
Tsunami disaster

The IMF and the World Bank have recently released a preliminary assessment of the macroeconomic impact of the Tsunami disaster of 26 December 2004. The estimated death toll is almost 300 000 with the highest number of deaths in Indonesia. The damage to housing and infrastructure has been the greatest in Indonesia, the Maldives and Sri Lanka. The impact on economic growth in 2005 is expected to be limited in most countries – varying between zero and one percentage point – with the exception of the Maldives where preliminary estimates show a decline of 5 percentage points.
