



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

***Chile – Earthquake***

Fact Sheet #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 7, 2010

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 6, 2010.*

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- Two U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) C-130 cargo planes, each capable of carrying up to 42,000 pounds of cargo, landed in Chile on March 6. The aircraft began transporting humanitarian cargo from Santiago to disaster-affected areas on March 7. U.S. Ambassador Paul E. Simons, Government of Chile (GoC) Defense Minister Francisco Vidal, and USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) staff met the planes upon arrival in Chile.
- On March 6, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) completed the first WFP airlift of emergency food assistance to benefit disaster-affected populations—from Quito, Ecuador, to heavily-affected Concepción city in BíoBío Region. WFP has scheduled a second airlift for March 7. Combined, the two airlifts will deliver 70 metric tons of high-energy biscuits, benefiting approximately 35,000 people for five days. WFP stores additional, prepositioned high-energy biscuits in WFP emergency response depots in Ecuador and El Salvador.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Number of Deaths	528	OCHA <sup>1</sup> – March 5
Estimated Total Number of Dead and Missing People	802 <sup>2</sup>	GoC – March 4
Estimated Affected Population	Approximately 2 million people	International Media – March 3

**FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

**USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Chile..... \$10,630,506**  
**Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Chile ..... \$10,630,506**

**CURRENT SITUATION**

- On March 7, a magnitude 5.8 aftershock struck BíoBío Region, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). USGS reported seven significant aftershocks on March 6, include one magnitude 5.1 aftershock.
- The 16-member USAID/DART and the U.S. Embassy in Santiago continue to work with the GoC and relief agencies to assess, identify, and respond to humanitarian needs in disaster-affected areas. The USAID/DART has deployed a field team to Chanco, Curanipe, and Pelluhue towns in the northwest part of heavily-affected Maule Region and is deploying two additional field teams—one to Concepción and Talcahuano cities in BíoBío Region and another to Angol city and surrounding areas in northern Araucania Region.
- In addition, the USAID/DART is coordinating the delivery of USAID/OFDA-funded emergency relief commodities to Chile and onward commodity transport to affected areas within Chile. USAID/OFDA is currently in the process of airlifting six additional mobile water treatment units to Santiago, for a total of eight USAID/OFDA-provided units. USAID/OFDA is also transporting generators to Chile to benefit areas with damaged power infrastructure.

*Shelter and Settlements*

- On March 6, USAID/DART staff met to discuss temporary shelter needs and analyze shelter options for disaster-affected populations, including host family support and construction of transitional shelters. The team developed a transitional shelter design to be field-tested in affected areas, in consultation with local authorities and beneficiary families. Based on lessons learned from USAID/OFDA shelter programs throughout the world, the plan includes salvaging usable materials for construction and maximizes local labor inputs.
- To date, USAID/OFDA has provided 300 rolls of plastic sheeting to benefit displaced populations.

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

<sup>2</sup> Reports of the death toll vary; the GoC continues working to locate missing individuals and identify earthquake and tsunami victims.

*Emergency Food Assistance*

- USAID/OFDA plans to provide 300,000 standard ready-to-eat meals (MREs) in response to food needs arising from the earthquake.

*USAID/DART Update from Maule Region*

- The earthquake and tsunami killed a total of 47 people in Chanco, Curanipe, and Pelluhue towns, Maule Region, according to the USAID/DART field team. Local authorities reported approximately 350 severely disaster-affected people in Curanipe, approximately 825 in Pelluhue, approximately 2,185 in urban areas of Chanco, and approximately 1,010 in rural areas outside Chanco.
- On March 6, USAID/DART field team staff held a coordination meeting with local authorities in Chanco and the director of the Chanco hospital. Power has been restored to the hospital, officials are working to restore gas, and the hospital has received blankets and awaits bedding. In addition, the hospital has requested and received medicine and has received the use of an ambulance for one month. A doctor, paramedic, midwife, and nurse are traveling house-by-house in rural areas to offer medical services.
- Local officials reported that while Curanipe and Pelluhue towns—which were heavily damaged by the post-earthquake tsunami—have received significant disaster assistance, Chanco has received less. Starting March 7, local authorities plan to intensify efforts to meet humanitarian needs in Chanco. Local authorities note the need for cash-for-work programs to help clean and reconstruct affected areas and help disaster-affected people rebuild livelihoods.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- On February 27, USAID activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to coordinate the USG response to the effects of the earthquake in Chile and facilitate information-sharing and provision of assistance to disaster-affected individuals.
- On February 28, U.S. Ambassador Paul E. Simons issued a disaster declaration in response to the effects of the earthquake. In response, USAID deployed a 16-member USAID/DART to Chile to conduct assessments of humanitarian conditions in earthquake- and tsunami-affected areas, work with the U.S. Embassy and GoC to identify and respond to priority humanitarian needs, and coordinate the delivery of USAID/OFDA-funded emergency relief commodities.
- To date, USAID/OFDA assistance in response to the earthquake totals more than \$10.6 million, including support for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) emergency appeal, funding to support the deployment of a DoD Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) unit to affected areas, and the provision and transport of mobile water treatment units and rolls of plastic sheeting from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Miami, Florida. In addition, the USG has dispatched satellite phones to Chile to facilitate communications in affected areas until telephone networks are repaired.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE FOR THE EARTHQUAKE**

<b>FY 2010</b>			
<b><i>Implementing Partner</i></b>	<b><i>Activity</i></b>	<b><i>Location</i></b>	<b><i>Amount</i></b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
IFRC	Emergency Response Activities	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
DoD	EMEDS unit	Affected Areas	\$8,600,000
Consignee to be determined (TBD)	Logistics and Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$843,990
TBD	Emergency Response Activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
	Administration and Support Costs		\$136,516
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE</b>			<b>\$10,630,506</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE</b>			<b>\$10,630,506</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 7, 2010. USAID plans to provide further assistance in accordance with the findings of GoC, USAID/DART, and other forthcoming humanitarian assessments in disaster-affected areas.

## **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 Chile may be available 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)