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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 #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

October 10, 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 Kashmir, and approximately 60 miles north-northeast of the national capital, Islamabad.
- Multiple strong aftershocks have occurred, and the most affected areas are the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Northern Punjab, and Pakistani Kashmir in Pakistan, and Indian Kashmir in India.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Affected Population – Pakistan	33,180 dead up to 2.5 million affected	USAID/Pakistan – October 10 OCHA ² – October 10
Affected Population – India	865 dead	Government of India – October 10
Affected Population – Afghanistan	4 dead	Government of Afghanistan – October 10

U.S. Government (USG) Humanitarian Assistance Pledged up to \$50,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan..... \$1,337,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India..... \$100,000
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia..... \$1,433,000

CURRENT SITUATION

Pakistan

- According to OCHA, the October 8 earthquake caused massive destruction in six northern districts of NWFP and five districts of Pakistani Kashmir.
- On October 10, the United Nations (U.N.) hosted a humanitarian relief coordination meeting in Islamabad, attended by representatives from international organizations, the donor community, embassies, and the local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). As of October 10, the U.N. reports that some of the major roads leading to Muzaffarabad have been cleared. The Government of Pakistan (GOP) has also established an office within the Office of the Prime Minister to coordinate donor efforts.
- On October 10, the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) issued an urgent request for \$20 million to meet the needs of children and women throughout the affected areas. UNICEF reports that blankets, rubber boots, sweaters for children, water containers, and plastic sheeting are en route from a UNICEF warehouse in Peshawar to Mansehra District, NWFP.
- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has launched a \$500,000 emergency operation and is supporting interagency operations from a logistics base in Brindisi, Italy. WFP is mobilizing an airlift of 120 metric tons of high energy biscuits—sufficient to feed approximately 240,000 people for 5 days.
- The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported on October 10 that family tents, blankets, stoves, and other basic relief items for up to 100,000 Afghan refugees and Pakistanis made homeless by the October 8 earthquake are in transit to Mansehra, NWFP, from existing stockpiles in the region. Distinct from earthquake-related assistance, UNHCR supports 887,000 Afghan refugees in several camps in Pakistan, including three camps in the Haripur District of NWFP—Panian, Padhana, and Ghazi—and four camps in the Mansehra—Ichiran, Sheikhabad, Barary, and Khaki.

India

- Government of India (GOI) officials report that the earthquake killed 865 people and injured more than 40,000 others. The GOI announced a pledge of \$28.5 million for emergency relief operations.
- According to USAID/India, the October 8 earthquake rattled the Indian states of Jammu and Indian Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. The most affected districts in Jammu and Indian Kashmir are Poonch, Baramulla, Jammu, Udhampur, Ramban Kathus, Srinagar, Budgam, Anantnag, Pulwama, and Kupwara.

¹ These figures are preliminary and expected to increase.

² The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

- The Indian Army, Air Force, and local volunteers are conducting rescue and search and relief operations in the Uri, Tangdhar, Baramulla and Kupwara sectors. Army personnel have evacuated injured persons from Baramulla and Tangdhar to hospitals in Uri and Srinagar.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- On October 10, a USAID airlift of relief commodities arrived in Islamabad, Pakistan, carrying 250 rolls of plastic sheeting—sufficient for approximately 2,500 families—5,000 blankets, and 5,000 water containers. The value of this assistance including transport is \$170,000. The commodities are consigned through USAID/Pakistan to Save the Children for distribution to affected populations in Mansehra and Batagram Districts, NWFP.
- A nine-person Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) has been deployed to Pakistan. The team leader arrived on October 10, and the other members will arrive on October 12: two operations specialists, two medical experts, a military liaison officer, an information officer, an administrative officer, and a communications officer. 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.
- The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has dispatched eight military helicopters to assist in reaching and provide relief to isolated areas in northern Pakistan and Pakistani Kashmir. On October 10, a C-17 U.S. military aircraft arrived in Islamabad, carrying blankets, winterized tents, and 250 rolls of plastic sheeting.
- A Contingency Response Group (CRG) from Maguire Air Force Base, New Jersey, arrived in Islamabad on October 10. The CRG will conduct an initial airfield capability assessment and establish the conditions necessary to receive U.S. military aircraft carrying humanitarian assistance.
- On October 9, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) issued a Preliminary Emergency Appeal for \$8.4 million. USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million through the American Red Cross to support relief efforts identified in the appeal.
- On October 8, 2005, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Ryan C. Crocker declared a disaster due to the magnitude of damage caused by the earthquake. On October 8, USAID/OFDA provided an immediate \$100,000 through USAID/Pakistan for emergency relief supplies to meet the immediate needs of those affected by the earthquake.

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 across northern India. In response, USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 through USAID/India to help meet the immediate humanitarian needs of the earthquake victims, \$50,000 of which will be provided to the Indian Prime Minister's Relief Fund and \$50,000 to support emergency relief activities.
- A USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor is traveling to New Delhi, India, to assist USAID/India to conduct damage assessments, identify needs, and make recommendations regarding any additional assistance.

OTHER DONOR AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION ASSISTANCE

- In response to a request by the GOP, an eight-member U.N. Disaster and Coordination Team (UNDAC) arrived in Islamabad on October 9 to assist in assessing the damage and to help coordinate the relief response in Pakistan. UNDAC is establishing a reception center for relief commodities at the international airport in Islamabad, and an On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) in Muzaffarabad.
- The U.N. Disaster Management Team (DMT) is coordinating interagency rapid assessments. Teams have been sent to the NWFP, Pakistani Kashmir, and the Northern Areas.
- Donors and international organizations have pledged the following: \$100 million from Kuwait; \$20 million from the World Bank; \$10 million from the Asian Development Bank; \$6.2 million and a team of 49 people, rescue dogs, and equipment from China; \$5 million from Australia; \$4.4 million from by the European Union; \$1.8 million and an 82-person team from the United Kingdom; \$1.2 million and a 60-member search and rescue team from the Netherlands; \$1.2 million from Ireland; \$1million from the Czech Republic; \$1 million and a team of doctors from Malaysia; \$300,00 from Belgium; \$200,000 from Canada; \$100,000 from Thailand; a 50-person team from Japan; a 30-person team, rescue dogs, and equipment from Russia; a 30-person field hospital from Italy; helicopter assistance and medicine from Afghanistan; emergency relief supplies from Iran; \$60,000 and a search and rescue team from Germany; and search and rescue teams from Greece, France, Spain, Switzerland, and Turkey.
- *Please note:* The list above is representative and not exhaustive, as contributions are continuously changing.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
American Red Cross	IFRC Preliminary Emergency Appeal	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
Save the Children	Emergency relief supplies	Mansehra and Batagram, NWFP	\$113,000
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Affected Areas	\$100,000
	Airlift of emergency relief		\$57,000
	Administrative support		\$67,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$1,337,000

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents amounts committed or already provided as of October 10, 2005.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE²			
Prime Minister's Relief Fund	Emergency relief activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
USAID/India	Emergency relief activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$100,000

²USAID/OFDA funding represents amounts committed or already provided as of October 10, 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 organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in South Asia may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- 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 on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914