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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 #12, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

October 20, 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	48,000 dead*	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – October 20 U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – October 20
	67,000 injured	
	3 million affected	
India	1,300 dead	Government of India – October 13 U.N. Development Program (UNDP) – October 15 Government of India – October 14
	7,000 injured	
	150,000 homeless	

* Local officials in Pakistani-administered Kashmir estimate that more than 53,000 people have been killed.

U.S. Government (USG) Humanitarian Assistance Pledged	up to \$50,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$15,682,754
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$17,432,754
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India.....	\$100,000
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia.....	\$17,532,754

CURRENT SITUATION

Pakistan

- According to the Government of Pakistan, the current official death toll is approximately 48,000. Unconfirmed reports of the total number of dead are much higher. The most-affected district in Pakistan is Mansehra. More than 67,000 are estimated to be injured throughout Pakistan. More than 3 million people are reported homeless in the earthquake-affected areas.
- Current U.N. estimates continue to indicate that 250,000 to 450,000 winterized tents are required to meet immediate needs in Pakistan. However, as demand for tents exceeds available supply, the U.N. shelter coordination group is calling for creative temporary shelter alternatives (e.g., containers, corrugated iron roofs, etc.) in addition to tents.
- The Pakistani Prime Minister has urged those remaining in inaccessible areas to move to tent camps, where relief supplies are more readily available. The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues to work closely with the Pakistani military to establish these camps. The Pakistani military has established sites for 5,000 families in Balakot and Batagram and for 3,000 families in Gari Habibullah.
- Thus far, UNHCR has provided the Pakistani military with 1,000 tents, and approximately 400 tents have been erected. UNHCR has 12,000 tents in Mansehra, and is discussing with the Pakistani military the establishment of additional camps in Mansehra, Muzaffarabad, Shangla, and 10 other locations. Since land is at a premium in the mountainous terrain, camps will be crowded and need careful planning, especially in the water and sanitation sectors.
- According to the Government of Pakistan, the Pakistani military is using all its resources to provide shelter to those made homeless by the earthquake before the arrival of harsh winter weather. International non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have assisted the Pakistani military in its effort to provide medical attention to the wounded.
- According to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), WFP and other aid agencies are beginning to reach remote earthquake-affected areas that were previously inaccessible due to landslides. Food assistance from WFP is being transported by truck in areas where roads are open and by helicopter, pack mules and horses in remote or

¹ These figures are the best available estimates.

mountainous areas. WFP reported that thousands of people now homeless are walking down the mountains in search of shelter.

India

- According to OCHA, assessments show that 37,607 masonry buildings have collapsed in India due to the earthquake, and earthquake-related fires have been reported in parts of Baramulla district. OCHA also received reports of damages to Moti Mahal Fort in Poonch district, Reasi Fort in Reasi district, and Uri dam in Uri.
- According to international media reports, 14,000 of the estimated 35,000 required tents have been sent to the affected area in Indian-administered Kashmir. Officials in Indian-administered Kashmir noted that some of the tents provided may not be suitable for winter conditions in Kashmir, where snowfall levels can reach 10 feet.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- USAID has provided more than \$17.4 million in humanitarian assistance, including six airlifts of relief supplies, to Pakistan to date. As of October 20, USAID has provided shelter materials for 67,500 people and blankets for 15,000 people. USAID has distributed medical supplies for 100,000 people for 3 months to treat injuries and disease. To meet critical water needs, USAID has provided water treatment units that supply safe drinking water to 20,000 people per day, water containers for 15,000 families, and water storage capacity for 8 communities.
- USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to Pakistan on 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. There are currently 13 USAID/DART members in Pakistan, and more staff are scheduled to arrive in the coming days. Headquartered in Islamabad, the USAID/DART has also established a base of operations in Muzaffarabad, where it is conducting follow-up assessments and coordinating relief activities.
- USAID/FFP has responded to WFP's emergency operation for Pakistan with 2,400 metric tons (MT) of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. These commodities are currently being stored in Pakistan warehouses, and the total value of this contribution is approximately \$1.7 million.
- In response to the U.N. Flash Appeal, USAID/OFDA has provided \$10.8 million in funding to support transitional shelter programs, health, water and sanitation, a humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the movement of supplies to affected populations and movement of those populations to safe areas.
- On October 13, USAID/OFDA provided \$500,000 to ICRC to support the distribution of emergency relief supplies.
- To date, USAID has delivered emergency relief commodities to Pakistan in six airlifts.
 - On October 18, an airlift of 20 concrete cutting saws and accessories is scheduled to arrive in Islamabad. The total value of this airlift, including transport, is \$65,000.
 - Also on October 18, an airlift containing 5,000 blankets, 5,000 10-liter water containers, and 650 rolls of plastic sheeting is scheduled to arrive in Islamabad in two flights. The total value of this airlift, including transport, is more than \$300,000.
 - On October 16 and 17, two flights containing tents airlifted by USAID arrived in Islamabad. A third flight, containing the remainder of the 1,570 tents arrived on October 18. The tents will be provided to Mercy Corps for distribution in the Mansehra region. The total value of this airlift, including transport, is approximately \$471,000.
 - On October 15, a USAID airlift of 10 WHO emergency health kits arrived in Islamabad on October 15. The 10 kits contain sufficient medical supplies to treat 100,000 people for 3 months. On October 16, WHO transported USAID's 10 health kits to Muzaffarabad and Mansehra for distribution.
 - On October 14, a USAID airlift of relief commodities arrived in Islamabad, carrying 250 rolls of plastic sheeting—sufficient for approximately 2,500 families—5,000 blankets, 5,000 water containers, 8 water bladders. In addition, a flight containing two mobile water purification units is scheduled to arrive on October 15. The total value of these commodities, including transport, is approximately \$266,000. On October 16, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) transported the two mobile water treatment units and three water bladders to Muzaffarabad.
 - On October 10, a USAID airlift of relief commodities arrived in Islamabad, carrying 250 rolls of plastic sheeting—sufficient for approximately 2,500 families—5,000 blankets, and 5,000 water containers. The commodities are consigned through USAID/Pakistan to Save the Children for distribution to affected populations in Mansehra and Batagram Districts. The total value of the commodities, including transport, is approximately \$170,000.
- On October 9, the IFRC issued a Preliminary Emergency Appeal for \$8.4 million. USAID/OFDA has provided \$2 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.
- The U.S. Department of Defense currently has 21 helicopters in Pakistan, assisting with the humanitarian response. These helicopters have completed 399 sorties to date, delivering 625 short tons of humanitarian aid and evacuating 3,778 people out of the affected area. The first increment of a U.S. Army MASH hospital arrived in Pakistan on October 19. The hospital is scheduled to be operational on October 27.

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 any additional USG assistance. Preliminary findings of a rapid needs assessment indicate that access is the main constraint to providing critical relief and shelter is of utmost priority, with tents in short supply.
- 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.

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	\$2,000,000
ICRC	Delivery of relief supplies	Affected Areas	\$500,000
IOM	Delivery of relief supplies (surface transport), transport of displaced populations to safe areas, transitional shelter	Affected Areas	\$3,000,000
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Affected Areas	\$100,000
UNICEF	Water and sanitation	Affected Areas	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$2,000,000
WFP	Joint Logistics Center	Affected Areas	\$300,000
WFP	Humanitarian air operations	Affected Areas	\$3,500,000
	Emergency relief supplies	Affected Areas	\$979,842
	Airlifts of emergency relief supplies		\$1,001,912
	Administrative support		\$301,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$15,682,754
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	2,880 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$1,750,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$1,750,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$17,432,754
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$17,432,754

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents amounts committed or already provided as of October 20, 2005.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

	<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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents amounts committed or already provided as of October 20, 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