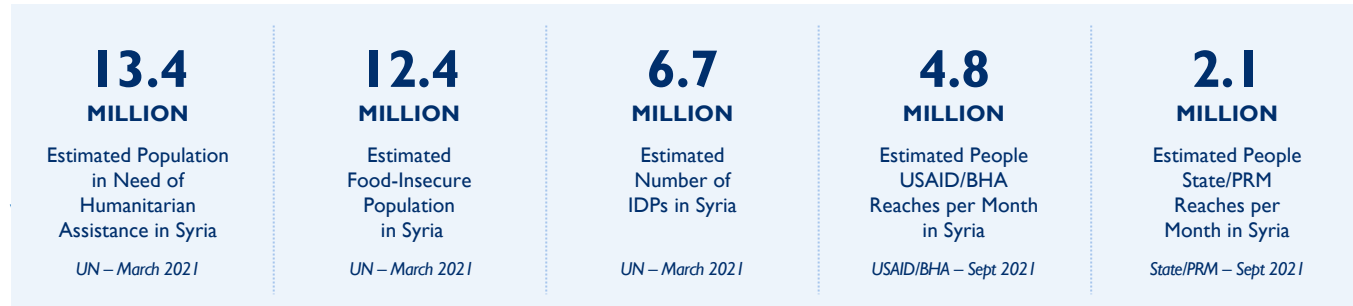


Syria – Complex Emergency

DECEMBER 3, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Approximately 4.5 million people in Syria require urgent winterization support for the 2021–2022 winter season, representing a more than 10 percent increase compared to the same time last year, relief actors report.
- Nearly 1.4 million COVAX-supported COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Syria on November 5, marking the single largest vaccine shipment to Syria from the COVAX facility to date, according to WHO.
- As of November, nearly 10 percent of people displaced from Dar’a Governorate’s Dar’a al Balad neighborhood continued to reside with host communities due to severe damage to their homes, underscoring the need for increased rehabilitation support in the neighborhood, the UN reports.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2021	USAID/BHA ¹	\$7,086,702,674
	State/PRM ²	\$6,958,147,848
	Total	\$14,044,850,522

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7

¹USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
²U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Approximately 4.5 Million People in Syria Require Winterization Assistance

An estimated 4.5 million people across Syria will require winterization assistance—such as blankets, heating fuel, mattresses, plastic sheeting, sleeping bags, winter clothing, and cash support—for the 2021–2022 winter season, according to the Whole of Syria Shelter and Non-Food Item (SNFI) Sector—the coordinating body for shelter and relief commodity support countrywide, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders, including USAID/BHA partners. The figure represents a more than 10 percent increase compared to the population requiring winterization support for the 2020–2021 winter season, with increased needs due in part to adverse effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, deteriorating economic conditions, and continued widespread protracted displacement. In September, the SNFI Sector requested \$182 million in international donor funding to address the 2021–2022 winterization needs of nearly 3.6 million people across the country, including 1.9 million residents of Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-held areas, 1.4 million people in northwest Syria, and 280,000 people in northeast Syria. The SNFI response plan prioritizes displaced populations in camps, collective shelters, and informal settlements, as well as vulnerable populations residing in high altitude and snow-prone areas. SNFI Sector actors—including USAID/BHA partners—aim to reach target populations through cash-based activities, vouchers, and in-kind distributions of essential winter supplies. As of October, SNFI Sector partners had secured approximately \$96 million for winterization activities in Syria, representing more than 50 percent of required funding to meet assistance targets.

Nearly 1.4 Million COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Arrive in Syria in November

On November 5, nearly 1.4 million doses of the Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine arrived in Syria through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility—an initiative led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, Gavi, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Health Organization (WHO) to support equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines globally—as part of the single largest COVAX-supported vaccine shipment to Syria to date. The combined total of previously delivered and anticipated deliveries of COVID-19 vaccines to Syria is sufficient to vaccinate approximately 40 percent of Syria’s total population, WHO reports. The SARG Ministry of Health (MoH) began a COVID-19 vaccination campaign in November for individuals ages 18 years and older, with the aim of vaccinating 20 percent of the adult population by the end of 2021. In support of the campaign, approximately 1,500 vaccination teams have deployed to hospitals, mobile health units, and primary health centers across Syria’s 14 governorates. As of late November, more than 5 percent of the country’s population had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, according to WHO.

Residential Building Damage Slows Returns to Dar’a al Balad

While the majority of residents displaced from Dar’a Governorate’s Dar’a al Balad neighborhood returned to the area following a September 6 ceasefire between SARG and opposition forces, approximately 3,700 displaced individuals continued to live with friends or relatives as of early November, with severe damage to their houses preventing their immediate return to Dar’a al Balad, the UN reports. Humanitarian assessments indicate that hostilities between SARG and opposition forces in Dar’a al Balad between late July and early September resulted in damage to or the destruction of approximately 1,200 residential buildings in six neighborhoods, adversely affecting an estimated 18,000 people. Dar’a’s Alabbasiah and Ghernata neighborhoods were most impacted, with more than 40 percent of the neighborhoods’ residential buildings severely damaged in the fighting, according to assessments. The recent destruction has compounded an already fragile housing situation in the

governorate, where 15 percent of residential properties were already uninhabitable prior to the conflict, the UN reports.

While humanitarian workers—including USG partners—continue to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to populations in Dar'a, the UN notes a need for additional emergency funding to complete the rehabilitation of residential and civilian buildings before the onset of the winter season.

Households Face High Food Prices, Market Access Challenges in October

More than 50 percent of households surveyed across Syria reported poor or borderline food consumption in October, representing the highest food insecurity level recorded in the country since October 2020 and the second highest since January 2019, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Hamah Governorate hosted the highest proportion of food-insecure households, with 70 percent of surveyed populations reporting poor or borderline food consumption, followed by Aleppo Governorate, where 65 percent of surveyed households were food-insecure. Female-headed households were disproportionately affected, with poor or borderline food consumption reported among nearly 70 percent of those interviewed over the course of the month compared to the approximately 50 percent of male-headed households reporting food insecurity.

In addition, nearly 40 percent of surveyed households reported facing difficulties accessing markets during the month, representing a 10 percent increase compared to October 2020 and the second highest national average level recorded since April 2020. Residents of Al Hasakah and Ar Raqqa governorates reported the least regular market access in October, with access impediments cited by half of all interviewed households, representing an increase of nearly 20 percent in both governorates compared to September. More than half of the population that reported lacking regular market access in October countrywide also reported experiencing poor or borderline food consumption during the month, WFP reports.

Persistent insecurity, poor economic conditions, fuel and electricity shortages, the financial crisis in neighboring Lebanon, and increases in COVID-19 cases and related containment measures in recent months have all contributed to the deterioration of food security and market access in Syria, according to WFP. In response, USAID/BHA continues to support WFP in reaching approximately 4.8 million people in Syria with emergency food assistance each month.

UN Delivers 1,000 Truckloads of Cross-Border Assistance in October

More than 1,000 trucks transported UN humanitarian commodities through Turkey's Bab al-Hawa border crossing into northwest Syria in October, ultimately reaching more than 2.1 million people with assistance, the UN reports. Specifically, the shipments allowed relief actors to reach approximately 1.7 million people with food assistance, 185,000 people with shelter and relief commodities, 146,000 people with health assistance, and 73,000 people with water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. Overall, WFP transported 25 percent of all food commodities distributed by the UN agency countrywide in October through Bab al-Hawa. Since July 2014—the date of the first UN cross-border shipment from Turkey to Syria—approximately 41,400 trucks have delivered humanitarian commodities to populations in northwest Syria through the Bab al-Hawa crossing, the UN reports.

KEY FIGURES



5.9 Million

Number of people USAID/BHA reaches with monthly food assistance in Syria and neighboring countries



5 Million

Number of people USAID/BHA reached with health assistance in FY 2021

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports UNICEF, WFP, and 14 NGOs providing emergency food and nutrition assistance within Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. In Syria, USAID/BHA partners provide vulnerable populations with cash-for-food support, food vouchers, monthly in-kind food rations, and emergency nutritional products, while also distributing wheat flour and yeast to bakeries. USAID/BHA assistance also supports the provision of cash transfers and food vouchers for Syrian refugees. WFP and USAID/BHA-funded NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to more than 5.9 million Syrians, including more than 4.8 million people inside Syria and 1.1 million refugees across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 13 partners, including UNICEF, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and WHO, to provide critical health assistance in Syria, cumulatively supporting approximately 480 health facilities. USAID/BHA-supported activities include community-based health education, direct health services through mobile medical units, reproductive health services, the provision of equipment for health facilities, and training for Syrian medical workers. USAID/BHA is supporting additional NGOs to bolster COVID-19 health response capacity in Syria by establishing primary health care services in areas with limited health infrastructure, providing equipment to intensive care and isolation facilities, and promoting effective infection prevention and control practices.

State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides medical consultations and facilitates community-based health programming through 26 community clinics and 12 health points in UNHCR-supported community centers in areas of Syria with minimally-accessible health care facilities. The UN agency also distributes masks and sanitation supplies to community centers throughout the country to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In addition, State/PRM supports UNHCR, UNICEF, and nine NGO partners to provide health assistance, including medical consultations, specialized health services, and vaccinations, for refugees in neighboring countries. From January to September, nearly 159,000 individuals benefitted from UNHCR-supported primary health care services and 15,600 people received health consultations. During the same time period, UNHCR partners also referred 2,800 people in need of mental health and psychosocial support to specialized services and 1,400 people to secondary health care services.



14

Number of USAID/BHA partners providing critical WASH assistance in Syria

WASH

USAID/BHA supports 12 NGO partners, as well as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNICEF, to provide WASH assistance in Syria. USAID/BHA partners distribute essential hygiene items to vulnerable populations and enhance WASH facilities by rehabilitating small-scale sanitation and water systems—such as handwashing stations and latrines—in displacement camps and informal settlements. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners increase access to safe drinking water through emergency water trucking and the distribution of water storage tanks and water treatment devices. Furthermore, USAID/BHA is supporting NGOs to bolster COVID-19 response capacity in Syria by increasing water trucking frequency to communities and internally displaced person (IDP) sites, providing additional water for handwashing and cleaning, and distributing soap and other WASH commodities. State/PRM also supports partners—including one NGO in Iraq and Lebanon and one international organization in Jordan—to provide safe drinking water for Syrian refugees.



245

Number of centers through which State/PRM provides protection assistance in Syria

PROTECTION

State/PRM partner UNHCR identifies protection cases, provides referrals to legal aid services, and facilitates community-based protection interventions for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians in both Syria and neighboring countries. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR supports 119 mobile units, more than 91 community centers, and 35 satellite centers throughout Syria, providing psychosocial support services, legal counseling, and case management and referrals. From January to June, UNHCR provided child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) awareness-raising sessions across Syria to approximately 50,000 and 39,000 people, respectively. Overall, UNHCR provided legal support to more than 129,000 displaced persons, returnees, and host community members, as well as awareness-raising sessions on child protection issues to approximately 23,000 children and their families between January and September. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNICEF, and 28 NGO partners to provide protection assistance, including legal documentation and case management services, for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

USAID/BHA funds 14 protection partners, including IOM, UNFPA, and UNICEF, to provide psychosocial support, learning and recreational opportunities, and case management and referral services for children at high risk of exploitation and abuse. USAID/BHA also supports safe spaces for women and girls, as well as medical supplies and specialized training for health staff to provide appropriate care for GBV survivors throughout Syria.



8

Number of State/PRM partners providing shelter and relief commodities in Syria and neighboring countries

SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports 12 partners, including IOM, to distribute shelter materials and basic household items and conduct shelter rehabilitation activities in Syria. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners establish and maintain IDP camps, rehabilitate existing IDP camps and collective centers, and distribute emergency shelter items. Further, with State/PRM support, UNHCR facilitates the distribution of hygiene kits, relief commodities, and tents to IDPs and host community members in Syria. From January to June, UNHCR distributed more than 2,000 tents to four camps in northeast Syria, the majority of which were distributed in Al Hasakah's Al Hol camp. State/PRM also supports UNHCR and NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in neighboring countries.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, SARG President Bashar al-Assad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Assad responded to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate. The escalation in conflict has led to widespread displacement and a humanitarian crisis within Syria and the region. Hostilities continue to date, as shifting frontlines and areas of control force IDPs into smaller and more congested areas, exacerbating humanitarian needs.
- 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. The U.S. Government (USG) recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. On March 19, 2013, the Syrian Coalition established the Syrian Interim Government, which opposes the SARG and is based in decentralized locations throughout opposition-held areas of Syria. During 2014, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) captured significant areas of Syria, adding additional complexity to the multi-actor conflict. In March 2019, the Syrian Democratic Forces announced the capture of the last ISIS strongholds in Syria.
- On July 9, 2021, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted UNSC Resolution 2585, authorizing UN cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations in Syria. The resolution permits the UN's use of Turkey's Bab al-Hawa crossing for the delivery of humanitarian assistance into Syria for 12 months—six months with an automatic extension of an additional six months following the issuance of a UN Secretary-General report detailing progress on cross-line humanitarian assistance and operational transparency. The resolution is a partial renewal of previous cross-border aid resolutions, beginning with UNSC Resolution 2165 on July 14, 2014, which authorized four border crossings from Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
SYRIA			
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Local, Regional, International Procurement (LRIP), Vouchers; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$456,114,561
IOM	HCIMA, MPCA, Natural Hazards and Technical Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$26,660,000
UNFPA	Health, MPCA, Protection	Syria	\$13,400,350
UNICEF	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$15,450,001
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Syria	\$2,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—LRIP, Vouchers; HCIMA; Nutrition	Syria	\$217,180,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$13,400,000
Program Support		Syria	\$726,881
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$744,931,793
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education; Food Assistance—LRIP, Vouchers; Health; Livelihoods; Protection; Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$61,303,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), HCIMA, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$110,300,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection	Syria	\$1,500,000
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA)	Education, Food Assistance—LRIP, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Syria	\$38,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$212,003,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2021			\$956,934,793

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
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EGYPT			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers	Egypt	\$20,280,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT			\$20,280,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection	Egypt	\$2,577,523
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities	Egypt	\$12,790,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection	Egypt	\$4,800,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN EGYPT			\$20,167,523
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2021			\$40,447,523
IRAQ			
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$11,084,523
IOM	Education, Livelihoods, Protection	Iraq	\$2,190,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$30,290,000
UNICEF	Education, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Iraq	\$2,100,000
WHO	Health	Iraq	\$3,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN IRAQ			\$48,664,523
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN IRAQ IN FY 2021			\$48,664,523
JORDAN			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers	Jordan	\$72,800,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$72,800,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$34,648,361
IOM	Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection	Jordan	\$3,000,000
UN International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Jordan	\$2,394,899
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Jordan	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Education, HCIMA, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$92,143,600
UNICEF	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$39,360,000
UNWRA	Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan	\$8,800,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$181,346,860

TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2021			\$254,146,860
LEBANON			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers, LRIP, Vouchers	Lebanon	\$105,500,000
Program Support			\$92,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$105,592,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$34,368,228
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Livelihoods, Protection	Lebanon	\$5,000,000
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$121,366,400
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Lebanon	\$105,400,000
UNRWA	Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Lebanon	\$19,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$285,534,628
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2021			\$391,126,628
TURKEY			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Vouchers	Turkey	\$10,760,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TURKEY			\$10,760,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Turkey	\$24,739,877
IOM	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Turkey	\$16,930,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Turkey	\$1,300,000
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Turkey	\$62,180,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Turkey	\$47,170,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TURKEY			\$152,319,877
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TURKEY IN FY 2021			\$163,079,877
REGIONAL			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection	Regional	\$7,500,000
UNRWA	Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Regional	\$100,000

TOTAL REGIONAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$7,600,000
TOTAL REGIONAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021	\$7,600,000

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2021

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2021	\$954,363,793
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2021	\$907,636,411
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021	\$1,862,000,204

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021	\$7,086,702,674
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021	\$6,958,147,848
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021	\$14,044,850,522

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2021.

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 [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)