

# Syria – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p><b>13.4</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria</p> <p><i>UN – March 2021</i></p>	<p><b>12.4</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Food-Insecure Population in Syria</p> <p><i>UN – March 2021</i></p>	<p><b>6.6</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of IDPs in Syria</p> <p><i>UN – July 2021</i></p>	<p><b>4.8</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated People USAID/BHA Reaches per Month in Syria</p> <p><i>USAID/BHA – Sept 2021</i></p>	<p><b>2.1</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated People State/PRM Reaches per Month in Syria</p> <p><i>State/PRM – Nov 2020</i></p>
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- WFP completed a cross-line humanitarian assistance mission on August 31, delivering food and nutrition commodities to assist nearly 50,000 vulnerable people in northwest Syria.
- Clashes in southern Syria’s Dar’a al Balad area persisted through late August, prompting population displacement, exacerbating humanitarian needs, and damaging schools and other civilian infrastructure.
- USG partners respond to urgent needs of IDPs and communities affected by conflict in Dar’a al Balad.



<p><b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b></p> <p>For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2021</p>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$6,840,885,524
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$6,648,801,622
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,489,687,146</b>

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

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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### WFP Provides Cross-Line Food Assistance to Northwest Syria

USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) dispatched a cross-line humanitarian mission on August 30 to transport food rations and specialized nutrition products from a Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-controlled area of Aleppo Governorate to Idlib Governorate's Sarmada town—an opposition-controlled area. The cross-line mission—completed on August 31—represents the first time that UN humanitarian assistance has entered opposition-held areas of northwest Syria from SARG-held areas since 2014, when the passage of UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2165 formally authorized cross-border assistance in Syria. The mission contained food rations and nutrition products sufficient for nearly 50,000 people for one month and will supplement WFP cross-border food assistance deliveries from Turkey. While significant progress, cross-line assistance is complementary to cross-border operations and cannot replace the scale and scope of UN cross-border humanitarian deliveries, which provide food assistance to approximately 1.3 million people in northwest Syria each month.

### Insecurity and Access Restrictions in Dar'a al Balad Exacerbate Needs

On September 1, SARG forces and the Dar'a Central Committee reportedly reached a ceasefire agreement—brokered by the Government of the Russian Federation—to deescalate the conflict in Dar'a al Balad neighborhood of Dar'a Governorate's Dar'a city, according to local media reports. The ceasefire agreement follows weeks of intense armed clashes and shelling in and around Dar'a al Balad, which had prompted the displacement of more than 38,600 people—the majority of whom are women, children, and elderly men—as of August 17. However, some reports indicate that as many as 45,000 people may have been displaced from Dar'a al Balad to Dar'a city and surrounding areas since violence escalated in late July. While the majority of newly displaced persons are sheltering within communities in surrounding neighborhoods, approximately 1,500 people have settled in six collective shelters in Dar'a city, the UN reports.

Access to essential goods and services in Dar'a al Balad has been limited since the SARG closed the Al Saraya humanitarian corridor between Dar'a al Balad and other parts of Dar'a on August 12. SARG forces temporarily opened the corridor on several occasions in late August to facilitate the exit of women, children, and elderly residents from Dar'a al Balad but continue to restrict humanitarian access into the neighborhood, despite the ceasefire, local media report. The access restrictions have exacerbated humanitarian needs and resulted in shortages of electricity, food, medical supplies, and other life-saving items and services in Dar'a al Balad. The UN and relief actors continue to advocate for all parties to the conflict to enable rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access to the area.

Amid increasing humanitarian needs, U.S. Government (USG) partners are providing internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other conflict-affected populations in accessible areas of Dar'a with multi-sector assistance, including emergency food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. As of August 17, WFP had distributed 1,500 ready-to-eat food rations—an amount sufficient to cover the food needs of approximately 7,500 people for one week—to individuals sheltering in collective centers and with host communities in Dar'a city. Meanwhile, USAID/BHA partners the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and the UN World Health Organization (WHO) are supporting mobile medical units to provide health services in the city and surrounding areas. UNICEF is also providing nutrition supplies and water disinfection tablets, as well as conducting nutrition screenings for pregnant and lactating women and children ages five years and younger. In addition, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is distributing essential shelter supplies—including kitchen sets, plastic sheeting, sleeping pads,

and water storage containers—to individuals in collective shelters.

### **Explosion Near Dar'a Refugee Camp Damages UNWRA-Supported Schools**

On August 27, an explosion in the vicinity of Dar'a city's Dar'a refugee camp for Palestinian refugees damaged two UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)-supported schools, the UN agency reports. UNRWA had previously fully rehabilitated the school buildings in February 2020—enabling children in the camp to access a functional school for the first time in eight years—and had been renovating additional sections of the school blocks in the camp prior to the explosion. UNRWA had clearly marked the schools with UN flags to identify them as humanitarian buildings. The UN agency noted that it did not receive warning of hostilities in the area prior to the explosion and called on parties to the conflict to safeguard civilians and civilian infrastructure in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Recent violence in the vicinity of Dar'a camp had prompted approximately 330 refugee households—approximately half of the camp's total population—to leave the site as of late August, according to the UN. The majority of the displaced households are reportedly sheltering with relatives in the governorate, while the rest are sheltering in Dar'a city collective shelters.

### **Nearly Half of Households Report Inadequate Food Consumption in July**

Nearly 50 percent of households surveyed across Syria reported poor or borderline food consumption in July, representing a 15 percent increase compared to the same period in 2020, according to WFP. The UN agency recorded the highest rates of food insecurity in Dayr az Zawr and Hamah governorates, where nearly 60 percent of the population is food-insecure. Female-headed households are disproportionately affected, with more than 50 percent of those interviewed reporting poor or borderline food consumption. Additionally, 90 percent of surveyed households reported using at least one negative food-based coping mechanism—such as reducing the number of meals consumed per day and purchasing food on credit—to meet their basic needs during the month. WFP attributes increased food insecurity in part to conflict, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, poor socioeconomic conditions, and the associated loss of household livelihoods and income. In Dar'a, for example, 30 percent of surveyed households indicated the loss of one or more sources of income in July, while one-third of households interviewed countrywide reported experiencing difficulties reaching markets during the month—a problem exacerbated by high gasoline prices and fuel shortages across Syria.

### **Drought Threatens Millions of Syrians' Access to Water and Electricity**

Approximately 8 million people across Syria are at risk of losing access to water and electricity due to drought, rising temperatures, and resultant water shortages in the region since January, according to an August 23 statement co-authored by 13 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Precipitation in Syria to date in 2021 was 50 to 70 percent lower than the long-term average, resulting in decreased water levels in northern Syria's Euphrates River—the source of drinking water for more than 5 million people in the country, the UN reports. Critically low water levels in the Euphrates had affected more than 70 percent of water stations along the river's western bank and more than 30 percent of water stations on the eastern bank as of late June, reducing water distribution and supply to communities throughout northeast Syria. Water shortages have also resulted in reduced hydroelectric capacity of Syria's dams, including Aleppo's Tishreen dam and Ar Raqqa Governorate's Tabqa dam, compromising access to electricity for 3 million Syrians and hindering agricultural production, health care, livelihoods, and sanitation activities in the northeast. In response, NGOs are advocating for increased resources—including emergency and flexible funding—to mitigate the immediate and long-term effects of the crisis.

## 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 reached by USAID/BHA-supported health assistance during FY 2020



**12**

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

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports UNICEF, WFP, and 14 NGOs to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance within Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. In Syria, USAID/BHA partners provide monthly in-kind food rations, food vouchers, cash-for-food support, and emergency nutritional products to vulnerable populations, as well as supply wheat flour and yeast to local 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 people, including more than 4.8 million people inside Syria and 1.1 million Syrian refugees across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 11 partners, including UNICEF, the 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 UNHCR provides medical consultations and facilitates community-based health programming at 26 community center clinics and 10 UNHCR-run primary health facilities in Syria, as well as distributes masks and sanitation supplies to community centers throughout the country to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. State/PRM also supports UNHCR, UNICEF, and nine NGO partners to provide health assistance, including medical consultations, specialized health services, and vaccinations, for refugees in neighboring countries. Since January, nearly 32,200 individuals have benefitted from UNHCR-supported primary health care services, approximately 1,300 have received secondary health care service referrals, and 5,000 have received health consultations.

### WASH

USAID/BHA supports 10 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 additional NGOs to bolster COVID-19 response capacity in Syria by increasing water trucking frequency to communities and IDP distribution points, providing additional water for cleaning and handwashing, and distributing soap and other WASH commodities. State/PRM also supports partners to provide safe drinking water for Syrian refugees, including one NGO partner in Iraq and Lebanon and one international organization partner in Jordan.



## 1 Million

Number of people reached by State/PRM-supported protection assistance in Syria from January to October 2020

### 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 both in Syria and in neighboring countries. With State/PRM support, UNHCR supports approximately 90 community centers, 40 satellite centers, and 100 mobile units 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. 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. Overall, UNHCR has provided legal support to more than 129,000 displaced persons, returnees, and host community members since January.

USAID/BHA funds 13 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 at least 90 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.



## 1 Million

Number of people in northwest Syria reached by State/PRM-supported shelter and relief commodity assistance in 2020

### SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports 11 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, State/PRM support to 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 Governorate's Al Hol camp. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and four 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 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 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 had authorized four border crossings from Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>SYRIA</b>			
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); 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	\$245,650,848
IOM	HCIMA, MPCA, Natural Hazards and Technical Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$15,000,000
UNFPA	Health, MPCA, Protection	Syria	\$13,400,351
UNICEF	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$5,538,463
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
Program Support		Syria	\$416,981
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA</b>			<b>\$499,186,643</b>
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Emergency Food Assistance, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$34,500,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$110,300,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SYRIA</b>			<b>\$144,800,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$643,986,643</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>EGYPT</b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers	Egypt	\$20,280,000

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT</b>			<b>\$20,280,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Implementing Partners	Child Protection, Education, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance	Egypt	\$446,939
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities	Egypt	\$12,790,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, Youth Programs	Egypt	\$4,200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN EGYPT</b>			<b>\$17,436,939</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$37,716,939</b>
<b>IRAQ</b>			
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	CCCM, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$30,290,000
UNICEF	Child Protection, Education, Nutrition, WASH	Iraq	\$1,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN IRAQ</b>			<b>\$31,890,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN IRAQ IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$31,890,000</b>
<b>JORDAN</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers	Jordan	\$72,800,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN</b>			<b>\$72,800,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$4,270,103
UNHCR	CCCM, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$92,143,600
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Jordan	\$22,160,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN JORDAN</b>			<b>\$118,573,703</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$191,373,703</b>
<b>LEBANON</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers	Lebanon	\$105,500,000
Program Support			\$20,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON</b>			<b>\$105,520,000</b>



STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Cash-Based Programming, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$9,373,143
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$121,366,400
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Lebanon	\$52,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN LEBANON</b>			<b>\$182,739,543</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$288,259,543</b>
TURKEY			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Vouchers	Turkey	\$10,760,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TURKEY</b>			<b>\$10,760,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Turkey	\$2,500,000
IOM	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Psychosocial Support, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Turkey	\$5,800,000
UNHCR	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Turkey	\$62,180,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Turkey	\$24,870,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TURKEY</b>			<b>\$95,350,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TURKEY IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$106,110,000</b>
REGIONAL			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection	Regional	\$7,500,000
<b>TOTAL REGIONAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$7,500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL REGIONAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$7,500,000</b>

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

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>	<b>\$708,546,643</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>	<b>\$598,290,185</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>	<b>\$1,306,836,828</b>

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

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021</b>	<b>\$6,840,885,524</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021</b>	<b>\$6,648,801,622</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2021</b>	<b>\$13,489,687,146</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of August 6, 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)