



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

**THE CARIBBEAN – Hurricanes**

Fact Sheet #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

September 17, 2004

*Note: This report updates the last fact sheet dated September 15, 2004.*

**NUMBERS AT A GLANCE**

**SOURCE**

<b>Grenada</b>	85,000 – 90,000 people affected	USAID/DART, 9/16/04
<b>Jamaica</b>	18,000 people displaced	ODPEM*, 9/14/04
<b>Bahamas</b>	800 people displaced, 80 homes destroyed	USAID/DART, 9/14/04

**Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to the Caribbean..... \$1,489,402**

**CURRENT SITUATION**

*Tropical Storm Jeanne*

- Although the National Hurricane Center (NHC) downgraded Hurricane Jeanne to a tropical storm on September 16, Jeanne could regain hurricane strength as it moves off of the island of Hispaniola. On September 16 and 17, Tropical Storm Jeanne passed over the eastern and northern coasts of the Dominican Republic, bringing up to 16 inches of rain to some areas and resulting in significant flooding and wind damage. According to initial reports from the Government of the Dominican Republic’s (GODR) National Emergency Commission, the storm has killed three people, injured eight others, and displaced thousands. Communications systems and roads have been severely affected, isolating many areas from relief efforts.

*Locations of USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART)*

- On September 16, three USAID/DART members joined a USAID/OFDA consultant in the Bahamas to prepare for the potential effects of Tropical Storm Jeanne. On September 17, team members set up an operations center and met with representatives of the U.S. Embassy, government disaster officials, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- USAID/DART members are currently positioned in Grenada, Jamaica, and the Bahamas. A four member USAID/DART is currently en route to Santo Domingo to coordinate with USAID/Dominican Republic and local officials regarding damage assessment.

*Jamaica*

- According to ODPEM\*, Hurricane Ivan caused 18 deaths and displaced more than 18,000 to emergency shelters. ODPEM also reported a lack of telecommunications and water and sanitation services, particularly in the southern and western part of Jamaica. Portland Cottage in southern Clarendon Parish and Cave Valley in St. Ann Parish are reportedly the most affected areas. Many other towns in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Manchester, Westmoreland, St. Andrew, and St. Thomas, as well as parts of Kingston, experienced significant flooding and damage to buildings.
- On September 14, the USAID/DART and UNDAC team participated in a multi-agency assessment of the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Manchester, and St. Thomas. The team remains concerned about the lack of emergency shelter, drinking water, and health facilities.
- According to September 16 multi-agency assessments of Clarendon Parish, which has a total population of 214,704, serious humanitarian needs exist in the shelter and water and sanitation sectors of six Clarendon towns. In Portland Cottage approximately 95 percent of structures suffered either severe damage and cannot be occupied or were completely flattened. In Rocky Point, 60 percent of structures experienced similar damage. Both Portland Cottage and Rocky Point remain flooded with limited food resources and have no functioning water and sanitation systems; residents reported that children are increasingly becoming sick due to parasites and diarrhea. Mitchell Town has also been severely affected with 50 percent of the houses damaged but functional and 50 percent with either severe damage and cannot be occupied or were completely destroyed.
- In St. Catherine Parish, water and sanitation, the number of dead animals, and the high cost of available food remain concerns. In addition, residents report that they are not boiling water and that some are drinking river water. In an area with no functioning health facilities, approximately 75 percent of the population has some kind of medical problem such as diarrhea or ringworms.

\* Jamaican Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

- In response to the water availability concerns reported by the multi-agency assessment of the southern coastal parishes, UNICEF arranged a delivery of water purification tablets, water containers, chlorine bleach, and oral rehydration salt for the treatment of diarrhea on September 16. The shipment also included first aid kits, emergency health kits, tents, blankets, soap, detergent, and basic school supplies, and will be distributed through ODPEM.

#### *Grenada*

- On September 15, the USAID/DART and UNDAC team identified the following key priorities for donor coordination: information sharing, food security and access, and support of Government of Grenada's (GOG) response efforts, including the distribution process.
- The GOG National Disaster Coordinator reported that food and shelter remain critical priorities but that water is no longer a concern. Bottled water is reportedly in good supply, and the National Water Service (NAWASA) is increasing its coverage of piped water.
- The Emergency Operations Center's (EOC) Shelter Committee has assessed 143 operational shelters where 5,000 people are currently housed. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the GOG Ministry of Health conducting epidemiological surveillance in the shelters have documented 47 cases of communicable disease thus far, largely fevers and diarrhea.
- On September 15, two USAID/OFDA-funded electrical engineers assessed damage across the island and estimated that 85 to 90 percent of the electricity systems on the west and north coasts of Grenada have been destroyed.
- On September 16, the U.S. Ambassador to Barbados and the Deputy Chief of Mission arrived in Grenada to assess hurricane damage to the island, meet with the Prime Minister, and view distribution operations.

#### *Cayman Islands*

- International media sources report that the Cayman Islands sustained extreme damage as a result of Hurricane Ivan on September 12. Local authorities report that 15 to 20 percent of homes on the eastern part of Grand Cayman island were completely destroyed, and another 50 percent suffered significant damage. As of September 15, the island's 45,000 residents remain without electricity.

#### *Cuba*

- According to Cuban media sources, approximately 1.9 million people were evacuated due to Hurricane Ivan, but the island incurred less damage than anticipated.

### **U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE**

#### *Grenada*

- On September 8, 2004, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Mary Ellen Gilroy issued a disaster declaration for Grenada due to the damage caused by Hurricane Ivan.
- USAID/OFDA has provided \$100,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Bridgetown to support the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, in-country air transport, and aerial assessments of affected areas.
- To support health services and damaged infrastructure, USAID/OFDA provided \$150,000 to PAHO. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to fund assessments of the island's electrical system.
- As of September 17, USAID/OFDA has funded three flights of emergency relief supplies to Grenada. These relief supplies include 800 rolls of plastic sheeting, 4 water bladders, 4,332 hygiene kits, 6,800 five-gallon water jugs, 3,360 ten-liter water jugs, one high-capacity water purification unit, and 12 chainsaws for debris removal. The plastic sheeting will meet the needs of 40,000 beneficiaries. The water treatment unit is capable of processing enough water for 10,000 people per day. The total value of all commodities to date is \$286,548.

#### *Jamaica*

- On September 12, 2004, U.S. Ambassador Sue M. Cobb issued a disaster declaration due to the magnitude of the damage caused by Hurricane Ivan.
- In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Jamaica, of which \$25,000 was provided to Jamaica Red Cross for shelter operation costs and \$25,000 was provided to the Salvation Army for relief activities.
- On September 14, USAID/OFDA airlifted emergency relief supplies to Jamaica including 8 Zodiac boats with motors, 80 life vests, 200 hygiene kits, 2,000 jerry cans, and 230 rolls of plastic sheeting. The zodiac boats and life vests will facilitate search and rescue efforts. The plastic sheeting will provide shelter for 11,500 beneficiaries.
- On September 15, USAID/OFDA sent a second flight of commodities with 270 rolls of plastic sheeting and 1,824 hygiene kits. The plastic sheeting will provide shelter for 13,500 beneficiaries.
- On September 16, USAID/OFDA provided \$94,710 to World Vision for the transportation of relief supplies, including medicines and medical supplies, hygiene kits, and plastic sheeting. The total value of all of the commodities to date is \$190,370.

#### *Commonwealth of the Bahamas*

- On September 5, 2004, U.S. Ambassador John D. Rood issued a disaster declaration for the Commonwealth of the Bahamas due to the damage caused by Hurricane Frances.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$100,000 to support local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, in-country air transport, and aerial assessments of affected areas in the Bahamas.

- As of September 10, USAID/OFDA has conducted 3 airlifts of emergency relief supplies from Miami to the Bahamas, carrying 4,000 blankets, more than 2,300 hygiene kits, 4,800 jerry cans, 200 rolls of plastic sheeting, 9 water bladders, and 1 high-capacity water purification unit. The hygiene kits will support the needs of one family for two weeks, and the plastic sheeting will meet the needs of 10,000 beneficiaries. The water purification unit is capable of processing enough water for 10,000 people per day. The total value of the emergency relief supplies is \$149,124.

### U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN<sup>1</sup>

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO GRENADA</b>			
U.S. Embassy	Air transport, distribution of emergency relief supplies, and aerial assessments	Countrywide	\$100,000
PAHO	Health services and infrastructure	Countrywide	\$150,000
Consultants	Electrical Assessments	Countrywide	\$50,000
Various	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$286,548
Various	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$156,550
	Administration	Countrywide	\$95,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....</b>			<b>\$838,098</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA</b>			
Jamaica Red Cross	Shelter materials	Countrywide	\$25,000
Salvation Army	Food assistance	Countrywide	\$25,000
World Vision	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$94,710
Various	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$31,400
Various	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$190,370
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....</b>			<b>\$366,480</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THE BAHAMAS</b>			
U.S. Embassy	Air transport, distribution of emergency relief supplies, and aerial assessments	Countrywide	\$100,000
Various	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$149,124
Various	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$35,700
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....</b>			<b>\$284,824</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN.....</b>			<b>\$1,489,402</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents committed and/or obligated amount as of September 17, 2004.

### 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 their response to Hurricane Ivan can be found in the “How Can I Help” section of [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov) - Keyword: Ivan, or by calling the Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- 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; ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
  - USAID: [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - InterAction: [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org) – “Guide to Appropriate Giving”
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.org](http://www.reliefweb.org).