Effective Humanitarian Assistance through Multilateral Engagement

PRM works closely with multilateral organizations to respond to humanitarian crises.

U.S. leadership and engagement with the United Nations and other multilateral humanitarian organizations helps strengthen our ability to deliver vital humanitarian assistance, protect refugees and other victims of conflict, and seek durable solutions for displaced populations. This multilateral approach offers important opportunities and comparative advantages for advancing U.S. priorities and achieving our humanitarian objectives.

Why does the United States work through Multilateral Partners?

- To ensure sound stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Humanitarian needs are vast and growing, and crises are increasingly complex, ranging from rapid-onset emergencies, to protracted situations, to early recovery.

- The United States cannot meet all of the world’s humanitarian needs on our own, yet we play a leading role in the global response. Our investment in multilateral organizations leverages contributions from other donors and improves the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian response.

- To help build a broad international consensus for treating refugees, victims of conflict and other vulnerable people with dignity.

- U.S. participation on the boards of multilateral organizations provides our country a venue to exercise leadership in crafting humanitarian assistance policy.

Unilest United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) leads and coordinates international actions to protect refugees, stateless, and internally displaced persons. UNHCR interviews displaced people to determine their situation and needs, and advocates for their protection in the countries to which they have fled. They provide emergency shelter, water, health care, and other life-sustaining assistance. The agency helps refugees to return home voluntarily, integrate fully into their host country, or resettle in a third country, if necessary.

International Organization for Migration (IOM) promotes international cooperation in the management of humane and orderly international migration by providing technical assistance and guidance to governments and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants, such as unaccompanied children and people who have been trafficked.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Impartial, neutral, and independent, ICRC provides assistance to people affected by armed conflict and promotes respect for and adherence to international humanitarian law.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) provides critical services, including health, education, shelter, and relief assistance to approximately 4.7 million Palestinian refugees in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) helps countries create and manage sound policies to appropriately address population needs. It assists governments in delivering sexual and reproductive health care to women and promotes women’s equality and empowerment within the development process.