



United Nations Human Settlements Programme  
(UN-HABITAT)  
Programme des Nations Unies pour les établissements humains  
Jl. T.M.Pahlawan No.3A, Banda Aceh, NAD,  
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## ***“Rumah Impian Loen”*, My Dream House A Comic for Community Monitoring**

**Press Release - April 10, 2006**

Building 100.000 new houses as a part of reconstruction and rehabilitation process in Aceh and Nias have been a challenging tasks for many people, contractors, and also NGOs. In earthquake prone areas, such as in Aceh, all buildings, including houses, has to cope with the safety of building materials and special construction method to address the earthquake.

Currently, the Public Works Department (PU) and Aceh-Nias Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Agency (BRR) produced information guideline named Aceh Building Code. The guideline is also supported by UN-Habitat in cooperation with Engineering Department of the Syiah Kuala University (Unsyiah), Banda Aceh. UN-Habitat also signed an agreement with the Public Works Department (NAD) for co-operation on the evaluation of monitoring results in relation to construction quality.

### **THE COMIC**

To better explain the Building Code for lay people, Architecture Clinic (ArCli) created a fun, light, easy reading comics so 1) all age group and lay people can acquire a better grasp about the good building materials and good building techniques and 2) building/house owners can participate in self-help building their house, and 3) increase people awareness (community monitoring) in Aceh.

The comic was developed by ArCli -- who is a joint initiative of PT Holcim Indonesia, Tbk, GTZ, and Indonesian Architecture Institute (IAI) – the comic explains sustainability building materials and suitable building methods in Aceh.. With the dissemination of the comics, ArCli hopes that beneficiaries and beneficiary communities also participating in monitoring and evaluation building materials and codes.

*“Rumoh Impian Loen”* or literally translated as “My Dream House ” is being printed at 30.000 exemplars and will be distributed for free within tsunami-affected areas in Aceh.

### **THE STORY LINE**

The comic explains how to construct a house using sustainable materials (from site planning to housing design and to implementation, based on applicable technical guidance as described in the Building Code and the Indonesian National Standard (SNI)). The comic explains about the importance of environmentally-friendly building practices and the local production of building materials. The comic has a simple story line. It started with an ordinary Acehnese beneficiary family who lost their house during the



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tsunami that got itself interested to involve directly to build their house back. When the family realized that the knowledge they received during trainings of making building material and building technique can be turned into profit, the family decided to start their own business as building material producers.

## COMICS DISTRIBUTION

As always, the biggest challenge is distribution and socialization process of the comic. Both of the beneficiaries and reconstruction locations that spread out throughout Aceh Province have made socialization and distribution of the comic is a challenge. Other concern is the comic will not reach the beneficiaries, who suppose to be benefited from the information.

In term of distribution, ArCli will distribute the comics in Banda Aceh to their training participants in their locations at Jalan Pemancar 5 and their on-site training locations in Banda Aceh. Meanwhile, UN-Habitat is finalizing a plan with a local NGO, "Persaudaraan Aceh", to distribute the comic in Aceh Besar, Pidie and Bireun. Persaudaraan Aceh will also assist in socializing the content, for instance by organizing "reading classes" in communities.

UN-Habitat has also requested BRR to distribute the comic to the small and medium-sized contractors which will be building houses soon with BRR funds. Unsyiah's monitoring teams will distribute the comic in all communities which they visit for monitoring purposes.

### Below table is Targeted Distribution of Comics

Kabupaten	Housing Need ('05)	Comics required
Aceh Barat	15,000	5,000
Aceh Barat Daya	20,000	500
Aceh Besar	13,000	2,000
Aceh Jaya	2,000	4,000
Aceh Selatan	3,000	1,000
Aceh Singkil	1,000	1,000
Aceh Timur	6,000	500
Aceh Utara	17,000	1,500
Banda Aceh	6,000	3,500
Bireuen	0	1,500
Langsa	3,000	0
Lhokseumawe	4,000	1,500
Nagan Raya	8,000	1,000
Pidie	0	2,000
Sabang	8,000	500
Simeulue	0	3,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>29.000</b>



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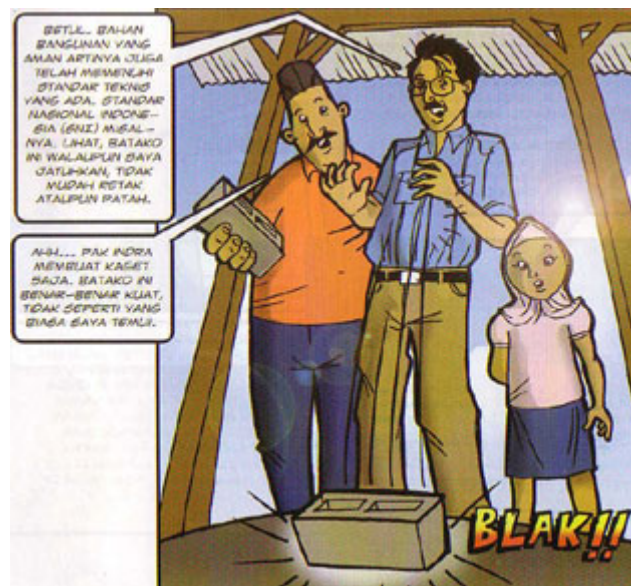
*( Comics are distributed in function of the anticipated outstanding need in each district, with a target of one comic per two beneficiary families.)*

### ACQUIRING COMICS

Related to distribution, dissemination and socialization of the comic, UN-Habitat asks NGOs for their help in distributing the comic within their working areas. **The comic is distributed to the community at free of charge.** NGOs/Institutions who is interested in obtaining copies of the comic and assisting in distribution and require information regarding the contents of the comics can contact :

**ArCli** (contact : Goolda Siahaan, 0651 7429961, 0813-1440 8868, [sbudiarto@cbn.net.id](mailto:sbudiarto@cbn.net.id)) and **UN-Habitat** (contact : Diella Dachlan, 0651 741-2525 / 0812-6991779), [diella@unhabitat-indonesia.org](mailto:diella@unhabitat-indonesia.org))

Article by : UN-Habitat and ArCli



“Rumah Impian Loen”Comic