Lessons from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami Recovery: Efforts, Problems and Solutions for Better Reconstruction in Developing Countries

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The 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami (IOT) caused a huge economic loss in fishery sector, infrastructures and social facilities in Banda Aceh. In maritime and fisheries sector alone, at least 12,300 fishery boats were swept away and 50 fishery ports were damaged with an amount of economic loss of about 600 million US$. The physical reconstruction started at 2005 (and continued up to 4 years after) has successfully rebuilt the fishery infrastructures as well as the livelihood of the fisherman communities, rebuilding the cities and reconstructing basic facilities and social infrastructures. However, things were rebuilt not without problems. Among the variety problems that exists, for instance, lack of infrastructures at the relocation site forces people back to their origin homes near the shore. Moreover, inappropriate fishing facilities related to the local culture have caused most of the modern fishing boats donated by the donors become useless. This talk will elaborate such problems during the reconstruction phase and ends up with recommendation for better approach for reconstruction in developing countries after a tsunami.
About Abdul Muhari:

Dr. Abdul Muhari joined the Ministry of Marine Affairs, Indonesia on 2005 as a technical officer for coastal disaster mitigation. On 2006, he was a guest scientist in Tohoku University Japan to do research about tsunami mitigation after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. Starting from August 2008 to April 2009, he was a visiting scientist in German Aerospace Center (DLR), Germany to support the development of Indonesian Tsunami Warning System. He went to Tohoku University in Japan on 2009 to pursue his PhD in Tsunami Engineering and experienced the 2011 Japan tsunami. He joined the Willis Research Network on 2012-2014 to conduct assessment of tsunami risk in Japan from the insurance point of view. At the end of 2014, he was back to the Ministry of Marine Affairs as senior officer. At the same time he chairs (joint chairman) the Tsunami Working Group at the Sentinel Asia, an international hub for satellite imageries for disaster management.