



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Dominican Republic and Haiti – Floods and Tropical Storm

Fact Sheet #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

November 8, 2007

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On November 6, the Director of USAID/Dominican Republic and other USAID staff traveled to Barahona Province and assisted World Vision and more than 100 volunteers in distributing USAID/OFDA hygiene kits to affected individuals. On November 7, U.S. Chargé d' Affaires Roland W. Bullen, the USAID/OFDA assessment team leader, and Department of Defense (DOD) personnel flew to Barahona Province to meet with and deliver relief supplies to representatives from World Vision and Fundación para el Desarrollo del Sur (FUNDESUR), and met with Peace Corps volunteers assisting with commodity distributions.
- The U.N. issued an appeal for nearly \$14 million on November 6 to provide assistance through May 2008 to individuals affected by Tropical Storm Noel in the Dominican Republic.
- In Haiti, U.S. Chargé d' Affaires Thomas C. Tighe requested \$100,000 in USAID/OFDA assistance due to the effects of more than six weeks of heavy rain, exacerbated by the passage of Tropical Storm Noel.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE*		SOURCE
Dominican Republic	85 dead, 48 missing, 79,730 displaced, 1,879 houses destroyed, 18,053 houses damaged	GODR ¹ – November 7, 2007
Haiti	103 dead, 20 missing, 25,397 families affected, 3,132 houses destroyed, 14,015 houses damaged	GOH ² – November 3, 2007

*Figures reflect ongoing assessments.

FY 2008 Humanitarian Funding to Date

USAID/OFDA Assistance to the Dominican Republic	\$1,150,528
U.S. DOD Assistance to the Dominican Republic ³	\$255,751
Total USG Assistance to the Dominican Republic	\$1,406,279
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Haiti	\$100,000
Total USG Assistance to the Dominican Republic and Haiti	\$1,506,279

CURRENT SITUATION

Dominican Republic

- As of November 7, approximately 26,500 displaced persons remain in official shelters, and more than 50,000 others have taken shelter with friends and relatives. Flooding has destroyed 1,879 homes and damaged 18,053 others, and floodwaters have severed communication to 155 communities and damaged 50 bridges and roads.
- The USAID/OFDA assessment team reported a lack of safe drinking water in many affected areas. Damage to infrastructure has slowed or precluded ground transport of relief supplies to some areas. Floodwaters damaged vast tracts of agricultural land and destroyed nearly all crops in the most affected areas.
- Following an assessment in San José de Ocoa, one of the most affected provinces, the USAID/OFDA assessment team reported that 14 communities in the province remained cut off from ground transportation. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported that needs include food and safe drinking water for 2,000 displaced individuals in the province.
- The USAID/OFDA assessment team reported that priority needs include the provision of safe drinking water, hygiene kits, mattresses and bedding, mosquito nets, medicine, and other non-food items.
- The GODR continues to distribute humanitarian relief supplies to affected populations. A USAID/OFDA team member working with the Ministry of Health (MOH) reported that the MOH has provided medicine, medical staff including doctors and nurses, food, and gas for cooking and generating electricity in affected areas. The MOH has also engaged in health promotion programs in official shelters and coordinated with the GODR's Emergency Operations Center to intervene in affected communities.

¹ Government of the Dominican Republic

² Government of Haiti

³ DOD has also provided helicopter support for the distribution of emergency relief supplies, the final cost of which has not yet been estimated.

- As of November 7, the U.N. World Food Program and the Dominican Red Cross have delivered 10 metric tons (MT) of high protein biscuits to affected communities. Of this total, 2.5 MT were distributed to San José de Ocoa and Arenoso provinces by air, including via DOD and U.S. Coast Guard helicopters.

Haiti

- Continuous rains over the past six weeks, exacerbated by the passage of Tropical Storm Noel, have resulted in severe flooding in southern, southwestern, and western departments of Haiti, as well as in Artibonite Department. The rains and associated flooding have killed 103 people, with 20 others reported missing, and affected more than 25,000 families, according to initial assessments by the GOH.
- In addition, the rains and flooding destroyed nearly 3,200 houses and damaged more than 14,000 others. The GOH's Directorate of Civil Protection and humanitarian organizations have been managing the response with previously stockpiled relief supplies, which have been significantly depleted.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Dominican Republic

- On October 31, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Roland W. Bullen declared a disaster due to the effects of the tropical storm and floods. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$100,000 through USAID/Dominican Republic to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and World Vision. USAID/OFDA also provided an additional \$500,000 through USAID/Dominican Republic for emergency relief activities through humanitarian organizations.
- In close collaboration with the MOH, the USAID/OFDA assessment team is procuring PUR™ water-treatment products to provide safe drinking water to affected areas. The team will work with the GODR MOH to ensure that populations who receive PUR™ also receive training on proper use of the product.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$200,000 to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) emergency appeal. These funds will support vector control and water-related programs.
- USAID/OFDA has delivered ten 10,000-liter water bladders, 150 rolls of plastic sheeting, 6,000 blankets, 11,400 ten-liter water containers, and 11,136 hygiene kits from the USAID/OFDA warehouse in Miami to Santo Domingo via two airlifts. USAID/OFDA is distributing the relief supplies through the GODR and implementing partners including the Asociación para el Desarrollo de San José de Ocoa (ADESJO), the Dominican Red Cross, FUNDESUR, El Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral (IDDI), Oxfam, and World Vision.
- DOD and the U.S. Coast Guard have provided helicopter support for the distribution of USAID/OFDA and U.N. cargo, including flying 18 sorties on November 7. U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) has provided more than \$250,000 in emergency relief commodities to the GODR using DOD humanitarian assistance funding, including shelter materials, vehicles, chainsaws, water purification tablets, personal hygiene supplies, diapers and other infant items, and other emergency relief supplies.

Haiti

- On November 7, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas C. Tighe declared a disaster due to the effects of the floods and tropical storm. In response, USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 through USAID/Haiti for emergency relief activities.
- A four-person USAID/OFDA assessment team is coordinating with the U.S. Embassy in Port-Au-Prince, USAID/Haiti and GOH officials to survey flooding impacts and determine whether additional assistance is needed.

Regional Funding

- In addition to the FY 2008 assistance detailed above, in FY 2007 USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$2.4 million in assistance to countries affected by hurricanes Dean and Felix. For more information please review the USAID/OFDA Latin America and the Caribbean Hurricane Season 2007 fact sheets, which can be found on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/.
- Since 2000, USAID has provided more than \$145 million in response to the effects of hurricanes and tropical storms throughout Central America and the Caribbean.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Dominican Republic	Emergency Relief Supplies, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, and other Emergency Relief Activities	Affected Areas	\$500,000
PAHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$200,000
CRS	Emergency Relief Supplies	San Cristobal Province	\$50,000
World Vision	Emergency Relief Supplies	Bahoruco and Barahona Provinces	\$50,000
GODR (including MOH), ADESJO, Dominican Red Cross, FUNDASUR, IDDI, Oxfam, World Vision	Emergency Relief Supplies from USAID/OFDA's Miami Warehouse	Ázua, Barahona, Duarte, María Trinidad Sanchez, Monseñor Nouel, Peravia, San Cristobal, San José de Ocoa, and Santo Domingo Provinces and other Affected Areas	\$350,528
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN FY 2008			\$1,150,528
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN FY 2008			\$1,150,528
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ASSISTANCE			
SOUTHCOM	Emergency Relief Supplies, Shelter Supplies, Vehicles, Chainsaws, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Supplies	Affected Areas	\$255,751
TOTAL DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN FY 2008²			\$255,751
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN FY 2008³			\$1,406,279

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents commitments or actual expenditures as of November 8, 2007.

² DOD has also provided helicopter support for the distribution of emergency relief supplies, the final cost of which has not yet been estimated.

³ U.S Coast Guard has also provided helicopter support for the distribution of emergency relief supplies, the final cost of which has not yet been estimated.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Haiti	Emergency Relief Activities	Affected Areas	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$100,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI IN FY 2008			\$100,000

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents commitments or actual expenditures as of November 8, 2007.

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND HAITI IN FY 2008	\$1,506,279
---	--------------------

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 the Dominican Republic and Haiti 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