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

## ***Nepal – Humanitarian Assistance***

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

September 30, 2007

*NOTE: The last fact sheet was dated June 6, 2007.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- Fighting following the killing of a local Madhesi leader on September 16 caused the deaths of at least 21 people and displaced nearly 6,000 others in Kapilivastu and Dang districts in the south of the Mid-Western Region, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The Government of Nepal's (GON) Ministry of Home Affairs reported that the fighting destroyed 325 businesses and houses and damaged 155 vehicles. Humanitarian organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) are providing assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- On September 21, during the civil unrest, a mob in Dang District set on fire an unmarked WFP truck carrying 12 metric tons of food<sup>1</sup>, along with a number of non-humanitarian vehicles. On September 25, the non-governmental organization (NGO) Plan International suspended operations in Bara District in south-central Nepal following threats to program staff.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Total deaths caused by conflict since 1996</b>	13,000	OCHA – February 2007
<b>Total IDPs displaced by conflict since 1996</b>	200,000	IDMC <sup>2</sup> – October 2006
<b>IDPs remaining displaced by conflict</b>	50,000-70,000	OCHA – July 2007
<b>Refugees in Nepal</b>	130,000	OCHA – February 2007

### **HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2007**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Nepal.....</b>	<b>\$5,507,276</b>
<b>USAID/FFP Assistance to Nepal.....</b>	<b>\$6,056,100</b>
<b>USAID/OTI<sup>3</sup> Assistance to Nepal .....</b>	<b>\$7,385,000</b>
<b>State/PRM<sup>4</sup> Assistance to Nepal .....</b>	<b>..\$200,000<sup>5</sup></b>
<b>Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Nepal.....</b>	<b>\$19,148,376</b>

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

- The decade-long civil conflict in Nepal between the GON and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) caused an estimated 13,000 deaths, according to OCHA. Humanitarian organizations report that the conflict displaced an estimated 200,000 people. OCHA estimates that as many as 130,000 refugees remain in Nepal, including approximately 107,000 refugees from Bhutan.
- Constituent assembly elections are scheduled for November 22. On September 18, CPN-M ministers resigned from their cabinet positions in the interim coalition government. The CPN-M has stated that the party will not allow the election to proceed until demands are met, including a declaration of republic by the parliament and the adoption of a proportional electoral system for all seats in the constituent assembly.

### ***Protection and Assistance to Displaced Persons***

- The IDP protection working group, composed of U.N. agencies, the Red Cross movement, and international NGOs, estimates that between 50,000 and 70,000 IDPs were in Nepal as of mid-July 2007. OCHA has noted increased displacement in the southern Terai area of Nepal due to continuing violence.
- USAID/OFDA is funding the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to assist the GON to develop an IDP policy, provide monitoring and protection support to IDPs and other conflict-affected populations, and conduct trainings on IDP rights, child protection, and the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence.

<sup>1</sup> The food assistance on the truck was not supplied by USAID's Office for Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>2</sup> Norwegian Refugee Council's Internal Displacement Monitoring Center

<sup>3</sup> USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

<sup>5</sup> This figure does not include State/PRM regional support for the Office of U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and ICRC

- With funding from USAID/OFDA, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is assisting IDPs in Nepal to return in a safe, fair, and humane manner. USAID/OFDA has also funded the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) to support protection programs, relief commodities, agricultural inputs, and water, sanitation, and hygiene services for IDPs and other conflict-affected populations.
- In FY 2007, State/PRM allocated \$200,000 to UNHCR to support the Tibetan Refugee Reception Center in Kathmandu. State/PRM has provided approximately \$4.1 million to support UNHCR's regional refugee protection and assistance activities in Nepal, India, and Sri Lanka. In addition, State/PRM is contributing \$20 million to ICRC for activities in South Asia, including assistance to conflict-affected persons in Nepal in FY 2007.

#### ***Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management***

- OCHA facilitates the coordination of information gathering and sharing in conjunction with the GON, U.N. agencies, donors, and international and local NGOs. In FY 2007 USAID/OFDA supported OCHA's coordination efforts, information management, and geographic information systems.

#### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

- Based on food security assessments, WFP has reported that food insecurity persists across most of the country as much of the population affected by conflict is recovering from three consecutive years of severe drought.
- Under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), WFP will provide emergency food assistance to nearly 1.3 million conflict-affected people between July 2007 and June 2008. This assistance will contribute to food security and provide support to the peace process during the immediate post-conflict period in Nepal.
- In response to ongoing food insecurity, USAID/OFDA is providing \$2 million to the WFP PRRO.
- USAID/FFP has also contributed \$2 million to WFP to assist populations in drought-affected areas of the Mid-Western and Far Western regions, and \$4 million to support to Bhutanese refugees in Morang and Jhapa districts, Eastern Region. USAID/FFP is planning to contribute \$5 million to the 2007/2008 WFP PRRO.

#### ***Floods and Landslides***

- Heavy monsoon rains in July and August led to extensive flooding and landslides in Nepal. As of September 25, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies reported that flooding had affected 51 districts in Nepal, killing 179 people, impacting more than 100,000 families, and destroying nearly 75,000 houses.
- In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Nepal to SC/US, in partnership with the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), for the local purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies. SC/US and the NRCS have also distributed flood relief supplies pre-positioned through an existing USAID/OFDA-funded preparedness program.

#### ***Disaster Preparedness***

- The National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) coordinates the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley and works with the GON, NGOs, schools, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$190,000 to support the project.
- Funded by USAID/OFDA and implemented by NSET since 2003, The Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) is developing national and regional cadres of professional emergency response instructors in six Asian countries, including Nepal. PEER assists national disaster management agencies in organizing and conducting training in medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness for mass casualties after a disaster. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of approximately \$1.6 million for PEER, of which nearly \$270,000 has supported activities in Nepal.
- USAID/OFDA provided \$250,000 to UNICEF to support earthquake preparedness in Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, and Thimi municipalities in the Kathmandu Valley. The preparedness programming includes upgrading existing water supply facilities for emergency operation, developing and disseminating preparedness information, and training local government and NGO personnel in nutrition, sanitation, hygiene, and the protection of children separated from family members.
- USAID/OFDA supports the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), based in Nepal, to strengthen community involvement and improve understanding of flash floods, forecasts, and warnings. The project aims to reduce vulnerability to flash floods in the Himalayan region. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$125,000 to support the project.
- The Asia Flood Network (AFN) strengthens the capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions in climate, weather, and hydrological forecasting while directly involving communities at risk in reducing vulnerability to hydrometeorological hazards. In collaboration with partners in Asia, the AFN is jointly implemented by USAID/OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Geological Survey. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA provided \$250,000 to AFN, and has contributed \$2,329,927 since FY 2003.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- On October 11, 2006, U.S. Ambassador to Nepal James F. Moriarty redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. On July 31, 2007, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Robert L. Hugins declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and landslides in Nepal.
- In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA has allocated more than \$5.5 million for humanitarian assistance programs in Nepal, including more than \$700,000 for disaster preparedness, \$50,000 for flood response, and more than \$4.7 million for the complex emergency. USAID/FFP has provided more than \$6 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance. State/PRM has provided \$200,000 to UNHCR to support the Tibetan Refugee Reception Center.
- In FY 2007, USAID/OTI has provided nearly \$7.4 million, through its implementing partner Chemonics International Inc., towards a small grants program in Nepal to bolster the current peace process, strengthen governance mechanisms, and support positive, non-violent community engagement in the country’s political, social, and economic future by working with local NGOs and government ministries directly contributing to the peace process.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL IN FY 2007**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
IRC	Protection, Relief Commodities	Mid-Western Region	\$590,032
NRC	Protection	Mid-Western, Eastern, and Central regions	\$567,941
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$400,000
SC/ US	Agriculture and Food Security, Protection, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Mid-Western and Far Western regions	\$1,006,750
SC/US	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$50,000
NSET (PEER Program) <sup>2</sup>	Preparedness and Mitigation	Kathmandu Valley (Central Region)	\$266,292
NSET	Earthquake Preparedness and Mitigation	Kathmandu Valley (Central Region)	\$187,556
UNHCR	Protection	Countrywide	\$188,705
UNICEF	Earthquake Preparedness and Mitigation, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Kathmandu Valley (Central Region)	\$250,000
WFP	Logistics, Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$5,507,276</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	6,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Mid-Western, Eastern, and Central regions	\$6,056,100
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$6,056,100</b>
<b>USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE</b>			
Chemonics International Inc.	Peace and Transition Initiatives	Countrywide	\$7,385,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OTI</b>			<b>\$7,385,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE<sup>5</sup></b>			
UNHCR	Protection, Refugee Assistance	Kathmandu Valley (Central Region)	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL IN FY 2007</b>			<b>\$19,148,376</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2007.

<sup>2</sup> In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.6 million for PEER activities in India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

<sup>4</sup> In FY 2007, State/PRM has provided \$4.1 million to support UNHCR’s refugee protection and assistance activities in Nepal, India, and Sri Lanka and is contributing \$20 million to ICRC for activities in South Asia, including assistance to conflict victims in Nepal.

## **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 organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Nepal can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)
- 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](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)