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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 #33, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

January 6, 2006

### 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 Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) in Pakistan, and Indian-administered Kashmir in India.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE <sup>1</sup>		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,338 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – January 6
	69,412 injured	GOP – January 6
	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

<b>USG Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Pledged<sup>2</sup></b> .....	<b>\$510,000,000</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan</b> .....	<b>\$59,598,747</b>
<b>Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan</b> .....	<b>\$66,598,747</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India</b> .....	<b>\$600,662</b>
<b>Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia</b> .....	<b>\$83,199,409</b>

### CURRENT SITUATION

- Humanitarian relief flights resumed on January 4 following the region’s first heavy rain and snow storm over New Years weekend that temporarily grounded helicopters distributing relief supplies. The winter conditions forced the closure of several key road segments in NWFP and AJK, caused some tents to collapse from the weight of the snow, and led to water seepage in some tents as a result of inadequate drainage. The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Team Leader is currently conducting assessments in Muzaffarabad on the impact of the weather on relief activities.
- The harsh weather conditions underscore the importance of emergency shelter in earthquake-affected areas. USAID implementing partner Mercy Corps is conducting cash-for-work (CFW) activities and supporting the construction of transitional shelters in Mansehra District, NWFP. Participants in CFW programs clear debris and recover materials for use in constructing transitional shelters. By providing essential materials and technical support, Mercy Corps is facilitating the construction of 6,000 warm room shelters in areas at elevations above 5,000 feet.
- The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that the caseload in managed camps in Muzaffarabad has increased by approximately 20,000 people since the onset of the harsh weather, primarily due to residents of spontaneous camps moving into planned camps and being registered by UNHCR. The USAID/DART has not received reports of significant movements of people from higher elevation areas to the valleys due to the onset of winter weather. Humanitarian agencies are ready to receive additional displaced populations if the situation changes.
- On January 2, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that relief organizations have distributed a total of 3.3 million corrugated galvanized (CGI) sheets and 4.8 million blankets since the start of relief operations in October. According to OCHA, 98,605 shelter kits have been delivered to 730,000 beneficiaries, 65 percent of whom live above 5,000 feet. OCHA estimates that more than 1.9 million people are currently living in 300,000 tents in earthquake-affected areas.
- The humanitarian community continues to identify gaps in the assistance pipeline and is addressing problems, such as improper pitching of tents and inadequate drainage, caused by the rain and snow. According to the USAID/DART, UNHCR has launched a supplementary winterization strategy in some planned camps to provide additional blankets, mattresses, and plastic sheeting to earthquake-affected populations. The USAID/DART continues to work with partners to facilitate the rapid transport and distribution of relief supplies, especially CGI sheets used primarily in the construction of transitional shelter.

<sup>1</sup> These figures are the best available estimates.

<sup>2</sup> 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*

- 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 more than \$100 million anticipated from U.S. private contributions. On December 15, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed Former President George H. W. Bush as the U.N. Special Envoy for the South Asia Earthquake Disaster to ensure that donor countries honor pledges made at the conference.
- 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. To date, the SAERF has collected more than \$16 million in cash, and the founding five CEOs pledged up to \$24 million in cash and in-kind contributions to the South Asia earthquake relief efforts.
- The 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 support as needed. Headquartered in Islamabad, the USAID/DART has also established bases of operations in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$66.6 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 nearly \$6.3 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 24 flights of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The flights delivered a total of 47,500 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 8,050 rolls of plastic sheeting for approximately 36,672 families, 15,000 water containers, 17 water bladders, 2 water purification units, 10 U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency health kits, 20 concrete cutting saws, and 136 shelters donated by Alaska Shelters.
- 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 more than \$22.6 million in funding to support transitional shelter programs, food, health, water and sanitation, humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the transport 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 MT of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is approximately \$6.7 million.
- As of January 5, 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. Specific activities include the establishment and management of camps and spontaneous settlements for earthquake-affected populations and the provision of essential relief supplies such as tents, blankets, and stoves to camp residents.
- As of January 6, 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 to more than 50,000 households for 3 months.
- As of January 4, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 3,082 helicopter missions, delivered 7,571 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, and evacuated casualties and transported humanitarian relief workers for a total of 18,178 passengers. The 212<sup>th</sup> MASH, established on October 25 in Muzaffarabad, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Expeditionary Force medical element, established on November 16 in Shinkiari, have performed more than 410 surgeries and treated more than 18,925 non-surgical patients. To date, DOD has obligated \$96 million for relief operations.

### *India*

- From October 11 to 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 on 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 in northern India. As of November 1, USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations for emergency relief supplies and shelter.
- The Government of India did not request international assistance.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
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	\$2,420,348
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra	\$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	\$3,595,176
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$2,218,225
	Administrative support		\$1,359,388
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$59,598,747</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			
WFP	5,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$6,700,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$6,700,000</b>
<b>USAID/GDA ASSISTANCE</b>			
	Partnership with Proctor and Gamble to provide safe drinking water	Affected Areas	\$300,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/GDA</b>			<b>\$300,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$66,598,747</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of January 6, 2006.

<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
UNHCR	In support of activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal	Affected Areas	\$4,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$4,000,000</b>
<b>USDA ASSISTANCE</b>			
GOP	46,000 MT of Title I wheat	Affected Areas	\$12,000,000
<b>TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$12,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$82,598,747</b>

### U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
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
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA</b>			<b>\$600,662</b>

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of January 6, 2006.

### 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](http://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](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)
  - American corporate leaders have established a fund to gather donations and the website is <https://www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org>