



## **Press Release**

# **Emaar rebuilds earthquake-ravaged Indonesian village**

- *Joint initiative with World Association of NGOs*
- *Monolithic EcoShell homes mitigate disaster impact*
- *Support for building homes, clinic, road reconstruction*
- *Pilot project will be model for homes in disaster-prone areas*

**Ngelepen, Indonesia; May 1, 2007:** As part of its corporate social responsibility programme, Emaar Properties, the Dubai-based property developer, is reconstructing an earthquake-ravaged village in Indonesia. The rebuilding work, undertaken with the participation of the local population and the provincial municipality, was completed three months ahead of schedule in April 2007.

A joint initiative with the World Association of Non-Government Organizations (WANGO), Emaar's project in the village of Ngelepen encompasses the construction of unique Monolithic EcoShell Dome homes, which mitigate the effects of natural disasters. Emaar's support is also for building a clinic, reconstructing roads, landscaping and planting of fruit trees.

"We wish to support the residents of Ngelepen, whose lives were disrupted in the devastating earthquake of May 2006," said Mr. Mohamed Ali Alabbar, Chairman, Emaar Properties. "As a global developer, Emaar upholds a social commitment to societies bearing the brunt of disasters, wherever they are based. The rebuilding of Ngelepen, as a pilot project, will serve as a model for a disaster-safe, permanent, economical, hygienic and efficient construction strategy in disaster-prone areas."

More than 3,000 people were killed and thousands injured in the devastating earthquake in Java in May 2006. The quake, measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale, flattened several buildings and devastated villages.



The Emergency Relief Domes Housing Project in Ngelepen started in October 2006 following a meeting between Mr. Alabbar and Mr. Taj Hamad, Secretary General, WANGO. "We contracted Domes for the World Foundation, which specializes in the construction of environment-friendly homes that can minimise the effects of natural disasters," said Mr. Hamad of WANGO. "An in-depth field and feasibility study was undertaken for constructing the dome-shaped homes with the participation of the local population."

More than 370 people including villagers and experts took part in the pilot project, and 80 well-trained and 100 semi-trained villagers adapted easily to the construction methodologies for the Monolithic EcoShell homes. These homes are two-bedroom concrete structures with living and dining facilities finished with floor tiles, and a wooden mezzanine level that can be converted to additional living areas. Emaar has already received over 200 requests from individuals requesting that similar homes are built for them.

The rebuilt Ngelepen village will feature 71 residential domes with kitchen sink and water supply; six communal domes with separate laundry, bath and sanitation facilities for men and women; a kindergarten, clinic, mosque, multi-purpose play ground with well-knit roads and drains.

Project staff documented all aspects of the construction to ensure easy replication of the model in other parts of the world. "We are thankful to the Indonesian government for their support to the venture and are grateful that the initiative has been accepted by the government and the Gadjah Mada University Department of Architecture. Officials of the United Nations had toured the village and their reaction was extremely encouraging," said Mr. Alabbar. "The response to the homes from the local population and press has been positive, and reinforces our commitment to socially relevant causes."

- ends-

### **Photo Caption**

*(From right): World Association of NGO (WANGO) Secretary General Taj Hamad, Sleman Regent Ibnu Subianto, Emaar Properties Chairman Mohamed Ali Alabbar, Indonesia Minister for Public Housing Yusuf Asy'ari, WANGO International Council Chairman Chung Hwan Kwak, and Indonesian special envoy to the Middle East Alwi Shihab at the inauguration of the 71 dome houses built in Ngelepen. The Monolithic EcoShell home, which mitigates the impact of natural disasters, is seen in the backdrop.*



## **Note to Editors**

### **About Emaar Properties PJSC:**

Emaar Properties PJSC is one of the world's largest real estate companies and is rapidly evolving to become a global provider of premier lifestyles. Powered by its Vision 2010 to become one of the most valuable companies in the world, Emaar is charting a new course of growth with a two-pronged strategy of geographical expansion and business segmentation.

Replicating its successful business model in Dubai, Emaar is extending its expertise in creating master-planned communities to international markets. Emaar is also developing new competencies in retail, hospitality and leisure, education, healthcare, finance and industry, which have evolved from its integrated approach to customer service and property development.

Listed on the Dubai Financial Market, part of the Dow Jones Arabia Titans Index and certified to ISO9001:2000 for quality standards, Emaar is developing Burj Dubai, on its way to become the world's tallest tower, and The Dubai Mall, one of the world's largest shopping and entertainment destinations. In Saudi Arabia, Emaar is developing King Abdullah Economic City, the region's largest private sector-led project. Emaar's portfolio currently covers the following countries: the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, Libya, India, Pakistan, the US, the UK, France and Canada.

An award-winning developer, Emaar has strengthened its product sale competencies, market reach and best practices through strategic acquisitions and joint ventures. Emaar acquired John Laing Homes, America's second largest privately held home builder; Hamptons International, UK's premier realtor; and formed a joint venture with US-based Turner International to strengthen execution capabilities.

Emaar has joined hands with Giorgio Armani and Accor Hotels to strengthen its presence in hospitality, and will launch ten luxury Armani resorts and hotels world-wide and 100 Formule 1 budget hotels in India. The company is opening educational institutions and healthcare centres in South Asia, Middle East and North Africa and the Subcontinent. Emaar acquired Singapore-based leading education provider, Raffles Campus, to extend expertise to its educational institutions.

Emaar holds 30 per cent equity in Dubai Bank, focused on retail and commercial banking. Emaar is also the largest shareholder in Amlak Finance, UAE's leading Islamic home financing company. For more information, visit [www.emaar.com](http://www.emaar.com).

### **For further information, please contact:**

Kelly Home / Nedal Alasaad

ASDA'A Public Relations

Exclusive Affiliate of Edelman PR Worldwide in Middle East & North Africa

Tel: (+971 4) 335 5969; Fax: (+971 4) 335 6080

E-mail: [k.home@asdaa.com](mailto:k.home@asdaa.com), [n.alasaad@asdaa.com](mailto:n.alasaad@asdaa.com)