

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020<sup>1</sup>

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**15.6 million**

Estimated People Experiencing Crisis or Worse Levels of Acute Food Insecurity in the DRC  
IPC – August 2019

**5 million**

IDPs in the DRC  
UN – December 2019

**732,000**

New Displacements in the DRC from January to June 2019  
IDMC – September 2019

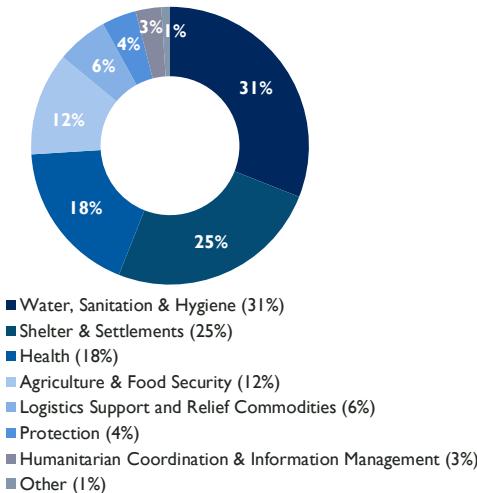
**905,059**

DRC Refugees and Asylum Seekers Across Africa  
UNHCR – December 2019

**527,338**

Refugees in the DRC  
UNHCR – December 2019

## USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2019–2020



## USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2019–2020



## HIGHLIGHTS

- FEWS NET projects early onset of agricultural lean season due to impact of late 2019 flooding
- January clashes displace 103,000 people in Ituri, fueling protection concerns
- Ongoing measles outbreak results in approximately 331,900 cases, including nearly 6,300 deaths

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019–2020<sup>4</sup>

USAID/OFDA	\$85,555,889
USAID/FFP	\$267,349,139
State/PRM <sup>5</sup>	\$51,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$404,405,028<sup>6</sup></b>

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Intercommunal violence and insecurity continue to intensify humanitarian needs across eastern DRC's Ituri, North Kivu, and Tanganyika provinces, with armed clashes displacing approximately 103,000 people in Ituri's Djugu, Irumu, and Mahagi territories in January alone, according to the UN. In addition, attacks against civilians increased in January, the UN reports, with an attack conducted by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) elements in North Kivu's Beni Territory resulting in at least 36 civilian deaths on January 28.
- The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects that the peak of the 2020 agricultural lean season will likely begin one month early, in March, due to the disruptions to agricultural production caused by late 2019 flooding in central and eastern DRC—threatening food security and livelihoods in affected areas.

<sup>1</sup> This U.S. Government (USG) fact sheet focuses on the complex emergency in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC); the ongoing Ebola virus disease (EVD) response is covered in a separate fact sheet.

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>3</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>4</sup> This total does not include USG support for the ongoing EVD outbreak in the DRC. It does include humanitarian funding provided in response to heavy flooding in late 2019 and acute needs resulting from the influx of individuals expelled from Angola in mid-2019.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>6</sup> This total does not include the \$35,150,000 in FY 2019 State/PRM funding for Congolese refugees in neighboring countries, which increases total USG emergency funding for the DRC crisis in FY 2019–2020 to \$439,555,028.

## INSECURITY AND INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

- Ongoing insecurity continues to exacerbate humanitarian needs and generate widespread displacement in the DRC, with the UN reporting that at least 5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering across the country as of December—representing the largest displacement crisis in Africa. Violence in eastern DRC contributed to the majority of displacement, with the UN recording more than 2 million IDPs in Ituri and North Kivu alone as of late 2019.
- In January, clashes between armed groups in Djugu, Irumu, and Mahagi prompted an additional 103,000 people to flee their homes, the UN reports. Displaced individuals primarily sought shelter in existing IDP camps and informal adjacent sites, exacerbating shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs in the three territories, and increasing the risk of disease outbreaks in overcrowded sites. Humanitarian actors have also recorded grave, widespread protection violations in Djugu and Mahagi in recent months, with approximately 48 percent of the 3,850 incidents recorded across Ituri during 2019 occurring in the two territories, according to the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders. In response, USAID/OFDA NGO partners are providing emergency health, nutrition, and WASH assistance to conflict-affected populations across Ituri, with USAID/OFDA partners Medair and Save the Children Federation (SCF) supporting the provision of primary health care services at 17 health facilities in the province as of early 2020. Additionally, USAID/OFDA partners Mercy Corps, Oxfam, and Tearfund have continued to deliver emergency WASH assistance in IDP camps across Ituri in recent months.
- Between January and February, armed group attacks displaced an estimated 22,000 people in Beni, according to the UN. The UN also recorded increased attacks against civilians during January, with an ADF attack in Beni’s Manzingi village resulting in at least 36 civilian deaths on January 28, according to international media reports. An additional ADF attack near the territory’s Mangina town resulted in at least 12 deaths and the abduction of 20 people on February 8.
- Heightened insecurity also generated widespread displacement and temporarily restricted humanitarian access in affected areas of Beni during December. Upon regaining access to the areas in January, USAID/OFDA partners provided emergency assistance to approximately 20,000 households recently displaced from Beni’s Nobili town. The escalation in violence followed the launch of an Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) operation against non-state armed groups—particularly ADF—in the area on October 30. Overall, local authorities estimate that clashes and reprisal attacks between ADF elements and FARDC personnel resulted in more than 250 civilian deaths across Beni between December and early February.
- Meanwhile, intercommunal clashes in Tanganyika’s Nyunzu Territory, which escalated in mid-January, continue to severely limit humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations. As of January 24, the violence had displaced at least 31,500 people across the territory, adding to the more than 474,000 IDPs who were sheltering across Tanganyika as of December 2019, the UN reports. Insecurity also displaced approximately 2,500 people in North Kivu’s Masisi Territory in late January, according to the UN.

---

---

## FLOODING

- By late 2019, flooding associated with abnormally heavy rainfall in October and November had adversely affected at least 600,000 people across 12 provinces in the DRC, according to the UN. The floods generated significant population displacement and damaged or destroyed crops, dwellings, and critical public infrastructure. Assessments conducted by relief agencies identified emergency relief commodities, as well as food, health, shelter, and WASH assistance as priority needs among affected populations. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$500,000 in FY 2020 funding to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), supporting the provision of emergency health and WASH assistance in Nord-Ubangi and Sud-Ubangi—the two most affected provinces.
- Assessments conducted by Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) in December also indicated that flooding had damaged between 50 and 90 percent of crops in assessed areas of Sud-Ubangi, a loss likely to exacerbate food insecurity in the province in the coming months. In response to projected food needs in flood-affected

areas, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) is operationalizing plans to provide cash-based assistance to approximately 50,000 people in Nord-Ubangi and Sud-Ubangi.

---

---

## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Overall, FEWS NET projects that Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity will likely persist throughout much of eastern DRC from February to May, with some vulnerable households in Ituri, Kasai, Kasai-Central, North Kivu, and Tanganyika provinces facing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity.<sup>7</sup> Some populations in Djugu—where heightened insecurity has restricted access to agricultural fields, resulting in a shortage of food in local markets—could also experience Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity through June, according to the UN.
- Flooding in late 2019 disrupted agricultural production in central and eastern DRC, likely contributing to below-average crop yields in the coming months. As a result, the peak of the agricultural lean season—which typically begins in April—will likely begin in March, according to FEWS NET. Violence also continues to undermine food security and livelihoods in conflict-affected areas of eastern DRC by constricting livelihood activities and hindering agricultural production in affected areas, FEWS NET reports.
- In early 2020, USAID/FFP contributed \$48.6 million to WFP to support the provision of critical food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations across the DRC. In October, WFP reached an estimated 1 million people countrywide with support from USAID/FFP and other donors, delivering more than 5,500 metric tons (MT) of in-kind assistance and providing nearly \$2.5 million in cash-based transfers for food.
- USAID/FFP partner Mercy Corps also continues to respond to acute needs across North Kivu and South Kivu provinces, providing 15,000 IDPs with food vouchers sufficient to meet 100 percent of their monthly food needs between October and December. During the same period, Mercy Corps screened approximately 1,700 children for moderate and severe acute malnutrition.
- Additionally, USAID/FFP partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is providing critical food assistance and livelihood support to vulnerable host community members, IDPs, and refugees in Kasai-Central. CRS distributed food vouchers to nearly 19,000 people across the province's Kazumba Territory in December, enabling them to meet household food needs through the purchase of food and seeds from local markets. CRS also continues to bolster household food production and improve access to income-generating opportunities in Kasai-Central by distributing farming tools and facilitating training sessions on agricultural techniques for vulnerable households in the province.

---

---

## HEALTH

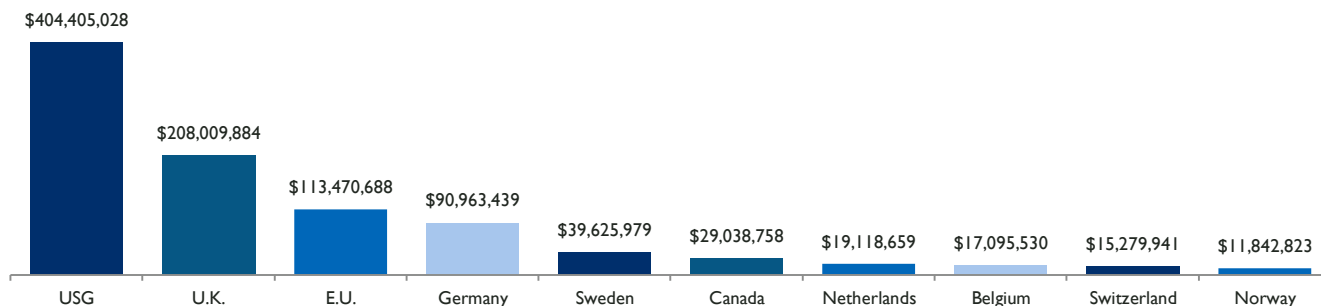
- The current measles outbreak in the DRC—which began in January 2019—remains the world's most severe ongoing outbreak of the disease, with the UN World Health Organization (WHO) recording approximately 331,900 measles cases and nearly 6,300 related deaths across all 26 provinces as of early February. The UN agency attributes increased measles prevalence to several factors, including low vaccination coverage, high malnutrition rates, and limited health service availability in affected areas. In eastern DRC, insecurity has at times also restricted the provision of emergency health care services, WHO reports.
- As part of a country-wide measles vaccination campaign led by the Government of the DRC (GoDRC) Ministry of Health, health actors vaccinated more than 18 million children ages five years and younger during 2019. However, WHO reports that up to 25 percent of reported measles cases continue to occur among children ages five years and older. To improve vaccination coverage among children ages 6–14 years and bolster other critical interventions, WHO issued an appeal requesting an additional \$40 million to support measles response efforts between January and July on January 7.

<sup>7</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## REFUGEES

- Nearly 905,100 Congolese nationals were living as refugees or asylum-seekers in nearby countries as of December, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR). Approximately 44 percent of Congolese refugees were sheltering in Uganda, with another 26 percent sheltering in Burundi, Rwanda, and Tanzania. In addition, more than 527,300 refugees and asylum-seekers from neighboring countries—primarily Burundi, Central African Republic (CAR), Rwanda, and South Sudan—were residing in the DRC as of late 2019.
- Refugees in the DRC are concentrated in the eastern provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri, as well as the northern provinces of Bas-Uele, Haut-Uele, Nord-Ubangi, and Sud-Ubangi. State/PRM partner UNHCR continues to support the integration of IDPs and refugees into local communities and is providing life-saving multi-sectoral assistance to conflict-affected individuals across the country, including critical education, health, livelihood, protection, and WASH assistance.

### 2019–2020 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of February 24, 2020. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during 2019 and 2020, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect commitments during FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018 and ended on September 30, 2019, and during FY 2020, which began on October 1, 2019.

## CONTEXT

- Despite the implementation of a peace agreement in 2003, fighting between forces loyal to the GoDRC and various armed entities, including the ADF, Mai-Mai militants, and the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, has contributed to high levels of insecurity and population displacement in eastern DRC.
- Violence, restricted humanitarian access, poor infrastructure, forced recruitment into armed groups, and reduced access to agricultural land and traditional markets have contributed to the deterioration of humanitarian conditions in the DRC and triggered mass internal displacement and refugee outflows.
- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, U.S. Ambassador to the DRC Michael A. Hammer reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in the DRC for FY 2020 on November 7, 2019.
- Heavy rains and resultant flooding adversely affected nearly 380,000 people in northern DRC in October and November 2019, primarily in areas along the Congo and Ubangi rivers. Flooding generated widespread population displacement; damaged and destroyed critical WASH infrastructure; and inundated nearly 119,000 acres of cropland in Sud-Ubangi alone.
- On November 27, 2019, Ambassador Hammer declared a disaster due to the humanitarian impact of flooding in the DRC.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
ACTED	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Maniema, South Kivu	\$3,026,952
CARE	Health, Protection	North Kivu	\$1,500,000
Concern	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Eastern DRC	\$3,000,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Tanganyika	\$9,159,313
IMA World Health	Health	Bas-Uele, Haut-Katanga, Haut-Lomami, Ituri, Kasai, Kasai-Oriental, Lomami, Lualaba, Maniema, Mongala, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika, Tshopo	\$2,758,642
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Protection	South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$3,000,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$750,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ituri, North Kivu, Tanganyika	\$3,800,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	North Kivu, Tanganyika	\$4,138,104
Medair	Health, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ituri, North Kivu	\$4,099,481
	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kasai,	\$531,288
Mercy Corps	WASH	Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$3,000,000
NRC	Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Kasai, Kasai-Central, Kwango	\$750,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Oxfam	HCIM, WASH	Haut-Katanga, Haut-Lomami, Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$3,165,000
Samaritan's Purse	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bas-Uele, Haut-Uele, Ituri, North Kivu, Tshopo	\$9,481,963
SCF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Ituri	\$3,000,000
Tearfund	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu	\$4,500,000
UNICEF	HCIM, Logistics Support, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Agriculture and Food Security	North Kivu	\$1,000,000
World Relief International (WRI)	Agriculture and Food Security	Ituri, Tanganyika	\$4,499,529
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Haut-Katanga	\$1,549,895
	Program Support		\$1,418,319
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$81,628,486</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
ACTED	223 MT of Local, Regional and International Procurement (LRIP), Cash Transfers, and Complementary Services	Maniema, South Kivu	\$7,783,394
	LRIP, Cash Transfers, Complementary Services	Bas-Uele, Nord-Ubangi	\$4,881,080
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	LRIP, Complementary Services	Ituri	\$3,500,000
	1,760 MT of LRIP, Complementary Services	Kasai	\$4,000,000

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	4,335 MT of LRIP, Complementary Services	Kasaï	\$19,500,000
CARE	Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Kasaï, Kasaï-Oriental	\$3,000,000
CRS	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, Cash Transfers	Tanganyika	\$6,153,275
Food for the Hungry	9,037 MT of LRIP, Complementary Services	Tanganyika	\$11,000,000
Humanity & Inclusion	Cash Transfer, Complementary Services	Kasaï-Central	\$4,799,384
IMC	LRIP, Complementary Services	South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$1,645,080
Mercy Corps	600 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$3,500,000
Samaritan's Purse	1,979 MT of LRIP, Cash Transfers, and Food Vouchers	Bas-Uele, Haut-Uele, Ituri, North Kivu, Tshopo	\$12,937,098
UNICEF	1,395 MT U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, LRIP, Complementary Services	Kasaï, Kasaï-Central, Kasaï-Oriental, Lomami, South Kivu, Tanganyika	\$13,344,085
WFP	46,865 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, 10,604 MT of LRIP, Cash Transfers, Complementary Services	Equateur, Haut-Katanga, Haut-Uele, Ituri, Kasaï, Kasaï-Central, Kasaï-Oriental, Maniema, Nord Ubangi, North Kivu, South Kivu, Sud Ubangi, Tanganyika	\$116,116,904
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$212,160,300</b>
<b>STATE/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Conflict Victims	Countrywide	\$19,400,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,100,000
UNHCR	Global Appeal for Refugees and IDPs in DRC, Multi-Sector Assistance, Protection	Countrywide	\$31,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$51,500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019<sup>5</sup></b>			<b>\$345,288,786</b>

#### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2020

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ituri	\$699,409
IFRC	WASH	Nord-Ubangi, Sud-Ubangi	\$250,000
Oxfam	HCIM, WASH	Ituri	\$1,200,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	WASH	Nord-Ubangi, Sud-Ubangi	\$250,000
	Program Support		\$27,994
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$3,927,403</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
CRS	337 MT of LRIP, Complimentary Services, and Food Vouchers	Kasaï-Central	\$6,578,653
WFP	21,820 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Haut-Katanga, Haut Uele, Ituri, Kasaï, Kasaï-Central, Kasaï-Oriental, Maneima, North Kivu, Nord Ubangi, South Kivu, Sud Ubangi, Tanganyika, Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental.	\$48,610,186
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$55,188,839</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2020<sup>5</sup></b>			<b>\$59,116,242</b>

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019–2020</b>	<b>\$85,555,889</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019–2020</b>	<b>\$267,349,139</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/PRM FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019–2020</b>	<b>\$51,500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE DRC RESPONSE IN FY 2019–2020<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$404,405,028</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.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change. USAID/FFP funding presented here does not include contributions that assist Congolese refugees sheltering in neighboring countries.

<sup>4</sup> State/PRM funding benefits populations of concern inside DRC, including refugees from Burundi, CAR, and South Sudan. This amount does not include State/PRM funding for Congolese refugees in neighboring countries.

<sup>5</sup> This total does not include \$35,150,000 in FY 2019 State/PRM funding for Congolese refugees in neighboring countries, which increases total USG emergency funding for the DRC crisis in FY 2019–2020 to \$439,555,028.

## 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).
  - 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>