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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 #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

May 21, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated May 14, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Between May 14 and 18, the remaining estimated civilian population of approximately 85,000 people departed the area formerly held by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) movement and now controlled by the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), according to unconfirmed GoSL reports. As of May 21, nearly 270,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were residing in IDP camps and transit sites.
- On May 19, GoSL President Mahinda Rajapaksa officially announced the end of the 25-year civil conflict in an address to the Sri Lankan Parliament. On May 18, international media cited unconfirmed GoSL reports regarding the death of the head of the LTTE movement and other senior LTTE leaders.
- On May 17, the GoSL placed significant restrictions on humanitarian access to IDP camps and transit sites and continues to prevent access for U.N. agencies and humanitarian organizations to the former conflict area. On May 19, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that local GoSL authorities prohibited non-GoSL vehicles from entering Manik Farms IDP camp, Vavuniya District, resulting in suspension of humanitarian activities in three of the four zones in the site. Manik Farms represents the largest IDP camp in the area, currently accommodating nearly 170,000 IDPs.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*		SOURCE
IDPs who escaped the conflict zone from October 27 to May 21	271,781	OCHA – May 21, 2009
IDPs in camps in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, and Trincomalee districts	269,464	OCHA – May 21, 2009

**Note: The situation remains fluid and IDP figures cited represent estimates.*

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USAID AND STATE 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	\$3,750,000
State/PMWRA⁴ Assistance to Sri Lanka.....	\$2,079,322
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$59,739,030

CURRENT SITUATION

- In response to new GoSL security requirements at Manik Farms IDP camp, the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) called for full access to IDP camps in order to assist women and children. The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) stated on May 19 that the new restrictions are hindering UNHCR’s capacity to deliver critical relief assistance.
- U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator John Holmes are scheduled to travel to Sri Lanka from May 22 to 23 to discuss humanitarian issues with the GoSL and promote national reconciliation.
- On May 15, OCHA reported the allocation of an additional \$11.3 million from the U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for the humanitarian response in Sri Lanka, increasing the total CERF contribution to Sri Lanka to \$21.3 million to date.

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 UNHCR and ICRC, which includes activities 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)

Humanitarian Access

- The GoSL continues to limit humanitarian access to IDP screening points and camps and prevent international humanitarian access to the former conflict zone. Despite an announcement from the GoSL Security Forces Commander to permit humanitarian access, GoSL authorities have not officially granted access for international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to Jaffna District IDP sites, according to a May 19 OCHA report.
- On May 21, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported that the organization is unable to enter Manik Farms IDP camp due to the restrictions on vehicle access. GoSL authorities denied an ICRC request to access the former conflict zone to provide assistance to wounded civilians, according to ICRC on May 18.
- As of May 19, OCHA reported limited humanitarian access to Zone 4 at Manik Farms IDP camp to set up tents and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities. According to USAID/OFDA staff, UNICEF, the International Office for Migration (IOM), and CARE are the only organizations currently operating in Zone 4.

Protection

- According to field staff working in Manik Farms, many newly-arrived IDPs reported child separation at the Omantai screening point in Vavuniya District. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) staff in Vavuniya District noted that the humanitarian community should follow this issue closely due to the IDP transfers between screening points and camps.

Emergency Relief Supplies

- On May 18, OCHA reported that the U.N. and implementing partners had stocked more than 15,000 standard emergency relief supply kits for distribution to newly-arrived IDPs in Vavuniya District.
- UNHCR is attempting to distribute emergency relief supply kits to newly-arrived IDPs residing in Zone 2 of Manik Farms. UNHCR has been unable to distribute kits in Zone 4 due to the new access restrictions.

Food Aid

- According to USAID/FFP staff, the humanitarian food distribution system is providing approximately 45,000 meals for an estimated 15,000 IDPs per day at Omantai screening point. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the NGO Sewa Lanka continue to provide prepared meals to newly-arrived IDPs. IOM is providing water for cooking and washing.
- WFP is planning a supplementary feeding program in IDP camps for pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five, according to USAID/FFP.

Health

- The GoSL Ministry of Health (MOH) is planning to establish a total of 18 primary health clinics at Manik Farms IDP camp and a referral center in each of the four zones with the capacity to provide assistance to a total of approximately 30,000 to 40,000 IDPs. As of May 18, the MOH, IOM, Mercy Malaysia and the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies had established 11 of the 18 clinics in Zones 0, 1, 2, and 3 of Manik Farms IDP camp, according to the MOH. The MOH is preparing to staff each clinic with up to three medical officers, two nurses, and one pharmacist. UNICEF expects to establish a nutritional screening center at each clinic.
- Of the 18 clinics that the GoSL plans to establish in Manik Farms IDP camp, IOM is planning to set up 10 clinics with USAID/OFDA support. The USAID/OFDA regional advisor reported that IOM has not been able to set up six of the 10 planned USAID/OFDA-funded health clinics, however, due to the new access restrictions at Manik Farms camp site.
- The U.N. World Health Organization is resuming disease surveillance in IDP sites, according to a May 20 USAID/OFDA staff report. As of May 20, field hospitals and health clinics had reported 3,000 acute watery diarrhea cases and more than 1,000 hepatitis cases at the Manik Farms site.
- The MOH opened a postnatal care unit for unaccompanied pregnant IDPs in Varani transit site, Jaffna District, according to OCHA.

Shelter and Settlements

- As of May 20, staff from the U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNHCR, IOM, CARE, and the NGO ASB (Solidar) had erected more than 2,200 tents in Zone 4 of Manik Farms IDP camp. In addition, the GoSL Army has set up 400 Chinese-donated tents in Zone 4.
- OCHA reported the establishment of Suduvenhapulavu transit site in Vavuniya District for newly-arrived IDPs. According to OCHA, an estimated 2,100 IDPs had been accommodated at the site as of May 19.
- A USAID/FFP officer reported on May 19 that IOM is adjusting the plot size of tents in Zone 4 of Manik Farms IDP camp to allow for individual cooking space for every two tents. According to UMCOR, the GoSL is clearing an

estimated 30 acres per day at Zone 4, allowing relief organizations to erect approximately 600 tents per day. As of May 18, the GoSL had cleared an additional 20 acres of land in Zone 4 to accommodate 400 more temporary shelters.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- According to OCHA, the U.N. WASH cluster observed a lack of space for hygiene facilities in Zone 4 of Manik Farms IDP camp. In addition, despite improvements in IDP camps in Jaffna District, UNHCR noted that IDP camps remain overcrowded and that WASH interventions are a priority need.
- The USAID/OFDA regional advisor reported that UNOPS, ASB (Solidar), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and CARE are building hygiene facilities in Zone 4 of the Manik Farms site.
- ICRC has constructed 65 hygiene facilities and installed water taps for drinking water in Kodikamam Ramavil transit site in Jaffna District, according to a May 18 OCHA report.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A USAID humanitarian assistance team composed of three USAID/OFDA staff and one USAID/FFP officer is currently in Sri Lanka working closely with USAID/Sri Lanka and partners to assess needs and coordinate 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 is providing 19,490 metric tons (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 \$1.76 million to ICRC to support conflict-affected Sri Lankans. In addition, PRM has provided support to the South Asia regional activities of UNHCR and ICRC, which includes 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			
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
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	19,490 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$14,300,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$14,300,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE³			
ICRC	IDP Assistance and Protection	Northern, North-Central, and Eastern Provinces	\$1,760,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$1,760,000
STATE/PMWRA			
Swiss Foundation for Mine Action	Humanitarian Demining	Mannar District	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009			\$22,740,926

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 21, 2009.

² Estimated value of food assistance

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
NRC	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 ASSISTANCE³			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$1,990,000
STATE/PMWRA			
Mines Advisory Group, Danish Demining Group, Swiss Foundation for Mine Action	Humanitarian Demining	Countrywide	\$1,479,322
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$1,479,322
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2008			\$36,998,104

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 21, 2009.

² Estimated value of food assistance

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	\$3,750,000
STATE/PMWRA	\$2,079,322
TOTAL FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA	\$59,739,030

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