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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 #30, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

December 14, 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	73,338 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – December 14
	69,412 injured	GOP – December 14
	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

USG Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Pledged ²	\$510,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan.....	\$58,582,969
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$65,582,969
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia.....	\$82,183,631

CURRENT SITUATION

- The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Shelter and Settlements Advisor reports that there has not been a significant increase in the affected population needing shelter assistance; however, due to worsening weather conditions, the winterization of current shelters has become increasingly urgent. The USAID/DART believes that due to approaching winter conditions, the percentage of shelter materials currently carried by helicopters should receive higher priority as shelters cannot be built once snow is on the ground, and air support is imperative for the transport of emergency relief.
- On December 1, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the GOP implemented a new division of geographic responsibilities to distribute food to approximately 2.3 million people in the earthquake-affected areas of Northern Pakistan. The GOP will cover urban and rural areas easily accessible by road and has taken over WFP operations in Mansehra. The GOP requested that WFP move its urban-based operations from main population centers to Allai, Kaghan, Neelum, Lipa, and other high altitude valleys. However, in some GOP operational areas, WFP is maintaining food distributions within U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) tented camps, U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) tented schools, hospitals, and supplementary feeding programs for children under five and pregnant and lactating women.
- On December 11, USAID/DART team members conducted site visits by helicopter to Pashtu and Gangwal villages in the remote earthquake-affected Allai Valley. The team noted that the distribution of key survival shelter and household kits appears to be proceeding on schedule.
- Agencies involved in the relief effort are concerned about the lack of services in “spontaneous” camps and the potential for disease outbreaks. The USAID/DART Water and Sanitation Officer (WSO) visited established and “spontaneous” camps in Muzaffarabad city and observed that there was an insufficient number of latrines for the populations served. In order to prevent disease outbreaks, the USAID/DART WSO noted that hygiene education and latrine maintenance are critical, especially in urban camps where people are living in close quarters.
- The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the GOP Ministry of Health will conduct a nutritional assessment in Azad Jammu and Kashmir on December 15.
- On December 8, WHO announced the reactivation of the measles campaign in the coming week to address gaps as coverage from previous efforts was between 70 and 75 percent. Although a few sporadic cases of measles have been reported in Muzaffarabad, there are no indications of an outbreak.

¹ These figures are the best available estimates.

² This pledge includes \$300 million in economic assistance from the USG, \$110 million in U.S. military in-kind support for relief operations, and at least \$100 million anticipated from U.S. private contributions.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- On October 27, President George W. Bush established the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund (SAERF) headed by five private-sector chief executive officers (CEOs) to spearhead private fundraising efforts for relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake. Representatives from the SAERF will be in Pakistan during the week of December 12 to meet with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) regarding the reconstruction phase of the SAERF's strategy. To date, the SAERF has collected more than \$1.7 million, and the founding five CEOs pledged up to \$24 million in cash and in-kind contributions to the South Asia earthquake relief efforts.
- At the Donors Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Areas in Islamabad on November 19, USAID Administrator Andrew S. Natsios announced an increase in the overall U.S. commitment to Pakistan for relief and reconstruction to a total of \$510 million. This pledge includes \$300 million in economic assistance from the USG, \$110 million in U.S. military in-kind support for relief operations, and at least \$100 million anticipated from U.S. private contributions.
- 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 nearly \$65.6 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, health, water and sanitation, livelihoods, cash-for-work, and logistics as priority sectors for immediate relief operations.
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$4.9 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 22 flights carrying emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The flights delivered a total of 47,500 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 6,750 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, 20 concrete cutting saws, and 136 shelters donated by Alaska Shelters. On December 11, an additional USAID airlift of 6,000 sheets of tarpaulin³ and 2,500 blankets arrived in Pakistan. The plastic sheeting and blankets will winterize the shelters of 17,500 families⁴ affected by the earthquake. The total value of this airlift, including transport, is more than \$280,000.
- In addition to the provision of sheets of tarpaulin, blankets, and winterized and non-winterized tents in support of the overall shelter strategy, USAID funded eight NGO partners to provide shelter assistance to approximately 75,500 households.
- In response to the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal, USAID 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's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the WFP emergency operation for Pakistan with 4,990 metric tons (MT) of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is approximately \$6.7 million.
- As of December 8, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) is contributing \$4 million to UNHCR to support activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal.
- As of December 9, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided 46,000 MT of wheat, valued at \$12 million, to the GOP. This wheat will be distributed to food-insecure families lacking the financial means to purchase food.
- 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 December 14, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 2,236 helicopter missions, delivered 5,639 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, and evacuated casualties and transported humanitarian relief workers for a total of 15,908 passengers. The 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), established on October 25 in Muzaffarabad, and a III Marine Expeditionary Force medical element, established on November 16 in Shinkiari, have performed more than 320 surgeries and treated more than 8,000 non-surgical patients. Engineering teams (approximately 125 personnel from a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion) are operating with 107 pieces of equipment to clear school and university sites, construct airport berms, and build latrines and tent sites. To date, DOD has obligated \$93 million for relief operations.

³ 10 sheets of tarpaulin per roll of plastic sheeting.

⁴ Based on an estimate of seven persons per household.

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. The USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor and a representative from USAID/India conducted a post-earthquake visit to Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir November 15 and 16 in order to monitor program progress of USAID/OFDA-funded partners.
- 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, the Government of 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	\$4,960,730
GOAL	Shelter, livelihoods, cash-for work, water and sanitation	AJK: Bagh	\$3,750,000
ICRC	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$5,000,000
IMC	Water and sanitation	NWFP	\$1,900,000
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	\$2,483,041
Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$2,511,168
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra; AJK: Rawalakot	\$6,588,728
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	\$8,917,459
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$100,000
	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$3,361,176
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$1,779,749
	Administrative support		\$925,266
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$58,582,969
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	5,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$6,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$6,700,000
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			\$65,582,969

STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	In support of activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal	Affected Areas	\$4,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,000,000
USDA ASSISTANCE			
GOP	46,000 MT of Title I wheat	Affected Areas	\$12,000,000
TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$12,000,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$81,582,969

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 14, 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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 14, 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
 - American corporate leaders have established a fund to gather donations and the website is <https://www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org>