



World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is working in partnership with the American Red Cross to ensure that recovery and reconstruction activities maintain and enhance healthy ecosystems. The infusion of large amounts of resources to rebuild communities and get people back to work, however well intentioned, can generate greater environmental degradation and increase community vulnerability to future disasters if not designed and implemented to account for local environmental conditions. To mitigate these potential negative effects, the American Red Cross utilizes the technical expertise of WWF and Sri Lanka partner World Conservation Union (IUCN), to evaluate the environmental effects of tsunami recovery and reconstruction activities and provide alternative solutions.

The goals of the partnership are as follows:

1. Ensure that disaster recovery projects are as environmentally friendly as possible.
2. Train American Red Cross staff and partners in sound environmental practices to benefit people and preserve habitats.
3. Build mutual organizational learning, knowledge and experience by working with a wide range of organizations and communities

The partnership focuses on four major themes:

1. **Livelihoods:** restoring jobs, economic opportunities, food sources, and a sense of purpose within communities.
2. **Construction:** rebuilding homes and other structures with sound spatial planning while avoiding damage to local ecosystems, minimizing community exposure, and ensuring future generations have a sustainable supply of building materials.
3. **Water and Sanitation:** helping communities restore their water systems to provide clean, safe water for agriculture, aquaculture, washing and cooking, while also protecting streams, rivers and marine environments.
4. **Disaster Management:** preparing communities and their environment to deal with future disasters with a minimum of human suffering and environmental degradation.

The technical advice of WWF helps to encourage sustainable resource management, and ensure natural resources are kept healthy and available for generations to come.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR WWF SERVICES?

- American Red Cross staff and related program activities in tsunami-affected countries
- American Red Cross staff and related program activities in Washington DC
- International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies partners in tsunami-affected countries
- External partners (including NGOS, UN agencies, and others) in tsunami-affected countries



WHAT IS BEING OFFERED? PROGRAM DESIGN REVIEW

WWF and IUCN provide expert guidance on environmental priorities in recovery project design and delivery. A comprehensive project design and proposal review process identifies possible risks to the environment, based on the best available science, local knowledge and the two organizations' environment management expertise. WWF and IUCN recommend actions to enhance the projects' potential impacts and can provide expertise to assist with implementation of these recommendations. WWF provides technical assistance in program design (including assessment, concept papers, proposals), including suggested reconstruction strategies and indicators of success. Issues addressed may include:

- Spatial planning
- Rebuilding well managed small-scale coastal fisheries
- Rebuilding a well managed commercial fisheries sector
- Rebuilding a sustainably managed aquaculture sector
- Rebuilding a sustainable agriculture sector
- Rehabilitation, recovery and expansion of coastal forests
- Rehabilitation and recovery of rivers, estuaries, and river basins
- Natural disaster mitigation and response strategies
- Integrated coastal management
- Construction materials
- Water systems
- Sanitation and waste disposal
- Debris removal
- Sustainable energy
- Greening Home and Office

WHAT IS BEING OFFERED? TOOLS AND TRAINING

Tools:

- Environment Stewardship Worksheet (ESW) – a checklist for designing green projects
- Report Card – for monitoring the impacts of completed projects
- Monitoring and Evaluation – techniques and indicators for capturing environment impacts
- Water Quality Monitoring - techniques and indicators for capturing environment impacts specific to water and sanitation projects

WWF provides training in the use and application of these tools.

Additional Training:

WWF and IUCN also provide environmental training to increase both personal and organizational responsibility for sustainable practices at the office, as well as in the field. This training covers tools and techniques to reduce the environmental "footprint" of new projects, and improve project design and implementation plans.

The green training workshops have covered such practical matters as:

- Reducing and recycling waste
- Reducing resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions
- Minimizing energy and water consumption
- Improving solid-waste managements
- Making project designs more environmentally sensitive including treatment wetlands
- Solid waste management, composting and home gardening
- Sustainable livelihoods including fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture and tourism

For More Information Contact:

Anita van Breda
World Wildlife Fund
1250 24th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: +1 202 778 9618
email: anita.vanbreda@wwfus.org

Ilisa Gertner
American Red Cross
2025 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: + 1 202 303 5260
email: gertneri@usa.redcross.org