

SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

NOVEMBER 21, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

9.3 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
U.N. – November 2013

6.5 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
U.N. – November 2013

2.2 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – November 2013

553,311

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – November 2013

823,438

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – November 2013

521,493

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – November 2013

202,976

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – November 2013

127,733

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – November 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) now confirms that there are 13 cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) in Syria.
- Countries across the region are implementing polio vaccination campaigns in response to the outbreak.
- Humanitarian convoys provide assistance to nearly 313,000 people in hard-to-reach areas.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$271,995,689
USAID/FFP ²	\$442,699,121
State/PRM ³	\$635,084,221
\$1,349,779,031	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of November 11, WHO had identified 13 confirmed cases of WPV1 in Syria, all in Dayr az Zawr Governorate. As the Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA) launched on October 24 continues, U.N. and relief agencies are creating micro-plans for further polio vaccination campaigns, while countries across the region implement additional vaccination campaigns in response to the outbreak.
- Since late October, joint U.N.–Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) humanitarian convoys have dispatched humanitarian aid to nearly 313,000 people in hard-to-reach areas of Syria. Nearly 60,000 people received assistance in besieged areas of Homs Governorate, where many people have been cut off from humanitarian support since May. The convoys also delivered health care and medical supplies to benefit approximately 260,000 people in opposition- and Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-held areas in the city of Aleppo.
- More than 18,100 people have fled to the Aarsal area of Lebanon since November 15 following violence in the Qalamoun area of Rif Damascus Governorate, the U.N. reports. With the support of the Government of Lebanon (GoL) Ministry of Social Affairs, UNHCR is coordinating the interagency response to provide humanitarian assistance to the new refugees. Lebanon currently hosts more than 823,400 refugees from Syria.

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

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- The U.N. believes that the national vaccination campaign may be assisting in gradually opening up humanitarian access countrywide, as joint U.N.–SARC convoys delivered assistance to nearly 313,000 people in hard-to-reach areas of Syria starting in late-October. The U.N. Hub—comprising a sub-office with staff from several U.N. agencies and a regional warehouse—in Homs Governorate received the support of the Governor of Homs to provide comprehensive humanitarian assistance to besieged communities in Homs Governorate through three joint U.N.–SARC convoys in November. The first joint convoy crossed lines of conflict on November 8 to deliver emergency supplies to approximately 35,000 people in Al Rastan area, where many people have been cut off from assistance since May. Relief supplies included hygiene kits, clothing, blankets, water purification tablets, soap, and washing powder. A second convoy delivered relief supplies, including wheat flour, for approximately 17,500 people in Homs on November 14, while a third delivered humanitarian supplies to an additional 1,500 families in the Al Rastan area. Medical hospitals and clinics in both SARC- and opposition-controlled areas in the city of Aleppo received medical supplies for 260,000 people, marking the largest and most comprehensive delivery of humanitarian assistance across lines of conflict since the crisis began.
- The SARC recently announced that 32 SARC volunteers have been killed providing humanitarian assistance in Syria since the conflict began. Ten volunteers were killed in recent weeks, representing a significant increase. On November 12, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) presented Dr. Abdul Rahman, on behalf of the SARC, with the Red Cross Red Crescent Prize for Peace and Humanity, recognizing the efforts of more than 3,000 SARC volunteers who help deliver humanitarian assistance in Syria. Dr. Rahman dedicated the award to the SARC volunteers who have lost their lives while bringing relief to civilians affected by the conflict.

POLIO

- WHO and the SARG have confirmed a total of 13 cases of WPV1 in Syria. The genetic sequencing of polio samples indicates that the isolated viruses are most closely linked to environmental viruses detected in Egypt in December 2012, which has been linked to WPV1 circulating in Pakistan.
- Increased attention to surveillance in Syria has led to increased reporting of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases, a significant syndrome marker for polio. Surveillance efforts have recently reported additional AFP cases from governorates beyond Dayr az Zawr Governorate, where the 22 AFP “hot” cases were reported in October. WHO is investigating these additional AFP reports and awaiting case classification of stool samples.
- WHO and the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) now project that more than 20 million children in Syria and neighboring countries will urgently require polio vaccination. WHO projects that a region-wide vaccination campaign will last a minimum of six months and require at least 50 million doses of vaccine for repeated treatments. Although global supply of oral polio vaccine was limited prior to the outbreak in Syria, WHO, UNICEF, and manufacturers are working to secure sufficient quantities to reach all children.
- As of November 18, WHO and UNICEF report that an estimated 1.4 million children under five years of age in Syria—including approximately 140,000 in Dayr az Zawr Governorate, where the polio outbreak has been confirmed—have been vaccinated through immunization campaigns that began in late October and were planned prior to the confirmation of the polio outbreak. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that the pre-planned campaigns aim to vaccinate 2.2 million children, including 1.6 million for polio, but access constraints in Dar’a, Rif Damascus, and northeastern governorates are hindering the campaign’s progress.
- U.N. agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local government representatives are collaborating on polio response micro-planning and monitoring for the forthcoming large-scale SIAs targeting all children under five years of age in Syria. The micro-plans focus on district and sub-district levels and specify target groups, vaccination team requirements, necessary vaccine doses, and other logistical resources required for the planned household-level polio vaccination campaigns, whenever possible. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) specialists assigned to USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Teams in Jordan and Turkey are in close communication with the relevant agencies working on the polio response.
- The Government of Turkey (GoT) Ministry of Health (MoH), with the support of WHO and UNICEF, launched the first round of a mass polio vaccination campaign for areas on or near the Syrian border on November 18. The first

round, which will continue through November 24, and the second round scheduled for December 23–30 will target nearly 1.5 million children—Turkish and non-Turkish—under the age of five. The second round will also include measles, mumps, and rubella vaccinations. In provinces along the border, GoT MoH teams will vaccinate all children under the age of five in refugee camps and urban areas. In non-border provinces, the teams will administer the vaccinations at mobile vaccination posts, hospitals, shopping centers, and schools.

- In response to the polio outbreak in Syria, Jordan began a National Immunization Campaign on November 2 to vaccinate children under the age of five against polio, and children 6 months through 19 years of age against measles and rubella. As of November 14, the campaign had reached 83 percent of children—2.7 of 3.3 million—targeted to receive measles and rubella vaccines and 93 percent of children—more than 834,000 of 895,000—targeted for the polio vaccine. More than 517,000 children have also received Vitamin A supplements to reduce the risk of blindness and illnesses such as measles and diarrhea, which are exacerbated by Vitamin A deficiency. WHO plans to conduct a post-vaccination survey in December to confirm coverage and identify any gaps.
- In Lebanon, the first of two nationwide polio campaigns began in early November. The first campaign targets all children under the age of five living in informal tented settlements and at the three Syria–Lebanon border crossings. UNICEF is providing the vaccinations for the campaign, with 1.5 million doses procured in addition to the 280,000 already stocked by UNICEF in Lebanon. UNICEF, the GoL Ministry of Public Health, and local NGO Beyond Association are participating in the campaign.

DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Internal Displacement

- USG partners are responding to water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable people across Syria with more than \$32.4 million in FY 2013 USG funding. One USG partner is distributing relief items, including feminine hygiene products, soap, and water containers, in Rif Damascus Governorate to approximately 15,000 conflict-affected people, including 10,000 IDPs. Another USG partner, which is distributing hygiene kits to IDPs and host community households in northern Syria, reached approximately 22,500 households in October. The hygiene kits include detergent, diapers, feminine hygiene products, and toothpaste.
- On November 17, the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) released a statement expressing concern over the continued restriction of access to Palestinian civilians in Yarmouk—a suburb just south of the city of Damascus—and calling on all parties to the conflict to comply with their obligations to protect civilians. Prior to the conflict, Yarmouk was home to more than 160,000 Palestinian refugees. Since December 2012, at least 140,000 Palestinian refugees have fled their homes in Yarmouk due to conflict in the area, leaving approximately 20,000 people trapped there as intense fighting continues and access points remain sealed. Between December 2012 and June 2013, civilians could still access UNRWA assistance at the Zahera entrance to Yarmouk. However, since mid-July 2013, despite numerous appeals and efforts by UNRWA, Palestinian refugees and other civilians have been trapped in the area, resulting in a grave humanitarian situation with little or no freedom of movement or access to humanitarian assistance.

Refugees in Neighboring Countries

- U.N. agencies and Regional Response Plan implementers are undertaking a winterization plan, valued at approximately \$138 million, for Syrian refugees across the region, UNICEF reports. The regional winterization plan will provide assistance to all Syrians living in refugee camps and more than 40 percent of Syrian refugees living outside of camps. Relief agencies are providing a range of assistance inside camps, including distribution of core relief items—such as materials to increase the insulation of tent covers and stoves and fuel for heating—and providing vulnerable children with clothing and waterproof footwear. Health organizations are scaling up surveillance and response capacity for detecting winter-borne illnesses such as influenza and other respiratory diseases. For refugees living outside of camps, humanitarian interventions target those living in sub-standard shelters or areas with severe climatic conditions, as well as those who may have the most difficulty covering accommodation, utility, and heating or fuel costs.

Jordan

- From November 1–11, nearly 3,390 refugees—averaging approximately 307 per day, slightly higher than the 200 to 300 per day during the previous week—crossed into Jordan and were subsequently transported to Za’atri refugee camp. An estimated 1.3 million Syrians reside in Jordan, approximately half of whom entered the country since the start of the Syrian conflict, according to the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Iraq

- U.N. agencies and international and local NGOs are implementing winterization activities across Dahuk, Erbil, and Sulaimaniya governorates—the three governorates hosting Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Relief agencies are consulting regularly to map out activities and design distribution plans to ensure that gaps are identified and addressed appropriately, the U.N. reports. As of November 4, a total of 20 trucks carrying UNHCR-provided high-thermal blankets had arrived in Erbil, with more convoys containing winter preparedness items planned for the month of November. In Dahuk Governorate, UNHCR plans to distribute winterization relief items to 6,300 vulnerable households living outside of camps. In addition, UNHCR is establishing a water drainage system to prevent water logging in Al Obaidy refugee camp in the city of Al Qa’im, Al Anbar Governorate. UNHCR is also distributing winterization relief items, including heating stoves, kerosene, mattresses, plastic sheeting, water containers, and blankets, to refugees in Al Obaidy camp.

Lebanon

- During the first week in November, UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council distributed kitchen sets to more than 2,600 new refugees in Bekaa Valley, which hosts approximately one-third of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The distributions are in addition to mattresses, bed sheets, diapers, and other household items from UNHCR and Caritas Lebanon Migrant Centre distributed to approximately 1,000 refugees. As part of the interagency winterization plan, relief agencies will distribute relief items—including thermal blankets, stoves, cash for five months of fuel, and winter clothing kits and vouchers for children under the age of 14—in the coming weeks.
- Following escalating violence in Qarah town in the Qalamoun region of Rif Damascus Governorate, more than 18,100 Syrians have fled to Arsal municipality in the Bekaa region of Lebanon since November 15, representing the largest single influx into the area to date. The violence is spreading from Qarah to neighboring Nabek and Yabrud towns, which have larger populations than Qarah and could lead to a greater influx of refugees to Bekaa. Preliminary assessments indicate that approximately 80 percent of the refugees originated in Homs Governorate and were displaced to Qarah earlier in the year.
- The newly-arrived refugees are staying throughout Arsal in mosques, events halls, and informal tented settlements, with some refugees also living with host family members or in unfurnished buildings. Local municipal authorities, with the support of the U.N. and implementing partners, are registering the new refugees, with approximately 500 households registered on November 18. Local authorities have provided a temporary site in Arsal for a formal tented settlement that can accommodate 50 families; U.N. partners have constructed 21 tents, and nine vulnerable families already reside there. U.N. partners have also deployed mobile medical clinics to provide immediate health care services to new arrivals and are distributing relief items, including food parcels, blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits, to the new arrivals. Logistics for providing humanitarian assistance remain a challenge, and shelter and WASH remain key priorities.
- With support from UNHCR, Save the Children, and local NGO Amel Association, “Accelerated Learning Programs” and remedial classes benefited more than 2,100 children in Lebanon during the first week of November. More than 41,000 refugee children are involved in non-formal education programs across the country, and more than 33,000 refugee children are enrolled in public schools. UNHCR is working with the GoL Ministry of Education and Higher Education to ensure that second-shift schools are operational as soon as possible. In southern Lebanon, the first second-shift school for refugee children began in Shebaa village the week of November 11. UNICEF and the International Orthodox Christian Charities repaired approximately 48 schools across Lebanon to help accommodate both Lebanese and Syrian children.

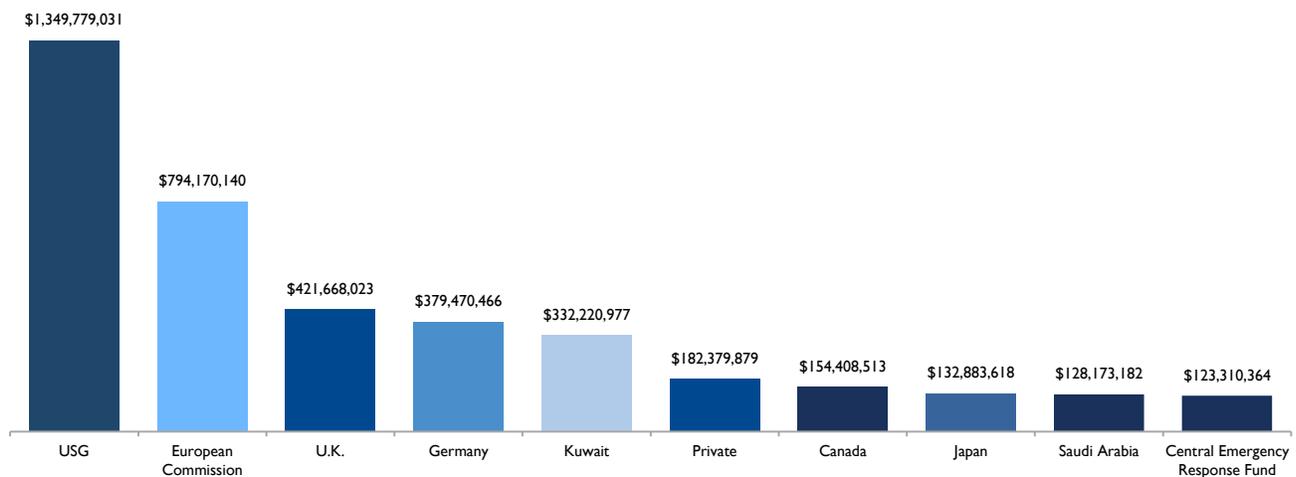
Turkey

- On November 5, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Catherine Russell joined USG and GoT officials, along with the UNICEF Turkey representative and the Syria National Council Gaziantep representative, at the official opening of the USG-funded UNICEF school in Islahiye camp. Ambassador Russell's remarks highlighted USG assistance to the Syria response and the importance of education to prevent a lost generation of children. The USG provided \$380,000 for the school, which consists of two pre-fabricated structures comprising 24 classrooms, as well as several additional rooms for administration and recreation. The facility also includes a basketball court and child-friendly community space. More than 1,400 children are expected to benefit from the facility; Syrian teachers will lead classes under the supervision of a Turkish education coordinator.

Egypt

- UNHCR estimates that since August 2013, an estimated 1,300 Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria have been detained by the Government of Egypt, the majority on charges of illegally exiting the country or lacking a residency permit. At present, approximately 920 are being held indefinitely and in poor conditions; almost all others have opted to "voluntarily" depart the country, the majority to Jordan or Turkey, according to UNHCR. In some cases, particularly for Palestinians who have limited options of return, refugees—including minors—have been sent back to Syria. UNHCR is also concerned about the residency renewal process and overcrowding in schools and plans to open a new office next month in the city of Alexandria. Egypt currently hosts more than 127,000 registered Syrian refugees and approximately 6,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES 2012 AND 2013 TOTAL FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of November 21, 2013. All international figures are according to OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2012 and 2013 calendar years, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2012, for FY 2013 and on October 1, 2011, for FY 2012. Please note that recent funding pledges may not be reflected in OCHA's figures.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, President Bashar al-Asad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Asad began responding to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate.
- A U.N. Security Council-endorsed peace plan—accepted by the SARG on March 26, 2012—called for a ceasefire, unrestricted humanitarian access, and the withdrawal of military personnel from populated areas. The ceasefire never took full effect as clashes between SARG and opposition forces, as well as SARG attacks on demonstrators and populated areas, continued.
- On August 16, 2012, the U.N. elected not to renew the mandate of the U.N. Supervision Mission in Syria, which had suspended operations on June 16 due to increasing levels of violence throughout the country. All U.N. military observers departed Syria in late August 2012.
- At a November 2012 meeting in Doha, Qatar, Syrian opposition factions formed an umbrella organization—the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, also known as the Syrian Coalition (SC). The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. Shortly after its formation, the SC established the Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. USG, other donors, and NGO representatives meet with the ACU on a regular basis to share information regarding identified needs, current and planned assistance, and challenges to providing aid.
- Syria hosts approximately 529,000 Palestinian refugees, with more than 80 percent living in and around Damascus, particularly in the neighborhood of Yarmouk. Intense fighting in and around Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that more than 420,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict and 235,000 are displaced inside the country. Syria also hosts an estimated 39,476 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$200,016,769
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$3,000,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health	Syria	\$2,795,900
WHO	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
U.N. World Food Program (WFP)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$2,637,156
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$252,299,825
USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$70,803,546
WFP	EMOP	Syria	\$162,095,475

WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt	\$162,800,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$395,699,121

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
IFRC	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
International Organization for Migration	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$10,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Livelihoods, Capacity Building, Gender-Based Violence, Shelter, Case Management	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$22,924,280
U.N. Development Program (UNDP)	WASH	Lebanon	\$400,000
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,793,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$312,637,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$58,170,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$72,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon	\$15,800,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$55,100,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$582,724,280
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$1,230,723,226

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$19,695,864
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$47,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$52,359,941
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012	\$119,055,805

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013	\$1,349,779,031
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¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. \$12.8 million in funding was committed in FY 2012 and obligated in FY 2013.

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as November 21, 2013.

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.
- The USG 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:
 - The 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>