

Your advocacy to help relieve suffering in Haiti and around the world has made an impact!

Thanks in part to your advocacy efforts, Congress has passed the FY 2010 Supplemental Appropriations bill. This bill provides critical support for people suffering from emergencies around the world including urgently needed funding to help Haiti recover from January's devastating earthquake, assist refugees, and support humanitarian efforts.

What was the Church's position? As stated in letters to [House](#) and [Senate](#) appropriators, CRS and USCCB requested:

- \$2.5 billion for longer-term reconstruction in Haiti and
- \$1.597 billion for other global emergency needs, including:
 - \$702 million for International Disaster Assistance
 - \$580 million for Food Assistance
 - \$165 million for Migration and Refugee Assistance
 - \$97 million for the Office of Refugee Resettlement
 - \$53 million for Economic Support Fund in Sudan

What was the outcome of the bill? Although not all of the funding that CRS and USCCB requested was included, we achieved the following:

- \$2.8 billion for Haiti to provide urgent shelter, health, livelihoods, food aid, and water and sanitation needs to the most vulnerable populations as well as long-term reconstruction.
- A portion of the \$1.597 billion we requested for global emergency needs:
 - \$165 million for migration and refugee assistance which will provide urgent humanitarian assistance and resettlement opportunities for refugees and victims of conflict around the globe; and
 - \$460 million for International Disaster Assistance to provide safe drinking water, basic health services, shelter, household commodities, seeds, tools, and livelihoods assistance to millions of people.

Why is this issue important to my Catholic faith? As Catholics, we believe that each person is created in the image of God. Aid to poor people overseas protects human life and dignity by promoting human development and reducing crushing poverty, deadly diseases and malnutrition. Your advocacy is a significant act of solidarity that has helped provide additional funding to meet the needs of our sisters and brothers everywhere who are suffering.

What else can I do to support our brothers and sisters in need? Join [Catholics Confront Global Poverty](#) and [become a star on our solidarity map!](#) Pray, learn, share, and advocate to confront global poverty in your parish, school, university, youth group, diocese, or religious community.