



Türkiye and Syria - Earthquakes

MARCH 9, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

52,104

Earthquake-related Deaths Reported in Türkiye and Syria

Media – March 2023

240,000

Number of Damaged or Destroyed Buildings in Türkiye and Syria

UN - March 2023

2.7

Number of People Displaced in Türkiye

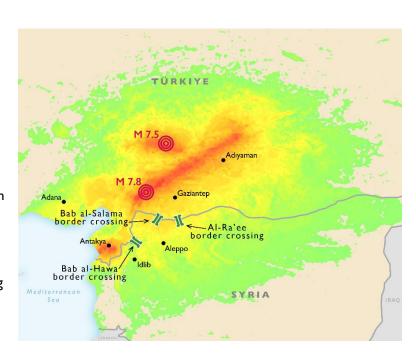
IOM - March 2023

86,000

Number of People Displaced in Northwest Syria

UN - March 2023

- Aleppo International Airport remains closed following airstrikes on March 7, which prompted the temporary suspension of UNHAS flights to and from the airport.
- The UN and other health actors began a cholera vaccination campaign on March 7 to vaccinate individuals in at-risk communities in northwest Syria.
- Earthquake-affected communities in northwest Syria are facing compounded mental health and protection risks, according to IRC.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA ¹	\$94,624,319
For the Türkiye and Syria Earthquakes Response in FY 2023	DoD^2	\$27,600,736
For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 9	Total	\$122,225,055

USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

TIMELINE

February 6, 2023

At 4:17 a.m. local time, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake strikes central-southern Türkiye at a depth of 11.1 miles. At 1:24 p.m. local time, a magnitude 7.5 earthquake strikes central-southern Türkiye at a depth of 6.2 miles

February 6, 2023

GoT calls for international search-andrescue assistance and support to meet the needs of earthquakeaffected populations

February 6, 2023

Ambassador Flake issues a DHN due to the effects of the earthquakes in Türkiye

February 6, 2023

USAID/BHA deploys a DART to Türkiye and activates a Washington, D.C.-based RMT to coordinate USG response efforts

February 7, 2023

USAID/BHA deploys USAR teams from the Fairfax and Los Angeles County fire departments to support ongoing search-and-rescue efforts February 9, 2023

USAID/BHA announces the allocation \$85 million in humanitarian assistance for earthquake-affected populations in Türkiye and Syria

February 19, 2023

USG announces the allocation of an additional \$100 million in humanitarian assistance February 20, 2023

USAID/BHA-supported USAR teams demobilize and return to the United States March 6, 2023

Ambassador Flake hands the DoD field hospital in Hatay over to GoT MoH staff

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Airstrikes on Aleppo Airport Impede UNHAS Flights, Affecting Humanitarian Response

Aleppo International Airport in Syria's Aleppo Governorate—one of the areas most affected by the February 6 earthquakes—sustained damages due to airstrikes on March 7, the UN reports. Consequently, Aleppo International Airport was required to temporarily suspend operations, prompting the diversion of flights destined for Aleppo transporting humanitarian assistance for the earthquake response to either Syria's Damascus city or Latakia Governorate. The UN also suspended all UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights to and from the airport. UNHAS is a critical transportation mechanism for humanitarian operations in Syria, and the suspension—planned through at least March 10—is expected to further constrain access to areas of Syria worst affected by the February 6 earthquakes and subsequent tremors.

On March 8, United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim for Syria El-Mostafa Benlamlih called on all parties to abide by international humanitarian law, including taking all feasible precautions to spare civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities. Moreover, the UN has stated that UNHAS must be able to resume its activities to ensure that emergency assistance can continue to reach vulnerable populations in Syria.

UN Begins Cholera Vaccination Campaign in Earthquake-Affected Areas of Northwest Syria

In response to the ongoing cholera outbreak in Syria, USG partners the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN World Health Organization (WHO)—in coordination with local health authorities, the Syria Immunization Group and the Global Alliance for Vaccines—began a 10-day cholera vaccination campaign in earthquake-hit areas of northwest Syria on March 7. During the 10-day campaign, 1.7 million doses of the cholera vaccine will be used to vaccinate individuals older than one year of age in the areas most affected by the earthquakes and at the highest risk of cholera including Idlib Governorate's Atmeh, Dana, Maaret Sarmada, and Tamsrin districts, and in A'zaz district in northern Aleppo. Approximately 1,400 teams of health workers and community volunteers plan to implement the 10-day campaign using a house-to-house strategy and targeting displaced people in areas where they are residing, the UN reports.

The Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) initially declared a cholera outbreak in Syria on September 10, 2022, with suspected cholera cases since reported in all governorates. More than 53,000 suspected cholera cases were reported in northwest Syria in at least 580 affected communities across nine affected districts from late August 2022 to March 5, the UN reports. While the number of confirmed and suspected cholera cases in northwest Syria initially declined in early 2023, the February 6 earthquakes

have increased the risk of waterborne diseases for affected-individuals living in northwest Syria, especially for individuals sheltering in overcrowded camps and collective centers, WHO reports. Earthquake-affected communities are also particularly vulnerable to cholera due to damages to health centers, hospitals, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure. In northwest Syria, as of late February, at least 15 health facilities had to suspend operations and 18 health facilities had reduced functionality due to earthquake damage, according to the UN. USAID/BHA and the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) support the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, WHO, and seven non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to respond to the health needs of earthquake-affected populations.

MHPSS and Protection Needs Increase in Northwest Syria

More than a month after the February 6 earthquakes, communities in northwest Syria are showing signs of psychological distress and protection concerns are growing as displaced populations experience crowded living conditions and gaps in access to basic services, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) reports. Many affected households are living in collective shelters or residing in overcrowded homes shared by extended family members due to the extensive damage and destruction to buildings and resultant shortage of housing. In addition, shelter options available to displaced households often lack gender segregation and partitions between families, and most available shelter options also lack essential facilities such as bathrooms and toilets, with households noting that the lack of access has a disproportionate effect on the safety of women and girls, IRC reports. Women and girls often do not have safe or easy access to go to the bathroom, and some reported experiencing harassment while they wait to use facilities, according to a rapid protection assessment conducted by IRC in three districts of Idlib Governorate. Furthermore, more than 65 percent of surveyed children exhibited signs of psychological distress, such as increased crying, nightmares, and panic attacks. IRC also reported that more than 60 percent of surveyed households identified having a head of household who was a person at risk, such as female headed household, older person, or someone with chronic illness, further exacerbating vulnerabilities and protection risks. Humanitarian actors have noted that the earthquakes are compounding mental health and psychosocial support (MPHSS) and protection needs within northwest Syria, as communities are facing multiple crises. USG partners, including UNICEF, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), are responding to the protection needs of affected populations in Syria with psychological first aid, mental health and psychosocial support services, and other protection services, including the provision of gender-based violence (GBV) case management services and awareness sessions.

KEY FIGURES



160

USAR personnel deployed to Türkiye with the DART

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

URBAN SEARCH-AND-RESCUE

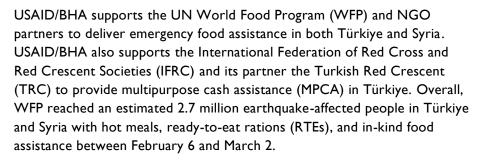
In the wake of the earthquake, the Government of Türkiye (GoT) requested international search-and-rescue assistance. In response, USAID/BHA deployed two USAID-funded urban search-and-rescue (USAR) teams from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and the Los Angeles County Fire Department who joined USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) on February 7. The USAR teams traveled with more than 170,000 pounds—77 metric tons (MT)—of specialized tools and equipment, such as hydraulic concrete breaking equipment, saws, torches, and drills, along with advanced medical equipment for search-and-rescue operations. The USAR teams supported GoT-led rescue efforts and structural assessments in Adiyaman Province.

USAID-supported USAR teams consist of 19 functional positions, staffed by experienced emergency managers, planners, search-and-rescue specialists, hazardous materials technicians, licensed engineers and construction riggers, emergency medicine physicians and paramedics, search-and-rescue dogs with handlers, and logisticians. USAR teams perform life-saving technical activities, including specialized search-and-rescue operations involving structural collapse to rescue and recover trapped individuals.

On February 20, DART USAR personnel demobilized and returned to the United States following the completion of rescue and recovery efforts in Türkiye, while DART staff remained in the region to continue scaling up humanitarian assistance for affected communities in Türkiye and Syria. In addition, the DART donated portions of its search-and-rescue tools and equipment to the AKUT Search and Rescue Association, a Turkish search-and-rescue NGO, and the Syrian Civil Defense, also known as the White Helmets.

Additionally, four State/PRM NGO partners have provided staff and other resources to assist with search-and-rescue efforts in southern Türkiye. Overall, the GoT and international governments deployed approximately 234,600 search-and-rescue personnel and 18,000 vehicles, including heavy machinery, to Türkiye.

FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS, AND MPCA



In Türkiye, WFP had reached 973,000 earthquake-affected people with food assistance, including 868,000 affected Turkish citizens and Syrian refugees in Türkiye reached with hot meals and 105,000 Turkish citizens and Syrian refugees reached with family food packages in displacement camps as of March 2. In addition, with USAID/BHA and other donor support, TRC had provided approximately 79.4 million pieces of bread, 72.7 million hot meals, at least 14.5 million ready-to-eat meal packages, 11.1 million units of soup, and estimated 8.1 million gallons of water, and 4.2 million beverages to earthquake-affected populations in Türkiye as of February 27.

In Syria, WFP and five existing USAID/BHA NGO partners are amplifying food and MPCA programming for earthquake-affected populations in Syria. As of March 2, WFP had distributed 528,000 RTEs and hot meals to earthquake affected populations in Syria. Additionally, the UN agency had



Number of earthquakeaffected individuals reached with food assistance in Syria and Türkiye reached I.2 million people in SARG- and opposition-held areas of northwest Syria with general food assistance rations and cash transfers, the majority of whom are affected by the earthquakes. Meanwhile, NGO partners in northwest Syria are delivering flour and yeast to contracted bakeries to produce subsidized bread and distributing food kits and RTEs. In addition, USAID/BHA NGO partner is supporting eight bakeries in earthquake-affected areas of northwest Syria to provide subsidized bread to an estimated 284,800 people. Meanwhile, the NGO has begun distributing MPCA to populations in northern Aleppo and Idlib, aiming to reach up to 18,000 households with cash assistance in the coming weeks.

Two State/PRM partners are also broadening existing programs to support the distribution of MPCA to earthquake-affected communities, including internally displaced persons residing in affected camps, in northwest Syria. Multiple State/PRM partners have also provided food and other life-saving assistance using existing programming funds in Syria. Moreover, State/PRM partner the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) continues to support 160 Palestinian refugee households in Latakia with food assistance and additional families sheltering in Aleppo's Ein al-Tal Camp with RTEs.

RELIEF COMMODITIES AND WASH

As of February 24, 10 flights carrying USAID/BHA in-kind relief commodities had arrived in Türkiye's Adana city from the Bureau's warehouse in the United Arab Emirates and a regional supplier. In total, the flights transported nearly 845 MT of relief commodities, including 65,000 high and medium thermal blankets; 56,000 14-liter buckets to store water; 189 hygiene kits sufficient to support 100 households each; nearly 41,200 kitchen sets; 520 rolls of plastic sheeting; and 54,800 plastic tarpaulins. USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is transporting the relief commodities to earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye for onward distribution to affected populations to support their shelter and WASH needs. With international donor support, including USAID/BHA and State/PRM funding, IOM had reached 954,900 individuals with emergency relief supplies in earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye as of late February. Furthermore, State/PRM assistance is enabling IOM to support the GoT's efforts to manage displaced populations, including through the provision of data on the needs and locations of earthquake-affected communities.

In addition, with State/PRM support IOM opened its warehouse in Gaziantep Province's Gaziantep city to shelter 1,200 affected individuals and provide them with food and safe drinking water. State/PRM is also supporting UNICEF's efforts to evacuate children in shelters across southeast Türkiye to safer locations, conducting protection assessments and providing additional support as needed. Meanwhile, the UN agency is working with local authorities to support operations in more than 100 youth centers that have been converted into temporary shelters. USG partner UNICEF had also reached nearly 277,000 people with blankets, electrical heaters, hygiene



Number of MT of USAID/BHA in-kind relief and WASH commodities delivered to support earthquake survivors

kits, and winter clothing as of February 28. In addition, with USAID/BHA and other donor support, UNICEF reached 299,220 people, including approximately 169,000 children, with critical hygiene supplies in Türkiye's Adiyaman, Hatay, and Kahramanmaras provinces during February. The UN agency also procured 52 WASH units with toilets and shower facilities, sufficient to accommodate 10,400 individuals, for installation at temporary displacement sites in affected areas. Separately, State/PRM partner Relief International distributed hygiene kits to 38,000 earthquake-affected people in Türkiye's Adana, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis, and Mersin provinces in late February.

In Syria, State/PRM partner UNHCR has also distributed more than 38,000 core relief item (CRI) kits—comprising high-thermal blankets, kitchen sets, mattresses, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, tents, and water containers, among other items—to more than 186,000 individuals as of March 9. UNHCR had also distributed nearly 4,000 tents in northwest Syria as of the same date.

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA and State/PRM are supporting relief actors to respond to earthquake-related protection needs in Syria and Türkiye.

In Türkiye, with USAID/BHA support, an estimated 4,500 UNICEF-trained GoT Ministry of Family and Social Services social workers provided protection services—including child-friendly spaces and awareness-raising sessions—to more than 500,000 earthquake-affected individuals during February. In addition, UNICEF provided psychosocial support and psychological first aid to more than 28,370 children and caregivers in affected provinces. Separately, TRC—through USAID/BHA support to implementing partner IFRC—is providing MHPSS to earthquake-affected populations at 20 collective shelters through 20 trained psychologists and over 40 workers in coordination with Istanbul University.

In Syria, State/PRM partner UNHCR has provided more than 280,000 people with protection services across Syria since February 6 earthquakes. UNHCR protection assistance includes awareness raising sessions on GBV and legal assistance, child-protection activities, and psychological first-aid

State/PRM is also supporting UNICEF's efforts to evacuate children in shelters across southeast Türkiye to safer locations, conduct protection assessments, and provide additional support as needed. Meanwhile, the UN agency is working with local authorities to support operations in more than 100 youth centers that have been converted into temporary shelters and assisting separated and unaccompanied children. Moreover, with USG and other donor support, UNICEF had reached more than 198,000 earthquake-affected individuals in Türkiye with mental health and psychosocial support services and recreational activities as of February 28.



Earthquake-affected people receiving protection services in Syria



HEALTH

With USAID/BHA support, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and seven NGOs are delivering critical health services to earthquake-affected populations in Syria while WHO and USAID/BHA NGO partner Samaritan's Purse are responding to health needs in Türkiye. Notably, on February 13, USAID/BHA partner Samaritan's Purse—in coordination with the GoT Ministry of Health (MoH)—established an emergency field hospital in Hatay Province's Antakya city. The USAID/BHA-funded facility includes a 52-bed inpatient ward, four intensive-care beds, four intermediate-care beds, two operating rooms, an inpatient pharmacy, a laboratory, and an emergency room. Between February 13 and March 8, the hospital had treated 3,710 patients and performed 176 surgeries an experienced an average admission rate of 200 patients per day. In addition, in early March, with USAID/BHA support, DoD delivered, donated, and installed a field hospital—comprising 25 modular field hospital systems, two operating rooms with surgical and intensive care unit capabilities, and 100 hospital beds—in Antakya. U.S. Ambassador Jeffry L. Flake handed the field hospital over to GoT MoH authorities on March 6 to enable local responders to meet critical health needs.

In Syria, USAID/BHA partner WHO had delivered more than 140 MT of supplies to northwest Syria to address earthquake-related needs as of March I. In addition, one USAID/BHA NGO partner had dispatched mobile medical units to accommodation centers to support displaced populations in Idlib Governorate, deployed 50 community health workers to surgical hospitals, and dispatched three ambulances to affected areas, among other health-related activities as of mid-February. The same NGO also deployed three mobile medical units, multiple surgical teams, and six mobile MHPSS units-comprising child protection, GBV response, and mental health professionals—to provide emergency and primary health care services for displaced populations living in temporary shelters and makeshift camps in earthquake-affected areas of Aleppo Governorate. As of March 2, the partner had reached approximately 2,400 people with medical treatment across the governorate. Additionally, the NGO partner is coordinating with health facilities to procure and deliver medical supplies to support continuity of health services in earthquake-affected areas: as of March 1, the NGO had delivered more than 15 metric tons of cholera kits, medications, and medical supplies to 11 health facilities across Aleppo, Hama, and Latakia governorates. With USAID/BHA support, a second NGO deployed a mobile clinic to landaris to provide emergency health services, including trauma treatment and follow-up services, to earthquake-affected populations.

Between February 15 and 22, USG partner UNICEF screened nearly 20,800 children in Aleppo, Hama, Idlib, Latakia, and Tartus governorates for severe acute malnutrition and provided treatment, as needed. The partner also conducted rapid nutrition assessments at nearly 30 shelters in Latakia and more than 240 shelters in Aleppo. In addition, UNICEF provided critical

protection services, including psychosocial support and case management for the reunification of separated children with their households. Furthermore, UNICEF deployed 33 mobile health and nutrition teams to earthquake-affected areas in Aleppo, Hama, Latakia, Idlib, and Tartus and continued to provide health services at 15 existing clinics in Idlib, Latakia, and Tartus, reaching approximately 219,500 people with essential health care and medical supplies from mid- to late February.

With pre-existing support from USAID/BHA and other donors, between February 6 and March 3, UNFPA had distributed more than 460 sexual and reproductive health kits—sufficient to meet the needs of 103,000 women and girls—in opposition-held areas of northwest Syria. UNFPA had also distributed nearly 38,000 dignity kits, to support feminine hygiene needs, to earthquake-affected populations in SARG-held of Syria. In addition, UNFPA partners in SARG-held areas continue to provide essential sexual and reproductive health services at 14 facilities, while more than 30 mobile teams providing sexual and reproductive health services, GBV treatment services, and psychological first aid are assisting more than 28,800 individuals. Between February 6 and March 3, USAID/BHA partner UNFPA provided sexual and reproductive health services to more than 20,000 women and girls, including support for more than 1,350 deliveries and 400 cesarean section deliveries performed at UNFPA-supported facilities within earthquake-affected areas.

State/PRM partner UNRWA is distributing essential medical supplies to affected Palestinian refugees in Syria and offering telemedicine services to limited program participants based on need. The UN agency is also providing essential health and psychosocial support services to households impacted by the earthquakes in Neirab refugee camp in Syria. In addition, State/PRM partner UNFPA is delivering reproductive health services through four existing delivery points throughout southeast Türkiye and is working to maintain access to essential health services and supporting state hospitals by providing medical items, medicines, and reproductive health supplies. The UN agency is also distributing dignity and hygiene kits to affected populations in Türkiye and has provided approximately 8,900 individuals with life-saving sexual and reproductive health and GBV support.

With PRM support, an implementing partner is also supporting health services for more than 57,000 earthquake-affected individuals in Syria and has provided medical and surgical supplies to six hospitals in earthquake affected areas.

LOGISTICS SUPPORT

At the request of USAID/BHA, DoD delivered approximately 606,200 pounds—275 MT—of emergency relief items to earthquake-affected areas of southern Türkiye. The missions include the airlift of 114,900 pounds, or 52 MT, of critical relief supplies—including blankets, emergency food commodities, generators, space heaters, tents, and winter clothing—from



MT of relief items airlifted by DoD in coordination with USAID/BHA Incirlik Air Base in Adana Province to Adiyaman's Karagol Koyu town; Gaziantep Province's Jurdagi town; Hatay's Antakya, Kirikhan, Hassa, and Samandag towns; and Kahramanmaras' Elbistan, Goksun, and Pazarcik towns for onward distribution to earthquake-affected populations between February 15 and 24. Furthermore, on February 25, the DART and DoD transferred nearly 120 DoD-supplied tents from Incirlik to USAID/BHA partner IOM for onward delivery to earthquake-affected areas in Syria and 80 tents to the GoT Ministry of Interior Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) for distribution in affected areas of Türkiye.

In addition, a DoD shipment of relief commodities—including bedding, cots, and toiletries—arrived on the USS Hershel "Woody" Williams at the port in Mersin Province on February 27 and was transferred to AFAD for distribution at displacement sites and among earthquake-affected communities.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE TÜRKIYE AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE IN FY 2023 1

Syria ination, Information sessments (HCIMA); and Settlements; WASH	Aleppo, Idlib Affected Areas Affected Areas	\$7,500,000 \$15,000,000			
ination, Information sessments (HCIMA); nd Settlements; WASH	Affected Areas	\$15,000,000			
sessments (HCIMA); nd Settlements; WASH	Affected Areas	\$15,000,000			
ection					
ection	Affected Areas				
		\$5,000,000			
	Affected Areas	\$10,000,000			
	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000			
CA, Shelter and Settlements,	Affected Areas	\$8,000,000			
		\$18,000			
A RESPONSE		\$47,018,000			
Türkiye					
Settlements, Protection	Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Malatya, Sanliurfa,	\$6,000,000			
	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000			
	Affected Areas	\$2,000,000			
otection, Shelter and	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000			
nts	Osmaniye	\$500,000			
	Türkiye Settlements, Protection Direction, Shelter and	ARESPONSE Türkiye Settlements, Protection Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Malatya, Sanliurfa, Affected Areas Affected Areas Affected Areas Affected Areas			

Samaritan's Purse	Health	Hatay	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Logistics Support	Affected Areas	\$16,000,000
WHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$2,000,000
	Logistics Support	Affected Areas	\$6,312,256
	Program Support		\$294,063
TOTAL USAID/BHA F	UNDING FOR THE TÜRKIYE RESPONSE		\$47,606,319
TOTAL USAID/BHA F	UNDING		\$94,624,319
	DoD		
	Syria		
	In-Kind Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$4,475,623
TOTAL DoD FUNDING	In-Kind Relief Commodities G FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE	Affected Areas	\$4,475,623 \$4,475,623
TOTAL DoD FUNDING		Affected Areas	• • •
TOTAL DoD FUNDING	G FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE	Affected Areas Affected Areas	
	G FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE Türkiye Health, In-Kind Relief Commodities, Logistics		\$4,475,623
	G FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE Türkiye Health, In-Kind Relief Commodities, Logistics Support G FOR THE TÜRKIYE RESPONSE		\$4,475,623 \$23,125,113

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- 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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- 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 USAID's Center for International Disaster Information website and interaction.org.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work