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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Taiwan – Typhoon

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

August 26, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated August 18, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- More than two weeks after Typhoon Morakot caused extensive flooding and landslides throughout central and southern Taiwan, local authorities have increased the number of dead to 376 people, including 238 confirmed deaths in Hsiaolin village in most-affected Kaohsiung County. According to Taiwan’s Ministry of the Interior (MoI), more than 6,000 individuals remain displaced, while 254 others have been reported missing. The official death toll is expected to increase as recovery operations continue and the missing are confirmed dead.
- According to the Taiwan Council of Agriculture, the typhoon and related heavy rainfall resulted in more than \$450 million in damage to crops, livestock, and nearly 4,900 hectares of agricultural land, primarily in Pingtung, Chiayi, Taitung, and Kaohsiung counties.
- Signifying the end of the emergency response phase, the Taipei Central Disaster Response Operations Center (CDROC) stood down on August 20, transferring responsibility to a newly established Reconstruction Advancement Commission (RAC).
- The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) has concluded humanitarian operations in Taiwan. DoD cargo planes and helicopters conducted a total of 55 missions delivering 20 pieces of excavation equipment and relief supplies to affected areas.
- As of August 26, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$1 million in humanitarian assistance for Typhoon Morakot, including \$250,000 from USAID/OFDA for procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies and nearly \$700,000 in DoD assistance through the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid (OHDACA) account for logistics, transportation, and relief commodities.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Affected Population	769,159 households ¹	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009
Dead	376	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009
Missing	254	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009
Injured	46	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009
Evacuated or Displaced	24,950 evacuated, 6078 displaced	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009
Infrastructure Damage	358 roads damaged, 57 bridges and dikes damaged	Taiwan MoI – August 25, 2009

FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Taiwan\$250,000
DoD Assistance to Taiwan\$699,800
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Taiwan.....\$949,800

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to local officials in most-affected Kaohsiung County, more than 2,000 volunteers and soldiers continue excavation in search of bodies in Hsiaolin and Chinkal villages, where landslides buried an estimated 400 people under 60 feet of rock and mud. Officials expect recovery operations to conclude in the coming week.
- Although recent USG assessment teams have observed high levels of damage in typhoon-affected areas, on August 22, the USAID/OFDA Principle Regional Advisor (PRA) for East Asia and the Pacific reported no remaining life-threatening humanitarian conditions in areas visited, noting that the Taiwan military and civilian rapid response efforts had largely prevented a significant decline in humanitarian indicators.

¹ The affected population comprises households with damaged or contaminated water supplies; this figure does not include all households affected by temporary loss of electrical service.

- The USAID/OFDA PRA also confirmed that Taiwan has sufficient capacity to continue providing adequate assistance to affected populations. In addition, local response officials report sufficient stocks of emergency relief supplies and have indicated that no additional relief commodities are needed for the Typhoon Morakot response.

Humanitarian Assessments

- Between August 20 and 22, the USAID/OFDA PRA conducted field assessments in southern Taiwan, accompanied by American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) officials, DoD personnel, and Taiwan authorities. DoD helicopters facilitated humanitarian assessments in mountainous Kaohsiung County and the Pingtung coastal delta region. During assessment trips, USAID/OFDA and AIT officials interviewed military and civilian response personnel, local government officials, beneficiaries, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other international donors.
- Mid-August damage assessments indicated that, while typhoon-force winds contributed to building and infrastructure damage, excessive rainfall—nearly 118 inches in a 72-hour period—caused the majority of damage and deaths.
- Following the assessment in Kaohsiung County, the USAID/OFDA PRA reported extensive infrastructure damage to roads and bridges, and less extensive damage to houses. Village residents remaining in severely affected locations confirmed ongoing cleanup and reconstruction activities, in addition to daily deliveries of humanitarian supplies by the Taiwan military.

Emergency Response

- Authorities in Taiwan continue to provide humanitarian assistance to affected populations throughout central and southern Taiwan, including an estimated 10,000 individuals in more than 20 remote and mountainous locations who decided not to evacuate. Ongoing assistance includes cash grants to affected families, distribution of emergency relief supplies, and provision of health services.
- Between August 5 and 25, the CDROC in Taipei reported a total of 3,678 military helicopter flights transporting emergency relief commodities and 12,422 relief workers to affected areas. In addition to delivery of humanitarian supplies and personnel, Taiwan's military emergency response efforts included the dispatch of 45 communications teams to affected villages and evacuation of civilians from severely affected areas.
- According to the CDROC, the Taiwan Red Cross Organization (TRCO) and NGOs have closed several emergency response centers in Chichan and Pingtung counties due to the absence of caseloads.

Health

- On August 20, Taiwan Center for Disease Control (CDC) representatives reported that a strong sentinel surveillance system currently functions in the affected region, noting that health workers have not observed an increased incidence of communicable or diarrheal diseases following the typhoon. CDC officials stated that health facilities continue to operate with sufficient medical supplies.

Early Recovery

- According to CDROC and AIT, the most vital utility and communications infrastructure has been repaired or restored, including water, electricity, and telephone services. On August 25, Taiwan officials reported the restoration of water supply to 99 percent of the 769,159 households with damaged or destroyed water systems. In addition, the Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Commission noted that nearly 100 percent of all damaged electricity and telecommunications lines had been repaired, as of August 25.
- Taiwan's military has shifted to recovery and reconstruction efforts, in coordination with the newly-established RAC, local government officials, and NGOs working in affected areas.
- According to the USAID/OFDA PRA and AIT, robust operations to remove debris and repair infrastructure continue throughout affected counties. With DoD assistance, the Taiwan military has airlifted 147 pieces of excavation equipment to inaccessible and mountainous regions to date. In addition, between August 20 and 24, construction and excavation crews repaired 16 roads, including all five cross-island highways.
- In most-affected Kaohsiung County, the TRCO reports plans to provide a total of 1,000 prefabricated and permanent houses for affected families, prioritizing Hsaiolin village, where landslides buried almost all village structures and up to 491 individuals.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On August 9, following initial reporting by AIT, USAID/OFDA provided \$250,000 through AIT to support the TRCO emergency response.
- Between August 14 and 24, USAID/OFDA deployed two regional advisors to Taiwan to conduct assessments and coordinate USG emergency relief efforts, in close coordination with the AIT, TRCO, local government officials, the Taiwan military, and DoD personnel.
- On August 15 and 16, the DoD delivered 517,420 water purification tablets and 120 rolls of plastic sheeting via two C-130 cargo planes for distribution to typhoon-affected populations. In addition, PACOM provided air assets,

including two heavy-lift helicopters and two medium-lift helicopters from the U.S.S. Denver to transport excavation equipment. In total, DoD air assets conducted 55 missions delivering 20 pieces of excavation equipment and supplies to affected areas. DoD humanitarian contributions in Taiwan, including support for logistics, transportation, and relief supplies, were funded through the OHDACA account.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO TAIWAN

FY 2009			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
TRCO	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$250,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$250,000
DoD			
DoD	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$699,800
TOTAL DoD			\$699,800
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009			\$949,800

FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO TAIWAN	
USAID/OFDA	\$250,000
DoD	\$699,800
TOTAL FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO TAIWAN	\$949,800

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 26, 2009.

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 Taiwan 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, warehouse space, etc.); 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