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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)

Pakistan – Cyclone

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

July 6, 2007

BACKGROUND AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On June 23, 2007, Tropical Cyclone Yemyin intensified near the coastal areas of Sindh and Balochistan provinces in southern Pakistan, resulting in high winds, heavy rains, and flash flooding. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the cyclone and floods have killed 242 people, although unofficial reports indicate approximately 500 people dead and missing. As of July 5, approximately 150,000 people—of a total estimated 250,000 displaced at the height of the cyclone—remain displaced.
- On July 1, 2007, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Anne W. Patterson requested that USAID/OFDA provide humanitarian assistance on behalf of the U.S. Government (USG) to those affected by the cyclone in Pakistan. In response, USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$390,000 to support affected populations. USAID/OFDA, USAID/Pakistan, and the U.S. Department of State will continue to monitor the situation.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Affected Population	1,650,000	OCHA – July 5, 2007
Deaths	242	OCHA – July 5, 2007
Internally Displaced Persons	150,000	OCHA – July 5, 2007

FY 2007 USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for Cyclone in Pakistan.....\$390,621
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance for Cyclone in Pakistan.....\$390,621

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to OCHA, the cyclone and subsequent rains and floods have affected approximately 1.65 million people in two provinces in southern Pakistan. In the districts of Gwadar, Jhal Magsi, Kech, Kharan, Khuzdar, and Jaffarabad, Balochistan Province, the humanitarian situation remains critical. Floods have also affected the districts of Dadu, Jacobabad, Larkana, Shahdadt, and Thatta, Sindh Province, according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). In the coastal district of Karachi, Sindh Province, flood waters have severely disrupted commercial and port activities, according to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad.
- Staff at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad report widespread damage to cotton and cash crops in Sindh Province, extensive loss of livestock, and infrastructure and livelihood losses to the fisheries industry. OCHA reports substantial impact to livelihoods in Kharan District, Balochistan Province.

Shelter

- According to OCHA, flooding has damaged or destroyed 300,000 to 400,000 houses in affected areas. Flood waters destroyed an estimated 50 percent of houses in Kharan District, Balochistan Province, and additional houses in Qambar District, Sindh Province. Flooding has also resulted in substantial loss of houses in Kech District, Balochistan Province, according to the Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF), a network of international non-governmental organizations.
- The Government of Pakistan’s (GOP) National Disaster Management Authority has set up several internally displaced persons (IDP) camps, including two in Jhal Magsi District, Balochistan Province, according to OCHA.

Health

- According to the PHF, affected populations are suffering from skin and gastrointestinal diseases due to lack of shelter and access to clean water.
- PHF members, including Oxfam Great Britain, Save the Children/UK, Concern Worldwide, Church World Service–Pakistan/Afghanistan, and Catholic Relief Services, are providing temporary shelter, according to OCHA. Other humanitarian organizations are providing medical and water purification supplies. The GOP’s Ministry of Health is mobilizing medical teams to the cyclone-affected areas.

Humanitarian Coordination

- The U.N. Resident Coordinator in Pakistan has reinstated the cluster approach to respond to humanitarian needs in Balochistan and Sindh provinces.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On July 1, 2007, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Anne W. Patterson requested that USAID/OFDA provide humanitarian assistance on behalf of the USG to those affected by the cyclone in Pakistan. USAID/OFDA is providing \$390,621 to Mercy Corps to procure and distribute emergency relief commodities to 90,000 people in affected areas. The contribution includes \$50,000 under the Ambassador's Authority.
- USAID/OFDA, USAID/Pakistan, and the U.S. Department of State will continue to monitor the situation.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Mercy Corps	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$390,621
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN FOR CYCLONE YEMYIN			\$390,621

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 6, 2007.

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 organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Pakistan may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- 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; and 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