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

## ***Indonesia – Tsunami and Volcano***

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

November 8, 2010

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- Late on October 25, a magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck off the coast of West Sumatra, Indonesia, generating a 10-foot tsunami wave that struck 10 coastal villages in the remote and sparsely populated Mentawai islands. The earthquake and tsunami damaged and destroyed houses, particularly in South Pagai Island, the most affected area. As of November 7, the Government of Indonesia (GoI) National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) reported that the tsunami had killed 447 people, seriously injured 173 individuals, and left 56 others missing.
- On October 29, U.S. Ambassador Scot A. Marciel declared a disaster due to the effects of the tsunami. In response, USAID/OFDA immediately provided \$50,000 through USAID/Indonesia to Mercy Corps for emergency relief supplies, including blankets, hygiene kits, and water containers. In addition, two USAID/OFDA staff members deployed to Padang and North and South Pagai islands. One USAID/OFDA staff member remains in Padang to monitor conditions and liaise with GoI officials and relief agencies.
- On October 26, the Mt. Merapi volcano—located approximately 15 miles north of Yogyakarta city in Central Java Province—erupted several times, emitting clouds of gas and volcanic ash up to one mile in the air. Continued eruptions had killed 141 people and displaced more than 279,000 others as of November 8, according to BNPB. Approximately 68 percent of casualties resulted from eruptive activity during November 4 and 5, which was amongst the largest since 1872, according to the GoI Center of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (CVGHM).
- On October 28, Ambassador Marciel declared a disaster due to the effects of the Mt. Merapi eruptions and resulting population displacement. In response, USAID/OFDA immediately provided \$100,000 through USAID/Indonesia to World Vision for emergency relief supplies—such as blankets, hygiene kits, and water containers. The USAID/OFDA-funded Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP), implemented by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), also sent volcano-monitoring equipment valued at \$50,000 to CVGHM. In addition, two USAID/OFDA regional advisors have deployed to Yogyakarta to evaluate humanitarian conditions and determine assistance needs.
- To support ongoing GoI volcano monitoring, USGS plans to deploy a three-person VDAP team in coming days to work with CVGHM through early December to assess hazards and generate eruption forecasts.
- On October 29, Ambassador Marciel pledged a total of \$2 million in USAID/OFDA humanitarian assistance to meet needs resulting from both the tsunami and the Mt. Merapi eruptions. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$700,000 in total for the Mentawai tsunami response to establish logistical hubs in Padang and Sikakap cities, provide emergency relief supplies, and support livelihoods restoration. In addition, USAID/OFDA has provided \$500,000 for hygiene and sanitation promotion activities, as well as emergency relief supplies, to benefit volcano-affected populations.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>MENTAWAI TSUNAMI ON OCTOBER 25</b>		
<b>Deaths</b>	447	BNPB – November 7, 2010
<b>Injuries</b>	173	BNPB – November 7, 2010
<b>Damaged Houses</b>	516	OCHA <sup>1</sup> – November 6, 2010
<b>MT. MERAPI ERUPTIONS BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 26</b>		
<b>Deaths</b>	141	BNPB – November 8, 2010
<b>Injuries</b>	453	BNPB – November 8, 2010
<b>IDPs<sup>2</sup></b>	279,000	BNPB – November 8, 2010

### **FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED FOR TSUNAMI AND VOLCANO TO DATE**

**USAID/OFDA Assistance to Indonesia for Tsunami.....\$709,600**  
**USAID/OFDA Assistance to Indonesia for Volcano.....\$600,000**  
**Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Indonesia for Volcano and Tsunami .....\$1,309,600**

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

<sup>2</sup> Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

### ***Mentawai Tsunami***

- Adverse weather conditions hindered the delivery of relief commodities in days immediately following the tsunami; however, USAID/OFDA staff report that fair weather in recent days has enabled the transport of relief supplies to affected areas. On November 4, USAID/OFDA grantee the International Organization for Migration (IOM) commenced truck services at no cost to relief agencies from the airport in Padang to the port. By November 9, IOM plans to have a 50-ton capacity cargo ship available to transport relief supplies from Padang to Sikakap—the main port in Mentawai—and smaller boats available in Sikakap to assist with onward distribution to affected populations in more remote areas. IOM expects the small aluminum and Zodiac boats to arrive in Padang by November 13 and to commence transport of relief commodities to remote areas early during the week of November 14.
- In addition to IOM, the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI), West Sumatra Provincial Police, and Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) continue to use up to eight helicopters to distribute aid to remote communities. According to BNPB, the GoI is also using eight speed boats and 15 other boats to carry out distributions, weather permitting.
- USAID/OFDA staff note that the Mentawai response operation is well underway, with joint U.N. and GoI logistics and coordination systems established or scheduled for completion in coming days. The GoI plans to provide 1,000 temporary shelters in 13 locations each in North Pagai and South Pagai islands. According to OCHA, the GoI has begun compiling information on temporary shelter recipients and shipping building materials to Mentawai.
- As of November 6, the BNPB reported sufficient medical supplies and equipment in Sikakap to treat sick or injured individuals, noting that current health issues include respiratory problems and minor injuries; however, no significant increases in infectious diseases have occurred in affected areas of Mentawai to date. On November 4, the GoI health office began health assessments in Mentawai and reported plans to provide measles immunizations and Vitamin A supplements to affected individuals, according to OCHA.

### ***Mt. Merapi Eruptions and Displacement***

- Mt. Merapi erupts on average once every several years, creating lava domes at the mountain's summit that collapse to produce fast-moving flows of extremely hot gas and rock, which can be deadly to people in or near the flows' path. USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$2.8 million in eruption forecasting and other technical assistance to Indonesia's CVGHM since 2004 through VDAP, including training in hazard assessment, development of early warning plans, and installation and updating of volcano monitoring equipment. In advance of the October 26 eruptions, CVGHM detected volcanic activity in Mt. Merapi early, provided public warnings, and began evacuations in the surrounding community before eruptions occurred.
- As a result of the eruptive activity on November 4 and 5, the GoI expanded the evacuation radius from 10 km to 20 km—approximately 12 miles—necessitating the evacuation of residents from pre-established IDP sites located within the 20-km perimeter. From November 4 to 8, USAID/OFDA staff visited new evacuation sites established outside the perimeter, noting that the rapid and robust response from the GoI, relief agencies, local communities, and the private sector has continued to meet the immediate needs of affected individuals, as food, water, and health care remain available at new IDP shelters.
- GoI search and rescue operations remain ongoing to evacuate survivors from areas within the 20-km perimeter. According to the U.N., Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono ordered the deployment of a 2,000-member TNI brigade in recent days to assist the BNPB and local authorities in relocating IDPs to sites outside the new perimeter and to build temporary hospitals and kitchens at IDP sites. According to President Yudhoyono, the TNI brigade—comprising medical, engineering, marine, and transport battalions—is under the command of the BNPB, which assumed the lead for coordinating all emergency and rescue efforts in Merapi as of November 5.
- Overcrowded conditions and insufficient numbers of latrines constitute the most significant concerns in IDP sites visited, according to USAID/OFDA staff. To improve sanitation conditions, the GoI Department of Health and the PMI are working to provide additional latrines in IDP sites. The USAID/OFDA grant to the American Red Cross (AmRC) also includes water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance at IDP sites.
- According to volcanologists, increased amounts of ash from recent eruptions and wind shifts have resulted in poor air quality in Yogyakarta and pose concerns regarding associated health problems. However, as of November 7, health officials had not reported any major increases in illnesses, including respiratory diseases, in affected areas. USAID/OFDA staff report that widespread distribution of face masks is likely mitigating health problems associated with poor air quality and note that a health clinic is present at every site to meet IDP health needs.
- GoI officials and relief agencies report that individuals continue to return to houses within the evacuation perimeter to tend to livestock and guard property. To discourage movement to unsafe areas, President Yudhoyono has announced that the GoI will provide approximately \$11.2 million to purchase affected individuals' cows, according to international media reports.

**USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA FOR TSUNAMI**

<b>FY 2011</b>			
<b>Implementing Partner</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
IOM	Logistics and Relief Commodities	West Sumatra Province	\$400,000
Mercy Corps	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities	West Sumatra Province	\$300,000
USAID/Indonesia	Logistics	West Sumatra Province	\$9,600
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$709,600</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA FOR TSUNAMI IN FY 2011</b>			<b>\$709,600</b>

<sup>1</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 8, 2010

**USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA FOR VOLCANO**

<b>FY 2011</b>			
<b>Implementing Partner</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
AmRC	WASH, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Central Java Province	\$500,000
World Vision	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Central Java Province	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA FOR VOLCANO IN FY 2011</b>			<b>\$600,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 8, 2010

<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA FOR VOLCANO AND TSUNAMI IN FY 2011</b>	<b>\$1,309,600</b>
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**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 volcano and tsunami response efforts in Indonesia can be found at <http://www.interaction.org/crisis-list/interaction-members-respond-crises-indonesia>.
- 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](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)

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)