Protecting and Promoting Adequate Nutrition in Crisis and Recovery

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
World Conference on Disaster Reduction Kobe-Hyogo, January 2005
Hotspots
(Quick, slow onset, complex)

• Tsunami-affected countries
• Drought prone areas of Africa
• Post conflict situations (Afghanistan, Angola)
• Great Lakes: protracted armed conflicts
• Fast growing cities
• Areas of high prevalence of HIV/AIDS...
Quick Onset: Tsunami

**Indonesia - Banda Aceh Subset 3**

**IKONOS - January 10, 2003 - PRE-DISASTER IMAGE**

**IKONOS - December 29, 2004 - POST-DISASTER IMAGE**

The map shows an area north of the village of Uwage on the northwestern coast of Sumatra (indicated below) and after the devastating Tsunami flood wave, which struck many locations in the Indian Ocean on December 26, 2004. The IKONOS images were taken on January 10, 2003 and December 29, 2004, respectively. The region of Banda Aceh is one of most severely damaged areas. The tsunami caused up to ten kilometers inland and destroyed many parts of the coastal plains, including settlements, farms and farmlands.

**Data Source**
IKONOS imagery provided through Centre for Remote Imaging, Sensing and Processing (CRISP)

Map created December 25, 2004 by ENVI/PCI
Impact of disasters on livelihoods and household food security

• Least resilient households most affected
• Decreased food production, availability
• Assets/stocks destroyed or stolen
• Coping strategies (good and bad)
• Higher prices, lower incomes
• Breakdown of local marketing systems, public services
Impact of disasters on health

- unhygienic living conditions
- disrupted or inaccessible health services
- breakdown of family and social network
- time constraints
- changes in food habits, preparation, allocation
- adoption of risk-inducing behaviours
Disasters and health, Angola
Nutrition in Disaster Response

• immediate humanitarian response to save lives and ensure survival of affected population, and

• a broader response to rehabilitate livelihoods, promote resilience, and protect right to food
Nutrition assessment, DRC
Nutrition assessments – how, why?

- participatory, joint
- essential to appropriate planning and implementation
- strengthen capacity of institutions involved
- lead to appropriate institutional framework
- facilitate transition from emergency to rehabilitation
Principles of broader response

- Rehabilitation a right, not a charity
- Focusing on sustainable livelihoods
- Coupling rehabilitation and reforms
- Relying on, strengthening local capacity
- Coordinated/collaborative approach (UN agencies, local institutions, CSOs)
Monitoring nutritional status

- Surveillance systems in affected areas:
  - to monitor the situation
  - to facilitate timely response
  - to gauge the effectiveness of emergency operations

- Indicators:
  - food consumption/diversityanthropometry
  - anthropometry
  - area specific, jointly defined
Nutritional Status is:

- A proxy for poverty
- An indicator or outcome of unsustainable livelihoods
- A targeting device
- An entry point for integrated assessment and action:
- Determinants of nutritional status are critical indicators of constraints in various aspects of livelihood systems (agriculture, livestock, NR management, education, health, etc.)