



**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 #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

September 28, 2004

Note: This report updates the last fact sheet dated September 24, 2004.

**NUMBERS AT A GLANCE**

**SOURCE**

|                           |                                  |                           |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Haiti</b>              | 300,000 homeless                 | MINUSTAH* – September 23  |
| <b>Grenada</b>            | 85,000 to 90,000 people affected | USAID/DART – September 16 |
| <b>Bahamas</b>            | 2,500 evacuated to shelters      | NEMA† – September 27      |
| <b>Jamaica</b>            | 18,000 people displaced          | ODPEM‡ – September 16     |
| <b>Dominican Republic</b> | Nearly 38,000 people displaced   | OCHA§ – September 21      |

**Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to the Caribbean..... \$4,247,260**

**CURRENT SITUATION**

*USAID/Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) for the Caribbean*

- USAID/DARTs are currently located in Haiti, Grenada, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

*Haiti*

- According to international media reports on September 27, the Haitian Civil Defense Agency (DPC) has confirmed 1,514 people dead and 952 missing due to flooding caused by Tropical Storm Jeanne. DPC reports that approximately 298,000 people were affected by flooding, including more than 10,000 people in shelters, largely in Gonaïves. In addition, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that approximately 1,000 people have migrated from Gonaïves to Saint Marc, south of Gonaïves.
- OCHA estimates that as much as 30 percent of Gonaïves remains in standing water and that mud continues to hinder access to roads, even in areas where water has receded. The U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team (UNDAC), in coordination with Action Against Hunger (AAH) and the Interim Government of Haiti, has organized 240 community-led teams for clean-up and indicates that tools for clean-up operations are urgently needed.
- The USAID/DART reports that four international medical teams are operating in Gonaïves. Although field hospitals are not overburdened, equipment, medical supplies, and clean-up and repair of hospitals and clinics are priority needs. USAID/Haiti and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are supporting the clean-up of the Gonaïves hospital, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).
- According to the USAID/DART, the CARE warehouse is the central location for all relief commodities in Gonaïves. Between September 22 and 27, CARE distributed a total of 250 metric tons (MT) of food to an estimated 75,000 people at distribution sites around Gonaïves. In order to provide increased security in Gonaïves, especially at food distribution points, the U.N. Stabilization Force in Haiti (MINUSTAH) deployed additional platoon and civil police units to reinforce peacekeeping troops. Since nearly all of the population in Gonaïves has been affected by flooding, the USAID/DART anticipates that more than 200,000 people may require food assistance.
- According to CARE, AAH is distributing potable water without difficulty at more than 13 distribution points. In addition, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the French Red Cross, the Haitian Red Cross, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Oxfam, Concern Worldwide, and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) are providing potable water and water purification units throughout Gonaïves and the surrounding areas.
- According to the USAID/DART, 43 shelters are operating in Gonaïves, housing an estimated 8,600 people. CARE reports that the cathedral in Gonaïves is housing an estimated 800 people, and UNDAC has indicated that temporary latrines are urgently needed at shelters in Gonaïves.
- On September 28, a USAID/DART field officer, health specialist, and communications officer arrived in Gonaïves to work directly with CARE, UNDAC, IFRC, and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). The health sector

\* U.N. Stabilization Force in Haiti

† National Emergency Management Agency of the Bahamas

‡ Jamaican Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management

§ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

specialist will conduct health assessments, meet with PAHO, and make recommendations to the USAID/DART in Port-Au-Prince.

#### *Grenada*

- The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) reports that Hurricane Ivan caused approximately \$667 million in direct damage to Grenada and approximately \$91 million in indirect damage. According to OECS, the most-affected sectors are tourism, housing, and agriculture.
- On September 25, the USAID/DART conducted a damage assessment of the island and observed that the northern part of the island sustained light to moderate damage compared to the more heavily affected southern part of the island. The USAID/DART consultant to Grenada reported that Hurricane Ivan destroyed 1,440 houses in St. George's South and that 1,398 houses sustained moderate damage.
- The USAID/DART reports that an increasing number of banks, public services, shops, and a limited number of restaurants and hotels have resumed activity. Electricity has not been completely restored but is available in some ministries and hospitals. The water supply continues to be regularized, although some access problems persist.
- According to an assessment conducted by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), soil erosion is a concern, since the hurricane destroyed most of the tree coverage on the island, and the risk of landslides exists as the rainy/hurricane season progresses.

#### *Commonwealth of the Bahamas*

- On September 25, Hurricane Jeanne tracked directly over the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama with sustained winds of 115 miles per hour (mph). The National Emergency Management Agency of the Bahamas (NEMA) reported that during the storm, approximately 2,500 people were evacuated to emergency shelters; however, that number is decreasing as water levels recede and families return home. NEMA reports that no deaths or injuries related to Hurricane Jeanne have occurred.
- NEMA reported that near Marsh Harbour on Abaco, four to five foot water levels from Hurricane Jeanne damaged an estimated 90 percent of the Mudd and Pigeon Pea settlements, where the majority of the population is Haitian and Bahamian-Haitian. In addition, approximately one-third of the homes in the town of Sandy Point suffered water damage, and several homes experienced extensive roof damage.
- The USAID/DART is scheduled to conduct damage assessments of Abaco on September 28 and Grand Bahama Island on September 29, weather permitting.
- NEMA reported on September 27 that electricity and telecommunications are slowly being restored to essential buildings and to some communities on Grand Bahama Island and Abaco.

### **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.
- USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.1 million for the humanitarian response in Haiti, including contributions to CARE, U.N. World Food Program (WFP), and IFRC. On September 23, USAID/OFDA airlifted 300 rolls of plastic sheeting, more than 5,000 ten-liter water jugs, and 3,660 hygiene kits to Port-Au-Prince.
- USAID's cooperating partners are currently distributing P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance in Haiti in response to the Hurricane Jeanne disaster. The total value of this food assistance is expected to reach \$3 million.
- A USAID/DART is in Haiti to assist with damage assessments and evaluations. Three USAID/DART members, including a health officer, are based in Gonaïves. In addition, USAID/OFDA has secured an Air Serv International plane to provide aerial assessments and transport of personnel and relief commodities as required.

#### *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.
- In response to the effects of both Hurricane Frances and Hurricane Jeanne, which passed through the islands of the Bahamas from September 2 to September 4, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$394,000 in emergency assistance to hurricane-affected areas of the Bahamas. Based on upcoming assessments of Hurricane Jeanne's impact, USAID/OFDA will determine additional assistance requirements, if necessary.
- As of September 24, USAID/OFDA has conducted four airlifts of emergency relief supplies from Miami to the Bahamas, carrying 4,000 blankets, more than 2,300 hygiene kits, 4,800 jerry cans, 400 rolls of plastic sheeting, 9 water bladders, and 1 high-capacity water purification unit. 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.

*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 is providing \$150,000 to 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 five flights of emergency relief supplies to Grenada, carrying 1,062 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 total cost of all commodities including transport is \$582,510.
- USAID/OFDA currently has an Air Serv plane available to assist in the humanitarian response. In addition, a DC-3 plane is scheduled to be available in Grenada by September 29 and will 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.
- 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 is providing \$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.

**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 THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</b> |  |                 |                    |
| World Vision   | Emergency relief supplies and distribution                                       | Countrywide     | \$50,000           |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....</b>                          |  |                 | <b>\$50,000</b>    |
| <b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO HAITI<sup>2</sup></b>      |  |                 |                    |
| CARE   | Emergency relief supplies and distribution                                       | Gonaïves        | \$50,000           |
| CARE   | Emergency relief supplies and water and sanitation                               | Gonaïves        | \$754,271          |
| IFRC   | Shelter, water and sanitation  | Gonaïves        | \$990,000          |
| WFP <sup>3</sup>                                       | Food transport and distribution  | Gonaïves        | \$100,000          |
|  | Emergency relief supplies  | Gonaïves        | \$250,000          |
|  | Transport of relief supplies   | Gonaïves        | \$50,000           |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....</b>                          |  |                 | <b>\$2,194,271</b> |
| <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           |
| Multiple   | Emergency relief supplies  | Countrywide     | \$376,060          |
| Multiple   | Airlift of emergency relief supplies   | Countrywide     | \$206,450          |
|  | Administration   | Countrywide     | \$20,000           |

|  |  |             |           |
|--|--|-------------|-----------|
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....\$902,510</b>   |  |             |           |
| <b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA</b>  |  |             |           |
| 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 | \$201,314 |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....\$705,712</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 |
| Multiple   | Emergency relief supplies  | Countrywide | \$212,084 |
| Multiple   | Airlift of emergency relief supplies   | Countrywide | \$82,683  |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA .....\$394,767</b>   |  |             |           |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN.....\$4,247,260</b> |  |             |           |

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents committed and/or obligated amount as of September 28, 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Total funding levels for P.L. 480 Title II commodities for the Haiti response are not yet available.

<sup>3</sup> At the request of USAID/OFDA, \$100,000 of previously obligated funding to WFP for Haiti has been redirected to assist current emergency response interventions.

#### **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).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance)