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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)

South Asia – Earthquake

Fact Sheet #24, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

November 15, 2005

BACKGROUND

- A magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan, on October 8, 2005, at 8:50 a.m. local time, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The epicenter of the earthquake was located near Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistani-administered Kashmir, and approximately 60 miles north-northeast of Islamabad.
- Aftershocks continue in the affected areas. The delivery of humanitarian assistance is constricted by the mountainous area, cold weather, and damaged or collapsed infrastructure. The most affected areas are the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Northern Punjab, and Pakistani-administered Kashmir in Pakistan, and Indian-administered Kashmir in India.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,320 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – November 15
	69,392 injured	GOP – November 15
	2.8 million homeless	International Organization for Migration (IOM) – October 21
India	1,309 dead	Government of India (GOI) – October 26
	6,622 injured	GOI – October 26
	150,000 homeless	GOI – October 14

USAID Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Pledged	\$100,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$46,533,997
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$50,260,597
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia	\$50,861,259

CURRENT SITUATION

Pakistan

- The USAID/Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Water and Sanitation Officer reports that the greatest sanitation needs are in urban camps, particularly those in Muzaffarabad, as latrine construction has fallen behind the provision of drinking water. In rural areas, the primary risk to the rural population is the damage to spring systems, which forces rural residents to obtain their water from contaminated streams. The USAID/DART WSO notes that distribution of hygiene kits and individual water purification materials is needed in rural areas. In rural areas with denser populations, heavily used spring systems should be repaired quickly.
- According to the USAID/DART Shelter and Settlements Advisor, reports of homeless people are rare in the affected areas, suggesting that affected families have resorted to a range of shelter solutions including, rebuilding, migration, and host/guest family living arrangements. The USAID/DART is working with implementing partners to promote shelter-in-place options, in which families rebuild or repair their homes with plastic sheeting and corrugated galvanized sheeting. In addition, the USAID/DART is encouraging the use of debris as a valuable building material. The USAID/DART notes that when tents are needed, locating the tents near damaged or destroyed homes will assist recovery efforts in allowing for families to watch their possessions, care for animals, repair and reconstruct homes, and maintain livelihoods to the greatest extent possible.
- The USAID/DART reports that due to livestock's importance as an economic asset and source of food security, a key determinant in decisions to stay through the winter or move to lower elevations is the care and survival of livestock. As a result, shelter for livestock as a means of reducing the economic impacts of the disaster, and maintaining a vital food security source is needed.
- According to the Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment released by the Asian Development Bank and World Bank on November 12, the overall cost associated with the earthquake is estimated at approximately \$5.2 billion, which includes more than \$1 billion for the cost of the relief efforts alone.
- The USGS reports that a landslide caused by the earthquake has blocked a large valley near Muzaffarabad. As a result, the water level of two lakes in the area has risen, creating the potential for serious downstream flooding.
- On November 14, the GOP announced that Pakistan Army Engineers have opened the Neelum Valley road from Muzaffarabad to Nauseri. All major roads in the Muzaffarabad sector have now been opened.

¹ These figures are the best available estimates.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- A USAID/DART has been on the ground in Pakistan since October 10. The mission of the USAID/DART is to assess humanitarian needs, assist with targeting and coordination of USG assistance in conjunction with USAID/Pakistan, and provide technical assistance as required. Headquartered in Islamabad, the USAID/DART has also established bases of operations in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra.
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$50.2 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, health, water and sanitation, and logistics as priority sectors for immediate relief operations.
- From October 10 to 31, USAID completed nine airlifts of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The airlifts delivered a total of 45,000 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 6,150 rolls of plastic sheeting for approximately 30,750 families, 15,000 water containers, 17 water bladders, 2 water purification units, 10 WHO emergency health kits, and 20 concrete cutting saws. The total value of the completed airlifts, including transport, is more than \$4 million.
- USAID is providing 5,000 plastic tarps (1,000 each) to USAID-partners ACTED, Mercy Corps, Catholic Relief Services, GOAL, and Action Against Hunger for shelter projects at a total cost of \$93,614.
- In response to the U.N. Flash Appeal, USAID/OFDA has provided \$19.3 million in funding to support transitional shelter programs, food, health, water and sanitation, humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the movement of supplies to affected populations and movement of those populations to safe areas.
- To date, USAID/Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the WFP emergency operation for Pakistan with 2,400 MT of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is approximately \$3.4 million.
- On October 20, USAID and Procter & Gamble announced a \$600,000 public-private alliance to provide safe drinking water for those affected by the earthquake. Through this partnership, USAID and Procter & Gamble are supplying a point-of-use water purification product that significantly reduces diarrheal illnesses. Through the Global Development Alliance (GDA), USAID contributed \$300,000 toward this partnership, which provides safe drinking water for more than 50,000 households for 3 months.
- As of November 14, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 1,592 helicopter missions, delivered 3,677 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, evacuated 3,509 casualties, and transported 9,327 passengers for humanitarian missions. The 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), established October 25 in Muzaffarabad, has performed 164 surgeries and treated 1,836 non-surgical patients. Medical elements of the III Marine Expeditionary Force arrived in Shinkhari (90km north of Islamabad) to establish another medical facility. Engineering teams (approximately 125 personnel from a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion) are operating with 73 pieces of equipment to clear school and university sites, construct airport berms, and prepare tent sites. To date, DOD has expended \$79.3 million on relief operations.

India

- From October 11 to October 17, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor was in India assisting USAID/India with damage and needs assessments and making recommendations regarding USG assistance.
- On October 10, U.S. Ambassador to India David C. Mulford issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the October 8 earthquake across northern India. As of November 1, USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations for emergency relief supplies and shelter.
- To date, India has not requested international assistance.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACTED	Relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Balakot	\$2,351,232
Action Against Hunger	Shelter, relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,180,000
American Red Cross	IFRC preliminary emergency appeal	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$1,998,276
American Refugee Committee	Shelter, livelihoods	AJK: Bagh	\$2,776,144
CRS	Livelihoods, water and sanitation, shelter	NWFP/AJK: Mansehra, Balakot, Muzaffarabad	\$2,470,000
GOAL	Shelter, livelihoods	AJK: Bagh	\$2,000,000
ICRC	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$5,000,000
IOM	Delivery of relief supplies (surface transport), transport of displaced populations to safe areas, transitional shelter	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$3,000,000
IRC	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, child protection	NWFP: Abbottabad, Batagram, Mansehra, and Shangla	\$2,500,000
Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra	\$1,511,168
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot	\$2,499,783
UNICEF	Water and sanitation	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,000,000
WFP	Humanitarian air operations, Joint Logistics Center, Administrative Support	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$8,914,964
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$100,000
	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$3,128,051
	Airlifts of emergency relief supplies		\$1,437,502
	Administrative support		\$666,877
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$46,533,997
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	2,880 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$3,426,600
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$3,426,600
USAID/GDA ASSISTANCE			
	Partnership with Proctor and Gamble to provide safe drinking water	Affected Areas	\$300,000
TOTAL USAID/GDA			\$300,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$50,260,597
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$50,260,597

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 15, 2005.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
CARE	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Baramulla and Kupwara districts	\$100,000
CRS	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Baramulla district	\$170,000
Prime Minister’s Relief Fund	Emergency relief activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
Save the Children/UK	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Baramulla, Kupwara, Poonch districts	\$130,724
USAID/India	Emergency relief activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
World Vision	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Baramulla, Kupwara districts	\$99,938
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$600,662

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 15, 2005.

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: South Asia Earthquake, 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; 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