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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 #12, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

June 12, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated June 4, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On June 11, U.N. Resident Coordinator Neil Buhne stated that conditions at Manik Farms camp in Vavuniya District remain below U.N. standards, according to international media reports. On June 10, international media reported that U.N. Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator John Holmes called on the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to ease restrictions on freedom of movement for internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in camps.
- On June 5, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that the U.N. clusters in health, shelter, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conducted assessments of three proposed sites for new IDP camps in Vavuniya District. The assessment identified drainage and protection concerns as priority issues.
- As of June 12, the USAID/OFDA regional advisor remained in northern Sri Lanka to meet with members of the humanitarian community and assess conditions in IDP camps.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
IDPs who fled the conflict zone between October 27 and June 8	280,812	OCHA – June 11, 2009
IDPs in camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	278,495	OCHA – June 11, 2009

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$11,009,708
USAID/FFP¹ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$42,900,000
State/PRM² Assistance to Sri Lanka³	\$6,820,000
State/PMWRA⁴ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$2,079,322
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$62,809,030

CURRENT SITUATION

- On June 11, OCHA reported that more than 280,000 people had crossed from the former conflict zone to GoSL-controlled territory between October 27 and June 8. The increase in the number of IDPs is due to improved, systematic registration. As of June 11, OCHA reported that an estimated 278,500 people resided in temporary camps, including approximately 260,000 people in Vavuniya District camps.
- Recent assessments conducted by humanitarian staff in IDP camps indicated that IDPs are primarily concerned with the poor quality of prepared food and insufficient quantities of water, issues related to family reunification, and the need for additional emergency relief supplies, according to a June 8 report from the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- On June 10, UNHCR reported that more than 2,000 IDPs returned to areas of origin in Mannar District, northern Sri Lanka, as part of the GoSL returns and resettlement program. The GoSL and humanitarian agencies have pledged to facilitate IDP returns and resettlement through activities such as provision of return packages, housing reconstruction, and humanitarian demining.

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

² U.S. State Department'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 Office of the U.N. 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.

⁴ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political and Military Affairs Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PMWRA)

Shelter and Settlements

- The GoSL continues efforts to alleviate overcrowding in IDP camps, with site preparation for two additional zones in the Manik Farms camp, according to a June 11 OCHA report. OCHA reported that as of June 9, the GoSL had relocated more than 4,000 people to a new site in Vavuniya District to help reduce overcrowding at Manik Farms IDP camp.
- International media reported that UNHCR, other U.N. agencies and implementing partners have constructed approximately 20,000 temporary structures to house IDPs in camps as of June 8.

Humanitarian Access

- On June 11, OCHA reported that GoSL and humanitarian agencies continued to review access restrictions for entry into IDP camps, although access has improved in some IDP sites following on-going discussions between GoSL and humanitarian agencies.
- On June 5, the U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) reported that the GoSL planned to issue identity cards to U.N. and humanitarian agency national staff in June, which is expected to facilitate national staff access to camps.

Health

- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) France reported that the MSF-run field hospital located outside Manik Farms has expanded from 100 to 120 beds. MSF hospital staff indicated that IDP camp health officials have referred an average of 85 patients per day to the hospital.
- On June 11, the GoSL District Health Department reported the deployment of 20 public health inspectors to IDP camps. In June, the Health Department initiated a vector-control program at the camps, including a spraying campaign to eliminate disease-carrying mosquitoes and flies.
- As reported by OCHA, the GoSL Ministry of Health (MoH) announced that 232 medical officers will serve IDPs in Vavuniya District and other locations, in addition to approximately 300 doctors and 990 nurses already deployed in camps. Despite the recent increases, humanitarian agencies continue to report insufficient medical personnel to staff public health clinics, nutrition centers, and referral hospitals in the Manik Farms site.
- The International Office for Migration (IOM) currently manages five primary health care centers at Manik Farms IDP camp and plans to open five additional centers, with USAID/OFDA support. From May 17 through June 9, IOM primary health care centers provided 9,465 patient consultations, and IOM ambulances transported approximately 900 patients.

Emergency Food Assistance

- On June 11, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) announced an increase in the daily individual food ration. As a result of additional rice and salt, the larger ration measures 2,100 kcal, in compliance with Sphere standards.
- On June 11, the U.N. food cluster agreed to reduce the provision of condiments, such as curry and chili pepper, in order to reduce costs and extend the current one-month supply of food commodities for an additional two months. The longer period will enable the GoSL to identify additional resources for the purchase and distribution of food commodities for IDPs.
- The USAID/OFDA regional advisor reported that GoSL authorities have not implemented fire prevention measures, including the distribution of fire shields, although IDPs have commenced individual family food preparation in the Manik Farms site as of June 10. Humanitarian agencies noted that individual cooking preparation methods require input from the food and WASH sectors, in order to adequately address waste disposal issues and prevent additional health complications.
- On June 8, OCHA reported that the U.N. food cluster distributed 2,230 metric tons (MT) of food commodities to IDPs in May. WFP dispatched 83 MT of commodities to address the needs of IDPs residing in Jaffna District for the first half of June and 879 MT of food commodities to IDPs in Vavuniya District as of June 8.

Protection

- On June 5, OCHA reported that the GoSL has increased the number of persons with special needs, including the elderly and pregnant women, who are authorized to leave IDP camps. As of June 8, GoSL camp authorities permitted more than 2,200 members of vulnerable groups, including elderly persons and people with disabilities, to depart IDP camps for host families and elders' welfare centers. UNHCR continues to urge the GoSL to broaden the criteria for IDP departures from camps.
- On June 4, UNHCR reported a significantly decreased Sri Lankan military presence inside IDP camps, particularly at the Manik Farms site.

WASH

- WASH remains a priority sector in IDP camps. According to a June 11 OCHA report, the GoSL Water Supply and Drainage Board assigned technicians to each zone of the Manik Farms site to ensure operations and maintenance for water facilities and distribution systems.
- On June 11, OCHA reported that the U.N. WASH cluster distributed monitoring forms for volunteer hygiene promoters to survey IDPs on the quality of hygiene activities. The WASH cluster plans to use the information to address gaps in hygiene education.
- On June 5, a representative of the U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS) informed USAID/OFDA staff that the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), serving as the U.N. cluster lead for WASH, has stated that the GoSL is responsible for water drainage at IDP sites. However, the GoSL has not yet begun major drainage activities in Manik Farms necessary before the onset of the monsoon season in order to prevent flooding. Therefore, UNOPS, at the encouragement of USAID/OFDA, is planning to utilize funding from the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID) to implement perimeter drainage programs.
- On June 5, the head of the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA) notified USAID/OFDA staff that the GoSL has established a sanitation policy for IDP camps. According to the new policy guidelines, a gap of approximately 9,300 additional hygiene facilities remains.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A USAID humanitarian assistance team composed of two USAID/OFDA staff members remains in Sri Lanka 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 19,500 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$14.3 million, to WFP. To date in FY 2009, State/PRM has provided \$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 \$600,000 for humanitarian demining in Mannar District.

**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			
United Methodist Committee on Relief (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	\$3,500,060
U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF)	Nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Ampara, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya Districts	\$1,700,000
IOM	Health	Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya Districts	\$880,866
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$6,080,926

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	19,500 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$14,300,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$14,300,000
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			
Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)	Humanitarian Demining	Mannar District	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009			\$25,810,926

FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (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	36,260 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$28,600,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$28,600,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$1,990,000

STATE/PMWRA			
Mines Advisory Group, Danish Demining Group, FSD	Humanitarian Demining	Countrywide	\$1,479,322
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$1,479,322
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2008			\$36,998,104

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE	
USAID/OFDA	\$11,009,708
USAID/FFP	\$42,900,000
STATE/PRM	\$6,820,000
STATE/PMWRA	\$2,079,322
TOTAL FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA	\$62,809,030

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 12, 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