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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 #16, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

August 10, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 23, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In late July, the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) announced preparations to return approximately 75,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) to areas of origin in Eastern and Northern provinces during the month of August as part of the GoSL 180-Day Returns Plan. The plan addresses IDPs affected by the recent conflict as well as long-term IDPs displaced in earlier population movements. However, to date, the GoSL has not provided a comprehensive framework for the implementation of the proposed returns plan and enhanced coordination with humanitarian agencies.
- From July 25 to 28, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau for Population, Migration, and Refugees (State/PRM) Assistant Secretary (A/S) visited Sri Lanka to meet with GoSL officials, U.N. agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as to observe conditions at Manik Farms IDP camp. During the visit, the A/S emphasized the importance of allowing freedom of IDP movement and facilitating a rapid IDP returns process to areas of origin.
- On July 27, the A/S and the USAID/Sri Lanka Mission Director announced the provision of \$8 million in additional resources to support IDP returns, representing \$4 million in State/PRM funding and \$4 million in USAID/OFDA funding.
- As of August 5, the GoSL Office of the Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services had confirmed that the GoSL had returned 4,076 IDPs from Vavuniya IDP camps to areas of origin in Ampara, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Trincomalee districts and to other areas in Eastern Province.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*	SOURCE	
IDPs in camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	270,136	OCHA¹ – July 31, 2009

* Estimates based on improved IDP registration as of July 31, 2009.

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$12,803,527
USAID/FFP ² Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$58,100,000
State/PRM Assistance to Sri Lanka ³	\$6,820,000
State/PMWRA ⁴ Assistance to Sri Lanka.....	\$8,079,322
DOD ⁵ Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$1,600,000
Total U.S. Government (USG) Humanitarian Assistance to Sri Lanka	\$87,402,849

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to OCHA, approximately 270,000 IDPs remained in camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts as of July 31. The majority of IDPs, estimated at 233,000 individuals, reside in Manik Farms IDP camp in Vavuniya District.
- GoSL authorities plan to return 75,000 IDPs in four phases during the month of August, including 15,000 IDPs to villages in Vavuniya District, and 25,000 IDPs to locations in Kilinochchi District.
- The Sri Lankan Senior Presidential Advisor announced GoSL plans to provide IDP returns packages composed of shelter materials, cash grants equivalent to \$220 with additional subsidies for farmers, and a six-month food supply, including USAID/FFP commodities distributed by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP).
- The GoSL continues efforts to alleviate overcrowding in Manik Farms IDP camp and transition IDPs from transit sites to the camp, according to OCHA. In the coming weeks, camp authorities plan to relocate IDPs from temporary

¹ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

² USAID’s Office of Food For Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ In addition, State/PRM has provided support to the South Asia regional activities of the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which includes programs 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/Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PMWRA)

⁵ U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

shelters at schools to three newly-established zones pending completion of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities, and continue shifting IDPs to existing, less crowded zones within Manik Farms.

Displaced Populations

- As of July 29, OCHA reported that the GoSL had authorized the departure of 5,980 IDPs, including elderly persons, people with learning disabilities, and individuals from other vulnerable groups, from IDP camps to host families and elders' welfare centers.
- The Office of the President National Data Center continues to register IDPs in Manik Farms camp, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). As of July 31, GoSL authorities had registered 125,260 IDPs and issued 90,000 IDP identity cards. The registration process represents ongoing GoSL efforts to record the number of IDPs in a national database in order to improve IDP services.

Emergency Food Assistance

- On August 3, the GoSL requested WFP to provide six-month IDP food rations as part of a returns package to support preliminary returns scheduled in August.
- In August, WFP announced plans to increase the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation for Sri Lanka by \$17 million to \$135 million in anticipation of breaks in the food pipeline and to support IDP returns.
- On July 28, WFP reported that WFP, in coordination with the GoSL civil administration, had established food relief committees in three zones of Manik Farms IDP camp to facilitate improved monitoring and distribution.

Health

- According to August 5 local media reports, the Government of India (GoI) requested GoSL health authorities to assume management of the GoI-established hospital in Vavuniya District after the departure of the GoI medical team at the end of August. The hospital has provided medical assistance to IDPs since March and was relocated from Pulmoddai town, Trincomalee District, to Manik Farms in May as IDPs transitioned from the former conflict zone to IDP sites.
- Between August 3 and 5, the GoSL Ministry of Health (MOH) conducted a child health vaccination campaign targeting more than 36,000 children under the age of five in Vavuniya District camps and transit sites, according to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). GoSL MOH authorities collaborated with the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF to provide vaccinations, vitamin A doses, and deworming tablets.
- According to an August 1 WHO report, the GoSL MOH drafted a 180-day health sector plan to accompany the GoSL 180-Day Returns Plan, to address IDP health needs during the returns process.
- On August 1, WHO reported that the GoSL Ministry of Social Services is undertaking a comprehensive IDP disability survey. The survey data will assist in the implementation of the GoSL policy authorizing the departure of IDPs with disabilities from camps.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- A USAID humanitarian assistance team composed of two USAID/OFDA staff members is scheduled to remain in Sri Lanka until August 13. USAID/OFDA regional staff based in Bangkok, Thailand, will continue to coordinate with USAID/Sri Lanka, the U.S. Embassy in Colombo, and implementing partners to monitor evolving conditions. In August and September, USAID/OFDA health and WASH technical advisors are scheduled to conduct assessments in Manik Farms IDP camp.
- 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 nearly \$8 million to assist IDPs and returnees, including support for health, logistics, protection, disaster risk reduction, agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems, shelter and settlements, humanitarian coordination and information management, and WASH programs.
- In FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided 38,550 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at nearly \$30 million, to WFP. To date in FY 2009, State/PRM has provided more than \$4.8 million to ICRC and UNHCR to support conflict-affected Sri Lankans. In addition, State/PRM has provided support to UNHCR and ICRC regional programs, which include activities to support IDPs, refugees, and conflict victims throughout South Asia, including Sri Lanka. State/PMWRA has also contributed \$6.6 million for humanitarian demining in key areas of northern Sri Lanka including Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Vavuniya districts. In July, DOD contributed medical supplies and equipment, valued at an estimated \$1.6 million, to primary health care centers and hospitals serving IDPs.

**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			
Internews	Humanitarian Coordination and Management	Vavuniya District	\$768,532
IOM	Health	Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya districts	\$880,866
United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	Umbrella Award for Small Grants in Health, Protection, Disaster Risk Reduction, Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$4,500,060
UNICEF	Nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Ampara, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts	\$1,700,000
	Administrative Support	Countrywide	\$25,287
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,874,745
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	38,550 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$29,538,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$29,538,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	IDP Assistance and Protection	Northern, North-Central, and Eastern provinces	\$1,760,000
UNHCR	IDP Assistance and Protection	Countrywide	\$3,070,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,830,000
STATE/PMWRA			
Danish Demining Group (DDG), HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD)	Humanitarian Demining	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Vavuniya districts	\$6,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$6,600,000
DOD			
DOD	Emergency Relief Commodities	Vavuniya District	\$1,600,000
TOTAL DOD			\$1,600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009			\$50,442,745

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, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa District	\$599,999
IOM	Economic Recovery 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
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, Economic Recovery 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	31,360 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$28,562,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$28,562,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$1,990,000
STATE/PMWRA			
DDG, FSD, MAG	Humanitarian Demining	Countrywide	\$1,479,322
TOTAL STATE/PMWRA			\$1,479,322
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2008			\$36,960,104

FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE	
USAID/OFDA	\$12,803,527
USAID/FFP	\$58,100,000
STATE/PRM	\$6,820,000
STATE/PMWRA	\$8,079,322
DOD	\$1,600,000
TOTAL FY 2008 AND FY 2009 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA	\$87,402,849

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 10, 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