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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Haiti – Storms

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

September 12, 2008

Note: The last fact sheet was dated September 11, 2008.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 11, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that a river north of Gonaïves has overflowed the banks and is causing further flooding in Gonaïves, Artibonite Department. The U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team has dispatched staff to assess the river and determine options for re-profiling the river to reduce overflow into nearby areas. Due to ongoing flooding, OCHA reports that lower areas in Gonaïves remain inaccessible, preventing broader relief efforts in the city.
- Relief operations continue, with a focus on providing assistance to affected populations in Gonaïves, Artibonite Department, according to OCHA. Affected areas in Southern and South Eastern department remained partially inaccessible as of September 11. The distribution of relief items to beneficiaries remains the main challenge, with implementing partners' capacity limited.
- The total value of U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian assistance in response to recent storms is more than \$20 million.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Affected Population	850,000	GOH – September 11, 2008
Dead	337	OCHA – September 11, 2008
Missing	50	GOH – September 11, 2008
IDPs¹	151,072	GOH – September 10, 2008
IDPs in Shelters	80,000 – 90,000	OCHA – September 10, 2008
Other Damage	10,842 houses destroyed, 35,125 houses damaged	GOH – September 11, 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO DATE FOR HAITI HURRICANES IN 2008

USAID/OFDA Assistance ²	\$7,500,000
USAID/FFP Assistance ³	\$7,000,000
USAID/Haiti Assistance	\$5,000,000
DOD ⁴ Assistance	\$821,000
DHS ⁵ Assistance	Amount Forthcoming
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Haiti for Hurricanes in 2008	\$20,321,000

CURRENT SITUATION

- On September 12, a USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) remains in Haiti. The two team members temporarily in Gonaïves have returned to Port au Prince. The team is working closely with USAID/Haiti, DOD, the Government of Haiti (GOH), U.N. organizations, non-governmental organizations, and partner relief agencies to identify priority needs and facilitate international relief activities.

Logistics and Relief Supplies

- As of September 11, the USG had transported emergency food, water, and relief commodities provided by USAID/OFDA, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), and multiple relief organizations on 36 missions to and within Haiti using a combination of DOD and DHS air and sea assets as well as two commercial flights funded by USAID/OFDA.

¹ Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

² This amount includes actual assistance provided and funds allocated for forthcoming assistance as of September 12, 2008.

³ This amount does not include previous USAID/FFP contributions in response to other emergencies in FY 2008.

⁴ U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

⁵ U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- The USS Kearsarge remains stationed outside of Port au Prince, and U.S. Navy helicopters and smaller sea vessels continue to transport critical relief supplies to Les Cayes in South Department, and Gonaïves in Artibonite Department.
- OCHA reported that as of September 11, that logistics for relief operations remained challenging because movement by road from Gonaïves to Port au Prince and from St. Marc to Port au Prince were still prohibited due to flooding and collapsed bridges.

Access

- On September 12, the USAID/DART received unconfirmed reports that the U.N. Mission to Haiti (MINUSTAH) plans to deploy a bailey bridge with a span of approximately 30 meters in Ennery, northern Artibonite Department. Road access is currently blocked between Gonaïves and northern regions due to a collapsed bridge in Ennery, and the bailey bridge has the potential to greatly improve humanitarian access in the area. Unofficial communication indicates MINUSTAH plans to begin preparations for the bridge early next week.
- Following initial helicopter missions to Port de Paix in Northwest Department on September 11, U.S. Navy officials report unsafe landing conditions for the helicopters. Pending the identification of an alternate landing site in Port de Paix, USG airlifts are being redirected to Les Cayes and Gonaïves.

Health

- A U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) disaster epidemiologist continues to work closely with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the health cluster to implement a disease surveillance form. The CDC epidemiologist has noted the need for improved data collection on basic health services, according to the USAID/DART. Little to no information related to health conditions and incidence of disease is available from communities between Tiburon and Les Cayes in South Department, in and around Port de Paix in Northwest Department, as well as the larger Gonaïves area in Artibonite Department.
- The USAID/DART reports that health kits provided from the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) with supplies to provide basic medical services for 10,000 people for three months are scheduled to arrive in St. Nicolas, Northwest Department on September 12. Teams from several Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) organizations are preparing to monitor health and nutrition conditions in several areas within the country, including Southeast, Northwest, and Center departments.
- On September 12, WHO and partners requested \$4.2 million to provide health care for affected populations, including women and children. WHO's funding priorities include continued access to health care for vulnerable groups, nutritional support for women and children, and treatment of people with chronic diseases.
- The USAID/DART reports that MSF/Belgium plans to establish a field hospital in Gonaïves. The facility will be operational in 7 to 10 days.

Shelter and Settlements

- According to the USAID/DART, Oxfam has conducted assessment at 20 shelters in and around Gonaïves, reporting that inadequate sanitation facilities exist in all locations. Due to standing water, Oxfam is able to begin sanitation activities in only one of the 20 locations. Water tankering will likely continue into the foreseeable future as standing water and mud preclude the use of water bladders and temporary water tanks in Gonaïves.
- According to OCHA, water and sanitation are lacking in temporary shelters. More than half of current temporary shelters are located in schools. The shelter cluster is working to identify alternative temporary shelters for displaced individuals when school resumes on October 8.
- With funding from USAID/OFDA, IOM is implementing shelter and settlements projects as well as humanitarian coordination activities. IOM is reinforcing its coordination role in the delivery of shelter and non-food assistance and the provision of emergency water and sanitation for hurricane-affected families. In addition, IOM will provide affected communities with basic tool kits and construction materials to help populations rebuild or reinforce houses.

International Humanitarian Response

- A team composed of representatives of the GOH Office of Civil Protection, UNDAC, PAHO, WHO, and MINUSTAH is currently assessing humanitarian conditions between Coteaux and Tiburon in South Department. According to the USAID/DART, preliminary reports indicate that assistance has reached a limited number of communities in the area to date. Despite enhanced information sharing within the humanitarian community in Haiti, the USAID/DART notes few coordinated assessments involving multiple relief organizations to date and a lack of consolidated multi-sectoral assessment forms to ensure standardized information regarding food, health, water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions.

Emergency Food Assistance

- OCHA reports increased distributions of emergency food commodities to additional beneficiaries in Gonaïves in recent days. On September 10 and 11, MINUSTAH provided WFP emergency food assistance to approximately 20,000 people staying in six temporary shelters. OCHA notes that the MINUSTAH involvement has been well received by the local population following earlier reports of tension between MINUSTAH and local residents during food distributions in the city.
- According to OCHA, to date, nearly 65,000 people in Gonaïves have received emergency food assistance, including high-energy biscuits early in the response followed by seven-day rations in recent days given increased availability of coal and cooking facilities. WFP is providing one, two, and four-week family rations in various locations throughout the country in response to localized needs.
- Upon returning from Gonaïves, staff from the USAID/DART report that the distribution of food and safe drinking water in this area appeared to be providing vital assistance to local populations.

Humanitarian Coordination

- Limited capacity has hampered coordination efforts following tropical storms Fay, Gustav, Hanna, and Ike. The USAID/DART notes the need for enhanced coordination related to emergency relief and rehabilitation efforts in Haiti, despite regular coordination meetings and recent improvement in information sharing among U.N. agencies and partner relief organizations as of September 12. Multiple high-level meetings between the GOH, MINUSTAH, OCHA, UNDAC, and several donor governments in recent days have facilitated communication regarding priority needs. Further sessions are planned to identify immediate infrastructure repair and rehabilitation projects to improve ground transport in key areas requiring humanitarian assistance. Additional WFP and OCHA staff plan to arrive in Haiti over the coming days in an effort to improve information sharing and coordination regarding logistics operations and distributions of food and emergency relief supplies.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE SUMMARY

Haiti

- On September 2, U.S. Ambassador Janet A. Sanderson issued a disaster declaration in response to Hurricane Gustav and resulting flooding throughout Haiti. In total, the USAID/DART is working to program a total of \$7.5 million in funding from USAID/OFDA for programs to assist disaster-affected populations in Haiti.
- On September 4, a USAID/OFDA-chartered aircraft arrived in Port au Prince, delivering USAID/OFDA emergency relief supplies including 5,088 hygiene kits, 10,800 ten-liter water containers, and 500 rolls of plastic sheeting. Worth nearly \$335,000 including transport, the supplies were transported to affected areas with assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard and implementing partner IOM. On September 11, a second USAID/OFDA-chartered aircraft arrived with 10,200 ten-liter water containers, 5,088 hygiene kits, 700 rolls of plastic sheeting, and 2 water bladders, valued at more than \$410,000, including transport. This airlift will benefit more than 5,000 families and provide shelter support for temporary facilities such as child-friendly spaces.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$500,000 to PAHO in response to PAHO's appeal for funding to support health activities for individuals affected by Hurricane Gustav and Tropical Storm Hanna. This funding will assist 10,000 people.
- USAID/OFDA is also providing more than \$1.5 million to IOM.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$500,000 in funding to the American Red Cross for emergency relief supplies and logistical support. Programs supported by this funding will benefit 12,000 people in Haiti's Artibonite, Grand Anse, and South East departments.
- On September 7, USAID/OFDA authorized the deployment of a three-person Americas Support Team to Haiti to supplement the UNDAC team based in Gonaïves.
- USAID/Haiti is working to re-direct \$5 million in funds toward food and other assistance to meet critical needs related to the growing humanitarian crisis.
- USAID/FFP is providing food assistance worth \$7 million through implementing partner WFP.
- DOD has provided support worth \$821,000 in response to a USAID request for helicopter transport.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR HURRICANES IN 2008

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
American Red Cross	Logistics, Emergency Relief Supplies	Artibonite, Grand Anse, and South East Departments	\$500,000
IOM	Shelter and Settlements, Coordination	Affected Areas	\$1,506,008
OCHA	Logistics	Affected Areas	\$69,996
PAHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$500,000
USAID/Haiti	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$150,000
	Emergency Relief Activities ²	Affected Areas	\$4,002,104
USAID/Haiti	Emergency Relief Supplies, Including Transportation	Affected Areas	\$749,015
	Administrative Support		\$22,877
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$7,500,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$7,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$7,000,000
USAID/HAITI ASSISTANCE³			
	Emergency Relief Activities	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/HAITI HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$5,000,000
DOD ASSISTANCE⁴			
	Emergency Relief Activities	Affected Areas	\$821,000
TOTAL DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$821,000
DHS ASSISTANCE			
	Transportation and Logistics	Affected Areas	FORTHCOMING
TOTAL DHS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$0
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR HURRICANES IN FY 2008			\$20,321,000

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 12, 2008.

² Additional funding pledged by USAID/OFDA.

³ Funding reprogrammed from development to humanitarian relief activities.

⁴ Funding approved for humanitarian relief activities in Haiti.

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 Latin America and the Caribbean 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 (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/