

URC worked with the Guatemalan Ministry of Health to address acute child malnutrition in Huehuetenango, Quiche, Solola, San Marcos, Totonicapan, Quetzaltenango, and Chimaltenango departments.

USAID/OFDA also provided \$374,969 to four of USAID/Guatemala's food assistance partners—CRS, CARE, Self Help And Resource Exchange (SHARE), and SCF/US—to increase nutritional surveillance and health education programs. In addition, USAID/FFP provided \$1.2 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to support malnutrition victims. These funds assisted the four food partners in providing 1,650 MT of rice, beans, vegetable oil, and corn-soy blend to 56,919 residents in the affected regions of the Western Highlands and eastern portion of the country.

USAID/OFDA Assistance	\$499,969
Other USG Assistance.....	\$1,200,000
Total USG Assistance	\$1,699,969

Haiti Floods

Between May 24 and 27, 2002, up to 500 mm (nearly 20 inches) of heavy rains in 20 townships in the South and Grande Anse departments of Haiti caused severe flooding and landslides. According to Haiti's Civil Protection Agency, the flooding caused 31 deaths, damaged 951 homes, destroyed 267 dwellings, and affected 7,667 families. The flooding also severely damaged roadways and other infrastructure, eroded hillsides, destroyed livestock and fields, and isolated various parts of the affected region.

On May 29, U.S. Ambassador Brian Dean Curran declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Haiti to CRS to purchase, transport, and distribute locally available small tools, household supplies, and mattresses to flood victims.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided a \$300,000 grant on July 12 to the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) to conduct emergency road rehabilitation in affected isolated communities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance	\$350,000
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Honduras Floods

Between October 29 and November 2, 2001, a tropical depression, which was later elevated to Hurricane Michelle on November 2, struck Honduras with rainfall of up to 508 mm. The ensuing floodwaters caused the heaviest damage to the country since Hurricane Mitch in 1998. The regions most affected were La Mosquitia, Yoro, and the North Coast provinces of Atlántida, Colon, and Cortes. According to Honduras' Permanent Emergency Commission (COPECO), the storm left seven people dead, forced the evacuation of 25,768 residents, and affected 62,557 people. Extensive flooding destroyed 123 houses and damaged an additional 1,395 dwellings. Roads, bridges, schools, public buildings, and potable water systems in the affected areas were also damaged, and the storm caused significant agricultural losses.

On October 30, U.S. Ambassador Frank Almaguer declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Honduras to AmRC, which in coordination with the Honduran Red Cross, locally procured relief supplies for 1,000 families and supported a dengue fever prevention campaign. USAID/OFDA

"Community Preparedness," continued the community established an internal campaign of solidarity to raise funding to assist those residents who were unable to install a latrine. The Las Vegas emergency committee also obtained the necessary permits to gain access to a piece of municipal property above the community, and subsequently received the support of the municipal government for its reforestation.

These proactive actions demonstrate the consciousness-raising that CAMI has generated. The technical skills imparted by the CAMI project are of critical importance in preventing loss of life in cases of emergency. However, they do not measure the extent that CAMI has contributed to a deeper understanding of community vulnerability and to the awareness that through concerted action, mitigation of such vulnerability is possible. ♦

— by Kim Plikaitis



Local disaster response authorities prepare to distribute USAID/OFDA-provided plastic sheeting to construct temporary shelters for residents of La Lima, Honduras (photo by Tim Callaghan, USAID/OFDA).

provided an additional \$50,000 to COPECO for the transport of emergency relief supplies to flood victims in Yoro and La Mosquitia.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 244,800 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to COPECO for temporary shelter construction for between 400 and 600 families in the affected areas, valued at \$31,469 including transport. USAID/OFDA also provided \$60,000 to AmRC, Proyecto Aldea Global, and WVI for the purchase of emergency relief supplies, shelter materials for repairing damaged homes, and the rehabilitation of water and sewage systems in Yoro and La Mosquitia.

On November 3, USAID/OFDA deployed two regional advisors and a consultant to conduct a three-week damage assessment and assist USAID/Honduras with the overall emergency response. DOD's SOUTHCOM provided air transport for 58,000 pounds of emergency relief supplies to areas affected by the flooding, at a total cost of \$69,930.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$191,469
Other USG Assistance.....\$69,930
Total USG Assistance\$261,399

Jamaica Floods

Between October 29 and November 4, 2001, heavy rains from a storm, which became Hurricane Michelle on November 2, caused severe flooding in the parishes of Portland, St. Mary, St. Ann, St. Catherine, and St. Andrew. The flooding and resulting landslides damaged several main roads and bridges, isolated 10 communities, and affected approximately 6,000 people. According to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, the rains from the Category Four hurricane damaged or destroyed approximately 500 homes in the affected area.

On November 8, U.S. Ambassador Susan M. Cobb declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Jamaica to Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM). The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the local purchase of relief items, including building materials, food, bedding, mattresses, and water and sanitation supplies, to assist 100 flood victims in the Portland and St. Mary parishes for a period of two weeks. In addition, two USAID/OFDA regional advisors were deployed on November 9 to Portland and St. Mary parishes to assess the overall humanitarian situation and coordinate with ODPEM and local authorities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000

Jamaica Floods

Between May 23 and 31, 2002, heavy rains caused extensive flooding and landslides in Jamaica's southern parishes of Clarendon, St. Catherine, Manchester, and St. Elizabeth. According to Government of Jamaica officials, the flooding and landslides caused nine deaths and affected more than 25,000 people. The flooding also severely damaged parts of the country's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, the potable water supply, electricity, and telecommunications. An estimated 500 residents

were housed in emergency shelters within the affected parishes, while others impacted sought temporary shelter elsewhere due to the damage to several hundred homes. Flooding also caused extensive losses to the agricultural sector, destroying cash crops and killing small livestock.

On June 6, U.S. Ambassador Susan M. Cobb declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Jamaica to the Jamaican Red Cross to locally procure and distribute emergency relief supplies including food, mattresses, bedding, and kitchen utensils. In addition, the USAID/OFDA funding was used to purchase seeds, tools, and fertilizer for local farmers whose livelihoods were impacted by the flooding.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Nicaragua Floods

Heavy rains from a tropical depression, which later became Hurricane Michelle, swept through Nicaragua between October 28 and November 1, 2001. The storm caused severe flooding in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN), and the three RAAN municipalities most severely affected were Waspam, Rosita, and Puerto Cabezas. According to Nicaraguan Civil Defense officials, 24,866 residents were affected, 3,349 houses damaged, and 7,000 hectares of staple crops inundated. The flooding also caused extensive damage to roads and bridges, contaminated wells, killed livestock, and damaged waste treatment plants.

On November 21, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Paul J. Saxton declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding in the RAAN. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Nicaragua to AmRC for the local purchase and distribution of emergency food, potable water, seeds, and mosquito netting in the Coco River area of the Waspam municipality. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor during the week of November 19 to assist USAID/Nicaragua with the overall emergency response and to liaise with NGOs, Government

of Nicaragua officials, and local authorities on coordinating relief efforts.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Nicaragua Fire

Ongoing drought and severe insect infestation significantly increased the frequency and severity of forest fires during March and April 2002 in northern Nicaragua, especially in the departments of Nueva Segovia and Esteli. According to the Nicaraguan Forestry Institute (INAFOR), more than 2,000 families in nine communities, approximately 16,700 people, were threatened with displacement by the fires.

On April 18, U.S. Ambassador Oliver P. Garza declared a disaster due to the threat to human life presented by the forest fires. USAID/OFDA provided \$47,163 through USAID/Nicaragua to INAFOR and other local authorities to support the purchase of locally available fire suppression tools and materials, such as rakes, machetes, beaters, and shovels. USAID/OFDA deployed a fire management expert to work with INAFOR to assess the extent of damage caused by the forest fires and to determine the potential for future fires.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$47,163

Nicaragua Floods

Between May 24 and 31, 2002, Atlantic Ocean Tropical Storm Number Eight and Hurricane Alma in the Pacific Ocean caused severe flooding in 34 municipalities in the Pacific region of Nicaragua, primarily in the departments of Managua, Leon, Chinandega, and Rivas. According to the Nicaraguan National System of Prevention, Response, and Mitigation of Disasters (SNPMAD), the flooding resulted in one death, displaced approximately 3,000 residents, and affected an estimated 10,000 people. The flooding also caused extensive destruction to infrastructure, including roads, bridges, drains, and the potable water system, and damaged more than 1,000 homes.

On May 30, U.S. Ambassador Oliver P. Garza declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan Red Cross to support the purchase and distribution of emergency food and other relief items for flood victims residing in shelters.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Peru

Fire

On December 29, 2001, a fire broke out in a commercial center of downtown Lima, engulfing five blocks of apartment buildings and stores. The area was crowded with shoppers and vendors selling fireworks for New Year's Eve celebrations. According to the Peruvian Civil Defense (INDECI), more than 350 people were killed and hundreds were hospitalized for burns and related injuries.

On December 31, U.S. Ambassador John R. Hamilton issued a disaster declaration due to the damage and destruction caused by the fire. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 to support a team of eight medical personnel from the Joseph M. Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia. The team deployed on January 5, 2002, for a three-day mission to treat burn victims and assist local medical authorities. In addition, USAID/OFDA funding partially replenished medical supplies and emergency equipment used by the local fire department to treat victims.

On January 10, 2002, a six-person medical team, from the burn center at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, arrived in Lima to treat burn victims, assist local medical personnel, and advise Peruvian Ministry of Health officials. The team distributed \$35,000 worth of medical supplies that they transported to responding hospitals and the Ministry of Health.

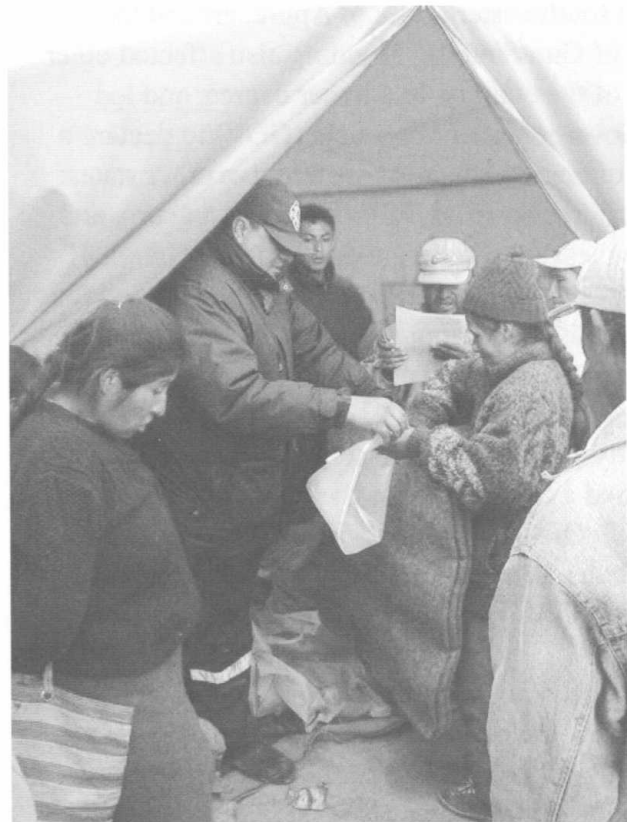
USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000
Other USG Assistance.....\$35,000
Total USG Assistance.....\$60,000

Peru

Winter Emergency

In early July 2002, intense cold weather and snowstorms struck the Andean region of southern Peru. The departments most affected included Apurimac, Arequipa, Ayacucho, Cusco, Huancavelica, Moquegua, Puno, and Tacna, where there were reports of up to one meter of snow and temperatures below freezing in some areas. According to UN OCHA, the severe weather conditions caused approximately 60 deaths, damaged more than 20,000 homes, and affected more than 86,000 residents.

On July 16, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Elizabeth P. Hinson declared a disaster due to the effects of the extreme winter weather. USAID/OFDA provided \$48,020 through the U.S. Embassy in Lima to the Peruvian National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) for the local procurement of blankets, winter clothing, and transport of emergency relief



INDECI personnel provide blankets and water containers to Peruvian residents in response to the intense cold weather throughout the southern region of the country (photo by Carlos Cordoba, USAID/OFDA).