

# LAKE CHAD BASIN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #6, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

MARCH 31, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**5.6 million**

People in Need of  
Emergency Food  
Assistance in the Region  
OCHA – January 2016

**2.8 million**

People Displaced by Boko  
Haram-related Insecurity  
in Lake Chad Basin  
OCHA – January 2016

**2.2 million**

IDPs in Nigeria  
IOM – February 2016

**169,970**

IDPs in Cameroon  
IOM – March 2016

**69,000**

IDPs in Niger  
OCHA – March 2016

**60,100**

IDPs in Chad  
UNHCR – March 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Response actors advocate for safe and voluntary IDP returns in Nigeria
- U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., redeclares a disaster for the complex emergency in Cameroon
- More than 80 Boko Haram attacks in Niger’s Diffa Region between February 2015 and March 2016

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–FY 2016

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$33,141,118
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$77,629,741
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$53,300,000
USAID/Nigeria	\$33,800,000
<b>\$197,870,859</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Boko Haram—a terrorist group whose tactics include control of territory, kidnapping, raids, and suicide bombings—continues to attack populations in the Lake Chad Basin region, comprising northeastern Nigeria, northern Cameroon, southeastern Niger, and southwestern Chad. Boko Haram conducted near-daily attacks in February and March, which resulted in displacement, deteriorating economic conditions, and food insecurity.
- Government of Nigeria (GoN) military operations have regained territory from Boko Haram in recent months, resulting in increased humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations in northeastern Nigeria and spurring GoN initiatives to return internally displaced persons (IDPs) to areas of origin. As security and infrastructure in many recently accessible areas remain tenuous, response actors have expressed concerns regarding IDP returns and advocated for measures to ensure IDP safety, including informed consent of IDPs to returns.
- On March 4, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Matthew D. Smith redeclared a disaster for the complex emergency in Cameroon in response to continued displacement, food insecurity, and violence. In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$2 million to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies to provide emergency assistance, including relief commodities and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, to conflict-affected people in Cameroon’s Far North Region.
- In response to unmet needs identified by the GoN, the UN World Food Program (WFP) announced plans to scale up operations in northeastern Nigeria. WFP highlighted that response actors are currently unable to access an estimated 135,000 people in Borno and Yobe states who may face food insecurity due to destroyed fields, grain reserves, and livelihoods, as well as a lack of access to both humanitarian assistance and traded goods.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

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

## REGIONAL

- At a mid-March Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) meeting, relief actors emphasized the need for a regional approach to the Lake Chad Basin crisis, including harmonizing humanitarian assistance across the affected countries and maintaining active advocacy at both country and international levels.
- As of late February, the UN reported that suicide bombings attributed to Boko Haram had increased in both frequency and geographical spread, noting their near-daily occurrence in the Lake Chad Basin region. Raids on villages and improvised explosive devices have also caused widespread destruction. Women and children conduct the majority of suicide attacks, which frequently target IDP sites, markets, and mosques, resulting in stigmatization of women and girls according to the UN.

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## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- WFP reports that insecurity continues to negatively affect economic activities in the Lake Chad Basin. The closures of Nigeria's borders with Cameroon, Chad, and Niger due to Boko Haram-related violence have disrupted regional trade routes and decreased commodity prices in some markets, while increasing prices in other areas, particularly Nigeria, where the devaluation of the Nigerian naira is contributing to food price fluctuations. Formal and informal checkpoints established to prevent Boko Haram attacks have also increased transport costs, preventing sellers from accessing markets, particularly in Cameroon's Far North and northeastern Nigeria. Approximately 40 percent of commercial carriers surveyed in Niger's Diffa Region reported that they had suspended transport activities due to security concerns, according to WFP.

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## NIGERIA

- The GoN is encouraging approximately 150,000 IDPs to return to areas of origin in northeastern Nigeria following territorial gains against Boko Haram. The UN has highlighted the need for efforts to ensure that conditions in return areas are appropriate for sustainable returns, as many areas contain unexploded ordinance, lack essential services, and remain vulnerable to attacks by Boko Haram. In late March, the GoN National Assembly approved a budget of approximately \$50 million to support relocation and resettlement of IDPs in the severely Boko Haram-affected states of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, according to the UN.
- In early March, representatives from the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP, the GoN, Nigerian civil society organizations, and partner NGOs completed a second round of the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) review for northeastern Nigeria. The CH analysis—a food security tool used throughout West Africa for the classification, analysis, and reporting of food insecurity—focused on eight states in northeastern Nigeria. The report found that the number of people experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity in northeastern Nigeria has decreased from 3.9 million to 3.2 million people since the previous CH review in November, due to humanitarian assistance, improved security in some areas, and recent harvests.<sup>4</sup>
- The CH also estimated that nearly 217,000 people in Borno are currently facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity, an approximately 60 percent decrease since a November 2015 CH analysis, which reported more than 540,000 people in Borno facing Emergency levels of food insecurity. CH members attribute the decrease to the fact that previous data collection occurred during northeastern Nigeria's July-to-October lean season, while the November harvest positively affected current food security levels. The CH analysis projects that more than 330,000 people in Borno and Yobe will likely experience Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity from June–August due to seasonal variations.
- On March 17, WFP announced plans to scale up operations in northeastern Nigeria for the next six months in response to a GoN request for additional humanitarian assistance. In Borno and Yobe states, response actors have expressed concern that vulnerable populations may face extreme food insecurity due to destroyed fields, grain reserves, and

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

livelihoods, as well as a lack of access to both humanitarian assistance and traded goods. WFP estimates that approximately 135,000 severely food-insecure people remain inaccessible; in addition, a number of vulnerable host communities and IDPs residing outside formal camps do not receive regular emergency food assistance. USAID/FFP continues to support WFP's capacity building efforts and joint initiatives with the GoN's national and state-level emergency management agencies.

- In early March, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that nearly 22,000 Nigerians had returned from Cameroon in recent months. UNHCR and partner NGOs continue to monitor returns, provide humanitarian assistance, and support GoN efforts to assist affected populations.
- As of March 25, donors had contributed nearly \$16.5 million—approximately 7 percent of the requested appeal—toward the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Nigeria. Released by the UN in January, the HRP targets 3.9 million people in northeastern Nigeria to receive critical humanitarian assistance.
- In mid-March, State/PRM partner ICRC allocated approximately \$68 million to assist vulnerable households in northeastern Nigeria; more than 50 percent of the funding will provide economic security assistance, including agriculture, cash-for-work, and livelihoods programs. Given the severity of the humanitarian crisis in northeastern Nigeria, ICRC estimates that the organization's assistance is meeting less than 10 percent of current humanitarian needs. ICRC is prioritizing emergency assistance for 50,000 vulnerable households in Maiduguri and 20,000 vulnerable households in Adamawa State's capital city of Yola. The organization is also providing WASH assistance in IDP camps in northeastern Nigeria. In FY 2015, State/PRM provided approximately \$21.3 million to support ICRC's activities in Nigeria.
- In February, a USAID/OFDA partner rehabilitated 10 water points at formal and informal IDP sites in Borno. With nearly \$1.1 million in FY 2015 assistance, the USAID/OFDA partner is improving WASH conditions through hygiene promotion efforts, the formation of water monitoring committees, and training on water quality testing for more than 40,000 conflict-affected people in Borno.

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## CAMEROON

- Despite recent reports of improved security conditions in Far North, ICRC recorded 21 suicide attacks—resulting in at least 100 civilian deaths—in February and March. ICRC emphasized that Boko Haram attacks in Far North remain unpredictable.
- UNHCR reports that continued incursions by Boko Haram in Cameroon have increasingly driven Nigerian refugees sheltering along the Nigeria–Cameroon border further into Cameroon or to Minawao refugee camp in Far North. According to UNHCR, more than 56,200 refugees were sheltering at Minawao as of February 29. Minawao, designed to host approximately 20,000 refugees, is operating at more than twice the camp's capacity, straining camp infrastructure and limiting the ability of humanitarian actors to provide adequate resources to refugees. UNHCR has identified provision of water as the most urgent need, as refugees were only receiving 13 liters—3.4 gallons—per person per day, below the Sphere humanitarian standard of 15 liters—3.9 gallons—per person per day, as of late February.<sup>5</sup>
- An updated International Organization for Migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix report indicated that approximately 169,970 IDPs were experiencing displacement in Far North as of late February; a more than 7 percent more than were recorded in November. IOM found that approximately 70 percent of the displaced population lives in host communities, while 10 percent live in spontaneous settlements, as there are no formal IDP camps in Far North. USAID/OFDA partners report that IDPs are unable to return to areas of origin due to continued Boko Haram attacks and ongoing military operations in the region. Critical humanitarian needs among IDPs and host communities include emergency relief commodities and agriculture, livelihoods, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance.
- From February 28–March 3, a USAID/OFDA regional advisor traveled to Cameroon's capital city of Yaoundé with USAID/FFP staff to discuss the humanitarian situation in Far North. Meetings with the Government of the Republic of Cameroon Deputy Minister of External Affairs, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, the U.S. Embassy in

<sup>5</sup> The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by the ICRC, UN, NGOs, and donors to develop a set of universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance and thereby improve the quality of assistance provided to disaster-affected persons to enhance the accountability of humanitarian agencies.

Yaoundé, and UN and NGO partners indicated that violence-affected populations in Far North continue to require emergency assistance. U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Matthew D. Smith redeclared a disaster for the complex emergency in Cameroon on March 4 in response to continued displacement, food insecurity, and violence.

- To support Cameroon’s most vulnerable populations, the 2016 HRP for Cameroon requests \$282 million to assist approximately 1.1 million people throughout the country, including 624,000 people in Far North affected by Boko Haram-related insecurity. As of March 25, donors have contributed nearly \$21.5 million—approximately 8 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal.
- ICRC is providing economic assistance to approximately 14,000 displaced and host families in Far North and is collaborating with WFP to provide emergency food assistance. State/PRM supported ICRC with \$2.3 million in FY 2015 to provide assistance to IDPs and other conflict-affected populations in Cameroon.

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## CHAD

- Suspected Boko Haram insurgents raided Chad’s Bikaram island in Lac Region on March 7, resulting in two deaths and injuring three people. On March 2, suspected Boko Haram members abducted approximately 60 people in eastern Lac. The abductees were reportedly IDPs attempting to return to areas of origin on islands in Lake Chad, despite a Government of Chad (GoC) ban. GoC authorities have recently halted several attempts by IDPs to return to areas the GoC has deemed too dangerous.
- The UN is continuing efforts to register tens of thousands of IDPs at 22 spontaneous IDP sites in Daboua and Liwa districts in northern Lac Region identified in January. The majority of IDPs settled in the area in November 2015, following GoC evacuation orders for populations on islands in Lake Chad in advance of military operations. The majority of IDPs require urgent humanitarian assistance, including emergency food assistance, medical care, and WASH interventions; USAID/FFP partner WFP started providing food assistance to this population in February.
- The 2016 HRP for Chad seeks \$567 million to assist approximately 1.8 million vulnerable people throughout Chad, including more than 250,000 of the most vulnerable people out of an estimated 520,000 people in need of assistance in Lac. As of March 25, donors have contributed more than \$17.1 million—approximately 3 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal.

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## NIGER

- During the March 16 IASC meeting, an ICRC country representative for Niger confirmed that increased Boko Haram attacks in Diffa Region in recent months had resulted in the creation of self-appointed vigilance committees among affected communities in Niger. ICRC is monitoring the committees’ activities in Diffa to ensure that vigilance efforts do not contribute to additional conflict by escalating tensions. The UN reported more than 80 attacks—including attacks by Boko Haram-related forces or suicide attacks—between February 2015 and mid-March 2016 in Diffa.
- In late February, the UN reported that humanitarian access in Diffa is dependent on the availability of military escorts, as the UN Department for Safety and Security has mandated a military escort for UN agencies traveling through most routes in Diffa, including to the Kabalewa and Sayam Forage refugee camps.
- Despite increased attacks in Diffa during February, a USAID/OFDA partner maintains access to vulnerable households in Diffa and Nigerien islands on Lake Chad. The NGO is conducting child protection, WASH, and youth economic empowerment activities among displaced households in Diffa, as well as providing food assistance to conflict-affected households on the Lake Chad islands. The NGO is also supporting UNHCR to assist IDPs and returnees sheltering in camps, informal settlements, and host communities in Diffa.
- The 2016 HRP for Niger requests \$316 million to assist approximately 1.5 million vulnerable people throughout Niger, including more than 150,000 refugees and returnees in need of assistance in Diffa. As of March 25, donors have contributed more than \$33.5 million—approximately 11 percent of the requested total—toward the appeal.

## CONTEXT

- Following escalated violence in northeastern Nigeria, the GoN declared a state of emergency in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe in March 2013. In the first half of 2014, attacks carried out by Boko Haram militants killed more than 3,000 people, and in mid-2014, a shift in tactics to the seizing and holding of territory further exacerbated the region's humanitarian crisis. Significant numbers of people fled Boko Haram in northern Nigeria, exacerbating humanitarian needs in the surrounding countries of Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.
- In late 2014 and early 2015, Boko Haram attacks spread further into neighboring countries, with suicide bombings and other attacks beginning in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, causing internal displacement in each of the three countries already hosting significant Nigerian refugee populations.
- Violence continues to displace populations across Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. In communities hosting IDPs, refugees, and returnees, the presence of additional displaced families is straining local resources and exacerbating food, relief commodity, shelter, livelihood, and protection needs, among others. In late 2015 and early 2016, the U.S. Ambassador to Chad James A. Knight, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Matthew D. Smith, and U.S. Ambassador to Niger Eunice S. Reddick redeclared disasters for the complex emergency in Chad, Cameroon, and Niger, respectively.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE PROVIDED IN FY 2016<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Protection	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$262,513
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$1,000,000
		Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
	Program Support Costs		\$90,844
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$2,353,357</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Risk Management Policy and Practice	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$800,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Far North, Cameroon	\$10,989,338
	Food Vouchers	Lac, Chad	\$1,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Lac, Chad	\$5,409,600
	Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Diffa, Niger	\$6,997,900
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$27,196,838</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$29,550,195</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE PROVIDED IN FY 2015**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, and Yobe states, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria	\$7,547,382
	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Far North Region, Cameroon	\$1,544,095
	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Bahr el Gazal, Kanem, and Lac regions, Chad	\$6,457,377
	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Diffa and Tillaberi regions, Niger	\$6,639,692
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Diffa, Niger	\$600,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$3,000,000

	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Far North, Cameroon	\$549,792
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$1,774,938
		Chad, Countrywide	\$500,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Chad, Countrywide	\$1,000,000
		Niger, Countrywide	\$500,000
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition	Diffa, Tillaberi, and Tahoua regions, Niger	\$600,000
	Program Support Costs		\$74,485
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$30,787,761</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>4</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Procurement	Northeastern Nigeria	\$17,882,091
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Diffa, Niger	\$2,500,000
Samaritan's Purse	Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,699,592
Save the Children (SC)	Cash Transfers for Food	Diffa, Niger	\$2,700,210
UNICEF	Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods	Northeastern Nigeria	\$2,200,000
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Far North, Cameroon	\$7,538,900
	Local and Regional Procurement	Lac, Chad	\$1,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Lac, Chad	\$3,000,000
	Local and Regional Procurement	Diffa, Niger	\$2,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Diffa, Niger	\$8,912,110
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$50,432,903</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	WASH	Niger, Countrywide	\$700,000
ICRC	Protection and Assistance to Victims of the Conflict	Northeastern Nigeria	\$21,300,000
		Far North, Cameroon	\$2,300,000

		Lac, Chad	\$100,000
		Diffa, Niger	\$1,900,000
IOM	Shelter	Diffa, Niger	\$750,000
IRC	GBV Prevention and Response, ERMS, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Diffa, Niger	\$700,000
SC	Health, Protection, WASH	Diffa, Niger	\$650,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Niger, Countrywide	\$600,000
	Protection and Multi-Sector Assistance to IDPs	Nigeria, Countrywide	\$6,900,000
UNHCR	Protection and Multi-Sector Assistance to Refugees and IDPs	Far North, Cameroon	\$8,500,000
	Protection and Multi-Sector Assistance to Refugees and Returnees	Lac, Chad	\$4,000,000
		Diffa, Niger	\$4,900,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$53,300,000</b>

<b>USAID/NIGERIA</b>			
Implementing Partners	Education Opportunities for IDPs and Host Communities	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, and Gombe, Nigeria	
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Education	Nigeria, Countrywide	
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	\$33,800,000
United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)	Protection	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	
World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe, Nigeria	
<b>TOTAL USAID/NIGERIA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$33,800,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015</b>			<b>\$168,320,664</b>

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016</b>	<b>\$33,141,118</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016</b>	<b>\$77,629,741</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016</b>	<b>\$53,300,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/NIGERIA FUNDING IN FY 2015–2016</b>	<b>\$33,800,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LAKE CHAD BASIN RESPONSE IN FY 2015–FY 2016</b>	<b>\$197,870,859</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 31, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

## **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 [www.interaction.org](http://www.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, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at  
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>