

FROM EMERGENCY TO SUSTAINABILITY

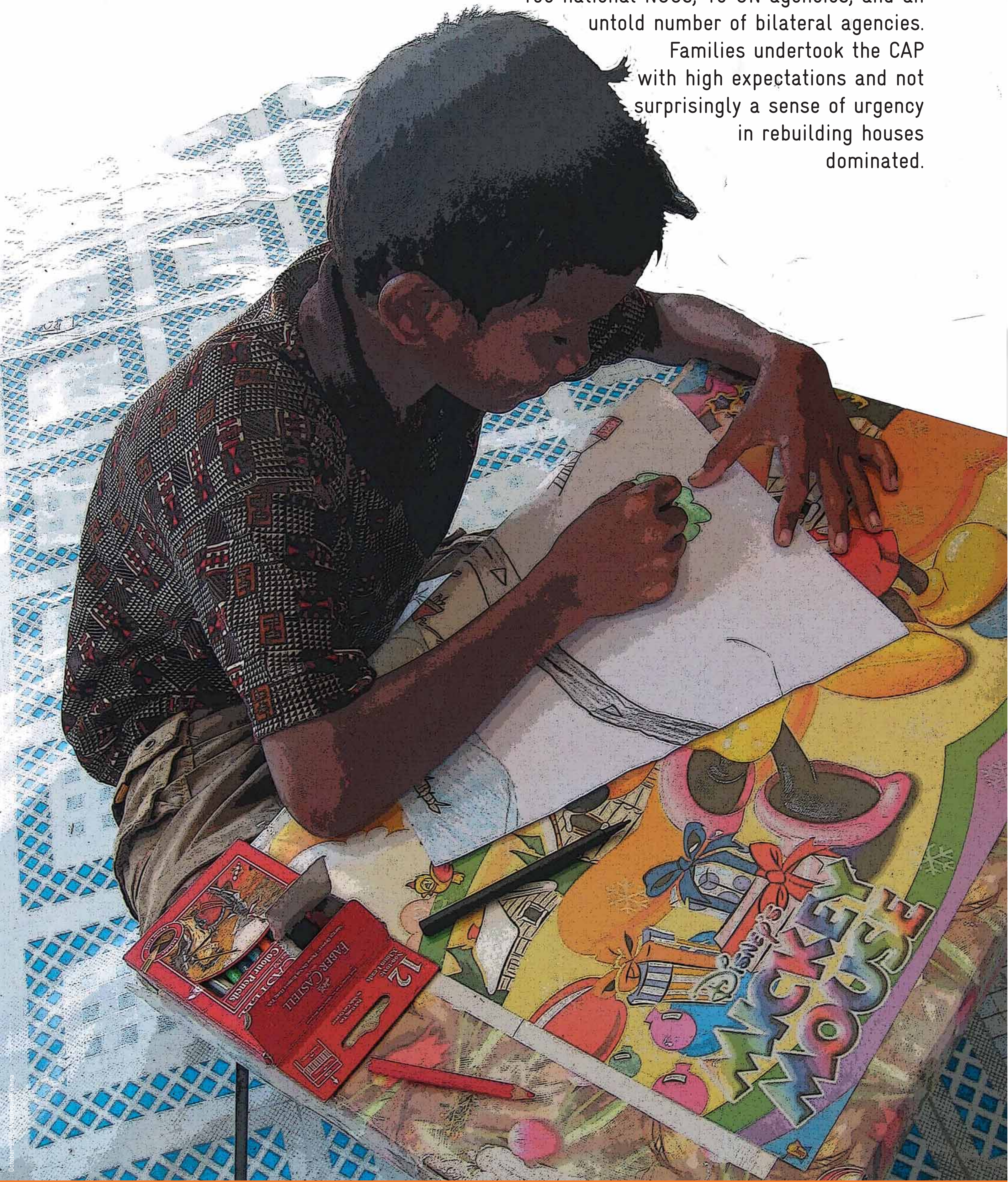
What would you bring back to life?

Three pilot CAP workshops were carried out in June and July of 2005 in Banda Aceh and surrounding areas, to tackle the complex issues of rebuilding Tsunami destroyed communities. The goals were to develop a Tsunami-specific CAP approach, to establish and train a 'CAP Team' for the expansion of the workshops to other destroyed communities, and to initiate construction by linking to a KfW rebuilding project focused on reconstructing 10,000 houses. The community was considered the basic unit on which all development initiatives are keyed and which represents stability within the ever-changing political and strategic framework.

The pilot workshops demonstrated the effectiveness of the approach and provided a 'kick-start' in mobilizing rebuilding. The communities ranged from a small fishing village on the East Coast, a fishing community on the outskirts of Banda Aceh, and a large-inner city community in Banda Aceh itself. The three sites offered a variety of challenges, and a variety of approaches were tested, along with a broad range of planning strategies.

The structure and goals of the CAP workshops were heavily influenced by the generally slow rebuilding situation, 7 months after the Tsunami wracked havoc on December 26. Assistance had been offered by reportedly more than 222 international NGOs, more than 150 national NGOs, 18 UN agencies, and an untold number of bilateral agencies.

Families undertook the CAP with high expectations and not surprisingly a sense of urgency in rebuilding houses dominated.



THE TSUNAMI CAP IN BANDA ACEH, INDONESIA

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The 'Tsunami CAPS' expand the action planning approach to consider the special circumstances of reconstruction and reestablishing communities. The focus is the community as the constant, stable element within the frequent shifts and often conflicting policies and the variable interests of agencies and aid groups.



SITE MODEL

A vital element of the CAP process is a large model of the site. It serves as a driver for the workshop discussions, and facilitates visualization and understanding of the situation in each village. It is used to record physical elements of the village and documents the damaged areas as identified by the community. The CAP model generates a quick, sufficiently accurate, up-to-date status of the community.



HOUSING

Housing is obviously a key concern of the villagers. The long delay since the Tsunami makes reestablishing their community and rebuilding their houses a top priority.

The design is a partnership between the families and the architects. Adequate floor area and a reassuring familiar image is the important concern of the families, and safety and flooding protection is a key concern of the architects.



THE VISION

The community reflects on what it wants to reestablish, as well as what it wants to improve. Children are asked to sketch the good things they remember. They prepare a collective 'vision statement' to guide the overall reconstruction.

SPATIAL PLANNING

The village model provides the base to explore replanning initiatives with particular concern for disaster mitigation. The physical elements are located on the model and the status determined (intact, damaged, destroyed); escape routes are considered; a site assessment of damages is made (buildable as is; needs some site work to be used; requires replanning before development)

TRANSITION TO IMPLEMENTATION

Property corners are reestablished on the site to clarify vulnerable areas and planned escape routes. They act as a catalyst to start the rebuilding process.

DOCUMENTATION

The workshop is documented to preserve the discussions and agreements, but more importantly to guide funders in framing and implementing their contributions. It provides a reference base and starting point for future further development by other funders.



A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENED

Perhaps above all, the A reinforcement of the community and leadership structure, regains a sense of control, direction and hope.

Party!



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The devastation of a community by a natural disaster is a catastrophe at all levels, and affects the physical structures and the vital social and community networks. But it also is an opportunity to 'build back better.'

Opportunities at the Community Level

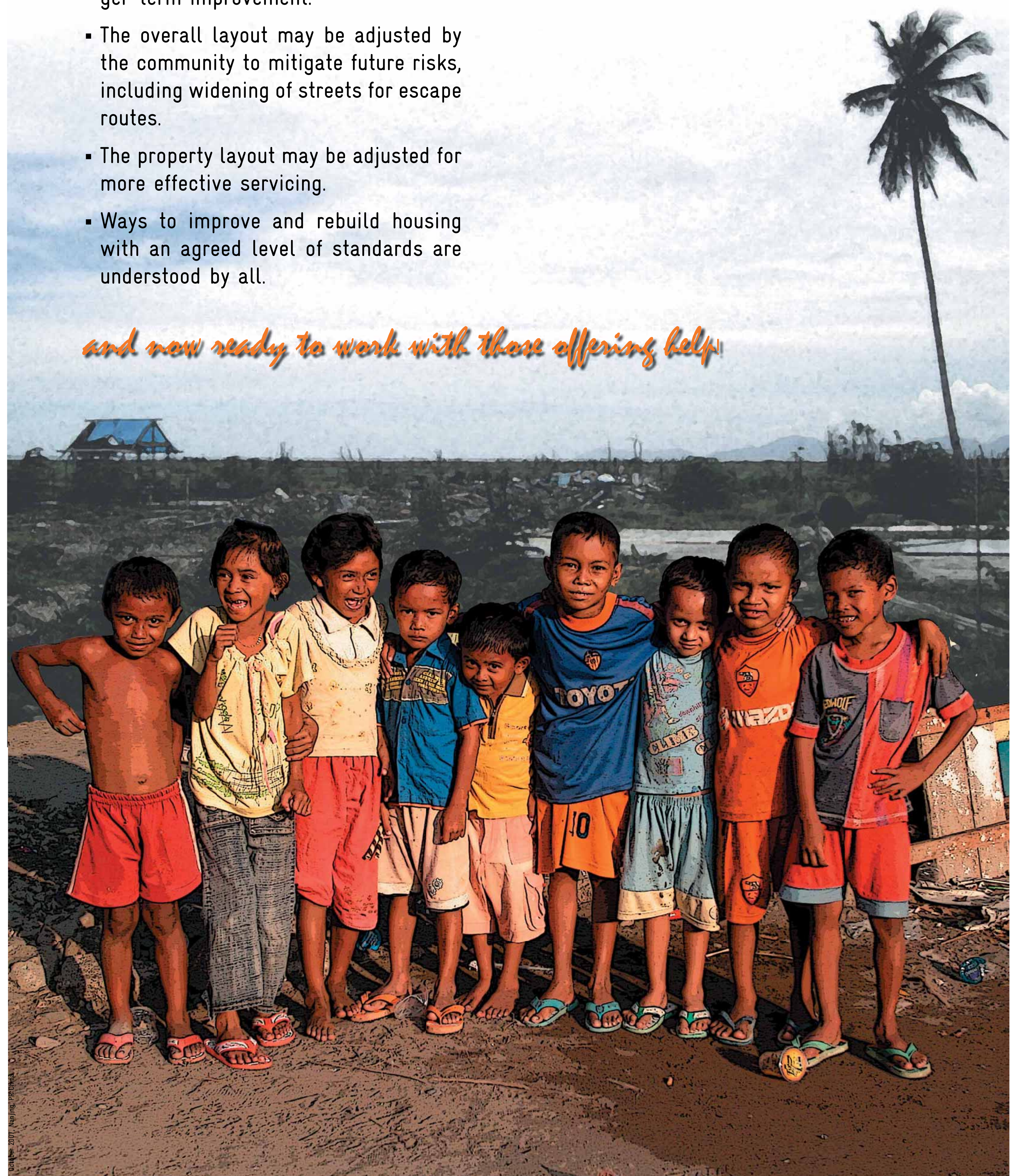
- The community has a guide for rebuilding measures that they can undertake on their own and which do not need outside intervention.
- The confidence gained in defining their issues together encourages continued joint efforts.
- An organizational structure distributes responsibilities among the community for more effective rebuilding and longer-term improvement.
- The overall layout may be adjusted by the community to mitigate future risks, including widening of streets for escape routes.
- The property layout may be adjusted for more effective servicing.
- Ways to improve and rebuild housing with an agreed level of standards are understood by all.

What are the opportunities during the reconstruction process?

Opportunities at the Municipal Level

- A leadership structure is quickly reestablished to help reconstruction.
- A mechanism for rapid communication between government and community is created.
- Immediate, sufficiently accurate information of the community is available to inform rebuilding policies and allocate funding and assistance.

and now ready to work with those offering help!



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