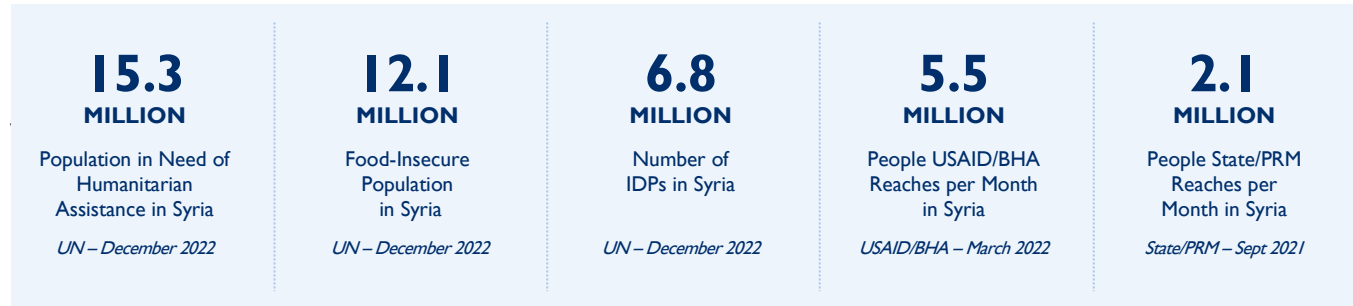


Syria – Complex Emergency

JUNE 15, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The USG announced \$920 million in new funding to continue delivering life-saving aid in Syria during the Seventh Brussels Conference on June 15.
- USAID/BHA partner WHO supported nearly 300 health facilities in northwest Syria between February and March, reaching 4.2 million people with health services following the early February earthquakes.
- Vulnerable populations in northwest Syria face heightened protection risks due to deteriorated living and security conditions in the aftermath of the early February earthquakes.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA ¹	\$8,649,960,684
For the Syria Regional Crisis Response in FYs 2012–2023	State/PRM ²	\$8,146,310,271
Total³		\$16,796,270,955

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

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

³ The total USG funding for the Syria regional crisis response does not include funding for the 2023 earthquake response, which is reported separately.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

USG Announces \$920 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance for Syria at Brussels Pledging Conference

The U.S. Government (USG) announced approximately \$920 million in additional humanitarian funding for Syria during the Seventh Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, a high-level pledging conference organized by the European Union, held June 14–15. The new funding includes more than \$566 million from USAID/BHA and more than \$353 million from State/PRM, which will support the continued delivery of life-saving assistance to vulnerable communities inside Syria, as well as Syrian refugees and host communities in Egypt and Türkiye. Additionally, the newly announced funding includes \$83 million to support the response to the earthquakes that struck northern Syria and southern Türkiye in early February. The USG remains the largest donor of humanitarian assistance to Syria, providing nearly \$938 million in humanitarian assistance for the Syria regional crisis response in FY 2023, and nearly \$16.8 billion since 2012.

Humanitarian needs in Syria reached the highest levels since conflict initially broke out in 2011, with 15.3 million people—more than 70 percent of Syria’s population—in need of aid during 2023, including more than 12 million people requiring food assistance, according to the UN. The newly announced funding will support USG partners to respond to the humanitarian needs of conflict- and earthquake-affected Syrians through the provision of food, health, multipurpose cash, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, as well as humanitarian coordination and information management (HCIMA) services to bolster response efforts throughout the country.

USAID/BHA Partner WHO Continues to Address Earthquake-Related Health Needs in Northwest Syria

Four months after the February 6 earthquakes, health service gaps remain significant in northwest Syria, where the health care infrastructure was already fragile due to protracted conflict, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). Six health facilities in the region are permanently damaged, while at least 60 health facilities continue to undergo rehabilitation after sustaining earthquake-related damages. Meanwhile, health needs remain elevated due to the earthquakes. For example, demand for physical rehabilitation services surged an estimated 40 percent following the earthquakes; however, 120 physical therapists operate in northwest Syria, representing only one for every 37,500 persons, according to WHO.

With USAID/BHA and other donor support, WHO has worked to address health care gaps by supporting nearly 300 health facilities—including approximately 160 primary health care facilities, 65 hospitals, 30 mobile clinics, and 30 specialized care centers—in northwest Syria between February and May. The UN agency reached an estimated 4.2 million people with essential medicines, life-saving medical consumables, medical kits, and supplies to carry out trauma interventions since early February. WHO has also partnered with a Syrian non-governmental organization (NGO) to provide psychosocial support services (PSS), including self-care and coping tools, to frontline health workers responding to earthquake-related needs in the northwest.

Protection Cluster Highlights Heightened Protection Needs in Northwest Syria Following Earthquakes

The early February earthquakes exacerbated the pre-existing vulnerabilities of conflict-affected populations in northwest Syria, heightening individuals’ exposure to protection risks due to the loss of livelihoods, shelter, and access to essential services. The Northwest Syria Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—conducted a protection assessment between late February and early March, interviewing nearly 1,600 people across

approximately 260 communities in the northwest. The assessment found heightened population displacement and movement due to the earthquakes resulted in an increase in the number of children separated from their families in 34 percent of assessed communities, exposing children to increased risk of abuse, exploitation, and violence. Moreover, 65 percent of respondents reported mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs due to distress and trauma resulting from the earthquakes and ongoing conflict; however, 55 percent of those surveyed reported limited access to humanitarian assistance and protection services in the aftermath of the earthquake, in part due to pre-existing access challenges in the region. In addition, 23 percent of assessed communities reported that the overall safety and security conditions for children and women had deteriorated in the aftermath of the earthquakes, noting that the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) had increased due to factors such as shared accommodations and a lack of safe reporting and referral systems.

To address the heightened vulnerability of populations in northwest Syria, the Protection Cluster recommends that humanitarian actors support and strengthen family tracing and reunification services; enhance efforts to ensure equitable access to humanitarian assistance, especially in areas with limited access or higher vulnerability; and implement and promote robust reporting, monitoring, and accountability mechanisms to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse, among other recommendations.

KEY FIGURES



6.6 Million

People supported
monthly through USG
emergency food
assistance

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN World Food Program (WFP), and 12 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 transfers for emergency nutritional products, food, food vouchers, and monthly in-kind food rations while also distributing wheat flour and yeast to bakeries. USAID/BHA assistance also supports the provision of cash transfers for food and food vouchers for Syrian refugees. WFP and USAID/BHA-funded NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to more than 6.6 million Syrians, including more than 5.5 million people inside Syria and 1.1 million refugees across Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye as part of their complex emergency response. State/PRM supports UNICEF to monitor, identify, and respond to cases of malnutrition in refugee populations throughout Türkiye, as well as support awareness campaigns on breastfeeding and best practices to prevent chronic malnutrition.

Moreover, WFP and five USAID/BHA NGO partners have responded to meet food assistance needs for earthquake-affected populations. In addition, WFP continued providing emergency assistance to earthquake-affected populations in opposition- and Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-held areas of Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Idlib, and Latakia governorates. Between early February and late April, WFP provided 1.2 million meals to populations displaced by the earthquakes and reached 500,000 people with one week’s worth of ready-to-eat rations.



5 Million

Number of people
USAID/BHA reached
with health assistance in
FY 2022

HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 11 partners, including UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, and WHO, to provide critical health assistance in Syria through activities such as 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 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) 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. Moreover, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and seven NGOs are delivering critical health services to earthquake-affected populations in Syria, including delivery of medical supplies, deployment of mobile health and nutrition teams to provide health services, and dispatch of mobile medical units and surgical teams to treat trauma injuries and provide MHPSS at temporary shelters housing displaced populations.

Moreover, State/PRM supports UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, and nine NGO partners to provide health assistance, including medical consultations, specialized health services, and vaccinations, for refugees in neighboring countries.



15

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

WASH

USAID/BHA supports 13 NGO partners, as well as 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 strengthen cholera response activities 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, one international organization in Jordan and Lebanon, and a third partner in Syria—to provide WASH assistance to Syrian refugees, as well as vulnerable populations inside Syria. With State/PRM support, UNHCR and partners repair WASH networks to improve sanitation services and enable the provision of safe drinking water in northwest Syria.



242

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

PROTECTION

State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides comprehensive protection services—including facilitating community-based protection interventions, identifying protection

cases, providing educational services for parents and children, and providing referrals to legal aid services—for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians in both Syria and neighboring countries. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR engaged a network of nearly 2,900 community outreach volunteers from diverse backgrounds and supported approximately 120 mobile units and 90 community centers and more than 30 satellite centers across all 14 governorates in Syria to provide PSS, legal counseling, and case management and referrals throughout 2022. UNHCR also supports community-led initiatives that aim to foster better community relations and support the needs of IDPs, returnees, and host communities. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNICEF, and NGO partners to provide protection assistance, including legal documentation and case management services, for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

Furthermore, UNHCR has provided 452,000 people with protection services across Syria since the February 6 earthquakes, including awareness-raising sessions on GBV services, child protection activities, legal assistance, and psychological first aid. Following the February earthquakes, the UNHCR-led Protection Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, and its partners have carried out around nearly 534,000 protection interventions—mainly in Aleppo, Hamah, Latakia, and Tartus governorates—including GBV activities, legal support for civil documentation and housing, land, and property issues, mental health and PSS, monitoring, referral and case management, and protection assistance to children, people with disabilities, and older persons.

USAID/BHA funds 13 protection partners, including IOM and UNFPA, to provide case management and referral services, learning and recreational opportunities, and PSS 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.



17

Number of USG partners providing shelter and relief commodities in Syria and neighboring countries

SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports 10 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. State/PRM partner UNHCR supports the replacement of damaged tents for households in IDP camps in northeast Syria. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and six NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in neighboring countries.

Since the February 6 earthquakes, UN agencies—including USG partners—had transported more than 2,700 trucks carrying critical relief commodities from Türkiye to northwestern Syria as of early May, the UN reports. The total includes nearly 2,300 trucks that have delivered aid through the Bab al-

Hawa border crossing point (BCP), approximately 350 trucks that have crossed through the Bab al-Salama BCP, and more than 75 trucks that have crossed through the Al Ra'ee BCP, according to the UN. Seven UN agencies—including the IOM, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO—transported commodities including in-kind food assistance, pharmaceuticals, and other relief items. In total, State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and six 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 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 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 January 9, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted UNSC Resolution 2762, reauthorizing UN cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations in Syria for six months. The resolution permits the UN's use of Türkiye's Bab al-Hawa crossing for the delivery of humanitarian assistance into Syria until July 10, 2023. 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 Iraq, Jordan, and Türkiye.
- On February 6, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck central-southern Türkiye—near the border with Syria—at a depth of 11.1 miles. The earthquake and subsequent aftershocks resulted in at least 6,000 deaths and injury to more than 11,200 people in Syria as of March 24, as well as damage to or the destruction of at least 34,000 buildings. On February 13, SARG President Bashar al-Assad granted the UN access to two additional border crossings—al Ra'ee and Bab al-Salama—for aid deliveries from Türkiye to northwest Syria for three months. On May 13, border crossing access was extended by an additional three months to August 13.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
SYRIA			
USAID/BHA			
IOM	HCIMA; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$9,500,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Syria	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$13,900,000
WFP	Food Assistance, HCIMA, Logistics, Nutrition	Syria	\$115,000,000
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture, Health, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Food Assistance, HCIMA, Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$328,028,837
	Program Support		\$502,718
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$467,931,555
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$49,300,000
IPs	Education; ERMS; Food Assistance-LRIP, Vouchers; Health, Logistics Support; Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$21,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$70,800,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023			\$538,731,555

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2023¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
EGYPT			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Egypt	\$10,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT			\$10,000,000
STATE/PRM			
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection	Egypt	\$900,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection	Egypt	\$4,800,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$5,700,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2023			\$15,700,000
IRAQ			
STATE/PRM			
UNICEF	Education, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Iraq	\$600,000

UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$12,900,000
IPs	Agriculture, Education, ERMS, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$13,900,000
JORDAN			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Jordan	\$55,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$55,000,000
STATE/PRM			
IOM	MPCA, Protection	Jordan	\$3,100,000
UNICEF	Education, ERMS, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$18,000,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Education, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$38,200,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Jordan	\$1,610,000
IPs	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$1,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$62,510,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2023			\$117,510,000
LEBANON²			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Lebanon	\$45,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$45,000,000
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Protection, MPCA, Logistics Support	Lebanon	\$900,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Lebanon	\$60,000,000
UNDP	ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	Lebanon	\$4,200,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$58,300,000
IPs	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$6,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$129,900,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2023			\$174,900,000
TÜRKIYE			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Türkiye	\$5,100,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TÜRKIYE			\$5,100,000
STATE/PRM			
ILO	ERMS	Türkiye	\$3,500,000
IOM	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Türkiye	\$17,000,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$18,200,000

UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$30,400,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Türkiye	\$1,000,000
IPs	WASH, Livelihoods and Economic Recovery, Protection	Türkiye	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$72,100,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TÜRKIYE IN FY 2023			\$77,200,000

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2023	\$583,031,555
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2023	\$354,910,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2023	\$937,941,555

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023³

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023	\$8,649,960,684
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023	\$8,146,310,271
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023	\$16,796,270,955

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE IN FY 2023⁴

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
IOM	Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Aleppo, Idlib	\$18,300,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Affected Areas	\$31,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Nutrition	Affected Areas	\$65,000,000
WHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
IPs	Agriculture, Health, ERMS, Food Assistance, HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$49,200,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$170,000,000
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	CCCM, HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas	\$11,800,000
IPs	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$11,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$22,900,000
DoD⁵			
	In-Kind Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$4,475,623
TOTAL DoD FUNDING			\$4,475,623
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE IN FY 2023			\$197,375,623

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 15, 2023.

² Funding for Lebanon is also reported in the Lebanon Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #2 dated June 15, 2023.

³ The total USG funding for the Syria regional crisis response does not include funding for the 2023 earthquake response, which is reported separately.

⁴ The USG earthquake response funding was previously reported in the USG Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Fact Sheets.

⁵ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

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)