WHY ARE WE MAKING THESE CHANGES?

The magnitude, political complexity, and protracted nature of complex emergencies pose challenges to USAID’s traditional humanitarian response structure.

Right now, the structure of humanitarian assistance at USAID is based on an artificial and outdated division between emergency food and non-food assistance. This structure keeps us from providing a fully integrated and effective approach to complex crises and natural disasters.

By unifying and elevating humanitarian assistance, USAID would eliminate the artificial distinction between emergency food and non-food response, eliminating confusion and unnecessary duplication in the field, and providing beneficiaries and partners with one cohesive USAID platform and voice on humanitarian assistance.
WHAT WILL THESE CHANGES DO?

Our proposed Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (HA) will advance USAID’s goal of seamlessly delivering food and non-food international disaster aid, better serving both national foreign policy interests and people in need of humanitarian assistance.

The HA Bureau would deploy appropriate resources at the right place and time, and share information and analysis within the Bureau, and across the Agency, the U.S. Government, other donors, and the American public to create a more strategic approach to global humanitarian assistance needs.

The proposed Humanitarian Assistance Bureau would provide:

• A stand-alone Bureau that can quickly and effectively provide humanitarian aid, empowering USAID to fulfill its mandate as the lead Federal coordinator for international disaster assistance
• A strong and unified humanitarian voice with domestic and international partners
• Consolidated technical expertise focused on preparing for, responding to, and mitigating the impact of disasters

HOW WILL WE MAKE THESE CHANGES?

USAID’s proposed new Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (HA) would combine the Offices of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and Food for Peace (FFP).

The Assistant to the Administrator for HA would report directly to the Associate Administrator for Relief, Response and Resilience (AA R3/AID), who will also oversee the Bureau of Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS) and the Bureau of Resilience and Food Security (RFS).