



# Weekly Digest

Volume 1, Number 33  
10 January 2005

## Contents

- Editorial..... 1
- ICA Response to Tsunami Disaster..... 1
- What we have done so far..... 1
- ICA Staff Giving Support 1
- Sri Lankan Co-op Leader's Appeal..... 2
- How Consumer Co-operatives have Been Affected in Sri Lanka ..... 3
- Co-operative Hospitals Affected..... 3
- Donations for Aceh and North Sumatra ..... 3
- Appeal from Indonesian Credit Unions ..... 3
- DEKOPIN Plan Reconstruction Workshop..... 4
- ICA Member's and Sectoral Organisation's Responses..... 4
- Swiss Co-ops Give Generously ..... 8
- From the Housing Sector in Germany ..... 8
- Support from EURES ..... 8
- Housing Reconstruction Focus of Meeting Proposed in India..... 8
- ICA Staff Contributing Day Salary to Appeal..... 8
- COPAC and Joint Agencies Meetings to Consider Tsunami Reconstruction..... 9
- Post-Tsunami Challenges: A Commentary by Robby Tulus..... 9
- Details of Bank Accounts for Co-operative Tsunami Appeals..... 10
- ICA Members in Affected Countries ..... 11

Editor: Garry Cronan  
Email: [cronan@ica.coop](mailto:cronan@ica.coop)

## Editorial

Our first digest of 2005 is devoted entirely to the recent tsunami disaster.

Images of the death and destruction have filled our television screens for over two weeks. It is now estimated that the death toll of the tsunami will exceed 155,000. Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand are the hardest hit, but 12 countries have been directly affected with nationals from at least another 36 countries killed.

This is one of the worst ever global disasters. The international response has been overwhelming. Offers of aid and assistance have also been unprecedented. The international co-operative movement has responded very quickly and generously. This is not surprising given its long tradition of global solidarity. In this issue we outline some of the movement's responses so far. It is hoped that this information will lead to more coordination of our aid efforts.

The real challenge now is in the reconstruction of the survivors' lives. Rebuilding their homes and communities, re-establishing their businesses, schools, hospitals and all the other aspects of a normal life we take for granted. We include in this edition a commentary from Robby Tulus on the role co-operatives can play in this longer term reconstruction - something co-ops seem ideally suited to do. As more information becomes available we will keep you informed.

## ICA Response to Tsunami Disaster

The ICA has a two stage response to the tragedy of the tsunami. Firstly, we launched both regional and global appeals as soon as possible after the tragedy, see page 10 for details. The President and Director-General wrote to all ICA members on 30 December asking them to support the global appeal. We also immediately appointed Gabriella Sozanski, [sozanski@ica.coop](mailto:sozanski@ica.coop) the ICA's Director of Knowledge Management, to coordinate our relief efforts.

We are also attempting to gather as much information as we can from members and others about how co-operatives and co-operators have been affected. Given the remoteness of some of the affected areas it has been difficult in the first few days after the tsunami struck to gain an overall impression of how co-operatives and their members have been impacted by this disaster. We will, however, regularly update you on this information as it becomes available.

Secondly, in the longer term we believe the ICA can provide a point of coordination for members in the countries directly affected by the tsunami and also assist co-operatives wishing to donate funds or expertise to the reconstruction. The ICA will be working with its members over the coming weeks and months to do whatever it can to assist with this coordination.

We would welcome your comments or any information you can forward to us.



## Sri Lankan Co-op Leader's Appeal

Dr P.A. Kiriwandeniya, Chairman of the SANASA Development Bank and leader of the country's SANASA Movement issued the following statement. *(Photo shows Dr P.A Kiriwandeniya visiting the affected areas.)*

"I am very sad to inform you that, more than 31,000 lives of Sri Lankan people were annihilated by the recent tidal waves. Many thousands of people are missing yet. More than 12,500 are injured and one million family members are displaced. As estimated to date more than 800 SANASA co-operative societies have been destroyed and it has severely affected co-operative members from north to south. All properties of these members have been smashed including some of our staff members' houses.



Most of the families living in the coastal areas are fishing families. Therefore more than 75% of the fishing industry as well as the tourist industry have been destroyed by these waves.

As you know we have a strong network all over the island. That is 8,000 SANASA primary societies, 33 district unions, within the SANASA Movement as well as other apex level organisations. Therefore, we were able to implement a plan to mitigate the result of this disaster through the SANASA Disaster Management Committee.

Firstly, we were able to send emergency food items, clothing as well as medical items, to affected areas more than Rs. 2 million worth. These activities are coordinated through our branches.

- Southern Province - Through our Galle & Akuressa branches.
- Western Province - Through the Colombo branch & Head Office
- North Province - Through our Vavuniya branch. We were able to send relief aid even in to LTTE controlling areas with the help of LTTE organization and Jaffna, Vavuniya and Mulative SANASA District Unions.
- East Province - Through our Monaragala Branch.

All these facilities were provided with the assistance of Divisional Secretariat of the affected areas (Government agents). Meanwhile we had to take the responsibility to make the final funeral arrangements of 650 dead throughout our Galle branch.

Now, there is no need for food items and clothing (except medical items, ladies wear) for the victims as they have received enough to manage.

Secondly, we organized three youth camps to help these victims, and cleared the areas affected by the tidal waves, especially in Galle and Akmeemana and Hikkaduwa Divisional secretariat. I too participated in these camps through out the last week. We had to use heavy vehicles for this.

Thirdly, our plan is,

- To build 1000 shelter units for the disaster affected people.
- To provide 25,000 kitchen items for 25,000 families.
- To help them to re-start their income generating activities again
- To take guardianship of 100 children, who lost their parents in the disaster.

In this third stage, we need the financial assistance of our friends, international organisations as well as international co-operative organisations to re-build the Sri Lankan nation. .../3

On behalf of the SANASA Movement in Sri Lanka I would also like to thank our friends in NTUC Income in Singapore for the great help extended to us to rebuild Sri Lanka at this crucial moment.

If you wish to donate directly to SANASA the details are listed on page 11.

## **How Consumer Co-operatives have Been Affected in Sri Lanka**

D. S. K. Pathirana, General Manager of COOPFED (Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operatives Societies Federation) has advised that 50 to 60 multi-purpose co-operative societies which come under their membership have lost their properties, buildings and stocks of dry rations completely and 1,000,000 consumer co-operative members have been severely affected by this devastating Tsunami.

The distribution of all the dry rations and other essential goods has been started already and the possible donations which should include dry rations, cement, galvanised sheets, clothes, medicine and financial assistance.

A detailed report of the co-operatives which were destroyed or damaged by the Tsunami floods is under preparation and it will be available very soon. If you wish to give directly to this appeal see page 11 for details.

## **Co-operative Hospitals Affected**

ICA has received information that at least two co-operative hospitals in Sri Lanka have been affected. Galle Co-operative Hospital was partly damaged. Also, Matara Co-operative Hospital has been completely destroyed.

## **Donations for Aceh and North Sumatra**

LAPENKOP DEKOPIN report as at 7 January 2005 - they have received over IDR 10,917,500 for Aceh and North Sumatra Province. For more detail, see LAPENKOP's website [www.lapenkop.coop/index.php?hol=1](http://www.lapenkop.coop/index.php?hol=1) LAPENKOP DEKOPIN wishes to thank all the donors, regardless of the amount contributed; it means a lot. LAPENKOP website is providing up to date information on the co-operative relief effort in Indonesia.



## **Appeal from Indonesian Credit Unions**

We received this report from Abat Elias on behalf of the Indonesian Credit Union movement.

“It is with much pain and regret that we share with you the most recent developments in Aceh and North Sumatra. The city in Meulaboh, on the western coastline of the Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) Province, has lost almost 90% of its inhabitants of 40,000 due to the recent quake and the tsunami. Access to the city is limited, and those still alive are threatened by starvation. Many thousands are still missing in the entire NAD Province and North Sumatra. We continue to monitor the impact on credit union members, especially in the Nias Island of North Sumatera.

Given the above circumstances, CUCO and Credit Union Movement in Indonesia are appealing to friends and partners to share and care in order to alleviate the burden of credit union families impacted by this horrifying human disaster.

Please kindly inform us by e-mail in the event that you have transferred your donation to our account. Our e-mail address is [cucoindo@indo.net.id](mailto:cucoindo@indo.net.id). Your kind assistance in sharing our compassion to help these communities would be highly appreciated. Yours sincerely, Abat Elias “

(Donations could be sent to CUCO Indonesia, see over on page 11 for details.)

## DEKOPIN Plan Reconstruction Workshop

It is understood that DEKOPIN plan to conduct a workshop on Rebuilding Co-operatives Distribution Network in Aceh Province in the near future. Further details will be provided when they become available.

## Canada - Desjardins Group Contribute 1 Million Dollars to Reconstruction

In an outstanding display of global solidarity the Desjardins Group has agreed to contribute the sum of one million Canadian dollars towards the reconstruction of co-operatives destroyed by the Tsunamis. The contribution is on top of that of the Desjardins caisses network which will also most likely contribute and serve to collect funds from members. The special contribution of \$1 million will be used to provide technical assistance, mainly for reconstruction of the areas devastated by the tsunamis that smashed into several Southeast Asian countries last December 26. This decision was made on January 6 by the Executive Committee of the Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Québec.



Développement International Desjardins (DID) will take the leadership in coordinating the use of the funds over the next two years. Desjardins' contribution will be coordinated with the actions of the Québec government, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the United Nations (UN). In carrying out its mandate, DID will make use of its extensive expertise to ensure that all funds allocated are optimally used and will draw on its network of correspondents in Southeast Asia, particularly in Sri Lanka.

For Desjardins, this is a new intervention model that is consistent with the co-operative approach, which aims to help people help themselves. By contributing to the reconstruction of the economies of the devastated areas, Desjardins wishes to complement the vital role already played by international relief agencies in responding to immediate humanitarian needs. Incidentally, in the same spirit, a portion of the amount added to the co-operative development fund will be earmarked to provide technical assistance to Haiti, itself ravaged by Hurricane Jeanne last September.

Last, Desjardins Group has expressed its full support for the VISA Canada program under which nine recognized relief agencies working with victims of the tsunamis will receive a donation matching the processing fees for charitable transactions made in favour of the agencies.

For more information please contact Ann Lavoie email: [ann.lavoie@desjardins.com](mailto:ann.lavoie@desjardins.com) or visit their website [www.desjardins.ca](http://www.desjardins.ca)

## ICA Members' and Sectoral Organisations' Responses

### *International - WOCCU*

The World Council of Credit Unions, WOCCU, is currently working with its associates at SANASA in Sri Lanka, CUCO in Indonesia and with the Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions to help provide immediate relief assistance, rebuild credit unions and initiate reconstruction of the communities affected. Brian Branch, WOCCU president and CEO (interim) noted, "We are grateful for any assistance that can be provided to the Worldwide Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund for the Tsunami Relief. WOCCU will continue to provide updates on events in the affected areas and the impact which contributions are having on the ground."



WOCCU's appeal to aid Tsunami victims has been strengthened in recent days through agreements to coordinate relief efforts with a number of additional organizations. These include the National Credit Union Foundation (NCUF) of the United States, the German cooperative bank development organization, Deutscher Genossenschafts - und Raiffeisenverband (DGRV), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

For more information on how to contribute to the Worldwide Credit Union Foundation-Tsunami Relief Fund visit the WOCCU website at [www.woccu.org/press/press\\_rel/pressr.php?pressr\\_id=774](http://www.woccu.org/press/press_rel/pressr.php?pressr_id=774)

*International - ACCU*



Following the tsunami the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions, ACCU, immediately responded to help its members in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand and India. ACCU requested its members and development partners to raise funds for the rehabilitation of credit unions and members. The Credit Union Central of Indonesia (CUCO), Federation of Thrift and Credit Cooperatives (SANASA-Sri Lanka), and Development Promotions Group (DPG) in India carried out relief operations and started the restoration of its members' houses.

ACCU notes that the demonstration of co-operation among co-operatives could play an enormous role in giving hope and life to people living in deep misery. The National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK) was the first credit union movement responded transferring US\$ 10,000 contribution to ACCU. The Credit Union League of the Republic of China-Taiwan (CULROC) contributed US\$ 5,000. Mr. Andrew So, the founding President of ACCU made a personal contribution of HK\$ 8,000. The Credit Union Foundation Australia pledged AU\$ 50,000.

Financial assistance can be sent to the Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions, see page 11 for details.

*Sweden*

Monies are currently being collected not only for immediate help through the Swedish Co-operative Centre (SCC) and Red Cross plus others. They also advise that the Swedish co-operative movement will provide an opportunity for people to send money via SCC directly to the ICA Asia Pacific Office for housing purposes in Sri Lanka. For more information please contact Gun-Britt Mårtensson [Gun-Britt.Martensson@hsb.se](mailto:Gun-Britt.Martensson@hsb.se) or the Swedish Co-operative Centre, email [info@swecoop.se](mailto:info@swecoop.se)

*Finland*

The S-Group, the largest co-op retailers group in Finland, has contributed 60,000 Euro to the Finnish Red Cross for help in Asia. For more information please contact Anne Santamäki [Anne.Santamaki@sok.fi](mailto:Anne.Santamaki@sok.fi)

*Japan – Japanese Consumer Co-operative Union (JCCU)*

The [Japanese Consumer Co-operative Union](#) Board has decided to contribute 5 million yen directly to several organisations which were damaged by the Tsunami.

The break down is a follows:

- National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka – 1 million yen
- SANASA, Sri Lanka – 1 million yen
- Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operatives Societies Federation - 1 million yen
- DEKOPIN, Indonesia - two million yen
- National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI) – 500,000 yen
- Co-operative League of Thailand – 400,000 yen
- ANGKASA, Malaysia – 100,000 yen



*Singapore - Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF)*

The Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF) has advised that the co-operative movement in Singapore is doing its utmost to contribute money and in kind assistance in kind to the affected countries. More details of its activities will become available next week. For further information please contact Zulkifli Mohammed, Chief Executive SNCF [zulkifli@sncf.org.sg](mailto:zulkifli@sncf.org.sg) or visit their website [www.sncf.org.sg](http://www.sncf.org.sg)



*Cyprus*

The Pancyprian Co-operative Confederation has launched an appeal and set up an account with the Co-operative Central Bank of Cyprus. A letter has been sent by to all its members asking for financial contributions to the appeal. Monies collected will be given to the Government of Cyprus to be distributed to affected countries. For more information contact Pavlos Theodotou [coop.confeder@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:coop.confeder@cytanet.com.cy)

*Denmark – Fællesforeningen for Danmarks Brugsforeninger (FDB) (Co-op Denmark)*

FDB has decided to contribute 100,000 DKR to help reconstruct co-operative education and work in Aceh, Indonesia. FDB is also taking part in a national effort in Denmark to bring immediate help to Indonesia as well as to other areas in Asia also suffering from the Tsunami. It will also be working with co-operative colleagues in Norway and Sweden to explore ways for additional financial assistance for the victims of the tsunami. FDB is also a member of [Lapenkop](#) see separate item. For further information please contact Ebbe Lundgaard email [el@fdb.dk](mailto:el@fdb.dk)

*Italy - Legacoop*

**Legacoop** has called on all its members to support the call by the ICA for solidarity with the victims of the tsunami, by contributing funds. Legacoop has established a specific account. See [www.legacoop.it/](http://www.legacoop.it/)

*Italy – Confcooperative*

Confcooperative - Confederazione Cooperative Italiane has called on their members to support the ICA global

appeal See [www.confcooperative.it/default.aspx](http://www.confcooperative.it/default.aspx) for details.

*Canada - CCA*

The Canadian Co-operative Association has launched an emergency appeal on behalf of its partner in Sri Lanka, the Federation of Thrift and Credit Co-operative Societies (SANASA). Dave Sitaram, CCA President says “ We are so proud of the way that co-operative and credit union people have stepped up to offer support during this emergency, particularly through generous support for the International Red Cross. But we also need your assistance to help our valued partner through this difficult time. SANASA is struggling to meet some immediate, pressing needs. As soon as longer term reconstruction plans can be developed we will be making a second appeal for reconstruction donations.”

To help SANASA provide shelter and meet these other needs please send your donation made payable to: The Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada — the fundraising arm of the Canadian Co-operative Association: The Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada, 400-275 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 2L6. Or call toll free (inside the US or Canada) 1-866-266-7677 (ext. 222 or 215) to make a credit card donation. Or make a donation online at: [www.cdfcanada.coop](http://www.cdfcanada.coop)

Please indicate on your cheque that it is intended for the “Tsunami Emergency Fund.”

*USA – CHF*

In the wake of one of the worst natural disasters in modern history, CHF International is committing at least US\$30,000 to respond to the immediate critical housing and sanitation needs of communities in Sri Lanka and India. In addition to providing Sri Lankans and Indians with emergency humanitarian relief, CHF International will send staff to the other affected countries of the Maldives, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Somalia, to assess and respond to long- term reconstruction efforts.



CHF International has also announced an appeal for US\$500,000 to sustain efforts on the ground. Funds will be used for assistance to communities and families in the Tsunami damaged areas. CHF International will focus initially on the supply of emergency housing and sanitation relief. Donors are encouraged to contribute online at [www.chfinternational.org](http://www.chfinternational.org).



### **USA - NCBA**

The National Co-operative Business Association (NCBA) reports that “fortunately, with a few exceptions, the co-operatives with whom NCBA is associated in Indonesia for over 25 years were spared the devastation, which mainly affected low lying coastal areas. Even though these co-ops were spared, our staff in Indonesia, together with the co-op staff and members, has been involved in supporting relief activities, primarily by providing logistic and coordinating support to some of the many relief agencies providing direct services to affected and displaced Indonesians. In this effort, NCBA is working with and through Save the Children in Indonesia.



In the short term, the focus is on relief. NCBA suggests that, for those wishing to contribute to the relief efforts related to the earthquake and tsunami inflicted devastation, contributions be made to Save the Children. Contributions can be made on line at [www.savethechildren.org](http://www.savethechildren.org), by calling 1-800-728-3843, or by mail at Save the Children, Attn: Asian Earthquake/Tsunami Relief Fund, 54 Wilton Road, Westport, CT 06880, USA.

Details on the involvement of NCBA’s CLUSA International Program with relief efforts are just beginning to come in and will be reported later. Over the long term, NCBA will be supporting economic rehabilitation efforts through a Tsunami Co-op Recovery Fund that is being set up within the Co-operative Development Foundation. We will share details on how to make tax-deductible contributions to that fund in the next several weeks.”

### **UK – Co-operatives UK**



The British movement has advised that they are taking a two pronged approach to disaster relief - firstly to ensure that we contribute to the immediate and urgent appeals; and secondly to provide some longer term co-operative development potential.

Consumer co-ops have facilitated customers to make contributions by visa and debit card or by cash collection. This money has mostly been donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) that has taken control of the appeal in the UK on behalf of 12 national charities.

Co-operatives UK are launching a £500,000 Development Fund for longer term co-operative redevelopment of homes, jobs and education. Co-operatives UK will be seeking to spend this money through the indigenous co-operative movements in the countries concerned and with guidance on specific projects from the ICA and its regional specialists. For more information please contact Pauline Green [pauline.green@cooperatives-uk.coop](mailto:pauline.green@cooperatives-uk.coop)

### **Sectoral - CICOPA**

The International Organisation of Industrial, Artisan and Service Producers’ Co-operatives (CICOPA) one of ICA’s nine sectoral organisations, has forwarded on ICA global appeal requests to all its members along with the urgent request from COOPFED, Sri Lanka, which it translated from English into both Spanish and French and circulated to its members. For more information please contact Bruno Roelants, CICOPA’s Secretary General, [BRoelants@compuserve.com](mailto:BRoelants@compuserve.com)

### **Sectoral - ICBA**

The International Co-operative Banking Association, one of the ICA’s 9 sectoral organisations, has also established an appeal for its members. They advise that any monies collected will be distributed after agreement by the executive, among victims “via outlets of co-operative banking institutions in the

countries affected". For more information please contact Eugeniusz Laszkiewicz, [biurowaw@kzbs.pol.pl](mailto:biurowaw@kzbs.pol.pl) for details of their appeal see page 10.

### **Sectoral – APHCO**

The Asia Pacific Health Co-operative Organisation, APHCO has also expressed solidarity on behalf of the victims of the tsunami. They note that they have many members in the affected countries, including health co-operatives in Sri Lanka and India as well as doctor's co-operatives in Malaysia. Please contact APHCO's chair Dr Yasuyuki Takahashi care of [jiroito@icaroap.org.sg](mailto:jiroito@icaroap.org.sg)

### **Swiss Co-ops Give Generously**

Two of the world's largest consumer co-operatives based in Switzerland have given very significant amounts directly to communities affected by the tsunami. [Migros](#) have already donated 500,000 Swiss Francs. In Western Switzerland, Migros stores have also collected 100,000 Swiss Francs from customers and members. This amount will be doubled by the co-operative itself. For more information contact Urs Peter Naef, porte-parole de la FCM, email : [urs-peter.naef@mgb.ch](mailto:urs-peter.naef@mgb.ch)

[Coop Suisse](#) and Red Cross chartered a plane to Sri Lanka on 31 December 2004 with water disinfection tablets, medicine, blankets, cooking utensils at an estimated cost of 250,000 Swiss Francs. Coop Suisse is also contributing 250,000 Swiss Francs to la Chaine du Bonheur, a national fund raising organisation for reconstruction efforts.

### **From the Housing Sector in Germany**

[DESWOS](#) – the German Development Assistance Association for Social Housing is currently calling on the housing co-operatives of Hamburg, Germany, and other associations of the housing industries to support partner organisations in the midst of the critical area in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in India.

DESWOS works with three NGOs that have long term experience and rapport with the people of the affected areas. So far they have provided 52,000 Euros and are preparing another transfer upon request and specification of needs. They are also developing plans to support fishermen with catamarans and nets.

For more information please contact Werner Wilkens, DESWOS at [project@deswos.de](mailto:project@deswos.de)

### **Support from EURESA**

European social economy organisation EURESA has advised that they intend to make a financial contribution to the ICA's global appeal. For more information please contact Thierry Jeantet +33 (0) 1 45 74 08 56 website [www.euresa.org](http://www.euresa.org)

### **Housing Reconstruction Focus of Meeting Proposed in India**

The International Co-operative Housing Foundation for Asia & the Pacific (ICHFAP) advise:

“Once rehabilitation of the affected areas is stabilised and the supply of food, water, medicines and health services are deemed sufficient - the monumental task of providing housing and infra structure will commence. It is not money alone that the affected nations need. They need building materials, expertise, etc and in this area the Co-operative Housing movement would have to consolidate its activities with the support and aid of other similar Housing Cooperatives and Housing Foundations like the CHF of USA and HABITAT of the United Nations etc.

These points will be addressed in the meeting that is being convened by ICHFAP in New Delhi in February 2005. For more information please contact Dr M.L. Khurana, Secretary General, ICHFAP [nchf2001@yahoo.com](mailto:nchf2001@yahoo.com)”

### **ICA Staff Contributing a Day's Salary to Appeal**

ICA staff in both head and regional offices are to voluntarily contribute one day's salary to the ICA Tsunami appeal as an act of solidarity with the victims of the disaster.

## COPAC and Joint Agencies Meetings to Consider Tsunami Reconstruction

The forthcoming COPAC and Inter-Agency meetings to be held in mid January will include an agenda item on the tsunami relief initiatives and explore ways to best coordinate and possibly build a joint programme of assistance. The organisations participating in these meetings will include ICA, ILO, FAO, the World Bank, Socodevi, CCA, Co-op College, Royal Norwegian Society, IFAP, SCC, ICMIF, OCDC (USA), Co-operatives UK, SADC. Rabobank, Oxfam, Equal Exchange, FLO, have also been invited. For more information contact Maria Elena Chávez Hertig, [copac@coop.org](mailto:copac@coop.org) Coordinator, Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Co-operatives, (COPAC).

## Post-Tsunami Challenges: A Commentary by Robby Tulus

I am overwhelmed by such swift response and outpouring of the global community and bilateral/multilateral aid agencies in trying to assist the suffering of the people in Asia, especially in Aceh, Indonesia, and in Sri Lanka, following the devastating earthquake and tsunami. It is stunning to see the amount of aid earmarked - US \$ 1.9 Billion within just one week - and the number of volunteers so readily rolling their sleeves to help in Aceh, Maldives, and Galle (Sri Lanka). No doubt, such outpouring came as a result of the timely reports and updates broadcasted by TV stations all over the world, and all the way to local radios and newspapers. It is a true display of the compassion and solidarity of our global community.

From the co-operative perspective, we also see considerable damage experienced by co-op organizations following the tsunami, including a great number of casualties among members. Our friend Dr Kiriwandeniya has been swift in responding to the humanitarian disaster in South Sri Lanka, esp. Galle, and provided the data of the victims and which of the items are most needed by those still alive among the SANASA members. Data in Indonesia is more difficult to collect because of the distance from Jakarta, and also the more sporadic presence of credit unions in Tekangon, Aceh, and those in Nias, North Sumatra. Nonetheless, I witnessed the hard work of our credit co-op leaders in Indonesia and we shared our views as to how best to give a reliable account of the damage, and subsequently to seek solidarity from co-operators worldwide.

Certainly, as co-operators we must show compassion to what is happening right now. More importantly, however, is for us co-operators to think strategically in terms of how best co-ops can take part in rebuilding Aceh (and Galle) in the future. We could easily fall into the trap of joining the bandwagon by simply distributing aid to victims at the moment, for which local and international humanitarian NGOs are more experienced and hence more capable of doing. But even the latter is not easy because of political posturing - to obtain the best spotlight, local exploitation, red tape, bureaucracy, and corruption that are still occurring if not still widespread. Moreover, to define the procedures to distribute the right amount of Aid at the right time to the right people is already a great nightmare, because emergency cases such as amputations, evacuations, and avoiding the quick spread of diseases, are inevitable. Many positive aspects, however, could be drawn from these massive efforts to help the pain, trauma, and anguish of the local people.

As co-operators, I believe our best strategy would be to think ahead and find the best way to help rebuild the dignity, self-respect and cultural pride of the people. With less exposure to Sri Lanka of late, I wish to focus more on Aceh.

Political conflicts between the Indonesian military and the Free Aceh Movement had been ravaging before the quake and the tsunami struck this Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) Province. The victims of this calamity are mostly children and the poor, and there is a tendency to pour aid to these poor because of the overwhelming media reports depicting the emotional devastation by showing tearful people needing sympathy, making us feel sorry for their plight. We must be careful that these helpless and powerless people at this point are not being overexploited for the benefit of news broadcasts, political posturing and short term social gains.

In the co-operative movement we believe in the values of self-help and solidarity, hence the co-operative strategy is to look into the long term wellbeing of the people. It entails active participation in the post-

disaster and post-trauma environment and must be delivered strategically in a humanistic and democratic manner for the very existence of the poor themselves who will face their own destiny in the future. The international community is already beginning to discuss long term reconstruction of Aceh, and this is where Co-operatives must effectively join in. This, hopefully, will open a window of opportunity for co-operatives to involve school children, who have been left out of school during the prolonged political conflicts in Aceh, to form savings clubs after the emergency situation subsides. Investing among these school children may help revive the cultural pride of Aceh people who are predominantly Muslim. Since Malaysia is so nearby, much closer to Aceh than Aceh to Java, ANGKASA will hopefully lend a hand in sharing their rich and well-known experiences in organizing school co-operatives, in Aceh. Singapore, also quite near from Aceh, could hopefully share their experiences in the co-operative sector.

If we use the analogy of a sick person, people in Aceh right now require doctors, nurses, medical equipment and sick beds, but in the end the people themselves must play the most active part in their healing process. The Co-operative Identity underscores this need for self-reliance, so it is my hope that the massive amount of aid at the disposal of Aceh people would not be siphoned off just for short term aid relief, but more so for the development of the Aceh people themselves based on the spirit of our co-operative values and principles. It is time to think strategically and this seems to be the right moment to do so.

*(Dr Robby Tulus is a former ICA Regional Director for Asia Pacific who is both an Indonesian and Canadian citizen.)*

## Details of Bank Accounts for Co-operative Tsunami Appeals

Listed below are the bank account details of the various co-operative tsunami appeals that we are aware of.

### *ICA Global Appeal*

The ICA launched a global appeal on 30 December 2004 to help facilitate the collection and coordination of monies from co-operatives throughout the world. Funds collected will be forwarded to concerned co-operative organisations in the affected countries, specifying the names of the donors and the amounts.

Bank:	Bank Coop,
Address:	6-8, Place Longemalle, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland
Account Number:	284043.45.00.90-2,
Swift Code:	COOPCHBB12A,
Swiss Clearing Number:	8447,
IBAN:	CH730 844 028 404 345 0090

For more general information on this global appeal visit our website at [www.ica.coop/ica/ica/tsunami-appeal.html](http://www.ica.coop/ica/ica/tsunami-appeal.html) or contact the appeal's coordinator, ICA Director of Knowledge Management, Gabriella Sozanski [sozanski@ica.coop](mailto:sozanski@ica.coop)

### *ICA Asia Pacific Appeal*

Bank	Standard Chartered Bank
Address:	10, Sansad Marg, New Delhi 110 001, India,
Account Number:	Current Account No.525-0-50177-4
Swift Code:	SCBLINBBXX

For more information visit <http://www.icaroop.coop> or e-mail [sklee@icaroop.coop](mailto:sklee@icaroop.coop) or [icaroop@vsnl.com](mailto:icaroop@vsnl.com)  
*(Funds destined for India should be transferred to this account. However, due to Indian currency restrictions, donations for other countries should be sent directly to the ICA account in Switzerland)*

### *ICBA Appeal*

Bank	Krajowy Związek Bankow Spoldzielczych w BPS S.A. O/Warszawa
Account Name:	KZBS-ICBA

Account Number: PL 71 1930 1523 2020 4295 0011  
Swift Code: POLUPLLPR  
Swift Euro: DEUTDEFF

***SANASA Movement's Appeal***

Bank: The People's Bank, Head Quarters Branch,  
Address: Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02. Sri Lanka.  
Swift Code: PSBKLKLA,  
Account Name: SANASA Development Bank Ltd.  
Account No: Current Account 204100150084583  
For more information please visit [www.sdb.lk](http://www.sdb.lk) or contact [sdbkicha@sltnet.lk](mailto:sdbkicha@sltnet.lk)

***COOPFED Appeal***

Bank: Bank of Ceylon, Pattah Branch  
Bank Code: BCEYLKLX 004  
Account Name: COOPFED  
Account Number: LK 00040400000015  
For more information please contact [coopfed@sol.lk](mailto:coopfed@sol.lk) or visit their website at [www.coopfed.lakdora.com](http://www.coopfed.lakdora.com)

***ACCU Appeal***

Bank: Bangkok Bank Public Co. Ltd, Klong Chan Branch  
Account Name: Asian Confederation of Credit Unions  
Account Number: Savings Account no.: 156-4-30210-5

***Indonesian Credit Union Appeal***

Bank: BRI, Kramat Raya Branch  
Address: Jalan Kramat Raya No. 138, Jakarta Pusat – Indonesia  
Account Name: Induk Koperasi Kredit (INKOPDIT)  
Account Number: 033501000488304

**ICA Members in Affected Countries**

Below is a list of ICA members in those countries most affected by the tsunami. We are aware of many other indirect ICA members, former members and members of members from these and other countries which have also been affected. If you would like further details about any of these organisations please contact ICA Director of Knowledge Management, Gabriella Sozanski [sozanski@ica.coop](mailto:sozanski@ica.coop)

Indonesia	Dewan Koperasi Indonesia (Dekopin) Indonesian Co-operative Council email: <a href="mailto:info@dekopin.coop">info@dekopin.coop</a> or <a href="mailto:dekopin@dekopin.coop">dekopin@dekopin.coop</a> , website: <a href="http://www.dekopin.coop">www.dekopin.coop</a>
Indonesia	Institute for Indonesian Co-operative Development Studies (LSP2I) (Lembaga Studi Pengembangan Perkoperasian Indonesia)
Sri Lanka	Federation of Thrift & Credit Co-operative Societies Ltd. in Sri Lanka (SANASA) email: <a href="mailto:sanabkch@sri.lanka.net">sanabkch@sri.lanka.net</a>
Sri Lanka	National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka email: <a href="mailto:slncc@sol.lk">slncc@sol.lk</a>

---

Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operative Societies Federation Ltd. email: <a href="mailto:coopfed@sol.lk">coopfed@sol.lk</a> website: <a href="http://www.coopfed.lakdora.com">www.coopfed.lakdora.com</a>
India	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative Ltd. (IFFCO) email: <a href="mailto:scmittal@iffco.nic.in">scmittal@iffco.nic.in</a> website: <a href="http://www.iffco.nic.in">www.iffco.nic.in</a>
India	Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) Email: <a href="mailto:vnrai@kribhco.net">vnrai@kribhco.net</a> or <a href="mailto:anand@kribhco.net">anand@kribhco.net</a> , website: <a href="http://www.kribhco.net">www.kribhco.net</a>
India	National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) email: <a href="mailto:nafedp@coop.nic.in">nafedp@coop.nic.in</a> website: <a href="http://www.nafed-india.com">www.nafed-india.com</a>
India	National Co-operative Agricultural & Rural Development Banks Fed. Ltd. (NAFCARD Fed.) email: <a href="mailto:nafcard@bom5.vsnl.net.in">nafcard@bom5.vsnl.net.in</a> website: <a href="http://www.nafcard.org">www.nafcard.org</a>
India	National Co-operative Consumers Federation Ltd. (NCCF)
India	National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI) email: <a href="mailto:ncuidel@ndb.vsnl.net.in">ncuidel@ndb.vsnl.net.in</a> website: <a href="http://www.ncui.nic.in">www.ncui.nic.in</a>
India	National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB) email: <a href="mailto:nafscob@coop.nic.in">nafscob@coop.nic.in</a> website: <a href="http://www.nafscob.org">www.nafscob.org</a>
India	National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies Ltd.
Thailand	Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) email: <a href="mailto:accuran@ksc.th.com">accuran@ksc.th.com</a> website: <a href="http://www.aaccu.net">www.aaccu.net</a>
Thailand	The Co-operative League of Thailand Email: <a href="mailto:clt@clt.or.th">clt@clt.or.th</a> website: <a href="http://www.clt.or.th/">www.clt.or.th/</a>
Malaysia	Co-operative College of Malaysia (CCM) (Maktab Kerjasama Malaysia) email: <a href="mailto:mkm@mkm.edu.my">mkm@mkm.edu.my</a> , website: <a href="http://www.mkm.edu.my">www.mkm.edu.my</a>
Malaysia	National Co-operative Organisation of Malaysia (ANGKASA) email: <a href="mailto:apex@angkasa.coop">apex@angkasa.coop</a> website: <a href="http://www.angkasa.coop">www.angkasa.coop</a>
Malaysia	National Land Finance Co-operative Society Ltd. (Koperasi Kebangsaan Permodalan Tanah Berhad) email: <a href="mailto:sahadev3@tm.net.m">sahadev3@tm.net.m</a>

Copies of the Weekly Digest are archived on the ICA's website [www.ica.coop](http://www.ica.coop)