

Transportation Support Guide

Information and Instructions for NGOs Shipping Goods from the United States to Haiti

USAID is committed to empowering you in your efforts to meet the needs of the Haitian people as they recover from the tragic earthquake. Thank you for your willingness to respond to the need and the commitment to find the means to alleviate the suffering. We recognize that it has been challenging to access Haiti and that the transportation of goods and people has proven very difficult. Our hope is that the following will provide some guidance to help you navigate what is sure to continue to be an arduous task. The following are the three main ways that you can work to secure transportation:

PAY

- This is probably the quickest and easiest way to secure reliable shipping of goods, especially with a tight timeline.
- There are a number of commercial options available.
- Some private sector donors are unable to continue with a 100% donation, however they may be willing to offer discounts on shipping and air transport.
- Work with your donors to identify transportation options.
- If you have the capacity to pay, this should be your first option.

PARTNER

- Collaboration is key; a number of NGOs have expressed their successes at finding partners through the cluster system.
- The single best place to identify partners for your organization's activities will be found at the cluster meetings. Cluster meetings bring together those entities engaged in specific areas of effort. More information on the Cluster System is available on <http://oneresponse.info>.
- Build relationships for the future. Though relationship-building will take time, start thinking about the future and do the leg work for future partnerships now.

POST

- USAID has established a portal for matching NGO needs with potential donors at www.usaid.gov/haiti.
- This portal is monitored daily by members of the Haiti interagency working group, as well as private donors.
- In order to post needs to the system, your organization must first register at www.usaid.gov/haiti.
- Trainings on how to use the system are held on a weekly basis and notices regarding training schedules go out to registered NGOs.
- Submit your goods needs and your transportation needs within the system.
- Please understand that requesting donations on transportation should be viewed as a last resort. Traditionally, donor expectations are that you have exhausted other resources prior to asking for donations.

As you know, priority, timing, traffic volume, weather, and conditions on the ground all impact the ability to send goods to Haiti. Attempting to skip steps may result in confusion and delays in transportation. Please do not ship anything if you do not have an NGO on the ground to sign for, receive and transport the goods. We encourage you to look into the steps above with regards to your transportation needs and contact us at rebuildhaiti@usaid.gov should you have follow up questions.