

# International Conference

## Lessons from Indonesia Experiences In Disaster Reconstruction and Preparedness

12 November 2012 – Pullman Central Park, Jakarta, Indonesia



### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **Global Natural Disasters Focus of MDF/JRF International Conference**

(Jakarta, Indonesia – October 29, 2012) The Multi Donor Fund of Aceh and Nias (MDF) and the Java Reconstruction Fund (JRF) announced at a media briefing today that Indonesia's post-disaster reconstruction experiences would be the topic of an international conference hosted by Bappenas, entitled *Lessons from the Indonesia Experiences in Disaster Reconstruction and Preparedness*, hosted by the two programs to commemorate their closing.

The International Conference, to be held in Jakarta on November 12, 2012, is expected to attract over 500 participants including dignitaries from disaster prone countries including Japan, Pakistan, and Haiti. The conference will be opened by Indonesia President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

The MDF was established at the request of the Indonesian government following the December 2004 tsunami, which killed over 200,000 Indonesians and displaced 500,000. The JRF, modeled on the MDF, was established in response to earthquakes and a tsunami on Java, which killed over 5,000 people. The JRF later was extended to encompass the 2010 eruptions of Mount Merapi.

Both reconstruction efforts were highly successful and offer rich lessons for disaster response and preparedness. "The MDF and JRF programs are considered a great success because of their model of strong partnerships and because of their many impacts on the beneficiaries," said Shamima Khan, manager of the MDF and JRF. "But equally important is how they can be used as learning tools for disaster response efforts in Indonesia and the world." Max Pohan, Deputy Minister of Bappenas and Stefan Koeberle, the World Bank Country Director, were also present.

Following remarks by Mr. Koeberle and Ms. Khan, Eki Arsita Rizki of the Directorate General of Human Settlements (Dirjen Cipta Karya) and Sri Probo Sudarmo, Urban and Housing Expert of World Bank spoke about the highly-successful housing reconstruction program, Rekompak, which rebuilt 35,000 houses and completed thousands of local infrastructure projects in Aceh and Java using a community-led approach.

Bayudono, Secretary for Technical Assistance Team, Postdisaster Management of the Merapi Eruption and Diana Setiawati of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) described the model used to rebuild local livelihoods in disaster-affected areas.

The November 12 International Conference will include Indonesian and foreign participants with first-hand experience managing disaster response efforts. They will include Indonesian ministers, the governors of Aceh, North Sumatra, Central Java, and Yogyakarta. International participants will include high level representatives from MDF and JRF donors, Minister of Japan to discuss the March 2011 tsunami, Minister of Haiti to discuss the 2010 earthquake, and an international NGO to discuss the 2010 flood response in Pakistan. Disaster survivors who benefited from the MDF and JRF programs will also share experiences.

Said Shamima Khan, "There is a lot to learn from the MDF and JRF and we are very excited about the international conference. The MDF and JRF's successful community driven development approach can be used for other disasters, and lessons ranging from infrastructure to capacity building and inclusion of women can add to global knowledge. MDF achievements of building close to 20,000 houses, over 3,000 km of village roads, support of nearly 10,000 local infrastructure projects, the rehabilitation and reconstruction of over 1,200 public buildings, and the reconstruction of five national and international ports signify a remarkable reconstruction. The JRF alone constructed nearly 15,000 houses and completed close to 4,000 infrastructure projects. There is much to share and learn."

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