



South Asia – Earthquake

Fact Sheet #43, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

March 31, 2006.

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 17, 2006

BACKGROUND

Immediately following the magnitude 7.6 earthquake that struck Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan on October 8, 2005, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to Pakistan. According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake’s epicenter was located near Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) in Pakistan, approximately 60 miles north-northeast of Islamabad. The USAID/DART arrived on October 10 and has been working with the Government of Pakistan (GOP) and local authorities, U.N. agencies, and international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assess humanitarian needs, provide technical support, and assist with targeting and coordination of U.S. government (USG) assistance in conjunction with USAID/Pakistan. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, logistics, health, water and sanitation, and livelihoods support as priority sectors for relief operations. Ongoing humanitarian interventions in AJK and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and extensive preparation for the onset of winter weather by relief organizations minimized the negative impact of snow and rainfall during the winter season.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,338 dead	GOP – December 14
	69,412 injured	GOP – December 14
	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.....	\$66,115,563
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance Committed to Pakistan	\$80,096,763
USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed to India	\$600,662
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed to South Asia.....	\$97,697,425

CURRENT SITUATION

- During a March 29 visit to the Kaghan Valley, the USAID/DART met with USAID/OFDA partners implementing water and sanitation programs in the area. The team also discussed priorities for the transition phase and reconstruction and the progress of population returns with community leaders in Paras and Kawai villages. According to the USAID/DART, the top priorities for these two villages are reconstructing houses and opening up access roads.
- On March 25, the USAID/DART, the USAID Transition Advisor, and representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad traveled to Mehra Camp in the Allai Valley, NWFP, to observe the progress of the return process two weeks after the March 10 start date. As of March 24, the GOP military reported that 10,495 people had departed Mehra Camp while 9,073 people remained. The GOP official in charge of the camp anticipated that, with the exception of 100 to 150 families who are unable to return to places of origin due to tenancy issues, all camp residents will have left the camp by April 7. USAID/OFDA's implementing partners and other organizations will be involved in decommissioning latrines and the environmental cleanup of Mehra Camp.
- On March 23, the USAID/DART and the USAID Transition Advisor met with implementing partners in Muzaffarabad to assess the situation on the ground. Muzaffarabad has been divided into 11 sections, according to priority for rubble removal, and the USAID/DART estimates that 5 million cubic feet of rubble have already been removed. The Muzaffarabad City Planner estimates that an additional 67 million cubic feet of rubble remain in the city.
- The USAID/DART and the USAID Transition Advisor traveled to Bagh, AJK, on March 24 to monitor the progress of USAID-funded programs. The team also met with local residents and with the Community Committee to assess the area's livelihoods situation. According to the USAID/DART, the first installment of GOP shelter assistance received by earthquake-affected households was spent on immediate needs rather than shelter materials.

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.

- The USAID/DART, together with representatives from USAID/Pakistan, attended a March 14 meeting hosted by the GOP's Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) to clarify ERRA's reconstruction policies and guidelines for reconstruction, rehabilitation, and transition. According to the USAID/DART, project proposals will originate with and be implemented by local governments during the transitional and reconstruction stages, while ERRA will oversee overall coordination, strategic planning, standard setting, and quality control.
- During the March 20 water and sanitation cluster meeting, ERRA representatives reported that the earthquake destroyed more than 1,700 water systems in NWFP and more than 1,600 in AJK. According to the USAID/DART, ERRA will address the water supply needs of 2 million people and the sanitation and hygiene promotion needs of 1.2 million people over the next 12 months. ERRA's water and sanitation plan will be linked to the housing plan.
- On March 17 and 18, the USAID/DART participated in a large lessons learned conference in Islamabad attended by key stakeholders and sponsored by the GOP's Federal Relief Commission (FRC). Panels focused on issues such as the role of NGOs and donors; U.N. agencies and international organizations' relief efforts; evacuation management; and the media and information management.
- After nearly six months on the ground, on March 31 the USAID/DART will end and the U.S. Department of Defense's (DOD) Combined Disaster Assistance Center at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad will close. USAID/OFDA will continue to maintain a presence in Pakistan to monitor the situation on the ground.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Pakistan

- To date, USAID has provided more than \$80 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities in Pakistan. According to the USAID/DART Program Officer, USAID/OFDA-funded relief programs have successfully met humanitarian needs of earthquake-populations throughout AJK and NWFP. In affected areas, implementing partners provided relief commodities to more than 370,000 people and shelter assistance to more than 596,000 people. USAID partners improved access to sanitation facilities for more than 109,000 people and through cash-for-work (CFW) programs, more than 48,500 man days were created. Rehabilitation of village water schemes and the creation of water infrastructure in camps improved access to safe drinking water for more than 57,000 people, while health interventions improved access to health care for 80,000 people. USAID partners also provided hygiene education to more than 3,800 people and \$100 vouchers to approximately 15,500 people for a total of more than \$1.5 million in economic assistance. In addition, USAID/OFDA-funded programs provided psychological and social support to more than 3,700 children through the creation of child-friendly spaces.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$6.5 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations in Pakistan. USAID has completed 25 flights of emergency relief commodities to Pakistan delivering a total of 97,725 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 8,050 rolls of plastic sheeting, 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.
- USAID has provided more than \$29.5 million in funding for the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal and follow-on operation to support transitional shelter programs, food, health, water and sanitation, humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the transport of supplies to affected populations and movement of those populations to safe areas.
- In addition to the provision of tarpaulin sheets, blankets, and winterized and non-winterized tents in support of the overall shelter strategy, USAID funded 9 NGO partners to provide shelter assistance to approximately 75,500 households.
- On January 21, the USG signed a four-year \$200 million grant agreement with the GOP to assist in the reconstruction of schools and hospitals destroyed by the earthquake and the rehabilitation of livelihoods, education, and health care systems. The grant agreement is part of the overall U.S. commitment of \$510 million pledged at the Donors Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Areas in Islamabad on November 19.
- On October 27, President George W. Bush, together with five private-sector chief executive officers (CEOs) launched the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund (SAERF) to spearhead private fundraising efforts for relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake. To date, the SAERF has received more than \$19 million in cash and pledges. The SAERF has allocated \$4.5 million to five NGOs focused on relief efforts and will provide remaining funds for reconstruction efforts. Overall, the U.S. commercial and private sector has raised approximately \$110 million in cash and in-kind contributions for earthquake relief and reconstruction, exceeding the \$100 million target pledged at the Donors Conference in November.
- 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 to more than 50,000 households for 3 months.
- USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has responded to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) emergency and follow-on recovery operation for Pakistan with 18,470 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance,

comprising 11,200 MT of bulk wheat, 6,790 MT of vegetable oil, and 480 MT of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is nearly \$13.7 million.

- The U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) contributed \$4 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support activities identified in the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal, including the establishment and management of camps and spontaneous settlements and the provision of relief supplies to camp residents. State/PRM also provided \$1 million to support three programs that assist populations vulnerable to human trafficking; expand health care services for earthquake affected Afghan refugees and Pakistani populations; and improve water and sanitation facilities and repair schools.
- To date, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided 46,000 MT of wheat, valued at \$12 million, to the GOP. This wheat is assisting food-insecure families lacking the financial means to purchase food.
- As of March 30, the DOD had flown 5,220 helicopter missions, delivered 14,832 short tons of humanitarian relief supplies, evacuated 3,753 casualties, cleared 43,599 cubic yards of rubble, and transported 17,256 humanitarian relief workers and other passengers. To date, DOD has obligated \$106.8 million for relief operations.
- The U.S. Military's Muzaffarabad Forward Air Refuel Point has been turned over to the GOP military as part of DOD's effort to leave behind equipment in support of the GOP's continued relief and reconstruction efforts. DOD had previously donated engineering and medical equipment to the GOP. DOD closed out Qasim helicopter base and continues to redeploy support helicopters.

India

- 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. From October 11 to 17, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor traveled to India to assist USAID/India with damage and needs assessments and provide recommendations for 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.
- USAID has provided more than \$600,000 to relief organizations in India 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, agriculture, livelihoods	NWFP: Balakot	\$5,034,909
Action Against Hunger	Shelter, relief supplies	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP	\$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, capacity building	NWFP: Mansehra, Shangla, Kohistan; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$5,896,681
DFS	Humanitarian air services	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$481,449
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	Earthquake Affected Regions of 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, Shangla	\$2,483,041

Mercy Corps	Shelter, water and sanitation, cash-for-work	NWFP: Mansehra; AJK: Muzaffarabad	\$2,420,348
NSET	Seismic hazard prevention and earthquake resistant housing technology	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$171,370
Save the Children/US	Shelter, emergency relief supplies, livelihoods, psychological and social assistance, transitional activities	NWFP: Abbottabad, Balakot, Batagram, Mansehra	\$7,887,474
UNDP	Coordination of Transition Activities	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$196,219
UNICEF	Water and sanitation	Earthquake Affected Regions of NWFP and AJK	\$2,000,000
USGS	Seismic hazard prevention and establishment of Pakistan National Seismic Network	Countrywide	\$66,263
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	\$4,173,217
	Transport of emergency relief supplies		\$2,218,225
	Administrative support		\$1,464,488
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN			\$66,115,563
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	18,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$13,681,200
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$13,681,200
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			\$80,096,763
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	In support of activities identified in the 2005 U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal	Affected Areas	\$4,000,000
IOM	Prevention and assistance for populations vulnerable to traffickers	Affected Areas	\$100,000
Church World Services	Health	NWFP: Mansehra	\$259,091
Mercy Corps	Water and sanitation, school infrastructure	NWFP: Mansehra	\$640,909
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$5,000,000
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			\$97,096,763

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 31, 2006.

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 March 31, 2006.

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>