



**Name of Event: [Side Event] Desa Tangguh – Resilient Villages in Indonesia**

**Date of Event: May 12, 2011**

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**Organizers: Indonesia's National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) in partnership with community representatives**

**Speakers:**

- Sugeng Triutomo, Deputy, Indonesian Disaster Management Agency
- Suprayoga Hadi, Director, Indonesian Planning and Development Agency
- Gatot, Deputy, Yogyakarta Province Planning & Development Agency
- Anita Dwyer, Partnerships Manager, Australia-Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction
- Wita Katoppo, Research & Innovation Manager, Australia-Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction
- Mohammed Qayyum, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management

**1) Outline**

- Indonesia regularly needs to re-build tens of thousands of houses after natural disasters – but how can communities build back better, quicker and safer?
- How can governments best support communities to rebuild after natural disasters, like the 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake, 2009 West Sumatra earthquake and 2010 Mt Merapi eruption, in a way that empowers communities and makes them safer?
- How does national and local government work on the structural and non-structural resilience of communities?

**2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations**

- After natural disasters, the key factors to building more resilient villages are to:

- Work with the communities and not top-down;
  - Create incentives for people to build back better;
  - Include local wisdom and knowledge
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- The common message from the examples from Yogyakarta, West Sumatra and Bangladesh all show that it is important to involve communities in rebuilding their own households, both permanent and temporary. This makes it quicker, gives greater ownership and helps recovery. Examples showed that with the right support and community involvement, like in Yogyakarta after the 2010 Mt Merapi eruption, over 5,000 temporary houses can be built each day. No contractor can achieve this.
  
  - Government support for building back resilient villages must include local wisdom and knowledge, as well as incentives for communities to build back better. Without these considerations, recovery programs will not be successful.

### **3) Conclusions**

Rebuilding after natural disasters must involve community and household decision-making, and must include principles of structural safety as well as local knowledge. Building Back Better in Indonesia, as well as Bangladesh, has only been successful when national and local governments support communities to rebuild more safely. While the structural resilience is important, it is only by creating incentives, using local wisdom and providing practical support that the real resilience is created in recovering villages.