

# ECUADOR - EARTHQUAKE

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

MAY 3, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**660**

Fatalities Resulting from the Earthquake  
GoE – May 1, 2016

**31**

Missing Persons  
GoE – May 1, 2016

**4,605**

People Injured by the Earthquake  
GoE – May 1, 2016

**22,421**

People Displaced by the Earthquake  
GoE – May 1, 2016

**9,738**

Buildings Damaged or Destroyed by the Earthquake  
GoE – April 23, 2016

**720,000**

People Require Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – April 22, 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- GoE leads emergency response activities, providing food, power, supplies, and water
- USAID/OFDA supports OCHA humanitarian coordination and information management activities
- USAID/FFP assesses food security in earthquake-affected areas

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$1,192,025
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$500,000
DoD <sup>3</sup>	\$1,295,883
<b>\$2,987,908</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Government of Ecuador (GoE) reports that the April 16 earthquake has resulted in 660 deaths and injured approximately 4,600 people. The earthquake also damaged or destroyed an estimated 9,740 buildings, including more than 720 schools, as well as electrical, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure. Humanitarian actors, including USAID/OFDA disaster experts, continue to assess damages and identify humanitarian needs in earthquake-affected areas.
- The GoE is leading disaster response activities, including rehabilitating roads and power infrastructure damaged by the earthquake and distributing food, relief commodities, and water. As of April 30, the GoE had delivered approximately 300,000 liters of water, more than 280,000 emergency food kits, 950 hygiene promotion kits, and 600 sets of clothing to affected populations in Esmeraldas and Manabí—Ecuador's two hardest-hit provinces. The GoE has also deployed an estimated 14,400 armed forces, 8,800 national police, and 200 firefighters, as well as 9,550 registered volunteers, to assist with the response.
- As of May 3, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$3 million for relief efforts in Ecuador. The funding is supporting the provision of emergency food assistance and relief commodities and logistics operations, as well as health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, in earthquake-affected areas. USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP staff in Ecuador are assessing the need for additional support.
- To date, other international donors have contributed approximately \$3.7 million in humanitarian funding for Ecuador, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

<sup>1</sup>USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup>USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

## HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

- The GoE is leading earthquake response activities and has established 12 sector-specific groups to manage relief efforts, including groups focusing on communications, humanitarian coordination, humanitarian technical areas such as logistics, solid waste management, and volunteer activities. The GoE has also outlined coordination procedures for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) providing humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected populations.
- The GoE and the UN World Food Program (WFP) held a logistics sector meeting during the week of April 25 to plan information management, mapping, and warehousing activities. The WFP plans to establish five warehouses in Manabí's Jama, Manta, and Pedernales cities to store relief supplies.
- As of April 27, the GoE continues to restore power and water systems in Manabí. The Ecuadorian Red Cross and other humanitarian partners are employing treatment plants to provide water to displaced people in shelters.
- The UN reported on April 27 that the GoE Ministry of Urban Development and Housing had initiated the rehabilitation of roads damaged by the earthquake and, in collaboration with the GoE Risk Management Secretariat, are continuing to survey damage to buildings.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 to OCHA to support humanitarian coordination and information management activities. With USAID/OFDA assistance, OCHA is increasing regional humanitarian response management capacity, identifying gaps in service provision, and facilitating collaboration among relief actors on disaster response efforts.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- The GoE and WFP worked with a local supermarket chain to deliver emergency food assistance to approximately 66,000 people as of April 29. In May, the GoE and WFP plan to initiate the second wave of assistance, including cash-based transfers to an estimated 100,000 people.
- USAID/FFP staff report that a major Ecuadorian grocery store chain is offering a discount on food during the month of May to help alleviate some of the post-earthquake financial constraints populations in the area may be experiencing.
- Owners of Manta shops damaged during the earthquake are utilizing newly-constructed market stalls to continue operating their businesses.
- USAID/FFP staff visited Manabí's heavily-impacted cities of Manta and Portoviejo on May 1 to assess food needs among earthquake-affected populations. The USAID/FFP officers report that the food market supply appears relatively strong in Manta and Portoviejo, though demand is below normal levels following an initial spike immediately following the earthquake. USAID/FFP staff traveled to Pedernales on May 2 to assess the food security of individual households, the health of community food markets, and the impact of the earthquake on fishing industries in the areas. To date, USAID/FFP has provided \$500,000 to support WFP's emergency food operations.

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## DISPLACEMENT AND SHELTER

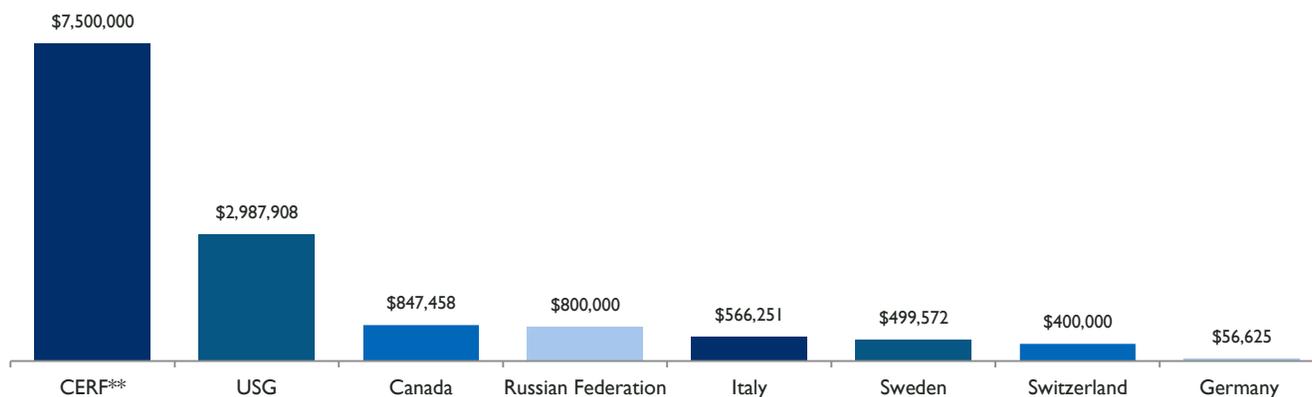
- As of April 29, the GoE estimated that more than 22,000 people remained displaced as a result of the April 16 earthquake. The UN reported on April 29 that affected people in remote areas who do not have access to urban distribution sites may still require shelter assistance.
- As of April 29, local authorities reported that more than 2,200 buildings had been assessed in Portoviejo and approximately 500 additional buildings still require assessment. A 20-member engineering team from the European Union and three-member engineering team from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) have assisted the GoE with structural assessments in Portoviejo.
- From April 21—29, USAID/OFDA-deployed structural engineers from the Los Angeles County Fire Department and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department assessed more than 100 structures in coordination with local officials and GoE ministries. The USAID/OFDA assessments provided the GoE with valuable information on the Poza Honda dam, hospitals, schools, and other critical infrastructure.
- The GoE, with support from the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and an USAID/OFDA shelter advisor, is developing a shelter strategy for communities with severe earthquake damage. IFRC

is co-leading the shelter working group with the GoE Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. The GoE plans to approve all shelter designs before authorizing implementation by humanitarian actors and is promoting the use of local construction materials for permanent housing.

- Approximately 260 displaced households are sheltering at the permanently closed Reales Tamarindos Airport in Portoviejo, where the GoE is distributing food and relief items. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has provided an estimated 130 tents to support the shelter needs of those residing at the airport.
- USAID/OFDA partner the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is implementing psychosocial support programs for earthquake-affected populations, including at the airport shelter site, in conjunction with the GoE Ministry of Public Health. PAHO is also distributing 500 water purification kits to households residing in the airport who are registered with the GoE.

## 2016 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of May 3, 2016. All international figures are according to the UN's FTS and based on international commitments during the 2016 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments in FY 2016, which began on October 1, 2015.

\*\*Represents uncommitted pledges as of May 3, 2016, according to FTS.

## CONTEXT

- On April 16, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck off the coast of northwestern Ecuador at a depth of approximately 12 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The epicenter was located approximately 17 miles south-southeast of Muisne town, Manabí.
- Immediately following the earthquake, the GoE declared a national state of emergency, activating its emergency operations center and deploying military and national police forces to assist with rescue and response activities.
- The GoE requested international assistance in the days following the earthquake due to the extent of earthquake damage.
- On April 18, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Douglas A. Koneff declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake in Ecuador.
- Ecuador is vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, forest fires, and volcanic eruptions. When disaster strikes, USAID/OFDA works with local and national government officials, civil society actors, and NGOs to address humanitarian needs and assist GoE relief efforts. USAID/OFDA also supports ongoing disaster risk reduction activities and capacity-building initiatives for disaster response throughout South America.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016 <sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
American Red Cross (AmCross)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Esmeraldas and Manabí provinces	\$55,831
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	WASH	Esmeraldas, Guayas, Los Ríos, Manabí, Santa Elena, and Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas provinces	\$100,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$100,000
PAHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$200,000
	Americas Support Team (AST) <sup>3</sup>	Affected Areas	\$127,000
	USAID/OFDA Airlifted Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$574,771
	Program Support Costs		\$34,423
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,192,025</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>4</sup></b>			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Affected Areas	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>USAID/DoD<sup>5</sup></b>			
	Logistics Support	Manta	\$1,295,883
<b>TOTAL USAID/DoD FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,295,883</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$2,987,908</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of May 3, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> The three-person AST is providing administrative and logistical support to the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination team coordinating urban search-and-rescue activities.

<sup>4</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>5</sup> Estimated cost of DoD support as of May 3, 2016.

## 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. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- 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 Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org/ecuador](http://www.cidi.org/ecuador) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at

<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>