

# ECUADOR - EARTHQUAKE

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

APRIL 27, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**659**

Fatalities Resulting from the Earthquake  
GoE – April 27, 2016

**40**

Missing Persons  
GoE – April 27, 2016

**4,605**

People Injured by the Earthquake  
GoE – April 27, 2016

**29,067**

People Displaced by the Earthquake  
GoE – April 27, 2016

**9,738**

Buildings Damaged or Destroyed by the Earthquake  
GoE – April 23, 2016

**720,000**

People Require Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – April 22, 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID/OFDA airlifts relief supplies to benefit 50,000 earthquake-affected people
- U.S. military deploys mobile air traffic control tower to facilitate humanitarian operations
- ERC Stephen O'Brien travels to Ecuador, announces \$7 million in UN funding

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$879,327
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$500,000
DoD <sup>3</sup>	\$1,295,883
<b>\$2,675,210</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On April 27, the Government of Ecuador (GoE) reported that the April 16 earthquake had resulted in 659 deaths and injured approximately 4,600 people. More than 500 deaths occurred in Manabí Province's Manta, Pedernales, and Portoviejo cantons—Ecuador's sub-provincial administrative divisions. The earthquake also damaged or destroyed an estimated 9,740 buildings, as well as electrical, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure. Humanitarian actors, including USAID/OFDA disaster experts, are conducting damage assessments and identifying priority needs in earthquake-affected areas. The casualty and damage figures are expected to rise as assessments continue.
- USAID/OFDA-procured emergency relief supplies—including 20,400 water containers, nearly 3,500 kitchen sets, 1,000 rolls of heavy-duty plastic sheeting, and five 10,000-liter water storage bladders—arrived in Ecuador's capital city of Quito on April 24. The Ecuadorian Red Cross (CRE) is providing a warehouse to store the items—sufficient to meet the immediate needs of approximately 50,000 people—while USAID/OFDA staff in Ecuador coordinate with non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to transport and distribute the relief supplies to earthquake-affected populations.
- On April 26, the U.S. military deployed a 12-foot mobile air traffic control tower and a five-person technical team from Robins Air Force Base in Georgia to the Eloy Alfaro International Airport located in Manta city, Manabí—the main logistical hub facilitating the distribution of inbound humanitarian commodities to northwestern Ecuador. The mobile tower—deployed to support Ecuadorian air traffic control operations after the airport's permanent tower sustained damages during the earthquake—will augment the capacity of humanitarian actors to deliver relief items to affected areas.
- On April 21, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Stephen O'Brien announced \$7 million in funding through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to enable timely humanitarian assistance, especially in the early days of an emergency—for humanitarian organizations to support the critical needs of earthquake-affected populations. ERC O'Brien made the announcement after traveling to Ecuador to assess the humanitarian situation and ongoing response efforts.

<sup>1</sup>USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup>USAID'S Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

## HUMANITARIAN ASSESSMENTS AND COORDINATION

- The Ecuador Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)—comprising UN, international organization, and NGO representatives—is conducting a series of multi-sectoral rapid assessments in 25 severely affected cantons. The assessments—conducted in coordination with the GoE Risk Management Secretariat, the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC), and USAID/OFDA disaster experts—aim to identify the needs of earthquake-affected populations and strategic humanitarian priorities to guide the international response. UNDAC plans to publish assessment findings by early May; however, preliminary findings indicate that earthquake-affected populations require shelter, food, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, as well as access to medical care. Additional needs include education and logistics support as well as assistance with debris removal.
- To ensure the effective coordination of humanitarian actors and activities, the HCT has established five coordination centers located at the Emergency Operations Center in Quito; the GoE Risk Management Secretariat in Santiago de Guayaquil city, Guayas Province; the UNDAC On-Site Operations Coordination Center (OSOCC) in Manabí’s capital city of Portoviejo; the Sub-OSOCC in Manabí’s Pedernales town; and at the reception and departure center at the Eloy Alfaro International Airport.
- On April 22, following four days with no live rescues, the GoE declared an end to the urban search-and-rescue (USAR) phase of the response, requesting that international USAR teams begin to demobilize. More than 14 USAR teams from 10 countries supported the GoE’s rescue efforts, successfully rescuing 113 people from collapsed structures, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). As of April 27, two international USAR teams from Colombia and Venezuela, as well as national teams, remained on standby and prepared to respond in the event of a strong aftershock. USAID/OFDA-trained members of the Colombian USAR team report also assisting with clean-up activities and GoE-led shelter preparations near Portoviejo.
- In support of rescue efforts, USAID/OFDA deployed a three-person Americas Support Team (AST) to Ecuador on April 18 to provide administrative and logistical support to the UNDAC team coordinating international USAR efforts. Upon arrival in country, the AST established and maintained three UNDAC tents—one for operations, one for sleeping quarters, and one for equipment storage—in Portoviejo and supported UNDAC operations in other earthquake-affected areas.

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## LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- A shipment of USAID/OFDA-procured emergency relief commodities—including 20,400 water containers, nearly 3,500 kitchen sets, 1,000 rolls of heavy-duty plastic sheeting, and five 10,000-liter water storage bladders—arrived in Quito on April 24. USAID/OFDA is supporting the American Red Cross (AmCross) and implementing partner CRE to warehouse, transport, and distribute the supplies to approximately 50,000 earthquake-affected people in Esmeraldas and Manabí provinces.
- At the request of USAID/OFDA, and in direct response to Ecuador’s needs, the U.S. military deployed an 8-person assessment team from California’s Travis Air Force Base to Manta on April 21 to conduct an airfield survey and determine how the U.S. could support the GoE’s efforts to expand operating capabilities. After conducting an assessment of the airfield and its operations, the U.S. and Ecuadorian authorities determined that additional short-term assistance and resources—including a temporary air traffic control tower—would be necessary to ensure the airfield’s capacity to receive humanitarian cargo.
- On April 26, the U.S. military deployed a 12-foot mobile air traffic control tower and a five-person technical team from Robins Air Force Base to Eloy Alfaro International Airport. The mobile tower will support Ecuadorian air traffic control operations at the airport, augmenting the capacity of humanitarian actors to deliver relief items to affected areas.

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## FOOD SECURITY

- The GoE estimates that approximately 518,000 people in Ecuador’s two hardest-hit provinces—Esmeraldas and Manabí—will require emergency food assistance due to the loss of assets and livelihoods as well as damage to roads and market infrastructure.

- The UN World Food Program (WFP) plans to provide immediate food assistance for up to 260,000 people through vouchers and cash-based transfers once markets are operational. As of April 22, WFP had reached approximately 45,000 people in Esmeraldas and Manabí with an initial three-day food supply; WFP food distributions remain ongoing.
- USAID/FFP is providing an initial \$500,000 to WFP to address the emergency food needs of an estimated 20,000 earthquake-affected people in Esmeraldas and Manabí. In March, USAID/FFP provided \$2.1 million to WFP to support emergency food assistance for Colombian refugees in northern Ecuador, including in earthquake-affected areas of Esmeraldas.

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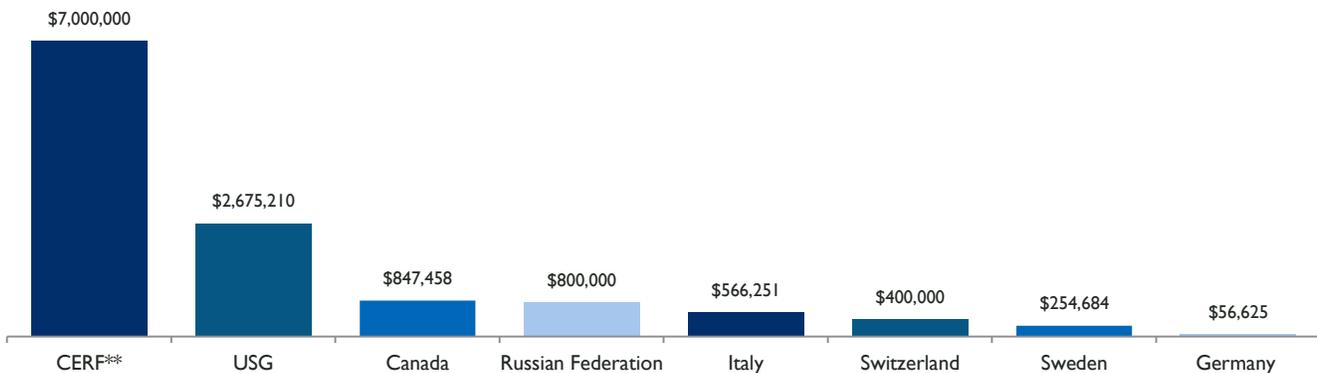


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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- Based on identified WASH needs, USAID/OFDA has committed \$100,000 to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to support WASH interventions in Esmeraldas, Guayas, Los Ríos, Manabí, Santa Elena, and Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas provinces, where the GoE-declared state of emergency remains in effect.
- As of April 25, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) had deployed five medical experts and a disaster coordinator to Ecuador to assist with earthquake response activities. DFID has also deployed three structural engineers to earthquake-affected areas.

### 2016 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of April 27, 2016. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and based on international commitments during the 2016 calendar year, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments in FY 2016, which began on October 1, 2015.  
 \*\*Represents uncommitted pledges as of April 27, 2016, according to FTS.

## CONTEXT

- On April 16, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck off the coast of northwestern Ecuador at a depth of approximately 12 miles, according to USGS. The epicenter was located approximately 17 miles south-southeast of Muisne town in Esmeraldas.
- Immediately following the earthquake, the GoE declared a national state of emergency, activating its emergency operations center and deploying military and national police forces to assist with rescue and response activities.
- The GoE requested international assistance in the following days due to the extent of earthquake damage.
- On April 18, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Douglas A. Koneff declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake in Ecuador.
- Ecuador is vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, forest fires, and volcanic eruptions. When disaster strikes, USAID/OFDA works with local and national government officials, civil society actors, and NGOs to address humanitarian needs and assist GoE relief efforts. USAID/OFDA also supports ongoing disaster risk reduction activities and capacity-building initiatives for disaster response throughout South America.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016 <sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
AmCross	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Esmeraldas and Manabí	\$55,831
CRS	WASH	Esmeraldas, Guayas, Los Ríos, Manabí, Santa Elena, and Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas	\$100,000
	AST	Affected Areas	\$127,000
	USAID/OFDA Airlifted Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$574,771
	Program Support Costs		\$21,725
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$879,327</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Affected Areas	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>USAID/DoD<sup>4</sup></b>			
	Logistics Support	Manta	\$1,295,883
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,295,883</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$2,675,210</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 27, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>4</sup> Estimated cost of DoD support as of April 27.

### 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. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- 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 Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org/ecuador](http://www.cidi.org/ecuador) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>