

SUDAN – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On August 30, U.N. Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos issued a statement calling for the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) to lift access restrictions on humanitarian organizations in Southern Kordofan State. Access remains the primary constraint to conducting effective needs assessments and providing assistance. On August 21, a joint GoS Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC)-U.N. mission scheduled to visit conflict-affected areas in the state returned to Khartoum without progressing beyond the capital, Kadugli, or conducting any assessment activities. USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) and other humanitarian agencies continue to explore opportunities to deliver relief assistance to conflict-affected populations in Southern Kordofan.
- The U.N. Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)—established through a temporary administrative agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) on June 20—temporarily suspended road patrols following a landmine incident on August 2 that resulted in the death of four and injury of seven Ethiopian peacekeepers in Abyei Area, according to the U.N. Resident Coordinator's Support Office (RCSO). As of August 31, the patrols had been re-established in key areas, according to the U.N.
- USAID/OFDA and USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) continue to respond to the immediate needs of conflict-affected individuals—including IDPs and host communities across Darfur, as well as populations affected by recent fighting in Southern Kordofan and Abyei Area—and build the foundation for long-term recovery in Sudan. To date in FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$101 million in humanitarian assistance to people in need across Sudan. In addition, USAID/FFP has committed approximately \$178.5 million in FY 2011 to provide life-saving food assistance to vulnerable and conflict-affected communities in Darfur, eastern Sudan, and the Three Areas of Southern Kordofan State, Blue Nile State, and Abyei Area.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		Source
IDPs in Sudan	In Darfur: 1.9 million In Northern Sudan: 1.5 million ¹ In Eastern Sudan: 68,000 Total: 3,468,000	U.N. – November 2010 U.N.– November 2010 OCHA ² – October 2010
Sudanese Refugees³	In Chad: 281,707 In CAR ⁴ : 3,500 Total: 285,207	UNHCR ⁵ – June 2011 UNHCR – November 2010
Refugees in Sudan	170,000⁶	UNHCR – April 2011
IDP and Refugee Returns to South Sudan and the Three Areas		
January 2005 to November 2010 IDP Returns	2 million	UNHCR – April 2011
October 30, 2010 to July 5, 2011 IDP Returns	358,094	OCHA/RCSO - July 5, 2011
January 2005 to July 2011 Refugee Returns	331,967	UNHCR – July 3, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SUDAN	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sudan	\$100,972,995
USAID/FFP Assistance to Sudan	\$178,576,600
Total USAID Assistance to Sudan	\$279,549,595

* Fact sheet focuses on Sudan; South Sudan fact sheet released separately.

¹ Most IDPs in Sudan live in informal settlements in and around Khartoum.

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

³ Represents refugees from Darfur; does not include refugees from the territory currently comprising the Republic of South Sudan.

⁴ Central African Republic (CAR)

⁵ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

⁶ Includes more than 80,000 Eritrean refugees in eastern Sudan, an estimated 40,000 refugees in Khartoum, and approximately 50,000 Chadian refugees in Darfur.

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sudan and South Sudan	\$193,811,964
USAID/FFP Assistance to Sudan and South Sudan	\$242,435,400
State/PRM ⁷ Assistance to Sudan and South Sudan	\$57,378,701
Total USAID and State Assistance to Sudan and South Sudan	\$493,626,065

Context

- Sudan continues to cope with the effects of conflict and displacement, while also struggling to deal with perennial environmental shocks, such as flooding and drought.
- Since 2003, a complex emergency in Darfur has affected more than 4.7 million people, including up to 2.7 million IDPs, according to U.N. agencies. Conflict continues among the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), armed opposition factions, militias, and ethnic groups. Insecurity, access restrictions, and bureaucratic impediments compromise the ability of relief agencies to respond to humanitarian and recovery needs.
- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Government of the Republic of the Sudan and the southern-based SPLM officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others. Between the signing of the peace agreement in 2005 and July 2011, more than 2 million IDPs and 331,000 refugees returned to their communities in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR.
- The U.N. Mission in Sudan peacekeeping force—an interim force mandated under the CPA—formally ended its mandate in Sudan on July 9, 2011, as the Republic of South Sudan declared independence.
- Chronic poverty and development needs persist throughout eastern Sudan, which has experienced slow recovery following decades of conflict. In 2011, some non-governmental organizations (NGOs) continue to experience difficulties accessing program sites and affected populations due to GoS bureaucratic restrictions on travel.
- On October 12, 2010, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Dennis B. Hankins renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2011. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has declared disasters due to the complex emergency annually since 1987.

CURRENT SITUATION IN THE THREE AREAS

Security and Humanitarian Access

- As of August 25, intermittent fighting between SAF and forces loyal to the SPLM-N continued to restrict humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations in Southern Kordofan, according to OCHA. The U.N. reported multiple aerial bombings outside of Kadugli, including near Kauda town.
- On August 23, President al-Bashir announced a two-week unilateral ceasefire in Southern Kordofan; however, field reports indicate that fighting continues as of September 1. During the ceasefire announcement, Bashir stated that the GoS will only permit the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) to deliver aid in Southern Kordofan. U.N. agencies and international NGOs are seeking clarity on the implications of the announcement on activities in Southern Kordofan.
- As of August 18, the security situation in Blue Nile State remained calm, but, due to continued conflict in neighboring Southern Kordofan, U.N. agencies and NGOs operating in the state expressed concern of a potential increase in humanitarian needs in the coming weeks. Recently, the GoS HAC has required U.N. agencies and NGOs to obtain permits to travel outside the major towns of Damazine and Kurmuk.
- UNISFA had deployed nearly 1,800 Ethiopian peacekeepers to Sudan, including more than 1,000 troops in Abyei Area, as of August 18. U.N. Humanitarian Air Service flights between Abyei town and Wau town, Western Bahr el Ghazal (WBeG) State, South Sudan, resumed on August 9, allowing for the movement of U.N. staff to Abyei Area, according to the U.N. However, during an August 11 and 12 joint U.N.-donor mission to Wau and Kuajok town, Warrap State, displaced individuals reported no intentions of returning to Abyei Area in the near term due to concerns about landmines, unexploded ordnance, and the continued presence of SAF.
- On August 21, the U.N. Mine Action Office reported an increased prevalence of mines in Sudan, particularly in Darfur and Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Kassala states.

Population Displacements

- As of August 25, OCHA estimated that insecurity in Southern Kordofan had displaced up to 200,000 people from Southern Kordofan since June 6. Between June 27 and July 9, SRCS conducted a rapid needs assessment of approximately 12,000 households in eight areas of displacement across Southern Kordofan. The assessment indicated

⁷ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM).

that SRCS distribution activities have been delayed considerably due to poor road conditions, ongoing insecurity, and continuous population movements based on access to basic services such as relief support and health care.

- As of August 18, an international NGO had verified more than 4,300 displaced people from the South Kordofan conflict in Yida town in northern Unity State, South Sudan. Concerned about difficulties accessing Yida during the ongoing rainy season and the safety of displaced persons given the proximity of Yida to Southern Kordofan, UNHCR and local authorities had identified a potential alternative site in Unity State to accommodate the displaced people, as of August 25.

Response

- Despite access constraints, USAID/OFDA continues to support humanitarian coordination and the provision of emergency relief commodities to conflict-affected populations in the Three Areas. To date in FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$20.4 million for humanitarian assistance activities in the region, including \$1.2 million to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support the ongoing response conducted by SRCS in Southern Kordofan. In addition, USAID/OFDA has provided \$1 million to OCHA to support coordinated humanitarian activities among relief agencies operating in the Three Areas.
- USAID/OFDA recently committed \$2 million to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)-managed Rapid Response Fund for health, nutrition, protection, and WASH activities, as well as humanitarian coordination and logistics support, in the Three Areas.
- With \$1.1 million in USAID/OFDA support, GOAL continues to increase sustainable community health care services to vulnerable populations in Kurmuk Locality, Blue Nile State, by supporting mobile clinics and training local healthcare workers. GOAL also maintains pre-positioned emergency stockpiles, including sleeping mats, plastic sheeting, blankets, and kitchen sets, to meet future humanitarian needs.
- As of August 18, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and partners had provided emergency food assistance—mostly commodities from USAID/FFP—to approximately 135,000 people affected by conflict in Southern Kordofan.

CURRENT SITUATION OF SUDAN TO SOUTH SUDAN POPULATION MOVEMENTS

- Since July 9, returnee flows to Kosti, a key transit town in White Nile State, from Khartoum and other areas of Sudan have decreased, while direct flows from Sudan to transit points in South Sudan—particularly Renk town in Upper Nile State—have increased. Although up to 15,000 returnees remained in and around the Kosti way station as of August 21, the rate of new arrivals had decreased to between 60 and 90 returnees daily, compared to up to 750 per day before July 9, according to UNHCR.
- Relief agencies continue to prepare onward transportation for returnees in Kosti to destinations in South Sudan. As of August 23, IOM had provided barge transportation to nearly 5,200 returnees, including more than 3,000 who arrived in Juba on August 12, with funding from the U.N. Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF). The Returns Sector—the coordinating body for north-south returns in Sudan—recently reaffirmed plans to complete the return of approximately 7,000 individuals with funding from the CHF.
- On August 23, the GoS HAC granted approval for humanitarian agencies, including USAID/OFDA partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), to provide services to returnees gathered at the Kosti railway station. With more than \$580,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2011 funding, ADRA continues to conduct weekly hygiene awareness sessions and provide returnees with sand and gravel to build shelter sites and avert flooding caused by the ongoing rainy season at the Kosti way station. In addition, ADRA recently delivered an engine to the water purification plant at the way station.

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

Security and Humanitarian Access

- Due to ongoing military operations between SAF and armed opposition groups, outstanding government restrictions, and generalized insecurity, humanitarian access in many areas of Darfur remains limited. However, following the GoS reduction of movement restrictions in South Darfur on June 8, USAID/OFDA partner NGOs and U.N. agencies resumed activities to meet humanitarian needs in previously inaccessible communities.
- On August 16, WFP and OCHA began IDP verification in IDP camps in the Zalingei area of West Darfur, the first such exercise in the area since 2005.
- On August 14, four unidentified armed men abducted an international staff member of the Italian NGO Emergency in Nyala town, the capital of South Darfur State, according to the U.N. In July 2010, Emergency opened a pediatric clinic in Nyala town to provide basic health care to children up to 14 years of age, as well as sanitation and hygiene education. As of September 1, the whereabouts of the staff member remained unknown.

Voluntary Returns and Early Recovery

- USAID/OFDA has committed approximately one-third of its FY 2011 Darfur budget to early recovery activities to promote sustainable livelihoods among conflict-affected and returnee populations. For example, USAID/OFDA, through Concern, has provided training sessions on improved farming practices—including conservation agriculture—for up to 270 conflict-affected farmers in West Darfur. Concern has also provided communities in West Darfur with secure access to safe drinking water by repairing and rehabilitating boreholes and supporting community activities to harvest rainwater.
- USAID/OFDA continues to support the reintegration of recent returnees in Darfur where security and access conditions permit. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), with USAID/OFDA support, has provided shelter materials to more than 110 returnee families in Hashaba town, West Darfur, and approximately 800 families who have returned to West Darfur from neighboring Chad.
- With more than \$1.7 million in USAID/OFDA funding, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) continues to provide early recovery assistance in the Zalingei region in West Darfur, benefiting approximately 140,000 IDPs and host community members. ACTED’s cash-for-work activities increase household income while strengthening community resiliency by constructing and rehabilitating drainage ditches, latrines, and critical access roads. ACTED also provides basic business training and small grants to entrepreneurs in 14 rural communities.

Food Security, Health, and WASH

- Following the easing of GoS restrictions in the western Jebel Marra region in May, USAID/OFDA implementing agencies provided life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations in previously inaccessible communities in the region. From August 7 to 14, during a U.N. inter-agency mission to western Jebel Marra, UNICEF, with USAID/OFDA support, delivered primary health care supplies to medical facilities in Nertiti, Thur, Golo, and Killin towns. To date in FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$23.2 million for health assistance to vulnerable populations across Darfur.
- As of August 18, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and local authorities warned of potential food insecurity and conflict over resources in the coming months in North Darfur due to limited rainfall. FAO and the GoS Ministry of Agriculture reported that planting activities did not begin until the first week of August in many parts of the state as a result of late rains, and local farmers were concerned about the potential impact of delayed planting on winter cultivation. Authorities in the state also warned of a potential livestock disease outbreak, clashes over limited grazing areas and water resources for animals, and the death of livestock.
- USAID/OFDA has committed more than \$11.8 million in FY 2011 funding for agriculture and food security and nutrition assistance to mitigate the effects of perennial environmental shocks among vulnerable communities in Darfur.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- From August 16 to 22, the African Union–U.N. Hybrid Operations in Darfur completed a medical campaign in North Darfur, treating more than 2,000 people including women and children, according to the U.N.
- As of September 1, the Sudan Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) comprised more than 130 projects and totaled approximately \$1.1 billion, according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service. To date, total CAP funding for Sudan amounted to more than \$629 million, approximately 57 percent of the total appeal.

FY 2011 USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN

Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
FY 2011 DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACTED	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	West Darfur	\$1,700,606
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, WASH	South Darfur	\$5,692,902
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, WASH	South Darfur	\$3,198,044
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, WASH	West Darfur	\$2,335,066

Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	North Darfur	\$1,046,472
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Health, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Darfur-wide	\$3,500,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	West Darfur	\$1,901,044
Danish Refugee Council	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	West Darfur	\$1,275,896
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Darfur-wide	\$2,000,000
GOAL	Health, WASH	North Darfur	\$1,335,024
HelpAge International	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems	West Darfur	\$702,166
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition	South Darfur, West Darfur	\$4,900,541
Medair, SWI	Health, WASH	West Darfur	\$2,296,301
Merlin	Health, Nutrition	South Darfur	\$1,980,053
Mercy Corps	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	South Darfur	\$2,130,492
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Info Management	Darfur-wide	\$3,000,000
Partner Aid International (PAI)	Health	North Darfur	\$1,059,698
Relief International	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition	North Darfur	\$1,478,915
Terre Des Hommes	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	West Darfur	\$1,266,076
United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Info Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	South Darfur	\$4,396,490
U.N. Development Program (UNDP)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Darfur-wide	\$1,000,000
UNDP (U.N. Department of Safety and Security [UNDSS])	Humanitarian Coordination and Info Management	Darfur-wide	\$1,082,228
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Darfur-wide	\$1,000,000
U.N. Human Settlements Program (UNHABITAT)	Shelter and Settlements	Darfur-wide	\$1,128,315
UNICEF	Health, WASH	Darfur-wide	\$4,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$5,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Darfur-wide	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health	West Darfur	\$1,800,000
World Relief International (WRI)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	West Darfur	\$1,400,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Protection, WASH	South Darfur	\$2,499,999
ZOA	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	North Darfur, South Darfur	\$597,020
	Program Support	Darfur-wide	\$2,384,443

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$71,087,791
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	134,660 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur-wide	\$144,832,700
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$144,832,700
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR IN FY 2011			\$215,920,491
FY 2011 NORTHERN SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
ADRA	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	White Nile	\$582,411
CRS	Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Northern Sudan	\$531,062
GOAL	WASH	Kassala	\$500,000
IFRC	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Northern Sudan-wide	\$500,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection	Northern Sudan-wide	\$1,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Northern Sudan-wide	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Northern Sudan-wide	\$4,225,000
WHO	Health	Northern Sudan-wide	\$500,000
	Program Support	Northern Sudan	\$60,553
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$9,399,026
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NORTHERN SUDAN IN FY 2011			\$9,399,026
FY 2011 THE THREE AREAS			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Concern	WASH	Abyei, Southern Kordofan	\$958,638
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Southern Kordofan	\$700,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Three Areas-wide, eastern Sudan, northern Sudan	\$1,422,338
GOAL	Health	Blue Nile	\$1,100,000
IFRC	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Three Areas-wide	\$1,200,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Three Areas-wide	\$1,000,000
Save the Children (SC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Southern Kordofan	\$2,116,014
SC	Protection, WASH	Abyei and Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, and Unity, South Sudan ³	\$499,670

UNDP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Three Areas-wide	\$400,000
UNICEF Rapid Response Fund	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Three Areas-wide	\$5,000,000
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Three Areas-wide	\$1,800,000
Welthungerhilfe	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Abyei, Southern Kordofan	\$1,478,038
WHO	Health	Three Areas-wide	\$1,500,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Blue Nile	\$1,299,990
	Program Support	The Three Areas	\$11,490
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$20,486,178
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	31,351 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Three Areas and Central and Eastern Sudan	\$33,743,900
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$33,743,900
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE THREE AREAS IN FY 2011			\$54,230,078
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN IN FY 2011			\$279,549,595

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 1, 2011.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

³ Activities conducted in South Sudan to benefit Abyei Area IDPs.

FY 2011 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN			
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$193,811,964
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN			
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$242,435,400
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2011			\$436,247,364
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN			
ARC	Economic Livelihoods	Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan	\$399,265
ARC	Primary health, WASH	Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan	\$983,281
ARC	Multi-sectoral assistance	Central Equatoria, South Sudan	\$446,729
CHF International	Anti-SGBV; Economic Livelihoods	Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan	\$399,833
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Sudan Emergency Appeal	Multi-sectoral protection and assistance	Sudan and South Sudan	\$18,100,000
IMC	Multi-sectoral protection and assistance	Jonglei, South Sudan	\$900,000
IOM	WASH	Western Equatoria, South Sudan	\$500,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Education	Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan	\$450,167
UMCOR	Education, WASH	Central Equatoria, South Sudan	\$399,426

UNHCR	Contribution to Emergency Response Appeal	Sudan and South Sudan	\$7,800,000
UNHCR	Multi-sectoral protection and assistance	Sudan and South Sudan	\$26,300,000
World Vision	Education, Health	Western Equatoria, South Sudan	\$700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$57,378,701
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2011			\$493,626,065

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. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Sudan may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- 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, warehouse space, etc); 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:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (202) 821-1999
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int