

HAITI – HURRICANE SANDY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013, FEBRUARY 15, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

54

Number of deaths
Government of Haiti (GoH)
November 2012

27,701

Number of houses
damaged or destroyed
U.N. Office for the Coordination
of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
November 2012

39,058

Number of affected
families
OCHA
November 2012

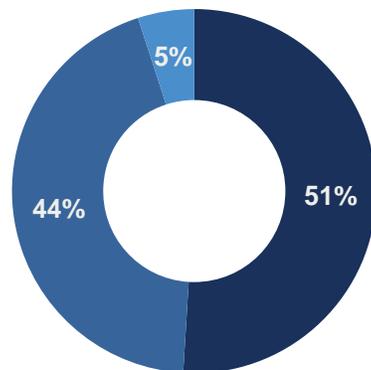
90,356

Hectares of crops
damaged or destroyed
GoH
November 2012

19,000

Approximate number of
people preventively
evacuated to temporary
shelters
GoH
November 2012

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2013



- Shelter & Settlements
- Agriculture & Food Security
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (ERMS)

OVERVIEW

- Hurricane Sandy caused more than 50 deaths and damaged or destroyed infrastructure, houses, and crops in Haiti.
- A USAID/OFDA assessment team deployed ahead of the storm to track impacts and determine response options.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$17 million for Hurricane Sandy emergency and rehabilitation efforts.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

TO HAITI FOR HURRICANE SANDY IN FY 2013

USAID/OFDA	\$1,721,344
USAID/FFP ²	\$15,243,547
\$16,964,891	
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR HURRICANE SANDY	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In Haiti, heavy rains, strong winds, and flooding associated with Hurricane Sandy in late October 2012 resulted in the death of 54 people and damaged or destroyed tens of thousands of houses and additional infrastructure, such as roads and bridges.
- USAID/OFDA activated an assessment team in Haiti in advance of Hurricane Sandy's arrival—consisting of USAID/OFDA staff based in Port-au-Prince, USAID/OFDA staff deployed from outside Haiti, and local disaster relief consultants stationed around the country—to coordinate the U.S. Government (USG) response. On October 31, 2012, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti Pamela A. White declared a disaster due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy.
- Post-storm assessments indicated that the hurricane destroyed more than 90,000 hectares of crops, compounding harvest losses sustained during Tropical Storm Isaac in August 2012 and drought conditions earlier in the year.
- To date, USAID has provided nearly \$17 million in humanitarian funding to respond to the effects of the hurricane, including for agriculture and food security assistance,

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

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

economic recovery support, and shelter and settlements interventions. The USG continues to support the GoH in responding to the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

HURRICANE SANDY IMPACTS IN HAITI

- In Haiti, Hurricane Sandy damaged or destroyed more than 27,700 houses, according to OCHA. The majority of the property damage occurred in the four southern departments of Grand'Anse, Nippes, South, and Southeast.
- At the height of storm-induced displacement, an estimated 19,000 people—the majority of whom resided in the southern peninsula and West Department, which encompasses metropolitan Port-au-Prince—evacuated to 136 official temporary shelters, according to the GoH Department of Civil Protection (DPC). In Port-au-Prince, the DPC, other GoH entities, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other humanitarian agencies organized the preventive evacuation of several thousand vulnerable residents from high-risk earthquake displacement camps. The procedure built on lessons learned during the first organized preventive evacuation in advance of Tropical Storm Isaac earlier in 2012. During the Hurricane Sandy response, the DPC and other GoH staff drew on guidelines and training in shelter management, which was funded by USAID/OFDA and the World Bank through IOM. Since 2011, USAID/OFDA has funded the rehabilitation of a number of the buildings used as temporary evacuation shelters.
- Approximately 75 percent of hurricane damage to crops—more than 67,000 hectares—occurred in the four southern departments, where inadequate rainfall in mid-2012 and losses sustained during Tropical Storm Isaac in August further impacted food and economic security. The hurricane also killed livestock and disrupted fishing industries; more than 64,000 livestock died as a result of flooding, while strong winds and heavy rains destroyed fishing boats and nets. The cumulative shocks have resulted in more than 1.5 million highly food-insecure individuals, according to the GoH.

USAID/OFDA RESPONSE

- Immediately following the October 31 disaster declaration by U.S. Ambassador White, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for the distribution of shelter repair materials to people with storm-damaged houses in coastal areas of Grand'Anse Department. With support from USAID/FFP, CRS currently operates food security and agricultural activities in Grand'Anse Department, making the organization well positioned to expand programming to meet shelter needs stemming from the hurricane. In total, CRS is assisting 250 households—or 1,250 individuals—with shelter repairs.
- As part of annual efforts to prepare for hurricane season, USAID/OFDA pre-positioned emergency relief commodities—including plastic sheeting for shelter, family hygiene kits, water containers, kitchen sets, and blankets—through IOM at four locations around Haiti. In response to Hurricane Sandy, IOM distributed USAID/OFDA-funded emergency relief commodities valued at approximately \$415,000 to an estimated 35,000 affected people through humanitarian partners.
- *Shelter and Settlements:* With \$520,000 in assistance from USAID/OFDA, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) is providing emergency shelter repair assistance, including cash grants for house rehabilitation, to more than 5,000 highly vulnerable individuals—including the elderly, persons with disabilities, and female-headed households—directly affected by Hurricane Sandy in South Department. In addition, ACTED is providing technical support on disaster risk reduction (DRR) construction techniques to ensure greater sustainability among beneficiaries, thereby addressing root causes of vulnerability and fostering greater resilience against future shocks.
- USAID/OFDA has provided Medair nearly \$400,000 to support emergency shelter solutions for 1,200 vulnerable individuals affected by Hurricane Sandy in Southeast Department. Medair is constructing transitional shelters (t-shelters) for families whose houses were destroyed by the hurricane, repairing houses that sustained moderate damage, and providing tools, shelter materials, and the training necessary to rebuild houses with less severe damage. In addition, Medair staff are educating beneficiaries in the latest DRR construction techniques, which include hurricane-resistant building methods. During a site visit in late January 2013 in Côtés-de-Fer commune, USAID/OFDA staff observed t-shelter construction and discussed hurricane damages with project beneficiaries and local communities.
- *Agriculture and Food Security:* USAID/OFDA provided more than \$300,000 to relief agency ACDI/VOCA to reduce the risk of food insecurity for 5,000 people in Southeast Department through seed distributions to restore agricultural production. ACDI/VOCA is also strengthening the capacity of a local network of seed producers to increase seed availability and provide trainings to farmers on seed multiplication and management techniques. During a meeting in Bainet commune in late January 2013, local ACDI/VOCA staff and community leaders reported to USAID/OFDA staff that seed distributions in December has positively impacted the food security and harvest prospects of local communities.

- Through nearly \$400,000 in USAID/OFDA support provided following the initial disaster declaration, CRS is responding to the food security needs of affected communities by organizing seed fairs to improve agricultural production for an estimated 16,200 individuals in Grand’Anse Department. The project enables families to recover productive assets, regain self-sufficiency, and build household resilience against economic shocks.
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OTHER USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In response to emergency needs resulting from Hurricane Sandy, USAID/FFP provided additional support to four humanitarian partners already implementing Title II-funded development food assistance programs in Grand’Anse, South, Southeast, Center, and West departments, enabling immediate response and recovery activities within ongoing project zones. USAID/FFP had contributed more than \$15 million to the Hurricane Sandy response, including International Disaster Assistance funding through the Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP), as of January 22.
 - USAID/FFP multi-sectoral interventions in hurricane-affected areas included emergency food distributions; food and cash voucher distributions, facilitating the purchase of commodities from local markets; cash-for-work activities to restore community assets; expansion of health, including cholera-treatment, and nutrition activities; and seed fairs and seed voucher distributions.
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INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

- Immediately following Hurricane Sandy in Haiti, the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) contributed €6 million—approximately \$8 million—to support Haitian populations most affected by the hurricane. In addition, the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID) contributed £7 million—approximately \$11 million—for humanitarian assistance interventions. USAID/OFDA continues to liaise with other donor countries to ensure complementarity of efforts.
 - The emergency revision of the 2012 U.N. Consolidated Appeal for Haiti, which was released on November 10, requested \$39.9 million to address food security, agriculture, shelter, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene needs for approximately 1.6 million people.
 - The 2013 Haiti Humanitarian Action Plan requests \$144 million to target an estimated 1 million people, including 500,000 food-insecure individuals and approximately 71,400 people affected by Hurricane Sandy.
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CONTEXT

- Hurricane Sandy traveled through the western Caribbean in late October, passing directly over Jamaica, Cuba, and the Bahamas and bringing heavy rains to the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- Flooding and strong winds associated with the hurricane resulted in the death of 72 people in the Caribbean region, including 54 people in Haiti, and damaged or destroyed tens of thousands of houses, as well as other infrastructure.
- On October 31, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti Pamela A. White and U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica Pamela E. Bridgewater declared disasters due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy. The governments of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas did not request international assistance in response to effects from the hurricane.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR HURRICANE SANDY PROVIDED IN FY 2013³

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA⁴			
ACDI/VOCA	Agriculture and Food Security	Southeast Department	\$307,926
ACTED	ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	South Department	\$520,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Grand'Anse Department	\$398,677
CRS	Shelter and Settlements	Grand'Anse Department	\$100,000
Medair	Shelter and Settlements	Southeast Department	\$394,741
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE⁵			\$1,721,344
USAID/FFP⁶			
ACDI/VOCA	EFSP	Southeast Department	\$3,915,711
CARE	EFSP	Grand'Anse Department	\$2,500,000
CRS	Title II Emergency Food Assistance	South Department and Grand'Anse Departments	\$4,147,497
World Vision	EFSP	West Department	\$2,495,000
World Vision	Title II Emergency Food Assistance	West and Center Departments	\$2,185,339
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$15,243, 574
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2013			\$16,964, 891

³ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

⁴ USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of February 15, 2013.

⁵ Does not include pre-positioned USAID/OFDA relief commodities value at approximately \$415,000 and distributed in response to Hurricane Sandy.

⁶ USAID/FFP funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of January 22, 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 response efforts in Haiti can be found at 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:
 - 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>