



**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

***ASIA – Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation
Programs***

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2003

March 27, 2003

Note: This updates Fact Sheet #2, dated July 23, 2002

Background

The Asia and Pacific Region is more prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, and wildfires than any other region in the world. Asia’s vulnerability is compounded by socio-economic conditions that are steadily increasing the impact of disasters. Demographic changes, urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, forcing the settlement of hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. USAID/OFDA is committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation and emergency response capacities of Asian countries. Since 1995, USAID/OFDA has provided \$34.4 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the region. To date in FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided \$4.3 million for disaster preparedness projects throughout Asia, with another \$1.8 million planned. Funding levels indicated below reflect the total USG implementation cost over the multi-year duration of the grants.

USAID/OFDA Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance

Regional

- **Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP):** Implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), the AUDMP has received USAID/OFDA assistance since its inception in September 1995. The program aims to make cities safer by reducing the disaster vulnerability of urban populations, infrastructure (roads and bridges), critical facilities (hospitals), and shelter (strengthening building codes), and by promoting replication and adaptation of successful preparedness measures in targeted cities throughout Asia. The AUDMP has implemented national demonstration projects in earthquake risk management in Kathmandu, Nepal and in Bandung, Indonesia; urban fire management in Vientiane, Laos; technological hazard management in Calcutta and Baroda, India; flood management in the eastern provinces of Cambodia and in Naga City, Philippines; volcano and earthquake management in San Carlos, Philippines; multiple hazard training of municipal officials in Ratnapura, Kandy, and Nawalapitiya, Sri Lanka; community and municipal-level preparedness activities to reduce urban flooding in Tongi and Gaibandha, Bangladesh; and risk assessment and preparedness planning activities in Thailand. The AUDMP also promotes sharing of disaster-related information, networking among regional disaster managers, and the development and management of courses for NGOs, disaster management organizations, and regional and national governments. The current program ends in August 2003. **\$11,929,436**

- **Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER):** The PEER program began in September 1998 as a collaborative initiative among ADPC, USAID/OFDA, and the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department (MDFRD). Focusing on earthquake preparedness, the objective of the program is to assist local, regional, and national disaster management agencies in India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines in organizing and conducting training in Medical First Response; Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue; and Hospital Preparedness for Emergency Training. The MDFRD receives separate funding, not included here, in support of the program. The current program ends in March 2003. **\$2,248,117**

- **Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), Phase II:** This new five-year activity will augment current training programs in the four original countries, and will expand PEER activities to Bangladesh and in two earthquake-prone states in India. The implementation partner for PEER II will be announced shortly based on a competitive solicitation. Initiated in March 2003, the program will continue until March 2008. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$1,500,000. **\$7,500,000**

- **South Pacific Disaster Training Program:** USAID/OFDA has supported the South Pacific Disaster Training Program implemented by The Asia Foundation since 1995. The objectives of the training program are to: 1) improve the capacity and performance of local and national disaster management agencies and individuals to better plan for and manage disaster response and preparedness efforts; 2) develop and adapt training materials

relevant to the region; and 3) strengthen the capacity of South Pacific countries to organize and conduct disaster management courses. The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands participate in the program. The current project ends in September 2003. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$352,174. **\$2,260,141**

- Extreme Climate Events (ECE) Program: The ECE program is a follow-up initiative to the Asian regional meeting on El Niño-related crises in February 1998. With support from USAID/OFDA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), ADPC carries out the ECE program in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. The goal of the program is to improve the understanding of multi-sectoral impacts of extreme climate events, such as El Niño and La Niña, in the selected Asian countries, and to reduce the impacts of these events through effective use of climate forecasting information. The program began in September 1998 and will conclude in March 2003. **\$713,311**
- Climate Forecast Applications: This new five-year USAID/OFDA-supported project seeks to strengthen the national capabilities of Indonesia and the Philippines to manage and reduce the impacts of climate fluctuations through targeted demonstration projects and community participation. The objective of the project is to develop targeted climate information tools, and strengthen the relevant national and regional institutions needed to generate and apply the new climate forecasting methods and information. The program will continue until March 2008. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$450,000. **\$1,498,863**
- Strengthening of Local Earthquake Monitoring Efforts: USAID/OFDA supports the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) in order to provide technical assistance to earthquake monitoring organizations throughout the world. In Asia, USGS/VDAP provides technical assistance to the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, to the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory, Papua New Guinea, and to the Directorate of Volcanology and Geological Hazards Mitigation in Indonesia. USGS/VDAP assistance includes training on how to conduct risk assessments, development of early warning plans, transfer of seismic monitoring equipment, and training on technology transfers. ⁽¹⁾

South Asia

- India Earthquake Safety Initiative: Implemented by Geohazard International, the objectives of the program are to conduct risk assessments and risk reduction activities in 20 of India’s most earthquake-prone urban areas, and implement mitigation activities in five of those areas. This program, co-funded with USAID/OFDA and USAID/India, began in September 2002 and will continue until October 2005. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$450,000. **\$650,000**
- Incident Command System (ICS) Training: Implemented through an interagency agreement between USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Forest Service, this two-year capacity-building program provides for ICS training and simulation exercises at the national and state levels in India and the region. The program also provides technical assistance and training to government and non-government disaster managers to assist them in developing coordinated disaster response planning. This activity started in April 2002 and will continue until April 2004. The cost of the program is \$750,834 for India and \$155,878 for the region. **\$906,712**
- Regional Flood Forecasting Forums: The forums bring together decision-makers and technical personnel from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region to share information related to flood management and flood early-warning systems, and to promote dialogue and cooperation on broader trans-boundary water issues in the region. The forums are hosted by the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Kathmandu, Nepal with Bangladesh, Bhutan, the People’s Republic of China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan participating in the ICIMOD program. This activity began in November 2001 and will continue until March 2004. **\$250,860**
- Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh: USAID/OFDA is supporting a flood forecasting project in Bangladesh through the University of Colorado’s Program in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (PAOS). The program develops a flood forecasting system that combines monsoon climate prediction with a hydrodynamic model of the Bay of Bengal to predict conditions contributing to prolonged and destructive flood events. The program aims to develop comprehensive flood forecasting technology for Bangladesh and provides climate forecasting reports of potential benefit to agriculture, transport, and other sectors for non-flood periods. This three-year project began in September 2000 and ends in September 2003. USAID/OFDA FY’s 2003 funding is \$308,150. **\$1,166,994**

- Community Flood Monitoring and Forecasting in Bangladesh: Implemented by Riverside Technology Inc., this five-year USAID/OFDA project supports a community-based approach for flood monitoring and forecasting to reduce the vulnerability of communities living in floodplains and mitigate future flood damage. This project began in September 2002 and will continue until September 2007. **\$541,991**
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Plan: USAID/OFDA supports the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) based in Nepal, to carry out the Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Plan. NSET works with schools, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the government, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness, and coordinates and monitors the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley. The project began in September 2000 and will continue until August 2004. **\$441,860**
- Flood and Drought Mitigation Strategies in South Asia: Implemented by the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition, USAID/OFDA supports the utilization of coping strategies developed by local communities in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh for flood and drought mitigation, and will recommend new and more effective strategies for reducing vulnerabilities. The program began in September 2002 and will continue until March 2004. **\$299,140**

Southeast Asia

- Flood Forecasting and Early-Warning Systems in the Mekong River Basin: This USAID/OFDA-supported activity is implemented by the Mekong River Commission (MRC), an intergovernmental river basin organization based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The program includes country participation by Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam to enhance MRC’s capacity for flood forecasting and early-warning information transfer to communities in the Lower Mekong River Basin. The project will strengthen MRC’s flood warnings by making them more responsive to the needs of at-risk populations, and will develop tools, methods, and protocols with community-based partners to enable flood-vulnerable populations to effectively utilize MRC flood information. This five-year program began in December 2002 and will continue until December 2007. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$250,000. **\$1,250,000**
- Flood Early-Warning System in Central Vietnam: USAID/OFDA has funded the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) since June 2000 to develop flood early-warning systems in flood-prone Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Binh Dinh provinces of central Vietnam. Working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the program includes: 1) training of disaster officials and the affected populations on the use of flood mapping to reduce the loss of life, economic consequences, and disruption of livelihoods; 2) the implementation of river flood alert systems in three river basins in central Vietnam that include the introduction of flood measurement instruments, communications, and replication; and 3) a TV and radio-based flood disaster warning system at the national level and in three provinces of Vietnam. This project will continue until June 2004. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$250,000. **\$994,000**
- Coastal Storm Early-Warning System in Vietnam: USAID/OFDA provides funding to the UNDP, working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, for the implementation of a radio-based coastal storm warning system. Using radio broadcast, the project will provide coastal storm early-warnings for fishing boats up to 65 miles offshore and for 25 coastal provinces of Vietnam. The NOAA National Weather Service has assisted the Government of Vietnam (GVN) with the design of the storm warning system. UNDP is working with the GVN to design community-based disaster preparedness training for the subsistence fishing populations at the commune and village levels. This project began in May 2001 and will continue until May 2004. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$480,000. **\$1,440,000**
- Conflict Preparedness Program in Mindanao, Philippines: Implemented by Save the Children/U.S., this USAID/OFDA-supported initiative will enable disaster preparedness activities to respond to internally displaced population flows and provide prompt access to these populations in the conflict-affected areas of western Mindanao, particularly in Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Sur, Lanao del Norte provinces, and Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi island provinces. This initiative aims to establish a Mindanao emergency response network of local NGOs and community-based groups to implement preparedness and relief activities, provide small grants to local NGOs to fund these preparedness activities, and create a small stockpile of locally procured relief items for use in emergencies throughout the region. Initiated in March 2003, this program will continue until March 2005. USAID/OFDA’s FY 2003 funding is \$300,000. **\$300,000**

USAID/OFDA FY 2003 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance \$4,340,324

USAID/OFDA Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance by Sector (1995-2003)

Project Name	Conflict	Hydro-Met	Earthquakes	Multi-Hazard
Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program		\$3,578,831	\$2,385,887	\$5,964,718
Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response			\$1,124,058	\$1,124,059
Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response, Phase II			\$3,750,000	\$3,750,000
South Pacific Disaster Training				\$2,260,141
Extreme Climate Events		\$713,311		
Climate Forecast Applications		\$1,498,863		
Local Earthquake Monitoring Efforts ⁽¹⁾				
India Earthquake Safety Initiative			\$650,000	
Incident Command System Training				\$906,712
Regional Flood Forecasting Forums		\$250,860		
Flood Forecasting Technology Transfer		\$1,166,994		
Bangladesh Community Flood Monitoring		\$541,991		
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness			\$441,860	
Flood and Drought Mitigation in South Asia		\$299,140		
Flood Forecasting and Early-Warning in Mekong River Basin		\$1,250,000		
Central Vietnam Flood Early-Warning		\$994,000		
Vietnam Coastal Storm Early-Warning		\$1,440,000		
Conflict Preparedness in Philippines	\$300,000			
Total	\$300,000	\$11,733,990	\$8,351,805	\$14,005,630

GRAND TOTAL: \$34,391,425⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Funding for the Strengthening of Local Earthquake Monitoring Efforts activities are not reflected in this table as they are part of a world-wide initiative with USGS and NOAA.

⁽²⁾ The above figures, as noted in the text, reflect the amount of funding since 1995, for implementation of the various preparedness programs over the entire, multi-year duration of the initiatives.

USAID fact sheets and situation reports can be obtained from the USAID website at http://www.usaid.gov/hum_response/ofda/situation.html