the desired impact. Given all these factors, ChildFund found it necessary to adjust its plans, activities and strategies in order to be able to reach the desired goal and consequently more time was required. ChildFund thus requested a no cost extension, and approval was given.

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROGRAM

ChildFund is working towards **increasing the capacity and roles and responsibilities of the community-based CWBCs** (a non-paid position) in the area of child protection, child rights and development. In addition to this, over the next three months, as part of the transition process, ChildFund is focusing its attention on strengthening the organizational capacity of the CWBC in action planning, initiative development and monitoring & evaluating, in order to create a solid foundation for future programs/ initiatives that engage and empower communities.

ChildFund conducted an extensive **Child Protection Assessment** across all of Aceh in the month of July in order to guide our future programs. Currently, CCSs are already in a transition phase out of the emergency response effort of normalizing children's lives to more after-school/ extra-curricular activities. ChildFund anticipates increasing its youth programming to create more formalized youth clubs as one-step in the transition. Youth are empowered to develop, organize, and plan their own club activities. Looking to the future CF will look at meeting the need for vocational training for youth and life skills training in addition to cultural and recreational activities.

In addition, ChildFund intends to **transition the role of CF staff** as Community and Youth Mobilizers into a more general role of Community Development Officers as the mobilization moves more into the hands of the trained and active community members. Community Development Officers would support communities to broaden existing protection programs, such as establishing day care centers at the CCSs, assisting families and caregivers trying to return to their livelihoods or attempting to rebuild their homes, providing a protective environment for the children and general development of the communities.

CROSSCUTTING ISSUES

The establishment of CCS sites was contingent upon a number of environmental factors. Chief amongst these are **international minimum standards**/ good practice guidelines on child protection programming, which require every intervention to be looked at from the point of view of its impact on the child. This factors in the policy of “do no harm” which actively brings on board many environmental concerns. For example, the issue of safety in the child’s environment is paramount in the design and implementation of any Child Protection program, since it invariably involves daily interaction of the children with their natural environment.

ChildFund also strongly advocates that the **family and community is almost always the safest and most nurturing environment for the child**, as opposed to any kind of institutional care. Naturally, this is contingent upon the environment being conducive to healthy living and it being maintained in such a way that it can support people living on it and be passed on to the next generation in a habitable state.

The **destruction of the environment** resulting from the tsunami was massive and it will take some time for it to be rehabilitated. ChildFund, during the implementation of this project supported communities in their efforts to rehabilitate the environment with additional resources from other donors. Members of the youth clubs were encouraged to participate in site cleaning and clearing, children participated in replanting projects using coconut and oil palm seedlings. Some CCS sites were established in early February, for example, but due to IDP movement to new locations, either barracks or returning to their original villages, depending on the people who moved, often resulted in a new and different make-up of CWBC members and the retraining and re-establishment of a new CCS.

Where communities moved into barrack locations, for example, they often joined with other communities that ChildFund had not previously been working with. The establishment of **CCSs provided a safe haven for children** giving their parents time to participate in clearing and cleaning activities aimed at rehabilitating the environment.

Key to CF’s success and respect with the communities was the **coordination with other organizations in the area**. ChildFund coordinated its efforts to ensure no overlap took place. At times, this coordination resulted in ChildFund having only a CWBC but no centre. In other situations, ChildFund worked only with youth and the coordinating organization planned activities with the younger children.

Gender equity within the communities and even among the children was a very sensitive and challenging issue. Encouraging females to speak and have an equal voice in the presence of their male counterparts on the committees, discussing protection issues surrounding girls, for example gender-based violence or under-age sex workers proved difficult as community members, while recognizing these as protection concerns, wanted to focus on the protection issues of boys instead, reflecting a natural tendency in this culture. However, an important lesson learned was that with continuous training and sensitization this could change.

OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF THE PROJECT

Over the reporting period, CF was successful in being able to overcome a number of challenges from the complexity and scale of the disaster, to different logistical and practical obstacles presented by the physical environment, difficulties with coordination with other organizations, movement of IDPs and turn-over of staff returning to civil service. CF, with support from OFDA, was able to establish and run 96 CCSs with a variety of recreational, creative, educational and sports activities for children of all ages, engage the community members from elders in the community to parents, skilled professionals and youth in many different trainings, community projects and activities to support them in mitigating against the devastating effects of the worst natural disaster in living memory. CF was able, in most cases to meet, and frequently exceed, the expected results of the program and has created strong and long-lasting relationships with adults and children in the communities within which we work.

With support from CF over the past months, communities have risen to the challenge of responding to the needs of their own children. CF will now be able to continue to build upon the strong relationships which it has forged with the communities so that work for the protection of children in Aceh may continue.

FINANCIALS (see attached)

APPENDIX 1: Map of Aceh showing CF Impact Areas



APPENDIX 2: CP Matrix Cumulative (see separate attachment)

APPENDIX 3: Final Report on the Nutritional Assessment, Aceh Barat and Aceh Jaya

CHILDFUND INDONESIA

BANDA ACEH

Final report on the Nutritional Assessment, Aceh Barat and Aceh Jaya

Introduction:

The tsunami last December 26, 2005 that struck Aceh Province resulted in hundred of thousands displaced persons, hundred of thousands lives lost, destroyed or damage in infrastructures, supply of food disrupted, livelihoods lost and essential social services including health was disrupted as well. Thousands have been displaced from their homes and currently thousands are still living in IDP camps.

As a response to this emergency, Childfund established child centered spaces (CCS) in IDP camps and host communities to provide a safe space where children can be protected and assisted in a situation in which adults are encouraged and empowered to meet their basic needs. Health need is one of these. The prevailing malnutrition problem prior to the disaster is being aggravated due to scarcity of food, infectious diseases among IDPs and host communities, inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene. It is a well known fact also that malnutrition is associated to increase morbidity and mortality.

To determine the nutritional status of children attending the CCS activities, a nutritional assessment survey was conducted. This aims to determine how many children are now suffering from different forms of undernutrition so that appropriate intervention measures can be provided.

Methodologies:

A standard assessment survey questionnaire was developed. A standard measuring scale for height (microtoise) and weight scale (Salter scale) was used. CCS coordinators and health educators were trained on the proper conduct of obtaining height and weight measurement. Both were calibrated to zero and measurements were recorded to nearest 0.1 cm for height and 0.1 kg for weight. Children below 6 years attending the CCS were targeted. Three anthropometric indices used to determine undernutrition among targeted children were: 1) Height for Age (HFA), 2) Weight for Age (WFA) and 3) Weight for Height (WFH). The new classification for malnutrition using the Standard Deviation (SD) or Z-Score was used. The three categories of these SD or Z scores were:

1. **Height for Age Z score (HAZ)** – measures *stunting* (Gaining insufficient height relative to age. Implies long term or chronic malnutrition and poor health)

2. **Weight for Age Z score (WAZ)** – measures *underweight* (Gaining insufficient weight relative to age, or losing weight. Implies stunting and/or wasting).
3. **Weight for Height Z score (WHZ)** – measures *wasting* or *acute malnutrition* (Gaining insufficient weight relative to height or losing weight. Implies recent or continuing current severe weight loss).

Data were encoded and analyzed using EpiInfo software. Z-score for weight-for-height were computed using the international/WHO standards. The nutrition indices identify children with current or acute malnutrition, stunting or chronic malnutrition and underweight. Children with Standard Deviation (SD) below -2SD is considered wasted, stunted or underweight.(low anthropometric levels). The cutoff for very low anthropometric levels (severe malnutrition) is below -3SD.

Results:

A total of 73 persons were trained for the nutritional assessment. The training conducted was conducted in three batches from July 1 – 7, 2005. Twenty-three CCS have been covered in the assessment from July 1-20. A total of 412 children have been assessed (see Table 1). Age of children ranged from 9 months to 71 months (mean 45). Fifty-one percent were males (See Figure 1). Table 2 shows that stunting has the highest prevalence (42%) among the three indices. The sub-district with the highest proportion of acute malnutrition (wasting) was Arongan and Teunom (see Table 3). Of the 412 children, only 45% (187/412) were given Vitamin A and 28% (115/412) were given measles immunization last February and March during the mass campaign. The most common illness noted during the assessment was cough and fever (see Fig. 2).

Table 1. Children assessed by Sub-district (N=412)
Sub-district of Aceh Barat & Aceh Jaya, July 2005

Name of CCS	No. of Children	Percent
Teunom	194	47
Woyla Barat	142	35
Meureubo	46	11
Arongan	30	7
Total	412	100

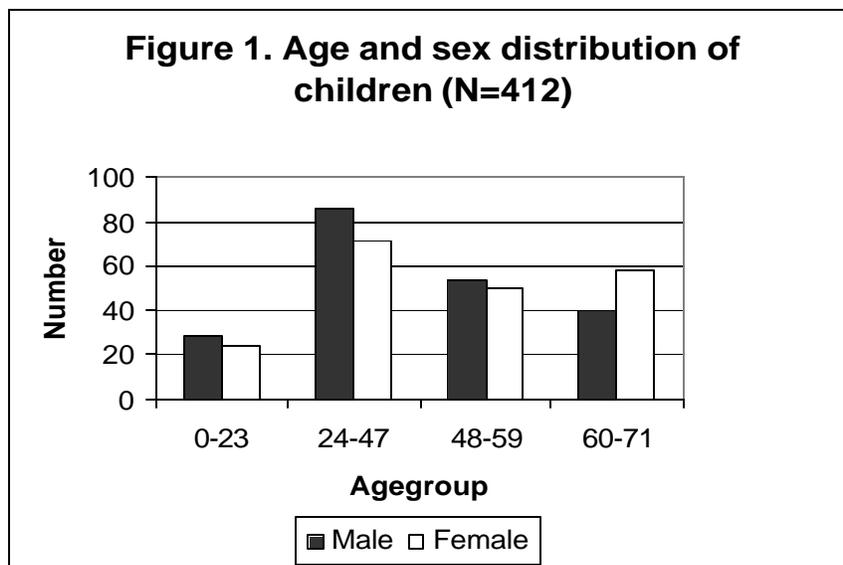
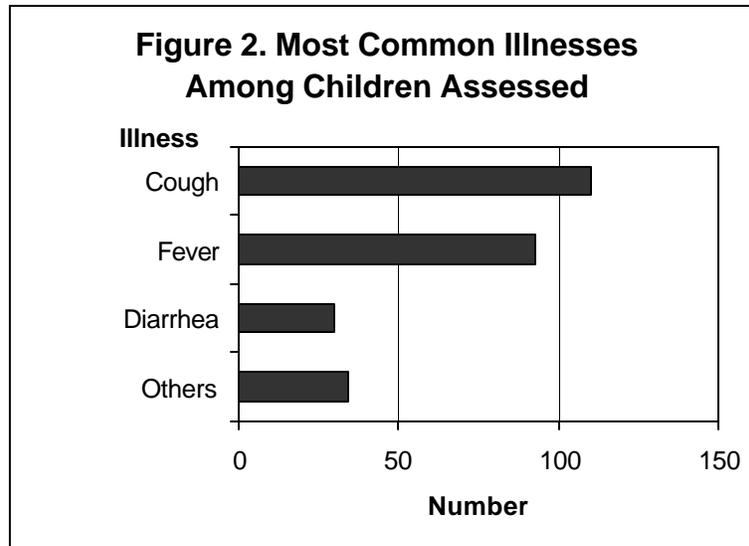


Table 2. Prevalence of Undernutrition among children 0-71 months (SD or Z score <-2.00)

Index	Number	Percent
Stunting (Low Height for Age)	171/412	42
Underweight (Low Weight for Age)	122/412	30
Wasting (Low Weight for Height)	37/412	9

Table 3. Prevalence of Undernutrition by Sub-district (N=412) (SD or Z score <-2.00)

Sub-district	No. of Children Assessed	Underweight	Wasted	Stunted
Woyla Barat	142	46(32%)	16(11%)	56(39%)
Teunom	194	60(31%)	15(8%)	78(40%)
Meureubo	46	10 (22%)	2(4%)	17(37%)
Arongan	30	6 (20%)	4(13%)	20(67%)
Total	412	122(30%)	37(9%)	171(42%)



Discussion:

The assessment conducted in twenty three CCS showed a high prevalence of undernutrition (all forms). This result of the assessment was comparable to the nutritional cluster survey done by UNICEF, WHO, the Ministry of Health and other NGOs last February and March of this year. The prevalence of stunting in the UNICEF assessment was <40%, prevalence of wasting 5-10% and prevalence of underweight was <40%. Also worth noting in that assessment is that the prevalence of undernutrition is higher in IDP camps compared to those living in host households/communities and non-IDP households. The CCS with the high prevalence of undernutrition was found IDP camps.

From the foregoing result, malnutrition is significant public health problem in areas where Child Fund operates. The high prevalence of undernutrition may continue to worsen if no intervention is done. Malnutrition is multi-factorial. Aside from inadequate food intake, factors that contribute to malnutrition such as infectious diseases, poor sanitation and hygiene, lack of access to safe water exist and should be considered when planning for nutritional intervention program. Also the risk of getting sick and dying is greater among the malnourished children. The burden of disease is higher among this particular group. Malnutrition multiplies the number of deaths caused by infectious diseases.

Recommendations:

1. Child Fund should develop a sustainable community-based treatment of moderate to severely malnourished children. This would allow both mother and child continued bonding and prevent disruption of normal family life in the community.
2. The nutritional snack program should be continued in the mean time that there is no permanent intervention is in place for children in the CCS as a temporary prevention strategy to prevent further worsening of malnutrition.
3. Relative to a community-based intervention strategy, livelihood projects can be introduced to improve food security in the community. Rehabilitation of malnourished

children is often long and costly. And to make it sustainable, alternative means of support can come from this livelihood projects.

4. Promotion of breastfeeding to lactating mothers to exclusively breastfed for 6 months should be intensified. Pregnant women should also be advised and encouraged to undergo prenatal check up. Studies shown that early intervention during prenatal period, infancy and early childhood has the greatest impact on preventing malnutrition. We can start this in the CCS communities.

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