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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 #15, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

July 23, 2009

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 9, 2009.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On July 21, the U.N. released the revised 2009 Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) for Sri Lanka. The updated CHAP identifies increased funding requirements totaling \$270 million for 185 projects to address ongoing needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable populations. The original CHAP, issued in February 2009 prior to the influx of IDPs in northern Sri Lanka, requested \$155 million in assistance.
- USAID/OFDA is providing an additional \$1 million in small grants of up to \$200,000 each to local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Sub-Grants for Humanitarian Assistance and Relief in Emergencies (SHARE) Program. In late July, USAID/OFDA also contributed nearly \$770,000 to the NGO Internets to support the continued production and dissemination of news and information programs for IDPs in Manik Farms IDP camp, located in Vavuniya District.
- In mid-July, USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) approved an additional 19,060 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at an estimated \$15 million, for Sri Lanka. The second contribution of food assistance follows an initial July 14 provision of 19,490 MT of P.L. 480 Title II commodities from USAID/FFP to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP).

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>IDPs in camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts</b>	<b>281,621</b>	<b>OCHA<sup>1</sup> – July 17, 2009</b>

\* Estimates based on improved IDP registration as of July 17, 2009.

### **FY 2008 AND FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DATE**

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

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

- As of July 17, OCHA reported that nearly 282,000 IDPs reside in temporary camps in Northern Province, including approximately 221,000 people in Manik Farms IDP camp. Camp populations continue to fluctuate as a result of IDP departures, as well as IDP transfers within existing camps and to newly constructed sites in response to overcrowding concerns.
- In response to a July 9 request from the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to scale down operations due to a shift in activities from the former conflict zone in Eastern Province to operations targeting displaced populations concentrated in Northern Province, ICRC has concluded activities in Eastern Province. On July 20, ICRC reported the closure of Eastern Province ICRC offices in Akkaraipattu, Batticaloa, Mutur, and Trincomalee districts.
- Despite significant improvements in humanitarian access in recent weeks, relief organizations continue to note restrictions and delays. Humanitarian agencies highlight the need for improved clarity and consistency regarding GoSL IDP camp access procedures.
- Decisions on the location of new IDP sites, IDP releases, and other humanitarian issues are on hold, pending confirmation of a new Competent Authority (CA). On July 21, the deputy CA stated that the GoSL plans to appoint a

<sup>1</sup> U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department’s of State Bureau of Political and Military Affairs/Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PMWRA)

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

new CA soon, following the July 12 appointment of the former CA as governor of Northern Province. The CA oversees all aspects of IDP camp administration, including humanitarian access.

### ***Displaced Populations***

- To date, the GoSL has authorized the departures of more than 5,800 IDPs, including elderly persons, people with learning disabilities, and individuals from other vulnerable groups, from IDP camps to host families and elders' welfare centers.
- As of July 14, the Office of the President National Data Center (Presidential Secretariat) had registered 101,260 IDPs and issued 50,000 identity cards to IDPs, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The registration process represents ongoing GoSL efforts to develop and maintain a central IDP database. Completion of the registration process is expected by mid-September.

### ***Emergency Food Assistance and Relief Commodities***

- USAID recently announced a second tranche of 19,060 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance for Sri Lanka. Despite this additional USAID/FFP contribution, WFP reports a projected pipeline break starting in October. WFP is considering alternative resources to mitigate or eliminate any pipeline breaks that might arise before the arrival of USAID/FFP contributions.
- From January 2009 through July 2, UNHCR reported that U.N. Non-Food Relief Items (NFRI) Cluster members had distributed more than 100,000 NFRI family kits, including kitchen sets, hygiene supplies, and clothes, to IDPs in camps and transit sites.

### ***Health***

- In July, the GoSL Nutrition Department's Medical Research Institute and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) released the results of a May rapid assessment of the nutritional and health status of more than 1,000 children under five and 84 pregnant women in Manik Farms IDP camp. According to survey results, 41.9 percent of children had diarrheal diseases, 61.9 percent of children suffered from acute respiratory infections, and 6 percent had lower respiratory tract infections.
- From April to June, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported 68 admissions for meningitis and encephalitis from IDP sites to the medical ward of the Vavuniya General Hospital. Of the 68 admissions, WHO reported 34 deaths, representing a case fatality rate of 50 percent.
- In July, Medical Teams International (MTI) received more than \$360,000 through two USAID/OFDA-supported UMCOR grants to provide cash-for-work activities, community outreach health programs, emergency transportation services, and emergency health awareness campaigns in four zones of Manik Farms IDP camp, benefiting nearly 200,000 IDPs.
- On July 12, medical supplies and equipment donated by U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) and valued at an estimated \$1.6 million arrived in Sri Lanka. The GoSL Ministry of Health plans to deliver the supplies directly to health centers in IDP camps and surrounding hospitals in Vavuniya District.

### ***Shelter and Settlements***

- To address overcrowding concerns and improve humanitarian conditions in IDP camps, GoSL authorities and humanitarian organizations continue to identify suitable sites for new IDP camps, clear land, construct tents and shelters, and transfer IDPs to newly established sites.
- To date, relief organizations have constructed 38,775 emergency shelters and tents of an estimated total of 48,958 required to improve living conditions at IDP camps in Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya districts, according to OCHA.

### ***Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)***

- With a grant of nearly \$200,000 through the UMCOR umbrella grant funded by USAID/OFDA, the NGO CARE is improving sanitation facilities for an estimated 8,000 IDPs in transit sites and Manik Farms IDP camp.
- As of July 21, the U.N. WASH Cluster had formed technical working groups of relief organizations to discuss contingency planning in preparation for the onset of the rainy season in October.

### **USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- A USAID humanitarian assistance team composed of two USAID/OFDA staff members remains in Sri Lanka and is working closely with USAID/Sri Lanka, the U.S. Embassy in Colombo, and implementing partners to assess needs and coordinate USG humanitarian assistance.
- 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, economy and market systems, shelter and settlements, humanitarian coordination and information management, and WASH programs.
- In FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided 38,550 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**

<b>FY 2009</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
Internews	Humanitarian Coordination and Management	Vavuniya District	\$768,532
IOM	Health	Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya districts	\$880,866
UMCOR	Umbrella Award for Small Grants in Health, Protection, Disaster Risk Reduction, Agriculture and Food Security, Economy 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 Costs			\$25,287
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$7,874,745</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	38,550 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$29,538,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$29,538,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
ICRC	IDP Assistance and Protection	Northern, North-Central, and Eastern provinces	\$1,760,000
UNHCR	IDP Assistance and Protection	Countrywide	\$3,070,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$4,830,000</b>

<b>STATE/PMWRA</b>			
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PMWRA</b>			<b>\$6,600,000</b>
<b>DOD</b>			
DOD	Emergency Relief Commodities	Vavuniya District	\$1,600,000
<b>TOTAL DOD</b>			<b>\$1,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2009</b>			<b>\$50,442,745</b>

<b>FY 2008</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Batticaloa District	\$599,999
IOM	Economy 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, Economy 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
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$4,928,782</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	31,360 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$28,562,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$28,562,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,990,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$1,990,000</b>

STATE/PMWRA			
DDG, FSD, MAG	Humanitarian Demining	Countrywide	\$1,479,322
<b>TOTAL STATE/PMWRA</b>			<b>\$1,479,322</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$36,960,104</b>

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

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 23, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> 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](http://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](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)