



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

***Bangladesh - Cyclone***

Fact Sheet #11, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

March 31, 2008

*Note: This is the final Bangladesh cyclone fact sheet. The last fact sheet was dated December 12, 2007.*

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- In 2007, international donors pledged or contributed approximately \$234 million for Tropical Cyclone Sidr relief and recovery activities in Bangladesh, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Financial Tracking Service.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
<b>Total Affected Population</b>	3,363 dead, 871 missing, 8.9 million affected	GOB <sup>1</sup> – December 26, 2007
<b>Houses Damaged or Destroyed</b>	1.5 million houses damaged or destroyed	GOB – December 26, 2007

**FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Bangladesh.....</b>	<b>\$6,221,804</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> Assistance to Bangladesh .....</b>	<b>\$19,979,300</b>
<b>Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Bangladesh.....</b>	<b>\$26,201,104</b>

**CURRENT SITUATION**

- The GOB and the U.N. Development Program conducted a joint early recovery assessment, which included a team from the shelter coordination group (SCG), from December 14-19. The SCG, comprising humanitarian organizations active in the shelter sector, reported that approximately 327,000 households needed both materials and training in disaster-resistant construction techniques to build transitional shelters. The SCG noted that significant needs for provision of transitional shelter remained as of January 31.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to provide transitional shelter to 2,500 cyclone-affected households in Bagerhat, Satkhira, and Khulna districts. The transitional shelters will be constructed using disaster risk reduction techniques. Each household will also receive materials and training to construct a flood-resilient latrine.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

***Cyclone Relief Programs***

- On November 15, Tropical Cyclone Sidr made landfall in southern Bangladesh with winds of 155 miles per hour. On November 16, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. Geeta Pasi declared a disaster due to the effects of the cyclone. From November 17 to December 11, the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team worked in collaboration with USAID/Bangladesh, the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, the U.S. Military, the GOB, and implementing partners.
- USAID provided more than \$26 million in emergency funds to support relief and early recovery activities, including shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs. The funds also included USAID/FFP’s allocation of nearly \$20 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.
- In collaboration with implementing partners, USAID/OFDA provided 15,000 blankets, 2,500 hygiene kits, and 4,900 water containers, and delivered 300 rolls of plastic sheeting. USAID/OFDA also provided eight water purification units and four 10,000-liter water bladders.
- In total, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) airlifted more than 327 metric tons (MT) of relief commodities from Dhaka to Barisal before operations ended on December 6. DOD helicopters also flew 118 cumulative sorties from Barisal to various affected sites, transporting a total of 115 MT of goods and more than 54,000 liters of water. In addition to logistical support, U.S. Military medical teams worked closely with Bangladeshi military and civilian counterparts to provide direct patient care in affected areas.

***Preparedness and Mitigation Programs***

- USAID has a longstanding commitment to investing in preparedness and mitigation programs in Bangladesh. USAID programs include the construction and maintenance of multi-purpose flood and cyclone shelters as well as wave

<sup>1</sup> Government of Bangladesh (GOB)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

protection walls and earthen embankments to reduce flood damage. In addition to building nearly 4,000 physical mitigation structures since 2005, USAID has trained local disaster management committees to oversee emergency response and provided cyclone-preparedness training programs for coastal areas.

- Over the past decade, two USAID/OFDA programs have promoted coordination between communities and local authorities and supported the operation of mobile water purification plants and a mobile health unit. USAID/OFDA also has supported community flood monitoring and forecasting to mitigate damage in flood plains.
- USAID-funded disaster preparedness mechanisms already in country before the storm included zodiac boats, water treatment systems, and water ambulances used for emergency operations. USAID partners pre-positioned 30,000 emergency survival packages, as well as food stockpiles, to facilitate distribution after the storm passed.
- USAID/OFDA programs have developed cadres of professional emergency response instructors, strengthened the forecasting capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions, carried out hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments, and established community-based early warning mechanisms in urban centers.

#### USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH FOR CYCLONE SIDR IN FY 2008

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
American Red Cross	Shelter, WASH	Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Jhalakati, Khulna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, and Satkhira Districts	\$958,881
CARE	Emergency Relief Activities	Bagerhat District	\$30,000
CRS	Shelter	Bagerhat, Khulna, and Satkhira Districts	\$2,000,000
CARE Save the Children/US	Emergency Relief Supplies	Bagerhat and Barguna Districts Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	\$252,815
Save the Children/US World Vision	Emergency Relief Supplies	Barguna District Patuakhali and Pirojpur Districts	\$382,760
Save the Children/US	Emergency Relief Activities	Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	\$70,000
Save the Children/US	Shelter, WASH	Barguna and Patuakhali Districts	\$604,341
DOD	Transportation of Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$220,000
U.N. Children's Fund	WASH	Affected Areas	\$700,000
World Vision	Shelter, WASH	Bagerhat and Khulna Districts	\$800,000
	Administrative Support	Affected Areas	\$203,007
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$6,221,804</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			
Multiple Private Voluntary Organizations	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$13,849,200
U.N. World Food Program	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Jhalakati, Khulna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, and Satkhira Districts	\$6,130,100
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$19,979,300</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$26,201,104</b>

<sup>1</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 31, 2008.

## **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 the cyclone response efforts in Bangladesh 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, 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](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)