UNICEF’s response to the disaster

- Emergency immunization to prevent fatal childhood diseases;
- Supply of clean, safe water and provision of basic sanitation;
- Special feeding for malnourished children and pregnant women;
- Care for traumatized children;
- Protection for unaccompanied and separated children;
- Provision of education kits and rehabilitation of schools.
In Sri Lanka, UNICEF provided 30,000 sleeping mats, bed sheets and towels, 10,000 sets of cooking pots, 10,000 t-shirts, and 420 cases of washing soap within the first days of the emergency.
A 6 day measles immunization campaign was conducted in Indonesia at the beginning of March.
In Indonesia, 96,000 liters of water are provided every day in support of 6,400 people, of which approximately 1,280 are children.
In Thailand and the Maldives, UNICEF provides information on psychosocial support.
Child protection issues

- Unaccompanied and separated children:
  - Registration of children
  - Family tracing and reunification
  - Placement of children, adoption

- Psychosocial support

- Trafficking of children, sexual exploitation

- Recruitment of children
Future concerns

- Continued risks of child exploitation;
- Support to single parent households;
- Continued monitoring of foster care placement;
- Programs to address domestic violence;
- Child marriage;
- Training of UN staff on Code of Conduct;
Rebuilding a Protective Environment

- Government Commitment
- Legislation
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Essential Services and Rehabilitation
- Awareness of Community
- Children's Lifeskills
- Open Discourse

Protective Environment
Situation in specific countries
Sri Lanka:

- 16 unaccompanied children
- 1,114 separated children
- 3,750 children who lost one parent
Sri Lanka

- CSEC is a big problem in all major tourist locations;
- Post tsunami situation not very well known;
- Newspaper reports on trafficking and child abuse;
- All actors recognize increased vulnerability of children;
- SL might seem particularly attractive to pedophiles at the moment (high number of vulnerable children, low number of tourists);
Before Tsunami, UNICEF had initiated discussions with Tourism Board and private sector;

Draft Action Plan developed by Tourism Board;

Includes activities such as info for tourists upon arrival and at the hotel, training of staff, workshops, promotion of code, monitoring of hotels;

Tourist Board will allocate a staff person full time;

Tourist Board also acknowledges the opportunity to bring up CSEC with the tourism sector when the tourism areas are again being built up
Maldives

- Many young people lost their jobs, savings, homes etc. Desperate to earn money.

- Tourism sector is expanding in other atolls, monitoring and surveillance is minimal.

- Large number of children completing secondary schools, no employment in sight after that.
Malaysia

- No unaccompanied/separated/orphaned children
- Malaysia was spared the full impact of the tsunami;
- Hotels and resorts are operating as usual; occupancy rates are same as last year’s;
- Infrastructure is intact;
- Health services and education facilities are operating;
- UNICEF and MoH start a psycho social counseling project;
Indonesia

- It is estimated that 2.5% of IDPs (430,000) are separated and unaccompanied children;
- Setting up of registration camps;
- Training of volunteers;
- Coordination group on trafficking and sexual exploitation;
Indonesia

- A regional consultation on the "Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism" Bali in June 2003; Bali Declaration/Proposals for Action.

- Implementation of the National Plan of Action against CSEC and Trafficking at provincial level.

- Collaboration with Child Wise Australia (a branch of ECPAT) to prevent CSEC and trafficking in Indonesia. UNICEF: creating alternative education, training and employment opportunities to empower young people.

- YCDP, or Youth Career Development Programme was expanded to Indonesia in 2003; a first batch of seven trainees completed this six-month vocational training programme;
India

- 361 orphans
- 1807 semi orphans
India

- UNICEF raises awareness around trafficking;
- Only 50% of children are back to school;
- Generous financial package to orphans (gov.)
- Goa is area most affected by CSEC – was not hit by the Tsunami
- Study on the situation of children in 5 tourism areas
- UNICEF plans to use the outcome of the study to advocate for child protection issues
Thailand

- 90 children orphaned
- 765 who lost one parent
- 27 lost immediate guardian
● Child protection and HIV/AIDS assessment both indicate the extreme vulnerability of children;

● Loss of livelihood and migrant labour for reconstruction are underlying factors;

● Restoring livelihoods for 120,000 families will take approximately 2 years;

● 4 of the six affected provinces have a thriving sex industry;

● As of now, no evidence of trafficking or sexual exploitation of children as a result of the Tsunami, but all risk factors are there;
UNICEF action

- Awareness raising about the erosion of protection, the need to restore livelihoods, and to ensure that children stay in school – including with international and national media;

- HIV/AIDS activities started in the tsunami areas focusing on information for young people, condoms etc.

- Issues of sexual exploitation etc will be included in the young people discussions;

- NGO partners who are active in combating sex tourism are being contacted;
What the tourism sector can do
Do:

- Respect Survivor Privacy & Dignity

- Contribute in-kind and financial resources to legally recognized, government endorsed organizations

- Consult with local Officials to see how best to contribute

- Support Local Businesses

- Encourage tourists to return to our beaches
Don’t:

- Become a Disaster Tourist
- Ask survivors and children to repeat their stories or draw pictures
- Target just tsunami orphans
- Assume your contribution is needed