

**Rehabilitation of Lives and Livelihoods Impacted by the December 26, 2004
Tsunami in the Coastal Communities of Tamil Nadu, India**

**A Proposal from Bhoomika Trust to Create a Livelihood Fund for
Unorganized Workers and other Marginalized Communities**

March 20, 2005

Project Title: Establishment of a special fund to support the immediate livelihood needs of those communities affected by the Tsunami, who have been less visible to organized relief and rehabilitation efforts.

Aim/Purpose: As in other disasters, death and visible destruction are often equated with the need for help; and the bulk of the immediate aid tends to focus on such ‘directly affected’ communities--in this case, the fishing villages along the coast, which bore the brunt of the Tsunami. However, as more and more damage assessments point out, there are numerous communities, whose economies depended upon fishing, and whose livelihoods have been seriously impaired since the Tsunami. Unfortunately, there has been little or no effort yet by larger NGOs or the government to fund the rehabilitation of such communities. The objective of this Livelihood Fund is to seek individuals and communities who are ‘falling through the crack,’ and to ensure that they have access to resources that can help reestablish their livelihoods.

Partner Organizations: Identifying and authenticating the situation of people who fall in this category is obviously much more difficult than in the organized sector. Bhoomika therefore plans to work with organizations such as the Unorganized Workers Federation, Chennai, who have significant presence in these communities, and with whom we have already developed a working relationship during the relief phase.

Expected Deliverables:

Fund and monitor two aspects of livelihood: 1. Replace tools of trade, or markets, lost due to the Tsunami, and 2. Train communities--especially women--to take up alternative livelihoods, where needed and where possible. Some of the examples of livelihood options in the two categories are:

1. **Replace Tools of Trade:** Tailoring machines, carpenters tools, raw material for beedi-making, cobblers’ tools, small farming tools, baskets for fish vendors, basket-making capital for the gypsy community, etc.
2. **Alternative Livelihoods:** Brick making and running of brick kilns; training of masons, to be aggressively ‘marketed’ to NGOs in shelter construction; hand-weaving of fish nets; hand-made paper making; agarbathi making, packing of pickles and spices, etc.

Time frame/Milestones for Fund Release:

Bhoomika has already started funding small projects under this scheme, for example funding raw material to support 12 tailoring centers to be established in the affected

communities around Nagapattinam. This work will be supervised by an experienced designer and tailoring expert--who has already been identified--who has considerable expertise in managing such work and in marketing the products.

Project Risk Considerations:

While there may be some 'risk' of funding or training people who may not have been seriously affected by the Tsunami, the risk of overlooking genuinely affected people is far greater without such a special fund.

Estimated Project Cost:

The initial target for the fund is Rs. 1 crore

Funds Requested:

Resources available to Bhoomika to seed the fund: Rs. 50 lakhs

Recipient of Support, Address, Regn No:

Bhoomika Trust is exempted under US 80G of Income Tax Act, 1961, vide DIT (E) order in approval no. 2(406)/2000-01 dated 13-3-2003 PAN Number AAATB3967D

Registered Office:

Bhoomika Trust, 32 Karpagam Avenue 1st street, Chennai 600 028

Administrative Office:

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Contributions within India towards this proposal may be made in the form of rupee cheques favoring:

Bhoomika Trust, Apt 3A Third Floor, Old No 12, New No 40
Murray's Gate Road, Alwarpet
Chennai – 600 018, Tamil Nadu, India

Contributions from Abroad towards this proposal may be made in one of two ways:

A. OUR PREFERRED METHOD: Bhoomika is eligible to receive foreign funds under the special FCRA Approval provided for Tsunami relief, via notification by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, reference II/21022/11(19)/2004-FCRA I, dated 30th December, 2004. Bhoomika has already complied with the regulations under the notification. However, **such contributions must be received no later than March 31, 2005**—unless extended by the government—and may have to be spent within a limited period of time (perhaps a year).

Bank Details: For DOLLAR remittances only

Pay To Chase Manhattan Bank
4, Chase Metrotech Centre, Brooklyn, NY 11245, USA
Swift: CHASUS33
For credit to A/c # 0011407376 of UTI Bank, Mumbai
For further credit to Ac number 006010100611060

Beneficiary Name

Bhoomika Trust A/c Tsunami Relief Account
With UTI Bank 82 Dr R K Salai
Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004

Bank Details: For EURO remittances only

Pay To CITIBANK
Nue Mainzer Strasse 75, 60311 Frankfurt
Swift: CITIDEFF
For credit to A/c # 4115661006 of UTI Bank, Mumbai
For further credit to Ac number 006010100611060

Beneficiary Name

Bhoomika Trust A/c Tsunami Relief Account
With UTI Bank 82 Dr R K Salai
Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004

B. Any foreign funds received for this project after March 31, 2005 may also be accepted by Bhoomika after obtaining 'prior permission' from the Home Ministry, Government of India—i.e. *before* the donor wires the funds. However, Bhoomika is expecting to obtain permanent FCRA Registration in the very near future.

C. U.S. residents interested in tax benefits under IRS 501c(3) may make their contributions in the form of dollar cheques or online donations to ICA (www.icaonline.org), which is supporting Bhoomika's rehabilitation efforts. Cheques should be made out to **Indians for Collective Action**, with a note mentioning that it is for the Bhoomika Trust Tsunami Relief/Rehabilitation efforts.