

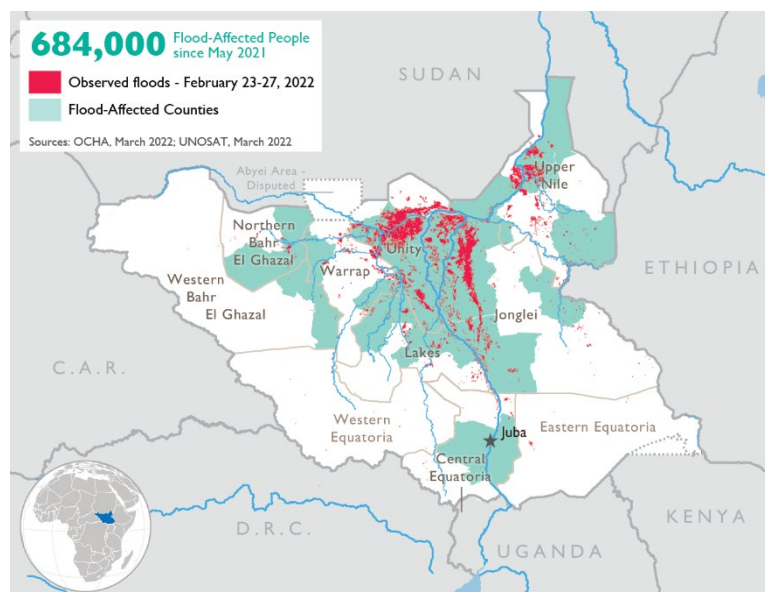
# South Sudan – Complex Emergency

MARCH 25, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<b>12.4</b> <b>MILLION</b> Estimated Population of South Sudan OCHA – February 2022	<b>8.9</b> <b>MILLION</b> Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance OCHA – February 2022	<b>684,000</b> Estimated Number of People Affected by Ongoing Flooding in South Sudan Since May OCHA– February 2022 <sup>1</sup>	<b>2</b> <b>MILLION</b> Estimated Number of IDPs in South Sudan OCHA– January 2022	<b>2.3</b> <b>MILLION</b> South Sudanese Refugees in Neighboring Countries UNHCR – January 2022
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- The UN 2022 HNO for South Sudan estimates 8.9 million people in the country will require humanitarian assistance in 2022, an increase of 600,000 people from the 2021 HNO.
- Humanitarian organizations faced access challenges across South Sudan in 2021, with nearly 600 incidents affecting relief workers during the year.
- Unknown armed actors target humanitarian convoys in Jonglei and Central Equatoria, disrupting assistance.



## TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the South Sudan Response in FYs 2021-2022

 USAID/BHA<sup>2</sup> \$943,424,442

 State/PRM<sup>3</sup> \$88,989,899

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

**Total \$1,032,414,341<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> During the 2021 rainy season, OCHA received reports of at least 835,000 people being affected by flooding; humanitarian organizations have verified the impact and needs of 684,000 individuals, as of February 2022.

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>4</sup> This total does not include nearly \$179 million in FY 2021 U.S. Government (USG) funding for South Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries. This increases total USG emergency funding for the South Sudan crisis in FY 2021 to nearly \$880.7 million.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### The 2022 HNO Estimates 8.9 Million People in Need

On February 28, the UN released the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for South Sudan, which estimates that 8.9 million people—more than two-thirds of the country’s population—will require humanitarian assistance during the year, as a result of continued conflict and insecurity throughout the country, economic shocks, large-scale flooding and related displacement, and severe food insecurity. The estimated number of people requiring emergency assistance in 2022 represents an increase of 600,000 people compared to 2021, likely due to the compounding adverse effects of consecutive years of worsening flooding and heightened intercommunal conflict. The HNO projects that approximately 8.3 million people—including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)—will require emergency food assistance from May to July, the peak lean season. Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, and Warrap states are identified as areas of the greatest concern, particularly Jonglei’s Fangak County, where food consumption gaps are most extreme, according to the HNO. Furthermore, the UN estimates 2 million people, including 1.3 million children younger than five years of age and nearly 680,000 pregnant and lactating women, are facing wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—and require emergency nutrition support.

### Violence, Insecurity, and Flooding Constrain Humanitarian Access in 2021

Humanitarian organizations faced continued and widespread access challenges across South Sudan in 2021, with nearly 600 recorded incidents affecting relief workers during the year, an increase from the 580 incidents recorded in 2020, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ (OCHA) 2021 Humanitarian Access Overview. More than half of the recorded incidents involved violence, including active hostilities blocking access to populations in need, ambushes on humanitarian convoys, threats against aid workers, and violent looting and theft of relief commodities. At least 11 humanitarian aid workers were killed while serving in South Sudan during 2021, bringing the total number of aid worker deaths to at least 131 since the conflict began in 2013.<sup>4</sup> In addition, bureaucratic impediments such as access denial and operational interference accounted for more than 220 of the nearly 600 recorded incidents, marking a notable increase from fewer than 200 similar impediments recorded in 2020, OCHA reports. The highest number of incidents impacting humanitarian access in 2021 took place in Central Equatoria State, with nearly 140 recorded incidents, primarily due to armed conflict, roadside ambushes, and staff detentions in Lainya, Morobo, and Yei counties. Other states highly affected by access constraints in 2021 were Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, and Western Equatoria states, which all also recorded high levels of humanitarian need during the year.

### Armed Actors Target Humanitarian Convoys, Disrupt Assistance

Unknown armed actors ambushed a convoy of UN World Food Program (WFP) vehicles along the road connecting Jonglei’s Bor and Gadiang towns on February 28, the UN agency reports. The convoy of nearly 60 vehicles was transporting emergency food commodities to food-insecure areas of northern Jonglei as part of its USAID/BHA-funded lean season interventions when it came under fire near Gadiang. UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) forces accompanying the WFP convoy repelled the assault, preventing the loss of food commodities during the attack and allowing the convoy to continue along the route. However, WFP reports that at least one UNMISS personnel was injured during the ambush and subsequently transported to a hospital in South Sudan’s capital city of Juba. UNMISS and WFP issued a joint statement on March 1 condemning the attack. As of March 9, WFP reports that the convoy successfully returning from delivery food commodities to its destination, and is exploring mitigation measures to enhance security along the Bor–Gadiang route in order to continue utilizing the route ahead of the lean season.

<sup>4</sup> The total number of aid worker deaths is calculated using data shared by USAID/BHA partner organizations; other external figures may differ slightly due to competing definitions of humanitarian workers.

In a separate incident on the morning of March 1, unknown armed attackers ambushed a convoy of two marked Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) vehicles traveling along the road connecting Western Equatoria's Maridi County with Central Equatoria's Yei County, the non-governmental organization (NGO) reports. The armed attackers stopped the vehicles at gunpoint and forced seven MSF staff members to exit the vehicles, at which point they were robbed of their possessions, including personal belongings and relief commodities. The attackers subsequently burned the two MSF vehicles and forced the relief workers to flee to safety on foot; MSF reports that no physical injuries were sustained as a result of the incident. The convoy was traveling to Yei's Minyori locality to provide emergency health assistance for community treatment of acute watery diarrhea, malaria, and pneumonia. In response to the attack, MSF suspended all outreach activities in Yei with immediate effect until the organization can re-establish acceptable security conditions for its staff. USAID/BHA continues to monitor the situation in coordination with MSF, UNMISS, WFP, and other humanitarian partners in the region.

### **Sporadic Violence in Abyei Persists and Displaces 70,000 People**

Intercommunal fighting broke out in the Abyei Administrative Area on February 10 following increasing tensions over a territorial dispute, the UN reports. An estimated 70,000 people were displaced due to the violence as of February 15, with most fleeing to Abyei town and more than 20,000 others seeking refuge in South Sudan's Warrap State. While the precise number of civilian deaths resulting from latest outbreak of violence in Abyei remains unknown, initial reporting by OCHA suggests that violence in Abyei since February 10 resulted in the deaths of at least 20 civilians, including an MSF nurse who was killed in his home in Abyei's Agok town. Renewed violence in Abyei's Abyei and Agok towns on March 5 resulted in an additional 36 deaths as of March 6, while widespread destruction and looting in Agok forced more than 750 aid workers to relocate with their families to various locations, the UN reports. The UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) is providing security to humanitarian compounds and warehouses in affected areas. Preliminary assessments indicate that health, shelter, and protection constitute the most urgent humanitarian needs among displaced populations in Abyei.

### **Children Abducted from Bentiu IDP Camp in Possible Military Conscription**

Unknown actors abducted at least 10 children between the ages of 14 and 17 from their homes in Bentiu IDP camp as of January 26, according to local media. The abductions were first reported by the youth chairman of Bentiu IDP camp, who alleged that the abducted individuals—all male adolescents who were attending primary or secondary schools in the camp—were forcefully recruited into local armed forces. A spokesperson for the Sudan People's Liberation Movement In-Opposition (SPLA-IO) denied responsibility for the abductions, claiming the group does not maintain a presence in Bentiu. The South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF), which maintains a robust presence in and around Bentiu, could neither confirm nor deny responsibility for the abductions as of January 26, according to a statement by SSPDF spokesperson Major General Lul Ruai Koang. USAID/BHA continues to monitor the situation in coordination with humanitarian partners and will continue to raise the issue through appropriate forums for advocacy.

## KEY FIGURES



**2.5 Million**

People supported  
monthly with emergency  
food assistance in  
FY 2021



**\$23.4 Million**

In USAID/BHA support  
for life-saving health care  
programming in FY 2021



**\$19.6 Million**

In USAID/BHA funding  
for critical WASH  
programming in FY 2021

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports multiple UN agencies and NGOs to bolster food security, livelihood activities, and early recovery efforts in South Sudan. In FY 2021, USAID/BHA partners reached approximately 2.5 million beneficiaries with food assistance per month. With nearly \$346.8 million in FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S. in-kind food aid; locally, regionally, and internationally procured (LRIP) commodities; and cash transfers for food—to food-insecure households across South Sudan. In FY 2022, USAID/BHA provided an additional \$100 million to its partner WFP to sustain emergency food assistance as food needs increase countrywide. Additionally, with USAID/BHA support, WFP had responded to the emergency needs of more than 641,000 flood-affected individuals in seven states between October and December 2021. USAID/BHA NGO partners also provide agricultural inputs, fishing kits, and livelihoods training to support vulnerable populations across the country.

### HEALTH

With more than \$23.4 million in FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA provides health care services in South Sudan through community health facilities and mobile medical units (MMUs). Through MMUs, partners provide a range of primary care, mental health, and maternal and newborn health services. USAID/BHA also supports integrated community case management services in South Sudan, which deliver life-saving curative interventions for common childhood illnesses, particularly where there is limited access to facility-based services. To mitigate the effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in South Sudan, USAID/BHA partners continue to strengthen community health coordination and provide training for local healthcare workers in infection prevention and control methods. Additionally, State/PRM supports UNHCR to address the health care needs of refugees and other vulnerable populations in South Sudan. Health interventions are integrated with nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services wherever possible to ensure a sustainable system of clinical services and support.

### WASH

In FY 2021, USAID/BHA provided more than \$19.6 million to partners implementing WASH programs, including activities to provide access to safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, sanitation services, and solid waste disposal to more than 3 million people—including more than 1 million IDPs. WASH programming includes interventions to help prevent cholera outbreaks among vulnerable populations, as well as mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) risks by providing safe access to latrines, sanitation services, and other WASH assets. Additionally, USAID/BHA continues to support

efforts by UN and NGO partners to respond to recent flooding throughout South Sudan by rehabilitating WASH infrastructure and providing WASH supplies to flood-affected populations. USAID/BHA also supports hygiene promotion activities through public health campaigns and the distribution of essential supplies, such as buckets, soap, and dignity and hygiene kits.



**950,000**

Children and pregnant and lactating women receiving nutrition support from January–November 2021

## **NUTRITION**

USAID/BHA supports partners in their efforts to prevent and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across South Sudan. In partnership with NGOs, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and WFP, USAID/BHA nutrition assistance reaches children and pregnant and lactating women nationwide with specialized food products to treat wasting and provide supportive supervision to frontline nutrition staff. Using a community-based approach, USAID/BHA partners promote recommended infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices through one-on-one counseling and group education to manage acute malnutrition. UNICEF reached nearly 166,000 pregnant women and child caregivers with counseling for IYCF in January 2022 and provided emergency nutrition treatment services to more than 23,000 children experiencing severe acute malnutrition during the same period. USAID/BHA dedicated nearly \$97 million in FY 2021 funding for nutrition assistance in South Sudan.



**\$18.7 Million**

In dedicated USAID/BHA support for critical protection interventions in FY 2021

## **PROTECTION**

With nearly \$18.7 million in FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA supports multi-sector protection interventions that ensure the safety and dignity of more than 5 million people—including approximately 200,000 IDPs—in South Sudan. Protection activities include assistance to GBV survivors through case management, mobile emergency response teams, psychosocial support, referrals to health specialists, and assessments to integrate protection into emergency response activities. Additionally, State/PRM partners provide protection services to IDPs, refugees, and conflict-affected communities countrywide, including through GBV prevention and response programs, mental health and psychosocial support activities, family reunification, and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation. USAID/BHA also supports coordination and capacity-building among protection actors in South Sudan.



**\$57 Million**

In USAID/BHA funding for logistics support in FY 2021

## **LOGISTICS**

With nearly \$57 million in FY 2021 funding, USAID/BHA provides countrywide support to the humanitarian response through the WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and Logistics Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. UNHAS offers air transportation to relief actors throughout the country, while the Logistics Cluster provides coordination and information management services for humanitarian workers, delivery of essential humanitarian relief items, common

warehousing of basic relief commodities, and geographical information system mapping. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) supports humanitarian partner responses across South Sudan by procuring, storing, and transporting critical relief supplies, including emergency shelter and WASH commodities.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Army 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 within Sudan. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state following a referendum earlier in the year.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted between factions within the GoRSS in Juba and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict, prompting displacement and humanitarian needs. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG response to the crisis in South Sudan and stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- After nearly seven years, USAID transitioned the South Sudan DART and RMT to a normalized response under USAID/BHA on November 6 and November 20, 2020, respectively. USAID/BHA remains committed to maintaining a robust humanitarian response in South Sudan, and USAID/BHA partners continue to carry out life-saving programs to meet the humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese people.
- On October 1, 2021, Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., David Renz redeclared a disaster in South Sudan for FY 2022 due to ongoing conflict and population displacement; severe floods; restricted humanitarian access; and the disruption of cultivation activities, markets, and trade, all of which have significantly exacerbated food insecurity and humanitarian needs.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Action Against Hunger	Agriculture, Health, Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications (HPSAA), Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$4,805,216
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Jonglei	\$10,085,329
IOM	Agriculture, Health, HCIMA, Nutrition Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH,	Abyei, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$5,500,000



Mercy Corps	WASH	Unity	\$135,000
NRC	HCIMA, Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity	\$3,000,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$20,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$153,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$127,990,849
World Vision	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Unity, Upper Nile	\$4,680,439
	Program Support		\$50,931
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$330,747,764</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$330,747,764</b>

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>3</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
ACTED	HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
Alight	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile	\$3,478,170
CONCERN	Agriculture, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Central Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity	\$6,500,000
CRS	Agriculture, ERMS, Nutrition, Protection	Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei	\$20,058,615
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Jonglei	\$17,108,241
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture, HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,314,350
	Shelter and Settlements	Upper Nile	\$641,791
FAO	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$6,500,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	HCIMA	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Western Equatoria	\$500,000
IOM	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyei, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$17,034,320
	HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$8,340,680
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Unity	\$5,500,000
Internews	Health	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Medair	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile	\$6,600,000
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, WASH	Unity, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$5,031,399

NRC	Agriculture, ERMS, HCIMA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$10,058,614
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$151,651
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Warrap	\$5,423,424
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
Relief International	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile	\$4,900,000
Save the Children Federation (SCF)	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jonglei	\$2,798,898
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$201,102
Samaritan's Purse	Agriculture, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Unity, Upper Nile	\$5,000,000
Tearfund	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Central Equatoria	\$3,500,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$21,500,000
UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières	Agriculture	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$1,745,499
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, LRIP, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$220,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$175,922,414
World Relief International	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile	\$2,529,172
World Vision	Agriculture, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Upper Nile, Warrap	\$10,725,726
	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$157,045
	Program Support		\$255,567
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$612,676,678</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ACTED	Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,800,000
Africa Humanitarian Action	Health	Countrywide	\$1,499,460
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$26,225,000
IRC	Health	Countrywide	\$1,900,000
Internews	Protection	Countrywide	\$1,499,950
Jesuit Refugee Service	Education, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,999,063
Lutheran World Federation	Education, Protection	Countrywide	\$1,766,426
Relief International	Health	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
SCF	Protection	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNHCR	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$46,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$88,989,899</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$701,666,577</b>

<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021–2022</b>	<b>\$1,032,414,341</b>
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<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 March 25, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March 25, 2022.



## 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://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://cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)