



**BUILD CHANGE**

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**Build** Disaster-Resistant Buildings  
**Change** Construction Practice Permanently

Press Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Build Change Announces Aceh Earthquake Recovery Project**

*International nonprofit social enterprise Build Change seeks funds and partners to support safe reconstruction in Aceh Province after the December 7 earthquake.*

**Denver, CO (December 12, 2016)** Build Change announces that they will respond to the recent earthquake in Aceh, Indonesia beginning the week of December 12, 2016.

More than 11,500 houses were damaged in the 6.5-magnitude earthquake that struck Aceh province on December 7, 2016. An additional 250 public buildings were damaged or have collapsed, including at least 16 educational facilities. Initial estimates are that 23,000 people have been displaced.

Build Change is sending a team of local experts to the area the week after the devastating earthquake to evaluate the damage in the area, connect with local organizations and government officials, and start supporting long-term recovery of housing and schools. The government has already dedicated 40 million Indonesian Rupiah (3,000 USD) to rebuild each destroyed home. Build Change now seeks funds and partners to provide essential, locally-appropriate engineering support and builder and brickmaker training.

Build Change has been working in Indonesia since the 2004 earthquake and tsunami that killed more than 100,000 people in Aceh alone. The organization has implemented technical assistance programs after the 2007 and 2009 earthquakes in West Sumatra and Bengkulu and the 2013 earthquake in Aceh near Takengon. In the past 12 years, Build Change has contributed to nearly 20,000 safer buildings in Indonesia alone, allowing over 95,000 people to live and learn in safer homes and schools. The organization has a pre-existing network in the Aceh province, and will mobilize this network to respond to the need for safe, permanent housing.

All donations to [Build Change Aceh Province Earthquake Recovery Fund](#) will go to support technical assistance and long-term recovery in the area. International parties interested in partnering with Build Change in this effort should contact the headquarters office in Denver, CO, USA. Interested parties with a local presence in Indonesia should contact our office in Padang at [triani@buildchange.org](mailto:triani@buildchange.org).

#### **About Build Change**

Build Change saves lives in earthquakes and windstorms by working with people in emerging nations to build homes and schools that will protect their families and children. Build Change works to strengthen buildings before and after disasters strike in Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines by improving local construction practice and building long-term resilience. More than 25,000 people have been trained in disaster-resistant design and construction techniques and have built over 48,000 safer homes, impacting 245,000 people. Visit [www.buildchange.org](http://www.buildchange.org) and follow us on Twitter [@BuildChange](https://twitter.com/BuildChange).