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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 #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

May 1, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated April 22, 2009

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- From late October through April 30, approximately 172,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) moved from the conflict zone into Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL)-controlled territory, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). This figure includes IDPs who have left the conflict area but have not yet arrived at the screening points or IDP camps. More than 100,000 IDPs have arrived from the conflict zone since April 20, when GOSL military forces entered the last Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)-held area.
- From February through April 30, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) evacuated nearly 12,400 IDPs by boat from the conflict zone.
- On April 27, according to the GOSL, the Ministry of Defense (MOD) ordered troops to cease military offensives, specifically the use of heavy weapons and combat aircraft, which could cause civilian casualties. The GOSL stated that the military will now focus on assisting civilians remaining in the contested zone.
- A USAID/OFDA regional advisor and the USAID/Sri Lanka mission director visited IDP camp sites in Vavuniya District from April 21 to 25 to assess humanitarian conditions and access for IDPs. The regional advisor and the mission director observed overcrowding and significant gaps in meeting IDPs' needs.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*		SOURCE
IDPs who escaped the contested zone from April 20 to 30	172,000	OCHA – April 30, 2009
IDPs in camps in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, and Trincomalee districts	170,000	OCHA – April 30, 2009
IDPs in camps before April 20	61,000	OCHA – April 8, 2009
IDPs currently trapped in contested zone	50,000	U.N. – April 30, 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	\$43,600,000
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	\$58,679,030

CURRENT SITUATION

- On May 1, the GOSL MOD announced that it plans to restrict entry of all organizations and public individuals to Manik Farms camp site, Vavuniya District, according to the Media Center for National Security. The MOD decision follows complaints by GOSL officials working inside Manik Farms camp site regarding disruptions that outside visits have caused in recent weeks.
- In consultation with implementing partners and other U.N. agencies, OCHA is prioritizing an estimated \$26 million in emergency interventions. The assistance includes \$10 million from the U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund and

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)

approximately \$16 million to be requested from bilateral donors. OCHA is planning to submit the proposal to U.N. headquarters on May 1. The request is based on initial emergency requirements identified by U.N. cluster sector leads, including education, food, health, shelter, non-food relief items, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. OCHA's prioritized interventions would benefit an estimated 250,000 IDPs for a period of three months.

- On April 28, the foreign ministers of the United Kingdom and France called on the GOSL to implement a ceasefire with the LTTE and allow humanitarian access to the conflict area, according to international media. On April 27, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator John Holmes met with the President of Sri Lanka to express concerns over civilian casualties and the significant number of civilians still trapped in the contested zone, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The GOSL refused to implement a humanitarian pause or to allow a U.N. mission in the conflict area.
- The LTTE issued a unilateral truce declaration on April 27. However, the GOSL did not agree with the ceasefire statement.
- On April 24, the U.S. Government issued a statement calling on both the GOSL and the LTTE to cease hostilities and allow safe passage for civilians.

Humanitarian Access and Protection

- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), in collaboration with the GOSL Department of Probation and Child Care, is creating child-friendly spaces in IDP camps in Jaffna District. According to OCHA, the Jaffna District Government Agent plans to assign 13 officers to support the program.
- On April 29, OCHA reported concerns over the lack of female police and female military officers in Zone 2 of Manik Farms camp site in Vavuniya District. Due to lack of electricity in much of the Manik Farms camp site, an international non-governmental organization (NGO) expressed concerns for women and children who may have to walk long distances in the dark to access toilets and water sources at the camp. The international NGO also reported that since the installation of razor wire between the blocks in one section of the site, IDPs have limited access to toilet facilities.
- On April 29, UNICEF reported that the agency is conducting rapid assessments to develop and implement protection programs to serve children at risk of family separation, abduction, forced recruitment, and abuse. UNICEF and partners are implementing psychosocial activities in IDP sites in Vavuniya District.
- According to one international NGO on April 28, access to the Omantai screening point remained limited to staff from ICRC, UNHCR, and local NGOs.

IDP Returns and Resettlement

- The U.N. Development Program notified USAID/Sri Lanka staff that the GOSL military has identified an area in Manthai West Division in Mannar District for initial demining surveys of original areas for possible resettlement. The GOSL military and several demining agencies are planning to start surveys during the week of May 4. Demining in Musali Division, Mannar District, is ongoing, with 13 of 15 areas determined to be "low risk" and many areas deemed ready for IDP resettlement, which began on April 30.
- The first group of IDP families began settling the cleared areas on April 30. The second group is scheduled to be resettled on May 11, according to USAID/Sri Lanka staff. OCHA reported that a total of 800 families will relocate to Musali Division.
- On April 30, UNHCR reported that 411 IDPs returned to areas of origin in Musali Division. According to OCHA, an estimated 3,000 IDPs have registered to return to Musali Division in coming weeks.
- UNHCR is planning to provide return packages to IDP families, including shelter material, tools for clearing land, household supplies, mosquito nets, mats, water containers, and lamps.

Shelter and Settlements

- On April 30, USAID/OFDA staff in Sri Lanka reported that the GOSL had authorized ICRC to take charge of shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities in Zone 1 of Manik Farms camp site.
- The GOSL is clearing 200 acres of land at Zone 4 of Manik Farms camp site for additional shelters. The GOSL identified additional sites for IDPs in Jaffna and Vavuniya districts, according to OCHA. UNHCR reported that the GOSL has begun clearing a new site for IDPs in Pulmoddai Division, Trincomalee District.

Emergency Relief Commodities

- UNICEF continues to provide hygiene kits, cooking pots, water purification tablets, and soap for IDP households. UNICEF is also providing 1,000-, 2,000-, and 5,000-liter water tanks; water pumps; water bowsers; latrines; emergency health kits; motorbikes for health staff; student and teacher kits; and recreation kits for use in IDP camps. To date, UNICEF has provided over 230 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance and relief commodities,

including nutritional supplements, high energy biscuits, water treatment units, oral rehydration salts, and medical supplies.

Food Security

- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has prepositioned more than 800 MT of food commodities in Vavuniya District. This assistance will benefit an estimated 100,000 people for a period of two weeks.
- WFP is planning a budget revision to include food assistance for an estimated 50,000 IDPs currently not covered in the WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, increase daily caloric requirements of IDPs from 1,900 to 2,100 kilocalories, and provide supplementary food for 20,000 pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five.
- United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) staff in Vavuniya noted ongoing challenges with food distribution planning due to a lack of precise numbers of IDPs and IDP locations. Several organizations in the Vavuniya area are providing cooked meals to meet some of the needs. UMCOR reported joint efforts by the GOSL and relief organizations to establish cooking facilities in newly constructed IDP camps.
- To date in FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided 19,500 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at an estimated \$15 million, to WFP to support IDPs in conflict-affected areas. Food commodities, including wheat, vegetable oil, and lentils, are scheduled to begin arriving in June. In FY 2008, USAID/FFP provided 31,360 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$28.6 million, to WFP. The FY 2008 contribution continues to benefit IDPs and represents a significant portion of WFP-distributed commodities.

Health

- On April 30, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) transported 80 doctors to Mannar and Vavuniya districts, Northern Province. The GOSL Ministry of Health reported that 130 doctors are available to assist in the emergency response, according to IOM staff.
- USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$880,000 to IOM to provide mobile health clinics to meet the needs of IDPs.

WASH

- According to UMCOR, IDP camp sites continue to face limited water supply, including water for washing and cleaning. UMCOR also reported that existing trench latrines are not sufficient to meet current needs. OCHA, UMCOR, and other NGOs have noted the need for additional mobile water tanks in IDP camps in Vavuniya District.
- On April 29, OCHA reported that the U.N. WASH cluster has completed the construction of 116 emergency and semi-permanent toilets in IDP camps in Jaffna District.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$1.7 million to UNICEF for nutrition and WASH activities to meet the needs of IDPs.

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 19,500 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$15 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			
<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 TO SRI LANKA TO DATE IN FY 2009			\$6,080,926
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	19,500 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2009			\$15,000,000
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			\$21,680,926

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 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	\$43,600,000
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	\$58,679,030

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