

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

## SAFETY AND SECURITY SECTOR UPDATE



USAID/OFDA's Safety and Security Unit provides a variety of immersive training opportunities, incorporating best practices from the NGO security community. The trainings give USAID staff members a greater understanding of the challenges faced by our humanitarian partners.

*Photo by Chris Oliver, USAID.*

### Strengthening Security With Innovative Training

Providing security training to humanitarian organizations results in safer operations by increasing staff capacity to assess threats, mitigate risk, and prepare contingency plans. In addition to supporting training for humanitarian personnel around the globe, USAID/OFDA's Safety and Security Unit designed an immersive, weeklong Security in Humanitarian Operations (SHOP) course to increase security awareness and emergency readiness among USAID/OFDA staff. During the course, participants learn and share humanitarian security expertise through discussion, demonstration, and scenarios involving actors who simulate real-world situations encountered in field deployments. USAID/OFDA piloted SHOP in July 2015 and continued to support the development of the course, which has become a highly rated staff favorite and a key component of core staff training, during FY 2018.

USAID/OFDA also continued its multi-year support to the Mission Ready program—an online training program for aid workers in the field—through partner RedR in FY 2018. Launched in October 2015, Mission Ready uses video simulations to test the user's security knowledge in a variety of challenging, realistic scenarios that require students to make difficult decisions under pressure. In addition to interactive simulations, the game-based learning program, which is available in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish, provides documents and video content to help aid workers navigate common security dilemmas. More information on Mission Ready is available at:

<http://www.redr.org.uk/en/Training-and-more/mission-ready.cfm>

### USAID/OFDA Safety and Security Activities FY 2018 FUNDING

Safety and Security Activities Worldwide	\$1,127,690
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**\$1,127,690**

### Sector Overview

USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) staff and humanitarian partners frequently operate in countries with security challenges. To mitigate risk, USAID/OFDA enhances the safety and security of the humanitarian community through outreach and dialogue with implementing partners and the donor community. USAID/OFDA supports established networks of humanitarian security personnel, advocates security mechanisms at the global and country levels, and strengthens policies that promote safety and security.

USAID/OFDA's Safety and Security Unit directly supports USAID/OFDA field staff by providing real-time analysis and guidance on security issues from Washington, D.C., and by deploying safety and security officers to the field. USAID/OFDA aims to enable humanitarian activities in volatile situations by increasing access while minimizing risk to staff and operations.

USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.1 million in FY 2018 for activities that improved operational security, facilitated security-related coordination and information management, promoted best practices, provided innovative security training to humanitarian actors, and built a better understanding of the international humanitarian security landscape.

## Enhancing Risk Mitigation Practices in Insecure Locations

Delivering humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations around the world often requires relief organizations to operate in insecure environments, putting non-governmental organization (NGO) staff at risk of death, injury, or kidnapping. To mitigate risks, the International NGO Safety Organization (INSO) delivers critical security services for the humanitarian community, including crisis management support, incident analysis and tracking, safety-related data and mapping, and staff orientations and training. These services help NGO staff enhance situational awareness and risk management practices, enabling organizations to make informed, evidence-based decisions related to humanitarian access. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA supported INSO activities in seven countries.

## Improving Access to Aid Through Data and Analysis

Since 2005, USAID/OFDA has supported the NGO Humanitarian Outcomes, which manages the Aid Worker Security Database (AWSDB), with multi-year funding to strengthen data collection and analysis. The AWSDB collects and analyzes data on incidents of violence against humanitarian workers worldwide and works with public sources, relief organizations, and security entities to obtain and verify data to inform its reporting. Free and available to the public, the database enables the humanitarian community to evaluate changing security environments. The AWSDB is available at: <https://aidworkersecurity.org/>

USAID/OFDA is also supporting a new Humanitarian Outcomes project which builds upon the previous work of AWSDB by bringing original research to humanitarian leadership. The two-year project seeks to identify sound strategies that allow humanitarian organizations to better access beneficiaries in non-permissive environments. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$469,000 in support to Humanitarian Outcomes for the new project.

## Supporting the European Interagency Security Forum

Since 2010, USAID/OFDA has supported the European Interagency Security Forum (EISF), a network of security managers from more than 50 European-based NGOs, to enhance the safety and security of relief workers operating in increasingly complex and volatile environments. EISF facilitates increased and sustainable access to disaster-affected populations around the world by coordinating with fellow agencies on safety and security issues and strengthening security risk-management approaches. EISF also produces original research and conducts capacity-building workshops, biannual forums, and knowledge-sharing events. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$273,000 to EISF through partner Christian Aid.

## Strengthening Humanitarian Operations Through Expert Data Analysis

USAID/OFDA supports the team of experts at Insecurity Insight to collect information on and analyze the nature of civilian populations' insecurity during armed conflict, including security threats against particular groups, such as journalists and relief workers. An Insecurity Insight-supported project, Aid in Danger, focuses on disruptions to the delivery of humanitarian assistance and produces monthly reports for the humanitarian community that enable relief organizations to better plan and monitor programs in insecure environments. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA continued to support Insecurity Insight through prior-year funding to partner Save the Children/U.S.

Aid workers killed, kidnaped and arrested in selected countries in 2018

	SiND Aid Worker KKA 2018		
	Number of reported aid workers affected (January-September 2018)		
	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested
Afghanistan	12	14	2
CAR	8	3	0
DRC	4	27	1
Iraq	0	0	0
Mali	1	6	0
Nigeria	4	3	0
Somalia	5	6	1
South Sudan	12	36	36
Syria	62	6	4
Yemen	5	14	2
Other countries	13	12	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>131</b>

The countries have been selected by [Reliefweb](#).

This KKA data is updated each month to include backdated reports identified in open-sources and shared by Aid in Danger partner agencies. It is available on [HDX Insecurity Insight](#) and [Reliefweb Crisis App Data](#).

With USAID/OFDA support, Insecurity Insight's Aid in Danger project provides data on security incidents targeting humanitarian workers around the world.

*Image courtesy of Insecurity Insight.*

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USAID/OFDA information products are available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis>