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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 #14, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

July 9, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated June 25, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On July 7, international media reported that the Sri Lankan Parliament had extended the state of emergency for an additional month to address ongoing security issues related to the cessation of the conflict between the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) movement. The state of emergency has been in place since August 2005.
- Following negotiations in response to a June 28 demonstration by internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Manik Farms camp, GoSL authorities have established a police registration system for IDPs that permits IDPs to visit relatives located in other zones, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- USAID/OFDA, through a United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) umbrella grant, recently provided additional support for humanitarian activities in health, shelter and settlements, and water, health, and sanitation (WASH) to address the needs of displaced persons. Through the umbrella grant, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$180,000 to the non-governmental organization (NGO) Handicap International to provide essential assistance to persons with disabilities and IDPs in Mannar and Vavuniya districts. People in Need (PIN) is providing temporary shelters for 2,500 IDPs living in the transit camp located in Pulmoddai town, Trincomalee District. USAID/OFDA has also contributed more than \$173,000 to the NGO Arbeiter-Samariter Bund (ASB) to continue to provide sanitation facilities and cleaning materials at Manik Farms IDP camp for an estimated 20,000 IDPs.
- On June 25, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Political and Military Affairs Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PMWRA) announced the approval of an additional \$6 million for humanitarian demining in key areas of northern Sri Lanka, including Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Vavuniya districts. State/PMWRA is providing the funds to the NGOs Danish Demining Group (DDG), HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD). In FY 2009, State/PMWRA also contributed \$600,000 to FSD for humanitarian demining in Mannar District. Humanitarian demining is expected to facilitate IDP returns and resettlement to areas of origin.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*	SOURCE	
IDPs who fled the conflict zone between October 27 and May 19**	283,537	OCHA – June 26, 2009
IDPs in camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	279,208	OCHA – June 26, 2009

* OCHA estimates based on improved IDP registration as of June 26.

** The official end date of the conflict between the GoSL and the LTTE.

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$11,027,446
USAID/FFP¹ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$43,100,000
State/PRM² Assistance to Sri Lanka³	\$6,820,000
State/PMWRA Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$8,079,322
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$69,026,768

CURRENT SITUATION

- OCHA reported that nearly 280,000 IDPs resided in temporary camps as of June 26, including approximately 260,000 people in Vavuniya District camps.

¹ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

³ In addition, State/PRM has provided support to the South Asia regional activities of the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which includes programs to support IDPs, refugees, and conflict victims throughout South Asia, including Sri Lanka.

- The GoSL requested that ICRC scale down activities in response to the changing humanitarian context. ICRC has begun discussions with GoSL authorities and is reviewing current operations, according to a July 9 ICRC press release.
- According to a July 7 UNHCR report, U.N. agencies and NGOs have observed a significant improvement in humanitarian access to IDP sites, as well as a decreased military presence inside the camps. The improved access has allowed more effective implementation of activities to address IDP needs.
- According to UNHCR participatory assessments, as of July 7, IDPs have identified overcrowded camp conditions, insufficient access to health care services, and lack of information on separated family members as key concerns.

Emergency Food Assistance

- According to the U.N. Office of the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (UNR/HC), as of July 9, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) continued to distribute dry rations of wheat flour, rice, lentils, vegetable oil, and sugar to IDPs in camps.
- On July 7, WFP staff reported improvements in the transition from communal food preparation to individual family food distributions at Manik Farms. WFP, in coordination with the GoSL civil administration, established food management committees in two zones of the Manik Farms site in early July.
- On July 3, WFP reported that recent collaboration among the GoSL, humanitarian community, and private sector resulted in three large commercial bakeries producing and distributing more than 200,000 loaves of bread using WFP commodities to IDPs in camps since May.

Emergency Relief Supplies

- According to a July 9 UNR/HC report, U.N. and NGO partners have distributed plastic mats, bed sheets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, hygiene packages, clothing and slippers, and water containers to approximately 88,000 displaced families. As of July 7, UNHCR and NGO partners continued to conduct assessments to identify gaps in coverage of emergency relief supplies.

Health

- On July 9, UNR/HC reported that 14 primary health care centers, four referral hospitals, and an unspecified number of mobile health teams currently provide health care services to IDPs in camps.
- On July 5, USAID/OFDA staff visited a USAID/OFDA-funded primary health care center run by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and met with GoSL Ministry of Health (MoH) personnel in the newly-established Zone 5 of Manik Farms IDP camp. The MoH representative reported that a Manik Farms wide campaign to provide measles vaccinations to infants and toddlers is underway.

Nutrition

- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) supports 12 planned nutritional rehabilitation centers in IDP sites and plans to support an additional nine centers to address the nutritional needs of displaced children. UNICEF reported that since January, feeding programs have served nearly 9,000 children in IDP camps, according to UNR/HC.

Protection

- On July 9, U.N. agencies reported that GoSL camp authorities had authorized visitor centers, public phones, postal systems, and the organization of IDP committees to discuss IDP concerns, according to UNR/HC. U.N. agencies observed that IDPs' freedom of movement remained an issue of concern, as current restrictions limit the ability of IDPs to work, attend school, or visit family and friends.
- Family reunification efforts continue, according to the UNR/HC. As of June, the GoSL reported that local authorities had reunited more than 5,000 family members.
- As of July 9, UNICEF had identified more than 2,000 vulnerable IDP children, including orphans, unaccompanied minors, and children separated from families.
- On July 7, UNHCR reported that the GoSL continues to authorize vulnerable individuals, including more than 4,000 elderly IDPs and persons with disabilities, to depart from IDP camps. UNHCR plans to continue advocacy efforts to widen the criteria for IDPs authorized for departure.

Shelter and Settlements

- On July 7, UNHCR reported that relief agencies had erected approximately 860 tents and shelters in three newly-established zones of Manik Farms IDP camp. Relief organizations expect to construct an additional 3,100 emergency shelters in the three zones. UNHCR noted that the Sri Lankan military had postponed the transfer of oversight for several proposed IDP sites, leading to significant delays in site preparation.

- As part of continued efforts to alleviate overcrowding in IDP camps, the GoSL Competent Authority (CA) recently stated that each proposed and existing IDP camp should house no more than 5,000 IDPs per site. Humanitarian agencies in Vavuniya District, however, continued to advocate that the limit should be set to 15,000 to 20,000 IDPs. On June 25, OCHA reported that the CA and humanitarian agencies had agreed to set the standard camp size at 1,200 emergency shelters and/or tents on 80 acres of land.

WASH

- On July 7, UNICEF reported the near completion of hygiene facilities in four zones at Manik Farms. UNICEF staff observed that the current water supply is sufficient for all IDPs at Manik Farms.
- UNICEF noted that the local GoSL National Water Supply and Drainage Board plans to establish monitoring mechanisms to ensure the equitable distribution and use of water.
- The Vavuniya District Government Agent announced GoSL plans to complete a site survey to identify drainage requirements in Manik Farms by July 8, as well as finalize a plan to address the causes of drainage issues at Manik Farms by mid-July, prior to the onset of the rainy season.
- On July 3, USAID/OFDA and IOM staff visited a hygiene promotion project in Manik Farms implemented by IOM with USAID/OFDA and the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID) funds. IOM plans to extend the program to all zones of Manik Farms to address critical gaps in hygiene education for IDPs.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A USAID humanitarian assistance team composed of two USAID/OFDA staff members remains in Sri Lanka and is working closely with USAID/Sri Lanka and partners to assess needs and coordinate U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian assistance.
- On October 21, 2008, U.S. Ambassador Robert O. Blake redeclared a disaster in Sri Lanka due to increased conflict and resulting displacement, requesting USAID/OFDA support for FY 2009.
- To date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$6 million to assist IDPs and returnees, including support for health, logistics, protection, disaster risk reduction, agriculture and food security, economy and market systems, shelter and settlements, humanitarian coordination and information management, and WASH programs.
- In FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided 19,490 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$14.5 million, to WFP. To date in FY 2009, State/PRM has provided more than \$4.8 million to ICRC and UNHCR to support conflict-affected Sri Lankans. In addition, State/PRM has provided support to UNHCR and ICRC regional programs, which include activities to support IDPs, refugees, and conflict victims throughout South Asia, including Sri Lanka. State/PMWRA has also contributed \$6.6 million for humanitarian demining in key areas of northern Sri Lanka including Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Vavuniya districts.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO SRI LANKA FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN FY 2008 AND FY 2009

FY 2009			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
IOM	Health	Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya districts	\$880,866
UMCOR	Umbrella Award for Small Grants in Health, Protection, Disaster Risk Reduction, Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$3,500,060
UNICEF	Nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Ampara, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$1,700,000

Administrative Costs			\$17,738
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$6,098,664
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	19,490 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$14,538,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$14,538,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	IDP Assistance and Protection	Northern, North-Central, and Eastern provinces	\$1,760,000
UNHCR	IDP Assistance and Protection	Countrywide	\$3,070,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,830,000
STATE/PMWRA			
DDG, HALO Trust, MAG, and FSD	Humanitarian Demining	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Vavuniya districts	\$6,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$6,600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009			\$32,066,664

FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa District	\$599,999
IOM	Economy and Market Systems	Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$605,000
Internews	Humanitarian Coordination and Management	North, North-Central, and Eastern Provinces	\$826,851
Norwegian Refugee Council	Protection	Batticaloa, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$614,991
UMCOR	Umbrella Award for Small Grants in Health, Protection, Risk Reduction, Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$1,000,000
WFP	Logistics, Emergency Relief Supplies	Countrywide	\$1,250,000
USAID/Sri Lanka	Administration and Logistics	Countrywide	\$31,941
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$4,928,782

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	31,360 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$28,562,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$28,562,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$1,990,000
STATE/PMWRA			
DDG, FSD, MAG	Humanitarian Demining	Countrywide	\$1,479,322
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$1,479,322
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2008			\$36,960,104

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE	
USAID/OFDA	\$11,027,446
USAID/FFP	\$43,100,000
STATE/PRM	\$6,820,000
STATE/PMWRA	\$8,079,322
TOTAL FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA	\$69,026,768

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 9, 2009.

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 can be found 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, and warehouse space); 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