

# OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA) DAY OF CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTNERS - APRIL 17, 2007

# **Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia (EMCA)**

## **AFGHANISTAN**

USAID/OFDA is working with USAID/Afghanistan and implementing partner CARE to address the lack of adequate shelter and corresponding infrastructure problems. The Kabul Area Shelter and Settlements project is providing more than 3,600 households in seven districts of Kabul with safe, adequate, and habitable shelter assistance. Vulnerable households are benefiting from integrated shelter activities, such as the rehabilitation of safe water supplies and training programs in health, sanitation, and hazard mitigation. USAID/OFDA is also supporting the establishment of 35 community councils in the same districts to help prioritize and respond to local needs for public services and liaise with government officials on shelter issues. In addition to providing traditional shelter benefits, this project is serving as a model for other programs by addressing the complex mix of shelter and settlement problems in urban areas.

#### **IRAQ**

Since Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, USAID/OFDA has contributed more than \$196 million, including \$5 million in FY 2007, to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations in Iraq. USAID/OFDA's ongoing programs prioritize humanitarian assistance for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities. In order to best assist vulnerable populations, USAID/OFDA partners adapt plans for the provision of relief supplies and implementation of humanitarian activities as IDP populations move or as additional needs arise. In FY 2006, USAID/OFDA programs assisted an estimated 175,000 IDPs. Anticipating supplemental Congressional funding in FY 2007, USAID/OFDA is planning to increase the number of beneficiaries to 300,000 and broaden activities that assist IDPs and other vulnerable populations.

### LEBANON

In FY 2006 and 2007, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$66.3 million in humanitarian assistance for the following emergency relief activities: distribution of food and relief supplies, food security and agriculture, health services, infrastructure rehabilitation, livelihood recovery activities, nutrition interventions, protection activities, psychosocial support, transitional and winterization shelter activities, security training for relief organizations, coordination and information management, and water, sanitation, and hygiene services. A USG Disaster Assistance Response Team (USG/DART) deployed to the region from July to December 2006 to assess humanitarian needs, program funds for emergency and early recovery assistance, and coordinate the USG humanitarian response. Many USG-funded early recovery programs will continue through May 2007.