

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

INDIAN OCEAN – Earthquake and Tsunamis

Fact Sheet #20, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

January 15, 2005

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Indonesia | 110,229 dead, 12,132 missing , | 703,518 displaced , |
| Sri Lanka | 30,920 dead, 6,034 missing x | 422,040 displaced x |
| India | 10,714 dead, 5,669 missing § | 376,171 displaced § |
| Maldives | 81 dead, 21 missing ± | 21,663 displaced ± |
| Thailand | 5,313 dead, 3,254 missing v | N/A |
| Malaysia | 68 dead, 6 missing ± | 8,000 displaced ± |
| Somalia | 150 dead ± | 5,000 displaced, ± 102,000 affected ‡ |
| Seychelles | 3 dead ± | 40 households displaced * |

Source Legend:

, Government of Indonesia, Ministry of Social Affairs 1/15/05
x Government of Sri Lanka, Center for National Operations, 1/14/05
§ Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs 1/15/05

± U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 1/14/05
v Government of Thailand, 1/12/05
‡ USAID's Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), 1/12/05
* U.N./Maldives and USAID, 1/12/05

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged \$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed \$65,049,189
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed¹ \$95,730,495

CURRENT SITUATION

Indonesia Update

- x On January 14, Government of Indonesia (GOI) health officials began a spraying campaign in Banda Aceh to prevent a malaria outbreak in the tsunami disaster area. In response to the malaria threat, the USAID/DART facilitated a U.S. military airlift of malaria prevention equipment and supplies from Jakarta to Banda Aceh on January 13, and has scheduled an airlift of 20,000 mosquito nets to Indonesia for January 17. Further, USAID is funding Malaria Emergency Technical and Operational Response (MENTOR) to implement a malaria and dengue fever control program in Banda Aceh. In partnership with the GOI Ministry of Health, MENTOR will hire 200 staff to standardize drug treatment protocols according to U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, conduct residual spraying of homes, treat home water supplies for dengue vectors, and provide impregnated tarps and medical supplies. The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) is providing insecticide treated bed nets and malaria tablets to protect 3.2 million people living in malaria endemic areas of Sumatra.
- x The USAID/Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) reports that substantial relief efforts are now underway in Banda Aceh, and aid agencies are shifting focus to the city of Meulaboh. On January 13, an International Organization for Migration (IOM) convoy of 54 trucks departed Medan for Meulaboh, carrying rice, biscuits, and other relief supplies. IOM reported that the coastal road from Medan to Meulaboh is passable but takes approximately 48 hours to transit. As of January 13, the largest vehicle confirmed to have completed the trip on this road was an eight-ton truck.
- x An assessment of airfield conditions in Meulaboh by the Singaporean Armed Forces revealed large areas of raised ground and several severe cracks in the runway, rendering it unsuitable for C-130 aircraft. The runway used to be 580 meters long with a 200 meter over run; currently only 400 meters is usable. Indonesian Armed Forces and police personnel have started repair work. Two improved helicopter landing craft sites are available but the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) reports that Meulaboh airfield has no air traffic control and there is no visibility of incoming helicopter flights until they arrive. UNJLC has dispatched a representative to Meulaboh to facilitate air traffic control and aircraft issues.

Sri Lanka Update

- x The USAID/DART reports that water and sanitation needs are being addressed in coordination with district representatives of the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL). Drinking water needs are being met through water tankers, until new service connections can be established, and temporary toilets are being used for sanitation needs. Local water boards are reportedly distributing chlorine in all districts and are prioritizing the disinfection of hand-dug wells. In addition, the USAID/DART is funding partners to construct latrines and address health education.

¹ The value of assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) is not included in total USG assistance committed.

- x According to the USAID/DART, the GOSL National Child Protection Agency (NCPA) and UNICEF conducted a survey to determine the scale of the tsunami's effect on children. The study indicated that 3,202 children lost 1 parent, 858 children were separated from their parents, and 38 children were unaccompanied. The NCPA is currently attempting to register children and support family reunification, adoption, or foster home placements for unaccompanied children.
- x According to the U.N., preliminary figures indicate that nearly 18,500 fishing vessels in Sri Lanka have been reported lost or damaged, and authorities estimate that potentially, more than 80 percent of the country's fishing fleet may be destroyed as a result of the tsunami. The loss of boats is expected to affect disproportionately the livelihoods of already poor families in coastal communities who depend on the fishing industry. On January 14, the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) announced that U.N. agencies will launch a program to repair or replace boats, engines, and fishing equipment. According to the USAID/DART, the U.S. military is considering the use of helicopters to move seaworthy boats stranded on land back to the water. USAID/OFDA is also providing \$4.0 million to Nathan Associates for a livelihoods program that includes substantial support to the fishing industry.

Maldives Update

- x According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) January 14 Situation Report, the overall situation in Maldives is serious but not critical, although logistical problems remain an issue. The Government of Maldives reportedly does not have sufficient vessels to transport goods and has requested landing crafts. According to OCHA, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has volunteered to be the focal point for U.N. logistics operations in Maldives. WFP is undertaking a logistics assessment between January 13 and 15 to review food distribution systems and warehouse capacity in the affected islands.

Somalia Update

- x According to January 14 U.N. reports, an estimated 4,000 people displaced by the tsunami in northeastern Somalia will need to rebuild their houses in a new location. Waves from the tsunami altered the geographical coastline and destroyed the sand dunes that protected communities from high tide and flooding. Homes on the Hafun peninsula were the hardest hit and residents will need to rebuild one km inland to avoid future flooding. UNICEF is currently providing displaced residents with plastic sheeting, and the U.N. Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT) plans to rehabilitate 1,000 houses and construct 1,500 houses.

USG ASSISTANCE

USAID Regional Response

- x The USAID/DART and the U.S. military continue to conduct needs assessments and provide supplies and essential logistic support for the relief efforts in affected countries.
- x On January 14 and 15, three USAID/OFDA flights containing 1,000 rolls of plastic sheeting, 10,000 10-liter water containers, and an emergency health kit arrived in Sri Lanka. The total value of the commodities, including transport costs, is \$390,612. The rolls of plastic sheeting will provide temporary shelter for 30,000 beneficiaries and the water containers will serve 25,000 beneficiaries. The health kit with medical supplies will support 10,000 beneficiaries for a 3-month period.

Indonesia

- x To date, the USG has provided more than \$33.7 million to support emergency relief activities and the provision of food, water, and relief supplies for affected populations in Indonesia.

Sri Lanka

- x To date, the USG has provided nearly \$43.2 million in emergency food assistance, shelter, water and sanitation, livelihoods recovery, and psychosocial support in Sri Lanka.

India

- x To date, USAID has provided more than \$3.1 million in emergency relief assistance to India.

Department of Defense (DOD) Humanitarian Assistance

- x As of January 15, more than 15,650 U.S. military personnel are involved in providing relief support in the affected region. Of the 3,141 military personnel currently on the ground, 1,599 are in Thailand, 776 are in Sri Lanka, 470 are in Indonesia, 155 are in Malaysia, 8 in Bangladesh, and 133 in Singapore. With 25 ships and 99 aircraft, the U.S. military has delivered a total of 3,671,217 lbs of relief supplies to the governments of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and other affected nations, including 12,380 gallons of water; 373,716 lbs of food; and 104,310 lbs of non-medical relief supplies in the last 24 hours.

U.S. State Department, Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration (State/PRM) Humanitarian Assistance

- x To address evolving needs in Indonesia, State/PRM redirected \$200,000 of funds already provided to IOM under President Bush's new counter-trafficking initiatives. State/PRM funds will support IOM's projects in Aceh and Medan provinces to reduce the vulnerability and incidences of trafficking. Activities will target 500,000 displaced persons, particularly women and orphaned children, through multi-level mass information campaigns and will be carried out in coordination with governments, U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

BACKGROUND

- x A magnitude 9.0 earthquake on December 26, off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, Indonesia, triggered massive tsunamis that affected several countries throughout South and Southeast Asia, as well as Somalia, Tanzania, and Kenya in East Africa. Aftershocks from the December 26 earthquake continue to occur in the region.
- x Based on initial findings of USG assessment teams and on the recommendation of Secretary of State Powell and USAID Administrator Natsios, on December 31, President Bush committed \$350 million toward earthquake and tsunami relief and recovery efforts. Dollar amounts in this Fact Sheet are part of the total pledge of \$350 million and refer to specific funding actions that have been committed and programmed. USAID/OFDA welcomes proposals from qualified humanitarian assistance organizations prepared to implement relief activities in response to the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami disaster. Details can be found at www.usaid.gov.

USAID REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ASIA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|-----------------|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| IFRC | Response to emergency appeal | Regionwide | \$4,000,000 |
| U.S. Embassy/JTF | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Regionwide | \$585,230 |
| AirServ | Aerial assessment, transport of relief personnel and light cargo | Regionwide | \$2,436,681 |
| WFP | Logistics, air support and coordination | Regionwide | \$5,000,000 |
| Multiple | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Regionwide | \$196,631 |
| Multiple | Transport of relief supplies | Regionwide | \$910,000 |
| | Administrative | | \$332,123 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO REGION | | | \$13,460,665 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO REGION | | | \$13,460,665 |

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|------------------------|---------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| IFRC/Indonesian Red Cross | Emergency relief activities | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$2,100,000 |
| Indonesian Red Cross | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$35,650 |
| Indonesian Red Cross | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$13,650 |
| Indonesian Red Cross | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$49,750 |
| IMC | Health | Banda Aceh | \$292,129 |
| IMC | Mobile health units, rehabilitation of local health clinics, malaria control, and psycho-social services | Aceh and North Sumatra | \$2,000,000 |
| Church World Service | Psychosocial support for children | Aceh Province | \$221,375 |
| Save the Children/US | Emergency response activities | Aceh Province | \$908,942 |
| UNICEF | Child protection and psychosocial activities | Countrywide | \$1,500,000 |
| Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) | Immediate relief and rehabilitation interventions | Aceh Province | \$5,000,000 |
| USAID/Indonesia* | Emergency grants for water and sanitation, health, shelter | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$2,000,000 |
| | \$288,533 – SC/US for emergency health and water and sanitation activities | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|---------------------|
| | \$237,000 – Project Concern International for four mobile health clinics | | |
| | \$256,000 – CARE for water purification | | |
| | \$249,985 – WVI for shelter and household kits | | |
| | \$285,428 – IRD for water and sanitation | | |
| | \$250,023 – maternal and child health | | |
| | \$292,060 – Mercy Corps for emergency response activities | | |
| IOM | Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$1,000,000 |
| UNHCR | Shelter | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$2,000,000 |
| WHO | Health surveillance | Aceh, Northern Sumatra | \$291,500 |
| Multiple | Transport of relief supplies | | \$74,002 |
| | Administrative | | \$84,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$17,570,998 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE | | | |
| WFP | 3,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance | Sumatra | \$3,040,200 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$3,040,200 |
| USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE | | | |
| CARDI | Emergency response teams | Aceh Province | \$99,960 |
| CARE | Water and sanitation | Aceh Province | \$98,889 |
| ICMC | Targeting/monitoring of emergency relief supplies | Aceh Province | \$100,000 |
| IOM | Logistics | Aceh Province | \$208,452 |
| IOM | Emergency relief activities | Aceh Province | \$1,650,000 |
| Mercy Corps | Shelter, health, water, and trauma counseling | Aceh Province | \$250,000 |
| IRD | Emergency food assistance | Aceh Province | \$99,974 |
| Naval Medical Research Unit | Procurement and staffing of reference laboratory | Banda Aceh | \$579,000 |
| Nurani Dunia | Emergency relief supplies | Aceh Province | \$99,669 |
| SC/US | Emergency relief supplies and health | Aceh Province | \$100,000 |
| Multiple [±] | Emergency relief activities | Aceh Province | \$2,087,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/INDONESIA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$5,372,944 |
| USDA ASSISTANCE | | | |
| WFP | 9,417 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance | Sumatra | \$7,533,600 |
| TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$7,533,600 |
| State/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | |
| IOM | Anti-Trafficking Initiatives | Aceh and Medan | \$200,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$200,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA | | | \$33,717,742 |

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Indonesia, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

[±] USAID/Indonesia is using existing funds earmarked for activities in Aceh Province to support grants in response to the earthquake and tsunami.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---|---|---|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| USAID/Sri Lanka | Emergency relief activities | Affected areas | \$100,000 |
| USAID/Sri Lanka * | Community rehabilitation, livelihoods, and microfinance project through Nathan Associates | Affected areas | \$4,000,000 |
| USAID/Sri Lanka * | Emergency relief activities | Affected areas | \$22,500,000 |
| | \$356,220 – Sri Lanka Red Cross for emergency relief supplies, health, and cash-for-work activities | Ampara, Mulaitiva | |
| | \$574,950 – CARE for emergency relief supplies, water system rehabilitation | Ampara | |
| | \$499,849 – WVI for emergency relief supplies and shelter | Trincomalee, Ampara | |
| | \$403,763 – ACF/France for emergency relief supplies and water and sanitation | Trincomalee, Mulaitiva, Jaffna | |
| | \$509,534 – SC/UK for shelter, water and sanitation, and emergency relief supplies | Trincomalee, Matara, Galle | |
| | \$1,512,051 – Christian Children's Fund for cash-for-work and community rehabilitation | Affected areas | |
| | \$1,509,477 – Mercy Corps for cash-for-work and community rehabilitation | Affected areas | |
| | \$3,280,423 – GOAL for shelter, water and sanitation, and cash-for-work activities | Affected areas | |
| | \$3,048,000 - CRS for transitional shelter, home repair, latrine construction | Batticaloa, Ampara | |
| | \$350,000 - American Center for International Labor for psychosocial support including anti-trafficking | Affected areas | |
| | \$1,748,120 - SARVODAYA for cash-for-Work, debris cleanup, repair of buildings, and water and sanitation | Affected areas | |
| | \$1,026,185 - Shelter for Life for transitional shelter and latrine construction | Trincomalee | |
| | \$3,000,000 - CHF International for cash-for-work, debris cleanup, repair of schools and public buildings, latrine construction, and water and sanitation | Affected areas | |
| | \$1,000,000 – UNICEF for water and sanitation and emergency school kits | | |
| UNICEF | Child protection and psychosocial activities | Affected areas | \$500,000 |
| UNHCR | Shelter | Affected areas | \$1,000,000 |
| IFRC | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Affected areas | \$44,450 |
| IFRC | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Affected areas | \$5,400 |
| IFRC | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Affected areas | \$49,750 |
| IOM | Provision of emergency relief supplies, food, water, and medicine | Northern, Eastern, and Southern coastal areas | \$500,000 |
| Multiple | Transport of relief supplies | | \$37,926 |
| | Administrative | | \$67,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA | | | \$28,804,526 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------|---------------------|
| WFP | 8,040 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance | Affected areas | \$9,824,600 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA | | | \$9,824,600 |
| USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE | | | |
| NGO Consortium | Clean-up of debris | Countrywide | \$57,962 |
| TOTAL USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA | | | \$57,962 |
| USDA ASSISTANCE | | | |
| WFP | 5,583 MT of P.L. 416 (b) Title I emergency food assistance | Countrywide | \$4,466,400 |
| TOTAL USDA ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA | | | \$4,466,400 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA | | | \$43,153,488 |

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/Sri Lanka, is being allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| Prime Minister's Relief Fund | Emergency relief activities | Countrywide | \$50,000 |
| IFRC/ Implemented by Indian Red Cross | Emergency relief activities | Countrywide | \$50,000 |
| USAID/India* | Emergency relief activities | Countrywide | \$299,713 |
| | \$650,000 – CARE for water and sanitation, cash-for-work | Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh | \$650,000 |
| | \$750,000 – CRS for water and sanitation | Affected areas | \$750,000 |
| | \$440,295 – PCI for shelter, livelihoods, training | Tamil Nadu | \$440,295 |
| | \$859,992 – World Vision for shelter, cash-for-work | Tamil Nadu | \$859,992 |
| | Administrative | | \$33,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO INDIA | | | \$3,133,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO INDIA | | | \$3,133,000 |

* USAID/OFDA funding, provided to USAID/India, will be allocated to implementing partners based on assessments.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE MALDIVES

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| USAID/Sri Lanka | Emergency relief activities | Countrywide | \$100,000 |
| UNICEF | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Countrywide | \$8,100 |
| UNICEF | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Countrywide | \$44,250 |
| UNICEF | Emergency relief supplies (In-kind contribution) | Countrywide | \$42,250 |
| Multiple | Transport of relief supplies | | \$68,400 |
| UNICEF | Health, nutrition, water and sanitation | Countrywide | \$1,200,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES | | | \$1,463,000 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE | | | |
| WFP | 180 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance | Countrywide | \$185,600 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES | | | \$185,600 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES | | | \$1,648,600 |

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|-----------------|------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| Thai Red Cross | Procurement and distribution of relief items | Countrywide | \$100,000 |
| | Administrative | | \$167,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND | | | \$267,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND | | | \$267,000 |

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| Malaysia Red Crescent National Disaster Management and Relief Committee | Procurement/distribution of relief items and shelter materials | Northwest Malaysia | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA | | | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO MALAYSIA | | | \$50,000 |

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| Seychelles Red Cross | Emergency relief activities | Countrywide | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES | | | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES | | | \$50,000 |

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| UNICEF | Emergency relief activities | Puntland | \$50,000 |
| UNHCR | Shelter | Puntland | \$200,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA | | | \$250,000 |
| TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA | | | \$250,000 |

¹All USAID/OFDA funding represent committed and/or obligated amounts as of January 14, 2005.

Total USG Humanitarian and Recovery Assistance Pledged..... \$350,000,000
Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance Committed..... \$65,049,189
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance Committed² \$95,530,495

² The monetary value of assistance provided by DOD is not included in total USG assistance committed.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON USG RESPONSE

More detailed information on USG assistance already provided, including DOD resources, in response to the disaster may be found in previous USAID/OFDA Fact Sheets:

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/countries/indian_ocean/et_index.html

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

Making a Donation to Relief Efforts

- x The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations.
- x For a list of humanitarian organizations accepting donations for South Asia relief operations, please see “Tsunami Relief” at www.usaid.gov or www.usafreedomcorps.gov. Or call the Center for International Disaster Information at (703) 276-1914.
- x 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.

Additional Information

- x Information on making effective donations can be found on the following websites:
 - o USAID: www.usaid.gov, Keyword: Donations
 - o The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
 - o InterAction: “Guide to Appropriate Giving” at www.interaction.org
- x Information on choosing a charity to support can be found on the following websites:
 - o Better Business Bureau: www.give.org
 - o GuideStar (A National Database of Nonprofit Organizations): www.guidestar.org
 - o The American Institute of Philanthropy: www.charitywatch.org
 - o Charity Navigator: www.charitynavigator.org
- x Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.