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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 #28, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

December 1, 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	73,331 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – December 1
	69,392 injured	GOP – December 1
	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	\$56,449,114
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$60,175,714
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia	\$60,776,376

CURRENT SITUATION

- The USAID/Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) reports that with the onset of winter, some Pakistanis living at higher elevations are beginning to relocate temporarily to lower elevations. The USAID/DART has received reports, however, of people moving not just from mountains to camps at lower elevations, but also from camps back up to the mountains. Movement varies by district, as well as by location within the district. This population movement is likely the result of a number of factors, including the need to find food and shelter during the winter months, GOP payments for earthquake-related losses, seasonal migration patterns, and the lack of basic services in some tent camps.
- According to the USAID/DART, sanitation, particularly in camps, is an increasingly critical issue due to the onset of winter, the lack of appropriate shelter, and the resulting movement of people from the hills into spontaneous and planned tent cities. The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reported that 10 percent of camp inhabitants are not receiving enough water to meet the Sphere humanitarian guidelines of 15 liters per day. On November 28, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that sanitation in the Muzaffarabad camps continues to require focused attention. To date, nearly 1,600 latrines in the camps have been installed, and another 1,600 latrines remain to be installed. Lack of sanitation facilities for women and solid waste disposal in the camps remain a concern.
- The USAID/DART reports that increased landslides and slippery roads due to recent rain and snowfall in the Neelum and Allai valleys have rendered several roads impassable at points, and the conditions are expected to worsen as winter progresses. According to international media reports, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) plans to start using helicopters, which have been transporting relief supplies to affected populations, to carry shelter materials and medical teams to inaccessible areas at higher elevations before the winter weather worsens.
- According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), a sufficient number of tents have been distributed to the affected population. However, IOM has requested an accelerated delivery of winterized tents at higher altitudes as more than 75 percent of the approximately 400,000 tents distributed to affected populations are not suitable to provide protection against the harsh winter. To date, IOM has distributed more than 1,300 shelter kits to 10,500 people. An additional 6,000 shelter kits will be distributed in valleys at higher altitudes above 1,500 meters over the next two weeks.
- On November 30, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) expressed concern over the increase in pneumonia cases in earthquake-affected areas of Pakistan. Health officials from WHO report that winter weather has tripled the number of

¹ These figures are the best available estimates.

² This pledge includes \$300 million in monetary 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.

people being treated in hospitals, and more than 1,000 people per day are seeking assistance for pneumonia and other cold-related ailments.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- On December 1, seven members of the U.S. Congress visited the Mehra Tent Camp located on the banks of the Indus River in the Allai Valley and met with Pakistani military officials, local village elders, and children. USAID/OFDA, through implementing partners, has provided one-week food rations to approximately 1,200 camp residents, and all camp residents will receive monthly food rations throughout the winter months. USAID/OFDA is also funding the construction of 40 communal kitchens, complete with 400 cooking stoves. Through implementing partner Save the Children/U.S., USAID/OFDA is also providing short-term employment opportunities and funding teacher training and livelihood programs in Mehra camp.
- 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 monetary 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.
- 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 \$60.1 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 November 30, USAID/OFDA provided \$1.8 million to International Medical Corps (IMC) to support water and sanitation programs in NWFP; \$1 million to Mercy Corps for urban water and sanitation activities in Muzaffarabad; and \$2.5 million to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to support emergency response and recovery programs in NWFP and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$4.6 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 19 flights carrying emergency relief commodities to Pakistan. The flights 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, 20 concrete cutting saws, and 136 shelters donated by Alaska Shelters.
- In response to the U.N. Flash Appeal, USAID has provided \$19.3 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/Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the WFP emergency operation for Pakistan with 2,400 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.
- As of November 30, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 2,019 helicopter missions, delivered 4,741 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, evacuated casualties and transported humanitarian relief workers for a total of 15,143 passengers. The 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), established October 25 in Muzaffarabad, and a III Marine Expeditionary Force medical element, established November 16 in Shinkiari, have performed a total of 285 surgeries and treated 5,654 non-surgical patients. Engineering teams (approximately 125 personnel from a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion) are operating with 73 pieces of equipment to clear school and university sites, construct airport berms, and build latrines and tent sites. The Qasim helicopter ramp expansion is now complete. To date, DOD has obligated \$92 million for relief 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. The USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor and a representative from USAID/India conducted a post-earthquake visit to Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir 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 across northern India. As of November 1, 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

<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	\$4,970,000
GOAL	Shelter, livelihoods	AJK: Bagh	\$2,000,000
ICRC	Emergency relief supplies, shelter	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$5,000,000
IMC	Water and sanitation	NWFP	\$1,800,000
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	\$2,511,168
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot	\$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	\$3,128,051
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$1,732,749
	Administrative support		\$912,266
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$56,449,114
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			\$60,175,714
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$60,175,714

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

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
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	\$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
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$600,662

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 1, 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