



## The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA/ASIA)

October 2006



*Save the Children programs in the Philippines support safe community spaces for conflict-affected families*



*Flooding in Indonesia destroys homes, livelihoods, and infrastructure.*

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### **Welcome to Asia!**

OFDA plays a pivotal role in USG foreign policy engagement in the Asia region with countries and communities affected by disasters and humanitarian emergencies. With more than 15 declared disasters annually in Asia-Pacific, OFDA coordinates and provides focused and timely assistance on behalf of the American people to natural and man-made disasters that occur with frequency in the region. With country responsibility from Pakistan to the Pacific Island nations, OFDA maintains two regional offices and a staff of four regional advisors in Bangkok and Katmandu, and coordinates USAID emergency assistance activities with other donors, stakeholders and U.S. agencies including the Department of Defense.

Recent years, as in the U.S., have been a time of exceptional natural disasters in Asia with tsunamis, typhoons, floods, droughts, potential volcanic eruptions. Humanitarian emergencies in the region are also of an equally critical nature in areas troubled by conflict and civil strife such as in Sri Lanka, the Mindanao region of the Philippines, East Timor and Nepal. OFDA assistance in complex emergencies not only includes life-saving support services for potable water, health and shelters, but also emphasizes the need for protection for these vulnerable and displaced populations.

OFDA also plays an important leadership role in the Asia-Pacific region with a range of disaster preparedness and mitigation programs and activities that bring innovation and partnership among countries throughout the region in meeting these challenges. A copy of the current activities in addressing both man-made and natural disasters is attached.

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### ASIA – Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

#### Background

People of the Asia–Pacific region are severely affected by natural hazards such as earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, tsunamis, and wildfires. Asia’s vulnerability is compounded by socio-economic conditions that steadily increase the impact of disasters. Demographic changes, urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, forcing the settlement of hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. In addition to natural disasters, civil crises and complex emergencies also impede development in the Asia–Pacific region. USAID/OFDA remains committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response capacities in the region for natural disasters and conflicts. Since 1995, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$45.3 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the region. To date in FY 2006, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$7.6 million for disaster preparedness and mitigation projects in the Asia–Pacific region.

#### USAID/OFDA FY 2006 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance by Sector

Project Name	Hydro-Meteorological	Earthquake/Volcanoes	Health	Conflict	Multi-Hazard
Program for Hydro-Meteorological Risk Mitigation in Asian Cities (PROMISE)	\$500,000				
Program for the Emergency Response (PEER) Phase II					\$2,290,336
Pacific Islands Disaster Assistance Program					\$544,943
Asia Flood Network	\$500,000				
Volcano Disaster Assistance Project		\$465,000			
Regional Flood Forecasting	\$165,710				
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness		\$145,078			
Emergency Flood Preparedness in Bangladesh	\$100,013				
Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan	\$400,000				
Technical Assistance to PNSN		\$66,263			
Mekong River Basin Flood Early Warning	\$275,000				
Climate Forecast Applications	\$325,000				
Conflict Preparedness in Philippines				\$100,000	
Preparedness at Mt. Mayon volcano		\$17,600			
Preparedness at Mt. Merapi volcano		\$50,000			
Indonesia Emergency Preparedness through The International Medical Corps (IMC)/ Ambulance 118			\$450,000		
Avian Influenza Preparedness			\$130,000		
Drought Preparedness	\$700,000				
Private Sector Role for Disaster Assistance in China					\$350,000
U.S./Japan Collaboration in Sri Lanka					\$74,908
<b>Total: \$7,649,851</b>	<b>\$2,965,723</b>	<b>\$743,941</b>	<b>\$580,000</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$3,260,187</b>

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**Total Cost of Active Programs to Date since 1995**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Hydro-Met</b>	<b>Earthquake/ Volcanoes</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Conflict</b>	<b>Multi- Hazard</b>
Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP)	\$500,000				\$9,453,800
Program for Hydro-Meteorological Risk Mitigation in Asian Cities (PROMISE)	\$500,000				
Program for the Emergency Response (PEER) Phase II		\$5,889,395			\$3,599,059
Pacific Island Nations Disaster Management Training Program					\$3,604,084
Asia Flood Network	\$2,329,927				
Technical Assistance for Hydrometeorological Disasters	\$170,000				
Volcano Disaster Assistance Project		\$2,965,000			
India Earthquake Safety Initiative		\$650,000			
Incident Command System Training					\$1,706,712
Regional Flood Forecasting	\$416,570				
Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh	\$576,977				
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness		\$796,633			
Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness	\$200,013				
Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan	\$400,000				
Technical Assistance to the Pakistan National Seismic Network (PNSN)		\$66,263			
Mekong River Basin Flood Early Warning	\$2,229,855				
Climate Forecast Applications	\$2,373,863				
Vietnam Flood Early Warning	\$1,394,250				
Vietnam Coastal Storm Early Warning	\$1,440,000				
Philippines Conflict Preparedness				\$1,100,000	
Preparedness at Mt. Mayon		\$17,600			
Preparedness at Mt. Merapi		\$50,000			
Indonesia Emergency Preparedness through The International Medical Corps (IMC)/ Ambulance 118			\$375,000		\$825,000
Avian Influenza Preparedness			\$621,450		
Drought Preparedness	\$700,000				
Promoting Private Sector Role for Disaster Assistance in China					\$350,000
U.S./Japan Collaboration in Sri Lanka					\$74,908
<b>Total: \$45,376,359</b>	<b>\$13,231,455</b>	<b>\$10,434,891</b>	<b>\$996,450</b>	<b>\$1,100,000</b>	<b>\$19,613,563</b>