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

Sri Lanka – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

September 30, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated May 5, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 25, the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) announced that the Ministry of Resettlement had returned or released approximately 265,000 of 280,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) temporarily residing in welfare centers. These individuals had fled conflict areas in the months leading up to the May 19, 2009, GoSL declaration of victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in the 24-year civil war. The Ministry of Resettlement expects to complete resettlement of the remaining displaced persons by December 2010.
- In response to heavy rains in mid-May, USAID/OFDA supported relief efforts reaching approximately 2,770 individuals.
- USAID/OFDA works to reduce the impact of natural hazards in vulnerable regions, stabilize conflict-affected communities, and support community efforts to rebuild markets and infrastructure. Since May 2010, USAID/OFDA has supported transitional shelter development for up to 38 percent of the resettled IDPs ahead of the November to March monsoon season. Funding from USAID/OFDA in FY 2010 has benefitted up to 352,000 IDPs and other conflicted-affected individuals.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Affected Population¹	431,098	UNHCR ² – June 2010 and August 27, 2010
IDPs³	31,100	UNHCR – September 17, 2010
Returnees (since May 2009)	265,000	GoSL – September 25, 2010
Facilitated Refugee Returns to Sri Lanka	1,150	UNHCR – August 27, 2010

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for Complex Emergency	\$9,950,754
USAID/OFDA Assistance for Floods	\$50,000
USAID/FFP⁴ Assistance	\$20,349,900
State/PRM⁵ Assistance⁶	\$8,675,000
State/PM/WRA⁷ Assistance	\$4,417,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Funding to Sri Lanka	\$43,442,654

CONTEXT

- Following the end of the civil war between the GoSL and the LTTE separatist movement, the GoSL established a Presidential Task Force (PTF) to oversee the return and resettlement of IDPs and refugees, as well as early recovery activities, landmine removal, shelter development, and infrastructure repairs in affected regions.
- On December 4, 2009, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Valerie Fowler redeclared a disaster for FY 2010 due to the complex emergency in Sri Lanka and needs arising from IDP returns.
- The North East monsoon season runs from November to March, with the potential to negatively affect the health and safety of individuals resettled in temporary housing structures in Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Mullaittivu, Mannar, and Jaffna districts, as well as IDPs remaining in Menik Farm camp.

¹ This figure includes refugees who fled during the final phase of the civil and returning IDPs

² Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

³ This figure represents persons who remain displaced, having been displaced by conflict in the months leading up to the May 2009 declaration of victory by the GoSL. This figure includes IDPs living in welfare centers as well as with host families

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)

⁶ In addition, in FY 2010, State/PRM provided \$3.55 million and \$8.1 million to UNHCR’s and ICRC’s South Asia regional appeals, respectively, which benefit refugees, IDPs, stateless persons, and conflict victims across South Asia, including Sri Lanka. State/PRM also provided \$1,525,000 in humanitarian assistance to Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu, India

⁷ U.S. Department of State’s Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement under the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (State/PM/WRA)

- In mid-May, heavy rains associated with the May to August monsoon season caused flooding and landslides in 11 districts of Sri Lanka, killing approximately 24 individuals, injuring an estimated 50 people, and affecting more than 524,000 others, according to the GoSL Disaster Management Center. On May 20, U.S. Ambassador Patricia A. Butenis issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the flooding and landslides.

Shelter

- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) reported that at least 75 percent of houses in resettlement areas require repairs.
- The Government of India plans to construct 50,000 permanent houses in Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- USAID/OFDA support for transitional shelter development in northern Sri Lanka has assisted up to 87,000 people through the provision of shelter materials and technical support to displaced families returning to areas of origin.
- With funding in part from State/PRM, UNHCR is providing shelter grants to more than 56,000 returnee families in Northern Province.

Health

- On May 26, President Mahinda Rajapakse announced the creation of a PTF to implement dengue control measures throughout Sri Lanka and to enlist public participation in eradicating mosquito breeding grounds. As of September 17, the Ministry of Health and Nutrition Epidemiology Unit reported 30,473 cases of dengue and 218 resulting deaths. Sri Lankan health officials noted a significant drop in reported cases from August to September.
- USAID/OFDA has provided emergency health services to IDPs in Menik Farm and those returning to areas of origin in Northern Province. With funding from USAID/OFDA, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) trained 353 health professionals and 270 health promoters and initiated a campaign to combat dengue outbreaks, benefitting up to 280,000 IDPs and returnees residing with host families.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- The resettlement of IDPs from Menik Farm significantly increased the need for water supply and sanitation facilities in Mannar, Mullaittivu, and Kilinochchi districts in Northern Province. Villages in areas of return lack access to potable water due to landmines and well salinity, according to USAID/OFDA grantee Sarvodya.
- Up to 57,000 IDPs and returnees have benefitted from USAID/OFDA support of water supply equipment, sanitation facilities, and hygiene education in Menik Farm and areas of return.

Agriculture and Economic Recovery and Market Systems

- In September, the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) on Food and Agriculture predicted that Sri Lankan farmers will harvest a bumper crop of rice during the 2010 August to October harvest season. The March to April 2010 harvest season produced a record level of 2.65 million tons, 12 percent more than the March to April 2009 harvest season, due to increased paddy cultivation areas, fertilizer subsidies, and favorable weather conditions. GIEWS reported that increased harvests have led to reduced rice prices and improved food security in Sri Lanka.
- USAID/OFDA assistance provides community-based livelihood recovery activities, supports home gardening and dairy production, and provides agricultural assets, such as seeds and farming tools, benefitting nearly 21,000 individuals in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, and Mullaittivu districts.
- In August, USAID/FFP provided \$2.5 million to ACTED to fund cash/voucher-for-work activities that focus on rehabilitating productive assets and infrastructure. This program will benefit approximately 7,000 returning IDP households.

Landmines and Unexploded Ordnance

- Landmines are one of the primary factors preventing the safe return of families to areas of origin in northern Sri Lanka. Menik Farm is the last IDP camp to remain open, as the approximately 25,000 residents await the completion of demining operations in Northern Province.
- As of June 2010, the Sri Lanka Army Engineering Corps had cleared nearly 1,542 km² in Northern and Eastern provinces, with an additional 2,468 km² remaining to be cleared throughout the country, according to the GoSL.
- State/PM/WRA provided the Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian Demining Capability with vehicles, valued at \$500,000, to assist in demining activities. In addition, State/PM/WRA provided approximately \$3.9 million to four non-governmental organizations to support the clearance of high priority areas and facilitate IDP resettlements.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ¹ FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY			
ACTED	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements	Mullaitivu District	\$704,823
IOM	Health, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$3,000,000
Sarvodya	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Agriculture and Food Security	Jaffna, Mannar, and Vavuniya Districts	\$1,516,743
United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya Districts	\$1,000,000
U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Killinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts	\$1,000,000
World Vision	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Killinochchi Districts	\$2,504,826
	Administrative Costs		\$224,362
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY			\$9,950,754
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE FOR FLOODS			
Sri Lanka Red Cross Society	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, and Kalutara Districts	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE FOR FLOODS			\$50,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
ACTED	Cash/Voucher-for-Work Program	Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Mullaitivu Districts	\$2,528,300
WFP	22,230 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya Districts	\$17,821,600
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$20,349,900
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance and Protection	Affected Areas	\$8,650,000
Community Trust Fund	Land Reclamation	Mannar District	\$25,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$8,675,000
STATE/PM/WRA ASSISTANCE			
Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian Demining Capability	Demining	Affected Areas	\$500,000
HALO Trust	Demining	Affected Areas	\$1,350,000

Swiss Foundation for Mine Action	Demining	Affected Areas	\$1,017,000
Mines Advisory Group	Demining	Affected Areas	\$850,000
Danish Demining Group	Demining	Affected Areas	\$700,000
TOTAL STATE/PM/WRA			\$4,417,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2010			\$43,442,654

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2010.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

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 Sri Lanka 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/