

## **What I Think After the Earthquake Disaster Recovery Project**

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Thanks to FOLENS and RQ, I had a great opportunity to get to see the earthquake-affected areas, talk with and listen to the local residents, and feel what it has been like to be affected and damaged directly by tsunami.

It was my first time visiting the disaster area, and it was obvious that the victims need more support. But, it was not how I pictured it would look like, which was what I saw on the TV and Newspaper – the cities and towns remained buried in rubble all over. It has been a year, and it was clear, I mean, it was literally clear – there were nothing: there was neither rubble nor even the part of buildings. We were able to see the sea from where we were standing, where we wouldn't have seen if there were buildings and didn't get affected by tsunami.

RQ told us that the local residents have moved on a next level, where they need more than food supplies and rubble disposal support: they need jobs and tourisms to make the cash flow in and economic better. At first, before I met them, I imagined that they were too desperate or too greedy but when I actually saw them, I was very impressed that they were so strong that they look things positively and how they tried to move on little by little and how they thank what they have got in their situations.

I was very thankful to join the part of disaster recovery project and get to see their smile. I was also grateful to experience what it is like to live as a part of a volunteer organization. From the bottom of my heart, I pray that, as the recovery progresses, the day will come when we all smile for peace, and to make it happen, I would like to do anything I can do.