

## FIRST PHASE COMPLETED FOR TSUNAMI RELIEF PROJECT

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AdvocacyNet

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Six months since a tsunami relief project began in the Batticoala district of Eastern Sri Lanka, the Home for Human Rights (HHR) has spent \$6,000 raised by the Advocacy Project following appeals and individual donations for villagers in two Tamil villages.

HHR, an AP partner in Sri Lanka, has completed phase one of its tsunami rehabilitation project. The project provides short-term relief and long-term development of Tamil families in the who have been doubly displaced – first as a result of minority rights violations in the early 90s and then again by the tsunami at the end of 2004.

The relief effort of HHR provided for immediate humanitarian assistance after the disaster in terms of food, medical supplies, clothing, etc. The beginning of the development project accounted for the start-up of a sewing cooperative for 36 unemployed Tamil women.

Over \$1,500 in funds were raised by an AP online appeal in January, along with Mike Keller, a former AP intern to HHR, who collected donations from Georgetown University students and faculty.

Over the coming months, the tsunami rehabilitation project will expand its number of beneficiaries to more neighboring villages and assist the local population with building renewal and job trainings. The second phase is supported by a grant from the Dutch Refugee Foundation, Stichting Vluchteling, a long-term supporter of the Advocacy Project and its partners.