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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 #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

May 8, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated May 1, 2009

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- From late October through May 7, approximately 196,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) moved from the contested zone into Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL)-controlled territory, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The figure includes more than 194,000 IDPs in camps in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, and Trincomalee districts, and approximately 1,700 IDPs in hospitals.
- On May 7, an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)-chartered ferry delivered approximately 25 metric tons (MT) of food provided by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), as well as medical supplies, to the contested zone and evacuated approximately 500 sick or injured IDPs and accompanying caregivers. ICRC noted that security constraints had prevented ICRC evacuations by boat since April 30, and reported heavy fighting near the medical assembly point. Since February 10, ICRC has evacuated approximately 13,000 IDPs from the contested zone.
- On May 4, OCHA revised a proposal to prioritize emergency interventions. The updated proposal requests \$50 million for a period of three months, an increase from the initial request of \$26 million in prioritized interventions.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*		SOURCE
IDPs who escaped the contested zone from October 27 to May 7	196,044	OCHA – May 7, 2009
IDPs in camps in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, and Trincomalee districts	194,303	OCHA – May 7, 2009
IDPs in camps before April 20	61,000	OCHA – April 8, 2009
IDPs currently trapped in contested zone	50,000	OCHA – May 7, 2009
Civilian deaths since January 2009	6,500	Media – April 29, 2009

**Note: The situation remains fluid and the numbers represent estimates.*

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN FY 2008 AND FY 2009

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$11,009,708
USAID/FFP¹ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$42,900,000
State/PRM² Assistance to Sri Lanka³	\$1,990,000
State/PMWRA⁴ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$2,079,322
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$57,979,030

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), an estimated 58,000 IDPs remain in schools in Jaffna, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts.
- UNHCR reported that approximately 54,000 IDPs are settled in Zone 2, while 38,000 IDPs reside in Zone 3 of Manik Farms IDP camp in Vavuniya District. The current maximum capacity for Zone 2 is approximately 35,000 IDPs, while the maximum capacity for Zone 3 is an estimated 26,000 IDPs, leaving both zones over capacity. On May 7, OCHA noted that humanitarian organizations continue to advocate for accommodation of IDPs with host families and urged authorities to open further adequate sites in other locations in order to relieve congestion in zones 2 and 3.

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 This figure does not include State/PRM regional South Asia support for UNHCR and ICRC, which includes activities to support IDPs and conflict victims in Sri Lanka. To date in FY 2009, State/PRM has provided \$1.8 million to UNHCR and \$4 million to ICRC. In FY 2008, State/PRM provided more than \$4.5 million to UNHCR and nearly \$24 million to ICRC.

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

- According to preliminary observations by USAID/OFDA, the Manik Farms zones appear to be at different phases in terms of the level of humanitarian assistance provided to IDPs in each zone. Most basic services are in place in Zone 3, while non-governmental organizations (NGOs) continue to establish essential services in Zone 2.
- On May 4, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator John Holmes released a statement noting that the U.N. cannot verify casualty figures from an internal U.N. working document obtained by the media due to limited access to the contested zone. The Under-Secretary-General released the statement in response to late April media reports that approximately 6,500 civilians had been killed as a result of the conflict in the previous three months.

Humanitarian Access and Protection

- On May 6, OCHA reported that the GoSL released 12 U.N. national staff from IDP camps in Vavuniya District. According to international media sources, the U.N. staff had been displaced with family members by the fighting and were temporarily unable to leave IDP camps.
- As of May 6, WFP reported reaching an agreement with the GoSL to provide food at the Omanthai screening point, where people stay up to three days after entering GoSL-controlled areas, before being transferred to IDP camps. WFP and local NGO partner Sewalanka have begun preparatory work at the location so that cooking facilities will be in place before the next influx of IDPs. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) will provide water for cooking and drinking.
- On May 7, OCHA reported that protection agencies conducted a survey of 100 randomly selected shelters in Zone 3 of Manik Farms IDP camp, which showed that 72 percent of the interviewees were separated from family members while fleeing the contested zone. In addition, 22 percent of the families surveyed reported that an immediate family member had died, while 15 percent reported that the household was female-headed.
- In response to continued reports of family separation in Vavuniya District camps, humanitarian organizations constructed assembly points to assist lost children in parts of Zone 2 of Manik Farms IDP camp.

IDP Returns and Resettlement

- During the week of May 4, the GoSL restated intentions to resettle 80 percent of civilians displaced in recent weeks to areas of origin by the end of 2009, pending demining and rehabilitation of infrastructure, houses, and public buildings.
- On May 4, the GoSL reported that the second phase of IDP resettlement is scheduled to begin on May 11 in Mannar District.

Shelter and Settlements

- On May 7, UNHCR reported that shelters and tents currently in stock can accommodate an estimated 112,000 new IDPs.
- As of May 6, local authorities in charge of clearing land in Zone 4 of Manik Farms IDP camp reported clearing 40 acres out of a planned 950 acres of land, and constructing 2,500 meters of internal roads, according to OCHA. Local authorities reported plans to clear 100 acres by May 10.
- Through the USAID/OFDA-funded United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) umbrella grant, ASB (Solidar) is providing emergency shelters for 4,000 IDPs in Mannar and Vavuniya districts, while IOM is providing 700 emergency wood-frame shelters and bathing areas to 5,600 IDPs in Manik Farms camp. The NGO CARE is constructing 800 emergency shelters for 3,200 IDPs in Manik Farms.

Emergency Relief Commodities

- On May 7, OCHA reported that ICRC will begin distributing food and emergency relief supplies donated by the Government of India to 20,000 displaced families in Manik Farms IDP camp.

Food Security

- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/Holland is planning to provide Plumpy Nut—a ready-to-use therapeutic food—to treat malnutrition. The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) is providing supplementary food at Manik Farms IDP camp.
- From February through May 6, WFP transported more than 2,200 MT of food by sea to the contested zone.
- USAID/FFP reported that WFP is setting up storage facilities at Manik Farms IDP camp, which will allow WFP to store one week's food stock on site, with additional space available for emergency relief supplies. In FY 2009, USAID/FFP is providing nearly 19,500 MT emergency food assistance to WFP, and USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF to conduct nutrition interventions in at-risk IDP populations.

Health

- USAID/OFDA reports that the GoSL Ministry of Health (MOH) has opened hospitals in Vavuniya, Trincomalee, and Jaffna to treat the influx of IDPs.
- MSF/Holland reported observing a limited number of acute medical cases. MSF/Holland reported a number of diarrhea, respiratory infections, and hepatitis cases, noting that cases are under control.
- USAID/OFDA reported that the field hospital donated by the Government of France, which is located approximately 10 miles away from Manik Farms IDP camp, is operational and not overcrowded. MSF/France is setting up a comprehensive health care unit in Zone 2 of Manik Farms camp. The unit will provide surgical and urgent care.
- On May 5, IOM completed the first of 10 mobile health clinics at Manik Farms IDP camp site with USAID/OFDA funds. The clinics will provide diagnosis, emergency care, health education, and referrals. Each clinic will benefit an estimated 10,000 IDPs. IOM is also providing three ambulances, transportation for GoSL MOH doctors and nurses from other areas of the country to Manik Farms camp site, and an onsite warehouse for medical supplies.
- The NGO Medical Teams International indicated that the organization can provide additional medical equipment, including USAID/OFDA-funded U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)-standard health kits, to help the MOH set up another field hospital.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- On May 6, UNICEF reported that a water pipeline being built to transport water from a local river to zones 1, 2, and 3 of Manik Farms will be completed by May 20. The pipeline will have the capacity to supply 4,000 cubic meters of water per day.
- Based on initial assessments, USAID/OFDA considers WASH interventions a priority. USAID/OFDA staff reported that recent IDP arrivals have strained sanitation capacity in Manik Farms IDP camp. NGOs are building basic latrines and water points in Zone 2 of Manik Farms and discussing the construction of semi-permanent latrines.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF to provide access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities for IDPs in camp settings.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A three-person USAID/OFDA team, including two regional advisors and an information officer, is currently in Sri Lanka working closely with USAID/Sri Lanka and partners to assess needs and coordinate U.S. Government 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 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$14.3 million, to WFP. State/PRM has provided \$1.8 million to UNHCR and \$4 million to ICRC for activities that protect and assist IDPs, refugees and conflict victims throughout South Asia, including Sri Lanka. State/PMWRA has contributed \$600,000 for humanitarian demining in Mannar District.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO SRI LANKA
FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN FY 2008 AND FY 2009**

FY 2009			
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
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, and WASH	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 TO SRI LANKA TO DATE IN FY 2009			\$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 ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2009			\$14,300,000
STATE/PMWRA			
Swiss Foundation for Mine Action	Humanitarian Demining	Mannar District	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2009			\$600,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN FY 2009			\$20,980,926

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 8, 2009.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

FY 2008			
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
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 Easter 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 TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2008			\$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 TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2008			\$28,600,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2008			\$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 ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2008			\$1,479,322
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY 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	\$1,990,000
STATE/PMWRA	\$2,079,322
TOTAL FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA FOR COMPLEX EMERGENCY	\$57,979,030

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 8, 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