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SOUTH ASIA - DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018   SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

$72.2 million
Total USAID/OFDA Funding for South Asia in FY 2018

$21.2 million
Programs in South Asia With DRR Components

$9.8 million
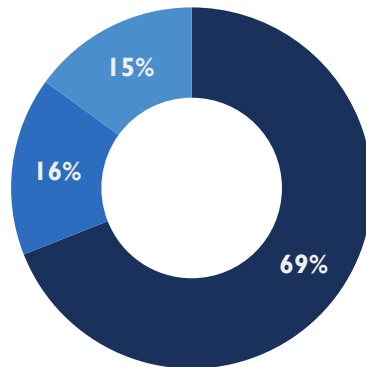Programs in Afghanistan With DRR Components

$6.1 million
Programs in Bangladesh With DRR Components

19
Partners Implementing FY 2018 Programs with DRR Components

USAID/OFDA[1] FUNDING
BY PROGRAM TYPE IN FY 2018

- 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 2018

Stand-Alone DRR Programs	$11,408,084
Programs That Integrate DRR With Disaster Response	$10,587,828
$21,995,912	

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 2018, 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, disaster response, and mitigation from the national to the community level. USAID/OFDA provided approximately $21.2 million in FY 2018 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] 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 2018, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $11.4 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 support capacity development; 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 trends 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. With nearly $1.5 million of USAID/OFDA support for PEER in FY 2018, the American Red Cross, 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. Through PEER, 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. In FY 2018, PEER reached almost 800 disaster response professionals with valuable training resources.

- **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 $501,000 to USFS in FY 2018 to support the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation's goal of providing effective regional mechanisms for rapid response to disasters. USFS also trains disaster management professionals from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, 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 (USG). The in-depth training helps the disaster management professionals integrate ICS strategies into each country's own disaster response mechanisms and helps prepare the region for an effective joint response to 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. In FY 2018, WHO released the Problem Management Plus (PM+) manual to support humanitarian community workers in delivering low-intensity psychosocial interventions to people adversely affected by disasters. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, WHO developed, piloted, and evaluated the efficacy of the PM+ manual in Nepal and Pakistan before releasing it for use by the humanitarian community; WHO also supported a 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), 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 to develop 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 application of this DRR technology 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, thereby reducing the lead-time for early warning and early action.

Country-Specific Programs

Bangladesh

- **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 USAID support, the Strengthening Earthquake Resilience in Bangladesh (SERB) program has trained medical and support staff in public hospitals and health care facilities in Chittagong, Dhaka, Gazipur, Mymensingh, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Rangpur, Sylhet, and Tangail cities and promoted coordination between first responders and medical staff during emergency response. In coordination with FSCD, ADPC also provided search-and-rescue equipment to first responders. With $200,000 of additional FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA expanded its activities to reach the Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, and Rangamati districts.

- **ICS Training:** With more than $194,000 in FY 2018 USAID/OFDA funding, USFS continued providing technical support to the Government of Bangladesh to develop and operationalize the Bangladesh Incident Management System (BIMS)—a management framework based on ICS and designed to integrate communications, equipment, facilities, personnel, and procedures during disasters, thereby enabling more effective response operations. During the FY, USAID/OFDA supported USFS to conduct ICS trainings for Government of Bangladesh representatives and participated in consultations with the Government of Bangladesh to encourage the institutionalization of relevant ICS methods in BIMS.

Bhutan

- **Capacity Building in Disaster-Resilient Construction:** In partnership with UNDP, USAID/OFDA continued supporting Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) efforts, with prior year funding, 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. UNDP also supported RGoB efforts to develop and refine training materials, as well as establish a group of local trainers to ensure program sustainability. UNDP has also assisted the development of a national system to track building typologies in relation to the natural hazards they face. By 2020, 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.

- **ICS Training**: With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support USFS in FY 2018 to conduct ICS trainings in Bhutan and coordinate with the RGoB Department of Disaster Management on plans to establish national- and district-level emergency operations centers.

India

- **Climate and Disaster Risk Management in Urban Areas:** USAID/OFDA and USAID/India continued to provide joint support to 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 2018. USAID-supported UNDP activities have included integrating hazard mapping and risk analysis into city planning, mainstreaming DRR and climate-related activities into urban development programs, promoting private sector investment in DRR, training community members in disaster preparedness and response techniques, and training officials in emergency response. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided UNDP with an additional $300,000 to strengthen institutional capacity and integrate DRR measures into urban development programs, with a particular focus on private sector engagement and psychosocial support preparedness.

- **ICS Training:** With more than $49,000 in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA continued to work with USFS to provide field-level mentoring and training for district and state-level incident response teams across India. USFS helped develop training course materials for India's incident response system (IRS)—India's version of the ICS. USFS also helped deliver trainings to members of India's National Disaster Relief Force—currently the world's largest dedicated disaster response force—to strengthen IRS implementation.

Nepal

- **Building Resilience to Landslides:** In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA supported the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with nearly $100,000 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 Government of Nepal (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.

- **Disaster Risk Reduction Technical Support:** In 2017, the GoN adopted the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act to decentralize disaster management responsibilities to all levels of government. To support DRRM Act implementation, USAID/OFDA provided the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in FY 2018 with approximately $751,000 to support the establishment of the mandated National DRRM Authority, which will provide financial, managerial, and technical support to develop policy and implement disaster management programs across Nepal. In addition, IOM is building municipal and provincial government capacity for managing disasters, as well as ensuring guidelines and by-laws of the DRRM Act achieve the desired results by advocating effective DRRM Act implementation.

- **Strengthening Flood Resilience:** In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided more than $622,000 of support to Practical Action to establish flood early warning systems, enhance emergency response capacity, increase community awareness, and facilitate collaboration between local and national government entities in Nepal's Dang and Surkhet districts. These preparedness activities aimed to provide flooding information in advance and reduce the loss of life and damage to properties and livelihoods, in the event of flooding. The activity drew on best practices from a FY 2014–2018 USAID/OFDA supported activity that successfully strengthened flood resilience in Nepal's Ilam and Jhapa districts.

- **Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation:** With $100,000 in FY 2018 funding, 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 USAID/OFDA support. USGS also provided guidance and training on technical topics, such as earthquake hazard assessments that can improve building code provisions and help reduce disaster risk.

- **Building District Response Capacity:** USAID/OFDA, with prior year assistance, continued supporting the American Red Cross (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. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA partners developed the integrated disaster information management system, trained disaster response teams, and trained NRCS staff in financial management and cash transfer programming best practices.

- **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 2018 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.

- **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.

Pakistan

- **Technical Assistance of Tsunami Preparedness:** USAID/OFDA has worked with USGS to provide technical support for tsunami preparedness in Pakistan since FY 2011. USGS shares technical information on earthquake and tsunami risks in the Makran coastal region of Balochistan Province with Pakistani authorities and meets with emergency officials to lay the groundwork for tsunami evacuation maps and other tsunami preparedness activities. In coordination with local Pakistani institutions, USGS interviewed more than 60 eyewitnesses of the 1945 Makran tsunami, which followed a magnitude 8.1 earthquake in the Arabian Sea. With prior year USAID/OFDA support, USGS is compiling the information collected during the interviews to increase scientific understanding and public awareness of the region's tsunami hazards.

Sri Lanka

- **Weather-Ready Nations:** USAID/OFDA provided NOAA with $500,000 of FY 2018 funding to initiate activities to strengthen preparedness for extreme climate, water, and weather-related events. Weather-Ready Nations build the capacity of national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) and national disaster management agencies to improve the use of weather and hydrology information, shifting the focus of weather services from providing numerical weather forecasts to describing the potential impacts of the predicted weather. With improved and actionable information, 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.

- **ICS Training:** With $50,000 in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, USFS is providing technical advisory assistance to the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to operationalize Emergency Management Systems, including use of ICS. The technical advisory assistance aims to strengthen disaster management and response capacity in Sri Lanka, including improved coordination between district, provincial, and national levels of government.

- **Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation:** As part of a broader global program, USAID/OFDA supported USGS with $200,000 in FY 2018 to provide technical assistance in natural hazard identification, evaluation, response, and mitigation in Sri Lanka. The USGS program focuses on identifying and mitigating hazard risk related to landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, and floods, as well as assessing the impact of disasters on ecosystems. The program also provides data provision in the event of disasters, including satellite imagery and other information products from current and archived data.

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning:** With $400,000 in FY 2018 support from USAID/OFDA, the UN World Food Program (WFP) is supporting Sri Lanka's Ministry of Disaster Management (MDM)—established following the 2004 tsunami—to improve communications, coordination, and information management among humanitarian agencies during emergency responses. Analysis of precipitation data in Sri Lanka suggests an ongoing trend

toward more intense rainfall events and longer periods of dryness, which have led to frequent impacts from floods and drought in recent years. The GoSL has identified DRR as a top priority, as well as improved coordination for effective disaster management. WFP is embedding experienced national professional staff with MDM to build technical capacity in emergency management, including the establishment of standard operating procedures and guidelines for relevant government stakeholders. The program also facilitates access to short-term technical assistance from specialists and includes a focus on developing greater emergency logistics capacity.

- **Promoting Rainwater Harvesting in Sri Lanka:** With prior year support, USAID/OFDA and USAID/Sri Lanka continued to support the Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum (LRWHF) in FY 2018 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 and mitigate future flood risks.

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 South Asia in FY 2018, 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

- **Improving Emergency Response Capacity in Northeastern Afghanistan:** Afghanistan is highly prone to natural hazards, including avalanches, earthquakes, floods, and landslides. With nearly $1.1 million in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA is supporting an international NGO (INGO) and its implementing partner to increase the capacities of communities and local authorities in Afghanistan's northeastern Badakhshan, Baghlan, Bamyan, 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 is pre-positioning 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 are also implementing a multipurpose cash assistance mechanism to support up to 4,600 disaster-affected individuals to meet basic needs, while mitigating potential adverse impacts of disasters on livelihoods.

- **Information Management and Hazard Mapping in Afghanistan:** With more than $3 million in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support an 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 supports 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's support, the INGO also works across humanitarian agencies, thematic clusters, UN agencies, and the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) to identify areas for improvement in information management and dissemination, and to analyze gaps in data sets used by the humanitarian community.

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response in Eastern Afghanistan:** With nearly $2.7 million in USAID/OFDA funding, an INGO continued to improve the capacity of communities and NGOs in the high-risk provinces of Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Nuristan to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. The INGO establishes community-level early warning systems and emergency response teams, raises awareness of disasters risks in hospitals and schools, and conducts other community-based disaster risk management activities. In addition, the organization pre-positions and distributes relief commodities and emergency shelter materials to ensure availability of relief supplies in the event of a sudden-onset disaster.

- **Humanitarian Assistance Programme:** With nearly $5 million in USAID/OFDA funding, IOM continued to reduce vulnerability among Afghans affected by natural disasters by delivering life-saving emergency assistance, providing technical support to ANDMA, and enhancing community-level preparedness and capacity. IOM also pre-positioned emergency relief supplies across the country to ensure quick mobilization of life-saving commodities in the event of natural disasters, such as avalanches, earthquakes, and flooding. The program focuses on provinces prone to natural disasters while continuing to expand efforts to additional areas according to DRR capacity-building needs.

- **FASTER III:** With $4.5 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, an INGO implemented the Facilitating Afghanistan's Sustainability through Emergency Response (FASTER III) program to provide humanitarian relief 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 emergency shelter, distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion, construction and rehabilitation of emergency latrines and wells, providing cash transfers for buying essential household items, and the establishment of safe spaces for vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDP) children. The INGO's program also worked with communities to establish ongoing DRR committees to recognize and monitor natural disaster risk and mitigate adverse impacts.

- **Transitional Shelter Assistance:** Through $1.2 million in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA supported an INGO to provide emergency shelters to more than 350 households in northern Afghanistan's Balkh, Jawzjan, and Sare-e Pul provinces. Through the eight-month activity, the organization supported returnees from Iran and Pakistan, as well as IDPs who lost their homes due to natural disaster. The earthquake-resistant shelters helped households survive a harsh winter in FY 2018. Furthermore, to prepare for future hazards, heads of household and members of community development councils learned how to build earthquake-, flood-, and snow-resistant shelters through USAID/OFDA-supported training.

- **Building a Culture of Resilience:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support a DRR project implemented by an INGO in Afghanistan's Badakhshan, Balkh, Bamyan, Daikundi, Faryab, Helmand, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Nangarhar, Sar-e-Pul, Takhar, Uruzgan, and Zabul provinces. Initiated in FY 2010, 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 established potential disasters' nature, 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 conducted agriculture, livelihood, and protection activities for IDPs and returnees.

- **Improving Delivery of Meteorological Service in Afghanistan:** With previous funding, in partnership with USAID/Afghanistan, the Turkish State Meteorological Service, and WMO, USAID/OFDA continued to support the Government of Afghanistan Meteorological Department (AMD) in FY 2018 to establish an operational hydrometeorological service that provides forecasts and early warnings of extreme weather events, such as flash floods. AMD now produces and disseminates weather forecasts through radio, social media, television, and web portals. The

World Bank and WMO are expanding efforts to support additional service modernization and design future AMD climate, water, and weather services for Afghanistan.

Bangladesh

- **Reinforcing Resilience:** With $1.7 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, CARE worked with communities in Cox's Bazar to build resilience ahead of the 2019 cyclone and monsoon seasons. Cox's Bazar is among Bangladesh's poorest districts and has received approximately 700,000 ethnic Rohingya refugees from neighboring areas of Burma since August 2017. Despite international humanitarian assistance, the influx of refugees has stretched the resources of host communities, including with respect to food, non-food items, livelihoods, and shelter. In response, CARE is facilitating community-based DRR, upgrading infrastructure, and developing response mechanisms through a consultative process that includes community stakeholders, government agencies, and NGO and UN actors. Proposed and ongoing activities to fill identified resource gaps include training for community disaster preparedness, settlement repairs, retrofitting of housing, WASH facility renovations, raising awareness for community hygiene, and the provision of livelihood opportunities.

- **DRR in Cox's Bazar:** With almost $1.3 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, IOM worked with the communities of Teknaf and Ukhia in Cox's Bazar to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards, including cyclones and flooding during the monsoon season. IOM helped to re-establish disaster management committees—government-mandated mechanisms by which communities conduct risk assessments—in these communities, which formulate action plans and leverage resources for DRR. With community-based identification of 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 to host communities, benefiting at least 150,000 people during FY 2018. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 2,000 rolls of plastic sheeting to IOM to support emergency shelter needs, should they arise, for up to 50,000 host community members in Cox's Bazar.

- **Preparedness and Response:** With approximately $1.8 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, Relief International coordinated with local disaster management committees and government officials for the Cyclone Preparedness Program to strengthen disaster management planning, technical capacity, and public awareness of DRR and emergency preparedness. The program also supported risk mitigation of waterborne disease through improved access to safe drinking water, hygiene promotion, and distribution of WASH supplies. The activity approach, which benefits nearly 100,000 people, intends to both mitigate risk and prepare for the eventual aftermath of cyclones and floods in a region highly vulnerable to these events.

- **Cyclone Preparedness Response:** With $1 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA, WFP strengthened infrastructure for cyclone preparedness and improved local disaster management systems in Cox's Bazar through a community-based approach. The program worked through more than 2,000 cash-for-work participants to rehabilitate 40 cyclone shelters, construct windbreaks to reduce the impact of cyclones, and plant vetiver—a type of grass—to limit the risk of landslides and soil erosion. WFP also worked with local partners to train community members and first responders on the use of early warning information and corresponding actions to mitigate impacts from cyclones.

Pakistan

- **Capacity Building via RAPID:** Since FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has supported an NGO partner 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 2018, USAID/OFDA provided funding to launch the third phase of RAPID, which maintains the program's primary objective—emergency assistance—and also expands the program to specifically focus 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 will integrate DRR measures into their shelter and settlements activities in disaster-prone areas to decrease future risk.

Sri Lanka

- **Increasing Disaster Resiliency:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported local NGO Sarvodaya to help local communities recover from floods and prepare for future flooding events. Sarvodaya has assisted populations in Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, Kalutara, Matara, and Rathnapura districts affected by floods in 2016 and 2017, including the provision of relief items and assistance with WASH issues. The response also includes disaster preparedness and response trainings, and support to communities to develop and implement hazard risk reduction and disaster management plans.

USAID/OFDA DDR FUNDING FOR SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2018[1]

LOCATION	PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	PARTNER	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS					
Regional	PEER	Risk Management Policy and Practice	NSET	$1,449,766	$1,951,051
	ICS Training	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	$501,285	
Bangladesh	SERB	Risk Management Policy and Practice	ADPC	$200,000	$6,104,664
	Reinforcing Resilience	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	CARE	$1,700,000	
	DRR in Cox's Bazar	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Risk Management Policy and Practice	IOM	$1,260,000	
	Preparedness and Response	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Relief International	$1,750,000	
	Cyclone Preparedness Response	Shelter and Settlements	WFP	$1,000,000	
	ICS Training	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	$194,664	
India	Climate and Disaster Risk Management in Urban Areas	Risk Management Policy and Practice	UNDP	$300,000	$349,013
	ICS Training	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	$49,013	
Nepal	Building Resilience to Landslides	Risk Management Policy and Practice	FAO	$99,997	$1,853,356
	Disaster Risk Reduction Technical Support	Risk Management Policy and Practice	IOM	$750,975	
	Strengthening Flood Resilience	Natural and Technological Risks; Risk Management Policy and Practice	Practical Action	$622,384	

	Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	$100,000	
	Improving Psychosocial Support for Disaster-affected Populations	Protection	WHO	$280,000	
Sri Lanka	Weather-ready Nations	Natural and Technological Risks	NOAA	$500,000	$1,150,000
	ICS Training	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	$50,000	
	Natural Hazard Identification and Mitigation	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	$200,000	
	Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning	Risk Management Policy and Practice	WFP	$400,000	
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS					**$11,408,084**
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE					
Afghanistan	Information Management and Hazard Mapping in Afghanistan	Humanitarian Coordination and Info Management	Implementing Partner	$3,005,445	$9,804,995
	FASTER III	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Implementing Partner	$4,500,000	
	Improving Emergency Response Capacity in Afghanistan	Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Implementing Partner	$1,099,550	
	Transitional Shelter Assistance	Shelter and Settlements	Implementing Partner	$1,200,000	
Pakistan	Capacity Building via RAPID	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Implementing Partner	$782,833	$782,833
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE					**$10,587,828**
TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR SOUTH ASIA IN FY 2018					**$21,995,912**

[1]Year 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, 2018. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2018; 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 or +1.202.821.1999.
    - 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