OVERVIEW

- Populations throughout South Asia\(^3\) face a range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, cyclones, floods, landslides, droughts, and tsunamis. Demographic changes, rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, and climate change have increased exposure to natural hazards, often resulting in more frequent and severe natural disasters and compounding the impact of civil conflicts and other complex emergencies. In addition, declining socio-economic conditions of some populations are increasing vulnerability to hazards in the region. Governments in South Asia are investing in DRR and improving their countries’ response capacities from the community to the national level. USAID/OFDA is committed to assisting these nations to develop DRR and emergency response capacities.

- In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA emphasized DRR activities in South Asia’s urban areas, particularly in cities that face seismic risks, and supported the development of public-private partnerships to reduce risk. USAID/OFDA also enhanced existing DRR programs to build disaster early warning, response, and mitigation capacity from the national to the community level. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than $19.2 million for DRR projects throughout South Asia, including programs that integrate DRR with disaster response.

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\(^1\) USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

\(^2\) Total does not include other DRR programs funded by USAID’s Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA).

\(^3\) USAID/OFDA's South Asia region comprises Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS IN SOUTH ASIA
In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than $5.4 million for stand-alone DRR initiatives in South Asia that improve preparedness and aim to mitigate and prevent the worst impacts of disasters. USAID/OFDA provided additional funding for regional and global stand-alone programs that include activities in natural and technological risks, risk management policy and practice, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) to strengthen disaster preparedness and response. At the regional and country levels, USAID/OFDA and implementing partners engaged communities, national and local governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop effective strategies—tailored to the needs of at-risk populations—to reduce the risk of disasters. These programs all reflected USAID/OFDA’s commitment to support capacity development; strengthen linkages among risk identification, monitoring, early warning, and early action; and expand partnerships and joint programming. Analysis of existing capacities and social, economic, and environmental trends guided programs.

Global and Multi-Regional Programs Active in South Asia

**Action at the Frontline:** To develop information products that facilitate greater understanding of resilience building at the community, civil society, and institutional levels, USAID/OFDA supported the Global Network for Disaster Reduction’s “Action at the Frontline” program in FY 2013. The network is researching common enabling factors and limitations to recovery and adaptation, and the information products developed will inform the establishment of new post-2015 frameworks for DRR, sustainable development goals, and climate change adaptation, all of which require strategic implementation at the local level. The program is supporting 50 to 60 sites worldwide, including six countries in South Asia, to train local populations in risk mitigation and encourage participation in disaster planning activities that build resilience to potential crises.

**Asia Flood Network (AFN):** AFN aims to strengthen the capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions in climate, weather, and hydrological forecasting, as well as the ability of at-risk communities to take necessary actions to reduce their vulnerability to hydrometeorological hazards. Active in 12 countries, AFN is jointly implemented by USAID/OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in addition to the Mekong River Commission, the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development, and national meteorological and hydrological services in the region. USAID/OFDA committed approximately $226,000 in FY 2013 to support AFN activities in South Asia, which include using satellite data and images to assess water availability and improve local understanding of the relationship between snow, glaciers, and river flow in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, allowing authorities to make more informed decisions regarding water resource management.

**Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER):** Since 1998, USAID/OFDA has supported PEER, which promotes disaster preparedness through the development of national and regional cadres of professional emergency response instructors and assists local, regional, and national disaster management agencies to organize and conduct standardized trainings in medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness for mass casualties following a disaster. Implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and the Kathmandu-based National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), PEER is active in 10 countries across Asia, including Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. By the end of FY 2013, more than 4,000 disaster response professionals had graduated from PEER training. PEER-trained first responders have assisted rescue efforts throughout the region, including after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. In April 2013, PEER-trained personnel assisted with the rescue of approximately 2,500 injured people after an eight-story building collapsed in Dhaka, Bangladesh. USAID/OFDA provided nearly $1.4 million for PEER programming in FY 2013, of which approximately $805,000 supported activities in the South Asia region.

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*Funding figures for global and regional initiatives represent program totals, including USAID/OFDA funding for activities implemented both within and outside South Asia.*
Incident Command System (ICS) Training for South Asia: ICS is a management framework designed to integrate personnel, equipment, procedures, facilities, and communications during disasters, enabling more effective response operations within a common organizational structure. Since the mid-1980s, USAID/OFDA has utilized technical expertise from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to institutionalize systems for disaster response and implement disaster management capacity building programs internationally. In FY 2013, USFS continued ICS training and other activities in Bhutan, India, and Nepal using prior year USAID/OFDA funding. USFS, along with the Government of India National Institute of Disaster Management, trained a total of 129 people through several basic/intermediate ICS courses throughout India. In Bhutan, USFS and the Government of Bhutan Department of Disaster Management conducted two 5-day courses for 29 participants, including members of the National Search and Rescue Team and other government officials. In Nepal, USFS continued to coordinate with the Government of Nepal (GoN) to develop an ICS workshop for national- and district-level officials.

South Asia Regional Programs

South Asia Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS): Through the Global FFGS, USAID/OFDA is working with the U.N. World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Hydrologic Research Center, NOAA, and national meteorological and hydrological services in the region to develop a flash flood guidance system for South Asia and build government capacity in flash flood monitoring and warning. With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support WMO in FY 2013 to facilitate the regional application of technology and build capacity to lessen the impacts of flash floods in South Asia. The guidance system enables national authorities to assess flash flood potential and improve lead time for early warning to reduce loss of lives.

Country-Specific Programs

Afghanistan

Afghanistan Rapid Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP): With additional USAID/OFDA support in FY 2013, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued its HAP to reduce vulnerability among Afghans affected or displaced by natural disasters by providing lifesaving emergency relief, piloting DRR measures, and providing technical support to the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). DRR activities under the HAP include the construction of small flood protection structures in flood-prone areas, while involving community residents in consultation, construction, and maintenance processes. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than $1.3 million to support DRR-focused activities under a larger USAID/OFDA contribution to support the HAP.

Community-Level DRR Planning: With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting ZOA in FY 2013 to provide disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management training to 60 local community development councils in Afghanistan. The program, which concluded in January 2013, also helped communities create disaster management plans.

Improving Potato Seed Production and Storage: The majority of households in central Afghanistan’s Ghor Province depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, and potatoes are a key crop for both cash and subsistence. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA continued supporting a Catholic Relief Services (CRS) program, launched in FY 2011, to reduce the risks that pests and cold weather pose to crops through training and technology demonstrations related to potato seed production and post-harvest storage. The program concluded in August 2013.

Bangladesh

Amrao Pari Program: Through prior year funding to CRS, USAID/OFDA continued in FY 2013 to educate coastal communities in Bangladesh on ways to reduce their vulnerability to and protect their livelihoods from natural hazards, such as cyclones, flooding, and tidal surges. The project trains households, communities, and local government officials in early warning systems; water management; protection of embankments, mangroves, and forests to decrease flood risk; and disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management.
**Bhutan**

- **Capacity Building in Disaster and Climate Resilient Construction:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) to enhance capacity and develop skills in disaster and climate resilient construction practices in Bhutan. The program trains engineers and artisans, such as carpenters and masons, as well as community leaders, in disaster-resistant construction techniques.

**India**

- **Climate Risk Management in Urban Areas:** In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA, in coordination with USAID/India, provided $120,000 to UNDP to build on an ongoing program that aims to reduce disaster risks in urban areas and enhance the capacity of urban communities to manage climate-related disasters. Acknowledging India’s increasing urban population, as well as the country’s vulnerability to natural disasters, including cyclones, earthquakes, droughts, and floods, program activities target eight cities with high hazard risk profiles. UNDP is training officials in emergency response, supporting the integration of hazard mapping and risk analysis into city planning, mainstreaming DRR and climate change activities into urban development programs, and training community members in disaster preparedness and response techniques.

- **Cross-Sectoral Strategies for Risk Reduction, Phase II:** USAID/OFDA continued supporting Project Concern International to implement phase II of a program that reduced vulnerability to disaster shocks and promoted more effective disaster management. The program strengthened disaster response networks at state, district, and local levels, targeting the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Odisha, and Uttarakhand, and concluded in November 2012.

**Nepal**

- **Earthquake Preparedness in the Kathmandu Valley:** A large-scale earthquake in Nepal’s Kathmandu Valley—with its high population density and rapid urbanization—could result in widespread damage. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than $67,000 to IOM to develop a debris management plan that pre-identifies rubble disposal resources and sites in Kathmandu and establishes guidance and standardized procedures for rubble removal, processing, recycling, and disposal. IOM is engaging the GoN, U.N. entities, NGOs, and civil society to include all relevant parties in the development of the plan. This program builds on IOM’s USAID/OFDA-supported Open Spaces project, which helps prepare for massive displacement in Kathmandu by de-conflicting competing plans for open spaces within the city.

- **Public Service Announcements (PSAs) for Disaster Preparedness:** In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided $23,500 through the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu to Incessant Rain Animation Studios to create child-friendly PSAs highlighting critical safety lessons to help children and their families protect themselves from the impacts of natural disasters. The USAID/OFDA funding augmented a U.S. Embassy-supported initiative to create animated characters that could function as DRR mascots in Nepal and be used to educate the public on disaster preparedness. For example, one USAID/OFDA-supported PSA used a newly created DRR mascot to outline the steps to take before, during, and after an earthquake; the PSA aired on Nepali television in both Nepali and English.

- **Reducing Health Risks During Disasters:** The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), with $130,000 in FY 2013 USAID/OFDA funding, is working to reduce the health impact of future disasters and public health emergencies by enhancing local WASH capacity in Nepal. To improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities immediately following a disaster, which helps prevent the spread of waterborne diseases, NRCS has provided training on hygiene promotion, water treatment and supply, and emergency construction of sanitation facilities. In addition, NRCS has pre-positioned critical WASH supplies, including hygiene promotion kits, water purification materials, and other WASH commodities.
• **Nepal Earthquake Risk Management Project (NERMP), Stage II:** With nearly $434,000 in FY 2013 funding from USAID/OFDA, NSET expanded on the success of NERMP I, which aimed to improve Nepal’s earthquake disaster resilience by institutionalizing DRR at the local and national levels, in collaboration with the GoN, NGOs, schools, and local communities. NERMP II activities include training masons on earthquake-resistant construction techniques, holding weekly consultations for homeowners seeking advice on earthquake-resistant construction and retrofitting techniques, and conducting seismic vulnerability assessments of residences, office buildings, and schools.

• **Public-Private Partnerships for Earthquake Risk Management (3PERM):** With more than $826,000 to NSET in FY 2013, USAID/OFDA continued its support of the three-year 3PERM program, which improves disaster resilience in Nepal by engaging private companies in earthquake risk management. The program uses mass communications to raise earthquake hazard awareness within the private sector and the population at large. 3PERM also seeks to demonstrate the private sector benefits of earthquake risk management, establishing an economic incentive for investing in risk reduction. To achieve its objectives, 3PERM produces publications and weekly awareness-raising television and radio programs in collaboration with local stakeholders and conducts regular consultative meetings with local corporations, businesses, and professional societies. In addition to receiving USAID/OFDA funding, 3PERM is also supported by private companies, which contributed funds for radio programs, workshops and meetings, and billboards in FY 2013.

• **Preparing for Mass Displacement through the Open Spaces Program:** Relief agencies estimate that a large-scale earthquake affecting the Kathmandu Valley area could displace more than 2 million people. With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, IOM worked to de-conflict potentially competing plans for 83 open spaces in Kathmandu, helping ensure that the sites are available for internally displaced person (IDP) camps and other humanitarian purposes—such as distribution centers and warehouses—following a large-scale event. While implementing the program, which concluded in May 2013, IOM coordinated with the GoN and relief agencies to assign priority humanitarian activities to each of the open spaces and helped to prepare detailed site plans in consultation with GoN authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

• **Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE) Expansion:** With previous year assistance through the American Red Cross, USAID/OFDA continued supporting ADPC to implement CADRE courses aimed at strengthening local capacity to respond to mass casualty incidents. The ongoing program trains volunteers from 90 at-risk communities in basic life support, light search and rescue, and dead body management.

• **Building Code Implementation Plan in Nepal (BCIPN):** While national legislation mandates building code compliance, many local municipalities in Nepal are unable to exercise effective control over the building permit, construction, and inspection processes. To address this issue, USAID/OFDA supported NSET in FY 2013 with prior year funding to enhance the capacity of municipal governments to develop and administer building permits and control systems, ensuring improved seismic performance. BCIPN program activities complement NSET’s NERMP II program and include a series of training courses for technical personnel—such as contractors and masons—and orientations to increase community awareness of earthquake risks and safer construction practices.

**Pakistan**

• **Technical Assistance for Tsunami Preparedness:** In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $17,000 to USGS to provide technical support for tsunami preparedness in Pakistan. USGS personnel worked to build U.S.–Pakistan relations in mitigating earthquake and tsunami hazards, shared findings regarding earthquake and tsunami risks in the Makran coastal region with Pakistani authorities, and met with emergency officials from several population centers to lay the groundwork for tsunami evacuation maps and other tsunami preparedness activities. USAID/OFDA assistance also allowed two Pakistanis to travel to Padang, Indonesia, to learn about that country’s successes and failures in responding to tsunamis over the past decade.
• **Community-Based Disaster Risk Management:** With $1 million in FY 2013 funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting a program to improve the capacity of vulnerable populations and key stakeholders in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPk), Punjab, and Sindh provinces—parts of which were severely affected by the 2010 and subsequent year floods—to better manage disaster risks. With USAID/OFDA support, an implementing partner began the project in FY 2011 in collaboration with UNDP, the One U.N. Disaster Risk Management project, and the Government of Pakistan National Disaster Management Authority, as well as its provincial- and district-level disaster management agencies. Activities have included helping communities develop disaster risk management plans, pre-positioning stocks of emergency relief items such as first aid kits, and repairing flood protection walls and drainage structures that strengthen communities’ ability to withstand floods.

• **Improving Disaster Management in Sindh:** With prior year assistance to an implementing partner, USAID/OFDA continues to support targeted improvements in the capacity and strategies of poor and vulnerable populations in Sindh Province to manage disaster risk through sustainable preparedness and mitigation measures. This includes assisting vulnerable communities to establish village disaster management committees, provide community-based disaster risk management training, conduct disaster risk assessments, and develop hazard risk reduction plans, policies, and curricula.

**Sri Lanka**

• **Mainstreaming Rainwater Harvesting Systems:** Through USAID/Sri Lanka, USAID/OFDA is supporting the Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF) to educate government officials, local communities, and schoolchildren on the benefits of rainwater harvesting as a DRR tool. LRWHF is building the capacity of government officials and other water management stakeholders on the planning, design, and construction of rainwater harvesting and recharging systems and working with relevant Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) agencies, such as the Ministry of Water Supply and Drainage, to develop national and local policies on rainwater harvesting. USAID/OFDA provided approximately $150,000 in FY 2013 to support the program, which benefits conflict-affected communities in Northern Province.

• **Establishing Landslide Early Warning Systems:** Through prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support UNDP in FY 2013 to enhance landslide early warning systems and minimize disaster risk in landslide-prone areas of central Sri Lanka. The program is establishing weather stations in 100 communities throughout six districts to measure rainfall and identify hazard early warnings signs, while conducting awareness-raising activities and trainings to help communities understand and implement land use practices that minimize the frequency and impact of landslides. In addition, UNDP is assisting local populations to use landslide hazard maps, developed by the GoSL National Building Research Organization and other technical agencies, to identify at-risk locations within their communities.

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**PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE**

In addition to stand-alone DRR programs implemented to prevent or mitigate the effects of hazards in the region, USAID/OFDA integrated preparedness and mitigation into disaster response, early recovery, and transition programs. These initiatives, which were in accordance with regional DRR strategies, incorporated risk reduction objectives into a broad range of sectoral interventions to increase the resilience of communities to future shocks. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA activities in South Asia included pre-positioning emergency relief items and supporting communities to identify local hazards, construct disaster-resistant shelters, and prepare contingency plans.
Country-Specific Programs

Afghanistan

• Emergency Preparedness and Response in Afghanistan (EPRA): With USAID/OFDA support, International Medical Corps (IMC) is improving the capacity of local communities and NGOs in disaster-prone areas of Kunar and Nuristan provinces to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. With nearly $1 million in FY 2013 funding from USAID/OFDA, IMC worked to establish community emergency response teams, raise awareness about disaster risks in schools, and conduct other community-based disaster risk management activities. In addition, IMC restocked relief commodities and search-and-rescue kits in staging sites to ensure sufficient availability of life-saving commodities in the event of an emergency.

• Information Management and Hazard Mapping in Afghanistan: Information management and mapping tools are crucial to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters. With more than $2 million in FY 2013 funding, USAID/OFDA supported the Information Management and Mine Action Programs (iMMAP) to provide information management services, including hazard mapping for communities and DRR mapping activities for humanitarian organizations active in Afghanistan.

• Building a Culture of Resilience: In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided an additional $2 million to continue a DRR project implemented by Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US). Initiated in FY 2010, the project engages residents of six Afghan provinces to identify the hazards that may affect their communities and gather information on the locations of vulnerable populations, natural resources, and social service facilities. The resulting community hazard maps establish potential disasters’ nature, scope, and likely impact on property and livelihoods and inform local emergency preparedness plans. In addition, with USAID/OFDA support, SC/US has pre-positioned emergency relief commodities and worked to enhance the capacity of government and civil society organizations to meet children’s emergency protection needs during disasters.

• Strengthening Local Capacity to Lead Emergency Response: With prior year USAID/OFDA support, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) continued strengthening the ability of local NGOs in Badghis and Helmand provinces to respond to humanitarian needs by embedding local NGO staff in IRC emergency response teams. The program provided local organizations with hands-on experience in emergency supply distribution and other response activities. In addition, IRC trained local NGOs on assessing disaster impacts and building capacity in the sectors of logistics and relief supplies, shelter and settlements, and WASH.

• Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction: Through the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF), USAID/OFDA is assisting residents of the northeastern Badakhshan and Baghlan provinces to evaluate their communities’ hazards and vulnerabilities, while helping them to develop plans and basic skills to prepare for, mitigate, and respond to potential disasters. The program also supports the stockpiling of emergency relief supplies in disaster-prone areas and helps local authorities collect information from government agencies and NGOs regarding disaster risks across the provinces in an effort to map disaster-prone areas, improve disaster risk and emergency information management systems, and strengthen existing disaster response structures. With previous year funding, USAID/OFDA supported AKF in FY 2013 to expand the project to an additional 80 villages and conduct refresher visits to 20 villages previously reached by the program.

• Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination: In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA continued to support the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) with prior year funding to work with provincial authorities to develop contingency plans for seasonal natural disasters and coordinate provincial preparedness and response activities. The program ended in March 2013.
**Nepal**

- **Preparing for a Better Response:** NRCS maintains warehouses in 12 strategic locations throughout Nepal, pre-positioning stocks of emergency relief commodities to enable rapid response in cases of rapid-onset disasters. In early 2013, after providing assistance to families affected by localized fires, floods, and landslides, NRCS reported low stocks of pre-positioned items. USAID/OFDA provided NRCS with $280,000 in FY 2013 assistance to re-establish relief commodity supplies, thereby strengthening local capacity to respond to disasters.

**Pakistan**

- **Livelihoods Support for Displaced Communities:** In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $457,000 to an implementing partner to improve livelihoods opportunities for conflict-displaced populations residing in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and KPk Province in northwest Pakistan. Through USAID/OFDA-supported cash-for-work activities, IDPs are rehabilitating community infrastructure using durable, resistant materials to prevent damage during the rainy season and future disasters. USAID/OFDA’s implementing partner also targeted vulnerable beneficiaries with cash-for-training support.

- **Providing Shelter to Vulnerable Disaster-Affected Communities:** In August 2011, heavy monsoon rains resulted in severe flooding throughout southern Pakistan, including Sindh Province. While providing immediate assistance to benefit affected populations, USAID/OFDA also recognized the importance of rebuilding shelters more resistant to future flooding in at-risk communities. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA continued to assist vulnerable families who lost their homes to flooding to rebuild durable, locally appropriate shelters better suited to withstand future floods. USAID/OFDA also supported the implementing partner to rehabilitate hand pumps using DRR elements to improve access to safe drinking water for flood-affected communities. USAID/OFDA provided more than $1.4 million in FY 2013 assistance to support the program.

- **Transitional Shelters for Flood-Affected Households in Sindh:** USAID/OFDA provided more than $3 million in FY 2013 assistance to an implementing partner for a new program that provides durable, flood-resistant shelters for households who have lost their homes to floods. Program activities—which specifically target the most vulnerable, including the poorest households—include providing locally available, low-cost materials; mobilizing beneficiaries, as well as their communities, to participate in shelter construction; and ensuring that new shelters incorporate flood- and extreme weather-resistant construction practices.

- **Providing Shelter Support and Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination:** USAID/OFDA provided $1 million to an implementing partner to continue aiding vulnerable families whose homes were damaged or destroyed by flooding. USAID/OFDA assistance provided beneficiaries with emergency shelter materials to repair flood-damaged homes, while incorporating DRR techniques to ensure that rebuilt houses can safely withstand future floods.

- **Disease Early Warning and Response System:** With $500,000 in FY 2013 support from USAID/OFDA, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) continued to support early detection and response to epidemic-prone diseases in order to reduce morbidity and mortality from epidemics in Pakistan’s most vulnerable areas. Through the program, WHO reports weekly disease trends—gathered at countrywide sentinel sites—to Government of Pakistan authorities and the humanitarian community, providing timely alerts to threats of outbreaks, particularly cholera, measles, and malaria.

- **Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination:** USAID/OFDA continued to support OCHA to coordinate humanitarian activities and funding, manage information, and strengthen the capacity of Pakistan’s humanitarian community to respond to floods and other emergencies through knowledge sharing and training. The program, funded with prior year assistance, concluded in March 2013.
Sri Lanka

- **Protection and Advocacy for Conflict-Affected Communities in Sri Lanka:** USAID/OFDA provided an implementing partner with approximately $490,000 to provide protection assistance to displaced and returning communities in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, while also responding to livelihoods needs. To identify present and future protection risks—exercising preventative and/or responsive action as necessary—the implementing partner conducts regular monitoring in target areas of northern and eastern Sri Lanka. The partner also advocates for improved protection mechanisms for displaced and recently returned populations by engaging directly with U.N. agencies, community-based organizations, and government officials. The USAID/OFDA partner is conducting up to 10 training seminars on locally relevant protection issues, such as sexual and gender-based violence and human rights under Sri Lankan law, to inform the humanitarian community and appropriate duty-bearers of their responsibility to protect vulnerable populations.

- **Assistance to Returnees in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts, Part III:** Multiple decades of displacement severely disrupted pre-existing livelihoods in northern Sri Lanka, while prolonged fighting also destroyed houses and basic infrastructure in conflict areas. To help people returning to war-torn villages recover from these challenges, USAID/OFDA has taken a multi-sector approach through assistance that targets long-term internal displacement and recent returnees with shelter, livelihoods, and WASH assistance. With USAID/OFDA support, relief agency ZOA is providing recently resettled families with transitional shelters with design aspects that reduce the risk from monsoon rains and flooding and improving access to latrines and community wells. In addition, through ZOA, USAID/OFDA is helping affected people transition back to normalcy by working with them to plan and develop income-generating opportunities that will put them on the path to restarting previously held occupations. The program also helps former farming families acquire seeds, tools, and small livestock to restart agricultural activities. In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $1.6 million to continue this project.

- **Shelter, Livelihoods, and WASH Assistance in Mullaitivu District:** Using prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting Sri Lankan NGO the Sewalanka Foundation in FY 2013 to address the needs of conflict-affected populations returning to home areas in northern Sri Lanka and ease their transition to recovery. Through Sewalanka, USAID/OFDA rehabilitated damaged and contaminated wells to increase access to safe drinking water, renovated latrines, and raised awareness regarding good hygiene practices, disease prevention, and water management. The program also strengthened livelihoods and food security by supporting home gardening and other agricultural-based economic activities and temporarily employing returnees to restore community infrastructure. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided transitional shelters to vulnerable families returning to home areas.

- **Rehabilitation of Irrigation Infrastructure and Market Development:** In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA continued supporting Practical Action with prior year funding to undertake agriculture, food security, and livelihoods activities in Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi districts. Through Practical Action, USAID/OFDA continued to provide temporary employment for people to rehabilitate critical infrastructure, such as irrigation systems and tanks, salt water incursion prevention bunds for paddy lands, and small-scale fishing landing sites in lagoons. The program assisted recently resettled Sri Lankans to resume and develop their livelihoods, while also providing them with cash to meet their daily needs. Practical Action also provided planting materials for the cultivation of nonconventional, high-value fruits and vegetables, as well as fencing material to protect crops from animals.

- **Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination:** USAID/OFDA continued supporting OCHA in FY 2013 with prior year funding to track and report on humanitarian needs and coordinate international humanitarian assistance. OCHA activities—which concluded in March 2013—supported the GoSL-led resettlement and early recovery process for Sri Lankans returning to home areas after years of displacement. As Sri Lanka remains vulnerable to recurrent natural disasters, USAID/OFDA assistance also supported OCHA to coordinate humanitarian responses to emergency needs as they arose.
USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2013

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<td>Mainstreaming Rainwater Harvesting Systems</td>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>LRWHF</td>
<td>$149,955</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL USAID/OFDA STAND-ALONE DRR FUNDING IN SOUTH ASIA**

$5,401,885

USAID/OFDA DISASTER RESPONSE WITH DRR COMPONENTS IN SOUTH ASIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>PARTNER</th>
<th>SUBTOTAL</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Complex Emergency Response</td>
<td>Natural and Technological Risks</td>
<td>IMC</td>
<td>$957,863</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management</td>
<td>IMMAP</td>
<td>$2,049,681</td>
<td>$5,007,544</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice</td>
<td>SC/US</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Response Preparedness</td>
<td>Logistics and Relief Commodities</td>
<td>NRCS</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shelter and Settlements, WASH</td>
<td>Implementing Partner</td>
<td>$1,443,319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Floods Response</td>
<td>Shelter and Settlements</td>
<td>Implementing Partner</td>
<td>$3,080,156</td>
<td>$6,023,475</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shelter and Settlements</td>
<td>Implementing Partner</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>Implementing Partner</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>Implementing Partner</td>
<td>$489,722</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Complex Emergency Response</td>
<td>Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Shelter and Settlements, WASH</td>
<td>ZOA</td>
<td>$1,569,366</td>
<td>$2,059,088</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL USAID/OFDA DISASTER RESPONSE FUNDING WITH DRR COMPONENTS IN SOUTH ASIA**

$13,826,788

**TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING IN SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2013**

$19,228,673

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1 Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2013; program descriptions in the fact sheet reflect USAID/OFDA-supported DRR programs active during the fiscal year, regardless of year of funding.

2 USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2013.
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.
- 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:
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.