



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

Chile – Earthquake

Fact Sheet #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 9, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 8, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On March 9, members of USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) accompanied U.S. Ambassador Paul E. Simons on a brief site visit to Concepción city in most-affected Maule Region. Additional USAID/DART members traveled between Cauquenes, Pelluhue, and Curanipe cities in Maule Region, where the team conducted assessments of humanitarian conditions and observed the work of field staff, particularly the ongoing training of local laborers in the construction of temporary shelters.
- On March 9, a USAID/OFDA-funded U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) unit arrived in Chile. The EMEDS unit, composed of a 63-person medical team, six tents, and medical equipment and supplies to treat up to 3,000 patients, will be placed in Angol town in La Araucanía Region—where the earthquake severely damaged a local hospital. A USAID/DART member is also traveling to Angol to serve as a liaison with Chilean and U.S. military personnel.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Number of Deaths	497	GoC ¹ MoI ² – March 8
Estimated Total Number of Dead and Missing People	802 ³	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..... \$10,699,656
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Chile \$10,699,656

CURRENT SITUATION

- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in kind donations and funding—contributions and commitments—to date for the Chile earthquake and tsunami total more than \$29 million, including significant contributions from private sector companies, individuals, and organizations. However, this figure does not include nearly \$10.7 million in support provided by USAID/OFDA; logistical assistance for humanitarian cargo provided by U.S. Department of Defense (DoD); and nearly \$60 million raised through a recent countrywide telethon in Chile.
- The 16-member USAID/DART in Chile has deployed three field teams to Maule, Bío Bío, and La Araucanía regions. The USAID/DART continues to work with the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, the GoC, and relief agencies to assess, identify, and respond to humanitarian needs in disaster-affected areas.

Shelter and Settlements

- On March 8, USAID/DART members and U.S. Embassy personnel met with *Un Techo Para Chile* (A Roof for Chile), a well-known local non-governmental organization that focuses on providing low-cost housing to families dwelling in shantytowns. *Un Techo Para Chile* discussed plans to build up to 20,000 wooden transitional shelters, known as “*mediaguas*”, during a period of four months.
- On March 8, the USAID/DART and embassy officials also met with representatives from the incoming GoC administration and an architectural firm with experience in low-cost housing projects to ensure that USAID-supported activities remain consistent with ongoing shelter interventions and accepted practices Chile and are appropriate for the needs identified in the disaster-affected areas.

¹ Government of Chile (GoC)

² Ministry of the Interior (MoI)

³ Reports of the death toll vary; the GoC continues working to locate missing individuals and identify earthquake and tsunami victims.

Nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is working with the GoC National Board of Day-Care Centers, local religious institutions, and the GoC Ministry of Health to provide nutrition and hygiene support to nursery schools and kindergartens in the earthquake- and tsunami-affected regions. UNICEF is supplying disposable diapers and breast milk substitute, in addition to preparation of educational materials for hygiene and psychosocial support for organizations serving affected populations.

USAID/DART Assessments in Maule Region

- On March 7, USAID/DART members in the field continue to assess humanitarian conditions in Chanco, Pelluhue, and Curanipe. The team reported that in authorities in Chanco municipality, with a population of 9,000 people, indicated that the disaster caused seven deaths, the majority of which occurred in rural areas. In urban areas, officials reported approximately 50 houses as completely destroyed and 200 houses were reported as uninhabitable due to severe damage.
- Authorities reported that the earthquake severely affected 165 families in Pelluhue town and 70 families in Curanipe town, in addition to 200 families residing in nearby rural areas.
- According to the USAID/DART, six municipal teams continue conducting evaluations in the Chanco–Pelluhue–Curanipe area. In addition, public services in the area have been restored, and local officials have begun rubble removal and demolition of severely damaged houses.

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 nearly \$10.7 million, including support for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) emergency appeal, funding to support the deployment of a U.S. Air Force 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	\$913,140
TBD	Emergency Response Activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
	Administration and Support Costs		\$136,516
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE			\$10,699,656
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE			\$10,699,656

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 9, 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