

LAKE CHAD BASIN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

JANUARY 29, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.5 million

People Displaced by Boko Haram-Related Insecurity in Lake Chad Basin
OCHA – December 2015

5.6 million

People in Need of Emergency Food Assistance in the Region
WFP – January 2016

2.2 million

IDPs in Nigeria
IOM – December 2015

58,926

IDPs in Niger
OCHA – January 2016

158,316

IDPs in Cameroon
IOM – November 2015

53,593

IDPs in Chad
OCHA – January 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP reports 5.6 million food-insecure people in the region
- UN announces \$31 million in emergency funding to assist vulnerable households
- Violence forces humanitarian actors to temporarily suspend response interventions in Chad

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–FY 2016

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$30,287,761
USAID/FFP ²	\$77,629,741
State/PRM ³	\$53,300,000
USAID/Nigeria	\$33,800,000
\$195,017,502	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Attacks and raids by armed group Boko Haram continue to disrupt agricultural production and constrain economic activities throughout the Lake Chad Basin, affecting Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. The UN World Food Program (WFP) estimates that 5.6 million people in the region are in need of emergency food assistance—a 19 percent increase in the food-insecure population since October 2015.
- Between December and January, the UN—in coordination with host country governments—released the 2016 humanitarian response plans for Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria. The plans, which target nearly 4.8 million people across the three countries for humanitarian assistance, require approximately \$1.1 billion to implement critical food security, health, protection, and shelter interventions. The funding requirement represents a 10 percent increase from the total amount requested in the countries' 2015 plans, reflecting increased humanitarian needs across the region.
- The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is providing \$31 million in emergency assistance to address the increased needs of nearly 1.7 million people in the Lake Chad Basin region affected by Boko Haram-related violence. The UN has allocated \$10 million to support affected populations in Nigeria and \$7 million each for Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. The funds will provide vulnerable households with critical emergency assistance—including health care, nutrition, protection, sanitation, and shelter support.

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

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

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

REGIONAL

- Continued attacks by Boko Haram—an insurgent group whose tactics include control of territory, kidnapping, raids, and suicide bombings—have resulted in widespread population displacement and increased humanitarian needs in the Lake Chad Basin countries, particularly in Nigeria’s northeastern states. Following recent territorial gains by the Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF)—a military force to combat Boko Haram, comprising troops from Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria—militants have launched increasing numbers of suicide attacks in the region, according to a humanitarian organization in northeastern Nigeria.
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AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Approximately 5.6 million people in the Lake Chad Basin are moderately to severely food-insecure, according to WFP. Of the total, WFP estimates that food insecurity is affecting 4 million people in northeastern Nigeria, 1.4 million people in Cameroon’s Far North Region, 148,000 people in Niger’s Diffa Region, and 116,000 people in Chad. Ongoing violence and resultant displacement have disrupted agricultural production and limited economic activity in the affected areas, as households fleeing violence are forced to abandon their productive assets, WFP reports.
 - Despite access constraints, WFP is responding to emergency food needs in the region; in November, the UN agency reached more than 344,000 conflict-affected people in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger with emergency food assistance. In addition, with USAID/FFP support, WFP is coordinating with the Government of Nigeria (GoN) to strengthen the operating capacity of the country’s national and state emergency management agencies, including bolstering food security monitoring through mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping.
 - With more than \$27.2 million in FY 2016 funding, USAID/FFP continues to support WFP to address emergency food needs throughout the Lake Chad Basin. With USAID/FFP assistance, WFP is providing cash transfers, food vouchers, in-kind food assistance, and locally and regionally procured food to affected communities in the region.
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NIGERIA

- Persistent Boko Haram attacks, as well as clashes between the insurgent group and the MNJTF, continue to undermine security in northeastern Nigeria. As MNJTF troops regain territory previously under Boko Haram control, communities in the region report sporadic attacks on markets, villages, and other public places. In mid-January, a non-governmental organization (NGO) active in northeastern Nigeria reported that militants were conducting an average of ten suicide attacks per week. In late December, a suicide bombing at a market in northern Adamawa State resulted in at least 30 deaths, while repeated attacks in rural Borno State displaced hundreds of people, the UN reports. In addition, suicide bombers conducted multiple attacks in a suburb of Borno’s capital city of Maiduguri on December 28, including an attack on a mosque that resulted in at least 20 civilian deaths, according to international media reports.
- Despite ongoing insecurity, the GoN has commenced returns of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to areas of origin, as MNJTF troops force Boko Haram to withdraw from parts of northeastern Nigeria, USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports. Humanitarian organizations indicate that the GoN returned an estimated 2,000 people sheltering in IDP camps in Adamawa to Borno in December. However, given continued violence in the displaced households’ home communities, the majority relocated to IDP camps in Maiduguri, further straining camp resources. Nigerian refugees returning from Cameroon also sought shelter at camps in Adamawa throughout December, even as relocations from Adamawa to Borno were ongoing. To address housing needs among displaced populations in Maiduguri, IOM has constructed approximately 100 shelters at three of the city’s camps; more than 220 shelters at a fourth camp remained under construction as of late December. Nearly 20 IOM site facilitators in Adamawa and Borno are assisting the GoN to manage the states’ 19 formal camps.
- Between October and December, GoN military interventions rendered at least six of Borno’s local government areas (LGAs) fully or partially accessible, enabling IDPs from Gubio, Kaga, and Konduga LGAs to return home, according to IOM. As of December 31, the USAID/OFDA-supported, IOM-operated Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) registered approximately 200,000 fewer IDPs in Borno, from an estimated 1.6 million people as of late October to more

than 1.4 million people as of late December. Borno continues to host approximately 76 percent of northeastern Nigeria's estimated 2.2 million IDPs. With \$3 million in FY 2015 assistance, USAID/OFDA is supporting IOM to work with the GoN to improve humanitarian data collection, displacement monitoring, and information dissemination in northeastern Nigeria through the DTM platform. USAID/OFDA funding to IOM also supports protection activities for vulnerable populations affected by Boko Haram-related violence.

- WFP estimates that 4 million people in northeastern Nigeria are experiencing food insecurity due to the effects of Boko Haram-related violence. According to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), households in the heavily-affected states of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe will continue to face Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity through March 2016.⁴ The Cadre Harmonisé review—a food security tool used throughout West Africa for the classification, analysis, and reporting of food insecurity—estimates that as many as 3.9 million people across the three states may be affected.
- Beginning in November, health authorities in northeastern Nigeria noted increased cases of Lassa fever—a viral hemorrhagic fever endemic to the country that results in outbreaks on a near-annual basis, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). From August 2015–January 2016, WHO reported nearly 160 suspected and 54 confirmed cases of Lassa fever across 19 states, including approximately 80 suspected and confirmed deaths. WHO is supporting the GoN to coordinate the response to the outbreak, and relief actors have distributed Ribavirin—an antiviral drug used to treat the disease—to affected states, the UN reports.
- In early January, the UN released the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Nigeria, targeting approximately 3.9 million of the estimated 7 million people in the northeast who require assistance due to the ongoing Boko Haram crisis. The plan seeks to address continued health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs among affected households, while building local capacity for humanitarian response efforts in northeastern Nigeria. The HRP appeals for \$248 million in humanitarian aid, representing a \$90 million increase from the amount requested in Nigeria's 2015 Revised HRP. To date, donors have contributed nearly \$9 million—approximately 3 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal.

CAMEROON

- Attacks attributed to Boko Haram escalated in Cameroon's Far North Region in January. Between January 12–18, two suicide attacks on mosques in the region resulted in at least sixteen deaths; on January 25, a series of bomb attacks at a market in Far North's Bodo town killed more than 30 people and wounded approximately 70 others, according to international media reports. In response, the Government of Cameroon closed the majority of its markets on the country's northern border with Nigeria. On January 28, two suspected Boko Haram militants targeted a school in Kerawa town where displaced people were reportedly sheltering; however, the attack did not result in civilian deaths, according to international media. The UN reports that humanitarian access remains limited due to ongoing insecurity in the region.
- Food security and nutrition conditions among populations in Far North deteriorated from 2014–2015, according to assessments conducted by WFP and other humanitarian agencies. As of early January, WFP estimated that global acute malnutrition levels in the region were approximately 14 percent, nearly reaching the WHO emergency threshold of 15 percent. In addition, the UN estimates that 2.2 percent of children in the region are experiencing severe acute malnutrition, which exceeds the WHO emergency threshold of 2 percent. The UN warns that continued displacement, insecurity, and poor harvests could cause the nutritional situation in Far North to deteriorate further in the coming months.
- In November, WFP reached more than 115,000 people in the region with emergency food assistance—including the distribution of High Energy Biscuits and a 12-day food ration to more than 400 recently-arrived Nigerian refugees in Far North's Minawao camp. WFP is providing food assistance to approximately 50,000 refugees sheltering in the

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

camp. USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$11 million of in-kind food assistance through WFP to support the urgent food needs of IDPs, refugees, and vulnerable host community members in Far North.

- To address protection needs among the approximately 225,000 displaced people in Far North, a USAID/OFDA partner and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with support from State/PRM, held a workshop from December 10–11 to train administrative, judiciary, military, and traditional authorities in Far North’s capital city of Maroua on international protection standards for IDPs and refugees. USAID/OFDA provided partners in Cameroon with approximately \$345,000 in FY 2015 funding to address critical protection needs among vulnerable populations in the region.
- In late December, the UN released the 2016 HRP for Cameroon, identifying approximately 2.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance throughout the country; more than half—1.5 million people—reside in Far North. To support Cameroon’s most vulnerable populations, the HRP seeks \$282 million to assist approximately 1.1 million people throughout the country, including 624,000 people in Far North affected by Boko Haram-related insecurity.

CHAD

- Insecurity continues in Chad’s Lac Region, where communities have reported at least five attacks on civilians since late December, according to the UN. Among the incidents, two late-December attacks near Lac’s capital city of Bol and in Kolom village resulted in five civilian deaths. Lac’s fragile security situation forced response actors to suspend multiple activities—including food distributions and IDP registrations—scheduled for December. The UN reports that humanitarian organizations completed less than 50 percent of planned food distributions for IDPs, and IOM reached only 85 of 182 planned IDP registration sites in Lac in December. IOM estimates that one-third of approximately 53,000 IDPs in Lac—including 16,000 people in Tchoukoutalia village recently displaced by military operations in the region—remain unregistered due to security restrictions.
- Despite access constraints, humanitarian actors are working with local partners to reach communities in insecure areas of Lac. IOM and the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) provided emergency relief item kits—including buckets, mosquito nets, soap, and water treatment products—to approximately 2,500 households in the region in mid-December. Recipients included conflict-affected households on the island of Koulfoua, where local authorities facilitated access and security for response actors. In addition, the UN reports that from January 13–18, relief organizations conducted a multi-sectoral needs assessment in Lac’s Kangelom and Liwa Daboua localities, which were previously inaccessible due to Boko Haram-related insecurity.
- According to FEWS NET, Boko Haram-related violence in Lac has disrupted fishing and livestock activities and reduced access to markets, negatively affecting food security among local communities and displaced populations. The majority of households in Lac will likely experience Stressed—IPC Phase 2—levels of food insecurity through March 2016, FEWS NET reports. According to a WFP rapid food security assessment in October 2015, approximately 35 percent of displaced people in Chad are food-insecure, with 4 percent of people identified as severely food-insecure.
- In November, WFP reached approximately 114,000 people affected by Boko Haram-related insecurity with emergency food assistance. In addition, WFP recently established a coordination hub in Chad’s capital city of N’Djamena to support ongoing emergency food assistance efforts in the country. USAID/FFP has provided more than \$6.4 million to WFP through food vouchers and in-kind food assistance to address urgent food needs in Lac.
- In late December, the UN released the 2016 HRP for Chad to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations throughout the country. The HRP seeks \$567 million to assist approximately 1.8 million vulnerable people throughout Chad, including more than 250,000 of the estimated 520,000 people in need of assistance in Lac.

NIGER

- From November 19–December 17, the UN reported at least seven Boko Haram attacks in Diffa Department, Diffa Region, resulting in more than 40 civilian deaths. UNHCR reports that the attacks caused local populations, IDPs, and Nigerian refugees sheltering in the area to relocate to new communities, IDP camps, and spontaneous sites. As of mid-January, many of the newly displaced people were sheltering alongside Niger’s primary national highway, including in Zinder Region’s Koublé town, where more than 10,000 displaced people have sought shelter since November, according to UNHCR. The UN agency reported difficulties responding to health, shelter, and WASH needs among the displaced, particularly for people sheltering in informal sites.
- In November, the Government of Niger (GoRN) and UN partners launched a program to relocate 166 schools forced to close due to Boko Haram-related insecurity, affecting approximately 12,600 children in Diffa Region. As of late December, the GoRN and UN agencies had relocated 99 schools—60 percent of affected sites—to safer locations, enabling more than 5,900 children to resume classes, the UN reports. In addition, UNICEF constructed 12 classrooms in IDP camps in the region and trained nearly 200 education professionals in emergency education, psychosocial support, and the prevention and management of gender-based violence (GBV). The UN reports that ongoing violence and related displacement have stalled efforts to reinstate classes for the remaining 6,700 children affected by the school closures. As of late December, more than 2,000 schools across Cameroon, Niger, and Nigeria remained closed due to Boko Haram-related insecurity, according to UNICEF.
- Due to ongoing Boko Haram-related violence and resultant displacement, FEWS NET expects vulnerable households in northern Diffa Region to experience Crisis—IPC Phase 3—levels of food insecurity through March. However, FEWS NET anticipates that the region’s Diffa, Goudoumaria, and Maine Soroa departments will experience increased humanitarian access as a result of a stronger GoRN security presence, enabling response actors to address the alimentary needs of affected households. The GoRN military reported a significant decrease in direct clashes with Boko Haram militants in early January, but noted that securing the country’s border with Nigeria remains a challenge, according to international media.
- USAID/FFP is supporting WFP and three NGO partners to address urgent food needs among vulnerable households in Diffa Region. On January 7, WFP renewed its local food procurement program for Niger, which stimulates the country’s economy and provides vulnerable households with critical food assistance. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP purchased approximately 4,000 metric tons (MT) of food from local farmers in Niger in 2015; in 2016, WFP aims to purchase an additional 4,000 MT of locally grown food to support the country’s agricultural producers and food-insecure populations. To date in FY 2016, USAID/FFP has contributed nearly \$9 million to WFP to assist conflict-affected refugees and returnees in Niger.
- With approximately \$8.3 million in FY 2015 assistance to Niger, USAID/OFDA is strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors through support to the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS); addressing agriculture and food security needs through the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); and providing protection services, relief commodities, WASH interventions, and other assistance through multiple NGO partners.

CONTEXT

- Following escalated violence in northeastern Nigeria, the GoN declared a state of emergency in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe in March 2013. In the first half of 2014, attacks carried out by Boko Haram militants killed more than 3,000 people, and in mid-2014, a shift in tactics to the seizing and holding of territory further exacerbated the region's humanitarian crisis. On October 22, 2014, U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria James E. Entwistle redeclared a disaster for the complex humanitarian emergency in Nigeria. Significant numbers of people fled Boko Haram in northern Nigeria, exacerbating humanitarian needs in all of the surrounding countries. On December 5, 2014, U.S. Ambassador to Niger Eunice S. Reddick redeclared a disaster in Niger in response to the country's complex emergency, including Boko Haram-related displacement.
- In late 2014 and early 2015, Boko Haram attacks spread further into neighboring countries, with suicide bombings beginning in Chad in February 2015. On April 16, 2015, U.S. Ambassador to Cameroon Michael S. Hoza declared a disaster due to the complex emergency caused by intensifying Boko Haram attacks in the region. On May 28, 2015, U.S. Ambassador to Chad James A. Knight redeclared a disaster for the complex humanitarian emergency in Chad.
- Violence continues to displace people within Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. In communities hosting IDPs, refugees, and returnees, the presence of additional displaced families is straining local resources and exacerbating food, relief commodity, shelter, livelihood, and protection needs, among others. On December 14, 2015, U.S. Ambassador to Chad James A. Knight redeclared a disaster for the complex humanitarian emergency in Chad.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–FY 2016¹

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2016

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/FFP²			
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Risk Management Policy and Practice	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$800,000
	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Far North, Cameroon	\$10,989,338
	Food Vouchers	Lac, Chad	\$1,000,000
	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Lac, Chad	\$5,409,600
	Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,000,000
	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Diffa, Niger	\$6,997,900
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$27,196,838
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$27,196,838

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA³			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, and Yobe states, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria	\$7,547,382
	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Far North Region, Cameroon	\$1,544,095

	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Bahr el Gazal, Kanem, and Lac regions, Chad	\$6,457,377
	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Diffa and Tillaberi regions, Niger	\$6,639,692
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Diffa, Niger	\$600,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$3,000,000
	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Far North, Cameroon	\$549,792
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$1,774,938
		Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Chad, Countrywide	\$1,000,000
		Niger, Countrywide	\$500,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition	Diffa, Tillaberi, and Tahoua regions, Niger	\$600,000
		Program Support Costs	\$74,485
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$30,287,761
USAID/FFP⁴			
Implementing Partners	Cash Transfers, Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Procurement	Northeastern Nigeria	\$17,882,091
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Cash Transfers, Food Vouchers	Diffa, Niger	\$2,500,000
Samaritan's Purse	Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,699,592
Save the Children (SC)	Cash Transfers	Diffa, Niger	\$2,700,210
UNICEF	Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods	Northeastern Nigeria	\$2,200,000
WFP	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Far North, Cameroon	\$7,538,900
	Local and Regional Procurement	Lac, Chad	\$1,000,000
	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Lac, Chad	\$3,000,000
	Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,000,000
	Title II In-Kind Assistance	Diffa, Niger	\$8,912,110
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$50,432,903
STATE/PRM			
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	WASH	Niger, Countrywide	\$700,000

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance to Victims of the Conflict	Northeastern Nigeria	\$21,300,000
		Far North, Cameroon	\$2,300,000
		Lac, Chad	\$100,000
		Diffa, Niger	\$1,900,000
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Diffa, Niger	\$750,000
IRC	GBV Prevention and Response, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Diffa, Niger	\$700,000
SC	Health, Protection, WASH	Diffa, Niger	\$650,000
UNHCR	Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance to IDPs	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$6,900,000
		Far North, Cameroon	\$8,500,000
	Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance to Refugees and Returnees	Lac, Chad	\$4,000,000
		Diffa, Niger	\$4,900,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Niger, Countrywide	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$53,300,000
USAID/NIGERIA			
Implementing Partners	Education Opportunities for IDPs and Host Communities	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, and Gombe, Nigeria	
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Education	Nigeria, Countrywide	
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	\$33,800,000
United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)	Protection	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	
WHO	Health	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	
TOTAL USAID/NIGERIA FUNDING			\$33,800,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$167,820,664

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016	\$30,287,761
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016	\$77,629,741
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016	\$53,300,000
TOTAL USAID/NIGERIA FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016	\$33,800,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–2016	\$195,017,502

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

³ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 29, 2016.

⁴ Estimated value of food assistance.

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.
- 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:
 - USAID 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>