

PROJECT FACTS

Strengthening Sustainable Peace and Development in Aceh (SSPDA)



• Total budget	: USD 15,200,000
• Available budget	: USD 6,699,076
• Unfunded budget	: USD 8,500,924
• Project period	: 2005 – 2008
• Implementing partner	: Aceh Peace Reintegration Board (BRA)
• Donors	: European Commission, Decentralisation Support Facility, DFID, BCPR
• Location	: Aceh

Background

The end of 30 years of armed conflict in Aceh was marked by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Indonesia and Gerakan Aceh Merdeka (Free Aceh Movement - GAM) in 2005. Since then, assessments of the situation in Aceh have been largely positive in terms of physical security and the opening of political opportunities for local representation and democratic elections.

However, tensions at district and village levels still persist. Continuing criminal and illegal business activity, sometimes leading to violence, are linked to critically high rates of unemployment among former GAM members and conflict victims.

Many ex-combatants have not received adequate reintegration assistance to help them establish sustainable livelihoods. In time, this situation could undermine local security and the wider peace process.

A reintegration fund was established under the administration of Aceh, and the Aceh Peace-Reintegration Board (BRA) was established in February 2006. BRA has provided cash and in-kind support to various categories of beneficiaries, including for those whose homes were destroyed during the conflict.

Objectives

UNDP's Strengthening Sustainable Peace and Development in Aceh (SSPDA) programme aims to contribute to the consolidation of peace in Aceh. Its key objectives are:

- To strengthen BRA to help ensure and guide the sustained economic integration of former combatants.
- To identify and address the claims of conflict victims broadly defined in the MoU.
- To support the implementation of the Law on Governing Aceh in line with the needs of the reintegration process.



Acehnese women review the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), which in 2005 brought an end to nearly 30 years of conflict.

The Government of Indonesia's Commitment to Peace

The Aceh Reintegration Agency (BRA) was established through a Governor's Decree after the MOU was signed in August 2005. The BRA works to ensure that the reintegration programme in Aceh is streamlined within the local government's programme. UNDP is providing technical assistance to the BRA and assistance for the economic development and livelihoods support to selected beneficiaries.

Donors:





Community leaders participate in the national workshop for communication strategy of post-conflict the reintegration programme and peace campaign, held in Medan December 2006

- To ensure that conflict-sensitive planning is integrated into the government's development priorities for Aceh.
- To provide sustainable livelihoods to ex-combatants and conflict victims, particularly women and vulnerable groups.

Highlights

Several thousand female ex-combatants are still waiting to receive support. Under the present terms of central Government assistance to the reintegration effort, BRA has little or no latitude to address the needs of this group.

UNDP is implementing a package of assistance for more than 2,000 female ex-combatants to correct this imbalance, and enable them to integrate into their communities through improved access to livelihoods and income-generating activities.

SSPDA has completed an equipment distribution programme in the Central Highlands of Aceh, enabling returnees or Internally Displaced Persons (many of whom are coffee farmers) to re-establish their livelihoods, reduce economic bottlenecks and increase their crop value by providing capacity for localized processing.

Following a needs assessments, 22 villages were selected, together with cooperatives or farmers' groups, to manage the equipment, reaching 5,600 households. IOM agreed to distribute equipment. More than 200 self-help groups were also established in two districts, impacting an additional 6,000 people.

For more information:

United Nations Development Programme
Menara Thamrin Building, 8th Floor
Jalan MH Thamrin Kav. 3, Jakarta 10250
Phone: (62-21)3141308. Fax: (62-21)3145251
Email: info.cpru.id@undp.org
Website: www.undp.or.id

SSPDA is providing critical capacity support to BRA, particularly in the provincial office of the BRA Implementation Board, assigning livelihood and management information technical assistants to help identify, select and track beneficiaries.

SSPDA is also helping to facilitate the mainstreaming of reintegration activities into routine Government planning. This facilitation is preparing local government to assume the task of reintegration following the end of BRA's mandate (2009/2010).

Key Results

1. Improving BRA capacity to develop a coherent and equitable framework for identifying and delivering entitlements envisioned in the MoU;
2. Implementing an accountable and transparent grant disbursement mechanism and monitoring assistance to target beneficiaries;
3. Improving livelihood and economic opportunities for former combatants;
4. Enhancing social integration of former combatants, displaced persons and communities in selected target locations;
5. Ensuring that communities remain well-informed about new laws, helping the new government to remain transparent and accountable;
6. Providing coordinated advisory and technical support to the Government of Indonesia, the Government of Aceh and the local Government;
7. Assisting with immediate and medium-term reintegration of ex-combatants and livelihood support to conflict-affected communities;
8. Providing socialization of the MoU and support for civil society to participate in all aspects of the reconstruction process.