



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

***Chile – Earthquake***

Fact Sheet #15, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 25, 2010

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 18, 2010.*

**KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) in Chile demobilized on March 23, due to the Government of Chile’s (GoC) significant progress in meeting emergency and humanitarian needs in affected areas.
- On March 24, U.S. Ambassador Paul E. Simons, U.S. Air Force officials, and the USAID/DART team leader attended a ceremony in Angol, La Araucanía Region, to commemorate the donation of the USAID/OFDA-funded U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) field hospital and equipment to the GoC Ministry of Health (MoH). U.S. medical and support personnel working at the EMEDS unit are scheduled to conclude operations at the facility on March 26, when hospital functions are wholly assumed by Chilean medical staff.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Confirmed Number of Deaths	452 <sup>1</sup>	International Media – March 19
Estimated Affected Population	Approximately 1.8 million people	U.N. OCHA <sup>2</sup> – March 22

**FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Chile.....	<b>\$12,382,747</b>
DoD <sup>3</sup> Humanitarian Assistance to Chile.....	<b>\$1,375,769</b>
<b>Total USAID and DoD Humanitarian Assistance to Chile .....</b>	<b>\$13,758,516</b>

**CURRENT SITUATION**

- USAID/OFDA has provided four additional large, heavy-duty tents, valued at nearly \$274,000, to expand the patient and post-operative care capacity of the U.S. Air Force EMEDS field hospital in Angol. The GoC MoH transported the tents to Angol on March 23.
- On March 19, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$1.4 million to the non-governmental organization (NGO) Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) for emergency shelter programs and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities in most-affected Bío Bío and Maule regions.
- Eighty-four DoD heavy-duty tents, valued at nearly \$332,000, arrived in Chile on March 21. Additionally, DoD has provided the GoC National Office of Emergencies and Information (ONEMI) with tools and hardware, valued at approximately \$20,000, to assist in the reconstruction of damaged homes and buildings.

*Health and Protection*

- According to a March 22 GoC MoH report, 130 hospitals in affected areas have sustained damage.
- The global Red Cross network has deployed two basic health care units and a field hospital to affected areas as of March 23, according to the American Red Cross. Since February 27, more than 1,700 Chilean Red Cross Society (CRCS) volunteers have conducted damage assessments and distributed 770 metric tons of food and relief supplies in affected regions. In addition, CRCS maintains two operational bases in Bío Bío and Maule regions, located in the cities of Concepción and Talca, to coordinate Red Cross response activities.
- According to the U.N. Country Team in Chile (UNCT), the Spanish Red Cross is training Chilean Red Cross volunteers in psychosocial support in Maule Region, as well as providing therapeutic sessions for those affected by the earthquake and tsunami.

*Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)*

- The GoC National Emergency Committee appointed a water and sanitation coordinator on March 22 to oversee and coordinate WASH efforts in earthquake- and tsunami-affected areas.

<sup>1</sup> Reports of the death toll vary; the GoC continues working to locate missing individuals and identify earthquake and tsunami victims.

<sup>2</sup> U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

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

- According to the GoC, 100 percent of urban populations in Valparaíso and O’Higgins regions that receive water through private sanitation companies have access to potable water. However, water services have not been completely restored in other affected regions, including Bío Bío Region, where only 86 percent of the population has sufficient access to potable water.

#### *Livelihoods*

- Pulp plants and sawmills in affected areas sustained heavy earthquake damage, causing businesses to temporarily suspend operations. In Bío Bío and Los Ríos regions, forestry and pulp production account for a significant portion of the regions’ economic activity. According to local media, several large employers are making efforts to retain the current workforce by temporarily shifting employees to reconstruction activities.
- The February 27 tsunami damaged or destroyed 14 fishing plants in Bío Bío Region, only one of which—located in Talcahuano—has resumed operations.
- The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is planning a program to assist approximately 6,900 small-scale fishermen in O’Higgins, Maule, and Bío Bío regions. Through the U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)-funded program, FAO will provide fully-equipped boats and cooling equipment to affected fishermen.

#### *Shelter and Non-Food Items*

- As of March 19, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Chilean NGO *Un Techo Para Chile* (A Roof for Chile) are building 400 temporary shelters in priority affected areas. According to the UNCT in Chile, *Un Techo Para Chile* has constructed 875 shelters in Metropolitana, O’Higgins, Maule and Bío Bío regions to date.
- Habitat for Humanity had constructed three emergency shelters in Maule Region, as of March 23, and plans to construct up to 70 others, according to the UNCT.
- According to the UNCT, Save the Children had distributed approximately 1,000 water containers and approximately 1,500 hygiene kits to 2,315 families in Maule Region as of March 23.

#### **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 \$12.4 million, including support for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) emergency appeal, an ADRA shelter and WASH program, support for the deployment of a U.S. Air Force EMEDS unit to affected areas, and the provision and transport of 8 mobile water treatment units, 20 medium-duty generators, 4 additional EMEDS tents, and 300 rolls of plastic sheeting from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Miami, Florida.
- In addition, as of March 23, DoD had provided assistance valued at more than \$1.3 million through the deployment of two C-130s to Chile to assist with the transport of emergency relief supplies to disaster-affected areas and the provision of tents, tools, and hardware for affected populations.
- The USG dispatched satellite phones to Chile to facilitate communications in affected areas. Including recent USAID and DoD contributions, the USG has provided more than \$13.7 million in humanitarian assistance to Chile to date.

#### **USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE FOR THE EARTHQUAKE**

<b>FY 2010</b>			
<b><i>Implementing Partner</i></b>	<b><i>Activity</i></b>	<b><i>Location</i></b>	<b><i>Amount</i></b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ADRA	WASH, Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas	\$1,362,521
IFRC	Emergency Response Activities	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
DoD	EMEDS Unit	Affected Areas	\$8,600,000
GoC MoH	Tents to Expand EMEDS Unit	Affected Areas	\$273,535

Various, including ONEMI	Logistics and Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$944,890
TBD	Emergency Response Activities	Affected Areas	\$50,000
	Administration and Support Costs		\$151,801
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE</b>			<b>\$12,382,747</b>
<b>DoD ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
	Transportation of Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$1,023,769
	Tents and Tools	Affected Areas	\$352,000
<b>TOTAL DoD</b>			<b>\$1,375,769</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND DoD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILE IN FY 2010</b>			<b>\$13,758,516</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents committed or obligated amounts as of March 25, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> DoD funding figure represents incremental costs as of March 25, 2010.

### **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](http://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](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)