



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

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA – Earthquake and Tsunamis

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

December 27, 2004

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

SOURCE

Sri Lanka	11,000 deaths, 1 million people affected	AFP ¹ , Government of Sri Lanka, December 27
India	6,600 deaths	AFP, December 27
Indonesia	4,491 deaths	Government of Indonesia, December 27
Thailand	866 deaths, 3,000 injured	Government of Thailand, December 27
Maldives	46 deaths, 70 people missing	U.S. Embassy in Colombo, December 27
Malaysia	44 deaths	AFP, December 27
Bangladesh	2 deaths	U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, December 27

Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance \$4,500,000

CURRENT SITUATION

Most Powerful Earthquake in 40 Years

- According to the U.S. Geological Survey, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake occurred off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia on December 26 at 6:58 a.m. local time. The earthquake had a depth of 10 km and triggered massive tsunamis that affected several countries throughout South and Southeast Asia.
- Reports from international media and national government sources indicate that the earthquake and tsunamis killed more than 23,000 people in South and Southeast Asia: 11,000 in Sri Lanka, 6,600 in India, 4,491 in Indonesia, 866 in Thailand, 46 in the Maldives, 44 in Malaysia, and 2 in Bangladesh. Death tolls will likely rise as rescue and recovery operations continue.

USAID/OFDA Staff Movements

- The USAID/OFDA Senior Regional Advisor, presently in Bangkok, Thailand, will lead a regional Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to include water and sanitation experts, as well as field and information officers. USAID/DART members will be located in Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, and Thailand, and will coordinate the U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian response.

IFRC Launches Appeal

- On December 26, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched a preliminary regional appeal for more than \$6.6 million. USAID/OFDA will contribute \$4.0 million toward the IFRC appeal.

Coordination

- On December 27, the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) hosted a multi-agency meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, where representatives from nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the donor community decided to form a working group to be coordinated by the Government of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). In addition, three disaster specialists from the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) arrived in Sri Lanka on December 27 and will open an operational office.

USG ASSISTANCE

Sri Lanka and the Maldives

- On December 26, U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives Jeffrey J. Lunstead issued disaster declarations for both countries. The same day, USAID/OFDA provided \$200,000 through USAID/Sri Lanka: \$100,000 for Sri Lanka and \$100,000 for the Maldives.

India

- On December 27, U.S. Ambassador to India David C. Mulford declared a disaster due to the magnitude of the effects of the tsunamis, particularly in southern coastal areas and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In response, USAID/OFDA immediately provided \$100,000 through USAID/India to be divided between the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and the Indian Red Cross for emergency activities.

Indonesia

- On December 27, U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia B. Lynn Pascoe issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the earthquake and the tsunamis. USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 through USAID/Indonesia to the

¹ Agence French-Presse

Indonesian Red Cross for relief operations.

Thailand

- On December 27, U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Darryl N. Johnson declared a disaster declaration due to the effects of the tsunamis. In response, USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok to the Thai Red Cross for the procurement and distribution of emergency relief items.

USG REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ASIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
IFRC	Response to emergency appeal	Regionwide	\$4,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,000,000

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Sri Lanka	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE MALDIVES

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Sri Lanka	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Prime Minister's Relief Fund	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
Indian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000

USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Thai Red Cross	Procurement and distribution of relief items	Countrywide	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000

¹All USAID/OFDA funding represent committed and/or obligated amounts as of December 27, 2004.

Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance \$4,500,000

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. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for their response to the South and Southeast Asia earthquake and tsunamis can be found in the "How

Can I Help” section of www.usaid.gov - Keyword: Sumatra 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 on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - InterAction: www.interaction.org – “Guide to Appropriate Giving”
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.org.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance