USAID, through the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, provides humanitarian assistance in response to international disasters. USAID continually monitors global hazards, identifies potential areas of need, and stands ready to respond whenever disaster strikes.

**WHAT IS CONSIDERED A DISASTER?**

- **COMPLEX EMERGENCY**
  - Political Crises, Social Unrest, or Conflict

- **RAPID-ONSET EVENT**
  - Volcanoes, Storms, Earthquakes, Floods, etc.

- **SLOW-ONSET EMERGENCY**
  - Food insecurity due to prolonged drought

**DOES USAID RESPOND?**

- Severity of disaster overwhelms local response capacity
- Host nation asks or is willing to accept assistance
- Response is in the U.S. interest

**YES**
- USAID provides assistance.

**NO**
- If the above conditions are not met, USAID does not provide assistance.

**HOW DOES USAID PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE?**

1. **INITIAL PROVISION OF $50,000**
2. **GRANT TO IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATIONS**
3. **RESPONSE MANAGEMENT TEAM**
4. **DISASTER ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TEAM**
5. **PROCUREMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES**
6. **CALL FORWARD OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

Once a disaster is declared, USAID can respond in a variety of ways based on the need and severity of the disaster. USAID chooses one or a combination of the response options below.