

SRI LANKA – FLOODS AND COMPLEX EMERGENCY

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of August 31, more than 381,000 conflict-affected individuals had returned to home areas in Sri Lanka's Northern Province, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). On August 4, the Kodikamam Ramavil camp in Jaffna District closed after the remaining families in the camp returned home to three newly accessible areas in the district. Nearly 15,800 internally displaced persons (IDPs) remained in camps and welfare centers in Jaffna and Vavuniya districts as of September 1, while more than 106,000 IDPs resided with host families.
- On August 25, President Mahinda Rajapaksa announced that the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) would not seek to extend the Emergency Regulations beyond its expiration on August 31. The Emergency Regulations suspended certain civil liberties, while granting the GoSL authorities extraordinary powers to protect national security.
- Between June and September 2011, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) provided nearly \$1.8 million in support for displaced and returning populations in northern Sri Lanka through international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Practical Action and World Vision. These newly funded programs provide livelihoods and agriculture and food security support for an estimated 30,800 people.
- In FY 2011, the U.S. Government (USG) provided more than \$31.5 million in humanitarian assistance to populations in Sri Lanka, including approximately \$27.1 million in response to the complex emergency and more than \$4.2 million in response to flooding that began in December 2010. Of the total, USAID/OFDA assistance included nearly \$2.3 million for economic recovery and market systems, approximately \$1.9 million for agricultural and food security, \$800,000 for water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs, more than \$600,000 in shelter and settlements assistance, \$400,000 for humanitarian coordination and information management, and nearly \$400,000 in logistics assistance and relief commodities.

| NUMBERS AT A GLANCE | | Source |
|--|-----------|------------------------|
| Estimated Deaths from Floods | 62 | OCHA – March, 2011 |
| Estimated Population Affected by Floods | 1,256,900 | OCHA – March, 2011 |
| Total Resettled IDPs and Refugees | 381,525 | OCHA – August 31, 2011 |
| Estimated IDPs Living in Host Communities | 106,492 | OCHA – August 31, 2011 |
| Total Conflict-Affected IDPs Residing in Welfare Centers and Camps | 15,771 | OCHA – August 31, 2011 |

| HUMANITARIAN FUNDING | |
|---|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka for Floods | \$1,997,248 |
| USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sri Lanka for Complex Emergency | \$4,389,856 |
| USAID/FFP ¹ Assistance to Sri Lanka for Floods | \$1,910,220 |
| USAID/FFP Assistance to Sri Lanka for Complex Emergency | \$10,279,600 |
| USAID/OTT ² Assistance to Sri Lanka for Floods | \$549,634 |
| USAID/Sri Lanka Assistance to Sri Lanka for Complex Emergency | \$5,000,000 |
| State/PRM ³ Assistance to Sri Lanka ⁴ for Complex Emergency | \$4,924,250 |
| State/PM/WRA ⁵ Assistance for Complex Emergency | \$2,500,000 |
| Total USAID Assistance to Sri Lanka for Floods | \$4,457,102 |
| Total USAID and State Assistance to Sri Lanka for Complex Emergency | \$27,093,706 |
| Total USG Assistance to Sri Lanka for Floods and Complex Emergency | \$31,550,808 |

¹ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

² USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTT)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ In FY 2011, State/PRM provided \$3.9 million and \$8.8 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) South Asia regional appeals, respectively, benefitting refugees, IDPs, stateless persons, and conflict victims across South Asia, including Sri Lanka. In addition, State/PRM provided nearly \$1.5 million to support programming for Sri Lankan refugees residing in Tamil Nadu, India, many of whom are beginning to consider the possibility of returning to Sri Lanka.

⁵ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political and Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PM/WRA)

Context

- More than two decades of conflict between the GoSL and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist movement and resulting population displacement caused a complex emergency in Sri Lanka. Following the end of Sri Lanka's civil war in May 2009, the GoSL established a Presidential Task Force to supervise the return of displaced populations to northern areas of Sri Lanka.
- On October 14, 2010, U.S. Ambassador Patricia A. Butenis re-declared a disaster due to the effects of the complex emergency in Sri Lanka. In FY 2011, USAID/OFDA addressed the needs of returnees through activities to support shelter and settlements, economic recovery and market systems, WASH, and agriculture and food security, in coordination with a transition to longer-term development.
- An accumulation of heavy rains from December 2010 into mid-January 2011 caused flooding throughout Eastern, Northern, and North-Central provinces, displacing 362,000 people and affecting nearly 1.1 million people. Additional rainfall in late January caused further displacement and damage to infrastructure and cropland, increasing the total affected population to more than 1.2 million, according to the GoSL.
- On January 11, 2011, Ambassador Butenis declared a disaster due to the effects of the floods. In response, USAID/OFDA deployed several regional advisors to assess conditions, provided emergency relief supplies, supported early recovery initiatives focused on agriculture and livelihoods support, and decontaminated or repaired water sources.

Displacement and Returns

- As of August 31, more than 106,000 IDPs were residing with host families in northern Sri Lanka, while approximately 1,300 IDPs remained in transit situations in Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, Mannar, and Trincomalee districts, according to OCHA. Returnees face numerous challenges, including food insecurity, landmines, destroyed infrastructure, and the absence of adequate shelter, livelihood opportunities, and basic services. Poor humanitarian conditions in resettlement areas were exacerbated by flooding in December and January.

Agriculture, Food Security, and Livelihoods

- The overall food security situation in Sri Lanka has improved in recent months, with favorable harvest estimates for the May to August *Yala* season paddy crop, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Global Information and Early Warning System. FAO estimates that paddy production exceeded 1.9 million tons—approximately 15 percent higher than last year's *Yala* production and 39 percent higher than the five-year average. However, aggregate annual 2011 production is expected to be lower than the 2010 production as a result of flooding and unfavorable sunlight conditions during the growing season.
- Despite an overall improvement in the food security situation, IDPs and returnees continue to require food assistance. In response to the food needs of returnees and flood-affected populations, USAID/FFP provided more than \$12 million in both emergency food assistance and support for cash-for-work (CFW) programming in FY 2011. Through WFP, USAID/FFP is providing food assistance to vulnerable IDPs living with host families, as well as a six-month food ration and food-for-work assistance to returnees. Through WFP and Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), USAID/FFP also provided food assistance to affected populations following flooding in the Eastern Province and supported CFW activities in the months that followed. In total, USAID/FFP provided more than 11,000 metric tons (MT) of Title II food assistance to conflict- and flood-affected populations in FY 2011.
- USAID/OFDA is improving livelihoods opportunities for an estimated 13,700 returnees through World Vision and its sub-grantee CARE. USAID/OFDA programs, valued at \$1.5 million, support training for returnees, restore assets lost during conflict, and provide CFW opportunities in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.
- Through Practical Action, USAID/OFDA is utilizing CFW to rehabilitate irrigation infrastructure in Kilinochchi District, working to improve production, and integrating 2,500 farming households into market systems by providing families with agricultural equipment and vouchers to enable trade with regional suppliers.
- During FY 2011, USAID/OFDA support for livelihoods and agriculture and food security programs totaled more than \$4.2 million, benefiting nearly 9,400 conflict- and flood-affected individuals in Sri Lanka.

WASH

- IDPs and returnees in northern Sri Lanka continue to lack access to WASH facilities. As a result, relief agencies have continued to implement comprehensive programs to increase access to safe drinking water, provide adequate sanitation facilities, and improve hygiene practices. As of August 31, U.N. agencies and NGOs had cleaned, repaired, or reconstructed approximately 9,700 wells and nearly 12,000 latrines in five conflict-affected districts in Northern Province, according to OCHA.
- In FY 2011, USAID/OFDA improved WASH conditions for more than 5,000 IDPs and returnees across Northern Province through international NGOs World Vision and ZOA Refugee Care (ZOA), and local NGOs Sarvodaya and

Sewalanka. During FY 2011, more than \$570,000 in USAID/OFDA assistance increased hygiene promotion activities and rehabilitated or constructed wells and latrines in affected communities.

- In addition to WASH programs in conflict-affected areas, USAID/OFDA supported WASH activities for more than 39,000 flood-affected individuals in eastern Sri Lanka through Sarvodaya and Sewalanka.

Shelter and Settlements

- As of July 31, many conflict-affected families continue to reside in makeshift shelters or mud houses, particularly in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts. According to OCHA, many of these families require transitional shelters in advance of the December to March monsoon season.
- During FY 2011, USAID/OFDA provided transitional shelter material and support—valued at more than \$617,000—for nearly 2,100 conflict-affected individuals through World Vision, Sewalanka, and ZOA. Through World Vision, USAID/OFDA supported the construction of transitional shelters for approximately 550 families in areas of return. Through Sewalanka, USAID/OFDA provided shelter assistance for 280 returnees in the form of technical assistance and transitional shelter materials for families returning to Vavuniya District. Through ZOA, USAID/OFDA funded the construction of transitional shelters for nearly 1,800 returnees in five northern districts.

Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management

- In FY 2011, USAID/OFDA provided \$400,000 to OCHA to support humanitarian coordination and information management throughout Sri Lanka.

FY 2011 USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA FOR FLOODS

| Implementing Partner | Activity | Location | Amount |
|--|--|---|--------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE⁶ | | | |
| Sarvodaya | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH | Ampara, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee Districts | \$399,998 |
| Sewalanka | Agricultural and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH | Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts | \$400,000 |
| FAO | Agriculture and Food Security | Ampara, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee Districts | \$800,000 |
| International Organization for Migration | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Ampara, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee Districts | \$20,000 |
| Save the Children/US | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Ampara, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee Districts | \$50,000 |
| | Relief Commodities | Countrywide | \$225,250 |
| | Support Costs | Countrywide | \$102,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA | | | \$1,997,248 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE⁷ | | | |
| WFP | 320 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance | Ampara, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Pollonarwa, and Anuradhapura Districts | \$416,300 |
| ACTED | CFW | Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts | \$1,493,920 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP | | | \$1,910,220 |
| USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE | | | |
| Development Alternatives, Inc. | Enhancing Citizen Participation in Relief and Recovery | Eastern and Northern Provinces | \$549,634 |
| TOTAL USAID/OTI | | | \$549,634 |
| TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 | | | \$4,457,102 |

⁶ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2011.

⁷ Estimated value of food assistance.

FY 2011 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY

| Implementing Partner | Activity | Location | Amount |
|--|--|---|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE⁸ | | | |
| Practical Action | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems | Kilinochchi District | \$289,857 |
| Sarvodaya | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH | Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya Districts | \$399,999 |
| Sewalanka | Agricultural and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH | Jaffna and Vavuniya Districts | \$500,000 |
| FAO | Agriculture and Food Security | Northern Sri Lanka | \$200,000 |
| OCHA | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management | Affected Areas | \$400,000 |
| World Vision - USA | Economic Recovery and Market Systems | Kilinochchi, Mannar, and Mullaitivu Districts | \$1,500,000 |
| ZOA | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, WASH | Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya Districts | \$1,100,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA | | | \$4,389,856 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE⁹ | | | |
| WFP | 10,780 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance | Northern Sri Lanka | \$10,279,600 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP | | | \$10,279,600 |
| USAID/SRI LANKA ASSISTANCE | | | |
| FAO | Agriculture and Livelihood Recovery Activities | Northern Sri Lanka | \$5,000,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/SRI LANKA | | | \$5,000,000 |
| STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | |
| United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sri Lanka | IDP, Refugee, and Returnee Assistance | Countrywide | \$4,900,000 |
| Antares Foundation | Mental Health Support for Humanitarian Workers | Northern Sri Lanka | \$24,250 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM | | | \$4,924,250 |
| STATE/PM/WRA ASSISTANCE | | | |
| HALO Trust | Demining | Jaffna, Kilinochchi, and Mullaitivu Districts | \$622,500 |
| Mine Action Group (MAG) | Demining | Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya Districts | \$672,500 |
| Danish Demining Group (DDG) | Demining | Jaffna and Mullaitivu Districts | \$582,500 |
| The Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD) | Demining | Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya Districts | \$522,500 |
| Marshall Legacy Institute | Demining | Northern Districts | \$100,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PM/WRA | | | \$2,500,000 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY | | | \$27,093,706 |

⁸ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2011.

⁹ Estimated value of food assistance.

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|--|---------------------|
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 | |
| TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 FOR FLOODING | \$4,457,102 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY | \$27,093,706 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2011 | \$31,550,808 |

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 may be available 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, 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 – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (202) 821-1999
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/