



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

Bangladesh - Cyclone

Fact Sheet #10, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

December 12, 2007

Note: The last fact sheet was dated December 7, 2007.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Needs assessments conducted by the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART), the U.N., and the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) indicate that several response benchmarks have been met through international and GOB relief interventions. The benchmarks include water-borne disease prevalence that is not significantly higher than baseline rates, Global Acute Malnutrition rates that do not exceed the emergency threshold, and no reported unserved areas. These indicators signify that the acute emergency phase has largely ended.
- Support for early recovery activities is now the priority for the Tropical Cyclone Sidr response efforts. Key sectors include livelihoods, shelter, food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). To date, international donors have pledged or contributed approximately \$156 million towards relief and recovery activities in Bangladesh, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Financial Tracking Service.
- On December 11, the USAID/DART transitioned into an Early Recovery Team, which is working closely with USAID/Bangladesh to assist in the transition of operations from relief to early recovery.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*		SOURCE
Total Affected Population	3,347 dead, 871 missing, 8.9 million affected	GOB – December 12, 2007
Houses Damaged or Destroyed	1.5 million houses damaged or destroyed	GOB – December 12, 2007

*Figures based on ongoing assessments.

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Bangladesh.....	\$4,540,287
USAID/FFP ¹ Assistance to Bangladesh	\$15,000,000
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Bangladesh.....	\$19,540,287

CURRENT SITUATION

Food Security

- As of December 11, the U.N. food cluster, chaired by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), as well as the USAID/DART and non-governmental organizations operating on the field all reported that immediate food security needs are being met. The GOB and aid agencies reported no instances of severe malnutrition or other problems to indicate a lack of sufficient food intake.
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society relief teams have completed the distribution of food and non-food items to 15,000 families in Bagerhat, Pirojpur and Patuakhali districts, and distributions for 5,000 beneficiaries in Barguna District will be completed by December 13.

Livelihoods

- USAID/DART and IFRC field assessments noted that the cyclone particularly affected the livelihoods of farmers and fishermen. Interruption to these livelihoods caused a ripple effect through secondary livelihoods built around fishing and farming, including traders and day laborers.
- The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization is currently distributing emergency seeds and agricultural inputs to support families in livelihood rehabilitation.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Cyclone Relief Programs

- On November 15, Tropical Cyclone Sidr made landfall in southern Bangladesh with winds of 155 miles per hour. On November 16, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. Geeta Pasi declared a disaster due to the effects of the cyclone. From

¹ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace

November 17 to December 11, the USAID/DART worked with USAID/Bangladesh, the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, and the U.S. Military to respond to the cyclone.

- USAID has provided more than \$19 million in emergency funds to support relief and early recovery activities, including shelter and WASH programs. The funds also include USAID/FFP's allocation of \$15 million of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.
- In collaboration with implementing partners, USAID/OFDA has provided 15,000 blankets, 2,500 hygiene kits, and 4,900 water containers, serving nearly 45,000 beneficiaries. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided eight water purification units and four 10,000-liter water bladders for the cyclone response, improving the hygiene and sanitation conditions of nearly 80,000 people. USAID/OFDA has also delivered 300 rolls of plastic sheeting, benefiting approximately 18,000 people.
- In total, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) airlifted more than 327 metric tons (MT) of relief commodities from Dhaka to Barisal before operations ended on December 6. DOD helicopters flew 118 cumulative sorties from Barisal to various affected sites, transporting a total of 115 MT of goods and over 54,000 liters of water. In addition to logistical support, U.S. military medical teams worked closely with Bangladeshi counterparts, both military and civilian, to provide direct patient care in affected areas.

Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

- USAID has a longstanding commitment of investing in preparedness and mitigation programs in Bangladesh. USAID programs include the construction and maintenance of multi-purpose flood and cyclone shelters as well as wave protection walls and earthen embankments to reduce flood damage. In addition to building nearly 4,000 physical mitigation structures since 2005, USAID has trained local disaster management committees to oversee emergency response and provided cyclone-preparedness training programs for coastal areas.
- Over the past decade, two USAID/OFDA programs have promoted coordination between communities and local authorities and supported the operation of mobile water purification plants and a mobile health unit. USAID/OFDA also has supported community flood monitoring and forecasting to mitigate damage in flood plains.
- USAID-funded disaster preparedness mechanisms already in country before the storm included zodiac boats, water treatment systems, and water ambulances used for emergency operations. USAID partners pre-positioned 30,000 emergency survival packages, as well as food stockpiles, to facilitate distribution after the storm passed.
- USAID/OFDA programs have developed cadres of professional emergency response instructors, strengthened the forecasting capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions, carried out hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments, and established community-based early warning mechanisms in urban centers.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH

FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
American Red Cross	Shelter, WASH	Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Jhalakati, Khulna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, and Satkhira Districts	\$1,000,000
CARE	Emergency Relief Activities	Bagerhat District	\$30,000
Save the Children/US	Emergency Relief Activities	Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	\$70,000
CARE	Emergency Relief Supplies	Bagerhat and Barguna Districts	\$252,175
Save the Children/US		Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	
Save the Children/US	Emergency Relief Supplies	Barguna District	\$382,760
World Vision		Patuakhali and Pirojpur Districts	

U.S. Department of Defense	Transportation of Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$500,000
Save the Children/US	Shelter, WASH	Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	\$604,952
U.N. Children's Fund	WASH	Affected Areas	\$700,000
World Vision	Shelter, WASH	Bagerhat and Khulna Districts	\$800,000
	Administrative Support	Affected Areas	\$200,400
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,540,287
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
Multiple Private Voluntary Organizations	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$10,000,000
U.N. World Food Program	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Jhalakati, Khulna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, and Satkhira Districts	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$15,000,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH IN FY 2008			\$19,540,287

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 12, 2007.

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 the cyclone response efforts in Bangladesh can be found at www.interaction.org.
- 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