### ASSISTING THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

The primary objective of the CRRP is to assist identified communities and families to rebuild their settlements and housing through implementing the Government base grant with additional financial and other inputs from the Project. Additional objectives are to address the pressing immediate needs of affected communities and to support the establishment of the Community Development Council.

Other objectives of the project include, enabling people to rebuild their social capital through the organization of representative bodies with the capacity to take decisions regarding their own rebuilding process and establishing their community level governance structures in the form of Community Development Councils. Assisting the families to establish access to the banking system and to help them to get employment from the investment of the rebuilding process as a way of contributing to the recovery of the local economy are other objectives.

An all-pervading objective is to improve the quality of life of the affected communities through better and secure housing, improved sanitation, improved social infrastructure, home gardening and attention to the protection and enhancement of the environment.

**Soratha Chandrasri Peraa’s Tsunami destroyed house and the new house at Kalmunai, Kalutara District.**

### PARTNERS WORKING TOGETHER TO ASSIST THE COMMUNITIES

The project is guided by a National Steering Committee (NSC) of the Partners which meets quarterly. The day to day management decisions on implementation are taken by the National Project Management Team (NPMT) chaired by the UN-Habitat National Project Manager who meets every week.

District offices have been established in all operational areas by the UN-Habitat. Under each District Manager there are Engineers, Technical Officers, Community Mobilizers, a Data Base Operator and an Administration and Finance Assistant appointed by UN-Habitat as well as Community Mobilizers and Monitoring personnel from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) that raises and provides funds for the Project, monitors progress and provides a feedback to the donors.

### IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

The basis of CRRP implementation strategy is community mobilization, which enables the affected families to organize themselves to take collective action by developing their own plans and strategies for recovery. The mobilization and the organization of the community are strengthened through the establishment of a representative and elected Community Development Council (CDC) which is registered either with the Divisional Secretariat in rural areas or the Local Authority in municipal or Urban Council areas. With the establishment of the CDC, a Community Action Plan is prepared by the community under UN-Habitat guidance. The Community Action Planning (CAP) and management approach sees people as the main resource for development rather than as an object of the development effort or as mere recipients of benefits. The objective of this approach is to motivate and mobilize the people of a settlement to take the lead in the planning and implementation of their own improvement activities.

The CRRP programme has reached 5655 tsunami affected families in seven districts in Sri Lanka and 77 Community Development Councils have been formed.

### BUILDING HOUSING AND ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Housing is the core component of the project and the financial instalments are paid direct to the beneficiary bank accounts by the IFRC on recommendation of UN-Habitat. This UN-Habitat recommendation is based on a request by the Community Development Councils, endorsed after inspection by District level staff.

A unique feature of the CRRP programme is the development of a comprehensive database which has all beneficiary details, payments made and construction progress. Physical progress made by the beneficiaries are entered into the database and payment lists are generated from the database, while the instalments are paid direct to the beneficiary bank accounts.

**A newly constructed house at Palkavale, Jaffna under the CRRP.**

It was earlier envisaged that the CRRP will provide a top-up grant equivalent to the Government base grant. However, the project has now developed a separate localisation cost per District-based on the building costs in each district.

The CRRP insists on the construction of a sanitary latrine with minimum standards as an essential component for improving the quality of life and provides a separate grant of US $ 300 for this purpose.

Project funds at the rate of US $ 80 per beneficiary family are allocated to rebuild or improve community infrastructure facilities through community contracts undertaken by the Community Development Councils. The Community Contract scheme is perhaps the most important financial incentive provided there by the local communities to take responsibility, developing local economy and promoting skills transfers. Up to date 50 community contracts have been completed.

Livelihood development is being planned under the Project to supplement livelihood initiatives already planned and to forge links with related agencies, like the Women’s Bank of Sri Lanka.