



# USAID FOOD ASSISTANCE FACT SHEET

## PREPOSITIONED STOCKS

USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance continues to transform how it provides humanitarian assistance to be more timely and effective as part of an enduring commitment to provide help in times of need. One way that USAID saves time, which in turn saves lives during a crisis, is to strategically preposition food and non-food aid. Stockpiling commodities in key locations around the world allows USAID and its partners to be prepared for a sudden emergency or unanticipated humanitarian need, and significantly reduces the amount of time it takes to reach people in need. By getting a head-start on the lengthy procurement and delivery process, prepositioned food arrives an average 76 days earlier than food procured normally. For non-food items (NFIs), USAID maintains key supplies in two global warehouses for immediate use in the wake of a disaster.

Prepositioned Food Commodities	Prepositioned Non Food Items	
Corn-Soy Blend Plus	Airfield Recovery Kits	Goggles
Corn-Soy Blend Super Cereal Plus	Anti-fog Glasses Spray	Hygiene Supplies
Lentils	Aprons	Kitchen Sets
Fortified Rice	Biohazard Bags	Life Vests
Pinto Beans	Blankets	Plastic Sheeting
Sorghum	Boat Motors	Portable Patient Transport Units
Vegetable Oil	Boot Covers	Power Strips
Yellow Split Peas	Bucket with Lid and Tap	Scrubs
	Cadaver Bags	Settling Tank Kits
	Chain Saw Kits	Shelter Fixing Kits
	Chemical-resistant Tape	Water Purification Tablets
	Compression Hand Sprayers	Water Containers
	Concrete Saw Kits	Water Treatment Units
	Emergency Lights	Water Bladder Kits
	Gauntlets	

# PREPOSITIONED FOOD COMMODITIES

At any given moment, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance has up to 50,000 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food aid stored in four warehouses around the world, ready to respond to crises as they arise. These inventories are replenished based on anticipated needs, forecasted demand, and the availability of funds and food items. In FY 2021, USAID procured and shipped a total of 370,030 MT for its warehouses, of which 271,330 MT was diverted to address urgent humanitarian needs in DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Yemen, and 98,700 MT was strategically prepositioned in our PREPO warehouses in Djibouti, Durban, and Houston. Of the prepositioned inventory, 88,025 MT was provided to BHA partners for distribution in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, DRC, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. USAID also works with the UN World Food Program (WFP) to maintain its network of warehouses throughout the world. By extending the network, USAID and WFP can reach even more people in need of emergency food assistance.

While prepositioned food stocks can be critical to prepare for a sudden emergency, they are not always the right tool for the response. In some cases, relying on prepositioned food can be a critical bridge before food arrives from the U.S., while in other circumstances it might be more cost effective or appropriate to procure food locally or regionally.

# PREPOSITIONED NON-FOOD ITEMS

To ensure a timely response to any given crisis, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance strategically positions items commonly required in a disaster across two emergency stockpiles. Each stockpiled item is selected with input from USAID technical advisors and field staff, as well as relief agency partners, incorporating best practices and lessons learned from the humanitarian community, including utilizing the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depots (UNHRD) network. Rapid procurement mechanisms can also be employed to obtain items that are not normally stocked in the warehouses.

USAID maintains warehouses in Miami and Dubai, major sea ports near major transportation hubs, which allows rapid supply mobilization and the ability to re-supply warehouses more cost-effectively following disasters. USAID primarily relies on commercial carriers to transport relief supplies; however, in cases where DoD's unique capabilities are required, USAID may call upon DoD's services.

