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

INDIAN OCEAN – Earthquake and Tsunamis

Fact Sheet #27, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

January 26, 2005

Indonesia	96,232 dead ^⓪ , 132,197 missing ^⓪	417,803 displaced ^λ
Sri Lanka	30,957 dead, 5,644 missing [□]	502,456 displaced [□]
India	10,749 dead, 5,640 missing [§]	112,558 displaced [§]
Maldives	82 dead, 26 missing ^⓪	12,698 displaced ^β
Thailand	5,374 dead, 3,132 missing [▪]	N/A
Malaysia	68 dead, 6 missing [±]	8,000 displaced [±]
Somalia	150 dead [±]	5,000 displaced [±] , 102,000 affected [♦]
Seychelles	3 dead [±]	40 households displaced [□]

Source Legend:

⓪ Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Health, 1/24/05

λ Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Social Affairs, 1/26/05

□ Government of Sri Lanka, Center for National Operations, 1/25/05

§ Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, 1/18/05

φ Maldives National Disaster Management Center, 1/18/05

β Maldives National Disaster Management Center, 1/23/05

± U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 1/18/05

▪ Government of Thailand, 1/23/05

♦ USAID's Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), 1/12/05

□ U.N./Seychelles and USAID, 1/12/05

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged	\$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed	\$72,444,782
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed¹	\$112,542,588

CURRENT SITUATION

Numbers Affected

- Estimates of the numbers of dead and affected from host country governments and international agencies continue to fluctuate due to new information and to changes in the reporting methodology of the governments of disaster-affected countries. Over the past 10 days, the Government of Indonesia's Ministry of Health (MOH) had reported a single figure that combined confirmed deaths and missing persons on the presumption that the missing are also dead. Beginning on January 25, the MOH began to release two figures: one for confirmed deaths and another for missing and presumed dead. As of January 26, the MOH reported 96,232 confirmed deaths and 132,197 persons missing and presumed dead, raising the number of dead and missing to 228,429.
- In Sri Lanka, the Government of Sri Lanka's (GOSL) Center for National Operations (CNO) increased the official number of displaced from 396,170 to 502,426. According to the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART), previous CNO statistics had not included the total number of displaced in Galle District.

Indonesia Update

- On January 26, some schools reopened in Aceh Province. According to local media reports, around 130 schools were scheduled to reopen, out of approximately 765 that were damaged or destroyed as a result of the earthquake and tsunami. The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported that it may take several weeks for schools to become fully operational, and the Government of Indonesia is working to incorporate students from "lost schools"—those completely destroyed in the disaster—into those that remain so that all children can attend. However, due to the unknown number of children killed in the disaster, as well as the high level of displacement, attendance is unlikely to be near pre-disaster levels. According to UNICEF, school administrators at one school in Aceh Besar District report that of the 700 children registered prior to the disaster, only 35 have re-registered. UNICEF efforts to restore water and sanitation facilities to the affected schools continue.
- During the January 25 humanitarian coordination meeting in Jakarta, a Government of Indonesia official reported that the reconstruction and rehabilitation stage has begun in Aceh. According to the official, the removal of bodies remains the most significant program currently being implemented in Banda Aceh, and the focus on water and sanitation is an ongoing priority.
- According to OCHA, the relief efforts in Aceh are increasingly focused on reconstruction and rehabilitation. OCHA identified the following focal points for the next month: providing temporary shelter and access to basic sanitation; maintaining an emergency food pipeline; enabling children to attend school; building capacity within Government of Indonesia agencies; and developing strategies for capacity building within local communities.

¹ This figure includes assistance from USAID (including USAID/OFDA), the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The value of assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Defense is not included in total USG assistance committed.

- Official figures by the Government of Indonesia indicate that the earthquake and tsunami destroyed approximately 127,000 of the 820,000 houses in the affected area and damaged an additional 151,000 houses. In total, approximately one-third of the affected area's housing stock was damaged or destroyed in the disaster.
- To complement the camps under construction by the Government of Indonesia, the USAID/DART recommends that the humanitarian community consider other non-camp shelter interventions, such as provision of shelter materials for rebuilding damaged homes and direct support to families that host internally displaced persons (IDPs). Relief agencies can generate considerable livelihood opportunities to help bridge the gap between relief and reconstruction efforts if humanitarian interventions emphasize the use of local labor and local materials.

Sri Lanka Update

- The USAID/DART reports that as of January 24, the U.S. Military is starting to move equipment and personnel from Galle to Colombo. The U.S. Military completed debris removal at schools on January 24, and plans to depart Galle for Colombo on January 28.
- USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI) is engaged in a USAID/OFDA-funded cash-for-work debris removal project north of Galle. Between January 21 and 23, this project employed an average of 600 people each day to clear and separate debris on private and public lands. As of January 21, there are 46 IDP centers in Galle.
- On January 22, the USAID/DART visited Sainthamaruthu in Ampara District. During a previous visit to the area on January 13, the USAID/DART observed only modest visible progress in addressing many of the immediate humanitarian needs. On this most recent visit, however, the USAID/DART noted dramatic improvements in the humanitarian situation. Traveling with representatives from USAID/OFDA implementing partners GOAL and Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the USAID/DART reported that the affected communities had been divided into focus areas and assigned to specific non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In the locations covered by USAID/OFDA partners, the following activities were being implemented: wells were being systematically cleaned, a 30,000 gallon water bladder was set up to provide clean water to more than 250 families daily, road cleanup had been initiated to remove rubble and rubbish in areas marginally affected, damaged structures that posed a hazard were demolished to avoid further injury, cash-for-work teams were helping to clean up the most affected areas along the coast, rubble distribution sites had been identified, and a transitional shelter model had been developed. To address long-term rehabilitation, the GOSL and NGO representatives are drafting strategic plans to rebuild the beachfront in a manner that would offer some protection from future hazards.
- In Ampara District, GOAL is undertaking one of the most innovative projects observed by the USAID/DART. GOAL is using rubble from affected sites to create massive barriers that will encircle several hundred acres of land currently not being used. The landfill will allow for a water irrigation system to be put in place so that 1,000 farmers can grow rice for the first time.

India Update

- On January 22, the USAID/DART met with the Indian organization EXNORA in Nagapattinam District. EXNORA works primarily in waste management and has a long partnership with USAID/India. EXNORA local staff members are volunteers coming from all sectors of the community. With USAID/OFDA funding, EXNORA will extend current activities in waste management to focus on cleanup of tsunami debris in affected communities.
- EXNORA is conducting waste management activities in three of six planned camps. As of January 22, EXNORA had formed the first women's self-help group devoted to waste management in Perrinpettai, Nagapattinam District. The Nagapattinam District government has requested that EXNORA take the lead in waste management activities. EXNORA plans to conduct waste management programs in both the temporary shelter sites and in the community using a cash-for-work program; participants will receive the profits from recycling. Youth will be a key target group for EXNORA's beneficiaries. EXNORA is also planting trees in temporary shelter sites and communities.

USG ASSISTANCE

USAID Regional Response

- The USAID/DART and the U.S. military continue to conduct needs assessments and provide supplies and essential logistic support for the relief efforts in affected countries.

Indonesia

- To date, the USG has provided more than \$36.6 million in emergency food assistance, relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, health, livelihoods recovery, psychological and social support, logistics and coordination, and rehabilitation activities for affected communities in Indonesia.

Sri Lanka

- To date, the USG has provided approximately \$57.4 million in emergency food assistance, relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, health, livelihoods recovery, psychological and social support, protection and anti-trafficking, logistics and coordination, and cleanup and rehabilitation activities for affected communities in Sri Lanka.

India

- To date, USAID has provided \$3.8 million for shelter, water and sanitation, cleanup and rehabilitation, education, and cash for work activities for tsunami-affected residents.

Department of Defense (DOD) Humanitarian Assistance

- As of January 26, nearly 11,300 U.S. military personnel are involved in delivering more than 20.8 million lbs of relief supplies and equipment to the affected region. Of the 2,590 military personnel currently on the ground, 1,667 are in Thailand, 703 in Sri Lanka, 152 in Indonesia, 56 in Malaysia, and 12 in Maldives. With 15 ships and 65 aircraft, the U.S. military has delivered a total of 6,926,613 lbs of relief supplies to the governments of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and other affected nations, including 34,682 gallons of water; 107,150 lbs of food; and 147,550 lbs of relief supplies in the last 24 hours.

BACKGROUND

- A magnitude 9.0 earthquake on December 26, off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, triggered massive tsunamis that affected several countries throughout South and Southeast Asia, as well as Somalia, Tanzania, and Kenya in East Africa. Aftershocks from the December 26 earthquake continue to occur in the region.
- Based on initial findings of USG assessment teams and on the recommendation of Secretary of State Powell and USAID Administrator Natsios, on December 31, President Bush committed \$350 million toward earthquake and tsunami relief and recovery efforts. Dollar amounts in this Fact Sheet are part of the total pledge of \$350 million and refer to specific funding actions that have been committed and programmed. USAID/OFDA welcomes proposals from qualified humanitarian assistance organizations prepared to implement relief activities in response to the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami disaster. Details can be found at www.usaid.gov.

USAID REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ASIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
IFRC	Response to emergency appeal	Regionwide	\$4,000,000
U.S. Embassy/JTF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Regionwide	\$196,631
AirServ	Aerial assessment, transport of relief personnel and light cargo	Regionwide	\$2,436,681
WFP	Logistics, air support and coordination	Regionwide	\$5,000,000
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Regionwide	\$523,260
	Administrative		\$332,123
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO REGION			\$12,488,695
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO REGION			\$12,488,695

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Christian Children's Fund (CCF)	Child protection and psychological and social support	Aceh Province	\$393,188
Church World Service	Psychological and social support for children	Aceh Province	\$221,376
DAI	Immediate relief and rehabilitation interventions	Aceh Province	\$5,000,000
	\$62,688 – Muhammadiyah for school clean-up, cash-for-work program	Banda Aceh	
	\$74,725 – Yayasan Rumpun Bambu for cash-for-work and rehabilitation	Aceh Province	
	\$15,000 – SATKORLAK for disaster management training	Aceh Province	
IFRC/Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$2,100,000
Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$35,650
Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$13,650

Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$49,750
IMC	Health	Banda Aceh	\$292,129
IMC	Mobile health units, rehabilitation of local health clinics, malaria control, and psychological and social activities	Aceh and North Sumatra	\$2,000,000
IRC	Water and sanitation, mobile health clinics, support for public health networks, and psychological and social activities	Aceh Province	\$2,564,729
SC/US	Emergency response activities	Aceh Province	\$908,942
UNICEF	Child protection and psychological and social activities	Aceh Province	\$1,500,000
USAID/Indonesia*	Emergency grants for water and sanitation, health, shelter	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$2,000,000
	\$288,533 – SC/US for emergency health, sanitation, shelter, and protection activities		
	\$237,000 – Project Concern International (PCI) for four mobile health clinics		
	\$256,000 – CARE for water purification		
	\$249,985 – WVI for shelter and household kits		
	\$285,428 – IRD for water and sanitation		
	\$250,023 – Johns Hopkins for maternal and child health		
	\$292,060 – Mercy Corps for emergency response activities		
IOM	Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	Shelter	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$2,000,000
IRC/IOM	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$375,600
WHO	Health surveillance	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$291,500
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$256,002
	Administrative		\$84,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$21,086,516
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	3,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance	Sumatra	\$2,438,560
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$2,438,560
USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE			
CARDI	Emergency response teams	Aceh Province	\$99,960
CARE	Water and sanitation	Aceh Province	\$98,889
ICMC	Targeting/monitoring of emergency relief supplies	Aceh Province	\$100,000
IOM	Logistics	Aceh Province	\$208,452
IOM	Emergency relief activities	Aceh Province	\$1,650,000
Mercy Corps	Shelter, health, water, and trauma counseling	Aceh Province	\$250,000
IRD	Emergency food assistance	Aceh Province	\$99,974
Naval Medical Research Unit	Procurement and staffing of reference laboratory	Banda Aceh	\$579,000

Nurani Dunia	Emergency relief supplies	Aceh Province	\$99,669
SC/US	Emergency relief supplies and health	Aceh Province	\$100,000
Multiple [±]	Emergency relief activities	Aceh Province	\$2,087,000
TOTAL USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$5,372,944
USDA ASSISTANCE			
WFP	9,417 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance	Sumatra	\$7,533,600
TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$7,533,600
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
IOM	Anti-Trafficking Initiatives	Aceh and Medan	\$200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$200,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$36,631,620

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Indonesia, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

± USAID/Indonesia is using existing funds earmarked for activities in Aceh Province to support grants in response to the earthquake and tsunami.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Sri Lanka	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$100,000
USAID/Sri Lanka *	Community rehabilitation, livelihoods, and microfinance project through Nathan Associates	Affected areas	\$4,000,000
USAID/Sri Lanka *	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$22,500,000
	\$356,220 – Sri Lanka Red Cross for emergency relief supplies, health, and cash-for-work activities	Ampara, Mulaitiva	
	\$1,941,787 – CARE for emergency relief supplies, water system rehabilitation	Ampara	
	\$499,849 – WVI for emergency relief supplies and shelter	Trincomalee, Ampara	
	\$403,763 – ACF/France for emergency relief supplies and water and sanitation	Trincomalee, Mulaitiva, Jaffna	
	\$630,620 – SC/UK for shelter, water and sanitation, and emergency relief supplies	Trincomalee, Matara, Galle	
	\$1,512,051 – CCF for cash-for-work and community rehabilitation	Ampara, Matara, Hambantota	
	\$1,509,477 – Mercy Corps for cash-for-work and community rehabilitation	Trincomalee, Batticaloe, Ampara, Hambantota, Matara	
	\$3,280,423 – GOAL for shelter, water and sanitation, and cash-for-work activities	Ampara, Hambantota, Matara	
	\$3,048,000 – CRS for transitional shelter, home repair, latrine construction	Batticaloa, Ampara	
	\$350,000 – American Center for International Labor for psychological and social support including anti-trafficking	All Affected Districts	
	\$1,748,120 – SARVODAYA for cash-for-work, debris clean-up, repair of buildings, and water and sanitation	Galle, Hambantota, Ampara	
	\$1,026,185 – Shelter for Life for transitional shelter and latrine construction	Trincomalee	

	\$3,000,000 – CHF International for cash-for-work, debris clean-up, repair of schools and public buildings, latrine construction, and water and sanitation	Kalutara, Galle, Matara	
	\$1,000,000 – UNICEF for water and sanitation and emergency school kits	All Affected Districts	
	\$199,408 – The Asia Foundation for child protection and psychological and social activities	All Affected Districts	
DAI	Relief and recovery projects through DAI contract with USAID/OTI	Affected areas	\$2,500,000
IOM	Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine	Northern, Eastern, and Southern coastal areas	\$500,000
UNICEF	Child protection and psychological and social activities	Affected areas	\$500,000
UNHCR	Shelter	Affected areas	\$1,000,000
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$44,450
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$5,400
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$49,750
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$388,599
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$196,875
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$65,625
US Navy	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$5,225
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$267,725
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Affected areas	\$657,553
	Administrative		\$67,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$32,848,202
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	18,220 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance	Affected areas	\$20,028,340
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$20,028,340
USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE			
NGO Consortium	Clean-up of debris	Countrywide	\$57,962
TOTAL USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$57,962
USDA ASSISTANCE			
WFP	5,583 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance	Countrywide	\$4,466,400
TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$4,466,400
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$57,400,904

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Sri Lanka, is being allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Prime Minister's Relief Fund	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
IFRC/ Implemented by Indian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
USAID/India*	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$3,700,000

	\$650,000 – CARE for water and sanitation, cash-for-work	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh	
	\$750,000 – CRS for water and sanitation	Tamil Nadu	
	\$440,295 – PCI for shelter, livelihoods, training	Tamil Nadu	
	\$859,992 – WVI for shelter, cash-for-work	Tamil Nadu	
	\$297,934 – ACTED for livelihoods	Tamil Nadu	
	\$115,195 – EXNORA for cash-for-work	Tamil Nadu	
	\$250,112 – GOAL for cash-for-work and rehabilitation of agricultural land	Tamil Nadu	
	\$280,147 – FHI for livelihoods and debris removal	Tamil Nadu	
	Administrative		
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$3,800,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$3,800,000

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/India, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE MALDIVES

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Sri Lanka	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$100,000
UNICEF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Countrywide	\$8,100
UNICEF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Countrywide	\$44,250
UNICEF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Countrywide	\$42,250
UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Countrywide	\$68,400
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES			\$1,463,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES			\$1,463,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Thai Red Cross	Procurement and distribution of relief items	Countrywide	\$100,000
	Administrative		\$167,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND			\$267,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND			\$267,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Malaysia Red Crescent National Disaster Management and Relief Committee	Procurement/distribution of relief items and shelter materials	Northwest Malaysia	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA			\$50,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA			\$50,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Seychelles Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES			\$50,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES			\$50,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
UNICEF	Health	Puntland	\$50,000
OCHA	Coordination	Countrywide	\$141,369
UNHCR	Shelter	Puntland	\$200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA			\$391,369
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA			\$391,369

¹All USAID/OFDA funding represent committed and/or obligated amounts as of January 26, 2005.

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged.....	\$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed.....	\$72,444,782
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed²	\$112,542,588

FURTHER INFORMATION ON USG RESPONSE

More detailed information on USG assistance already provided, including DOD resources, in response to the disaster may be found in previous USAID/OFDA Fact Sheets:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/countries/indian_ocean/et_index.html

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION*Making a Donation to Relief Efforts*

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations.
- For a list of humanitarian organizations accepting donations for South Asia relief operations, please see “Tsunami Relief” at www.usaid.gov or www.usafreedomcorps.gov. Or call the Center for International Disaster Information 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.

Additional Information

- Information on making effective donations can be found on the following websites:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov, Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
 - InterAction: “Guide to Appropriate Giving” at www.interaction.org
- Information on choosing a charity to support can be found on the following websites:
 - Better Business Bureau: www.give.org
 - GuideStar (A National Database of Nonprofit Organizations): www.guidestar.org
 - The American Institute of Philanthropy: www.charitywatch.org
 - Charity Navigator: www.charitynavigator.org
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

² This figure includes assistance from USAID (including USAID/OFDA), the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The value of assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Defense is not included in total USG assistance committed.