



# SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #24, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**6.8 million**

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

**5 million**

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

**2 million**

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

**523,607**

Syrian Refugees in Jordan  
UNHCR – September 2013

**756,630**

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon  
UNHCR – September 2013

**492,716**

Syrian Refugees in Turkey  
UNHCR – September 2013

**192,443**

Syrian Refugees in Iraq  
UNHCR – September 2013

**126,717**

Syrian Refugees in Egypt  
UNHCR – September 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

- President Obama announced \$339 million in additional USG humanitarian assistance for the Syria response on September 24.
- The targeting of hospitals and medical personnel and the denial of access to medical care is increasingly common in the Syria conflict.
- More than 500,000 people in Rif Damascus Governorate face limited access to water, food, and medical care.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 24, President Barack Obama announced \$339 million in additional USG humanitarian assistance for the Syria response. The new contribution includes nearly \$161 million through U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to support food, health care, the distribution of relief supplies and winterization commodities, shelter, psychosocial support, and gender-based violence (GBV) response, as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities and other assistance inside Syria. More than \$179 million will support food assistance, shelter, protection and psychosocial support, camp and registration services, health care, GBV prevention and response activities, winterization materials, logistics and relief commodities, nutrition, access to education, and other assistance for refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Egypt. With the announcement, USG funding for the crisis totals more than \$1.3 billion, benefitting more than 4.2 million people since March 2011.
- The U.N. estimates that nearly one-third of the Syrian population has been forcibly displaced within the country and to neighboring countries by the ongoing conflict. More than 50 percent of Palestinian refugees from Syria are among the displaced.
- Clashes continued between Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) forces and opposition groups throughout Syria in the wake of the September 16 U.N. report confirming chemical weapon attacks in Rif Damascus Governorate on August 21. According to report findings, chemical and medical samples collected by U.N. investigators provided concrete evidence of the use of the nerve agent sarin in the East Ghouta communities of Ein Tarma, Moadamiyeh, and Zamalka.

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

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

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

## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Due to the proliferation of armed groups in Syria, humanitarian organizations must negotiate access with an increasing number of factions to deliver assistance to vulnerable Syrians, according to relief agencies and international media. In addition, the SARG continues to restrict access to many areas, further impeding the transport of humanitarian goods. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reports that when staff travel the 355 kilometers between Damascus and Aleppo, they encounter an average of 50 to 60 checkpoints operated by various armed groups.
  - In July, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) reached 2.6 million beneficiaries in all 14 of Syria's governorates—the highest number reached to date. However, access and transport options limited WFP's food deliveries in August to 2.4 million people. Increased clashes limited humanitarian access to many locations in Aleppo, Idlib, and Al Hasakah governorates, as well as parts of Damascus and Rif Damascus. WFP recently reported that insecurity had restricted access to some areas for more than 10 months.
  - On September 13, U.N. Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Valerie Amos appealed for unrestricted access to Rif Damascus Governorate, where more than 500,000 people are reported trapped and face limited access to water, food, and medical care. The ERC noted that an estimated 12,000 people are captive in the town of Moadamiyeh, experiencing daily shelling and ongoing clashes that have prevented U.N. agencies from transporting basic supplies to the affected families for nearly one year.
  - To maximize access to conflict-affected communities, the USG provides substantial support to NGOs, including those able to reach areas of Syria that are inaccessible to the U.N. To date, the USG has contributed approximately \$283.8 million to NGO partners inside Syria, including \$84.8 million announced by President Obama on September 24.
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## HEALTH

- The deliberate targeting of hospitals and medical personnel by conflict parties, as well as the denial of access to medical care, has become characteristic of the Syria conflict, according to the U.N. SARG forces and affiliated militias routinely deny medical care to people from opposition-held areas as a matter of policy, while some armed opposition groups have attacked hospitals in certain areas, according to U.N. findings. Throughout the conflict, doctors, surgeons, ambulance drivers, and medical personnel seeking to provide aid or deliver medical supplies have been arrested, tortured, killed, or disappeared. For example, one NGO in Syria reported nearly 40 medical personnel killed, approximately 20 injured, and more than 10 arrested or disappeared since March 2011. The U.N. noted that attacks against health care providers and facilities leads to increases in mortality among the injured and sick.
  - Syria's health care system continues to deteriorate, with 60 percent of the country's public hospitals either damaged or out of service, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). At the same time, the number of people in need of medical assistance continues to grow. More than 500,000 people have been wounded in Syria since March 2011, in addition to more than 100,000 people killed, according to OCHA.
  - Given ongoing needs, the USG continues to prioritize emergency and primary medical care in Syria. Between September 2 and 8, facilities supported by a USG partner treated more than 24,000 patients, conducting more than 4,700 surgeries. In addition, the partner distributed pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and equipment to furnish operating rooms and enable medical assistance for more than 22,000 individuals.
  - Given ongoing needs, the USG continues to prioritize emergency and primary medical care in Syria. Between September 2 and 8, a USG partner supported primary health services, including distribution of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and equipment, for more than 24,000 patients, and conducted more than 4,700 surgeries.
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## WASH

- By July 2013, the availability of potable water in Syria had declined by one-third of the pre-conflict figure and continues to decrease as fighting persists, according to the U.N. Damage to water systems and shortages of chlorine have resulted in contamination that further limits access to safe drinking water. IDPs are particularly affected by water availability,

given that many displaced families live in poor conditions with limited access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

- The U.N.'s Emergency Response Fund for Syria recently approved a WASH program to benefit more than 380,000 people in Damascus and Hamah governorates. Implemented by Oxfam, the project will install generators to power alternative water sources, such as backup wells, to produce safe drinking water for urban and rural populations.
- Between September 6 and 19, UNICEF delivered sodium hypochlorite—used to purify water—to benefit as many as 6 million people. Approximately 1 million people in Tartus Governorate and 5 million in Damascus and Rif Damascus governorates will have access to safe drinking water for one month.
- In addition, UNICEF distributed family and baby hygiene kits, as well as washing powder, to 46,000 IDPs in Damascus, Dar'a, Homs, and Al Qunaytirah governorates. Approximately 52,000 IDPs in Ar Raqqa Governorate, where humanitarian access has been difficult in recent months, received hygiene supplies from UNICEF.

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## **AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY**

- In March 2012, the U.N. estimated that 1 million people in Syria were in need of food. WFP projects that more than 4 million people in the country will require food assistance by the end of 2013. In addition, Syria's recent wheat harvest produced a below-average yield, which will require the country to import at least 2 million metric tons (MT) of wheat during the year, according to WFP.
- To build capacity, WFP has partnered with 23 NGOs to reach additional beneficiaries throughout the country, supplementing its partnership with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. For example, the agency recently formalized a new partnership to begin distributing 5,000 family food rations—sufficient for 25,000 people—in Hamah Governorate.
- A USG contribution of 21,880 MT of wheat arrived in the region on September 20. The wheat will be milled into flour and distributed by WFP, some as part of its monthly ration to displaced and conflict-affected families in all 14 governorates. Since January, the USG has also supported NGOs to deliver more than 14,300 MT of flour to bakeries in areas not reached by WFP.
- The USG remains the largest supporter of WFP's Emergency Operation (EMOP) in Syria, providing more than \$265 million for assistance inside the country. In addition, the USG has also provided \$70.8 million to NGOs in FY 2013 to deliver food rations and flour.
- The USG has contributed \$1 million to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) for assistance, such as the provision of seeds and other agricultural support, to farmers in Syria's rural areas.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries, most of whom reside in host communities and not in camps, through a combination of food rations and vouchers. In Jordan's Za'atri refugee camp, WFP has begun transitioning from dry ration distributions to food voucher assistance. In early September, approximately 30,000 families received vouchers as part of their monthly food ration. The vouchers, worth approximately \$8.50 per person, are designed to replace vegetable oil previously included in the ration and provide a small stipend for other food commodities. In the coming months, WFP plans to gradually phase out rations in favor of food vouchers for all beneficiary families in the camp.
- The USG has provided \$177.5 million to WFP in FY 2012 and FY 2013 to support food assistance for Syrian refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

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## **DISPLACED POPULATIONS**

### ***Internal Displacement***

- The large majority of the 413,000 Palestinian refugees living in Damascus—of whom 200,000 are displaced—now live in government-controlled areas in close proximity to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Syria central warehouse, reports the organization. Despite the proliferation of checkpoints within Damascus, the relative safety of access routes to these areas significantly reduces the risk of interception or diversion of humanitarian assistance while in transit. In the last week of August, 6,500 food boxes, 8,420 portions of cooking oil,

3,700 rations of milk, 18,000 items of canned food, and 10,800 light blankets were distributed to Palestinian refugee families in the capital.

### ***Refugees in Neighboring Countries***

#### **Jordan**

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports a notable increase in Syrian refugees received by the Jordanian Armed Forces in recent days, with between 300 and 500 refugees entering Jordan between September 12 and 17. The figure exceeds the arrival averages of 100 to 200 people per day since May, a trend exacerbated by Jordanian restrictions on entry and fighting near the Syria–Jordan border. Since the beginning of September, approximately 3,000 Syrian refugees have entered Jordan, according to IOM.
- To assist refugees residing in host communities, UNICEF and partners recently held several awareness sessions for adults reviewing a variety of issues, including reproductive health; chronic diseases; child labor; child growth and development; communication with children with special needs; and teen physical, emotional, and social changes. UNICEF and partners also began providing support in seven new child and family protective places, conducting psychosocial activities aimed at improving communication and social skills.

#### **Iraq**

- As of mid-September, the flow of Syrian refugee arrivals to the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) has remained at a steady rate of 800 to 1,000 people per day, according to UNHCR. The rate is consistent with earlier flows in April and May 2013, prior to the mid-May closure of IKR's Fishkhabour border crossing in Dahuk Governorate. Approximately 63,000 refugees have crossed into Iraq since August 15.
- UNHCR has registered nearly 191,000 of the estimated 222,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq, as of September 19. More than 50 percent of the registered refugees reside in Dahuk, and 97 percent are in IKR or areas under Kurdish control.
- UNHCR recently facilitated the relocation of Syrian refugees from Iraq's Al-Qaim camps 1 and 2 to al-Obaidi camp in Anbar Governorate. Iraqi authorities requested the move because al-Obaidi is farther from the border with Syria, allowing for better security and increased access for the delivery of assistance. As of August 31, approximately 2,050 refugees resided at the camp. Also, the border crossing point at Al-Qaim remains closed for Syrian refugees.
- The voluntary repatriation of refugees from Al-Qaim to Syria has continued and a total of 2,975 individuals returned as of August 31, according to UNHCR. Similarly, a total of 10,823 Syrians registered with UNHCR in Domiz camp have returned to Syria, bringing the total number of returns to Syria to 18,516 individuals between January 1 and August 31.

#### **Lebanon**

- The conflict in Syria will cost neighboring Lebanon an estimated \$7.5 billion in economic losses by the end of 2014, according to the World Bank. Related insecurity and an ever-growing influx of refugees are straining resources, with Syrians significantly increasing the number of primary health care visits and other social services.
- The World Bank estimates that approximately 90,000 Syrian children are expected to enroll in Lebanese schools during the 2013/2014 school year, with a projected increase to 150,000 individuals in 2014. To date, UNICEF and partner organizations have provided formal and informal education to nearly 68,000 children, including many residing in informal tent settlements. The agency is also planning to rehabilitate more than 90 schools to accommodate additional students and improve the learning environment.
- UNICEF and partners are also providing sanitation facilities, including latrines, to assist refugees residing in informal tented settlements. UNICEF and partners have reached 5,066 Syrian refugees since September 6, and have assisted a total of 10,490 Syrian refugees in the tented settlements in 2013. In addition, UNICEF partners are also constructing and rehabilitating latrines in individual shelters.

#### **Egypt**

- The Government of Egypt (GoE) Ministry of Education recently announced that Syrian refugee children will have the same access to education as Egyptian children for the 2013/2014 school year. According to GoE estimates provided in June, 250,000 to 300,000 Syrians currently reside in Egypt, of whom more than 104,000 are currently registered with

UNHCR. Approximately 30,000 registered Syrian refugees are school aged; 50 percent of those are currently enrolled. To boost enrollment, UNHCR provides Syrian refugee children with grants to help cover school fees, uniforms, books, stationary, and transportation.

- UNICEF and UNHCR are in the process of conducting a joint school needs assessment in five Egyptian governorates. Preliminary findings include insufficient numbers of teachers, desks, blackboards, lab equipment, computers, and classrooms to absorb additional refugee children. The assessment also identified potential space available for educational use through rehabilitation and refurbishment.

## Turkey

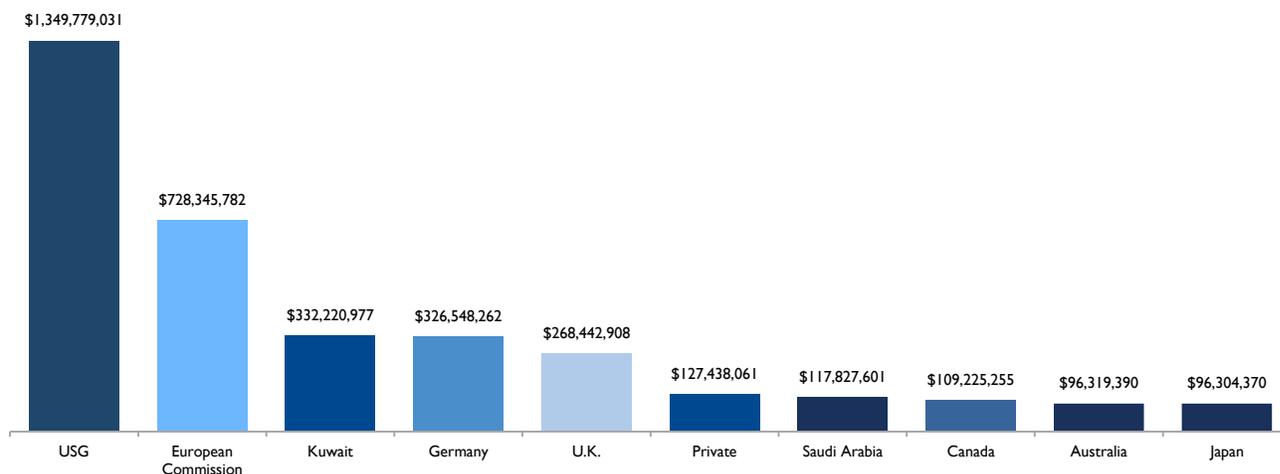
- According to the Government of Turkey (GoT) Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), effective September 24, Syrians in Turkey are entitled to free medical assistance at Turkish health care facilities if they have registered at a local police station.
- U.N. agencies continue to provide a range of assistance to support the refugee response in Turkey. For example, to date, agencies have distributed 18,500 tents, providing shelter to approximately 90,000 people. Agencies have also provided clothing to 63,701 children; trained 256 GoT officials in international protection; installed child-friendly spaces in 16 camps; and trained 1,232 teachers in Child Friendly Education and International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) standards.

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



\*Funding figures are as of September 24, 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 62,200 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2013<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
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
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$1,992,962
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$252,299,825</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
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
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$395,699,121</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
IOM	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$10,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Livelihoods, Capacity Building, GBV, Shelter, Case Management	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$22,924,280
U.N. Development Fund	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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$582,724,280</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013</b>			<b>\$1,230,723,226</b>

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2012<sup>1</sup>**

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

<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013</b>	<b>\$1,349,779,031</b>
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<sup>1</sup>Year 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.

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as September 24, 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](http://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](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>