

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

United Nations Development Programme



Tsunami Recovery Waste Management Programme

How much waste was collected from the tsunami?

1,060,307 m³ in seven districts of Aceh and Nias.

How much is a cubic meter?

A cubic meter is about the size of a small dining table seating four.

Where did all the waste go?

Waste collection was coordinated and delivered to ten dumpsites in the affected areas.

Was outbreak of disease a concern?

Yes. However, no outbreaks occurred in part due to the quick removal of debris.

Were new dumpsites created?

Eight new dumpsites were established in the seven districts; an additional two sites were rehabilitated.

How was the land affected?

Rice fields (sawah) and mangrove areas were greatly affected by silt, uprooted trees and other debris.

Clearing and reclamation of farmland and natural areas continues.

Was any of the waste salvageable?

Yes. Once collected, much of the waste was discovered to be recyclable.

What can be recycled from the waste?

Rubble was used to build roads and embankments; zinc and other metals have been re-processed; a wood workshop is recycling good-quality timber into furniture items.

What is the future of the wood recovery workshop?

6000 m³ of waste timber remains to be processed, an estimated two to three years of continued craftsmanship at the current pace.

For more information, visit: www.undp.or.id

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