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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 #32, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

December 30, 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	73,338 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – December 30
	69,412 injured	GOP – December 30
	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	\$59,580,347
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$66,580,347
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia	\$83,181,009

CURRENT SITUATION

- On December 30, the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) conducted a site visit to Bagh District, Azad Jammu Kashmir (AJK), where USAID implementing partner American Refugee Committee (ARC) is providing emergency shelter and livelihoods assistance. ARC is providing shelter materials and technical assistance to 7,000 households to construct temporary transitional shelters that will keep families warm and dry throughout the winter. In addition to the shelter assistance, ARC is providing cash-for-work opportunities for hygiene promotion and construction of shelters for vulnerable populations.
- The USAID/DART Water and Sanitation Officer (WSO) accompanied GOP engineers on 35 assessments of severely damaged and destroyed settlements in NWFP during December. To address poor water and sanitation conditions in various camps, the USAID/DART assisted the GOP military and the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to upgrade and repair latrines, established a tracking system to ensure adequate sanitation facilities as the camp populations increase, and supervised the repair of local water supplies and wells.
- To address health and hygiene conditions at planned and spontaneous settlements, the USAID/DART is working with implementing partners to monitor health conditions in more densely populated camps, to provide early-warning information to monitor potential disease outbreaks, and to prioritize health and hygiene education. On December 26, the USAID/DART Health and Nutrition Officer traveled through the Neelum Valley northeast of Muzaffarabad and observed that health non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were concentrated in the lower valley but were largely absent in the upper valley. In response, the USAID/DART is working with partner NGOs to meet health needs in the region.
- On December 24, a USAID airlift containing 6,500 sheets of tarpaulin³ arrived in Pakistan, and an additional USAID airlift containing 50,255 blankets is scheduled to arrive in the coming days. The blankets and tarpaulin will support the ongoing winterization of shelters for earthquake-affected populations.
- According to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 85 percent of shelters in planned camps are winterized. To address growing concerns over tent fires, the U.N. shelter cluster has prepared an educational flyer that explains fire safety and winterization techniques.
- The USAID/DART reported that as of December 25, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has distributed approximately 32,217 metric tons (MT) of emergency food commodities to more than 2.5 million earthquake-affected people.

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.

³ 10 sheets of tarpaulin per roll of plastic sheeting.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- On December 20, U.S. Vice President Richard B. Cheney traveled to Pakistan to oversee USG humanitarian efforts in response to the earthquake. During the visit, the Vice President met with Prime Minister Pervez Musharraf and visited the 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) operating in Muzaffarabad. On December 21, U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld also visited Pakistan where he met with patients and personnel at the MASH in Muzaffarabad and the 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force in Shinkiari.
- At the Donors Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Areas in Islamabad on November 19, USAID Administrator Andrew S. Natsios announced an increase in the overall U.S. commitment to Pakistan for relief and reconstruction to a total of \$510 million. 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 December 15, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed Former President George H. W. Bush as the U.N. Special Envoy for the South Asia Earthquake Disaster to ensure that donor countries honor pledges made at the conference.
- On October 27, President George W. Bush established the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund (SAERF) headed by five private-sector chief executive officers (CEOs) to spearhead private fundraising efforts for relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake. To date, the SAERF has collected more than \$1.7 million, and the founding five CEOs pledged up to \$24 million in cash and in-kind contributions to the South Asia earthquake relief efforts.
- 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 needed. Headquartered in Islamabad, the USAID/DART has also established bases of operations in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra.
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$66.5 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, health, water and sanitation, livelihoods, cash-for-work, and logistics as priority sectors for immediate relief operations.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$6.3 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 24 flights of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The flights delivered a total of 47,500 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 addition to the provision of sheets of tarpaulin, blankets, and winterized and non-winterized tents in support of the overall shelter strategy, USAID funded eight NGO partners to provide shelter assistance to approximately 75,500 households.
- In response to the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal, USAID has provided more than \$22.6 million in funding to support transitional shelter programs, food, 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's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the WFP emergency operation for Pakistan with 4,990 MT of vegetable oil and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is approximately \$6.7 million.
- As of December 21, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) is contributing \$4 million to 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.
- As of December 30, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided 46,000 MT of wheat, valued at \$12 million, to the GOP. This wheat will be distributed to food-insecure families lacking the financial means to purchase food.
- 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.
- As of December 28, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 2,950 helicopter missions, delivered 7,166 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, and evacuated casualties and transported humanitarian relief workers for a total of 17,941 passengers. The 212th MASH, established on October 25 in Muzaffarabad, and a 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force medical element, established on November 16 in Shinkiari, have performed more than 396 surgeries and treated more than 16,810 non-surgical patients. The 140 personnel from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74, who have been operating with 107 pieces of equipment to clear school and university sites, construct airport berms, and build latrines and tent sites, will be replaced by 40 personnel from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4. To date, DOD has obligated \$96 million for relief operations.

India

- From October 11 to 17, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor was in India assisting USAID/India with damage and needs assessments and making recommendations regarding 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.
- 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. As of November 1, USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations 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 and AJK	\$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/AJK: Mansehra, Balakot, Muzaffarabad	\$4,960,730
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	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, and Shangla	\$2,483,041
Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$2,420,348
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra	\$6,588,728
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	\$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	\$3,595,176
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$2,218,225
	Administrative support		\$1,340,988
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$59,580,347
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	5,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$6,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$6,700,000
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			\$66,580,347

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 30, 2005.

STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	In support of activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal	Affected Areas	\$4,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,000,000
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			\$82,580,347

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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 30, 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
 - American corporate leaders have established a fund to gather donations and the website is <https://www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org>