

‘We don’t do Tsunami anymore’: Bridging post-tsunami recovery and sustainability

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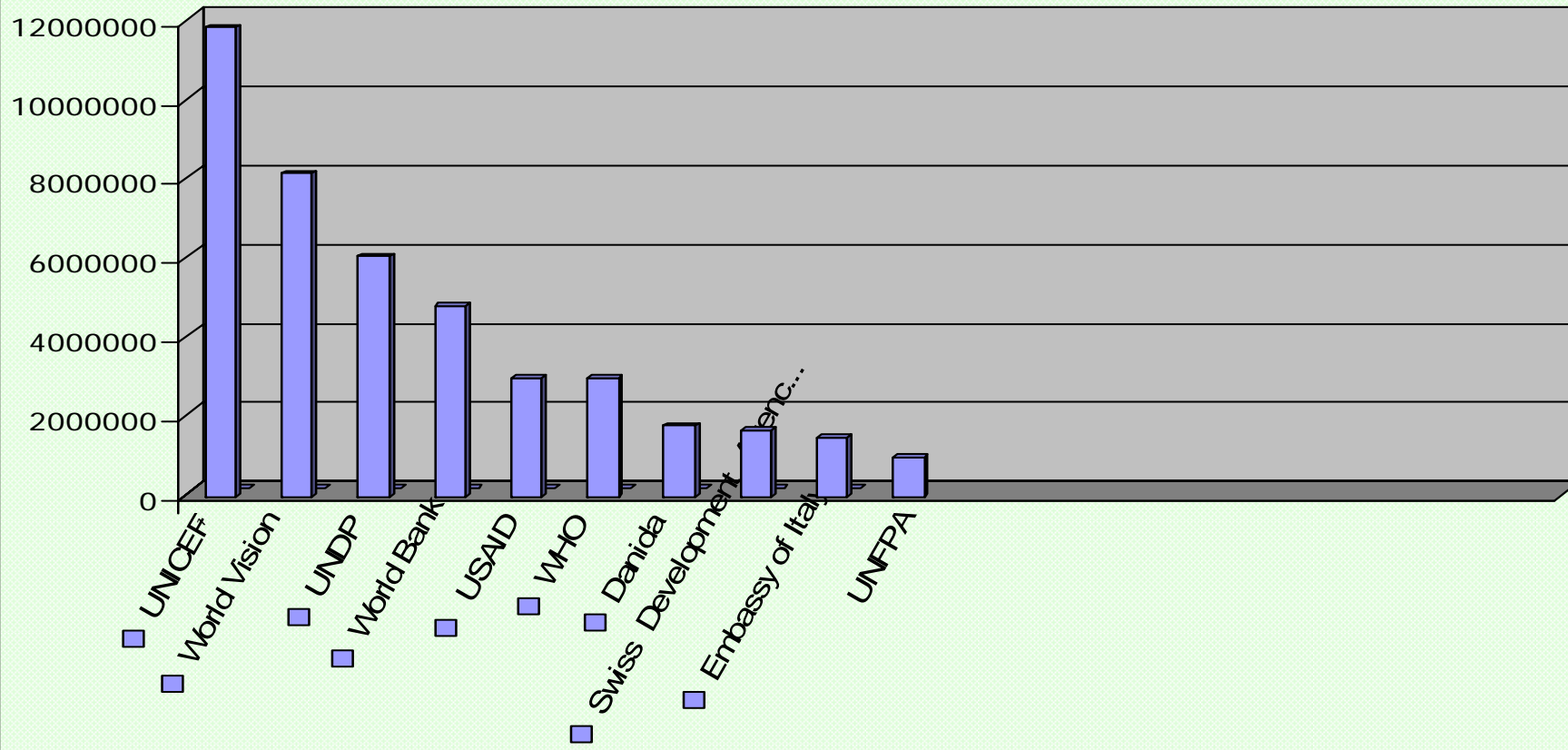
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Tsunami Aid on the international level

	International contribution to Tsunami Aid in Thailand (summative only):
Aid policies / programs	
1. Emergency relief	Funds for logistics and coordination, water supply, sanitary upgrading, temporary shelters, first aid and survival kits, support to SAR, forensic operations
2. Mid-term and long-term recovery	Livelihood recovery, social protection for children and vulnerable groups, environmental rehabilitation, permanent shelters, disaster preparedness and early warning system.

Top Ten International Partners: allocation as of 1 December 2005

Allocations From Top 10 International Partners (USD)



Expected local impact of international aid contribution in Thailand 1

1. Economy

- (1) Livelihood recovery in fishing, agriculture and tourism in tsunami affected areas
- (2) More diversified livelihood opportunities, particularly for vulnerable communities/groups
- (3) Communities learn new livelihood skills and secure their income through diversified activities
- (4) Ethnic community's traditional ways of earning secured

2. Ecology

- (1) Improved coastal zone planning and measures to protect the environment
- (2) Concerns of local communities about their production-based are incorporated into national, provincial and local environmental management plans.
- (3) Increased awareness/recognition about the value of Indigenous wisdoms/knowledge in sustainable environmental management
- (4) Increased attention among tourism agencies/companies on waste management, mitigation of coastal erosion, and protecting marine habitats

Expected local impact of international aid contribution in Thailand 2

3. Society

- (1) Increased public awareness and policy debates on persistent and emerging development issues in affected areas such as land tenure and title, special needs of vulnerable communities, cultural diversity and cultural-based development approach, gender issues, etc.
- (2) Stronger people-to-people support and experience sharing
- (3) Stronger family and community's role in crisis management

4. Politics (decision making & leadership)

- (1) Increased access to legal services and improved participatory approach to the resolution of issues related to community's rights (e.g. land rights)
- (2) Increased capacity to participate in local governance
- (3) Increased community's self-organization capacity, e.g. through inter and intra village networks
- (4) Increased community's participation in the planning and implementation process of coastal natural resources management

Local experience with social, economic, political and environmental structures I:

Before the Tsunami

Positive (summative, according to target groups)	Negative (summative, according to target groups)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large extended families • Strong family network (Kreua Yad) • Strongly structured families and duties (Rabob Phi Nong) • Functioning decision making structures (Rabob Upatham and consensus democracy) • Labor intensive mixed economic structures and dependencies • Relative economic sufficiency • Adapted to local environment with relatively sustainable cohabitation • Relative control over environment and development in immediate communal vicinities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively weak communal emergency network • Fixed gender roles • Weak inter and intra-communal communication • Weak communal administration • Weak political participation in decision making • Weak investment structures and thus hardly any participation in macro-economy • Weak protection against encroachment into local environments by outsiders



Local experience with social, economic, political and environmental structures II:

Direct Tsunami impact:

Destruction of

- Networks (families, Khreua Yad, Rabob Phi Nong, Rabob Upatham)
- Livelihood, infrastructure, collaterals and assets
- Local self-sufficiency environment and traditions



Direct and in-direct Tsunami aid impact (from target groups' point of view) :

- Immediate disaster relief
 - **Characteristics:** Indiscriminate, effective and efficient, improvised, top - down, first-aid, disaster-focused, strong voluntary aspect, strong civil society participation
 - Impact:** Almost immediate relief, strengthening survivors, damage-control, initial statistics



Local experience with social, economic, political and environmental structures II:

- Reconstruction projects
 - **Characteristics:** Target-group specific, effective and sufficient, often top-down, strong international involvement, project objective-focused, limited sustainability (mid-and long-term), often investor/donor dominated, sometimes linkages with non-aid objectives
Impact: Transitional relief, partially damage-inflicting, missing physical and moral ownership

- Rebuilding communal structures
 - **Characteristics:** superficial on community group level, economically one-sided, environmentally ignorant, politically (decision-making, leadership) biased, non-inclusive and leading to division
Impact: Inter- and intra-communal conflicts, weak communities, limited communal self-awareness



Current communal status quo I

After the Tsunami

<p style="text-align: center;">Before Tsunami</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(summative, according to target groups)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">After Tsunami</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(summative, according to target groups)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large extended families • Strong family network (Kreua Yad) • Strongly structured families and duties (Rabob Phi Nong) • Functioning decision making structures (Rabob Upatham / consensus democracy) • Labor intensive Mixed economic structures and dependencies • Relative economic sufficiency • Adapted to local environment with relatively sustainable cohabitation • Relative control over environment and development in immediate communal vicinities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> => Smaller family size => Strong NGO network => Shifting gender roles and more equity • => Newly defined roles and responsibilities => Slumping micro-economy and missing economic structures => Economic dependence and debt => Environmental helplessness => Loss of control over the immediate environment

Current communal status quo II

After the Tsunami

Before Tsunami (summative, according to target groups)	After Tsunami (summative, according to target groups)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively weak communal emergency network • Fixed gender roles • Weak inter and intra-communal communication • Weak communal administration • Weak political participation in decision making • Weak investment structures and thus hardly any participation in macro-economy • Weak protection against encroachment into local environments by outsiders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> => Strong NGO network => Opening of gender roles => Strong recognition of role of communication and intent to improve => Clearer understanding of needed administration structures => Determination to politicize issues of decision making => Almost no investment structure, no participation with macro-economy, outside capital is invading the local economy => No protection against outside encroachment

Conclusion I

Empowerment under sustainability, 3-step action frame

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Realization of potential/capacity• Enable to remove obstacles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">=> Mobilization, Forae and support networks=> Advocacy=> Information management (community level)=> Turn stakeholders into right-holders (government level)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to negotiate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">=> Increase market access and economic network=> Strong cooperation with government and private sectors=> Negotiation for communal rights=> System of communal representatives=> Public hearings and discussion as means of communal/government cooperation

- Advocacy
- Increase cohesion of communities
- Strengthen communal, regional and national capacity to decentralize
- Support for local leadership development to enable access to political decision making
- Empower to diversify economic choices
- A system for long-term monitoring

Conclusion II

Recommendations by our target groups for **immediate corrective measures** to strengthen sustainability (economic, political, social and environmental):

- Create an information/experience exchange switchboard
- A local regular Tsunami related information service on a provincial level between impacted communities, for example, newsletters, periodicals or a community-radio
- Empower for more potential, skills and training options in information management and technology
- The availability of a lawyer to the villagers at all times to discuss urgent matters
- A thorough medical check-up for many villagers affected by the Tsunami
- The early warning system needs to be studied and adapted to include local wisdom and knowledge
- A programme for environmental conservation that includes all aspects of sustainability: economic, political, social and ecological.
- Information empowerment
- Problems of affected youths: psychological and social (increased crime, break-down of families, etc.)

Opportunities in crisis 1

(Excerpt from the Krabi declaration)

- Ensure that the long-term rehabilitation of the tsunami affected area is based on **definitions of fairness, justice, sustainability and stability as perceived and defined** by the tsunami affected **communities and individuals**;
- Develop the secondary tsunami recovery support into an **opportunity to address and solve pre-tsunami problems** that have been worsened and/or exposed by the disaster;
- Deliver assistance and support in an accountable and transparent form that ensures **participation** of those affected in **planning, implementation and execution of long-term rehabilitation programs**;
- Establish - vitally - a proper, honest and forward-looking **information system and data-base** on the tsunami disaster for the use and to the benefit of its affected individuals and communities, of independent **nationality, race or religion**;
- Initiate an **aid-tracking system / mechanism** to avoid **the misuse of aid-resources** or its appropriation for **other than aid purposes**;
- Ensure that the remaining rehabilitation becomes a **stepping stone for further development** of the affected areas leading **to better conditions than before the tsunami disaster**.

Attachment 1: Tsunami Aid on the international level, comparison

Tsunami Policy Comparison in Thailand (summative only)		
National aid	Convergence/divergence	International aid
Emergency response	Same immediate focus; national response with international in-kind and technical support	Emergency response
Mid-term and long-term recovery	<p>Similar goal, slightly different in programs and approaches.</p> <p><i>Nat'l:</i> direct service delivery through gov't channels, NGO networks</p> <p><i>International:</i> aid delivery in joint projects with gov't & NGOs, direct support to affected communities, capacity building for long-term sustainability , strong focus on vulnerable groups</p>	Mid-term and long-term recovery

Attachment, part 1:

Main areas / fields of international aid contribution in Thailand 1

1. Emergency relief

- Search and Rescue Operations Support by UNCT, US Navy, USAID, JICA,
- Disaster victim identification by DVI teams from more than 30 countries
- Humanitarian assistance by the UN Team in Thailand, bilateral donors, international NGOs, charity organizations

2. Livelihood Recovery and community empowerment

- Support to longer-term/diversified recovery of small scale fishing, focusing on vulnerable and traditional communities
- Support to repairs of boats and boatyards, furniture making, aqua farming and internship with national institutes
- Strengthen community capacity to participate in local governance and decision making
- Support community efforts to protect traditional cultures and traditions

3. Environmental rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation of coastal environment and resources and buffer-zoning development
- Capacity building in strategic planning and implementation of coastal environment management through integrated approach.
- Capacity building at local level in sustainable resources management
- Support to recovery of coral reef and rehabilitation of biodiversity and ecosystems.

Attachment, part 1:

Main areas / fields of international aid contribution in Thailand 2

4. Social protection

- Strengthen national and local capacity to protect vulnerable children from exploitation /abuse
- Ensure access to health and education services to vulnerable children and women and increase their participation in community level activities
- Increase availability of social and health services to migrant and mobile communities
- Construction of permanent houses and shelter units

5. Disaster preparedness

- Technical assistance to support establishment of government's early warning system
- Strengthen local and provincial capacity for disaster preparedness and effective implementation of the early warning system
- Ensure integration of disaster preparedness plan and priorities in national, provincial and local development plans.

Attachment, slide 1:

Table 1: Impacts of the tsunami on human, housing, environment and livelihoods in Thailand. 1

Dimension of impact	Sub-dimension	Degree of damage/impact
Human	Dead	5,395
	Injured	8,457
	Missing	2,817
	Children without one or both parents	1,449
Housing units	Destroyed	3,302
	Damaged	1,504

Attachment, slide 1:

Table 1: Impacts of the tsunami on human, housing, environment and livelihoods in Thailand. 2

Natural resources	Coral	Minimal damage 32,013 rais; ^[1] Substantial damage 3,812 rais
	Beach	1,485 rais
	Mangrove forest	Around 2,300 rais
	Beach forest	90,093 rais
	Waste/Disposal waste	2 sites
	Saline Soil Area	About 3,957.5 rais
Water sources	Surface water ponds	102
	Shallow wells	2,324
	Ground water ponds or wells	737

Attachment, slide 1:

Table 1: Impacts of the tsunami on human, housing, environment and livelihoods in Thailand. 3

Livelihoods	Fisheries	USD 44,044,117
	Livestock	USD 429,158
	Agriculture	USD 161,314
	Business enterprises	USD 308,205,908
	Tourism	Around USD 15 million loss

(Sources: DDPM website, October-November 2005; ADPC Report, 2005; Ministry of Social Development and Human Security; DDPM Report 2005; Tsunami Migration Centre, Chulalongkorn University, March 2005; Balance of Payment, Bank of Thailand)

¹ 1 Rai = 6.25 hectares

**Attachment, slide 2:
RTG long-term assistance to tsunami affected communities
and people 1**

Type of assistance	Activity/Target Groups	Details /coverage of assistance
Provision of shelter	Permanent shelters	2,688 houses built for those seeking government support
Support to fisheries	Small fishing boats	7,351 persons; 4,697,769 USD
	Large fishing boat	634 persons; 1,384,746 USD
	Fishing tools	6,062 persons; 901,126 USD
	Hatcheries	6,025 persons; 2,938,772 USD
Support to small business	Restarting business	5,147 persons; 1,427,952 USD
	Livelihood tools	5,065 persons; 1,059,606 USD

Attachment, slide 2:
RTG long-term assistance to tsunami affected communities and people 2

Support to unemployed workers/migrant workers	Employment projects	22,000 persons; 2,809,057 USD
	Job provision	23,000 persons; 10,043 USD
	Labour transferring service	1,200 persons; 8,765 USD
	Job creation project	760 persons; 222,152 USD
	Job training project	10,000 persons; 1,095,650 USD
Psychological support to victims	Psychiatric drugs	4,725 services
	Counseling	17,812 services
	Medical Treatment	5,551 services

**Attachment, slide 2:
RTG long-term assistance to tsunami affected communities
and people 3**

<p>Early warning system</p>	<p>Disaster preparedness plan</p>	<p>A comprehensive and integrated disaster database established at national level, school curriculum incorporated knowledge on Tsunami, handbooks on natural disaster response procedures prepared and distributed to coastal communities.</p>
	<p>End-to-end warning system</p>	<p>Twenty-four of sixty-two warning towers established and tested in December 2005, the rest to be ready by March 2006.</p>

(Sources: 1 DDMP website November 2005

2 The Mental Health Centre for Thai Tsunami Disaster, November 2005)

Attachment, slide 3:
Positive Experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context 1

- The Tsunami resulted in strong cooperating communities with a clearly defined structure of communal and personal responsibilities
- Strong factor in personal emancipation through Tsunami lessons learnt and experience
- Intra- and inter-communal Samaritan help distinguishes much better between emergency relief and communal/personal needs and wants (+ and – experience)
- Correcting measures solving Tsunami related problems keep strengthening and binding communities also in the future

Attachment, slide 3:
Positive Experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context 2

- Much improved intra- and inter-communal, as well as personal communication skills
- (In Laem Pomme) Women have strongly increased their roles in representing community affairs to the outside while men have increased their role as back-up for internal family affairs and family safety
- Communities have gained a very clear picture of successful administration of their own affairs and learned linking problems at their cores
- Method in reconstruction and rebuilding of the communities are now firmly routed in religion, means of income and economic considerations, shared activities and a regular exchange of experience

Attachment, slide 4a:

Negative experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context 1

- Relief and reconstruction aid after the disaster was often not addressing actual communal needs
- Some relief organizations were freely distributing money without need verification by communities
- Very little community involvement offered by organizations in the aid and reconstruction effort
- The freely and uncontrolled distribution of aid was often a source for contention and conflict within communities
- Most aid tried to fix fishery problems and completely ignored other professions
- Steps and processes to involve communities (when they occurred) were often flawed and neglecting communal reality

Attachment, slide 4a:

Negative experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context 2

- The children-fund is problematic
 - The structural organization is not clear, rules and decisions on aid often seem arbitrary
 - Some organizations/individuals were using children account numbers for their own benefit
 - No details on transactions are available
 - The source of the donation remains unclear

- Widespread land-grab

- Insufficient Electricity and water infrastructure (including waste management)

- Profession-related conflicts and problems in aid allocation and distribution as not all community relevant professions and skills were addressed by aid and relief

Attachment, slide 4a:

Negative experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context 3

- The seas, beaches and groundwater sources of Tsunami affected areas are changed in their composition, polluted or otherwise degraded. The impact on health and other activities like agriculture is not monitored, information missing
- The eco-system has changed after the Tsunami and communities are not prepared
- The distribution of aid was often not equal, following no rules. There are no standards or structures available
- The government organizations strictly followed rules and laws without considering their appropriateness. Subsequent policies in reconstruction were therefore in almost all cases irrelevant to the actual need of reconstruction and re-establishing the status quo with regard to communities and their structure. For example: All community members living for rent are only helped under immediate aid, but completely ignored in the first aid and reconstruction effort.

Attachment, slide 4b: **Negative experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context** **(continued) 1**

- The social family structure has changed in communities. Instead of living in complete/extended families – as before the Tsunami – people now face loss of one or more parents or grandparents and split into smaller family units
- The psychological Tsunami impact is not appropriately addressed. Many still suffer from loss of interest in living, unwillingness to work and move on, suicides, death through mental exhaustion etc.
- Aid is delivered top to bottom
- Individuals in the community are still unbalanced – for example overworking, alcoholism, hooliganism, criminality etc.
- The Tsunami early-warning systems are made for tourists and their psyche but are in no way relevant of use or even workable for local communities and are run completely without community participation

Attachment, slide 4b:
Negative experiences of TAW target groups in the Tsunami context
(continued) 2

- There is a lack of a sufficient, efficient and effective government system to deliver reconstruction and mid- and long-term aid
- Outside intervention in reconstruction and mid- and long-term aid needs to be discussed and outlined under strong participation of the impacted communities. Coordination with outside organization needs urgent improvement

Attachment, slides 5a and 5b:
The complete Krabi declaration
Declaration on Sustainable Post-tsunami Rehabilitation 1

The participants of the forum would like to extend their gratitude and heartfelt thanks to all individuals, communities, national and international groups, parties and organizations for the help and aid they have provided for the individuals and communities affected by the tsunami of December 26th 2004. We hope that they will continue to give us unwavering support during the remaining task of long-term rehabilitation. The tsunami has left Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, the Maldives and other countries with devastated coasts, shattered communities and economies and hundreds of thousands of people in need of support. This destruction was, however, only the initial direct impact of the tsunami disaster. The ensuing aid efforts were part of just the first phase of tsunami rehabilitation.

Attachment, slides 5a and 5b:

The complete Krabi declaration

Declaration on Sustainable Post-tsunami Rehabilitation 2

Nine months have now passed since the tsunami and in most affected areas treatment has been delivered to the wounded and basic shelter is available for the surviving victims; in many cases the boats and fishing gear needed for livelihood restoration of the fisher folk have been provided; the remaining tasks are ready to be overseen by restored community structures and local administrations. The situation can, thus, in most instances be described as approaching stability. However, it is a far cry from being normal.

The tsunami recovery now enters a second phase of transformation that is the recovery from a disaster into a more permanent and functioning economic and social set-up, i.e. the mitigation of the secondary tsunami impact. While the aid to rehabilitate from the initial direct impact of the tsunami was characterized by speed and efficiency, the recovery support effort needed for the indirect impact recovery must strive for long-term effectiveness and sustainability; especially regarding livelihood and economic

recovery, disaster management, issues of land and housing for the displaced and the landless, women, children and gender issues as well as migrant labor issues. In order to achieve this, a number of measures are urgently needed. Based on past aid delivery experience we therefore ask the international community and supporting NGO's and GO's to mobilize all available resources to:

- Ensure that the long-term rehabilitation of the tsunami affected area is based on definitions of fairness, justice, sustainability and stability as perceived and defined by the tsunami affected communities and individuals;
- Develop the secondary tsunami recovery support into an opportunity to address and solve pre-tsunami problems that have been worsened and/or exposed by the disaster;
- Deliver assistance and support in an accountable and transparent form that ensures participation of those affected in planning, implementation and execution of long-term rehabilitation programs;

- Establish - vitally - a proper, honest and forward-looking information system and data-base on the tsunami disaster for the use and to the benefit of its affected individuals and communities, independent of nationality, race or religion;
- Initiate an aid-tracking system / mechanism to avoid the misuse of aid-resources or its appropriation for other than aid purposes;
- Ensure that the remaining rehabilitation becomes a stepping stone for further development of the affected areas leading to better conditions than before the tsunami disaster.

If the international community, governments and civil societies help to continue with the tsunami recovery support based on the conditions given above, the tsunami disaster itself can be turned into an opportunity for development that is in line with sustainability needs and economic progress of all mankind. We believe in the in the strength of cooperation, coordination, openness and solidarity in times of need.