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

Burma – Cyclone

Fact Sheet #13, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

May 22, 2008

Note: The last fact sheet was dated May 21, 2008.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On May 22, USAID Administrator Henrietta H. Fore met with eight non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to discuss the current humanitarian situation in Burma. Administrator Fore also presented USAID’s humanitarian strategy for the Cyclone Nargis response, including efforts to increase access to the affected areas, the pre-positioning of assets for rapid interventions, continued transport of emergency relief commodities, direct funding of partners for emergency activities, and coordination with other donors and international relief organizations.
- On May 21, the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) team leader arrived in Rangoon, Burma, to participate in a three-day assessment mission prior to the May 25 donor pledging conference jointly convened by the U.N. and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The Government of Burma (GOB) granted visas for three-person delegations from each donor country, including government, non-government, and private representatives, to participate in the needs assessment. The other members of the USAID/DART remain in Bangkok, Thailand, coordinating U.S. Government (USG) assistance and awaiting GOB approval to enter Burma.
- On May 22, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon arrived in Burma and visited affected areas in the Ayeyarwady Delta, including tented camps for families uprooted by the cyclone. The U.N. Secretary General also met with Burma’s Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, as well as the U.N. Country Team.
- On May 22, the USAID/DART coordinated five U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) C-130 sorties transporting relief commodities from Utapao, Thailand, to Rangoon. Three of the five USG flights carried USAID relief commodities, valued at nearly \$130,000 excluding transport, delivering a total of 180 rolls of plastic sheeting to serve 9,000 people; 2,160 hygiene kits to serve 10,800 people for two weeks; 1,850 water containers to serve 3,700 people; two 10,000 liter water bladders; and two zodiac boats and supplies to facilitate transport to remote areas. The flights of USAID commodities were consigned to NGO partners.
- To date, the USAID/DART and DOD have completed 45 airlifts of emergency relief commodities from Utapao to Rangoon, of which 11 flights transporting USAID commodities have been consigned to NGO partners.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Dead	77,700	GOB – May 16, 2008
	63,000 to 101,000	OCHA ¹ – May 9, 2008
Total Missing	55,900	GOB – May 16, 2008
Estimated Displaced Persons in Settlements	110,000	OCHA – May 22, 2008
Total Number Affected	2.4 million	OCHA – May 18, 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Burma	\$5,508,346
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Burma	\$12,000,000
DOD Assistance to Burma	\$3,044,200
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Burma	\$20,552,546

CURRENT SITUATION

- Of the 2.4 million cyclone-affected people in Burma, OCHA reports that an estimated 1.4 million people are located in severely affected areas of Ayeyarwady Division, including Bogale, Labutta, Ngaputaw, Dedaye, Pyapon, Kyaiklat, and Mawlamyinegyun townships. In addition, OCHA estimates that 680,000 individuals reside in severely affected areas of Rangoon Division. As of May 16, the GOB had raised the official death toll from Cyclone Nargis to more than 77,000. According to GOB state media, nearly 56,000 people remain missing. The official number of injured is nearly 19,400 people.

¹ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

- On May 22, OCHA reported preliminary estimates of 110,000 people living in temporary settlements in 14 townships, including Labutta, Bogale, Myaungmya, and Pyapon townships in Ayeyarwady Division and Kungyangon township in Rangoon Division. Of the 14 temporary settlements, approximately 70 percent of the displaced are sheltering in monasteries, 28 percent in public buildings, and 2 percent in tented camps.

Humanitarian Access

- On May 22, the first U.N. World Food Program (WFP) helicopter arrived in Rangoon to expedite relief efforts to remote villages impacted by Cyclone Nargis. WFP expects the remaining nine helicopters to arrive in country in the coming days. According to the U.N., the helicopters will be able to carry up to 3 metric tons (MT) of food and other critical supplies to cyclone victims residing in remote areas of the Ayeyarwady Delta.
- NGO partners in Burma report restricted access to the cyclone-affected areas for international relief staff. However, local staff are conducting nearly all relief operations on the ground.

Logistics

- The U.N. Logistics Cluster reports improved logistical capacity in the international humanitarian response to the cyclone. The cluster is currently operating a warehouse of 4,000 square meters in Rangoon, along with a fleet of 30 trucks, 4 barges, and 2 boats for the transportation of relief commodities to affected areas.

Health

- In addition to Burmese medical staff working in the affected areas, international medical teams from Thailand, India, China, Bangladesh, and Laos are providing health care services in the affected areas of Rangoon and Ayeyarwady divisions. A medical team from Singapore is scheduled to arrive in Burma on 22 May.
- According to the U.N. Health Cluster, a recent NGO assessment of Bogale township, Ayeyarwady Division, indicated that 23,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are currently residing in Bogale town, while approximately 60,000 IDPs are living in surrounding areas. The NGO assessment team reports that the public hospital in Bogale township remains functional despite extensive cyclone damage. However, 12 of 15 existing private health clinics in the area are no longer operating due to cyclone-induced destruction.
- In Laputta township, approximately 30 percent of children under five are suffering from diarrhea or dysentery, according to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). In addition, UNICEF reports the potential for a measles outbreak and has initiated a measles vaccination campaign throughout the region, focusing on children residing in temporary settlements. To date, UNICEF has supported the vaccination of an estimated 1,000 children against measles.

Child Protection

- On May 21, the GOB's Department of Social Welfare invited representatives from UNICEF, Save the Children, and World Vision to discuss child protection issues, including the principle of family unity and community-based care and support for children impacted by the cyclone. According to UNICEF, 1 million children need urgent assistance due to the impact of the cyclone. In conjunction with the Department of Social Welfare, UNICEF will coordinate a national action plan for child protection in emergencies.

Food Aid

- The U.N. Food Cluster has completed a rapid survey on food security in Rangoon Division and will share findings in the coming days.
- To date, WFP has dispatched 2,110.9 MT of food aid to the cyclone-affected areas and distributed 1,393 MT to approximately 348,000 beneficiaries.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On May 5, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Shari Villarosa declared a disaster in Burma due to the effects of Cyclone Nargis. In response, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID/DART and immediately provided \$250,000 to UNICEF, WFP, and the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for emergency food, water and sanitation, and shelter assistance.
- On May 6, an additional \$3 million from USAID/OFDA was allocated for the provision of emergency relief assistance, including \$1 million to the American Red Cross and \$2 million for NGO partners.
- On May 12, USAID Administrator Henrietta H. Fore announced \$13 million in food aid and logistics assistance through WFP.
- From May 12 to 22, the USAID/DART and DOD coordinated the delivery of more than \$1.2 million of USAID/OFDA relief commodities to Rangoon on 45 DOD C-130 flights. The relief supplies will provide assistance to more than 123,800 beneficiaries.
- U.S. Navy ships deployed in the region for training exercises can be redirected, if necessary to support relief efforts. The U.S. Military continues to make plans to support potential relief operations to Burma.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
American Red Cross	Emergency Relief Supplies; Shelter Kits	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
Various	Emergency Relief Activities	Affected Areas	\$2,000,000
UNICEF, WFP, and UNHCR	Emergency Food Assistance; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Affected Areas	\$250,000
WFP	Logistics	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
Various	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$1,258,346
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$5,508,346
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$12,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$12,000,000
DOD ASSISTANCE³			
DOD	Logistics	Affected Areas	\$3,044,200
TOTAL DOD			\$3,044,200
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2008			\$20,552,546

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 22, 2008.

² Estimated value of anticipated or obligated food assistance.

³ Expenditures for DOD-procured commodities and DOD support costs for this response have not yet been quantified.

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: Cyclone Nargis, 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; 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