

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN – DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**\$33.7  
million**

Total USAID/OFDA Funding  
for LAC in FY 2016

**\$7.7  
million**

Programs in Haiti  
with DRR Components

**\$1.4  
million**

Programs in Peru  
with DRR Components

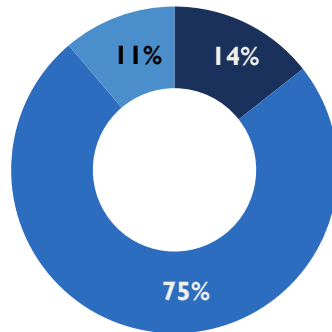
**\$1.3  
million**

Programs in Guatemala  
with DRR Components

**29**

Partners Implementing  
FY 2016 Programs with DRR  
Components in LAC

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY PROGRAM TYPE IN FY 2016



- Response Programs (14%)
- Stand-Alone DRR Programs (75%)
- Programs that Integrate DRR with Disaster Response (11%)

## DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) FUNDING FOR LAC IN FY 2016

Stand-Alone DRR Programs	\$22,246,838
Programs that Integrate DRR with Disaster Response	\$3,349,977
<b>\$25,596,815</b>	

## OVERVIEW

- Countries in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region<sup>2</sup> experience a range of natural hazards, including droughts, earthquakes, floods, forest fires, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, and volcanoes. El Niño and La Niña, extreme phases of natural climate cycles, periodically exacerbate the impacts of hydrometeorological events in the LAC region. Unplanned urban expansion, environmental degradation, and poor land-use management also increase populations' vulnerability to natural hazards.
- USAID/OFDA supports DRR programs in LAC that build resilience and improve emergency preparedness, mitigation, and response capacity at the local, national, and regional levels. USAID/OFDA focuses on strategic, context-specific programs designed to meet particular risk reduction needs in each country, with capacity building a consistent theme across DRR activities.
- In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$25.6 million to support DRR initiatives throughout the LAC region. Through staff based in the regional office in Costa Rica and the field office in Haiti, USAID/OFDA engaged directly with community members, national officials, and other stakeholders to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of disasters.

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

<sup>2</sup> The LAC region encompasses Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

## STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS IN LAC

In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$22 million for stand-alone DRR initiatives that improved preparedness and aimed to prevent and mitigate the worst impacts of disasters. USAID/OFDA provided additional funding for global stand-alone DRR programs that included activities in the LAC region. At the regional and country levels, USAID/OFDA and implementing partners engaged communities, national and local governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop effective strategies—tailored to the needs of at-risk populations—to reduce the impact of disasters. The programs reflect USAID/OFDA’s commitment to support capacity development; strengthen linkages among risk identification, monitoring, early warning, and preparatory action; and expand partnerships among stakeholders at local, national, and regional levels. Analysis of existing capacities and social, economic, and environmental trends guided program design, and USAID/OFDA programs addressed underlying causes of recurrent disasters, such as environmental degradation, when possible.

### LAC Regional Programs

- **Institutionalization of DRR in Higher Education Institutions:** USAID/OFDA supported the Central American University Higher Council (CSUCA) with \$500,000 in FY 2016 to assist universities in the LAC region to incorporate DRR into planning, management, research, and training. In coordination with the Network of Latin American and the Caribbean Universities for Disaster Risk Reduction (REDULAC), CSUCA is supporting partner institutions to conduct applied research on DRR, provide courses on DRR to bolster management capacity in the region, and establish DRR centers at universities—modeled after existing centers in the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Peru—to contribute to campus DRR initiatives and national DRR systems.
- **DRR in the Americas:** To reinforce DRR best practices in the LAC region and strengthen DRR programs among public- and private-sector organizations, particularly universities, USAID/OFDA entered into a cooperative agreement with Florida International University (FIU) in FY 2008. With \$1.25 million in funding, USAID/OFDA continued its support to FIU in FY 2016 for the educational and professional development of the next generation of Latin American DRR leaders through scholarships, student and faculty exchanges, and small grants. Through the DRR in the Americas program, universities in Latin America train professionals—including builders, land-use managers, and urban planners—to incorporate DRR into national plans for disaster risk management. In FY 2016, the program coordinated with the University of Chile to mainstream DRR into an existing higher education program and conduct research on disaster risk perception. The program also launched a graduate certificate on DRR, local development planning, and land use management at four universities in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico.
- **Assessing and Mitigating Earthquake Risk in the Caribbean and Central America:** USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$500,000 to the Global Earthquake Model Foundation (GEM) in FY 2016 to increase earthquake risk assessment capacity and the integration of risk assessments into DRR efforts in the Caribbean and Central America. Using GEM’s existing open source technology for hazard and risk modeling, data collection, and assessments, the organization is training local experts, including engineers, seismologists, and social scientists, to perform risk assessments and connecting them with policymakers to establish initiatives that reduce risks related to seismic activity.
- **RDAP:** USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.7 million to support Regional Disaster Assistance Program (RDAP) activities in the LAC region in FY 2016. Established in 1989, RDAP is the primary vehicle for USAID/OFDA’s support to manage disaster risk in LAC. In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA’s team of San José-based staff and a consultant network of 29 disaster risk management specialists throughout the region continued to oversee and monitor RDAP programs, which expanded local and regional capabilities, improved intra- and inter-governmental coordination, and strengthened disaster preparedness, mitigation, and risk management activities. Over the past decade, RDAP has provided training to thousands of emergency responders, including courses on DRR, emergency management systems, the incident command system, forest fire prevention and control, school safety, urban search-and-rescue (USAR), disaster management, and damage assessment and needs analysis. RDAP has also provided small grants to promote DRR projects at the

community level. The grants, averaging \$30,000 each and supporting projects for up to one year, contributed to host governments' DRR priorities and supported innovative DRR initiatives and pilot projects.

- **PREPARE:** Miyamoto International launched the Preparing Rescue and Emergency Personnel to Ameliorate the Response to Earthquakes (PREPARE) program in FY 2015 to strengthen the capacity of officials and USAR teams in Colombia and Costa Rica. With \$900,000 in FY 2016 assistance from USAID/OFDA, Miyamoto International maintained efforts to identify urban structures vulnerable to earthquakes; increase USAR teams' knowledge of building collapse scenarios and best response practices; and support municipal authorities to understand the potential effects of earthquakes, strengthen coordination among first responders, and implement damage assessments in the aftermath of disasters. Miyamoto International delivered an up-to-date probabilistic earthquake risk assessment of the municipality of San Jose, Costa Rica.
- **Building Tsunami Preparedness:** With \$150,000 in FY 2016 assistance, USAID/OFDA supported the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to improve communities' ability to prepare for tsunamis. In Costa Rica, the program provided equipment to the Costa Rica Tsunami Monitoring System to support monitoring and early warning for tsunamis, as well as ensure timely information sharing between the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center and Costa Rica's National Emergency Commission. In Saint Kitts and Nevis, NOAA supported the development and distribution of tsunami evacuation maps and tsunami emergency operation plans to save lives and livelihoods in preparation for future tsunamis. USAID/OFDA also supported NOAA and the International Tsunami Information Center to develop a standardized training course and processes to facilitate reliable tsunami evacuation maps at the community level.
- **Health Sector Resilience in LAC:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided \$2 million to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to continue supporting health sector resilience in the LAC region. The five-year program—which completed its third year in FY 2016—aims to enhance the capability of LAC countries to provide timely, appropriate, and gender-sensitive health responses following disasters and other crises. With USAID/OFDA support, PAHO worked to bolster the effectiveness of national health through the development of guidelines and interventions to improve the resilience of health services throughout the region, as well as increase the effectiveness and efficiency of disaster responses. In addition, PAHO advocated for health-specific DRR programs through the publication of scientific reports on the cost-effectiveness of preparedness and mitigation measures.
- **Strengthening Resilience-Building Capacity at the Local Level:** With \$850,000 in FY 2016 assistance, USAID/OFDA continued to support the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to promote the development and implementation of local, national, and regional DRR strategies in the LAC region. Among other initiatives, UNISDR organized a high-level meeting for representatives from 24 countries in June 2016, resulting in the countries' commitment to implement the Sendai Framework in the Americas to bolster national DRR measures. UNISDR also supported efforts to prepare national DRR plans and strategies, as well as workshops to operationalize local DRR action plans. In addition, UNISDR continued to facilitate private sector engagement in DRR, including through the organization of a regional forum on public-private partnerships.
- **Partnerships for Gender-Equitable DRR:** Recognizing the importance of community engagement, particularly among those most vulnerable to disasters, in implementing DRR activities, USAID/OFDA supported the Huairou Commission in FY 2015 to begin a program aimed at connecting grassroots women's organizations to national and regional DRR efforts. In FY 2016, the Huairou Commission used ongoing USAID/OFDA assistance to promote gender considerations in DRR policy planning and implementation and to support participatory roles for women in policy processes in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru.
- **Seismic Hazard Mapping and Prioritization of High Risk Locations:** Through prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued its support in FY 2016 for two complementary U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) projects that developed seismic

hazard and risk products for the LAC region. The first project—conducted through the Natural Hazards Mitigation Interagency Agreement—compiled geological and seismological data to serve as the basis for new seismic hazard maps for the Global Earthquake Model, the Centro Regional Sismológico para América del Sur, and USGS to better assess short- and long-term hazards in South America. The second project focused on identifying LAC locations with high seismic hazards coupled with high population density. Both projects, which ended in June 2016, strengthened regional capacity for seismology and engineering in LAC.

- **VDAP:** Following the 1985 eruption of Colombia’s Nevado del Ruiz Volcano, which resulted in approximately 23,000 deaths, USAID/OFDA and USGS established the Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) to provide technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations, including training in hazard assessment, development of early warning plans, and installation and updating of volcano monitoring equipment. At the request of host governments, VDAP teams travel to areas with significant volcanic risks throughout the world and use mobile volcano monitoring equipment to quickly assess hazards and help local agencies generate eruption forecasts. The early warning forecasts enable local authorities to evacuate high-risk areas before a disaster occurs, reducing fatalities and economic loss. VDAP programs also include training and technical assistance for local geologists to enhance preparedness and response for future volcanic events. In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$549,000 to continue VDAP activities in the LAC region. The funding supported seismic monitoring activities benefiting nearly 4 million people, training for more than 430 individuals on geological procedures, and the provision of technical expertise—provided both remotely and in person—for seismic events. For example, following increased activity exhibited by Costa Rica’s Turrialba Volcano in mid-September 2016, VDAP coordinated with the Observatorio Vulcanológico y Sismológico de Costa Rica to analyze seismic data and forecast eruptions.

### **Caribbean Regional Programs**

- **Saving Lives in the Caribbean through Preparedness:** USAID/OFDA provided \$625,000 to the American Red Cross (AmCross) in FY 2016 to expand a program to better mitigate and respond to the adverse effects of climate change and disasters in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. AmCross, building on lessons learned from a previous USAID/OFDA-funded program, worked to plan, implement, and monitor small-scale disaster mitigation projects; increase long-term community engagement; and provide trainings that reinforced disaster management skills and knowledge to community members, national Red Cross society staff, and volunteers. In FY 2016, AmCross trained more than 280 community disaster response teams (CDRTs) and nearly 50 regional first aid instructors; AmCross-trained CDRTs successfully responded to emergencies in The Bahamas, Belize, and Jamaica during the fiscal year. AmCross also supported a CDRT technical advisory group to harmonize training materials and establish a set of minimum standards for response activities implemented by national disaster authorities and Red Cross societies.
- **Youth-Led Community Action for Increased Disaster and Climate Change Resilience:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA continued to support Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to engage and train young people in hazard-prone communities in Grenada, Jamaica, and Saint Lucia through the Youth Emergency Action Committees (YEAC) program. With \$675,000 in USAID/OFDA assistance, CRS promoted DRR and preparedness principles and integrated strategies to mitigate the negative effects of climate change and weather events, such as El Niño and La Niña, into the YEAC program. During the fiscal year, CRS focused on recruiting additional YEAC members, developing standard operating procedures for YEACs’ emergency response activities, and supporting YEACs to mobilize communities to implement resilience-building measures.
- **Developing an Integrated Coastal Inundation Forecasting System:** With \$500,000 through NOAA in FY 2016, USAID/OFDA supported a multi-year pilot program in the Dominican Republic and Haiti to build local capacity and develop tools and products for storm surge forecasting that will aid in mitigation, preparedness, and evacuation processes. In partnership with the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs), the program worked to identify needs for storm surge planning and preparedness,

conduct trainings, develop a wave-modeling system, and begin laying the foundation for a regional approach to storm surge and wave-modeling and forecasting in the Caribbean region.

- **Supporting Practical Family Preparedness in Haiti and the Dominican Republic:** USAID/OFDA provided more than \$190,000 to USGS in FY 2016 to support earthquake preparedness for vulnerable households in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. With USAID/OFDA support and in coordination with GeoHazards International, USGS is developing locally appropriate earthquake hazard guidance—including resource booklets in local languages and messaging strategies developed in collaboration with community members—for at-risk families in four cities in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Using the materials, GeoHazards International and local partners will conduct household preparedness activities, such as home hazard assessments and outreach on earthquake-resistant home construction.

### Central America Regional Programs

- **Strengthening Institutional Capabilities for Disaster Risk Management:** Through \$1 million in FY 2016 assistance, USAID/OFDA supported the Central American Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters (CEPREDENAC) to bolster capacity and standardize procedures across national disaster risk management agencies throughout Central America. In February 2016, for example, CEPREDENAC adopted standards to strengthen the participation and protection of persons with disabilities in DRR and response policy and practice. The standards, designed through a USAID/OFDA-supported UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) project, will guide Central American countries’ efforts to assist persons with disabilities during natural disasters and other emergencies. With USAID/OFDA assistance, CEPREDENAC is also conducting regional and national trainings and simulations on responding to forest fires and conducting USAR operations, as well as strengthening coordination and human resource capacity among the region’s national disaster management authorities.
- **Central America Flood Forecasting and Early Warning: Weather-Ready Nations-Phase I:** With prior year assistance, USAID/OFDA supported NOAA in FY 2016 to continue partnering with national authorities to implement a river forecast system in Central America. River forecast systems provide critical information for decisions regarding flood warnings, drought preparation and response activities, irrigation management, and other issues. During the fiscal year, NOAA continued assessments, consultative visits, and other activities under the first phase of the program, which is scheduled to continue through FY 2017.
- **Central America Flash Flood Guidance:** USAID/OFDA—in partnership with the Hydrologic Research Center, WMO, and host country NMHSs—launched a collaborative program in 2008 to assist Central American countries in monitoring potential flash floods, therein improving early warning lead time, enabling timely responses, and reducing loss of life and the economic impact of floods. The program is intended to provide flash flood early warning guidance in countries with limited early warning capacity by utilizing targeted technology, conducting forecaster trainings, and providing technical assistance. With prior year funding to NOAA, USAID/OFDA continued to support trainings on the flash flood guidance system in FY 2016.
- **Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Emergencies:** USAID/OFDA supported UNICEF in FY 2016 with prior year assistance to facilitate the protection of persons with disabilities during emergencies in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. The program, which concluded in June 2016, worked to improve the ability of institutions implementing DRR programs to include persons with disabilities in their planning, preparedness, and response processes through workshops and the creation of standard guidelines. UNICEF also produced communication materials, including videos and radio messages, to inform the public and governments on the importance of including persons with disabilities in disaster response planning.

### South America Regional Programs

- **South America Flash Flood Guidance System:** In partnership with WMO and NMHSs, NOAA—with prior year USAID/OFDA assistance—continued a program in FY 2016 to develop and implement a flash flood guidance system to

improve early warning capabilities for flash floods in the region. During the fiscal year, NOAA hosted a planning meeting in Peru to discuss the establishment of a regional flash flood guidance system.

## Country Programs

### *Barbados*

- **Implementing a Community-Based Early Warning System:** With prior year assistance, USAID/OFDA continued supporting the UN Development Program (UNDP) in FY 2016 to implement a community-based early warning system in St. James Parish, a low-lying coastal area of Barbados. The program, which concluded in June 2016, aimed to increase awareness of natural hazards through enhanced public education and knowledge-building initiatives, reduce vulnerability to natural hazards through an enhanced alert system, and strengthen the capacity of national authorities to provide timely and accurate public warnings.

### *Chile*

- **Community-Based Wildfire Prevention:** USAID/OFDA provided CRS more than \$682,000 in FY 2016 to increase the capacity of vulnerable communities in Chile to prevent and respond to wildfires. With USAID/OFDA support, CRS is coordinating with Chile's National Forestry Corporation and local partner Caritas to develop, validate, and implement a model for community-based wildfire prevention. The program aims to train and organize firefighters, local disaster prevention and emergency management officials, municipal authorities, and individuals from 10 vulnerable communities in Chile's Araucanía, Maule, and Metropolitan regions on wildfire preparedness, mitigation, and management techniques using the new model. In addition, CRS is supporting learning exchanges between disaster prevention and response professionals and forestry technical experts from Chile and the greater Latin America region, employees of Chilean forestry companies, and forestry experts and researchers at Chilean universities.
- **Developing an Earthquake Early Situational Awareness System:** In April 2014, northern Chile experienced a magnitude 8.2 earthquake, and experts suggest that earthquakes of similar magnitude may occur in the future. With nearly \$289,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported USGS to design and install a rapid situational awareness system—using inexpensive cell phone technology—that provides time-critical earthquake information that can be used for automated alerts and to inform response decisions in Chile.
- **Sustainable National Seismic Monitoring System:** With prior year support through USGS, USAID/OFDA continued in FY 2016 to provide technical assistance to the Chilean National Emergency Office of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security and the University of Chile for the establishment of a comprehensive national seismic monitoring system. The program concluded in September 2016.

### *Colombia*

- **Strengthening Preparedness for Volcanic Eruptions:** With nearly \$300,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported AmCross to strengthen the resilience of approximately 20 communities in Colombia's Caldas and Tolima departments affected by the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano, which has contaminated water sources and adversely affected agriculture activities during previous eruptions. AmCross activities, including improving water management practices and promoting hygiene and basic sanitation, aim to increase community awareness and responsiveness to future volcanic eruptions. The project also provides local government disaster response authorities with equipment to monitor and effectively respond to eruptions.
- **Training Firefighters in Colombia:** Partially due to the effects of the 2015/2016 El Niño, more than 4,000 forest fires affected 29 of Colombia's 32 departments during 2015. With nearly \$150,000 in FY 2016 assistance, USAID/OFDA supported World Vision to train nearly 200 firefighters in Colombia's Casanare, Cundinamarca, Magdalena, Narine, and Tolima departments to reduce the social, economic, and environmental impact of forest fires. World Vision collaborated with the National Department of Firefighters of Colombia to conduct trainings for new firefighters and instructors.

- **Building Safer Communities in La Guajira:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported AmCross and its local partner the Colombian Red Cross in FY 2016 to strengthen resilience in vulnerable and poor communities residing in Colombia’s La Guajira Department. The program targeted 3,000 people and included disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management training and hygiene promotion campaigns. Program activities concluded in June 2016.
- **Knowledge and Engagement to Reduce Disaster Risk:** With prior year assistance, USAID/OFDA continued supporting Global Communities in FY 2016 to promote community and private- and public-sector engagement to reduce the social and economic impacts associated with frequent earthquakes, fires, flooding, and landslides in four highly vulnerable mountain neighborhoods of Medellín city, Colombia. Program activities included training and capacity building for neighborhood emergency committees; housing and infrastructure upgrades; and strengthening small-business resilience through public-private partnerships and contingency plan development.
- **Making Cities Resilient in Colombia:** USAID/OFDA supported UNISDR in FY 2016 with prior year funding to continue implementing its Making Cities Resilient campaign—which develops urban risk management capacities in cities exposed to seismic risks—in Colombia’s Bucaramanga, Cali, and Tunja municipalities. UNISDR coordinated the multi-year program, which ended in December 2015, with national disaster risk management authorities to carry out seismic risk mapping and training and design “resilience score cards” to assess resiliency in participating municipalities.

### *Costa Rica*

- **Reducing the Effects of El Niño and Climate Change:** With nearly \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported AmCross to promote environmental management to mitigate the impact of climate change and the 2015/2016 El Niño among three communities in Costa Rica’s Guanacaste State. The targeted communities of Filadelfia, Palmira, and Sardinal are at high risk due to the frequency of droughts and floods and associated consequences, such as drinking water shortages and decreased agricultural production. In collaboration with local government authorities and relevant national ministries, AmCross capacity-building activities aimed to strengthen community organizations’ environmental management capacity, expand public-private coordination mechanisms, and improve management of challenges, such as responding to periods of drought.
- **Building Resilience in San Carlos:** With prior year assistance, USAID/OFDA supported AmCross in FY 2016 to strengthen community resilience in the San Carlos area of Costa Rica’s Alajuela Province. Communities in San Carlos are vulnerable to natural disasters, including floods, earthquakes, and drought. Targeting rural communities, AmCross conducted training sessions in first aid, facilitated the creation of school brigades and community committees, and increased access to safe drinking water through improved water supply systems.
- **Bolstering Capacity for Resilient Communities:** USAID/OFDA supported World Vision in FY 2016 with prior year funding to strengthen communities’ ability to plan for and mitigate the effects of disasters. Targeting vulnerable communities living below the poverty line in Costa Rica’s Caribe, North Huetar, and Pacific regions, World Vision provided training to community members, supported the creation and strengthening of community emergency committees, and bolstered community linkages and partnerships with municipal emergency committees. Program activities concluded in June 2016.

### *Dominican Republic*

- **Strengthening DRR Capacity in the Dominican Republic:** With \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported Plan USA—in collaboration with the Government of the Dominican Republic—to strengthen regional and local Ministry of Education (MoE) capacity through mainstreaming national DRR and disaster risk management plans among MoE supervisors and school principals. Plan USA’s interventions are designed to reduce loss of life, safeguard school infrastructure, increase resilience, and enhance the MoE’s ability to resume education activities in early post-disaster emergency settings.

- **Studying Hispaniola’s Septentrional Fault:** Hispaniola is located along the seismically active Caribbean–North American plate boundary that comprises the Septentrional fault, which traverses the Dominican Republic’s Cibao Valley. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, USGS continued in FY 2016 to assess seismic risk in the city of Santiago de los Caballeros and other population centers within the rapidly growing Cibao Valley.
- **Strengthening Fire Prevention and Control in the Dominican Republic:** The Dominican Republic is vulnerable to forest fires, particularly from February–April and June–September. With prior year USAID/OFDA assistance, the Dominican Development Institute (IDDI) supported Pronatura’s collaboration with the Ministry of Environment’s Natural Resources Management Office in FY 2016 to establish coordinated guidelines and procedures and strengthen intergovernmental capacity to mitigate the effects of forest fires. IDDI’s activities included conducting preparedness and mitigation trainings, supporting the development of fire prevention and control action plans, and providing relevant equipment to fire brigades in areas of the country particularly vulnerable to fires. The program concluded in August 2016.

### *El Salvador*

- **Increasing Knowledge and Preparedness for Landslides and Volcanoes, Phase III:** With nearly \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support AmCross to assist communities, schools, and civil protection agencies in close proximity to El Salvador’s Chaparrastique Volcano to prepare for disasters. In December 2013, Chaparrastique erupted, forcing thousands of residents to flee their houses, highlighting that nearby communities and local authorities lacked preparation and preparedness training for volcanic hazards. Since 2013, the volcano has experienced a number of eruptions that adversely affected local communities. With USAID/OFDA support, AmCross began Phase I of the program in FY 2014, targeting nearly 6,400 people with activities such as first-aid training, drills and simulation exercises, and the installation of early warning systems. In Phase II, AmCross continued activities in some communities targeted during the prior year, while also expanding the program to eight new communities, reaching an estimated 6,600 individuals. During Phase III, AmCross continued to increase awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness and mitigation, as well as develop communities’ capacity to self-mobilize in the event of a disaster.
- **Integrating and Strengthening Early Warning Systems:** Populations in Usulután Department’s Jiquilisco Municipality in El Salvador are highly vulnerable to natural disasters, including drought, earthquakes, floods, and tsunamis. With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) in FY 2016 to strengthen early warning systems in 34 communities in Jiquilisco. SC/US also coordinated with local authorities, civil society organizations, and community representatives to conduct trainings and awareness activities that strengthened Jiquilisco households’ capacity to respond to disasters. Additionally, SC/US PCI
- implemented awareness and education activities, with participation from children and adolescents, to ensure the effective protection of vulnerable populations, particularly children, during emergencies. The program concluded in June 2016.

### *Guatemala*

- **Strengthening the National System for the Prevention and Control of Forest Fires:** USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 to CARE in FY 2016 to support awareness and capacity-building activities for local leaders in 60 communities in Guatemala’s Quiché and Totonicapán departments, which experience a high rate of forest fires. CARE also provided equipment and training to strengthen forest fire prevention and suppression capacity among municipal technical staff and personnel associated with the Government of Guatemala’s National System for Prevention and Control of Forest Fires.
- **Improving Resilience in Urban Neighborhoods:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided Project Concern International (PCI) with \$600,000 to continue implementing the “*Barrio Mio/My Neighborhood*” program in 17 informal neighborhoods in Mixco municipality near Guatemala City. During the fiscal year, PCI coordinated with private-sector partners, national and municipal agencies, universities, and local communities to reduce residents’ vulnerability to landslides, floods, high winds, and seismic activity by developing a scalable model to improve water and sanitation infrastructure, reconfigure settlements, and improve shelters. The program integrated livelihoods trainings and



employment opportunities into other components of the program, resulting in a comprehensive approach to reducing disaster risk and increasing community resilience.

- **Managing Climate Change Risk in Guatemala:** With more than \$79,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported the Rainforest Alliance to strengthen the capacity of local organizations in Huehuetenango and Quiché departments in Guatemala's western highlands to respond to climate risks associated with the 2015/2016 El Niño, which exacerbated recurring natural hazards, such as drought, forest fires, and water shortages. Program activities included strengthening DRR mechanisms among farming households through the introduction of drought-tolerant potatoes and building rainwater harvesting systems to support potato production. Rainforest Alliance interventions also strengthened local fire prevention and control systems by providing training and equipment for local fire brigades.
- **Building Disaster Response Capacity in South Central Guatemala:** With \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported SHARE to build capacity among departmental, municipal, and local risk management agencies in Guatemala's Chimaltenango, Escuintla, and Sacatepequez departments to respond to eruptions of the El Fuego Volcano. SHARE trainings aligned local capacities with national disaster preparedness strategies and established communication mechanisms between disaster response agencies to improve coordination and information management. Trainings included instruction in disaster response planning, emergency shelter management, and damage and needs assessments. Additionally, the program supported rehabilitation and equipping of local emergency operation centers (EOCs).
- **Increasing Community Resilience to Drought:** The Dry Corridor of eastern Guatemala receives less rainfall than other areas of Guatemala and experiences recurrent drought conditions that decrease agriculture production. In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided World Vision with \$210,000 to improve household food security and nutrition conditions in two municipalities in Chiquimula and Jutiapa departments affected by El Niño-related drought. Program activities, which prioritized vulnerable children, included hygiene promotion campaigns and risk management for water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) resources, such as rainwater harvesting to meet irrigation needs during the driest months of the year. World Vision also provided training, seeds, and other agricultural inputs to increase the cultivation of drought-tolerant native plant species.
- **Enhancing Food Security and Resilience in Rural Communities:** Rural communities residing in the western highlands of Guatemala's El Quiché Department are particularly vulnerable to drought. To reduce the effects of drought, USAID/OFDA continued to support CARE in FY 2016 with prior year funding to enhance the resilience of small farmers in El Quiché. CARE worked with communities to identify and implement more sustainable agricultural practices, including the use of drought-resistant seeds. The program also facilitated the development of self-capitalized village savings and loan associations (VSLAs). In addition to providing people who lack access to more formal banking institutions with a source of credit and a safe place to save, these VSLAs can be a source of emergency loans to help people recover from disasters and individual shocks.
- **Improving Food Security through Agricultural DRR:** Cyclical drought has affected rural populations in Guatemala's El Progreso Department in recent years. In addition, poor soil quality, deforestation, and hilly terrain reduce agricultural productivity. In response, USAID/OFDA continued to support the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) in FY 2016 with prior year funding to build the capacity of community-based Rural Development Learning Centers to withstand drought and other hazards. PADF trainings educated community members on more sustainable agriculture practices, such as soil conservation.
- **Increasing Preparedness and Risk Management Capacity in Northeastern Guatemala:** Drawing on lessons learned from a similar program in Guatemala's Western Highlands, SHARE Guatemala implemented a program with prior year funding designed to build disaster preparedness and management capacity in Guatemala's northeastern departments. In coordination with the National Coordination for Disaster Reduction, SHARE worked with local and

municipal authorities to design and implement training programs and provide basic first response equipment to strengthen the capacities of disaster response entities in the area. Additionally, the program supported the rehabilitation and equipping of local emergency operation centers. Program activities concluded in March 2016.

## *Haiti*

- **Building Local Capacity at the Departmental Level:** With more than \$618,000 in FY 2016 funding and ongoing FY 2015 support from USAID/OFDA, CRS and the U.S. Forest Service worked together in FY 2016 to bolster local disaster management capacity in Haiti’s Grand’Anse, Nord, Nord-Est, Sud, and Sud-Est departments—all high-risk areas for flooding and hurricanes—through trainings for local responders and support to departmental EOCs. Trainings in FY 2016 focused on implementing the incident command system (ICS)—globally recognized as a best practice for emergency response—to provide organizational structure and processes to improve the speed and effectiveness of disaster response. The trainings strengthened contingency planning, understanding of Sphere humanitarian principles and standards, and exercise design and implementation.<sup>3</sup> USAID/OFDA also supported efforts to improve the functionality of the EOCs, built with assistance from the U.S. Department of Defense Southern Command, and installed solar panels to provide power to the Grand’Anse EOC. In addition, CRS and local authorities updated maps that identify areas most vulnerable to disasters and improved local early warning systems and community-level response communications. CRS also maintains a USAID/OFDA-supported rapid response fund that enables the organization to respond quickly in the event of a sudden-onset emergency.
- **Pre-Positioning Relief Supplies for Rapid Response to Crisis-Affected Populations:** With \$700,000 in USAID/OFDA funding, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued in FY 2016 to pre-position emergency relief supplies in Haiti and build the capacity of Government of Haiti (GoH) Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) staff to effectively manage the supply pipeline and distribution during an emergency. The relief supplies are available to local response partners like the GoH and Haiti Red Cross Society, as well as international organizations, allowing rapid local response to disasters. IOM has pre-positioned relief commodities—including hygiene kits, plastic sheeting, and water containers—in its central warehouse in Haiti’s capital city of Port-au-Prince and in facilities in Artibonite, Grand’Anse, Sud, and Sud-Est departments. With USAID/OFDA support, IOM also maintains a rapid response fund that enables the organization to respond quickly in the event of a sudden-onset emergency.
- **Training Systems for Emergency Managers:** USAID/OFDA provided \$450,000 in FY 2016 to support IOM to continue strengthening a training-of-trainers program for Haitian officials on evacuation shelter management, information management, response options for displacement, and management of warehouses and relief commodities. The trainings improve the capacity of the DPC and other local emergency responders to protect lives and property before, during, and after emergency events. In coordination with the IOM training program, UNDP used prior year USAID/OFDA assistance to help the DPC develop a competency-based training system and framework for local responders to use at the national and departmental levels. UNDP also helped establish local information management cells in each department to strengthen DPC-led information management during emergency responses.
- **Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination and Capacity Building:** The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) leads coordination efforts in emergency responses, ensuring that humanitarian actors implement a coherent response. With \$200,000 in FY 2016 assistance from USAID/OFDA, OCHA continued efforts in Haiti to strengthen humanitarian coordination among GoH and UN officials, relief organizations, and other stakeholders to enable rapid, effective action in the event of a disaster. OCHA also continued to support information management and provide analysis of the humanitarian context in Haiti, contributing to a common understanding among response actors of the needs and existing response capacity in the country.

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<sup>3</sup> The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by the International Committee of the Red Cross, UN, NGOs, and donors to develop a set of universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance and thereby improve the quality of assistance provided to disaster-affected persons and to enhance the accountability of humanitarian agencies.

- **Supporting Emergency Preparedness in Cité Soleil:** USAID/OFDA provided Oxfam/Great Britain (Oxfam/GB) with \$125,000 in FY 2016 to continue strengthening disaster risk management capacity in Port-au-Prince's Cité Soleil, one of the most impoverished and densely populated communes in the city. In coordination with national and local authorities, Oxfam/GB worked with residents to increase hazard awareness, update community evacuation maps, develop family emergency plans, and implement small-scale mitigation projects. Oxfam/GB also plans to collaborate with the GoH to assess and rehabilitate existing emergency evacuation shelters, as well as identify additional shelters.
- **UPGRADE:** In coordination with USAID/Haiti, USAID/OFDA provided the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) more than \$2.2 million in FY 2016 to implement a three-year urban resilience program. The Urban Planning to Generate Resilience Against Disaster Events (UPGRADE) program will utilize existing local urban development plans, risk analyses, and needs assessments to identify and prioritize specific community capacity-building and mitigation activities in the vulnerable Martissant area of Port-au-Prince and Ouanaminthe commune in Haiti's Nord-Est Department. The program will coordinate with the DPC and other local actors to strengthen community response teams, support family emergency plans, conduct simulation exercises, bolster community-level contingency planning, improve drainage infrastructure, and rehabilitate community emergency evacuation shelters. The UPGRADE program will also include a significant WASH component—funded with an additional \$2.25 million from USAID/Haiti—to deliver clean water through the rehabilitation of public water supply networks and schools and churches that serve as disaster shelters. The WASH component of the program will also support sanitation messaging and rehabilitation of sanitation systems as part of the GoH's Hygiene Friendly Schools Initiative and support school-based hygiene behavior change to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases.
- **Support to Haiti's National Disaster Risk Management System:** Through prior year funding to UNDP, USAID/OFDA continued in FY 2016 to support GoH efforts to strengthen national institutional capacity for disaster mitigation and response. UNDP, in coordination with the GoH, worked to develop a formal DRR training system and provided the DPC with critical technical staff to enable strong management of DPC emergency operations.
- **Emergency Flood Mitigation and Hurricane Season Preparedness:** USAID/OFDA supported IOM with prior year funding to continue emergency flood mitigation and hurricane season preparedness efforts in Haiti in FY 2016. IOM implemented activities that mitigated the effects of floods in the urban watershed area of Millet Ravine in Port-au-Prince. The program, which benefited more than 70,000 Haitians living in flood-prone areas, repaired canals and cleaned ravines to reduce the potential for floods and resultant population displacement. IOM also conducted preparedness activities, including first aid trainings and DRR awareness raising activities, in local schools and with other vulnerable community groups. Program activities concluded in August 2016.
- **Improving Infrastructure to Reduce the Impact of Disasters:** With prior year support from USAID/OFDA, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) continued working in FY 2016 to reduce the potential impacts of geological and hydrometeorological hazards for an estimated 22,500 residents of Port-au-Prince's Tabarre commune. The program, which concluded in April 2016, aimed to improve public infrastructure, shelters, and emergency evacuation routes, including through the construction of walking bridges and canal repair, and carry out community educational campaigns, integrate DRR decision-making processes at the municipal and national levels, and improve water-management practices, such as the protection of water sources.
- **Building a Resilient Communication Infrastructure:** To improve communication during crises, USAID/OFDA continued to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) in FY 2016 with prior year funding to strengthen communication infrastructure in 10 Haitian provinces. Through the program, which concluded in March 2016, WFP installed radio equipment and trained technical and operational teams in the equipment's use and maintenance.
- **Community-Managed and Neighborhood-Based DRR:** Supported through previous year funding from USAID/OFDA, GOAL worked in FY 2016 to reduce urban disaster risk, increase resilience, and mitigate geological and

hydrometeorological hazards by expanding and embedding a neighborhood approach to DRR in five high-risk communities of Port-au-Prince, collectively home to approximately 23,500 residents. The program, which concluded in March 2016, strengthened social cohesion, implemented community infrastructure upgrades, integrated urban DRR management into national policies and plans, and addressed the priority needs of vulnerable residents through ongoing neighborhood assessments.

### *Honduras*

- **Supporting Community-Level DRR and WASH Preparedness:** USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$150,000 to AmCross in FY 2016 to support community-level DRR and WASH preparedness activities in Honduras' Jesus de Otoro municipality, Intibucá Department. In response to recent drought conditions and other climate-related risks, AmCross collaborated with the Honduran Red Cross to raise awareness of WASH-related disease risks and train communities and local authorities on safe WASH practices. The program also conducted trainings for individuals, communities, and institutions to increase climate-related disaster resilience.
- **Mitigating Climate-Related Disaster Risk in Intibucá:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided \$150,000 to CRS to reduce agriculture and food security risks in Intibucá, where communities relying on small-scale farming for livelihoods are particularly vulnerable to the effects of drought, higher temperatures, and other climate changes. CRS promoted activities to improve the capacity of households to respond to climate variability, including drought forecasting and preparation, irrigation practices, and sustainable land and water management.
- **Improving Drought Response Capacity in the Dry Corridor:** USAID/OFDA provided SC/US nearly \$150,000 in FY 2016 to mitigate drought vulnerability in Honduran communities susceptible to prolonged periods without rain. SC/US targeted more than 12,800 people in Francisco Morazán, Intibucá, and Valle departments with trainings to improve health-seeking behaviors, agricultural practices, and capacity-building activities to enhance disaster readiness. SC/US also worked with the Government of Honduras Standing Commission of Contingencies (COPECO) to strengthen the disaster response capacity of municipal and community organizations in the targeted departments through trainings and study tours.
- **Increasing Drought Resilience through Household and Community Training:** Through \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported World Vision to address drought vulnerability in Lempira Department by strengthening household farming initiatives and training local relief actors on disaster management. Using a two-pronged approach, World Vision provided technical support to households to establish seed distribution systems and irrigate small plots of land, while simultaneously working with institutions in two municipalities to develop DRR curricula and conduct trainings on disaster management, mitigation, and preparedness.
- **Strengthening Urban Risk Reduction in Tegucigalpa:** USAID/OFDA has supported GOAL to reduce urban disaster risk in three neighborhoods in the Ulloa sector of Honduras' capital city of Tegucigalpa since FY 2013. Ulloa—a neighborhood characterized by limited urbanization regulations and home to low-income families—is vulnerable to hazards, including fires, flooding, and landslides. With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support GOAL in FY 2016 to reduce disaster risk through a neighborhood-based approach, including minimizing the vulnerability of housing and public infrastructure, protecting livelihoods, and increasing community capacity for disaster preparedness and response.
- **Institutional Strengthening of COPECO Regional Offices:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support Plan International in FY 2016 to strengthen the capacity of COPECO to coordinate disaster response activities. Through the program, which concluded in August 2016, Plan International provided information technology equipment to the regional EOCs, trained COPECO staff, and supported regional COPECO offices to develop contingency and risk reduction plans.

## *Jamaica*

- **Building Resilience and Community DRR Capacities:** USAID/OFDA has supported Habitat for Humanity in Jamaica since FY 2014 to address risks associated with natural disaster hazards, such as drought, flooding, hurricanes, and tropical storms. With USAID/OFDA support, Habitat for Humanity has created community re-development plans, implemented DRR-oriented shelter and infrastructure improvements, and conducted community-awareness and coalition-building campaigns in St. Catherine Parish's Portmore municipality. In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$262,000 to Habitat for Humanity to continue conducting DRR programming in a highly vulnerable area of Portmore, where many households reside in informal shelters.
- **DRR for Vulnerable Populations in Jamaica:** Through prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported HelpAge International in FY 2016 to strengthen the preparedness and response capacity of particularly vulnerable Jamaican populations—such as families with children, the elderly, and farmers. HelpAge International conducted emergency response trainings for community members, trained elderly persons in disaster preparedness and mitigation techniques, supported the development of family emergency plans, and provided farmers with the knowledge and skills to better protect their livelihoods from natural disasters, among other activities. The program concluded in May 2016.
- **Improving Household Seed Storage and Reducing Post-Harvest Loss:** With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, NGO The Competitiveness Company worked in FY 2016 to reduce the vulnerability of approximately 1,000 households to external shocks by improving household-level seed storage practices and reducing the impact of crop loss following natural disasters, such as hurricanes and droughts. The program, which ended in September 2016, focused on seven parishes and provided seed storage training and units for traditional crop seeds, building the resilience of smallholder farmers and reducing reliance on external parties following a natural disaster.

## *Mexico*

- **Strengthening Capacity of First Responders:** In coordination with the Government of Mexico, World Vision continued a program in FY 2016 targeting more than 200 first responders and other disaster response officials with training designed to enhance response-related skills and knowledge. With prior year funding from USAID/OFDA, World Vision's training activities focused on issues such as damage and needs analyses, DRR principles, operations management, and USAR operations. The program concluded in August 2016.

## *Nicaragua*

- **Bolstering Protection and WASH Services in San Francisco Libre:** With \$150,000 in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA supported World Vision to improve disaster preparedness in three communities of Nicaragua's San Francisco Libre municipality in Managua Department, where barriers to public water sources have resulted in increased health and protection risks among vulnerable populations. Program activities included building disaster response capacity in households and schools, conducting hygiene promotion campaigns, and improving water supply infrastructure. Through support for the integration of DRR-specific school curricula, including the Government of Nicaragua's Risk Management in Education and the Sendai Framework for DRR for Children, World Vision is training educators to provide child protection and psychosocial support services in the event of an emergency. In addition, students and teachers will design and implement school safety plans and receive emergency response kits.
- **Building Local Capacity for Disaster Risk Management and Emergency Response:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support SC/US in FY 2016 to strengthen disaster risk management and emergency response capacity in Nicaragua's El Tuma-La Dalia municipality in Matagalpa Department. Program activities, which ended in August 2016, included conducting a risk assessment of the area, supporting the municipal disaster prevention committee to update DRR plans, providing training to local authorities and teachers in DRR and response, and developing school safety plans.

- **Strengthening INETER’s Monitoring Capacity:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA supported USGS with prior year funding to continue a partnership with the Nicaraguan Institute for Territorial Studies (INETER) that began in FY 2015. The program, which concluded in September 2016, strengthened INETER’s capacity to monitor seismic events.

### *Panama*

- **Improving Disaster Response Capacity in Los Santos:** USAID/OFDA provided AmCross nearly \$150,000 in FY 2016 to support disaster preparedness, preparation, and mitigation activities in communities and schools in Panama’s Los Santos Province, particularly to improve hygiene and water management practices in drought-prone areas. With USAID/OFDA assistance, AmCross worked with the Panamanian Red Cross to conduct health-related trainings, establish early warning systems, and instruct communities on water storage techniques to avoid contamination and shortages.
- **Disaster Risk Management in Inclusive and Safe Education Centers:** In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA provided the Foundation for the Refugee Education Trust (RET) with \$150,000 to support the development of a guide for inclusive disaster risk management in education centers. In addition, RET helped to institutionalize and operationalize the guide—which consolidated disaster preparedness work carried out by the Panamanian Institute for Special Adaptation, the Ministry of Education, and the National Civil Protection System—into Panama’s national disaster risk management policies.
- **Resilient Rapid Responder Youth Volunteer Network:** With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, World Vision coordinated with Global Rapid Rescue Relief in FY 2016 to implement a youth-focused, community-level program in Panama. The program provided training on disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies to youth, mobilizing participants to then share knowledge with peers. Through the USAID/OFDA-supported program, which concluded in May 2016, World Vision also supported the development of community early warning systems.

### *Paraguay*

- **Increasing Food Security and Resilience to Climate Change:** USAID/OFDA provided \$600,000 to ACDI/VOCA in FY 2016 to improve food security and resilience to climate change among populations in Paraguay’s Guayaibí District, San Pedro Department. The program trained family farming groups in agricultural adaptation to climate change and provided agricultural tools, equipment, and technical assistance to initiate vegetable gardens and small poultry infrastructure to support farming as a family business. To complement these activities and build local resilience, ACDI/VOCA assisted local authorities to establish a district council for risk management that comprises local authorities; academia and health sector representatives; and police, military, and community leaders.
- **Strengthening Paraguay’s National Emergency Secretariat:** With prior year USAID/OFDA assistance, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) worked in FY 2016 to increase community-level DRR capacity in Paraguay’s Concepción and Itapúa departments. Program activities, which concluded in August 2016, were developed in coordination with the National Emergency Secretariat and included awareness-raising events; training sessions for officials at the central, provincial, and municipal levels; and the creation of DRR strategies and contingency plans.

### *Peru*

- **Strengthening El Niño Preparedness in Peru:** With nearly \$1.4 million in USAID/OFDA funding, CARE Peru led a consortium of eight NGOs in Peru during FY 2016 to enhance awareness, coordination, and preparedness for El Niño-related climate events. The consortium conducted disaster preparedness planning trainings for local and international NGOs, disseminated information about safe shelter and WASH practices after a disaster, and mainstreamed protection concerns in DRR programming. The consortium also established partnerships with regional government agencies and the national risk management system. Program activities concluded in September 2016.

- **Supporting Urban Risk Reduction in Northern Lima:** In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA and SC/US began a multi-year program supporting urban neighborhoods in Peru’s Carabayllo District in northern Lima Province to increase disaster resilience through the adoption of DRR-aligned policies and procedures. SC/US also worked to strengthen critical community infrastructure and build local capacity through the identification and reinforcement of key local market systems and services. With previous year funding from USAID/OFDA, the program continued efforts in FY 2016 to foster participation and investment from private-sector actors, academic institutions, and community members, benefitting more than 50,000 people.
- **Safe and Resilient Communities in Pamplona Alta:** Located in Peru’s San Juan de Miraflores District, Pamplona Alta town is vulnerable to earthquakes, floods, and landslides; the effects of these disasters are exacerbated by inadequate WASH facilities. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, AmCross worked in FY 2016 to increase resilience in Pamplona Alta through community engagement and sanitation improvements. Activities, including disaster preparedness and mitigation training and hygiene promotion campaigns, targeted 3,000 people residing in Pamplona Alta.
- **Reinforcing Innovative Mechanisms for DRR in Rímac:** With previous year USAID/OFDA support, COOPI worked with civil society organizations, local authorities, and the private sector in FY 2016 to strengthen risk management in marginalized informal communities of Rímac District in Peru’s capital city of Lima. The program disseminated risk management tools among government authorities with decision-making capacity; upgraded hazard-prone infrastructure; strengthened capacities of community groups, including women’s associations; provided practical training; and developed a geographical information system database to identify and help address existing vulnerabilities.
- **Risk Reduction in Vulnerable Areas of Lima:** The Center for Disaster Studies and Prevention in Peru (PREDES) continued to strengthen community, municipal, and national disaster risk management capacities in the vulnerable Independencia District of Lima in FY 2016. The program, supported with prior year USAID/OFDA assistance, aimed to identify earthquake-vulnerable structures and conduct technical studies to determine best techniques and materials to improve building strength and functionality. In addition, PREDES engaged the private sector and government entities to develop, validate, and disseminate earthquake-resistant building techniques to benefit an estimated 19,000 people.
- **Protecting Livelihoods in the Upper Andes:** In FY 2016, CARE Peru continued to support the livelihoods of households in vulnerable, poor, and rural communities in Peru’s Puno Region that are exposed to recurrent hydrometeorological events. With prior year assistance from USAID/OFDA, CARE Peru implemented a risk management and climate adaptation capacity-building initiative. The project developed local capacity and local ownership; strengthened linkages between risk identification, monitoring, early warning, and early action; and expanded partnerships and joint programming. Program activities concluded in September 2016.
- **Strengthening Preparedness in El Agustino:** USAID/OFDA began supporting UNDP in FY 2015 to reduce disaster risks and build the resilience of communities residing in Lima’s El Agustino municipality. The program, which ended in May 2016, supported the creation of risk reduction and safety action plans, incorporating gender-based vulnerabilities; promoted resilient livelihood strategies through training on small business and entrepreneurship for women; and implemented a risk reduction technical study of the area, in coordination with municipal authorities.

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## **PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE**

In addition to stand-alone DRR programs implemented to prepare for or mitigate the effects of disasters in the LAC region, USAID/OFDA integrated preparedness and mitigation into disaster response in Haiti during FY 2016.

## Haiti

- **Strengthening Family Farms:** USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in FY 2016 to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable farming families affected by drought in Haiti's Nord and Sud-Est departments through agricultural production recovery activities. The project distributed drought-resistant seeds and cuttings to participants and increased the resilience capacity of rural communities through training and education on sustainable farming methods.
- **Emergency WASH Intervention:** With \$900,000 from USAID/OFDA in FY 2016, Solidarités International increased access to safe drinking water in Haiti's drought-affected Sud-Est Department by implementing chlorination mechanisms; protecting settling basins; providing water trucking to at-risk communities; and rehabilitating water supply infrastructure, including catchment areas. Solidarités International also provided education on the importance of good hygiene through door-to-door, school, and general public outreach activities and trained local committees to manage and maintain water supply systems to increase community resilience to drought.
- **Providing Emergency Nutrition:** With \$1.2 million in FY 2016 USAID/OFDA funding, UNICEF provided treatment for malnourished children and promoted appropriate infant and young child feeding practices in 38 drought-affected rural areas of Haiti. The project, implemented in coordination with the GoH Ministry of Health, targeted severely malnourished children younger than five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women, providing preventive activities, case management of severe acute malnutrition, therapeutic feeding inputs and medicines, and nutritional interventions, including micronutrient supplementation.
- **Promoting Health Through Access to Clean Water:** USAID/OFDA provided UNICEF nearly \$250,000 in FY 2016 to support emergency WASH interventions in Haiti's Sud-Est Department. The program reduced the risk of waterborne and hygiene-related diseases as a consequence of water shortages and contamination and increased access to clean water in drought-affected communities.

### USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR LAC IN FY 2016<sup>1</sup>

LOCATION	PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	PARTNER	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
<b>USAID/OFDA STAND-ALONE DRR FUNDING IN LAC<sup>2</sup></b>					
LAC Regional	Institutionalization of DRR in Higher Education Institutions	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CSUCA	\$500,000	\$8,436,158
	DRR in the Americas	Humanitarian Studies, Analysis, or Applications, Risk Management Policy and Practice	FIU	\$1,250,000	
	Assessing and Mitigating Earthquake Risk in the Caribbean and Central America	Natural and Technological Risks	GEM	\$499,500	
	RDAP	Administrative Support	IRG	\$1,738,000	
	PREPARE	Natural and Technological Risks, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Miyamoto International	\$900,000	
	Building Tsunami Preparedness	Natural and Technological Risks	NOAA	\$150,000	
	Health Sector Resilience in LAC	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	PAHO	\$2,000,000	
	Strengthening Resilience-Building Capacity at the Local Level	Risk Management Policy and Practice	UNISDR	\$850,000	
VDAP	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	\$548,658		
Caribbean Regional	Saving Lives in the Caribbean Through Preparedness	Risk Management Policy and Practice	AmCross	\$625,000	\$1,990,076



	Youth-Led Community Action for Increased Disaster and Climate Change Resilience	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CRS	\$675,000	
	Developing an Integrated Coastal Inundation Forecasting System	Natural and Technological Risks	NOAA	\$500,000	
	Supporting Practical Family Preparedness in Haiti and the Dominican Republic	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	\$190,076	
Central America Regional	Strengthening Institutional Capabilities for Disaster Risk Management	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CEPRENAC	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Chile	Community-Based Wildfire Prevention	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CRS	\$682,239	\$971,184
	Developing an Earthquake Early Situational Awareness System	Natural and Technological Risks	USGS	\$288,945	
Colombia	Strengthening Preparedness for Volcanic Eruptions	Risk Management Policy and Practice	AmCross	\$299,954	\$448,907
	Training Firefighters in Colombia	Risk Management Policy and Practice	World Vision	\$148,953	
Costa Rica	Reducing the Effects of El Niño and Climate Change	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	AmCross	\$149,845	\$149,845
Dominican Republic	Strengthening DRR Capacity in the Dominican Republic	Risk Management Policy and Practice	Plan USA	\$150,000	\$150,000
El Salvador	Increasing Knowledge and Preparedness for Landslides and Volcanoes, Phase III	Risk Management Policy and Practice	AmCross	\$149,845	\$149,845
Guatemala	Strengthening the National System for the Prevention and Control of Forest Fires	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CARE	\$300,000	\$1,339,067
	Improving Resilience in Urban Neighborhoods	ERMS, Risk Management Policy and Practice	PCI	\$600,000	
	Managing Climate Change Risk in Guatemala	Agriculture and Food Security, Natural and Technological Risks	Rainforest Alliance	\$79,067	
	Building Disaster Response Capacity in South Central Guatemala	Risk Management Policy and Practice	SHARE	\$150,000	
	Increasing Community Resilience to Drought	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	World Vision	\$210,000	
Haiti	Building Local Capacity at the Departmental Level	Risk Management Policy and Practice	CRS	\$618,080	\$4,343,080
	Pre-Positioning Relief Supplies for Rapid Response to Crisis-Affected Populations	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	IOM	\$700,000	
	Training Systems for Emergency Managers	Risk Management Policy and Practice	IOM	\$450,000	
	Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination and Capacity Building	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	OCHA	\$200,000	
	Supporting Emergency Preparedness in Cité Soleil	Natural and Technological Risks, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Oxfam/GB	\$125,000	
	UPGRADE	Natural and Technological Risks, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	PADF	\$2,250,000	
Honduras	Supporting Community-Level DRR and WASH Preparedness	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	AmCross	\$149,838	\$599,837
	Mitigating Climate-Related Disaster Risk in Intibucá	Agriculture and Food Security	CRS	\$150,000	

	Improving Drought Response Capacity in the Dry Corridor	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	SC/US	\$149,999	
	Increasing Drought Resilience through Household and Community Training	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Management Policy and Practice	World Vision	\$150,000	
Jamaica	Building Resilience and Community DRR Capacities	Shelter and Settlements	Habitat for Humanity	\$261,872	\$261,872
Nicaragua	Bolstering Protection and WASH Services in San Francisco Libre	Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	World Vision	\$150,000	\$150,000
Panama	Improving Disaster Response Capacity in Los Santos	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	AmCross	\$149,845	\$299,845
	Disaster Risk Management in Inclusive and Safe Education Centers	Risk Management Policy and Practice	RET	\$150,000	
Paraguay	Increasing Food Security and Resilience to Climate Change	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	ACDI/VOCA	\$600,000	\$600,000
Peru	Strengthening El Niño Preparedness in Peru	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	CARE Peru	\$1,357,122	\$1,357,122
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS</b>					<b>\$22,246,838</b>

#### USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE

	Strengthening Family Farms	Agriculture and Food Security	FAO	\$1,000,000	
Haiti	Emergency WASH Intervention	WASH	Solidarités International	\$900,000	\$3,349,977
	Providing Emergency Nutrition	Nutrition, Protection	UNICEF	\$1,200,000	
	Promoting Health Through Access to Clean Water	WASH	UNICEF	\$249,977	
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE</b>					<b>\$3,349,977</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR LAC IN FY 2016</b>					<b>\$25,596,815</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2016; program descriptions in the fact sheet reflect USAID/OFDA-supported DRR programs active during the fiscal year, regardless of year of funding.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2016.

## 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](http://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](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://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>