



**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 #5, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

September 24, 2004

Note: This report updates the last fact sheet dated September 21, 2004.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

SOURCE

Haiti	300,000 homeless	MINUSTAH* – September 23
Grenada	85,000 to 90,000 people affected	USAID/DART – September 16
Jamaica	18,000 people displaced	ODPEM† – September 16
Bahamas	800 people displaced	USAID/DART – September 14
Dominican Republic	Nearly 38,000 people displaced	OCHA‡ – September 21

Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to the Caribbean..... \$3,881,602

CURRENT SITUATION

Hurricane Jeanne

- According to the National Hurricane Center (NHC), on September 24, Hurricane Jeanne was moving west toward the Bahamas with sustained winds near 100 miles per hour (mph). A hurricane warning is in effect for the northwestern Bahamas. On September 24, a USAID/OFDA team deployed to the Bahamas in advance of Hurricane Jeanne.

Haiti

- As of September 23, the U.N. Stabilization Force in Haiti (MINUSTAH) estimated that floods caused by Tropical Storm Jeanne resulted in 1,113 deaths, 1,251 missing, and approximately 300,000 homeless in Haiti's northwest province, largely in Gonaïves. The USAID/DART reports that body retrieval is a priority, given that the death toll is likely to rise as two areas of Gonaïves remain under water. The International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (ICRC) is charged with listing the dead, tracing the missing, and organizing reunions.
- The USAID/DART reports that removal of mud and debris from the city remains an urgent need. The rainy season will continue through November. Without clean-up, any additional rainfall will exacerbate current damage.
- Based on a September 22 aerial assessment mission of Gonaïves, the USAID/DART reports that most homes are located close to the shore and will most likely be uninhabitable. The road from Port au Prince to Gonaïves appears unobstructed, but most of the main road through the town is passable only by foot due to high levels of silt, mud, and water. The USAID/DART observed that flooding appears confined to the area of Gonaïves town.
- OCHA reports that despite the availability of sufficient food supplies in Haiti, logistical constraints are hindering distribution efforts, and increased deliveries are urgently needed. In addition, OCHA indicates that kitchen sets and cooking fuel are also priority needs. On September 22, CARE distributed dry food to 20,000 people at three sites, according to OCHA. Distributions continued at two new locations on September 23. In order to ensure the security of supplies, MINUSTAH is accompanying convoys of food and emergency relief supplies to distribution points.
- The USAID/DART reports that water distributions began in Gonaïves on September 22, as local water sources remain unavailable. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Plan Haiti and Oxfam are providing significant amounts of water, partly through CARE. OCHA reports that local water sources in Gonaïves may be reopened soon, and water is available in ice factory wells and a reservoir, pending the repair of generators to provide power.
- OCHA reports that potential epidemics remain a serious concern, as the sanitation infrastructure has sustained serious damage. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Médecins Du Monde (MDM), 14 Cuban doctors, and an Argentine military medical team continue to operate four small field hospitals. On September 22, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) delivered 10,000 health kits to Gonaïves.

Grenada

- The USAID/DART reports that food shipments continue to arrive in Grenada, and U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team (UNDAC) indicates that the distribution system is improving. A USAID/OFDA flight of emergency relief supplies arrived on September 22, carrying 260 rolls of plastic sheeting and 4,002 hygiene kits.

* U.N. Stabilization Force in Haiti

† Jamaican Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

‡ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Relief

On September 21 and 22, eight USAID/OFDA-funded trucks transported relief supplies from St. George's Port to the Special Services Unit (SSU) warehouse and other locations for distribution. Shipments of food and relief supplies have also arrived from private companies, foreign governments, and international organizations.

- On September 21, the USAID/DART assessing the southern part of Grenada between St. Paul's town and Westerhall in St. David's Parish reported few road blockages and a significant increase in plastic sheeting used on houses. USAID/DART also visited Apres Tout, a small community located on a ridgeline, and observed hurricane damage to half of the homes. The USAID/DART reported that in the absence of any formal shelters in the town, many residents are temporarily staying with neighbors. Compounding the vulnerability of the residents of Apres Tout, Hurricane Ivan destroyed all the nutmeg trees, which were essential to the local economy.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Haiti

- On September 21, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti James B. Foley issued a disaster declaration due to the magnitude of the effects of Tropical Storm Jeanne in the Artibonite and North-West departments of Haiti. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$50,000 through USAID/Haiti to CARE for the distribution of hygiene kits, cooking sets, blankets, water containers, and other relief supplies to those most affected by the floods.
- A two-person USAID/DART remains in Haiti to assist with damage assessments and needs evaluations. In addition, USAID/OFDA has secured an Air Serv International plane to provide aerial assessments and transport of personnel and relief commodities as required.
- USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$1.9 million for the humanitarian response in Haiti, which includes USD 50,000 to CARE for the distribution of relief supplies. On September 23, USAID/OFDA airlifted 300 rolls of plastics sheeting, more than 5,000 ten-liter water jugs, and 3,660 hygiene kits to Port au Prince. The plastic sheeting and the hygiene kits will benefit more than 18,000 beneficiaries.

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. As of September 24, 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 has approved \$150,000 to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). In addition, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to fund assessments of the island's electrical system.
- As of September 24, USAID/OFDA has funded four flights of emergency relief supplies to Grenada, carrying 1,002 rolls of plastic sheeting, 4 water bladders, 8,334 hygiene kits, 6,800 five-gallon water jugs, 3,360 ten-liter water jugs, 1 high-capacity water purification unit, and 12 chainsaws for debris removal. The plastic sheeting will meet the needs of 63,000 beneficiaries. The water treatment unit is capable of processing enough water for 10,000 people per day.
- USAID/OFDA currently has an Air Serv plane available to assist in the humanitarian response. In addition, a DC-3 plane is scheduled to arrive in Grenada on September 26 and will be available to transport relief supplies.

Jamaica

- On September 12, 2004, U.S. Ambassador Sue M. Cobb issued a disaster declaration due to 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.
- As of September 23, USAID/OFDA has funded two flights of emergency relief supplies to Jamaica including 8 Zodiac boats with motors, 80 life vests, 2,024 hygiene kits, 2,000 jerry cans, and 500 rolls of plastic sheeting. The zodiac boats and life vests will facilitate search and rescue efforts. The plastic sheeting will provide shelter for 32,000 beneficiaries.
- USAID/OFDA provided \$247,998 to World Vision for the purchase and transportation of relief supplies, including medical supplies, hygiene kits, and plastic sheeting. USAID/OFDA has also approved \$150,000 to PAHO to support health services and damaged infrastructure. On September 22, USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 to USAID/Jamaica for the local procurement of water tanks.

Dominican Republic

- On September 17, 2004, U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic Hans H. Hertell issued a disaster declaration due to the damage caused by Hurricane Jeanne. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to World Vision to purchase and distribute emergency relief supplies, including hygiene kits, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, blankets, bedding, water containers, and plastic sheeting.

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 effects of Hurricane Frances. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$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 21, USAID/OFDA has conducted three 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.
- USAID/OFDA currently has an Air Serv plane available to assist in the humanitarian response in the Bahamas.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN¹

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC			
World Vision	Emergency relief supplies and distribution	Countrywide	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$50,000
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO HAITI			
CARE	Emergency relief supplies and distribution	Countrywide	\$50,000
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies	Gonaïves and Port de Paix	\$1,900,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$1,950,000
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO GRENADA			
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
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$375,560
Multiple	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$206,450
	Administration	Countrywide	\$20,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$902,010
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA			
Jamaica Red Cross	Shelter materials, operational costs	Countrywide	\$25,000
PAHO	Health	Countrywide	\$150,000
Salvation Army	Food assistance	Countrywide	\$25,000
World Vision	Purchase and air transport of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$247,998
U.S. Mission	Local purchase of water tanks	Countrywide	\$25,000
Multiple	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$31,400
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$190,370
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$694,768
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO THE BAHAMAS			
U.S. Embassy	Air transport, distribution of emergency relief supplies, and aerial assessments	Countrywide	\$100,000
Multiple	Emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$149,124
Multiple	Airlift of emergency relief supplies	Countrywide	\$35,700
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$284,824
TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN.....			\$3,881,602

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents committed and/or obligated amount as of September 24, 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 - 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 – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - InterAction: www.interaction.org – “Guide to Appropriate Giving”
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.org.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance