

SOUTH ASIA - DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

\$85.9 million

Total USAID/OFDA Funding for South Asia in FY 2019

\$29.8 million

Programs in South Asia With DRR Components

\$17.1 million

Programs in Bangladesh With DRR Components

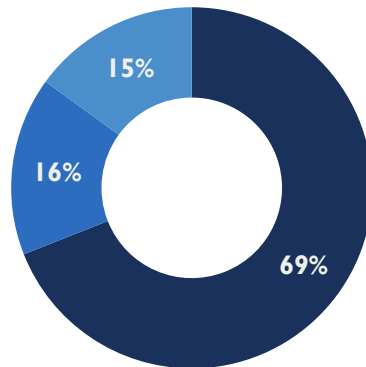
\$3.3 million

Programs in Nepal With DRR Components

15

Partners Implementing FY 2019 Programs with DRR Components

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY PROGRAM TYPE IN FY 2019



- Response Programs (69%)
- Stand-Alone DRR Programs (16%)
- Programs That Integrate DRR With Disaster Response (15%)

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) FUNDING

FOR SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2019

Stand-Alone DRR Programs	\$24,925,805
Programs That Integrate DRR With Disaster Response	\$4,888,895
Total	\$29,814,700

OVERVIEW

- Populations throughout the South Asia region face a range of natural hazards, including cyclones, droughts, earthquakes, floods, landslides, and tsunamis.² Demographic changes, rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, and climate fluctuations have increased people's exposure to natural hazards, resulted in more frequent and severe disasters, and compounded the impact of complex emergencies. In addition, declining socio-economic conditions of some populations have increased vulnerabilities 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, and USAID/OFDA is committed to helping these nations develop DRR and emergency response capacities.
- In FY 2019, 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 disaster risk. USAID/OFDA also enhanced existing DRR programs to build capacity for hazard early warning, response, and mitigation from the national to the community level. USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$29.8 million in FY 2019 for DRR projects throughout South Asia, including programs that integrate DRR with disaster response.

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

² 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 2019, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$24.9 million for stand-alone DRR initiatives in South Asia designed to improve preparedness and mitigate severe impacts of disasters. USAID/OFDA provided additional funding for regional and global programs to strengthen disaster preparedness and response, including in South Asia.

At the regional and country levels, USAID/OFDA implementing partners engaged communities, national and local governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop effective strategies—tailored to local contexts and the needs of populations—to reduce disaster-related risks. These programs embodied USAID/OFDA’s commitment to develop capacity; strengthen linkages among hazard identification, monitoring, early warning, and early action; expand partnerships and joint programming; and provide analysis of existing capacities and social, economic, and environmental programs.

South Asia Regional Programs

- **PEER:** USAID/OFDA has funded the Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) since 1998 to promote disaster preparedness through professional development activities for emergency responders across South Asia. In FY 2019, the American Red Cross (AmCross), the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), and the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) continued to work in close coordination with local, regional, and national disaster management authorities and communities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. To strengthen and institutionalize technical standards for disaster preparedness and response across South Asia, NSET organized and conducted standardized trainings for disaster response professionals on community-based disaster preparation and response, hospital preparedness for mass casualties, medical first response, and collapsed structure search and rescue. With more than \$381,000 in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funds, NSET has also established a network of trainers to independently train response personnel and developed a certification procedure for PEER-trained medical first responders and collapsed structure search-and-rescue professionals. Since FY 2014, NSET has reached more than 1,400 disaster response professionals with valuable training resources.

Additionally, with nearly \$2.5 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, ADPC supported countries in the region with the development and implementation of sustainable plans to further integrate PEER within institutional budgets and programs in line with country disaster management strategies, including facilitating the institutionalization of PEER principles among partner organizations. Building on existing relationships established under previous phases of PEER, ADPC aimed to engage additional stakeholders; continue training responders in first aid and search and rescue; and develop linkages between national, regional, and global DRR frameworks.

- **ICS Training:** 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. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.2 million to USFS in FY 2019 to support the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation’s goal of providing effective regional mechanisms for rapid response to disasters. The funds also supported the training of disaster management professionals from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka in the Incident Command System (ICS), which is a standardized, multi-hazard response management system used by emergency responders at all levels of the U.S. Government. The in-depth training helped disaster management professionals integrate ICS strategies into each country’s own disaster response mechanisms and prepare the region for an effective joint response to a disaster.
- **Improving Psychosocial Support for Disaster-Affected Populations:** USAID/OFDA has supported the UN World Health Organization (WHO) since 2013 to improve psychosocial interventions for disaster-affected populations in South Asia. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, WHO developed, piloted, and evaluated the efficacy of the Problem Management Plus manuals—which support humanitarian community workers in delivering low-intensity psychosocial interventions to people adversely affected by disasters—in Nepal and Pakistan before releasing it for use by the international humanitarian community. WHO also supported a joint USAID/OFDA and USAID/India-funded

activity—implemented by the UN Development Program (UNDP)—that provided support to India’s National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro-Sciences to develop a replicable pilot training program for psychosocial support preparedness.

- **South Asia Flash Flood Guidance System:** Through the Global Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) program, USAID/OFDA has worked with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); the San Diego, California-based Hydrologic Research Center; the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) to continue implementing an operational system for the South Asia region and build government capacity in flash flood monitoring and warning. With prior year USAID/OFDA support, WMO facilitated the implementation of FFGS in South Asia to lessen the impacts of flash floods and related landslides in the region. Implementing the South Asia FFGS has enabled national government authorities to assess flash flood and landslide potential more quickly, hence increasing the lead time for early action.

Country-Specific Programs

Bangladesh

- **Integrated Emergency Response and Early Recovery Support:** With \$3.7 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supported Action Contre le Faim (ACF) to bolster resilience among host communities in Cox’s Bazar District, one of Bangladesh’s poorest districts that received approximately 744,000 ethnic Rohingya refugees from neighboring areas of Burma from August 2017 to September 2019. Despite international humanitarian assistance, the influx of refugees continues to stretch the resources of host communities, leaving vulnerable individuals particularly susceptible to natural disaster shocks. In response, ACF provided cash-for-work and livelihood restoration activities to bolster income-generating opportunities; built community awareness of disaster risks by training individuals in first aid and search and rescue; and improved host communities’ access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, including through installing handwashing facilities and conducting hygiene promotion interventions.
- **SERB:** Since 2013, USAID/OFDA has supported ADPC through USAID/Bangladesh to provide professional development opportunities for medical staff caring for individuals affected by disasters, as well as trainings to enhance the capacity of Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD) volunteers to conduct search-and-rescue operations. With nearly \$618,000 in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supported ADPC to expand the Strengthening Earthquake Resilience in Bangladesh (SERB) program to provide additional technical assistance to the Government of Bangladesh and other key stakeholders to strengthen emergency management systems at the local and sub-national level. In particular, ADPC sought to integrate SERB interventions into national-, sub-national-, and local-level policies to ensure sustainable and scalable interventions. Additionally, ADPC continued to train medical and support staff in public hospitals and health care facilities in Chittagong, Dhaka, Gazipur, Mymensingh, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Rangpur, Sylhet, and Tangail cities, as well as Bandarban, Cox’s Bazar, and Rangamati districts, and promoted coordination between first responders and medical staff during emergency response throughout FY 2019. In coordination with FSCD, ADPC also provided search-and-rescue equipment to first responders.
- **Support Adaptation and Resilience Among Host Communities:** With \$2.6 million in FY 2019 funds, USAID/OFDA supported CARE to strengthen host communities’ resilience by enhancing community-based DRR initiatives, such as first aid and search-and-rescue trainings; upgrading shelters through cash-for-work and shelter repair programs; and improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation systems by repairing water supply lines, constructing latrines, and conducting hygiene promotion activities in Cox’s Bazar. Additionally, CARE conducted gender-based violence response and prevention activities, including psychosocial support and case management services.
- **Reduce Vulnerability to Natural Hazards:** With \$1.2 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) improved host communities’ ability to prepare for and respond to natural disasters in Bandarban and Cox’s Bazar. By strengthening local DRR structures—including disaster management committees, which are government-mandated mechanisms by which communities conduct risk assessments—and engaging with local leaders, CRS aimed to enhance community participation and collaboration, improving collective resilience. Additionally, CRS

rehabilitated infrastructure through cash-for-work activities, alleviating risks and providing income-generating opportunities to vulnerable individuals.

- **Strengthening DRR and Livelihood Capacities in Cox's Bazar:** In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided \$4.3 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to expand the ability of host communities to mitigate and respond to shocks and disasters by restoring livelihoods. Loss of farmlands, lack of employment opportunities, and risk of natural disasters—including cyclones, floods, and landslides—have increased the vulnerabilities of host communities affected by the influx of refugees in Cox's Bazar. In response, IOM implemented short-term employment initiatives, conducted business training, supported market access, and offered grants to improve income-generating opportunities. Additionally, the program expanded ongoing USAID/OFDA-supported efforts to rehabilitate cyclone shelters, strengthen disaster management committees, and train cyclone preparedness volunteers in Cox's Bazar. IOM also trained first responders and provided first aid and search-and-rescue equipment to key fire stations.
- **Building Natural Disaster Resilience:** With nearly \$3.7 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supported Solidarités International to strengthen the ability of communities in Bandarban and Cox's Bazar to withstand natural disasters by reducing the risk of livelihood destruction. Host communities in Bandarban's Alikadam sub-district and Cox's Bazar's Teknaf sub-district are reliant on agriculture, livestock, and daily labor for income, rendering household livelihoods vulnerable to natural shocks. In response, Solidarités promoted diversified livelihoods for farmers through the provision of seeds, safe storage solutions, and technical support to promote adaptable vegetable and fruit production at the household level. Solidarités also provided livestock support materials and training to reduce livestock health risks and losses, and supported fishermen through capacity building and material support.
- **Cyclone Preparedness Response:** With \$1 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) to strengthen infrastructure for cyclone preparedness and improve local disaster management systems in Cox's Bazar through a community-based approach. The program aimed to rehabilitate additional cyclone shelters through cash-for-work initiatives and train community members and first responders on emergency preparedness and response. Additionally, WFP piloted a cyclone readiness map—including information on available food stocks, cyclone shelter locations, and response infrastructure—to inform an effective response following a disaster.
- **Reinforcing Resilience:** With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, CARE worked with communities in Cox's Bazar to build resilience ahead of the 2019 cyclone and monsoon seasons. CARE facilitated community-based DRR, upgraded infrastructure, and developed response mechanisms through a consultative process that included community stakeholders, government agencies, and NGO and UN actors. Activities—which concluded in June 2019—included training for community disaster preparedness, settlement repairs, retrofitting of housing, WASH facility renovations, awareness-raising for community hygiene, and the supporting livelihood opportunities.
- **DRR in Cox's Bazar:** In FY 2019, IOM worked with communities in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf and Ukhiya sub-districts to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards, including cyclones and flooding, with prior year funding from USAID/OFDA. IOM helped to re-establish disaster management committees in these communities, which formulate action plans and leverage resources for DRR. After identifying community needs, IOM rehabilitated and equipped at least 20 cyclone shelters to provide protection and basic services in the event of a cyclone. IOM also provided livelihoods support and relief commodities to host communities in Cox's Bazar. Program activities ended in August 2019.
- **Preparedness and Response:** With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, Relief International coordinated with local disaster management committees and government officials through the Cyclone Preparedness Program to strengthen disaster management planning, technical capacity, and public awareness of DRR and emergency preparedness. The program also reduced the risk of waterborne diseases through improved access to safe drinking water, hygiene promotion, and distribution of WASH supplies. The program, which reached more than 42,800 people, helped mitigate

risk and prepare for the potential aftermath of cyclones and floods in a region highly vulnerable to these events. Program activities ended in August 2019.

Bhutan

- **Capacity Building in Disaster-Resilient Construction:** In partnership with UNDP, USAID/OFDA continued supporting Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) efforts to encourage disaster-resilient construction practices in the country. To incorporate disaster-resistant techniques for building and repairing structures, UNDP facilitated trainings for builders, community leaders, and engineers in each of Bhutan's 20 districts. With prior year funding, UNDP also supported the RGoB to develop and refine training materials, as well as establish a group of local trainers to ensure program sustainability. UNDP has also assisted with the development of a national system to track building typologies in relation to the natural hazards they face. UNDP plans to support the RGoB to pilot a disaster resilience classification system for buildings, develop training manuals on construction and roofing methods, and conduct vulnerability and risk assessments to identify risk reduction opportunities.

India

- **Climate and Disaster Risk Management in Urban Areas:** USAID/OFDA and USAID/India continued to support UNDP in India to reduce the risk of disaster in urban areas and increase the capacity of urban communities to manage climate-related disasters during FY 2019. USAID-supported UNDP activities included integrating hazard mapping and risk analysis into city planning, mainstreaming DRR and climate-related hazards into urban development programs, promoting private sector investment in DRR, and training community members and officials in disaster preparedness and response techniques. In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided UNDP with an additional \$400,000 to continue strengthening institutional capacity and integrating DRR measures into urban development programs, with a particular focus on private sector engagement and psychosocial support preparedness.

Nepal

- **DRR Technical Support:** With more than \$1.9 million in FY 2019 funds, USAID/OFDA continued to support IOM to assist the Government of Nepal (GoN) to enhance disaster risk management governance at the federal, provincial, and local level. Expanding on previous USAID/OFDA-supported capacity-building measures in Nepal, IOM aimed to strengthen the legal framework of provincial and local authorities to conduct effective disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Additionally, IOM enhanced the capacity of the newly established National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority and facilitated the implementation of the 2017 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, which decentralized disaster management responsibilities to all levels of government in Nepal, particularly at the local level.
- **Promoting Safe Building Practices and Disaster Preparedness:** With \$1.3 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supported NSET to establish a framework and systems to promote safer building practices and preparedness in rural municipalities of Nepal. Through the Technical Support for Resilience Community program, NSET supported municipalities to establish safer building construction processes, develop hazard risk reduction plans and policies, and create emergency response systems at the community level. Additionally, the program included trainings and workshops on first aid, search and rescue, and disaster risks reduction and management. The program complimented previous USAID/OFDA-supported activities in urban municipalities of Nepal.
- **Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation:** In FY 2019, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) continued to provide technical assistance and training to NSET and GoN organizations to improve earthquake monitoring and response in Nepal with \$100,000 in USAID/OFDA support. USGS also provided guidance and training on technical topics, such as earthquake hazard assessments, that can help improve building code provisions and reduce disaster risk.
- **Building District Response Capacity:** USAID/OFDA, through prior year assistance, continued supporting AmCross to enhance the ability of the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) to strengthen emergency response systems and build the

response capacity of NRCS district chapters. The three-year activity, which began in 2017, aims to improve cash transfer programming and disaster information management by promoting effective management techniques in NRCS district chapters. Such techniques include the development of integrated disaster information management systems, hazard risk reduction plans, protocols for cash transfer programming, and trainings in disaster preparedness.

- **CADRE II:** As part of the regional PEER program, USAID/OFDA has supported AmCross and its partner NRCS since 2012 to strengthen local capacity in Nepal to respond to mass casualty incidents by training volunteers from at-risk communities in basic life support and search and rescue through the Community Action for Disaster Response II (CADRE II) program. Building on previous programming that strengthened local capacity to respond to mass casualty incidents, CADRE II continued PEER's efforts to build the capacity of communities to prepare for and respond to natural disasters in Nepal. With prior year USAID/OFDA support, the project trained communities in disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management to reduce the impact of natural disasters. CADRE II helped strengthen and institutionalize response readiness at the community, village, district, and national levels.
- **Improving CCCM Capacity:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported IOM to strengthen the capacity of Nepal's National Security Forces (NSF), which conducts initial response operations in Nepal, to manage camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) activities, including establishing displacement sites in accordance with humanitarian principles and international standards. As part of the two-year program, IOM also facilitated trainings on the principles of protection and CCCM, while building the capacity of the NSF to coordinate with civilian authorities to transfer response functions after initial emergency operations. As a key local responder, NRCS also participated in IOM's capacity-building activities to bridge the gap between immediate NSF-led response activities and longer-term management of displacement situations by local, national, and international stakeholders. Program activities ended in May 2019.
- **Supporting Building Code Implementation Activities:** While national legislation mandates building code compliance, many municipalities in Nepal have limited capacity to exercise full control over building permit, construction, and inspection processes. To help address this issue, USAID/OFDA continued to support NSET in FY 2019 with prior year funding to enhance the capacity of municipal governments to administer building permits and develop control systems, ensuring improved seismic durability. Through the Technical Support for Building Code Implementation Plan in Nepal, NSET conducted a series of community orientation sessions to increase awareness of earthquake risks and safe construction practices. NSET also held trainings for technical personnel, such as contractors and masons. Program activities concluded in July 2019.
- **Strengthening Flood Resilience:** In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA continued to support Practical Action to strengthen flood early warning, enhance emergency response capacity, increase community awareness, and facilitate collaboration between local and national government entities in Nepal's Dang and Surkhet districts. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, these preparedness activities aimed to disseminate flood information from Nepalese officials in a timely manner in advance to reduce the loss of life and damage to properties and livelihoods in the event of flooding. The activities drew on best practices from a FY 2014–2018 USAID/OFDA-supported program that successfully strengthened flood resilience in Nepal's Ilam and Jhapa districts.
- **Building Resilience to Landslides:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in FY 2019 to strengthen the emergency preparedness capacity of rural areas in Suryagadi and Tadi municipalities in Nepal's Nuwakot District, one of the most earthquake-affected districts in the country, which became more vulnerable to landslides following heavy rains in 2017. FAO worked closely with the municipalities and the GoN Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management to train newly elected local officials in a low-cost bio-engineering approach to landslide mitigation that has proven effective in other districts, helping reduce the destructive effects of landslides on people and agriculture. Program activities ended in July 2019.

Sri Lanka

- **Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation:** As part of a broader global program, USAID/OFDA supported USGS with \$30,000 in FY 2019 to provide technical assistance in natural hazard identification, evaluation, response, and mitigation in Sri Lanka. The USGS program assisted Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) scientists to improve operational tools to issue landslide alerts, incorporating landslide mobility and runout processes into existing hazard maps and establishing protocols for future potential landslide disaster responses.
- **Promoting Rainwater Harvesting in Sri Lanka:** With prior year support, USAID/OFDA and USAID/Sri Lanka supported the Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF) in FY 2019 to promote rainwater harvesting systems as a practical, disaster-resilient water supply option in areas of Sri Lanka that receive erratic rainfall. During the three-year program, LRWHF raised awareness among community members, government officials, and school children on rainwater harvesting technology by installing demonstration units at houses, medical clinics, and schools across three districts of Northern and Uva provinces. LRWHF also trained officials throughout the three districts on the benefits of rainwater harvesting as a DRR tool. Additionally, the PALM Foundation—a LRWHF sub-partner—established flood-resistant water systems, mobilized communities to clean and repair wells, and promoted improved hygiene practices to ensure access to safe drinking water during disasters. Program activities ended in September 2019.
- **Weather-Ready Nations:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA and NOAA initiated activities to strengthen preparedness for extreme climate-, water-, and weather-related events in FY 2019. The Weather-Ready Nations program builds the capacity of NMHSs and national disaster management agencies to improve the use of hydrometeorological warnings and information, shifting the focus of weather services from providing descriptive weather forecasts to highlighting the potential impacts of the predicted weather. With improved impact-based forecasting, emergency managers, first responders, government officials, businesses, and the public are able to make informed, timely, and appropriate decisions to save lives and property and preserve livelihoods.
- **Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning:** With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, WFP continues to support the GoSL Ministry of Disaster Management (MDM)—established following the 2004 tsunami—to improve communications, coordination, and information management among humanitarian agencies during emergency responses. The GoSL has identified DRR as a top priority, as well as improved coordination for effective disaster management. WFP embedded experienced national staff within MDM to build technical capacity in emergency management, including the establishment of standard operating procedures and guidelines for relevant government stakeholders. The program also facilitated access to short-term technical assistance from specialists and included a focus on developing greater emergency logistics capacity.

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, 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 South Asia in FY 2019, USAID/OFDA sought to secure disaster-resistant access to safe drinking water, improve food security, and strengthen livelihoods through programs that integrated DRR with disaster response.

Country-Specific Programs

Afghanistan

- **Information Management and Hazard Mapping in Afghanistan:** With more than \$1.1 million in FY 2019 DRR funding that complimented emergency response activities, USAID/OFDA continued to support an international NGO (INGO) to provide information management services for the humanitarian sector, including hazard mapping for communities and DRR mapping for humanitarian organizations working in Afghanistan. The program supported the

regular production of mapping products, providing information on accessibility, disasters, humanitarian operations, and natural hazards. Consolidated versions of the maps are accessible to humanitarian actors through a specialized online platform developed and operated by the organization. With USAID/OFDA support, the INGO also worked across humanitarian agencies, thematic clusters, UN agencies, and the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority to identify areas for improvement in information management and dissemination, and to analyze gaps in data sets used by the humanitarian community.

- **Building a Culture of Resilience:** With FY 2019 funding, including nearly \$969,000 for DRR activities, USAID/OFDA continued to support an integrated response and DRR project implemented by an INGO in Afghanistan's Badakhshan, Balkh, Bamyán, Daikundi, Faryab, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Nangarhar, Sar-e-Pul, and Takhar provinces. Initiated in FY 2010, the DRR activities in the first phase of the project engaged residents to identify hazards that may affect their communities and gathered information on the locations of vulnerable populations, natural resources, and social service facilities. The resulting community hazard maps outlined potential disasters' scope and likely impact on property and livelihoods and informed local emergency preparedness plans. In the second phase of the project, the INGO helped build the capacity of communities, civil society organizations, and the local government to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and improve emergency response effectiveness by increasing community awareness and providing trainings. In addition, the organization aimed to procure, warehouse, and distribute relief commodities, providing transportation in the event of an emergency.
- **FASTER III:** With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, an INGO continued in FY 2019 to implement the Facilitating Afghanistan's Sustainability through Emergency Response (FASTER III) program to provide humanitarian assistance and develop disaster preparedness mechanisms in Afghanistan's Badghis, Herat, Helmand, Khost, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, and Paktia provinces, which have been heavily affected by conflict- and drought-induced displacement. The organization engaged in a multi-sector approach to meet the needs of displaced households, including through the provision of cash transfers and emergency shelter, distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion activities, construction and rehabilitation of emergency latrines and wells, and the establishment of safe spaces for vulnerable internally displaced children. The INGO's program—which ended in September 2019—also worked with communities to establish ongoing DRR committees to recognize and monitor natural disaster risk and mitigate adverse impacts.
- **Improving Emergency Response Capacity in Northeastern Afghanistan:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported an INGO and its implementing partner to increase the capacity of communities and local authorities in Afghanistan's northeastern Badakhshan, Baghlan, Bamyán, Kabul, Kunduz, Samangan, and Takhar provinces to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. Informed by the INGO's previous programming in the northeast, including assistance to populations affected by May 2018 flooding in Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kunduz, Samangan, and Takhar, the organization pre-positioned relief commodities—including WASH kits and tenting facilities to provide first aid, psychosocial support, and infant and child feeding centers following a disaster—in vulnerable areas to facilitate rapid response. The INGO and its partner also implemented a multipurpose cash assistance mechanism to support disaster-affected individuals to meet basic needs, while mitigating potential adverse impacts of disasters on livelihoods. Program activities concluded in September 2019.
- **Transitional Shelter Assistance:** Through prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported an INGO to provide emergency shelters to more than 360 households in Balkh, Jowzjan, and Sar-e-Pul. Through the eight-month activity, the organization supported returnees from Iran and Pakistan, as well as internally displaced persons who lost their homes due to natural disaster. Furthermore, to prepare for future hazards, heads of households and members of community development councils learned how to build earthquake-, flood-, and snow-resistant shelters through USAID/OFDA-supported training. Program activities concluded in December 2018.

Pakistan

- **Enhancing Drought Resilience in Sindh:** In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided \$2 million to an INGO to implement early recovery and resilience-building activities among drought-affected communities in Pakistan's Sindh Province, where prolonged drought has resulted in food and water shortages and loss of livelihoods. The program helped strengthen community- and government-level disaster risk management institutions through capacity building measures, such as awareness sessions, distribution of communication equipment and educational materials, and trainings. Additionally, the program improved food security conditions and livelihoods through the provision of agricultural inputs and trainings, while conducting hygiene promotion campaigns, developing or repairing water sources, and training community leaders and government agencies on integrated water management to address WASH needs among affected communities.
- **Capacity Building via RAPID:** Since FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has supported an INGO to implement the Responding to Pakistan's Internally Displaced (RAPID) program, aiming to meet the humanitarian needs of conflict- and natural disaster-affected populations in Pakistan through partnerships with local and international NGOs. In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided \$800,000 in DRR funding to continue implementing the third phase of RAPID. RAPID III maintained the program's primary objective of providing emergency assistance, while also focusing on strengthening the technical, management, and programmatic skills of local NGOs, as well as local disaster management authorities, to increase the quality of their internal operations and assistance programs. Additionally, RAPID III implementers integrated DRR measures into their shelter and settlements activities in disaster-prone areas to decrease future risk.

USAID/OFDA DDR FUNDING FOR SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2019¹

LOCATION	PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	PARTNER	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS²					
Regional	PEER	Risk Management Policy and Practice	ADPC	\$2,497,601	\$4,083,233
		Risk Management Policy and Practice	NSET	\$381,180	
	ICS Training	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	\$1,204,452	
Bangladesh	Integrated Emergency Response and Early Recovery Support	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	ACF	\$3,700,000	\$17,109,905
	SERB	Risk Management Policy and Practice	ADPC	\$617,905	
	Support Adaption and Resilience Among Host Communities	Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	CARE	\$2,600,000	
	Reduce Vulnerability to Natural Hazards	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	CRS	\$1,200,000	
	Strengthening DRR and Livelihood Capacities in Cox's Bazar	Economic and Market Systems, Risk Management Policy and Practice	IOM	\$4,300,000	
	Building Natural Disaster Resilience	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Solidarités	\$3,692,000	
	Cyclone Preparedness Response	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	WFP	\$1,000,000	
India	Climate and Disaster Management in Urban Areas	Risk Management Policy and Practice	UNDP	\$400,000	\$400,000
Nepal	DRR Technical Support	Risk Management Policy and Practice	IOM	\$1,902,667	\$3,302,667
	Promoting Safe Building Practices and Disaster Preparedness	Risk Management Policy and Practice	NSET	\$1,300,000	
	Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	\$100,000	
Sri Lanka	Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	\$30,000	\$30,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS					\$24,925,805
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE					
Afghanistan	Building a Culture of Resilience	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Implementing Partner (IP)	\$968,515	\$2,088,895

	Information Management and Hazard Mapping in Afghanistan	Natural and Technological Risks	IP	\$1,120,380	
Pakistan	Enhancing Drought Resilience in Sindh	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	IP	\$2,000,000	\$2,800,000
	Capacity Building via RAPID	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	IP	\$800,000	
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE				\$4,888,895	
TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2019				\$29,814,700	

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2019. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2019; program descriptions in the fact sheet reflect USAID/OFDA-supported DRR programs active during the fiscal year, regardless of year of funding.

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:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>