



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

Chile – Earthquake

Fact Sheet #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 6, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 5, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- USAID has deployed a 16-member Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) to Chile to conduct assessments in earthquake- and tsunami-affected areas, working with U.S. Embassy and Government of Chile (GoC) officials to identify and respond to priority humanitarian needs. The USAID/DART is based in Santiago, with field teams in or en route to Concepción, BíoBío Region; Chanco, in northwest Maule Region; and Angol, in northern Araucanía Region.
- On March 6, a USAID/DART assessment team traveled between tsunami-affected Curañripe, Pelluhue, and Chanco towns in Maule Region to coordinate the delivery of shelter materials and local purchase of basic construction tools with authorities.
- In response to extensive damage to medical facilities in earthquake-affected areas, USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$8.6 million for the deployment of an Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) unit to Chile. The EMEDS is composed of a 57-person medical team, six tents, as well as medical equipment and supplies to treat up to 3,000 patients for a two-week period.
- On March 6, a plane carrying six mobile water treatment units, valued at \$55,000 each, is scheduled to arrive 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 GoC National Office of Emergencies and Information (ONEMI), the USAID/DART will transport the units to towns with damaged water supply systems. In addition, in response to the GoC’s request for generators, USAID/OFDA has procured a total of 20 dual voltage medium-duty generators, valued at more than \$343,000, for distribution in affected areas.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Number of Deaths	528	OCHA ¹ – March 5
Estimated Number of Dead or Missing	802 ²	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

- During a two-day visit, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon pledged to release up to \$10 million from the U.N.’s Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in support of the GoC efforts to meet emergency needs. The Secretary-General also announced the creation of a joint U.N.–GoC working group to define the priority areas for allocation of CERF funding, particularly for health, emergency shelters, education, water, sanitation, and hygiene needs.
- U.S. Embassy staff and the USAID/DART continue to coordinate with the GoC, other donors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and organizations conducting assessments or providing assistance to validate humanitarian needs assessments with the various GoC ministries involved in the earthquake response. In addition, the USAID/DART liaison to ONEMI is working to closely coordinate USAID/DART activities the with national disaster management staff.

Water Supply

- According to the GoC, the water supply has been gradually restored to Valparaíso Region, Metropolitana Region, and the majority of O’Higgins Region. Water supply has been restored to the majority of Maule Region, with the exception of most-affected Constitución city, where water is being provided through tankers to at least 25 percent

¹ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

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

of town residents. In addition, in BíoBío Region, several communities remain without functioning water systems, including Dichato, Carampangue, Cobquecura towns.

Shelter

- According to OCHA, GoC officials, U.N. agencies, and NGOs continue operate under assumption that up to 500,000 houses were destroyed by the earthquake and tsunami; the full extent of damage to houses remains unknown. Initial assessments in affected areas indicate that a large majority of the displaced—between 80 and 85 percent—currently reside with friends and relatives.
- In addition, on March 5, OCHA reported that officials had opened a total of 45 collective shelters of varied capacity in Valparaíso, Metropolitana, O'Higgins, and Maule regions.

Emergency Food Assistance

- According to OCHA, the GoC Ministry of Education is providing prepared meals, three times daily, to populations in affected areas. As of March 2, the GoC had distributed 65,000 rations from relief distribution points in O'Higgins, Maule, and BíoBío regions. In addition, as of March 3, the GoC had distributed 201,325 food rations in Valparaíso and La Araucanía regions.
- On March 5, OCHA indicated that approximately 24 metric tons of non-perishable food items have arrived in the port of Talcahuano for forward distribution to affected areas.
- According to the GoC Ministry of the Interior, since March 4, prepared meals have also been provided to individuals located in remote and inaccessible areas of Maule and BíoBío regions.

Health

- On March 6, a three-day joint assessment mission comprising representatives from the GoC Ministry of Health (MoH), Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), and U.N. Emergency Technical Team is scheduled to begin in earthquake-affected areas.
- According to OCHA, preliminary damage assessments have indicated that the tsunami's impact on coastal areas is greater than expected, potentially surpassing damage in areas only affected by the earthquake.
- According to OCHA, of 130 medical facilities in the six disaster zones, 104 facilities are fully operational, 15 facilities are partially operational, and 11 are not operational. Due to the earthquake, the GoC reports lost capacity of an estimated 4,000 beds. Although some field hospitals in affected areas are filling the health gap, the MoH has indicated that additional facilities are needed in affected areas. According to OCHA, the MoH also expects an increase in the demand for basic health services in the coming weeks.
- On March 5, OCHA reported that Chilean authorities had installed four field hospitals in Cuanilahue and along the Talca-Chillán highway, in addition to two field hospitals erected Curicó, one of which provided by Argentina. A 26-person Cuban medical team and hospital have also arrived in country.
- The U.S. Government, and governments of Brazil, Peru, Spain, and Canada have all offered—or are in the process of sending—additional field medical facilities, including several with the capacity to provide post-operative and medium- and long-term care.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On February 27, USAID activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to coordinate the USG response to the earthquake in Chile and facilitate information sharing and provision of assistance to earthquake-affected individuals.
- On February 28, U.S. Ambassador Paul E. Simons issued a disaster declaration in response to effects of the earthquake. In response, USAID deployed a 16-member DART to Chile to work in coordination with U.S. Embassy personnel and GoC officials to identify and respond to priority humanitarian needs.
- To date, USAID/OFDA assistance 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 an EMEDS to affected areas, and the provision and transport of 300 rolls of plastic sheeting and eight water treatment units from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Miami, Florida.
- The USG has also dispatched 85 satellite phones to Chile, 71 of which were provided directly to the GoC 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 ²	EMEDS unit	Affected Areas	\$8,600,000
TBD	Logistics and 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
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE			\$10,630,506

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 6, 2010. USAID plans to provide further assistance in accordance with the findings of GoC and forthcoming humanitarian assessments in disaster zones.

² U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

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, 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 (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int