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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 #42, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

March 17, 2006

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 3, 2006.

BACKGROUND

Immediately following the magnitude 7.6 earthquake that struck Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan on October 8, 2005, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to Pakistan. According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake’s epicenter was located near Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) in Pakistan, approximately 60 miles north-northeast of Islamabad. The USAID/DART arrived on October 10 and has been working with the Government of Pakistan (GOP) and local authorities, U.N. clusters, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assess humanitarian needs, provide technical support, and assist with targeting and coordination of U.S. government (USG) assistance in conjunction with USAID/Pakistan. Ongoing humanitarian interventions in AJK and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and extensive preparation for the onset of winter weather by relief organizations minimized the negative impact of snow and rainfall during the winter season. The USAID/DART is scheduled to stand down on March 31, but USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) will continue to maintain a presence in Pakistan to monitor the situation on the ground..

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,338 dead	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 Pledged²	\$510,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$61,195,689
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$70,476,889
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia	\$87,177,551

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to the USAID/DART Program Officer, USAID/OFDA-funded relief programs have successfully met humanitarian needs of earthquake-affected populations throughout AJK and NWFP. In affected areas, implementing partners provided relief commodities to more than 280,000 people and shelter assistance to nearly 340,000 people. USAID partners improved sanitation facilities for nearly 84,000 people, and nearly 43,000 people received economic and livelihoods assistance, benefiting from the creation of nearly 30,000 jobs. Rehabilitation of village water schemes and the creation of water infrastructure in camps improved access to safe drinking water for nearly 45,000 people, while health interventions improved access to health care for 80,000 people. In addition, USAID-funded programs provided psychological and social support to more than 3,700 children through the creation of child-friendly spaces.
- The USAID transition strategy prioritizes livelihoods support and rehabilitation as a key component in the recovery process of earthquake-affected populations. During the emergency phase of the earthquake response, USAID livelihoods support came primarily through cash injections into local economies and cash-for-work (CFW) activities that included shelter construction, road rehabilitation, and the repair of broken water lines in rural villages. During the transition period, livelihoods support will focus on CFW, agricultural assistance to jumpstart cultivation in the upcoming summer planting season, livestock protection, and vocational training. Transitional livelihoods activities are designed to serve as a bridging mechanism between the USAID/DART's existing relief activities and USAID/Pakistan's anticipated longer-term livelihoods rehabilitation program.
- According to the USAID/DART, priority issues facing the humanitarian community in AJK during the recovery phase include strengthening the capacity of the local government; assisting with the return of earthquake-affected populations to places of origin; addressing shelter needs of the urban displaced population living in informal camps; meeting the needs of vulnerable populations; providing livelihood opportunities; and providing psychological and social support to people still traumatized by the earthquake.

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.

- On March 10, the USAID/DART and representatives from USAID/Pakistan and the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad traveled to Mehra Camp in the Allai Valley, NWFP, to observe the first day of returns and identify gaps in the return process. GOP officials at the camp estimate that returns will take approximately 45 days to complete. Contrary to initial reports that formal camps in affected regions would close on March 31, the GOP has stated that affected populations are encouraged to return to points of origin, but there will be no deadline for the closure of camps.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- To date, USAID has provided more than \$70 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, logistics, health, water and sanitation, and livelihoods support as priority sectors for relief operations.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$6.5 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 25 flights of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The flights delivered a total of 97,725 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 response to the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal, USAID has provided nearly \$24.9 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.
- In addition to the provision of tarpaulin sheets, blankets, and winterized and non-winterized tents in support of the overall shelter strategy, USAID funded 9 NGO partners to provide shelter assistance to approximately 75,500 households.
- On January 21, the USG signed a four-year \$200 million grant agreement with the GOP to assist in the reconstruction of schools and hospitals destroyed by the earthquake and the rehabilitation of livelihoods and education and health care systems. The grant agreement is part of the overall U.S. commitment of \$510 million pledged at the Donors Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Areas in Islamabad on November 19.
- On October 27, President George W. Bush, together with five private-sector chief executive officers (CEOs) launched the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund (SAERF) to spearhead private fundraising efforts for relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake. To date, the SAERF has received more than \$18 million in cash and pledges. The SAERF has allocated \$4.5 million to five NGOs focused on relief efforts and will provide remaining funds for reconstruction efforts. Overall, the U.S. commercial and private sector has raised approximately \$109 million in cash and in-kind contributions for earthquake relief and reconstruction, exceeding the \$100 million target pledged at the Donors Conference in November.
- 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.
- USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the WFP emergency and follow-on recovery operation for Pakistan with 7,270 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, comprising 6,790 MT of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is nearly \$9 million.
- The U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) contributed \$4 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (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. State/PRM also contributed \$100,000 to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to conduct prevention and assistance activities for populations vulnerable to traffickers in the aftermath of the earthquake.
- To date, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided 46,000 MT of wheat, valued at \$12 million, to the GOP. This wheat is assisting food-insecure families lacking the financial means to purchase food.
- As of March 2, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) had flown 4,853 helicopter missions, delivered 13,582 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, evacuated 3,750 casualties, and transported 16,442 humanitarian relief workers and other passengers. To date, DOD has obligated \$106.6 million for relief operations.

India

- 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. From October 11 to 17, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor traveled to India to assist USAID/India with damage and needs assessments and make recommendations for 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.
- USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations in India 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>
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	\$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: Mansehra, Shangla, Kohistan; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$4,960,730
DFS	Humanitarian air services	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$481,449
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	Earthquake Affected Regions of 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, Shangla	\$2,483,041
Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$2,420,348
NSET	Seismic hazard prevention and earthquake resistant housing technology	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$171,370
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra	\$6,588,728
UNDP	Coordination of Transition Activities	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$196,219
UNICEF	Water and sanitation	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,000,000
USGS	Seismic hazard prevention and establishment of Pakistan National Seismic Network	Countrywide	\$66,263
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	\$4,173,217
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$2,218,225
	Administrative support		\$1,462,988
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$61,195,689

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 17, 2006.

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	7,270 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$8,981,200
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$8,981,200
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			\$70,476,889
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	In support of activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal	Affected Areas	\$4,000,000
IOM	Prevention and assistance for populations vulnerable to traffickers	Affected Areas	\$100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,100,000
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			\$86,576,889

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE²			
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 March 17, 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 – 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>

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/.