



# SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

DECEMBER 19, 2013

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**9.3 million**

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

**6.5 million**

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

**2.3 million**

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – November 2013

**569,003**

Syrian Refugees in Jordan  
UNHCR – December 2013

**845,858**

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon  
UNHCR – December 2013

**553,116**

Syrian Refugees in Turkey  
UNHCR – December 2013

**209,460**

Syrian Refugees in Iraq  
UNHCR – December 2013

**130,841**

Syrian Refugees in Egypt  
UNHCR – December 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

- U.N. releases largest global humanitarian appeal to date; more than 50 percent of the requested funds are for Syria.
- Winter storm exacerbates conditions for IDPs and refugees throughout region.
- WFP airlift from Iraq enables conflict-affected populations to receive assistance for the first time in six months.

## 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

- Approximately \$6.5 billion—more than 50 percent—of the U.N. 2014 global appeal released on December 16 will support the humanitarian needs of populations affected by the Syrian conflict. The U.N. is requesting \$2.3 billion for the 9.3 million conflict-affected people inside Syria and an additional \$4.2 billion for 6.8 million affected individuals outside of Syria, including 4.1 million refugees residing in neighboring countries and 2.7 million host community members. The 2014 appeal includes the plans of more than to nearly 100 humanitarian organizations, including U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), working to provide assistance to Syrians.
- A severe winter storm brought freezing temperatures, snow, and heavy rains to areas of the Middle East December 12–15, exacerbating already poor living conditions for the refugees and IDPs residing in its path.
- Shelling and air raids in the city of Aleppo during the week of December 15 have killed at least 135 people, including many children, according to international media sources. The Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) military dropped barrels filled with explosives on approximately 10 areas of the city. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported opposition attacks in the town of Adra northeast of Damascus, resulting in more than 25 deaths.
- On December 8, the U.N. began the first emergency round of polio vaccines inside Syria in response to the recent outbreak. This follows upon rounds carried out in October and November, which were planned prior to the outbreak but which were accelerated due to the rising number of polio cases. The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) are working with SARG Ministry of Health staff and Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) staff to vaccinate 2.2 million children under five years of age in Syria. WHO and UNICEF will carry out additional polio immunization rounds at monthly intervals until April 2014. UNICEF plans to deliver 10 million doses of the polio vaccine to Syria to enable this campaign.

<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)

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## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) continues to send food to civilians in hard-to-reach areas. On December 10 and 12, WFP delivered 3,000 family food rations—enough to feed 15,000 people—through two joint interagency cross-line missions in Idlib Governorate, reaching populations previously unable to receive assistance due to intense fighting in the region.
- WFP, UNHCR, and UNICEF are airlifting urgently needed humanitarian aid from Erbil, Iraq, to Qamishli, Al Hasakah Governorate, located in northeastern Syria. The first WFP-chartered flight landed on December 15, carrying approximately 40 metric tons (MT) of food, including wheat flour, pasta, oil, sugar, salt, rice, canned beans, and bulgur. WFP also announced plans to utilize 11 additional airlifts to move enough food for 30,000 people for one month. In total, two planes will conduct 23 rotations between Iraq and Syria in late December, carrying more than 600 MT of relief supplies from UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP. The snowstorm had previously closed the Qamishli airport, and road access into northeastern Syria remains dangerous for relief organizations. According to the U.N., no significant amount of aid had reached the region for more than six months. This airlift represents the first humanitarian airlift from Iraq into Syria since the crisis erupted in March 2011.

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## WINTERIZATION

- The USG is targeting 1.5 million beneficiaries in Syria for relief supplies, including at least 600,000 individuals for winterization-specific supplies, including blankets, warm clothes, mattresses, carpets, and vouchers that can be used to purchase items such as stoves and heating oil. One humanitarian partner has already distributed 95 percent of its winterization kits to more than 58,000 beneficiaries in Aleppo, Hamah, Homs, Rif Damascus, and Tartus governorates. A second partner reports that it has provided more than 1,000 family winterization kits—sufficient for an estimated 5,000 individuals—to vulnerable households living outside of IDP camps. A third NGO has provided winter kits, as well as hygiene and relief item kits to 60,000 people throughout northern Syria and expects to reach approximately 120,000 people by mid-January.
- As of December 16, UNHCR had dispatched thermal blankets and plastic sheeting as part of its winterization package to approximately 28,000 households in Aleppo, Hamah, Homs, Idlib, Latakia, Rif Damascus, and Tartus governorates. In addition, UNHCR delivered stoves to Latakia camp, where the SARG plans provide fuel for households' cooking and heating needs.
- As of December 13, WFP had begun distributing close to 10,000 liters of fuel to internally displaced families living in 10 collective tent shelters in Damascus. The fuel is sufficient for the food preparation and heating needs for approximately 2,800 IDPs—primarily women, children, and the elderly—for one week. WFP plans further distribution of fuel to an additional 35 shelters in Homs and Rif Damascus.
- UNICEF is also providing winter-specific support and plans to reach approximately 2 million children with emergency winterization packages. As of December 16, UNICEF had distributed more than 450,000 blankets, an estimated 28,000 sets of children's clothes, approximately 76,000 plastic sheets, and 38,000 hygiene supplies to conflict-affected populations residing in Homs, Damascus, Idlib, and Rif Damascus governorates.

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## HEALTH

- A USG humanitarian partner has distributed nearly 3,000 hygiene kits to communities in Dar'a Governorate since September 30. Another humanitarian partner is working to provide medical assistance in central Dar'a. With USG funding, an NGO has reached nearly 12,800 vulnerable people—primarily in eastern Dar'a Governorate—with hygiene kits containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, hand sanitizer, water containers, and other basic hygiene supplies. In addition, another USG-funded NGO is supporting primary care for infants and new mothers and educating communities on child protection issues.
- To educate the public regarding polio vaccination, WHO and UNICEF are broadcasting televised public announcements, in addition to utilizing social media resources. To support the regional polio response, UNICEF is developing a regional communication strategy in advance of the January vaccination round.

## **AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY**

- On December 16, WFP announced plans to expand its emergency operation for Syria and provide food assistance to reach more than 7 million displaced Syrians each month, including nearly 4.3 million inside Syria and 2.9 million Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. Recent assessments indicate that nearly half the population inside Syria is food insecure and an estimated 6.3 million people need urgent, life-saving food assistance.
- WFP plans to increase the size of its food basket to provide more calories per person per day as other sources of food are increasingly scarce for the most vulnerable. To reduce malnutrition among young children, WFP will also provide nutritional food supplements to 240,000 children aged 6 to 23 months. Additionally, WFP plans to begin a school feeding program in three of Syria's governorates—Aleppo, Al Hasakah, and Rif Damascus—where the crisis has critically affected education.
- The USG supports more than one-third of all WFP emergency food distributions, which are now reaching approximately 3.4 million people in Syria and 1.3 million refugees in neighboring countries. An additional 412,000 individuals receive USG-funded emergency food delivered by NGOs directly into areas not reached by WFP.

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## **DISPLACED POPULATIONS**

### *Internal Displacement*

- Heavy fighting in the Ghouta and Qalamoun regions continues to displace populations to other areas of Rif Damascus, including Al-Ghezlaniya and Jaramana, and to Syria's capital, Damascus. Host communities are largely unprepared to support the new influx of IDPs, particularly during the winter season, according to the U.N. Approximately 9,500 people have also fled from the town of Al-Zabadani—located west of Damascus—where humanitarian organizations have not had access since July 2013.
- The UNICEF humanitarian hub in Homs conducted an assessment mission to the city of Hamah for the first time in more than two months to assess the humanitarian situation in Hamah Governorate. The team found an overall tense security situation throughout the governorate with an additional 8,000 families displaced from the city of Aleppo and areas of rural Aleppo to Mesaif and Salamiyah districts since October. The IDPs' most urgent needs include protection, winterization supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions. UNICEF, in collaboration with the SARC and other partners, has developed a three-month urgent response plan to address the needs of these IDP families and host communities.

### *External Displacement*

- UNHCR continues to monitor Syrian refugee returns, providing counseling to potential returnees and family members and assessing the voluntary nature of returns. From January 2013 to mid-November, approximately 44,500 refugees returned to Syria from neighboring countries. Among the cited reasons for return are reunification with family members in Syria and difficult living conditions in host countries.

### **Jordan**

- UNHCR partners have been implementing emergency measures and distributing humanitarian aid in countries affected by the recent winter storm. In Jordan's Za'atri refugee camp, relief organizations distributed heaters on December 15 and evacuated more than 300 people to communal shelters from flooded and fallen tents. The U.N. winterization plan in Jordan includes assistance to refugees in camps, as well as 90,000 refugees residing outside camps to ensure that 220,000 particularly vulnerable Syrian refugees receive winter aid.
- UNHCR and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (GHKJ) authorities are discussing a more systematic individual tracking and monitoring procedure for Jordan's Za'atri and Rabaa Al-Sarhan refugee camps to better understand factors informing decisions to return and to address protection concerns, such as implementing a mechanism to prevent the recruitment of children into armed forces in Syria. At present, UNHCR regularly shares lists of unaccompanied and separated minors with the GHKJ as a measure to prevent the return of at-risk children to Syria.

- WFP is modifying the monthly food ration to increase the caloric intake of refugees in Za’atri camp during the harshest winter months. As part of the WFP food assistance package, refugees also receive food vouchers valued at approximately \$17 each month.

### **Iraq**

- In Iraq, UNHCR has provided winter items to approximately 65,000 refugees—or 93 percent of the more than 70,000 people in camps—and relief organizations are improving camp drainage systems to prevent flooding. An estimated 40 percent of the refugees in host communities in the cities of Dohuk, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah will receive winter kits containing mattresses, blankets, and warm clothing.

### **Lebanon**

- The effects of the recent winter storm have been acute for the estimated 120,000 Syrian refugees living in tents in Lebanon. The Lebanese Armed Forces, U.N. agencies, and USG-funded NGO partners have responded by providing emergency shelter kits and additional winter items to individuals most affected by the storm.
- WFP and its partners are meeting the food needs of newly arrived Syrian refugees hit by the winter storm with food assistance for up to 150,000 people per month. Newly arrived households receive food rations until they register with UNHCR and start receiving “e-cards,” electronic food vouchers that they can redeem at local shops. Each month, WFP provides food assistance to a total of more than 600,000 Syrian refugees across Lebanon.
- WFP plans to increase the value of the food vouchers for Syrian refugees in Lebanon from \$27 to \$30 per month to compensate for increased food prices and to allow vulnerable families to meet their needs during the coldest months of the year.
- With support from the USG, the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) launched a nationwide winterization assistance plan on December 5 to address needs of the more than 51,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria in Lebanon. UNRWA will initially focus efforts in the Bekaa Valley and other high altitude areas, where temperatures frequently fall below freezing; support will include cash assistance, as well as material support such as clothes, blankets, cooking stoves, and fuel.

### **Turkey**

- The Government of Turkey (GoT) Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency recently opened Viransehir camp located in Şanlıurfa Province in southern Turkey to accommodate newly arrived refugees and refugees transferred from more crowded facilities. UNHCR provided the residential tents in the camp, which can accommodate up to 20,000 refugees.
- UNICEF has replaced three tented child friendly spaces (CFSs) with containers—in Nizip 1, Nizip 2, and Islahiye camps—to enable activities for children and youth to continue during the winter months; UNICEF plans to replace all of the tented CFSs with containers by the end of December. In addition, UNICEF has also procured 220 winterized tents—to replace school tents in the camps—and will distribute them to seven camps and host communities. UNICEF aims to reach all children under two years of age in Turkey’s camps with winter clothing as part of its winterization support; camp authorities are currently distributing two jumpsuits each to nearly 5,200 children in seven camps.
- State/PRM’s Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (PDAS) Simon Henshaw attended a school groundbreaking ceremony in Kilis Province, Turkey, on December 14. The school, located in an urban area of Kilis, will be built by UNICEF with USG funds. The visit to Turkey focused on how the USG and international organizations can better work with the GoT to provide and expand services to urban refugees in Turkey. In addition, PDAS Henshaw highlighted the school as evidence of the high priority that the American people, like the Syrian people, place on the protection and education of children.

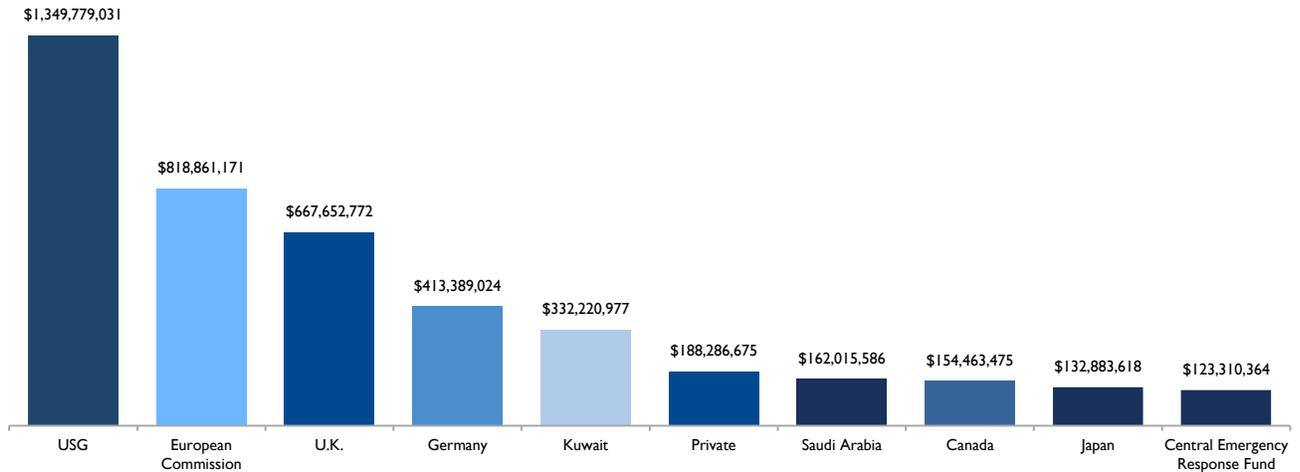
### **Egypt**

- On December 11, the Government of Egypt (GoE) released and granted temporary residency permits to 171 of 260 detained Syrian and Palestinian refugees, including all women and children. The cases of the remaining refugees are

under review to determine possible additional releases. UNHCR plans to provide assistance to the released refugees and continue monitoring the status of those still in detention.

- The GoE's action comes after U.N. agencies, NGOs, and foreign governments, including the USG, pressed the interim GoE on its practice of indefinite detention of refugees and coerced returns. UNHCR estimates that since August 2013, approximately 1,300 Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria have been detained by the GoE, the majority on charges of attempting to illegally exit the country or lacking a residency permit.

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



\*Funding figures are as of December 19, 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 hosted approximately 540,000 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 up to 440,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict and 270,000 are displaced inside the country. Syria also hosts an estimated 39,476 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>			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (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
U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (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
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health	Syria	\$2,795,900
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$2,637,156
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$252,299,825</b>

USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$162,095,475
WFP	Regional EMOP	Egypt	\$5,279,294
WFP	Regional EMOP	Iraq	\$9,835,629
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan	\$56,174,076
WFP	Regional EMOP	Lebanon	\$72,207,374
WFP	Regional EMOP	Turkey	\$19,303,727
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$70,803,546
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$395,699,121</b>

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
International Organization for Migration	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, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt	\$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>
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**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 December 19, 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>