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

Afghanistan – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

September 8, 2010

Note: The last situation report was dated July 13, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Flooding in July and August in 16 of Afghanistan’s 34 provinces affected approximately 200,000 people, according to the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA).¹ Relief agencies and ANDMA addressed emergency needs for shelter, essential household items, food, medical care, and water and sanitation support. With immediate needs sufficiently met by the end of August, agencies began transitioning from relief to early recovery activities in affected areas, primarily by providing livelihoods support and additional shelter assistance for withstanding winter conditions.
- USAID/OFDA responded to the floods by re-directing \$11 million from existing grants to enable five grantees to provide families with essential household items and temporary shelter and to dispatch disease and nutrition surveillance teams. Grantees also distributed emergency health kits and water-treatment supplies to avert a public health crisis, after floods contaminated water sources and caused localized cholera outbreaks.
- As of early September, USAID/OFDA grantees had assisted nearly 50 percent of households directly affected by the flooding.
- USAID/OFDA continues to support a three-pronged approach to improving humanitarian responses in Afghanistan by funding grantees to 1) rapidly respond to acute needs following natural disasters and conflict; 2) improve humanitarian indicators and build household economic resilience; and 3) enhance humanitarian coordination and data collection and analysis.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Approximately 292,400	OCHA ² – August 2010
Refugees in Neighboring Countries	Approximately 2.6 million	UNHCR ³ – July 2010
Returnees to Afghanistan since 2002	Approximately 5.6 million	UNHCR – July 2010

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Afghanistan	\$31,549,271
USAID/FFP⁴ Assistance to Afghanistan.....	\$47,588,800
State/PRM⁵ Assistance to Displaced and Conflict-Affected Afghans in Afghanistan/Pakistan	\$57,932,189
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance.....	\$137,070,260

CONTEXT

- Since 2002, frequent natural disasters and conflict have displaced populations and generated significant humanitarian needs throughout Afghanistan. Recurring natural disasters in Afghanistan include drought, floods, landslides, earthquakes, and avalanches, which affect an average of 400,000 Afghans each year. As of August 2010, U.N. agencies estimated the displaced population at 292,400 people, while the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIRoA) estimates the population at more than 400,000. Estimates fluctuate due to inconsistent humanitarian access and the high incidence of repeated and transitory displacements. In 2001 and 2002, agencies recorded nearly 1 million IDPs. The number markedly declined to 132,000 people by 2006 and steadily increased to between 161,000 and 297,000 people from 2007 to 2009, according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC). The U.N. estimates that conflict alone displaced more than 98,000 individuals between June 2009 and July 2010.
- Frequent and protracted displacements result in humanitarian needs and also contribute to instability, including through the loss of working-age community members to urban areas and the addition of displaced persons to communities with scarce resources. In addition, insufficient government capacity to repair and expand infrastructure

¹ Afghanistan’s population is estimated at roughly 29 million people.

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

³ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

⁴ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁵ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

and provide basic services prevents sustainable returns to areas of origin and compounds community vulnerabilities countrywide.

Emergency Relief Supplies and Shelter Assistance

- The most significant summer flooding occurred in the central, eastern, and southern regions of Afghanistan, damaging and destroying more than 6,000 houses and depleting stocks of essential household supplies, according to ANDMA.
- In response, USAID/OFDA grantees the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and international NGOs coordinated with provincial ANDMA authorities to provide plastic sheeting for temporary shelter, as well as emergency relief supplies—including kitchen sets, water containers, soap, and blankets—to approximately 42,000 people. Grantees drew from prepositioned stocks, which USAID/OFDA funded in FY 2009 and FY 2010 as a preparedness measure for flooding season.
- As a result of extensive flooding in Pakistan, national vendors in Afghanistan reported tent shortages. In addition, prices for imported tents that meet internationally recognized standards for size and quality rose 50 percent from late July to mid-August. International NGOs delivered tents from remaining prepositioned stocks to flood-affected areas in response to national shortages and price increases. However, most families currently residing in tents will require additional shelter assistance before the onset of winter in late September, according to the U.N. Relief agencies plan to assess supplemental assistance options, including providing materials to rebuild damaged houses or identifying available hosting arrangements, in support of longer-term solutions to flood-related shelter needs.

Health and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- Following July flooding in Ghazni Province, a local NGO reported 60 cases of cholera in Nowa District on August 9. In response, USAID/OFDA grantee the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and the Afghanistan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) provided cholera kits and other emergency health supplies.
- WHO and MoPH quickly contained the outbreak as a result of effective disease surveillance. WHO supported MoPH in developing the country's Disease Early Warning System, which includes more than 300 surveillance officers across all 34 provinces. Cholera outbreaks occur each year in Afghanistan during flooding season, primarily as a result of contaminated water sources. Only 23 percent of Afghanistan's population has access to safe drinking water, according to WHO.
- With USAID/OFDA support, WHO also provided emergency health kits to 50,000 people—or 25 percent of the population affected by flooding—in order to further mitigate flood-related health risks such as cholera.
- Effective disease surveillance also prevented the spread of polio in northern and northeastern Afghanistan. For the first time in more than a decade, the polio virus emerged in the region of Afghanistan bordering Tajikistan. In early September, agencies reported one case of polio in Afghanistan's Kunduz Province, initially attributing the source of the virus to the significant polio outbreak in Tajikistan but later identifying population movements from Pakistan as a potential cause.
- WHO and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), in close partnership with MoPH, devised a rapid response plan for preventing the spread of polio, which included vaccinating 1.5 million children under five years of age in Kunduz and four adjacent provinces from September 5 to 7. At the onset of Tajikistan's outbreak in early June, health partners vaccinated 1.2 million children in the northern and northeastern regions of Afghanistan.

Population Movements

- Following joint international and national military operations in Nad Ali District, Helmand Province, in July and early August, approximately 500 families, or an estimated 3,500 individuals, fled to the provincial capital of Lashkargah or to other nearby areas, according to the Afghan Red Crescent Society. Approximately 2,000 of the estimated 4,000 families displaced from Marjah town, Nad Ali District, by similar operations in February 2010 remain in Lashkargah due to ongoing security in Marjah, according to provincial authorities. Remaining displaced households comprise between 14,000 and 16,000 individuals.
- Local officials reported the displacement of an unknown number of families from Arghandab District in central Kandahar Province to Kandahar city in late July and early August. Member organizations of the IDP Task Force plan to investigate the reports, while relief agencies begin prepositioning humanitarian assistance in Kandahar city as part of conflict contingency plans, according to OCHA. USAID/OFDA supports IOM and Save the Children (SC) to preposition emergency relief supplies in conflict-affected southern Afghanistan.

Agriculture and Food Security

- While agencies effectively responded to emergency needs in flood-affected areas, food insecurity remains a medium-term concern. The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects declining food security in central, eastern, and southern provinces due to recent flooding, wheat production deficits, and increases in regional wheat prices following poor harvests in Kazakhstan and export bans in Russia. However, FEWS NET predicts only a moderate decline in food security compared to the period of the global food price crisis in 2008.

- Conversely, wheat price increases of between 8 and 16 percent since June should improve food security in areas of northern, northeastern, and western Afghanistan, where farmers produced wheat surpluses in 2009. A second above-average yield is expected in September. Consecutive record harvests will reduce import requirements and increase Afghanistan's strategic grain reserves, further stabilizing food security countrywide, according to FEWS NET.
- Responding to emergency food needs in flood-affected areas, USAID/FFP grantee the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is providing three-month emergency food rations to affected households in eight central and eastern provinces. Between August 1 and 24, WFP assisted more than 52,000 flood-affected people.

FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANS

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Aga Khan Foundation/FOCUS	Natural and Technological Risks; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics/Relief Commodities	Baghlan and Badakhshan Provinces	\$1,163,335
Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF)	Shelter and Settlements	Nangarhar Province	\$2,348,410
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Bamyan, Ghor, and Herat Provinces	\$2,789,697
Information Management and Mine Action Programs (IMMAP)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,685,582
IOM	Natural and Technological Risks; Logistics/Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,540,702
NGO Implementing Partner	Rapid Response in Logistics/Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Shelter and Settlements, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Khost, Herat, Laghman, Loghar, Paktya, and Nangarhar Provinces	\$4,029,921
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Samangan Province	\$1,790,177
SC	Natural and Technological Risks; Logistics/Relief Commodities	Balkh, Bamyan, Faryab, Jawzjan, Kandahar, Samangan, Sar-i-Pul, and Uruzgan Provinces	\$2,583,011
Shelter for Life International	Natural and Technological Risks; Protection; Logistics/Relief Commodities	Kabul Province	\$24,910
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$200,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
WFP	U.N. Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Administration		\$393,526
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$31,549,271

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	49,360 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$47,588,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$47,588,800
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE²			
ICRC	Health, Protection, Shelter, Repatriation, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Assistance for Afghan Returnees, IDPs, and other Conflict-Affected Groups	Afghanistan	\$16,900,000
UNHCR	Health, Protection, Shelter, Repatriation, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Assistance for Afghan Refugees, Returnees, IDPs, and other Conflict-Affected Groups	Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran	\$37,500,000
NGO Implementing Partners	Health, Livelihoods, Food Security, and Protection Assistance for Afghan Refugees and Returnees	Nangarhar, Parwan, Balkh, and Baghlan Provinces; Pakistan	\$3,532,189
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$57,932,189
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2010			\$137,070,260

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 8, 2010.

² State/PRM funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 8, 2010.

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 Iraq may be available at 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 – 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

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