

ONGOING AND UPCOMING EFFORTS OF UN AGENCIES IN BAM

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of FAO

An assessment mission was fielded to Bam by FAO in early January 2004 at the request of the Government. Based on the assessment and the priorities identified, the mission formulated a project proposal to support 1,650 small-scale farming households in Bam district. The project includes provision of animal feed (\$280,000) and provision of iron sheets for the repair of animal sheds (\$45,000) for some 600 farmers. The total estimated budget of this proposed project is \$400,000 over a period of 6 months.

FAO is also involved in formulation of a project for the rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure in Bam in collaboration with UNDP and with funding from DFID. Additionally, FAO is expecting a formal request from the Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture for assistance in undertaking a detailed damage assessment of irrigation infrastructure. The assessment will form a basis for rehabilitation of water resources in the earthquake-affected area.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of the ILO

An ILO mission was fielded in February 2004 with the support of the UNDP's Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Support and at the request of the Government.

The ILO mission has contributed to the updated February Flash Appeal in the following areas:

- Recovery Rehabilitation and Economic Revitalization: through the strengthening of local economic and business networks and the delivery of immediate skills development for the reconstruction programme.
- Shelter: through the essential advisory support and training of both the public and private sector stakeholders and decision makers in labour-based (employment-intensive) appropriate technology approaches for the major reconstruction works; and
- Socio-economic Protection of women: through enhanced employment and entrepreneurship opportunities under decent working conditions and protection from exploitation to further vulnerabilities such as trafficking.

The ILO is promoting the centrality of employment creation (especially for women), local economic and MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) development as well as immediate short-term skills development, so that the local community and the crisis affected population can be involved to the greatest extent possible in the reconstruction. Currently the ILO has technical support programmes in the area of women's economic empowerment with a focus on decent employment and has completed a series of Poverty Reduction Strategy Assessments in several countries, working closely with the UNDP. The ILO emphasizes on the inclusion of equality issues in all its employment related work, especially with regard to vulnerable and marginalized groups in situations of crisis and adopts a community participatory modality in its approaches to job creation.

The ILO will work closely with the social partners, the MOLSA (especially in skills and entrepreneurship delivery, through a new TVTO centre for BAM), the representatives of the Workers (e.g. the Workers' House, who can also be involved with MOLSA in the delivery of essential skills) and the Employers' representatives (Iran Federation of the Employers' Associations, which has just established an NGO called the Institute for Earthquake Engineering and Building Safety).

Following the assessments made during the mission in February 2004, the ILO proposes to concentrate its efforts in Bam on economic revitalization of micro-enterprises, employment creation (especially for women), skills development and entrepreneurship promotion, depending upon the availability of resource mobilizations.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNDP

In addition to coordinating the deployment of an Inter-Agency Field Assessment Team to the affected area, on 26 December, UNDP, with financial assistance from the Government of Colombia, also made available US\$ 250,000 to enhance the response capacity of the Government and to support coordination of the UN system response to the disaster, including the preparation of the Flash Appeal and preparation of the initial ground work for the reconstruction and recovery of the affected area. On 1 January 2004, UNDP led a UN inter-agency needs assessment mission to the affected area to coordinate the preparation of the UN Flash Appeal with OCHA's support.

UNDP's strategy over the medium term is to provide specific and targeted technical support to the start-up phase of the reconstruction and recovery program, and in particular to the livelihoods and shelter-sector rehabilitation activities. Its activities include:

- *Restoration of water supply infrastructure systems for earthquake affected smallholder date palm plantations in Bam district:* The project is part of a larger plan prepared by the Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture for the rehabilitation of the entire water supply and distribution system in Bam. With funding from the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and UN OCHA, and technical assistance from FAO, the project, under the implementation by the Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture, will work to improve the field water conveyance system over some 5,400 hectares through the rehabilitation of priority qanats and wells, the reconstruction of earthquake-resistant pump-shelters for the most affected farms and the preparation of canal linings and culverts for road-crossings.
- *Sustainable Housing Reconstruction Programme in Bam through Community Mobilisation and Participation:* The project, which was formulated in close consultation with key members of the national Steering Committee for the Reconstruction of Bam, is intended to influence housing construction right across Iran by demonstrating a community-based, cost-effective and earthquake-resistant housing approach that can be cheaply and easily replicated in earthquake-prone areas in and outside of Bam district. It is estimated that up to 1000 families will receive permanent housing assistance under this pilot initiative through the provision of targeted financial aid, training, capacity building and technical assistance. The project will be implemented by the Housing Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, the Natural Disaster Research Institute of Iran (Ministry of Interior) and the High Council of Architects and Planners (Ministry of Housing and Urban Development) under a multi-donor framework, funded in part by the Government of Australia.
- *Participatory reconstruction planning through a community-based information and communications strategy:* The aim of the initiative is to empower the affected communities through enhanced access to information resources on disaster recovery and reconstruction programmes and projects using information, communication and technologies for participatory recovery and reconstruction planning. The project will entail mapping of potential community learning and information sharing points such as mosques, educational institutions, health facilities, city council offices etc; mapping of local organizations which could support the establishment of community information centres; collection and collation of data for an electronic Central Resource Database Centre; design and development of an Information Bank and query-based portal for the generation of various information products for the print and electronic media; and establishment of ICT-based kiosks in various locations throughout the affected areas to provide individuals with information on Government policies and activities, updated damage reports, entitlements, land status, rehabilitation schemes etc.
- *Supporting a coordinated UN system response to the earthquake:* Following the launch of the UN Flash Appeal, UNDP has been heavily involved in the preparation of this UN strategy paper. UNDP, in collaboration with UN OCHA, has also been involved in the management of a UN Coordination Office in Bam. Given that the longer term reconstruction and recovery programme will be a multi-sectoral effort, ranging from the rehabilitation of livelihoods, to the restoration of water resources management systems,

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to the rebuilding of critical infrastructure to housing and social sector reconstruction, UNDP is recruiting an Inter-Sectoral Recovery Manager to facilitate coordination between the various Government, UN and other national and international actors. The Recovery Manager will also facilitate the establishment of mechanisms for participatory local development planning for the sustainable recovery and reconstruction of Bam, and longer-term community-based development for poverty alleviation. Last but not least, UNDP is providing coordination and organisational support to the International Conference for the Reconstruction of Bam scheduled for early June 2004.

- *Provision of technical support through focused workshops, provision of local and international expertise and experience, demonstration projects, advocacy initiatives, capacity building and training programmes etc* – A list of some the key activities that UNDP is supporting is provided in Section 4.1 and Annex 2 of this strategy.

UNDP's plans for the long term include:

- *UNDP Country Programme for 2005 to 2009* - Recognizing the high level of disaster risk in the country, and in line with the outcomes envisaged in the UNDAF for 2005-2009, the UNDP Country Programme for 2005 to 2009 will include crisis prevention and recovery as a priority area of action. Over the next month or so, a programming mission from the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery will help develop a five-year programme in this area. In the wake of the Bam earthquake, it is important that the emerging UNDP Country Programme outline for 2005-2009 take UNDP support to the reconstruction programme into consideration. At the same time, it is important that UNDP support to the reconstruction programme help achieve some of the disaster risk reduction objectives envisaged in the emerging country programme outline prior to the earthquake.
- *Sub-regional initiative on disaster risk management* - The UNDP Country Office in Iran is managing a ten-country preparatory assistance programme on disaster risk management in Central and Southwest Asia¹. In March 2003, 40 participants from ten countries of the region came together at a technical workshop in Iran. The workshop reviewed the status of disaster risk management in the region and identified priority areas for action at the regional level. Earthquake risk reduction was identified as one of these priority areas. A number of countries covered under this preparatory assistance are faced with very high earthquake risk. The nature of earthquake risk, and the challenges faced in reducing earthquake risk across these countries, have highlighted many similarities. The Bam earthquake could provide added impetus to earthquake risk reduction efforts not only in Iran but also across the entire region. As part of the preparatory assistance, a multi-country urban earthquake risk reduction programme could be designed.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNESCO

164 schools were destroyed in the earthquake. Of a total of 32,843 students, it is estimated that between 20,000 to 25,000 survived. Between 4,000 to 5,000 of these students are orphans. 1,000 of 5,500 teachers died in the earthquake. It is important to note that one third of living population of Bam are now teachers and students.

UNESCO has been engaged over the past years in activities related to capacity building in education, science, culture and communication. In the field of education, the Organization has been working closely with the Ministry of Education since the earthquake to:

- create and coordinate a Task Force to define the priorities in short, mid and long term;
- establish a coordination mechanism to support orphans;
- build capacity for trainers, teachers and managers to cope with post-crisis situations;
- assist educators, specialists and trainers working with orphans to use an "Inclusive Education" approach;
- provide advice on how to implement new schools observing international standards

¹ Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, I.R. Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

An education task force, Education Coordination & Action Committee for Bam (ECAC -BAM), has been created by the UNESCO. Permanent members on the taskforce include: concerned divisions from Ministry of Education (MoE), the Management & Planning Organization (MPO), Literacy Movement Organization (LMO), State Welfare Organization (Ministry of Health), Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, UNICEF, national and International NGOs. Close contacts are maintained with UNDP and WHO for specific actions. UNESCO has also set up an office in Bam to coordinate its activities with the local authorities, NGOs and partner UN agencies.

ECAC-BAM has held several meetings with the following outcomes: a compilation of the latest statistics of teachers, students and homeless children left after earthquake; approved action plans for capacity building for educators in Bam and trainer's training sessions; the elaboration of the "Education Resource Mapping" (ERM-Bam) which establishes immediate, short, medium and long term priorities and the role of each organization; and support for four missions to Bam, including a technical mission from 14-18 March 2004 from UNESCO Bangkok Regional Office..

So far 21,000 students have been registered and are studying in 30 tents donated by UNESCO and World Vision International one week after the earthquake. UNESCO is also providing technical support to the provincial MoE department for the construction of connexes for teachers and schools. 3,000 more children are expected to return to school after the Iranian New Year in April-May 2004.

3 UNESCO texts on "Education in Emergency, Crisis and Reconstruction Situations"; "Planning Education During and After Emergencies", and "Guidelines for Education in Emergency and Crisis Situations" have been translated into Farsi and are under publication. The agency is also working on defining an action plan for "Rebuilding and Developing the Education System in Bam", and other joint actions with UNICEF and other UN agencies.

UNESCO is committed to ensure that IIEES research and education potential and expertise are used more effectively in the post-Bam initiatives as well as in risk reduction activities in the Iran. UNESCO is now engaged with the institute aimed at lessons learned from the Bam disaster with a view to the further promotion and application of technical guidelines for the prevention and mitigation of the effects of such earthquakes

In the field of culture, the Bam earthquake underscored the necessity for UNESCO and international organizations active in the field of heritage conservation, to assist the authorities in strengthening national mechanisms for risk preparedness and management for the rich cultural heritage in Iran. To this end, UNESCO and ICHO will organize a series of technical meetings over the next three years to examine the following pertinent issues related to risk preparedness and the conservation process post-disaster;

- strengthening risk preparedness mechanisms within the national conservation and management process for cultural heritage;
- principles and guidelines for the conservation and rehabilitation of cultural heritage post-disaster to ensure the conservation of the authenticity and integrity of cultural heritage and its setting; and
- upgrading the technical capacities of ICHO experts in the field of risk preparedness and the application of techniques to better protect the irreplaceable heritage of humankind located in Iran.

In addition, UNESCO, and other relevant national and international partners, will organize activities, which address the revitalization of the living and intangible cultural heritage of Bam, including cultural industries and crafts, directly linked with the social, economic and tourism development of Bam.

One important issue that UNESCO intends to address with relevant partners, is due emphasis on the cultural identity of Bam, not only Arg-e-Bam, but also the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Bam city and its people. Awareness raising activities with reference to youth; employment opportunities in the field of traditional building techniques better adapted

to seismic risks; tourism related jobs; and promotion of cultural industries, are some of the areas UNESCO intends to address with the authorities and relevant partners, including the ILO.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNFPA

In response to the Bam earthquake, UNFPA is providing funding, technical assistance and direct support for:

- emergency reproductive health (RH) supplies and equipment
- rapid field assessment, research and data analysis
- training and capacity building
- advocacy and awareness raising

UNFPA responded to the earthquake by donating a \$100,000 emergency cash grant to the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME) for the purchase of emergency medical equipment, and RH and sanitary supplies to address the immediate needs of the disaster-affected population. In response to the deteriorating hygienic situation in the city of Bam, UNFPA provided a further \$60,000 for MOHME to procure and install 110 shower/sanitary points throughout the city (for both women and men). In direct consultation with national and regional authorities, two proposals have been formulated and submitted for funding under the UN Flash Appeal: "Provision of reproductive health information and services for victims of Bam earthquake", and "Protection of Women and Girls affected by the Bam earthquake and Improvement of their Social and Economic Situation." The total budget of these projects is \$710,000.

Furthermore, one of the main outputs of the 2005-2009 UNFPA country programme is the provision of comprehensive and quality reproductive health services in emergency/post-conflict situations, through advanced preparedness, response and availability of quality reproductive health care. The UNFPA Humanitarian Response Unit at UNFPA Headquarters and the UNFPA County Support Team in Kathmandu will assist the Iran office in this regard.

Ongoing and upcoming Efforts of UN-HABITAT

UN-HABITAT will build on its earlier work on the "Guidelines for Earthquake Disaster Management," which was prepared in collaboration with the Islamic Housing Foundation and UNDP following the Manjil earthquake of 1990. HABITAT is envisaging a 1-2 year programme of operationalising these guidelines at both local Government and community levels in Bam, and Kerman, before rolling it out throughout Iran.

The proposed programme will seek to: reduce the vulnerability of basic infrastructure and critical facilities; improve building practices to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards; increase participation in disaster risk management among communities, local Governments and the private sector; increase community awareness and involvement in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures; and incorporate mitigation activities in post-disaster reconstruction/recovery.

The toolbox of approaches selected to address the above-mentioned issues vary according to their applicability to the local situation, however, generally they shall consist of: technical assistance; technology transfer; information exchange/ dissemination; demonstration projects; training; problem-focused studies; and monitoring and evaluation.

Pilot activities are intended to yield easily replicable methods and mechanisms for widespread dissemination of mitigation and preparedness practices at local, national, regional and sectoral scales. Activities will be jointly undertaken with partner organizations including the National Habitat Committee, UNDP, and the relevant ministries and departments of the Government of Iran. Linkages will be made to the international network of practitioners such as the UN-ISDR.

In order to meaningfully reduce disaster risks in many communities, considerable financial resources are urgently required, which are far beyond the means of many countries. While UN Habitat is not a funding agency, the rationale of the programme will involve developing low-cost solutions and demonstration projects, which can then be leveraged as part of larger more costly programmes supported by donor agencies.

Project counterparts will be local authorities, and through them participants will include: local architects, engineers, builders, artisans, professional associations, insurance and reinsurance companies, finance institutions, Governmental agencies, non-Governmental organizations and community groups.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNHCR

UNHCR is pursuing its plan to provide temporary shelters initially to 100 Afghan families (500 persons) who have been affected by the earthquake. The proposal is to use containers as temporary shelters. UNHCR has already secured funding for this but is awaiting BAFIA's agreement to accept Afghans affected by the earthquake within the compound that BAFIA has prepared for Iranians. This agreement is important as Afghans do not have land or property rights. These containers will be given to BAFIA for use by locals once the Afghans leave. BAFIA has agreed to this in principle during two meetings held with them. However, this agreement is yet to be implemented on the ground. UNHCR will be able to proceed almost immediately once it receives the go-ahead from BAFIA.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNICEF

UNICEF provided immediate emergency assistance to Bam following the earthquake in the form of emergency supplies and technical support. Since then UNICEF has been playing the leading UN efforts in the areas of water and sanitation and child protection. Support to affected children has included psychosocial and mental health trauma counselling and tracing of separated and orphaned children. UNICEF is playing a lead role in implementation of education activities for primary school children. In addition, the agency is engaged in child health and nutrition through rehabilitation of the immunization cold chain and routine immunization services to children under five, and through child nutrition through provision of supplementary feeding for malnourished and children at risk.

UNICEF has also been arranging and supporting teacher, health and social worker training on psychosocial counselling of children and women. The agency has brought in international high-level technical expertise in all the areas of its work. UNICEF has so far spent more than \$1.5 million from its own resources for activities in Bam and surrounding villages and has appealed for \$14.3 million for the recovery and rehabilitation phase. So far US \$8.3 million has been pledged against the appeal.

The future role of UNICEF in Bam is expected to be rather limited compared to the ongoing activities, as the agency will not engage in any physical infrastructure construction or related work. Rather, UNICEF will focus on the "soft component", the rehabilitation of basic social services and the following additional areas subject to availability of funds:

- provision of technical assistance in WES and psychosocial programmes for children and women if requested by the Government of Iran and provincial authorities;
- support to the primary health care system, with a focus on child health and nutrition issues such as immunization, growth monitoring and health worker training;
- advocacy for child friendly spaces within the new city plan for Bam and if required provision of play ground equipment;
- advocacy and technical support for the introduction of the child friendly school concept in the new city, and equipment and books for school libraries;
- introduction of early child care centres along the model adopted in other provinces in Iran;
- introduction of the protective environment concept to authorities in the social welfare, health and education sectors, in particular to prevent child abuse, exploitation and neglect;

- establishment of system to monitor vulnerable children and children at risk in Bam, its surrounding villages and elsewhere in Kerman province; and
- HIV/AIDS and life skills education for children and adolescents of younger than 18 -years.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of UNIDO

UNIDO can play an important role in the reconstruction and socio-economic rehabilitation of Bam by providing the required technical support to reconstruction in all sectors as well as specific support to reconstruction and development of local industry, i.e. micro, small and medium enterprises. Potential UNIDO inputs to the reconstruction process include technology transfer for earthquake resistant building construction and strengthening of existing capacities. UNIDO can provide concrete assistance in the rehabilitation of housing sector by using debris and other local materials for production of affordable materials at low cost. Such technologies can also be used for construction of hospitals, schools and other public buildings.

In the context of its upcoming inter-regional programme on *Capacity Building for Transfer of Energy-Efficient and Eco-Friendly Technologies and Promotion of Local Investments in the Area of Materials based on Local Resources for Low Cost Housing in Africa, Asia and Latin America*, UNIDO may be able to provide some seed funding and technical support services for the development and implementation of the above-mentioned activities. UNIDO can also support the efforts of other UN agencies by providing technical support for reconstruction of water and sanitation facilities, setting up of priced water distribution systems, and establishment of solid waste management facilities.

In addition, UNIDO plans to support the rehabilitation of agro-industries and food sectors. UNIDO has an ongoing project on *Modernization and Expansion of the Date Processing Industry*, a part of which will be devoted to the Bam region. UNIDO is exploring the development of a specific brand for products coming from the Bam region to enhance market access in western high priced markets.

As part of socio-economic rehabilitation, UNIDO in close collaboration with WHO will assist in the establishment and organization of women's vocational training facilities and skill training workshops for youth for income generation and sustainable livelihood. Income-generation activities could be organized in community groups to produce fortified food products (cereals, biscuits, sweets, or other agro-based food items) for children/families. Such activities can be supported through the joint Government-WHO programme and by the ongoing UNIDO project on Women and Youth Entrepreneurship Development.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of WFP

In line with the Corporate Strategic Plan of WFP for 2004-2007, the objective of WFP is to enhance the institutional capacity and coordination mechanisms for disaster management at all levels and during all phases. In accordance with this objective, WFP provides advice and assistance to the Government of Iran, other concerned agencies and local authorities in planning and managing appropriate food aid interventions as well as in providing targeted food aid and associated logistics support to meet refugee and other emergency food needs. With regard to the Bam earthquake, WFP efforts are highlighted as follows:

- *Enhanced collaboration with the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)* - Based on over 40 years of collaboration, WFP and the IRCS signed an agreement in December 2002 to undertake joint assessments and response operations in case of man-made or natural disasters. In response to the Bam earthquake, WFP provided 144 metric tons of High Energy Biscuits, which in turn were distributed (and complemented with other food items) by the IRCS. This initial support is being followed by the distribution of more than 6,300 metric tonnes of WFP emergency food assistance for 100,000 people living in Bam and the surrounding villages for three months. IRCS is responsible for distribution and WFP will carry out the monitoring. WFP is also helping the IRCS to enhance its storage capacity. A three-day Food and Storage Management Training for IRCS storekeepers is planned for mid-February.

- *Support to humanitarian aid workers* - WFP has been operating a United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) passenger aircraft since 12 January 2004 to provide transport services for UN staff, NGO relief workers and donor delegations from/to Bam. For both operations and staff safety, WFP plans to set up six prefabricated offices in the UN compound in Bam and to make them available to OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA and UNSECOORD radio room.
- Support to capacity development for improved disaster mitigation, response and coordination in the Iran

To further improve the effectiveness of disaster mitigation and response, WFP plans to provide expertise in following areas: emergency response and preparedness (particularly telecommunications); national contingency planning; and relief commodity tracking system. The WFP Country Office will continue to prepare itself to assist the victims of future crises. In this respect it will contribute its expertise in emergency response and disaster management within the framework of UNDAF process in Iran and in line with the strategic priorities identified in its Strategic Plan (2004-2007).

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of WHO

WHO has been working even more closely with MOHME since the earthquake. So far, WHO has spent approximately \$400,000 on local and external purchase of drugs, supplies, equipment trauma kits, burn dressing kits and serum. WHO also fielded an international team of six highly qualified staff members to the affected areas. The team has been stationed in Bam ever since the earthquake. In addition, WHO carried out a rapid assessment of urgent and immediate needs in the second week of the earthquake, which were incorporated in the UN Flash Appeal.

To support Bam in the medium-term recovery phase, WHO has developed a framework of collaboration with the Government for the reconstruction and development of the healthcare system as part of the master reconstruction plan. The strategy will also form the basis for a Joint Country Cooperation Strategy for an in-depth review of the health sector and the introduction of innovative approaches in the health care system in line with health sector reform.

A joint Government-WHO programme review mission will develop a detailed plan of action for collaboration and support by WHO for the medium and long term. At this stage, the following areas of cooperation over the medium and long term have been identified:

- physical reconstruction and operationalisation of health infrastructure in the public and private sectors;
- human resources development focusing on expanding the cadre of health workers in the Bam region;
- mobilization and training of Women Health Volunteers;
- introduction of modern health technology for diagnostic and curative purposes; including e health
- improvement of environmental health conditions in the affected area and establishment of monitoring systems;
- mental health care programmes to provide required care to traumatized victims and help in stabilization and social rehabilitation;
- introduction of integrated health services that promote multi-sectoral approaches (police, road and transportation, education, community, etc.) for prevention of road accidents and high quality emergency care;
- strengthening the media interaction and communication facilities of the Department of the International Health in MOHME;
- documentation, research and development of guidelines; and
- coordination for emergency preparedness and rapid response.

Experts and technical missions will be fielded to support the above-mentioned initiatives as required.

Ongoing and upcoming efforts of IOM

In response to the expectations of the Iranian authorities for assistance to the earthquake affected people of Bam, IOM carried out an extensive assessment mission to the area from 10 to 14 January 2004. The team observed that the reconstruction of houses will take some time given the geophysical conditions of the area and other factors and therefore it is important for the people to have intermediate shelters. This would prevent the undesired displacement of people to urban centres in search of a protected shelter. This would also assist the displaced families to take care of reconstruction of their houses and quickly restore their livelihood.

Over recent years, IOM has developed expertise in providing assistance to victims of natural disasters such as Hurricane Mitch which devastated large areas in Central America, the earthquake in Gujarat, India, and more recently, the earthquake in northern Afghanistan. When a severe earthquake hit the state of Gujarat in India in 2001 causing widespread devastation and leaving almost a million people homeless, IOM assisted the local communities in 45 villages in the construction of 2,400 intermediary shelters suited to the local climatic condition and cultural practices. In Bam, IOM proposes to adapt its experiences and assist the efforts of the local government, UNDP, IRCS, other NGOs and the affected communities in constructing appropriate interim / semi-permanent shelters. The object of IOM efforts is to prevent undesired migration and to contribute to the overall national effort for reconstruction and revitalization of the economy of Bam by improving the living conditions of 3,000 families during the critical transition period from relief to recovery.

IOM technical mission has visited Bam to develop a suitable design of shelter for construction in the rural areas of the region. The team was led by the President of Indian Council of Architecture, who had assisted IOM during interim shelter construction in Gujarat, India. The team has finalized the shelter design, keeping in consideration the local conditions, customs, and culture. The shelter design has been approved by BAFIA, IRCS and other agencies.

IOM has stationed a team (based in the UN Camp) at Bam led by an experienced international staff, who was engaged in building shelters in Gujarat, India. An amount of USD 200,000 has been allocated by IOM to start the first phase of the project. For implementation of the project, USD 1.8 million would be required.

As advised by the Bam Disaster Management Task Force, the team is currently constructing a Demo Shelter at the Mayor's office in Baravat village. IOM has prepared a plan of action for construction of 3,000 interim shelters in Baravat village as requested by the Government. IOM plans to start constructing 350 shelters in Baravat village in the first phase of the project by mid-February.

IOM has adopted the following strategy for smoother implementation of the project:

- o Construction of 3,000 shelters for the most vulnerable families in coordination with the Government, UNDP, IRCS and other NGOs working in the area. Designed to withstand the climatic conditions, and constructed with locally available and bio-degradable materials. The families can use the shelters for purposes of storage, cattle shed etc after re-building their houses or even re-use the material construction purposes.
- o Transfer the technology based on IOM global experience by training 100 local artisans on construction of the shelter designed to meet the local conditions, customs and cultural practices.

Develop the capacity of IRCS and other local NGOs in implementation and management of semi-permanent shelters, so that they could respond to the future natural disasters, if any.