

tools to identified beneficiaries and then provided the same beneficiaries with insulation and heating. BHR/OFDA provided a total of more than \$33 million in grants for shelter programs in Kosovo.

Additional BHR/OFDA-funded programs targeted a wide range of needs in the affected Kosovar community. BHR/OFDA provided a total of 5 medical support units, 217,500 water containers, 190,000 rolls of plastic sheeting, 180,000 blankets, and 150,000 hygiene kits. In addition, BHR/OFDA funded three NGOs to provide emergency repairs to water and sanitation systems, and four NGOs to address emergency and primary health care needs through staffing of mobile clinics, provision of basic laboratory equipment and supplies, training of health workers, and support for a public health information campaign. BHR/OFDA funded three NGOs to support winter wheat planting, farm equipment repair, and construction of greenhouses. In total, BHR/OFDA provided more than \$89.6 million in grants to implementing partners for assistance to Kosovo in FY 1999.

BHR/OTI provided nearly \$12.7 million in grants to international organizations and NGOs, including UNICEF, WFP, CARE, and WVUS for relief activities. BHR/FFP provided \$57.1 million in Title II commodities as a regional response to the Balkans, and some of these commodities were detailed to Albania and Macedonia. DOD provided a total of \$143.8 million in funding as a regional response to the Balkans' crisis.

**BHR/OFDA Assistance ..... \$89,698,986**  
**Other USG Assistance ..... \$216,580,000**  
**Total USG Assistance ..... \$306,278,986**

## Tajikistan Floods

Heavy rainfall during late June and early July 1999 caused flooding and mudslides throughout the Asht Region of northern Tajikistan. More than 40 people were killed or injured, and hundreds of inhabitants were severely affected. The floodwaters and subsequent mudslides destroyed at least 700

dwellings and damaged numerous buildings, major roads, and electricity lines. On July 6, U.S. Ambassador Robert Finn declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the floods and mudslides in the northern villages of Dahana, Pangaz, Shahidon, Bobo Darkon, and Khiston. BHR/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Dushanbe to the IFRC and the Tajikistan Red Crescent Society to provide shelter materials, temporary housing, and health-related supplies to victims of the flooding.

**BHR/OFDA Assistance ..... \$25,000**

## Turkey Earthquake

On August 16, 1999, an earthquake lasting 45 seconds and measuring 7.4 on the Richter Scale struck northwestern Turkey. The earthquake's epicenter was located 88.5 km southeast of Istanbul, near the city of Izmit. Geophysicists at the U.S. National Earthquake Information Center described the earthquake as one of the twentieth century's most powerful, rivaling the 1906 earthquake that ravaged San Francisco. The cities devastated by the earthquake included Izmit, Skakrya, Istanbul, Bolu, Bursa, and Eskisehir, and they comprised Turkey's most important industrial hub. Effects of the tremor were felt as far east as Ankara, 200 miles away, and across parts of the Balkan Region.

By September 12, the Government of Turkey (GOT) estimated that 15,466 people were killed and 23,954 were injured. Following the August earthquake, an estimated 600,000 people were rendered homeless. According to UNDP, a final damage assessment revealed that 57,572 houses and 9,866 businesses were destroyed, and an additional 56,312 houses and 8,869 businesses suffered moderate damage. Turkish officials estimated that the total cost to reconstruct industrial facilities, homes, public services, and other infrastructure surpassed \$25 billion.

On August 17, U.S. Ambassador Mark R. Parris issued a disaster declaration to respond to the humanitarian needs of the earthquake victims. BHR/



OFDA immediately provided the U.S. Embassy in Ankara with \$25,000 to give to the Turkish Red Crescent Society. In addition, BHR/OFDA activated the Fairfax County, Virginia SAR team referred to as USAID SAR-1 and a coordination group to support UNOCHA. On August 18, a seven-person USAID/DART arrived in Istanbul. On August 19, USAID SAR-1 began operations in Izmit, and by noon had rescued three people from the rubble. On the same day, DOD deployed a 22-person crisis response medical team, and BHR/OFDA ordered the deployment of a second 70-person SAR team from the Miami-Dade, Florida Fire Rescue Department. A water/sanitation specialist and two epidemiologists from the CDC arrived to complement the USAID/DART in the following days.

President Clinton announced more relief assistance to the SAR operations, and as part of the effort, three ships from the U.S. Sixth Fleet departed Spain, carrying 2,100 Marines. The ships included 60 hospital beds, six operating rooms, and five X-ray rooms. On August 20, a BHR/OFDA-chartered plane arrived in Istanbul carrying medical supplies for 10,000 people, 30,000 blankets, and 1,200,000 sq.ft. of plastic sheeting. The SAR-1 effort rescued an additional person on August 20, bringing the total number of trapped people rescued to four. Two additional res-

cues were reported on August 20 by international SAR teams working in Golcuk and Ciancik. The USAID SAR-2 team deployed by BHR/OFDA, from the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, arrived on August 21 and began structural damage assessments in Yalova, Golcuk, Izmit, and Adaparazi in order to determine which structures remained habitable.

By August 23, international SAR efforts slowed as the probability of finding additional people alive in the rubble diminished. The SAR-1 team departed Turkey on August 24, and the SAR-2 team ceased operations on August 26. SAR-2 donated \$278,000 worth of rescue tools and equipment, vehicles and medical supplies to local Turkish firefighters, search and rescue personnel and hospital staff. Attention began to shift to the number of people who remained injured and homeless. A BHR/OFDA airlift of three water purification units capable of providing enough drinking water for nearly 27,000 people per day arrived on August

24, and two flights containing 11,000 hygiene kits and 17,500 five-gallon water jugs from BHR/OFDA stockpiles arrived in Istanbul on August 27. In addition, a flight with 489,600 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting for emergency shelters arrived in Istanbul on August 28. DOD provided 5,500 body bags.

The U.S. military also assisted earthquake victims through its European Command (EUCOM)



**The Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue team component of the USAID/OFDA DART digs through layers of rubble in search of earthquake survivors (photo by Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Team).**

under "Operation Avid Response." On August 19, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, stationed in Naples, Italy, dispatched a 24-member surgical response team and 27,000 pounds of medical gear to Izmit. The doctors, nurses, and corpsmen worked out of a soccer stadium to provide immediate trauma care. They then moved operations offshore when three U.S. naval ships arrived on August 22 and 24.



**A man grieves over the loss of his home in Turkey, the site of one of the twentieth century's most devastating earthquake (photo by Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Team).**

U.S. Marines from one of the naval ships used CH-46 helicopters to set up tents to protect medical supplies and to provide shelter for the homeless in the port of Golcuk. A U.S. Air Force Humanitarian Assessment Team (HAST) of 31 medical and engineering specialists based in Incirlik, Turkey arrived in Izmit on August 20 to survey the damage and assess local needs for military aid. The HAST team included specialists in water and structural systems, construction, and radio communications. EUCOM also provided 10,000 surgical gloves and masks, as well as three shipments of non-food relief supplies and tents capable of sheltering about 95,000 people.



**BHR/OFDA rescue workers from the Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Team survey earthquake damage as they prepare to begin rescue operations in Izmit (photo by Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Team).**

According to UNDP, a total of 87 countries had provided emergency assistance to Turkey by the end of September. This assistance included SAR

teams, consisting of 2,463 personnel from 44 countries. Nineteen countries sent mobile hospitals; 26 countries provided 406 medical personnel; 45 countries sent approximately 30,000 tents; and 23 countries supplied 121,147 blankets. Five countries pledged a total of 3,650 prefabricated housing units.

In November, the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Turkish Ministry of Interior to develop cooperative activities and projects in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The project, which was funded in-part by BHR/OFDA, provided for the exchange of information, emergency management practitioners, trainers, and instructors, as well as scientific and technical cooperation, in an effort to improve general emergency management and disaster mitigation practices through the GOT.

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>BHR/OFDA Assistance .....</b>  | <b>\$4,393,715</b>  |
| <b>Other USG Assistance .....</b> | <b>\$10,000,000</b> |
| <b>Total USG Assistance .....</b> | <b>\$14,393,715</b> |

# Ukraine

## *Floods*

During November 1998, heavy rains in the Transcarpathian Region of Ukraine caused flooding that displaced 5,200 residents, destroyed 12,000 dwellings, and left several towns without electricity, winter fuel, and potable water. On November 24, 1998, U.S. Ambassador Steven K. Pifer declared a disaster due to the flooding. BHR/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Kiev to Counterpart International's Humanitarian Assistance Program for the local purchase of fuel and medical supplies.

***BHR/OFDA Assistance ..... \$25,000***

