



DISASTER  
RELIEF

CASE REPORT  
Algeria-Floods  
March-April 1974

Agency for International Development  
Washington, DC 20523

**Foreign Disaster Case Reports are publications of the Office of the Foreign Disaster Relief Coordinator, Agency for International Development. This office has responsibility for coordinating U.S. Government foreign disaster relief responses and for the further coordination of such activities with those of the U.S. private and international disaster relief communities.**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Coordinator acknowledges assistance received in the preparation of this and other case reports from the many public and private organizations in the United States and abroad engaged in foreign disaster relief.

# **ALGERIA**

## **Floods—March/April 1974**

Flooding caused by torrential rains on March 31 and April 1, 1974, left 11 dead and 6,000 houses destroyed, affecting over 20,000 people in Grande Kabylia and Tlemcem Provinces in northern Algeria. The Government of Algeria estimated losses exceeded \$30 million.

The Grande Kabylia Region was most severely affected. Damage to infrastructure was extensive, primarily to roads and bridges. Early on-site evaluations and relief operations in this heavily populated area were hampered since the affected area is extremely mountainous.

### **ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ALGERIA**

The massive task of reaching the flood victims and giving them food and medical care was successfully accomplished by the Algerian Government. The only assistance requested of foreign donors was tents for the homeless, and this because the Government's stock of tents was insufficient to meet the need.

### **ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT**

The U.S. Principal Officer in Algiers determined on April 12 that the floods were of a magnitude to warrant U.S. Government assistance and recommended that contributions of tents be made through the Algerian Red Crescent Society. Through A.I.D.'s Foreign Disaster Relief Coordinator, 100 tents

from A.I.D.'s regional disaster supply stockpile in Leghorn, Italy, were delivered to Air Algeria in Rome for shipment to Algeria. The Society in turn distributed the tents within the flooded area.

Total Value of U.S. Government Assistance ..... \$13,349

### **ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS**

Upon being informed by the United Nations Development Program Resident Representative in Algiers of the homeless disaster victims in the Grande Kabylia Region, the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) in Geneva released funds for the purchase of 150 family-size tents in the United Kingdom. UNDRO also arranged for free transportation of the tents to Algeria, for a total cost of ..... \$19,212

