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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)

INDIAN OCEAN – Earthquake and Tsunamis

Fact Sheet #29, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

January 31, 2005

Indonesia	105,162 dead [⊙] , 127,774 missing [⊙]	441,041 displaced ^λ
Sri Lanka	30,959 dead, 5,563 missing [□]	555,298 displaced [□]
India	10,749 dead, 5,640 missing [§]	112,558 displaced [§]
Maldives	82 dead, 26 missing [⊙]	12,698 displaced ^β
Thailand	5,388 dead, 3,120 missing [▪]	N/A
Malaysia	68 dead, 6 missing [±]	8,000 displaced [±]
Somalia	150 dead [±]	5,000 displaced [±] , 102,000 affected [♦]
Seychelles	3 dead [±]	40 households displaced [□]

Source Legend:

⊙ Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Health, 1/31/05

λ Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Social Affairs, 1/27/05

□ Government of Sri Lanka, Center for National Operations, 1/29/05

§ Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, 1/18/05

⊙ Maldives National Disaster Management Center, 1/23/05

β Maldives National Disaster Management Center, 1/23/05

± U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 1/18/05

▪ Government of Thailand, 1/25/05

♦ USAID's Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), 1/12/05

□ U.N./Seychelles and USAID, 1/12/05

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged	\$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed	\$79,031,488
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed¹	\$119,129,294

CURRENT SITUATION

Indonesia Update

- On January 31, the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) in Banda Aceh met with the advance team from the USNS Mercy Hospital Ship. The Mercy is scheduled to arrive off the west coast between Meulaboh and Calang on February 3 and will have the capacity to provide both primary and referral medical services. The Mercy is equipped with advanced medical technology, 40 military and civilian medical officers, and 100 nurses and other support staff. The ship has operating theaters, intensive care units, and a 250-bed ward that can be expanded to accommodate 1,000 patients.
- On January 31, USAID/DART and USAID/Indonesia staff members met with partners implementing activities in the psychological and social support sector, including Christian Children's Fund (CCF), Church World Service (CWS), International Medical Corps (IMC), and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). The group discussed the importance of monitoring, information sharing, and identifying standardized and measurable impact indicators.
- According to the USAID/DART, three CCF teams are currently working in Aceh Province to establish spaces within displaced person camps where children can play in a safe and healthy environment. In the longer term, CCF aims to focus on collaboration with district level education departments and on activities to strengthen and increase the number of pre-schools.
- CWS reported that the organization had been working with two local non-governmental organizations (NGO) in Aceh prior to the tsunami. Presently, CWS is concentrating activities on displaced persons living with host families and working through mobile clinics, primarily in the outskirts of Banda Aceh. CWS's local partners typically identify areas of need and the CWS mobile clinics respond by working with local mosques and village leaders.
- IMC's approach to psychological and social support integrates services into primary health care. IMC has 4 to 5 expatriate psychologists and ten national staff, in addition to 10 to 15 rotating volunteer doctors and nurses, working in Aceh Besar, Calang, and Lamno. IMC is also working with a steering committee of Indonesian psychology professionals in Jakarta who are guiding and helping to design activities to increase local capacity in the sector.
- The IRC representative reported to the USAID/DART that IRC is operating in four villages in Banda Aceh, as well as in Calang, Meulaboh, and Aceh Besar District, with a psychological and social support team of ten national staff and one expatriate coordinator. IRC is working primarily in conjunction with local schools, providing social support and recreational materials to children and vulnerable families.

¹ This figure includes assistance from USAID (including USAID/OFDA), the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The value of assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Defense is not included in total USG assistance committed.

Sri Lanka Update

- According to the Center for National Operations (CNO), adequate stocks of food are available at the district level. The Ministry of Relief, Rehabilitation, and Reconciliation and Ministry of Social Welfare continue to transport basic commodities to the districts. According to the USAID/DART, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is fully resourced to provide food assistance to 750,000 beneficiaries until June 30. WFP is currently undertaking a needs assessment, which may lead to changes in targeting. WFP, in conjunction with the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), is also carrying out a rapid nutritional status assessment of children. Starting January 25, WFP initiated a supplementary feeding program for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 10 years of age.
- The CNO reported that the issue of unaccompanied children remains a concern, and the registration of unaccompanied and separated children continues at the district level. The CNO has requested that the Police Department establish a unit at the National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) to investigate allegations of sexual abuse of children in displaced persons camps. The Women's and Children's Bureau of the police is also responding to complaints. In addition, the CNO has issued instructions to relevant Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) authorities to take action to register all orphans and prevent the trafficking of children. USAID/OFDA has provided \$350,000 to the American Center for International Labor for psychological and social support, including anti-trafficking, and \$500,000 to UNICEF for child protection and psychological and social activities.

India Update

- On January 31, the USAID/DART closed out more than four weeks of operations in India. Based on USAID/DART assessments conducted between December 29 and January 28 of tsunami-affected areas, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$3.8 million to support emergency relief activities in Tamil Nadu State, the Union Territory of Pondicherry, and Andhra Pradesh State. As USG assistance transitions from the relief to the recovery phase, USAID/India will oversee USAID/OFDA-funded programs. USAID/OFDA, in collaboration with USAID/India, will continue monitoring programs funded by USAID/OFDA. USAID/OFDA programming will merge with USAID/India's longer term recovery and rehabilitation projects.
- According to the USAID/DART, the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD) requested assistance from the USAID/DART in organizing water supply system disinfection and testing at all 41 temporary shelter sites in the Nagapattinam District. USAID/OFDA implementing partner CARE has agreed to provide the human resources, vehicles, and chlorine test kits to accomplish this. The need for systematic disinfection and monitoring of chlorine levels by trained teams of individuals was apparent during the USAID/DART's tour of temporary shelters in Nagapattinam District on January 24. The USAID/DART Water and Sanitation Officer tested four water points for adequate chlorine and found that two of the four sites had not been disinfected, and a third had been over-chlorinated.
- In order to provide affected populations with the resources needed to restore their livelihoods, USAID/OFDA has funded cash- and assets-for-work programs as a key part of its relief assistance. Currently, NGOs are developing cash-for-work programs in waste management, land rehabilitation, debris removal, shelter construction, daycare construction, and livestock care. For example, the NGO Exnora's waste management program will employ youths to clean up community areas and recycle waste in temporary settlements and the general community, providing them with a source of income, while benefiting the general population. In addition, Food for the Hungry will restock small businesses through an assets-for-work program.

Maldives Update

- The USAID/DART reported that planning for health sector reconstruction is underway. Since Maldives relies heavily on expatriate doctors for its regional hospitals, there are currently staffing gaps as many doctors have left their posts since the tsunami. Due to the shortage of health professionals in Maldives, several Thai volunteers are scheduled to arrive during the week of January 24. The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) is working with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to resolve this shortage in the medium- to long-term. UNICEF is replacing cold chain equipment and all vaccines. The USAID/DART reported that as of January 25, epidemiological surveillance shows no disease outbreaks.
- The USAID/DART reported that schools opened on January 25, and the distribution of textbooks has been completed. An AusAid engineering team is visiting Dhaalu, Thaa, and Meemu atolls to assess the condition of school buildings, and WFP will provide high protein biscuits to school children.

USG ASSISTANCE

USAID Regional Response

- The USAID/DART and the U.S. military continue to conduct needs assessments and provide supplies and essential logistic support for the relief efforts in affected countries.

Indonesia

- To date, the USG has provided more than \$37.1 million in emergency food assistance, relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, health, livelihoods recovery, psychological and social support, logistics and coordination, and rehabilitation activities for affected communities in Indonesia. Through implementing partner Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI), and in conjunction with USAID/Indonesia, USAID/OFDA provided grants to Mercy Corps, Lembaga Penelitian and Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat (LPPM), Project Concern International (PCI),

Panglima Laot, BEM Syah Kuala, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for immediate-impact activities, including cash-for-work projects.

Sri Lanka

- To date, the USG has provided more than \$62.4 million in emergency food assistance, relief supplies, shelter, water and sanitation, health, livelihoods recovery, psychological and social support, protection and anti-trafficking, logistics and coordination, and cleanup and rehabilitation activities for affected communities in Sri Lanka.

India

- To date, USAID has provided approximately \$4.1 million for shelter, water and sanitation, cleanup and rehabilitation, education, and cash for work activities for tsunami-affected residents.

Department of Defense (DOD) Humanitarian Assistance

- As of January 31, 10,500 U.S. military personnel are involved in delivering more than 22.3 million lbs of relief supplies and equipment to the affected region. Of the 1,808 military personnel currently on the ground, 1,297 are in Thailand, 445 in Sri Lanka, 53 in Indonesia, 12 in Maldives, and 1 in Malaysia. With 13 ships and 47 aircraft, the U.S. military has delivered a total of 8,466,688 lbs of relief supplies to the governments of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and other affected nations, including 5,256 gallons of water; 98,500 lbs of food; and 65,620 lbs of relief supplies in the last 24 hours.

BACKGROUND

- A magnitude 9.0 earthquake on December 26, off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, triggered massive tsunamis that affected several countries throughout South and Southeast Asia, as well as Somalia, Tanzania, and Kenya in East Africa. Aftershocks from the December 26 earthquake continue to occur in the region.
- Based on initial findings of USG assessment teams and on the recommendation of Secretary of State Powell and USAID Administrator Natsios, on December 31, President Bush committed \$350 million toward earthquake and tsunami relief and recovery efforts. Dollar amounts in this Fact Sheet are part of the total pledge of \$350 million and refer to specific funding actions that have been committed and programmed. USAID/OFDA welcomes proposals from qualified humanitarian assistance organizations prepared to implement relief activities in response to the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami disaster. Details can be found at www.usaid.gov.

USAID 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
U.S. Embassy/JTF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Regionwide	\$196,631
AirServ	Aerial assessment, transport of relief personnel and light cargo	Regionwide	\$2,436,681
WFP	Logistics, air support and coordination	Regionwide	\$5,000,000
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Regionwide	\$523,260
	Administrative		\$468,160
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO REGION			\$12,624,732
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO REGION			\$12,624,732

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACF/France	Water and sanitation and emergency household kits	Aceh Province	\$400,000
CARE	Water purification	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$256,276
Christian Children's Fund (CCF)	Child protection and psychological and social support	Aceh Province	\$396,728
Church World Service	Psychological and social support for children	Aceh Province	\$221,375

DAI	Immediate relief and rehabilitation interventions through local and international NGOs	Aceh Province	\$5,000,000
IFRC/Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$2,200,000
Indonesian Red Cross	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$99,050
IMC	Health	Banda Aceh	\$292,129
IMC	Mobile health units, rehabilitation of local health clinics, malaria control, and psychological and social activities	Aceh and North Sumatra	\$2,000,000
IOM	Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$1,000,000
IRC	Water and sanitation, mobile health clinics, support for public health networks, and psychological and social activities	Aceh Province	\$2,564,729
IRC/IOM	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$375,600
IRD	Water and sanitation	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$285,428
Johns Hopkins	Maternal and child health	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$254,023
Mercy Corps	Emergency response activities	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$292,060
Project Concern International (PCI)	Mobile health clinics	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$236,929
SC/US	Emergency health, sanitation, shelter, and protection		\$288,533
SC/US	Emergency relief activities	Aceh Province	\$901,239
USAID/Indonesia*	Emergency grants for water and sanitation, health, and shelter	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$136,766
UNICEF	Child protection and psychological and social activities	Aceh Province	\$1,500,000
UNHCR	Shelter	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health surveillance	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$291,500
WVI	Shelter and household kits	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$249,985
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Aceh, North Sumatra	\$256,002
	Administrative		\$114,500
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$21,612,852
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	3,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance	Sumatra	\$2,438,560
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$2,438,560
USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE			
CARDI	Emergency response teams	Aceh Province	\$99,960
CARE	Water and sanitation	Aceh Province	\$98,889
ICMC	Targeting/monitoring of emergency relief supplies	Aceh Province	\$100,000
IOM	Logistics	Aceh Province	\$208,452
IOM	Emergency relief activities	Aceh Province	\$1,650,000
IRD	Emergency food assistance	Aceh Province	\$99,974

Mercy Corps	Shelter, health, water, and trauma counseling	Aceh Province	\$250,000
Naval Medical Research Unit	Procurement and staffing of reference laboratory	Banda Aceh	\$579,000
Nurani Dunia	Emergency relief supplies	Aceh Province	\$99,669
SC/US	Emergency relief supplies and health	Aceh Province	\$100,000
Multiple [±]	Emergency relief activities	Aceh Province	\$2,087,000
TOTAL USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$5,372,944
USDA ASSISTANCE			
WFP	9,417 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance	Sumatra	\$7,533,600
TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$7,533,600
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
IOM	Anti-Trafficking Initiatives	Aceh and Medan	\$200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$200,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA			\$37,157,956

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Indonesia, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

[±] USAID/Indonesia is using existing funds earmarked for activities in Aceh Province to support grants in response to the earthquake and tsunami.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACF/France	Emergency relief supplies and water and sanitation	Trincomalee, Mulaitiva, Jaffna	\$403,763
American Center for International Labor	Psychological and social support including anti-trafficking	All Affected Districts	\$350,000
The Asia Foundation	Child protection and psychological and social activities	All Affected Districts	\$199,408
CARE	Emergency relief supplies, water system rehabilitation	Ampara	\$1,941,787
CCF	Cash-for-work and community rehabilitation	Ampara, Matara, Hambantota, Trincomalee, Galle	\$2,310,294
CHF International	Cash-for-work, debris clean-up, repair of schools and public buildings, latrine construction, and water and sanitation	Kalutara, Galle, Matara	\$3,000,000
CRS	Transitional shelter, home repair, latrine construction	Batticaloa, Ampara	\$3,048,000
DAI	Relief and recovery projects through DAI contract with USAID/OTI	Affected areas	\$2,500,000
GOAL	Shelter, water and sanitation, and cash-for-work activities	Ampara, Hambantota, Matara	\$3,280,423
IFRC	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$750,699
IOM	Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine	Northern, Eastern, and Southern coastal areas	\$500,000
Mercy Corps	Cash-for-work and community rehabilitation	Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Ampara, Hambantota, Matara	\$1,509,447
Nathan Associates	Community rehabilitation, livelihoods, and microfinance projects	Affected areas	\$10,000,000
SARVODAYA	Cash-for-work, debris clean-up, repair of buildings, and water and sanitation	Galle, Hambantota, Ampara	\$1,748,120

SC/UK	Shelter, water and sanitation, and emergency relief supplies	Trincomalee, Matara, Galle	\$630,620
Shelter for Life	Transitional shelter and latrine construction	Trincomalee	\$1,026,185
Sri Lanka Red Cross	Emergency relief supplies, health, and cash-for-work activities	Ampara, Mulaitiva	\$356,655
UNICEF	Water and sanitation and emergency school kits	All Affected Districts	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Child protection and psychological and social activities	Affected areas	\$500,000
UNHCR	Shelter	Affected areas	\$1,000,000
USAID/Sri Lanka	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$100,000
USAID/Sri Lanka *	Emergency relief activities	Affected areas	\$95,449
US Navy	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$5,225
WVI	Emergency relief supplies and shelter	Trincomalee, Ampara	\$499,849
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Affected areas	\$267,725
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Affected areas	\$657,553
	Administrative		\$167,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$37,848,202
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	18,220 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance	Affected areas	\$20,028,340
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$20,028,340
USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE			
NGO Consortium	Clean-up of debris	Countrywide	\$57,962
TOTAL USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$57,962
USDA ASSISTANCE			
WFP	5,583 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance	Countrywide	\$4,466,400
TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$4,466,400
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA			\$62,400,904

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Sri Lanka, is being allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

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
IFRC/ Implemented by Indian Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
ACTED	Livelihoods	Tamil Nadu	\$297,934
CARE	Water and sanitation, cash-for-work, and livelihoods	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh	\$686,759
CRS	Water and sanitation, psychological and social support	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh	\$1,069,566
EXNORA	Cash-for-work and water and sanitation	Tamil Nadu	\$115,195
FHI	Livelihoods and debris removal	Tamil Nadu	\$280,147
GOAL	Cash-for-work and rehabilitation of agricultural land	Tamil Nadu	\$250,112
PCI	Shelter, livelihoods, and training	Tamil Nadu	\$440,295
WVI	Shelter and cash-for-work	Tamil Nadu	\$859,992

	Administrative		\$33,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$4,133,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDIA			\$4,133,000

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/India, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE MALDIVES

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
UNICEF	Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution)	Countrywide	\$94,600
UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
Multiple	Transport of relief supplies	Countrywide	\$68,400
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES			\$1,363,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES			\$1,363,000

USAID 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
	Administrative		\$215,371
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND			\$315,371
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND			\$315,371

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Malaysia Red Crescent National Disaster Management and Relief Committee	Procurement/distribution of relief items and shelter materials	Northwest Malaysia	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA			\$50,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA			\$50,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Seychelles Red Cross	Emergency relief activities	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES			\$50,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES			\$50,000

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
UNICEF	Health	Puntland	\$50,000
UNICEF	Health		\$250,000
OCHA	Coordination	Countrywide	\$141,369

World Concern	Emergency Relief Activities		\$392,962
UNHCR	Shelter	Puntland	\$200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA			\$1,034,331
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA			\$1,034,331

¹All USAID/OFDA funding represent committed and/or obligated amounts as of January 31, 2005.

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged.....	\$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed.....	\$79,031,488
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed²	\$119,129,294

FURTHER INFORMATION ON USG RESPONSE

More detailed information on USG assistance already provided, including DOD resources, in response to the disaster may be found in previous USAID/OFDA Fact Sheets:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/countries/indian_ocean/et_index.html

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

Making a Donation to Relief Efforts

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations.
- For a list of humanitarian organizations accepting donations for South Asia relief operations, please see “Tsunami Relief” at www.usaid.gov or www.usafreedomcorps.gov. Or call the Center for International Disaster Information 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.

Additional Information

- Information on making effective donations can be found on the following websites:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov, Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
 - InterAction: “Guide to Appropriate Giving” at www.interaction.org
- Information on choosing a charity to support can be found on the following websites:
 - Better Business Bureau: www.give.org
 - GuideStar (A National Database of Nonprofit Organizations): www.guidestar.org
 - The American Institute of Philanthropy: www.charitywatch.org
 - Charity Navigator: www.charitynavigator.org
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

² This figure includes assistance from USAID (including USAID/OFDA), the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The value of assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Defense is not included in total USG assistance committed.