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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 #19, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

October 31, 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 <sup>1</sup>		SOURCE
<b>Pakistan</b>	55,000 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – October 31
	78,800 injured	GOP – October 31
	2.8 million homeless	International Organization for Migration (IOM) – October 21
<b>India</b>	1,309 dead	Government of India (GOI) – October 26
	6,622 injured	GOI – October 26
	150,000 homeless	GOI – October 14

<b>U.S. Government (USG) Assistance Pledged.....</b>	<b>\$100,000,000</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan.....</b>	<b>\$38,123,287</b>
<b>Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan.....</b>	<b>\$41,849,887</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India.....</b>	<b>\$604,216</b>
<b>Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia.....</b>	<b>\$42,454,103</b>

### CURRENT SITUATION

#### *Pakistan*

- The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Field Officer in Mansehra reports that shelter remains a key priority in the area, particularly for people expected to descend from the surrounding mountains as winter approaches. According to the USAID/DART, a USAID partner operating health units in Mansehra reported receiving patients with conditions related to poor water and sanitation, including gastro-intestinal illnesses and septic wounds.
- On October 31, the USAID/DART Leader and USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East (DAA/ANE) visited earthquake-affected areas. The USAID representatives met with U.N. agencies and relief organizations in Muzaffarabad, Balakot, and Mansehra, and conducted aerial assessments over Balakot and Batagram.
- According to the USAID/DART, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues to transport tents and relief supplies to outlying villages in an effort to prevent population displacement. To assist people who have already departed from their villages in search of assistance, UNHCR is establishing formal camps at lower elevations that can be reached by road during the winter, as well as assisting many informal camps. According to the camp management cluster group, comprised of U.N. agencies and relief organizations, UNHCR and partners currently operate nine camps in earthquake-affected areas with a total estimated capacity of 5,200 tents.
- The USAID/DART Shelter and Settlements Advisor continues to meet regularly with GOP and U.N. officials to discuss options for shelter provision, including non-tent shelter alternatives such as shelters improvised from readily available materials, repair kits for homes, warm rooms, and host family grants. According to the USAID/DART, relief agencies and the GOP are increasingly interested in non-tent shelter options as the shortfall of available tents continues.
- On October 31, the Executive Director of the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reported that more than 17,000 children died in the October 8 earthquake. In addition, the earthquake affected approximately 1.6 – 2.2 million children.
- According to the USAID/DART, the GOP Office of Social Welfare (OSW) plans to register all children, both accompanied and unaccompanied, who arrive at camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs). On October 27, the

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

GOP began registering children at IDP camps in Muzaffarabad. In the first camp, the GOP reportedly registered 930 accompanied and zero unaccompanied children.

- On October 31, UNJLC confirmed with GOP authorities that no handling charges or other charges, including landing, parking and navigational fees, would be levied by the Civil Aviation Authority or the main ground handling agent at Islamabad, Shaheen Airport Services (SAPS) to agencies transporting relief supplies.

### 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 \$41.8 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.
- On October 30, a USAID flight containing 737 rolls of plastic sheeting arrived in Pakistan. The October 30 flight was the fifth of five flights carrying a total of 5,000 rolls of plastic sheeting to shelter approximately 25,000 earthquake-affected families during the winter months. The total value of the airlift, including transport, is more than \$2.3 million.
- On October 31, a USAID airlift arrived in Islamabad carrying nine water bladders with a capacity of 12,000 liters each.
- From October 10 to 31, USAID completed nine airlifts of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The airlifts delivered a total of 45,000 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 6,150 rolls of plastic sheeting for approximately 30,750 families, 15,000 water containers, 17 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 more than \$4 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.
- To date, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has transported 1,360 tons of relief supplies, including food, medicines, tents, water, blankets, and clothing. In addition, the U.S. military has completed 645 helicopter sorties and 3 air drops, and has evacuated a total of 6,818 injured persons from the affected areas. As of October 31, the 212<sup>th</sup> Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) in Muzaffarabad has treated 143 patients and performed 28 surgeries. A 123-person U.S. Engineering Force is currently clearing roads to the north of Muzaffarabad and assisting in shelter construction and water purification activities.

#### *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 As of October 28, USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations for emergency relief supplies and shelter.
- To date, India has not requested international assistance.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE <sup>1</sup>			
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
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	\$3,914,964
USAID/Pakistan	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$100,000
	Emergency relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$3,009,642
	Airlifts of emergency relief supplies		\$1,064,407
	Administrative support		\$523,598
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$38,123,287</b>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	2,880 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$3,426,600
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$3,426,600</b>
USAID/GDA ASSISTANCE			
	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>\$41,849,887</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN</b>			<b>\$41,849,887</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 31, 2005.

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

<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</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	\$134,278
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>\$604,216</b>

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 31, 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](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)