

B.24 Sri Lanka - 2004 - Tsunami

Case study:

Transitional shelter construction

See Shelter Projects
2008 for more

Project type:

Transitional shelter
construction

Disaster:

Indian Ocean tsunami, 26
December 2004

Houses damaged by

disaster:

100,000 nationally; 5,500
in the area where the NGO
was working

Project target population:

1,500 families (Januray
2005), then reduced to
1,000 families (March 2005).
Final total of approximately
850 families.

Occupancy rate on

handover:

Estimated at 90%

Shelter size:

8.6m² (200ft²). Later
upgraded to approximately
20.5m² with enclosable
veranda space



Project timeline

9 months – – Project completion

7 months – – Shelters complete

5 weeks –

4 weeks – – First delivery of
shelter materials

3 weeks – – First prototype
shelter

2 weeks – – Hire first local staff

Dec 2004 – – Tsunami

Summary:

Using easy-to-construct and easy-to-carry metal frame shelters adapted from previous Sri Lanka programmes, the implementing organisation was able to support affected families on in 27 different villages along the coastline. The project avoided the creation of large camps, instead focussing on helping people to build customary plots of land, whither belonging to themselves or negotiated from land owners.



The shelters had a metal frame and a corrugated iron roof
Photo: Jim Kennedy