

SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #12, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

MARCH 28, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

5.5 million

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

3.6 million

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

1.2 million

Syrians Displaced to Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – March 2013

376,661

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – March 2013

391,777

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – March 2013

261,635

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – March 2013

120,369

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – March 2013

46,003

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – March 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian needs continue to grow as conflict enters third year
- Relief agencies focus on preventing water-borne diseases
- Aid agencies provide assistance across conflict lines
- USG partner provides flour to bakeries in Aleppo

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$79,696,239
USAID/FFP ²	\$121,018,000
State/PRM ³	\$183,760,000
\$384,474,239	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Humanitarian needs inside Syria and the region continue to grow as the conflict enters its third year. In March, the U.N. cited estimates of 3.6 million people displaced inside Syria, an increase from 2.5 million. UNHCR recently reported that the average number of Syrians arriving in neighboring countries reached approximately 8,200 people per day in February 2013, an average increase of 252 percent compared to December 2012.
- The Assessment Working Group for Northern Syria released the “Aleppo City Assessment” (ACA) on March 28. A collaborative effort between humanitarian actors and the Syrian Opposition Coalition (SOC) Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU), the ACA was supported by the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID), USAID/OFDA, and the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO). The ACA covered 52 neighborhoods in Aleppo, representing 70 percent of the city’s pre-conflict population, and found 2.4 million people—including 510,000 IDPs— living in areas in need of humanitarian assistance.
- On March 25, the U.N. announced plans to temporarily relocate some of its international staff from Damascus due to poor security conditions; however, the U.N. reiterated its commitment to helping Syrians find a political solution to the crisis and providing critical humanitarian programs in Syria.
- The USG continues to work through all channels, including local Syrian networks, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and U.N. agencies, to reach people affected by the Syria conflict. Since March 2011, USG humanitarian assistance has reached 2.4 million people inside Syria. Of the \$384 million in USG humanitarian funding for the Syria crisis, \$216 million supports activities inside Syria, while \$168 million supports refugee programs in neighboring countries. USG humanitarian assistance includes emergency medical care, food assistance, child protection and gender-based violence prevention activities, the distribution of relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance.

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)

HEALTH, WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

- As winter ends and the weather in Syria becomes warmer, relief agencies are preparing for potential outbreaks of water-borne diseases. The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is working to provide safe drinking water for 10 million people for a three-month period through urban water systems in Aleppo, Ar Raqqa, Damascus, Dayr az Zawr, Hamah, Homs, Idlib, Latakia, and Tartus governorates. In response to a recent typhoid outbreak in northern Syria, UNICEF is also dispatching family water kits to Dayr az Zawr, intended to assist 11,250 people.
 - During a recent five-day visit to Aleppo Governorate, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) staff, accompanied by staff from the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), surveyed the effect the conflict has had on the supply of clean drinking water in the city of Aleppo and surrounding rural areas. In response to its findings, ICRC is planning a number of upgrades to help Aleppo water officials solve some of the current problems. During the visit, ICRC health personnel also provided health care centers with medical supplies, including medicines to treat chronic diseases.
 - In addition to supporting U.N. and NGO efforts to prevent the spread of disease, the USG is working through partners to provide emergency medical assistance in Syria. Currently, the USG is providing medical supplies and equipment, paying doctors’ salaries, and training first responders and medical staff. To date, the USG has provided urgently needed health assistance to approximately 1.9 million people inside Syria.
 - Approximately 1 million women of reproductive age are in need of assistance in Syria, many of whom are lacking access to reproductive health services, medicines, and supplies, according to the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA). In response to the growing need, UNFPA is supporting the availability of and access to reproductive health services in Syria, including life-saving emergency obstetric care and the provision of care via mobile medical teams. To date, UNFPA has provided services to approximately 600,000 people residing in conflict-affected areas, including 10,000 assisted safe births. UNFPA has distributed reproductive health vouchers to women for free reproductive health services, including emergency obstetric care, and is providing dignity kits to women and girls. The kits include personal hygiene supplies, such as sanitary napkins, soap, and other items. The USG has provided \$400,000 to UNFPA for reproductive services for women in Syria.
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AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Food insecurity continues to increase in Syria as the ongoing conflict decreases milling capacity, damages bakeries, and raises the price of supplies. WFP provided food assistance to 1.7 million Syrians during the February dispatch cycle—reaching 97 percent of the planned 1.75 million beneficiaries. Despite security threats and attacks on warehouses and trucks, WFP plans to continue increasing operations inside Syria to reach 2.5 million Syrians by the end of April. As of March 14, WFP had distributed more than 83,000 metric tons (MT) of food to Syrians in more than 400 different locations throughout the country. WFP has also distributed more than 1 million food vouchers and 500,000 food parcels to Syrian refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.
- As of March 24, a USG-funded NGO had provided nearly 2,700 MT of flour to 67 bakeries in five northern districts of Aleppo Governorate and to the Aleppo Relief Council for onward distribution to bakeries within Aleppo city limits. Recognizing varying capacities of bakeries to handle large amounts of flour as well as varying levels of need across communities, the NGO has begun targeting flour deliveries to a smaller number of bakeries with twice-monthly deliveries to maximize the impact of the program, designed to provide an estimated 210,000 people with reduced-price bread.
- WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRC) have reported positive feedback from displaced Syrians receiving food assistance through the electronic voucher program in Turkey’s Harran, Hatay, and Kilis refugee camps. The voucher program—supported by the USG and other donors—utilizes electronic cards loaded with a monthly amount of 80 Turkish Liras, or approximately \$45, per person, which can be redeemed at designated commercial vendors for food items. WFP and TRC plan to expand the electronic voucher program to Nizip-2 camp and Osmaniye/Düziçi camps in the near future. UNHCR will provide cooking facilities to support the expansion.

RELIEF SUPPLY ASSISTANCE

- A number of NGOs are providing aid to populations across conflict lines, according to the U.N. On March 8, an NGO transported 15,000 pieces of winter clothing, 5,000 blankets, and 5,000 mattresses to Dayr az Zawr Governorate in a convoy escorted by the SARC. In mid-March, the NGO delivered 5,900 blankets and 15,000 sets of winter clothes to Dar'a Governorate. Another international NGO delivered more than 10,700 hygiene kits to Dayr az Zawr Governorate between March 6 and 15 as part of the rapid response to a recent IDP influx. A third international NGO distributed 12,700 winterization kits in Hamah, Homs, and Tartus governorates, reaching 63,500 individuals, during the first half of March.
 - Since late January, five U.N. interagency humanitarian convoys operating across lines of control have assisted more than 85,000 Syrians with relief items, such as hygiene kits, blankets, and medical supplies. The convoys reached conflict-affected areas of Aleppo, Dayr az Zawr, Homs, and Idlib governorates, as well as areas along the Syria–Turkey border with concentrations of IDPs.
 - UNHCR, in coordination with the SARC, dispatched 130 MT of relief items on March 19 to Tal Abyad district, Ar Raqqah Governorate, where 1,000 IDP families—approximately 5,000 individuals—fled following the capture of the city of Ar Raqqah by opposition forces on March 4 and subsequent aerial attacks on the city by government forces. UNHCR distributed 10,000 blankets and 2,000 tents, and WFP provided 5,000 food baskets.
 - To assist IDPs displaced by on-going military operations in Homs Governorate, UNHCR dispatched relief items on March 18 for 5,000 families—approximately 25,000 individuals—to areas throughout Homs, including the district of Baba Amr and the towns of Rastan and Talbiseh. The shipment of supplies included 5,000 kitchen sets, 500 mattresses, 15,000 blankets, 15,000 bed sheets, 15,000 sleeping mats, 5,000 water containers, 5,000 carpets, 25,000 diapers, and 12,000 hygiene kits for women.
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POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

Refugees in Syria

- Ongoing fighting in Aleppo, Damascus, Dar'a, and Homs governorates continues to affect Palestinian refugees in Syria, according to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). During the week of March 18, UNRWA reported 65 Palestinian refugee deaths, including five children. UNRWA has repeatedly called for all parties in the Syria conflict to respect international humanitarian law and protect the lives and rights of children.
- Since the start of the conflict in March 2011, UNRWA has delivered food parcels to approximately 28,650 Palestinian refugee families and cash assistance to more than 73,000 families. In addition, some 11,500 IDPs are currently residing in UNRWA-managed facilities in Syria, of which nearly 8,000 are in UNRWA buildings being used as temporary emergency shelters. On March 14, a UNRWA staff member was killed in Khan Sheikh camp, marking the sixth UNRWA staff member killed in the violence since March 2011.
- In addition to the Palestinian refugees, the U.N. estimates that 70,000 refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia are living inside Syria. UNHCR has stated that it remains committed to assisting and protecting these vulnerable individuals, many of whom have limited coping mechanisms to deal with conflict-related job losses and displacement.

Turkey

- During the week of March 18, the Government of Turkey (GoT) Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) released additional data on the Syrian refugee population in Turkey, providing a regional breakdown of the displaced. According to the report, there are approximately 10,000 refugees in Adana Province, 6,800 in Adiyaman Province, 29,800 in Gaziantep Province, 14,600 in Hatay Province, 16,200 in Kahramanmaraş Province, 13,400 in Kilis Province, 7,800 in Osmaniye Province, and 89,500 in Sanliurfa Province. The report also noted that there are currently more than 200 sick and wounded Syrians being treated in Turkey, 76 of whom are in the hospital. Separately, UNHCR has indicated that there may be as many as 50,000 unregistered Syrian refugees in Istanbul. There are no reliable figures for the number of Syrians present in some parts of Turkey, including the capital Ankara.

- GoT officials recently informed UNHCR that, in addition to two camps under construction in Elbeyli District in Kilis Province and Duzici District in Osmaniye Province, three new refugee camps are in the planning stages in Malatya, Mersin, and Sanliurfa provinces. The GoT is also considering an expansion of the Islahiye camp in Gaziantep Province. These additions would bring the total number of camps in Turkey to 22.
- UNICEF is working to provide access to education for Syrian children displaced to Turkey. To support two new schools in Akcakale and Ceylanpinar camps, UNICEF is supplying 48 classrooms with desks, chairs, blackboards, and other furniture, benefitting an estimated 3,550 children. To date, the USG has provided UNICEF with \$10 million to support education assistance for Syrian refugee children in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

Jordan

- U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres authorized the initial construction phase of the Mukhayzen al Gharbiyah camp outside Azraq, Jordan, approximately 100 km east of Amman. In addition, UNHCR will begin constructing transit facilities at Ribat Sarhan in Mafraq Governorate and increasing urban registration activities. However, UNHCR reports that it will not have sufficient funds to sustain camp construction, shelter, and protection activities through the end of 2013 if the current pace of new arrivals continues.
- The growing number of Syrian refugees in Jordan is straining the country's water supply system. To conserve water during the upcoming summer months, NGOs working in Jordan's Za'atri refugee camp plan to cap the amount of water delivered to the camp to current levels, and to turn off a number of water taps. Outside the camp, the Jordanian Red Crescent is assisting Syrian refugee families in need of water, as many Syrian families lack funds to purchase water from tankers when the tap water supply decreases. The humanitarian community has highlighted the need to increase awareness of Jordan's water scarcity issues among incoming Syrian refugees. Syria has greater water availability than Jordan, which is one of the world's most water-scarce countries.
- With support from the USG and other donors, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is conducting initial health screenings for Syrian refugees entering Jordan as a component of transportation services between the Syria–Jordan border and Za'atri refugee camp. To date, IOM has screened more than 195,000 incoming Syrian refugees for tuberculosis and provided treatment for refugees testing positive for the disease.

Lebanon

- More than 33,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have fled to Lebanon, the majority of whom are living in previously existing Palestinian refugee camps across the country. UNRWA is working with other humanitarian partners to provide support to this population, including cash assistance, medical services, and education.
- To respond to the growing need to protect Syrian women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and its effects, UNHCR and partners have trained community services and protection staff from various organizations in Tripoli on SGBV prevention and response. Additionally, more than 400 women and nearly 240 girls have received psychosocial support, counseling, parenting and life skills training, and nutrition services from two UNICEF-supported community centers for women and girls in North Lebanon and Bekaa Valley.

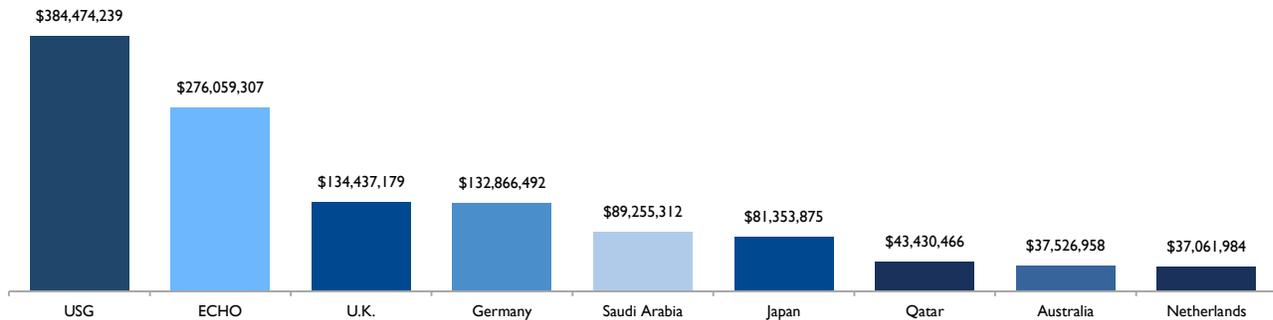
Iraq & Egypt

- In northern Iraq, IOM is coordinating first aid trainings for 27 Syrian refugees residing in the Domiz camp who have a background in first aid. Taught by experts from the local Directorate of Health, the 15-day trainings are intended to prepare the Syrians to serve as first responders in the event of an emergency.
- In Egypt, the number of registered refugees now exceeds 25,000. As part of an effort to increase the number of registered refugees across the region and address the backlog of Syrians waiting to register, UNHCR is conducting multiple registration drives in Egypt in the coming weeks. UNHCR expects to register approximately 10,000 people in Zamalek, Cairo, and 12,000 people in Alexandria.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- From March 7 to March 13, UNHCR Jordan received 258 prefabricated shelters donated by Arab nations—136 from the Oman Foundation, 42 from the Qatar Foundation, 40 from the Bahrain Foundation, 20 from Islamic Relief, and 10 each from the Said Foundation and Saudi Foundation. The shelters benefit more than 1,200 people in Jordan’s Za’atri refugee camp.

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



*Funding figures are as of March 28, 2013. All international figures are according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ (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.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the Syrian government in March 2011, President Bashar al-Asad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and Syrian Arab Republic Government (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 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 Opposition Coalition (SOC). The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. Shortly after its formation, the SOC established the Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. USG, other donor, 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 525,000 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 in Aleppo, Damascus, and Dar’a governorates has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that more than 400,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict. Syria also hosts approximately 63,000 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES
PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
NGO Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$48,865,457
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$6,000,000
UNFPA	Health	Syria	\$400,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$2,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$734,918
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$60,000,375
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operations (EMOP)	Syria	\$27,018,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$29,000,000
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$18,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$74,018,000
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Capacity Building, Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Syria	\$11,000,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Relief Commodities, Winterization	Lebanon, Turkey	\$2,100,000
IOM	Border Transport, Relief Commodities	Iraq, Jordan	\$3,000,000
NGO Partners	Capacity Building, Case Management, GBV, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Shelter	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$7,500,000
UNFPA	Capacity Building, Mental Health, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey	\$1,093,000
UNHCR	Camp Management, Education, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$73,637,000
UNHCR	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$10,070,000
UNICEF	Education	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$10,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Lebanon	\$2,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$11,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$131,400,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$265,418,375

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED
IN FY 2012¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
IFRC	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection	Syria	\$12,965,409
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection	Syria	\$1,750,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,500,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$1,300,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$380,455
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$19,695,864

USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria EMOP	Syria	\$32,300,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$14,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$47,000,000

STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Emergency Medical Care, Food, and Relief Items	Syria	\$8,000,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Turkey	\$500,000
NGO Partners	Health, Protection, Psychosocial, Shelter Assistance	Jordan and Lebanon	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Assistance for IDPs through Syria Humanitarian Response Plan	Syria	\$8,360,000
UNHCR	Support for the Regional Response Plan	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$19,500,000
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$2,000,000
UNRWA	Support for Palestinian Refugees in the Region	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$11,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$52,360,000

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 **\$119,055,864**

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013 **\$384,474,239**

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.
² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of March 28, 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 response efforts in Syria 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:
 - The 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>