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

***Asia and Pacific –
Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Programs***

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

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BACKGROUND

Disasters including earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, tsunamis, and wildfires affect populations throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Declining socio-economic conditions of some populations are increasing the region’s vulnerability. Demographic changes, rapid urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, leading to settlement in hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. In addition to natural disasters, civil conflicts and complex emergencies cause hardships and impede development. USAID/OFDA is committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response capacities in the region. USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$42 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including nearly \$4.9 million in FY 2009.

PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION ASSISTANCE FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC

USAID/OFDA Assistance in FY 2009	\$4,865,110
Total USAID/OFDA Cumulative Assistance for all Ongoing Programs	\$42,351,564

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

- Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), Phase III: PEER promotes disaster preparedness through the development of national and regional cadres of professional emergency response instructors. Implemented by the Kathmandu-based National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) since 2003, PEER is geared primarily towards earthquake preparedness, but is widely applicable to any collapsed structure or mass casualty situation. PEER assists local, regional, and national disaster management agencies in organizing and conducting training in medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness for mass casualties following a disaster. The first phase of PEER, managed by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), began in 1998 in India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Phase II of PEER expanded activities to Bangladesh and Pakistan, increased the corps of trainers, adapted courses to national requirements, and created a coordinating network of disaster responders in each country. In April 2009, ADPC and NSET jointly began the implementation of Phase III with activities focusing on establishing a system to enhance first responder capacity and improve capacity of hospitals and medical facilities. USAID/OFDA has provided \$12,586,203 to date to support PEER, including \$1.5 million in FY 2009.
- Program for Hydrometeorological Risk Mitigation in Asian Cities (PROMISE): From 2005 to 2009, USAID/OFDA provided a grant to ADPC for a three-year phase of urban disaster mitigation activities entitled “PROMISE.” This program builds upon the activities of the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP) in which ADPC developed pilot disaster preparedness projects in targeted Asian cities. PROMISE promotes disaster preparedness through demonstration projects in six rapidly growing urban areas that have been significantly impacted by hydrometeorological disasters: Chittagong, Bangladesh; Hyderabad, Pakistan; Dagupan City, the Philippines; Kalutara, Sri Lanka; Da Nang, Vietnam, and Jakarta, Indonesia. In the target cities, ADPC has facilitated preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops, carried out hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments, and established community-based early warning mechanisms. Additional programming included implementing training and capacity building for risk-based urban land use planning, piloting community-based flood forecasting and warning systems, developing city-level disaster management information systems and public awareness and advocacy campaigns, and assisting micro-credit enterprises to improve resistance of houses to disasters. USAID/OFDA funding since FY 2005 totals \$2,221,916, including \$366,630 in FY 2009.
- Pacific Islands Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP): USAID/OFDA has supported PDAP, implemented by The Asia Foundation (TAF), since 1995. The objectives of the program are to improve the capacity and performance of local and national disaster management agencies, develop and adapt training materials relevant to the region, and strengthen the capacity of South Pacific nations to organize and conduct disaster management courses. The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu participated in the first phase of the program, which helped to improve disaster management training in multiple South Pacific nations.

From 2004 to 2008, Phase II expanded the program to include the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The second phase also included the adaptation of USAID/OFDA-developed training materials for Pacific country applications. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided \$569,551 to PDAP, and total funding to date is \$4,571,307.

- **Asia Flood Network (AFN):** AFN aims to strengthen 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, AFN is jointly implemented by USAID/OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Current activities are focused on Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam in the Mekong river basin and Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Pakistan in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Megna (GBM) basin. Under AFN, the Mekong River Commission (MRC), the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and country representatives in the Mekong and GBM river basins were trained on the application of satellite-based rainfall estimates (SRE) to floods and droughts, flash flood guidance, and dissemination of information to vulnerable populations in remote areas. In addition, USAID/OFDA and NOAA are working with national and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to pilot the Radio and Internet for the Communication of Hydrometeorological and Climate Related Information (RANET) project in countries in Asia. RANET provides access to and strengthens the use of hydrometeorological information by communities in day-to-day decision making to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards. Support for AFN will continue through September 2010. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$2,729,927 for the program, including \$150,000 in FY 2009.
- **Volcano Disaster Assistance Project (VDAP):** The USAID/OFDA-funded VDAP program, implemented by USGS, provides technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations. In Asia, VDAP assists the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOLCS), the Center of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (CVGHM) in Indonesia, and the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory (RVO) in Papua New Guinea. VDAP assistance includes training in hazard assessment, development of early warning plans, and installation and updating of volcano monitoring equipment. In FY 2009, VDAP and CVGHM continued work on a regional network in North Sulawesi in Indonesia, with installations of new stations on three hazardous Sangihe Islands volcanoes—Awu, Karangetang, and Ruang—and a global positioning system for monitoring deformation at Lokon-Empung volcano. In addition, VDAP continued hazard mapping and providing technical assistance with seismic instrumentation and data interpretation, and hosted a remote sensing training workshop. In April, VDAP assisted CVGHM in the crisis response at Slamet volcano in Indonesia by providing remote sensing data, consultation, and volcano-monitoring equipment. In Papua New Guinea, VDAP provided updated equipment for RVO, enabling continued seismic monitoring of ongoing eruptions of Tavurvur volcano. VDAP also conducted a technical assistance mission to Rabaul volcano to train RVO staff in volcanic gas monitoring. In Asia, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$4,275,000 to date to support VDAP, including \$550,000 in FY 2009.
- **Disaster Needs and Damage Assessment Manual and Workshop:** USAID/OFDA is assisting the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in developing a manual on disaster needs and damage assessment, adapting existing best practices to the Southeast Asian context. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA staff facilitated a capacity-building workshop for ASEAN country focal points in the Philippines, the lead country for the initiative. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$220,000 through USAID's Regional Development Mission in Asia to Nathan and Associates to promote disaster assistance capabilities in ASEAN.

SOUTH ASIA PROGRAMS

- **Flash Flood Risk Reduction: Strengthening Capacity in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas:** USAID/OFDA, in partnership with ICIMOD, has been implementing activities to build and strengthen the capacity of communities, community organizations, and national partners to reduce the risk of flash flood disaster in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya region, including China, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and other member countries. The project also aims to increase understanding of the physical and socioeconomic dimension of flash floods in the target areas, enhance and encourage transboundary coordination, and share lessons learned in the Himalaya region. USAID/OFDA has contributed \$664,089 to date for the program, including \$394,979 in FY 2009.
- **Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan:** Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is implementing a three-year project which seeks to ensure that communities in Rajasthan, India, and Sindh, Pakistan, are drought resilient. The project targets 7,200 people in Sindh and 60,000 people in Rajasthan. Through this program, drought-vulnerable communities are better able to harvest and store rainwater for increased domestic and agricultural use throughout the year, adopt water-efficient agricultural practices, utilize improved land-use techniques for agriculture and livestock, and engage with local government and other actors to improve resilience to drought. The project began in June 2006 and will

continue through December 2009. USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$779,926 to date, including \$179,926 in FY 2009.

- Private Sector Partnerships for Disaster Assistance in India: USAID/OFDA is supporting Project Concern International (PCI) to increase private sector participation in disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response in India, focusing on 20 districts in Bihar, the poorest and most flood-prone state in India. Beginning in September 2008, the two-year PCI project is training representatives from large private sector firms, universities, national and state government agencies, and local NGOs in disaster risk management. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$300,000 for the project.
- Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness: Save the Children/US (SC/US), World Vision, and lead agency CARE joined to form the Emergency Working Group of Cooperative Sponsors (EWG) to improve emergency response to floods in Bangladesh. The EWG works to reduce the incidence of health problems associated with a disaster, particularly waterborne diseases. With USAID/OFDA support, the EWG promotes coordination between communities and local authorities and maintains and operates mobile water purification plants, zodiac boats, and a mobile health unit. The EWG used USAID/OFDA pre-positioned equipment and materials to support Cyclone Alia response efforts in May 2009. Total USAID/OFDA funding to date for the project is \$424,663.
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project: NSET coordinates the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley and works with the Government of Nepal, NGOs, schools, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness. The project began in September 2000 and will continue through August 2010. USAID/OFDA funding to date totals \$1,413,705.
- Seismic Hazard Training for Pakistan and Nepal: USAID/OFDA supported a workshop implemented by USGS in Kathmandu to train young Pakistani and Nepalese professionals to use freely available, state-of-the-art computer tools to assess earthquake hazards. The workshop, held in June 2009, helped Pakistan and Nepal develop a community of seismic hazard practitioners. Using the Open Seismic Hazards Analysis platform, workshop participants acquired the skills necessary to develop earthquake hazard maps and assess potential impacts from future earthquakes on local earthquake faults. USAID/OFDA provided \$75,107 in FY 2008 to support the workshop.
- Promoting Community-based Preparedness in Nepal: In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA is supporting SC/US to enhance community capacity in disaster preparedness and response. Through the program, SC/US is providing relief supplies to affected populations when disasters occur, repairing and rehabilitating community water and sanitation facilities, and improving hygiene and sanitation practices. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA contributed \$725,000 to support the project.

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC PROGRAMS

- Promoting Private Sector Disaster Assistance in China: In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA supported TAF programming to enhance private sector participation in disaster assistance and to promote multi-sectoral approaches to disaster management. TAF is cooperating with Chinese business associations, the China Charity Federation, and the Government of China Ministry of Civil Affairs (MOCA), which has a lead role in disaster management in China. The program also involves the American Chamber of Commerce in China. This project began in October 2006 and will continue through September 2010. The second phase of the program, which began in September 2008, engages more Chinese businesses in disaster preparedness and management initiatives and expands preparedness activities to additional communities, including Chengdu city in earthquake-affected Sichuan Province. USAID/OFDA has provided \$1,118,217 to date.
- Earthquake Recovery and Rural Housing Rehabilitation in Sichuan, China: USAID/OFDA is also supporting TAF to promote safe rehabilitation of rural shelters and to improve disaster preparedness and mitigation in schools and communities in earthquake-affected areas of Sichuan Province. The two-year program, implemented with MOCA, is benefiting approximately 1.1 million individuals in affected areas. USAID/OFDA has provided \$1,200,000 for the program to date.
- Disaster Risk Reduction in China: USAID/OFDA is supporting USGS to promote mitigation activities related to earthquakes and landslides issues in response to the May 12, 2008 magnitude 7.9 earthquake in Sichuan, China. USGS is partnering with the China Earthquake Administration and the China Geological Survey on this project. The program aims to improve China's ability to conduct probability forecasts for aftershocks following large earthquakes, developing China's capacity to conduct real-time monitoring and notification of major earthquakes to provide appropriate responses, assessing the current and future risk of earthquake-induced landslides, and exchanging technical

expertise for the implementation of a modern approach to seismic hazards maps for China. The first year of the project will be completed in March 2010. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided \$131,257 for this program.

- Climate Forecast Applications: This project is a follow-up initiative to the USAID/OFDA-funded Extreme Climate Events (ECE) program, which was implemented from 1998 to 2003. The Climate Forecast Applications project, implemented by ADPC, strengthens the national capabilities of Indonesia and the Philippines to manage and reduce the impacts of climate fluctuations through targeted demonstration projects and community participation. The project makes climate forecasting information available to farmers and local communities, which utilize the data for planting and other purposes, and local government in water resource management. The second phase of the program began in April 2003 and was expanded to include East Timor in 2007. Total funding since FY 1998, including the ECE program, is \$2,703,276, including \$79,413 in FY 2009.
- Drought Preparedness in Southeast Asia: CARE, with USAID/OFDA support, is implementing drought preparedness activities in Cambodia, East Timor, and Vietnam. This program promotes community-based drought preparedness planning while also developing expertise in effective low-cost and innovative drought mitigation and preparedness technologies. This program began in July 2006 and continued through May 2009. The total provided by USAID/OFDA is \$1,200,000.
- Seismic Risk and Mitigation in Vietnam: USAID/OFDA supported the travel of five American scientists to give presentations at a workshop on seismic risk and mitigation held in Hanoi in March 2009. The objectives of the workshop were to evaluate the current state of understanding of earthquake hazards in Vietnam, distribute information to government officials and the public at large, and lay the groundwork for a comprehensive earthquake monitoring and disaster preparedness strategy for Vietnam. USAID/OFDA provided \$23,550 in FY 2009.
- Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response in Indonesia: International Medical Corps (IMC), with USAID/OFDA support, is promoting technical, administrative, financial, and logistical capabilities of Ambulan 118, a leading Indonesian NGO, to respond rapidly and effectively to disasters in Indonesia. IMC is strengthening and expanding training in emergency relief best practices and creating a training-of-trainers program. In addition, Ambulan 118 and IMC have pre-positioned medical and non-medical equipment and supplies. Through this project, medical teams from Ambulan 118 and IMC provided emergency medical care during disasters including the March and September 2007 Sumatra earthquakes, the January 2007 Jakarta flooding, and the May 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake. This project began in September 2005 and continued through March 2009. USAID/OFDA provided a total of \$2,176,722.
- Promoting Private Sector Role in Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia: In September 2008, Mercy Corps began implementing a two-year project with USAID/OFDA funding to better prepare communities, local governments, and private sector actors in West Sumatra and Bengkulu provinces to collaborate to mitigate and respond to natural disasters. Mercy Corps is establishing district-level working groups focusing on disaster preparedness, carrying out participatory hazard mapping and preparedness surveys, and conducting activities to raise awareness in local schools and communities. USAID/OFDA funding to date totals \$494,804, including \$194,804 in FY 2009.
- Indonesia Mobile Water Treatment Units: In FY 2007, as part of ongoing disaster preparedness programming in Indonesia, USAID/OFDA provided six high-capacity mobile water treatment units to USAID implementing partners for use in future humanitarian emergencies. USAID/OFDA provided an additional \$4,500 in FY 2008 for transport and storage costs. The total cost of the units, including transport, was \$278,615.
- Conflict Preparedness Program in Mindanao, Philippines: Implemented by SC/Philippines, the first phase of this initiative supported disaster preparedness activities in response to new internal displacement and provided prompt humanitarian access to these populations in the conflict-affected areas of western Mindanao. The program supports an emergency response network of local NGOs and community-based groups to implement preparedness and relief activities, provide small grants to local NGOs, and create small stockpiles of locally procured relief items for emergencies. The second phase of this initiative supports returning internally displaced persons through livelihood interventions using seeds and tools, basic fishing equipment, and other assistance. The program also supports community activities to ensure sustainable potable water resources. USAID/OFDA has provided \$1,873,459 to date.
- School-based and Community Awareness of Disaster Preparation in the Philippines: USAID/OFDA is also funding SC/Philippines to better engage schools, communities, and local government units in disaster risk reduction activities in the Bicol region, which is highly vulnerable to volcanoes and typhoons. SC/Philippines is providing training to local government units and teachers in disaster preparedness, while conducting preparedness activities focused on children.

The two-year program will continue through April 2010. USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$164,821 for this program.

USAID/OFDA FY 2009 and Cumulative Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance for Asia-Pacific by Sector¹

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>FY 2009 Funding</i>	<i>Cumulative Funding for Ongoing Projects²</i>
ADPC	Climate Forecast Applications	Indonesia, East Timor, Philippines	Climate Forecasting	\$79,413	\$2,703,276
ADPC	PROMISE	Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam	Hydrometeorological Risk Reduction	\$366,630	\$2,221,916
ADPC and NSET	PEER	Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	\$1,500,000	\$12,586,203
CARE	Drought Preparedness	Cambodia, East Timor, Vietnam	Drought Preparedness		\$1,200,000
CARE, SC/US, World Vision	Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness	Bangladesh	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management		\$424,663
CRS	Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan	India, Pakistan	Drought Preparedness	\$179,926	\$779,926
ICIMOD	Capacity Building for Flash Floods Management	South Asia and Himalaya Region	Hydrometeorological Risk Reduction	\$394,979	\$664,089
IMC	Indonesia Preparedness through IMC/Ambulan 118	Indonesia	Health Preparedness		\$2,176,722
Mercy Corps	Private Sector Disaster Assistance in Indonesia	Indonesia	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	\$194,804	\$494,804
Nathan and Associates	Disaster Needs Assessment Damage Workshop	Southeast Asia Region	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management		\$220,000
NSET	Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness	Nepal	Earthquake Safety		\$1,413,705
PCI	Private Sector Partnerships in India	India	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management		\$300,000
SC/Philippines	Philippines Conflict Preparedness	Philippines	Conflict Preparedness		\$1,873,459
SC/Philippines	School-based and Community Preparedness in the Philippines	Philippines	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management		\$164,821
SC/US	Capacity Building for Disaster Preparedness and Response in Nepal	Nepal	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	\$725,000	\$725,000

TAF	Earthquake Recovery and Preparedness in China	China	Earthquake Safety		\$1,200,000
TAF	PDAP	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	\$569,551	\$4,571,307
TAF	Private Sector Disaster Assistance in China	China	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management		\$1,118,217
USGS	AFN	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, China, India, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management	\$150,000	\$2,729,927
USGS	Disaster Risk Reduction in China	China	Earthquake Safety	\$131,257	\$131,257
USGS	Seismic Hazard Training for Pakistan and Nepal	Nepal, Pakistan	Earthquake Safety		\$75,107
USGS	Seismic Risk and Mitigation in Vietnam	Vietnam	Earthquake Safety	\$23,550	\$23,550
USGS	VDAP	Indonesia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea	Volcano Monitoring	\$550,000	\$4,275,000
Various	Indonesia Mobile Water Treatment Units	Indonesia	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management		\$278,615
USAID/OFDA PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION ASSISTANCE IN ASIA AND PACIFIC				\$4,865,110	\$42,351,564

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of September 30, 2009.

² The total does not include completed activities funded in previous fiscal years.