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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 #17, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

October 27, 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	54,197 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – October 27
	78,175 injured	GOP – October 27
	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

U.S. Government (USG) Assistance Pledged.....	\$100,000,000
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan.....	\$37,893,487
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan.....	\$41,620,087
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India.....	\$604,216
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia.....	\$42,224,303

CURRENT SITUATION

Pakistan

- On October 27, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that as much as 30 percent of the earthquake-affected areas remain inaccessible, which could translate into at least 200,000 people without relief assistance. According to OCHA, three camps are currently functional in Muzaffarabad, with capacities for 3,000 to 6,000 people in each, and three more camps are planned for the near future. In Mansehra, the local and provincial governments are establishing 25 tent villages with capacities of up to 300 tents.
- The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) reported that the WHO measles vaccination campaign was proceeding well in Muzaffarabad. WHO has deployed 19 two-person teams in an effort to expand the campaign to rural areas. On October 26, WHO confirmed 14 cases of measles in Balakot and Batagram and quickly mobilized a team to Batagram to respond.
- USAID is working in conjunction with the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to restart school activities in the earthquake affected region, where approximately 90 percent of the schools were destroyed. On October 27, the USAID/DART facilitated the delivery of six tents, provided by the U.S. Military, to UNICEF for distribution in affected villages. To date, UNICEF has delivered two school tents to tent camps in Mansehra and has begun needs assessments in three additional camps in the district.
- On October 26, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported that field hospitals and mobile teams continue to receive injured patients 18 days after the earthquake. According to WHO, scabies and other skin diseases are increasing due to poor sanitation and hygiene practices. In response, WHO is encouraging relief organizations to include scabies prevention in hygiene promotion campaigns. WHO also reported an increased risk of acute respiratory infection (ARI) due to the cold climate and inadequate shelter. USAID is in the process of transporting an additional 5,000 rolls of plastic sheeting and 30,000 wool blankets to the affected region.

India

- From October 9 to 26, the GOI coordinated airlifts of approximately 12,000 tents, 197,000 blankets, and 36,000 tarpaulins to Jammu and Kashmir states. The India Armed Forces delivered an additional 5,700 tents and 200,000 blankets to the affected areas.
- To date, India has not requested international assistance.

¹ These figures are the best available estimates.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- 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 more than \$41 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, health, water and sanitation, and logistics as priority sectors for immediate relief operations.
- From October 10 to 27, USAID completed six airlifts of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The airlifts delivered a total of 15,000 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 1,150 rolls of plastic sheeting, 15,000 water containers, 8 water bladders, 2 water purification units, 10 WHO emergency health kits, and 20 concrete cutting saws. The total value of the completed airlifts, including transport, is approximately \$1.4 million. In addition, USAID is in the process of completing a five-flight airlift of 5,000 additional rolls of plastic sheeting to Pakistan. The total value of this airlift, scheduled to conclude in coming days, is approximately \$2.3 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, humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the movement of supplies to affected populations and movement of those populations to safe areas.
- To date, USAID/FFP has responded to the U.N. World Food Program's (WFP) emergency operation for Pakistan with 2,400 metric tons (MT) of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is approximately \$3.4 million.
- 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.
- On October 27, the U.S. Military successfully completed one air drop of emergency relief supplies between Muzaffarabad and Bagh. Also on October 27, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) approved the deployment to Pakistan of a second hospital unit capable of providing Level 2 medical services. In addition, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) approved the movement of 21 Chinook 47 helicopters from the U.S. to Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan. The helicopters will provide essential transport support for ongoing emergency operations.

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.
- 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.
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations for emergency relief supplies and shelter.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACTED	Relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Balakot	\$2,351,232
Action Action 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
CRS	Livelihoods, water and sanitation, shelter	NWFP/AJK: Mansehra, Balakot, Muzaffarabad	\$2,470,000
GOAL	Shelter, livelihoods	AJK: Bagh	\$2,000,000
ICRC	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$5,000,000
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	\$2,500,000
Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra	\$1,511,168
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Muzaffarabad, Mansehra, Balakot, Batagram, Abbottabad, Rawlakot	\$2,500,000
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	\$3,917,459
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$100,000
	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,779,842
	Airlifts of emergency relief supplies		\$1,061,912
	Administrative support		\$523,598
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$37,893,487
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	2,880 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$3,426,600
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$3,426,600
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			\$41,620,087
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$41,620,087

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 27, 2005.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

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	\$134,278
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			\$604,216

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 27, 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