



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY /// AUGUST 19

World Humanitarian Day is celebrated on August 19 each year to honor the dedicated aid workers who help to care for millions of people affected by disasters around the world. It is also a moment to remember the brave individuals who lost their lives helping to save those most in need.

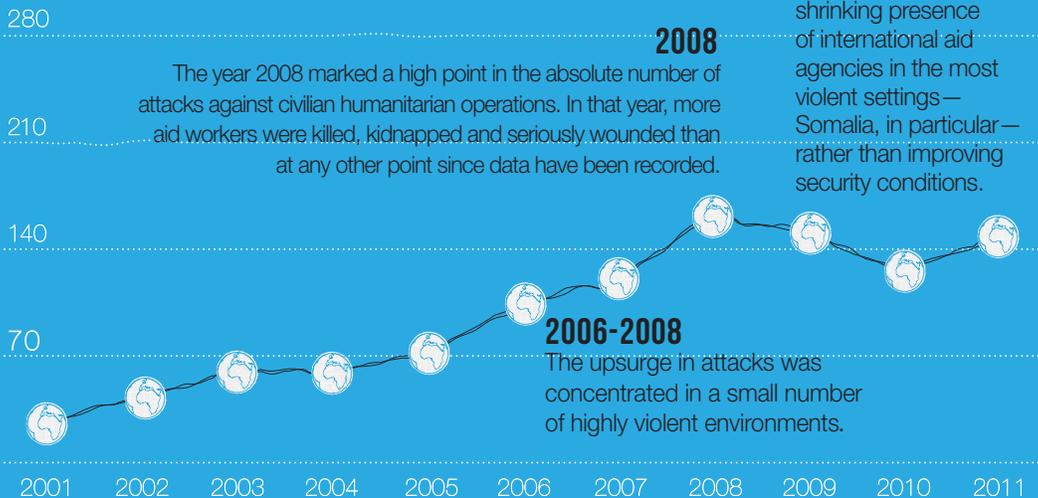
Humanitarianism, at its core, represents a respect for human dignity and a fundamental commitment to holding paramount the health and safety of people in crisis above all other motives and agendas. Right now, humanitarian workers are responding to the crisis in Syria and in other conflict zones. They are living in the Horn of Africa, Yemen, and the Sahel—just to name a few places—saving countless lives. They are the brave men and women who work tirelessly to provide aid to those in need, regardless of who they are or where they live. But, World Humanitarian Day is not only a time to recognize professional humanitarian workers; this year it is also a call to action for everyone.

This year's U.N. World Humanitarian Day campaign, "I Was Here," is about making your mark by doing something good, somewhere, for someone else. Humanitarian actions done at home—volunteering in a homeless shelter, holding a bake sale for charity—reflect the same values that drive humanitarian actions globally. We can all be humanitarians by doing something good for others because every act to help those in need—no matter how small—makes a difference.

Show your support for World Humanitarian Day by joining more than one billion people helping people on August 19. Visit www.whd-iwashere.org to become part of this historic moment.

USAID WORKS TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY THROUGH OUTREACH TO AND DIALOGUE WITH IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS AND THE DONOR COMMUNITY. USAID'S OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE SUPPORTS POLICIES THAT STRENGTHEN SAFETY AND SECURITY, WHILE DIRECTLY SUPPORTING HUMANITARIAN WORKERS IN THE FIELD BY PROVIDING REAL-TIME ANALYSIS AND GUIDANCE ON SECURITY MATTERS. IN ADDITION, USAID INVESTS IN RESEARCH ON INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PERVASIVE AND LONG-STANDING HUMANITARIAN SECURITY CHALLENGES, INCLUDING COORDINATION AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE AMONG RELIEF AGENCIES AND DONORS.

350 MAJOR ATTACKS ON AID WORKERS*



2008

The year 2008 marked a high point in the absolute number of attacks against civilian humanitarian operations. In that year, more aid workers were killed, kidnapped and seriously wounded than at any other point since data have been recorded.

2009-2010

The decline in attacks was mainly due to the shrinking presence of international aid agencies in the most violent settings—Somalia, in particular—rather than improving security conditions.

2006-2008

The upsurge in attacks was concentrated in a small number of highly violent environments.

Source: The Aid Worker Security Database (<https://aidworkersecurity.org>)

*Includes reports of major incidents of violence against aid workers worldwide, including killings, kidnappings, and armed attacks that result in serious injury.