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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Burma – Cyclone

Fact Sheet #24, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

July 9, 2008

Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 2, 2008.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- USAID/OFDA is supporting agricultural and livelihoods recovery activities through Church World Service (CWS). Working with an implementing partner organization, CWS will build the capacity of the local communities to ensure the food security of approximately 16,900 cyclone-affected farm households and improve the household incomes nearly 44,000 landless households in affected areas.
- On July 8, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) released a revised appeal for approximately \$72.5 million to support the Myanmar (Burma) Red Cross Society (MRCS) in providing assistance to 100,000 households in affected areas over the next three years. The U.N. is scheduled to release a revised appeal on July 10.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Dead	84,537	GOB ¹ – June 24, 2008
	63,000 to 101,000	OCHA ² – May 9, 2008
Total Missing	53,836	GOB – June 24, 2008
Total Number Affected	2.4 million	OCHA – May 29, 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Burma	\$25,769,547
USAID/FFP³ Assistance to Burma	\$12,000,000
DOD⁴ Assistance to Burma	\$9,475,900
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Burma	\$47,245,447

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to OCHA, an estimated 2.4 million people were severely affected by Cyclone Nargis, equivalent to more than one third of the population of 7.3 million in the affected townships.
- To date, MRCS staff and volunteers have reached more than 500,000 beneficiaries, providing safe drinking water, food assistance, and other relief items. MRCS reported that 80 percent of the beneficiaries are in the Ayeyarwady Delta, and 10,000 to 15,000 people are being reached each day. IFRC estimates that as many as 10,000 MRCS volunteers are active in the relief efforts at any given time.

Early Recovery

- From July 1 to 3, a USAID/OFDA disaster specialist and staff from the U.S. Embassy in Rangoon conducted an assessment of three villages in Bogale township. Residents indicated that capital to restart livelihoods was the highest priority need.
- As of July 7, the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) continues to implement follow-up activities in the 250 villages identified and covered during Phase I of the early recovery Basic Services Package (BSP), reaching approximately 114,000 cyclone-affected individuals. UNDP indicated that Phase II of the BSP will cover an additional 500 villages.
- USAID/OFDA is focusing on livelihoods interventions to provide quick access to income and employment for affected populations. USAID/OFDA is supporting non-governmental organization (NGO) partners including CWS and ACTED to implement early recovery activities for cyclone-affected populations in Ayeyarwady and Rangoon divisions. The programs will assist vulnerable communities to resume agricultural activities prior to the upcoming planting season, as well as providing employment opportunities and rehabilitating basic infrastructure in affected communities.

¹ Government of Burma (GOB)

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

³ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

Health and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- On July 3, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported a decline in the number of diarrhea cases in Ayeyarwady and Rangoon divisions, but noted that health cluster partners have reported two cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF), including one death, in cyclone-affected areas.
- In response to the first death from DHF since the establishment of the disease early warning and surveillance system, the health cluster will likely intensify larviciding efforts for vector control. WHO continues to work closely with the GOB Ministry of Health (MOH) to control and prevent vector diseases. USAID/OFDA has provided \$500,000 through WHO to support the health cluster early warning and surveillance system. USAID/OFDA has also provided support to health partner MENTOR for a vector disease control and prevention program in Ayeyarwady Division.
- According to preliminary findings of the Post Nargis Joint Assessment Village Tract Assessment, 58 percent of surveyed households identified access to safe drinking water as a priority humanitarian need. In response, the humanitarian community has deployed 29 of the 50 water treatment units currently in Burma to affected areas and continues to train local staff. The U.N. WASH Cluster continues to monitor the usage of the units for changing needs.
- According to the U.N. WASH Cluster, rainwater continues to remain the primary source of drinking water in the majority of affected areas. The U.N. WASH Cluster is encouraging rainwater harvesting through the rainy season or until cluster partners and villagers complete pond rehabilitation across affected areas.
- As of July 7, U.N. WASH Cluster partners and villagers had rehabilitated more than 350 ponds throughout affected areas. In remaining areas, the cluster continues to distribute disinfectants for use with all water sources and plans to disseminate water pumping instructions to supplement the current pond rehabilitation guidelines. The cluster has previously noted the role of water disinfectants in preventing a high incidence of diarrhea in affected areas.

Logistics

- On July 3, a USAID/OFDA disaster specialist accompanied U.N. World Food Program (WFP) logistics personnel to the Port of Rangoon to assess capacity to accept deliveries of emergency relief commodities from Bangkok. The disaster specialist noted that the port has sufficient capacity to accept commercial deliveries by humanitarian organizations once the U.N. Logistics Cluster ends operations on August 10. The USAID/OFDA disaster specialist also reported that cluster barge operations are operating efficiently.
- According to the U.N. Logistics Cluster, as the result of continued rains, rivers are rising and flood planes are becoming hard to access even by small boats, especially in the southwest of the affected area. An increasing number of locations may become inaccessible to all but helicopter transport. The U.N. Logistics Cluster will discuss plans for air transport with all organizations distributing relief goods to these regions.
- WFP has received GOB authorization to position fuel at the Bogale and Labutta logistics hubs. The availability of fuel at two out of five hubs substantially increases the number of helicopter rotations per day and allows the logistics cluster to fulfill the majority of current helicopter cargo movement requests despite the fleet reduction from 10 to 5 helicopters. To date, the helicopters have distributed approximately 710 metric tons (MT) of food and other relief supplies for U.N. agencies and NGOs to 101 remote locations.
- The larger of the two aircraft constituting the airbridge from Bangkok to Rangoon remains grounded due to technical problems, but will reportedly resume operations by July 10. The airbridge is currently operating at reduced capacity, with the smaller Antonov-12 flying only two cargo flights per day. To date, the cluster reports that 1,731 MT of cargo remains in the cluster warehouse at Dong Muang airport in Bangkok or en route.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On May 5, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Shari Villarosa declared a disaster in Burma due to the effects of Cyclone Nargis. In response, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team and immediately provided \$250,000 to U.N. agencies for shelter and water and sanitation assistance.
- On May 6, an additional \$3 million from USAID/OFDA was allocated for the provision of emergency relief assistance, including \$1 million to the American Red Cross and \$2 million for NGO partners.
- On May 12, USAID Administrator Henrietta H. Fore announced \$13 million in food aid and logistics assistance through WFP.
- On June 5, USAID/OFDA allocated an additional \$8.1 million for relief efforts, funding U.N. and NGO partners working in the affected areas to implement programs in nine sectors, including emergency health, shelter, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs. The programs aim to benefit more than 1 million people.
- To date, USAID/OFDA-provided emergency relief commodities have reached more than 445,000 beneficiaries.
- On June 18, USAID/OFDA contributed an additional \$3 million in support of WFP logistics operations.
- As of July 9, USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$6 million to NGO partners to implement early recovery and livelihoods programs in cyclone-affected areas.
- From May 12 to June 22, the DOD-operated U.S. Government air bridge completed 185 airlifts and delivered more than \$4 million of USAID/OFDA emergency relief supplies, as well as DOD, U.N., NGO, and Government of Thailand commodities.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACTED	Economy and Market Systems; Agriculture and Food Security	Bogale, Dedaye, Labutta	\$1,600,000
Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Shelter and Settlements	Labutta	\$400,000
American Red Cross	Emergency Relief Commodities; Shelter Kits	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
CWS and implementing partner	Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems	Bogale, Kungyangon, Maubin, Kawhmu, Kyauktan, Mawlamyinegyun, Labutta, Kyaiklat, Pyapon, Twantay	\$3,975,703
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Emergency Relief Commodities	Kungyangon, Wakema	\$500,000
MENTOR	Health	Ayeyarwady Division	\$500,000
Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN)	Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Labutta	\$749,874
PACT	Economy and Market Systems; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Shelter and Settlements	Bogale, Labutta, Mawlamyinegyun,	\$554,135
Save the Children /US (SC/US)	Economy and Market Systems; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Emergency Relief Supplies	Myaungmya, Ngapudaw	\$1,045,872
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$100,000
U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Nutrition; Protection	Countrywide	\$1,900,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$4,050,000
Implementing NGO	Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems	Affected Areas	\$499,975
World Vision	Economy and Market Systems; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Protection; Shelter and Settlements	Bogale	\$892,433
Implementing NGO	Health; Emergency Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$399,484
ADRA, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), CARE, IOM, Save the Children (SC), UNICEF	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$4,306,539 ²
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Burma	\$344,171
USAID	Logistics and Transport	Burma	\$1,951,361
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$25,769,547

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE³			
WFP	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$12,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$12,000,000
DOD ASSISTANCE			
DOD	Air Transport; Logistics	Affected Areas	\$9,475,900
TOTAL DOD			\$9,475,900
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2008			\$47,245,447

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 9, 2008.

² Includes \$600,000 in USAID/OFDA-purchased DOD commodities.

³ Estimated value of anticipated or obligated food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on identifying such organizations is available in the “How Can I Help” section of www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Cyclone Nargis, or by calling The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int
- In addition to USG contributions, the U.S. private sector has actively responded to the cyclone in Burma. More information can be found at:
 - U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center: www.uschamber.com/bclc/default
 - Business Roundtable Partnership for Disaster Response: www.respondtodisaster.com/mambo/