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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 #29, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

December 8, 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 GLANCE¹		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,331 dead	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – December 8
	69,392 injured	GOP – December 8
	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	\$56,834,239
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$63,834,239
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia	\$80,434,901

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), between 350,000 and 380,000 people will remain in areas at higher elevations, from 5,000 to 7,000 feet. Sufficient food and shelter materials are essential to ensure the survival of these individuals through the winter and to minimize massive population movements to lowland areas. USAID, along with the GOP and the international community, is working to ensure that families receive adequate winterization materials, including blankets and plastic sheeting to reinforce the tents that are not winterized. USAID is currently providing plastic sheeting that will help winterize shelter for 17,500 people.
- The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the GOP’s Ministry of Environment have teamed to launch a series of radio programs to promote health and hygiene awareness among the earthquake-affected population. Due to a lack of latrines, there are reports of between 20 and 70 percent of camp populations defecating in the open, and solid waste is not being properly managed. The three-month project will commence on December 10, and more than 102 hour-long interactive, radio call-in programs promoting hygiene and water/sanitation awareness will be broadcast.
- The USAID/Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) reports that although cases of diarrhea, acute respiratory infections (ARI), and pneumonia have been reported, to date, no communicable disease outbreaks have occurred. Accurate health baseline data for northern Pakistan is limited, but the USAID/DART reports that a significant number of people die each year from ARI and pneumonia.
- According to international media reports on December 4, UNICEF reported 14 cases of measles in a small camp in Hattian Bala, located 25 miles south of Muzaffarabad. In response, UNICEF is conducting an immunization campaign to vaccinate those persons who missed a previous campaign that was launched shortly after the earthquake. To date, UNICEF has vaccinated 500,000 children against measles, and nearly 200,000 children have also received Vitamin A supplementation.
- Rain and snow, coupled with significant drops in temperature, have made relief operations particularly difficult and increased the number of people seeking medical assistance for weather-related ailments. The onset of winter conditions has resulted in the grounding of helicopters and cancellation of road deliveries. According to international media reports, Pakistani meteorologists forecast a cold wave by December 8, followed by heavy rains and snow a week later.

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.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- 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.
- 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 \$63.8 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.
- To date, USAID has provided more than \$4.9 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 U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency health kits, 20 concrete cutting saws, and 136 shelters donated by Alaska Shelters. On December 10, an airlift containing 600 rolls of plastic sheeting and 2,500 blankets is scheduled to arrive in Islamabad. The total value of this airlift, including transport, is more than \$280,000.
- 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 4,990 metric tons (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 8, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) is contributing \$4 million to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal.
- As of December 9, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided 46,000 MT of wheat worth \$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 8, 2005, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has flown 2,254 helicopter missions, delivered 5,366 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, and evacuated casualties and transported humanitarian relief workers for a total of 15,926 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 321 surgeries and treated 8,023 non-surgical patients. Engineering teams (approximately 125 personnel from a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion) are operating with 107 pieces of equipment to clear school and university sites, construct airport berms, and build latrines and tent sites. 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	\$1,900,000
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	\$2,511,168
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra; AJK: 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	\$3,361,176
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$1,779,749
	Administrative support		\$917,266
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$56,834,239
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			\$63,834,239
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			\$79,834,239

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 8, 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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 8, 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>