

## **2008 Dubai Award winners announced!**

***Huairou Commission member UPLINK in Indonesia to be one of twelve recipients for post-tsunami work in Aceh***

An independent jury of five international experts met in Dubai on 12 - 13 November, 2008 to select the 12 winners for the seventh cycle of the Dubai International Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment (DIABP).

The selection was made from a list of 48 initiatives, which had been short-listed out of nearly 500 submissions by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which met in Dubai last month. The winners were all deemed to have made outstanding contributions to improving the quality of life in cities and communities.

The International Jury comprised of Ms. Banshree Banerjee, Urban Management Consultant from India, Dr. Beacon Mbiba, Rural and Urban Planner from Zimbabwe, Dr. Paolo Saldiva, Professor at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, Eng. Abdulla Mohammed Rafia, Assistant Director-General of Dubai Municipality for Environment and Public Health Services, and Dr. Roberto Ottolenghi, Urban Development and Management Consultant from Italy.

The 12 Winners were announced during a Press Conference held on 13th November, 2008 and attended by H.E. Eng. Hussain Nasser Lootah, Chairman of the DIABP Board of Trustees and the Acting Director General of Dubai Municipality, Mrs. Wandia Seaforth, UN-HABITAT Best Practices Programme and Mrs. Banshree Banerjee, Chair of the International Jury.

During the Press Conference, Eng. Lootah emphasized that the Jury based their decisions on criteria of tangible impact, partnership, and sustainability and also took into account considerations of leadership and community empowerment, gender equality and social inclusion, and innovations that can be replicated.