



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

Chile – Earthquake

Fact Sheet #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 8, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 7, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On March 5 and 6, a countrywide telethon raised approximately \$60 million to assist populations affected by the earthquake, according to the U.N. Local media reports indicate that half of the proceeds will be provided to *Un Techo Para Chile* (A Roof for Chile), a local non-governmental organization (NGO) that plans to use the funds to construct 23,000 small, wooden permanent structures in affected areas.
- On March 7, four members of USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) arrived in Bío Bío Region to conduct assessments of damage and humanitarian conditions, in coordination with local civil and military authorities.
- On March 7, six mobile water treatment units, valued at \$55,000 each, arrived at the Santiago Airport. Each unit is capable of producing 100,000 liters of safe drinking water, benefitting approximately 10,000 people. In coordination with the Government of Chile (GoC) National Office of Emergencies and Information (ONEMI), the USAID/DART will transport the units to towns with damaged water supply systems. At present, ONEMI plans to place one water treatment unit in Curanipe municipality and one unit in Chanco municipality.
- On March 7, representatives from the USAID/DART met with municipal and military officials in Chanco and Pelluhue towns in Maule Region. Officials discussed plans for USAID/DART staff to provide training and technical assistance for the construction of temporary shelters in the area. In addition, meeting participants decided to prioritize the construction of temporary shelter in rural areas and promote self-help construction for families living at the site of former homes.
- On March 7, the two U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) C-130 cargo planes transported humanitarian commodities and other relief supplies from Santiago to Concepción city in Maule District. DoD continues to coordinate the transport of relief supplies directly with the Chilean military.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Number of Deaths	497	GoC MoI ¹ – March 8
Estimated Total Number of Dead and Missing People	802 ²	GoC – March 4
Estimated Affected Population	Approximately 2 million people	U.N. – March 8

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

- Due to the heavy damage sustained in tsunami-affected areas, the GoC Ministry of Public Works has indicated that support for livelihood recovery will be needed in fishing communities along the coast of Bío Bío and Maule regions, including assistance with the replacement of boats and fishing equipment, in addition to rehabilitation of ports.
- According to the U.N., the GoC continues to work with structural engineers and university students to carry out damage and structural assessments of buildings in affected areas. The GoC has indicated that reconstruction continues to be the top priority for the months to come.
- 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 three field teams to Maule, Bío Bío, and Araucania regions.

¹ GoC Ministry of the Interior (MoI)

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

Shelter and Settlements

- According to the U.N., the GoC has recognized the need for temporary shelter in tsunami-affected coastal areas, reporting that many families continue to live in tents, including individuals that fear sleeping in damaged houses due to recurrent aftershocks. Initial estimates indicate that there is a need for approximately 200,000 temporary family shelters.
- According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the humanitarian community lacks complete damage information, with only partial information available for Valparaíso, O'Higgins, and Maule regions and no information available for Bío Bío Region.
- In response to shelter needs, USAID/OFDA has provided 300 rolls of plastic sheeting and continues to work with municipal authorities to coordinate the local purchase of related tools and supplies. IOM is also preparing kits with plastic sheeting and tools.

Health

- On March 7, the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) reported that 14 hospitals in earthquake-affected areas are not operational. However, the GoC and donor countries have installed thirteen field hospitals to meet the gap in health services and account for lost capacity.
- PAHO reports no major gaps in the emergency health sector. The treatment of earthquake-related injuries is no longer a substantial need, and the majority of issues related to basic care have been resolved. Although PAHO reported on March 6 that no epidemic outbreaks have occurred since the earthquake, the GoC Ministry of Health (MoH) has stressed the need for health surveillance due to lack of potable water in affected areas and declining sanitary conditions. PAHO reports that epidemiological surveillance is underway.
- According to PAHO, the GoC MoH has indicated that the supply of medicines in declared disaster zones is adequate. In addition, Chile's central medical depot has dispatched additional supplies by land and sea to prevent projected shortages. The MoH also reports a sufficient supply of vaccines, despite damage to refrigerated medical storage facilities.
- The Minister of Health recently announced that dialysis services and insulin will be available in functional hospitals. In addition, the GoC cancelled its request to donor countries for dialysis machines, indicating that there was significantly less need for dialysis services than previously estimated.
- Moving forward, PAHO has indicated that health interventions should focus on replacement of equipment and reconstruction of health infrastructure damaged by the earthquake.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- The GoC has indicated that an estimated 30 percent of rural communities in affected areas lack access to potable water as well as other public services. To meet the immediate and medium-term needs, the GoC has requested sanitation pumps.
- At a March 7 coordination meeting attended by U.S. and European donor agencies, the U.N., and NGOs working in Chile, representatives from the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) noted that much of the damage in the WASH sector consists of fallen water tanks and non-operational pumps due to lack of electricity. Meeting participants reported that WASH assistance will focus on tankering and installation of water bladders, as well as limited sanitation support in affected communities. In addition, the U.N. does not plan to repair water and sanitation systems, noting that the private sector will work to restore public services to pre-earthquake capacity.

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 eight 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

FY 2010			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
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
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE			\$10,630,506
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¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 8, 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.
- 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 – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int