

Over the history of FEMA, in the mission assignments data file, you can see the constant deobligation of funds.

When FEMA mission assignment (MA) funds are **deobligated** and not reissued to a new mission assignment or project, the funds essentially revert to FEMA's overall disaster relief fund (DRF) or their source account. Here's what typically happens:

**1. Deobligation Process:**

If the funds allocated to a mission assignment are no longer needed or if the MA's activities are complete, the remaining unspent funds are deobligated. This happens after reconciliation of costs submitted by the federal agency that executed the mission.

**2. Return to FEMA DRF:**

The deobligated funds are returned to FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund. The DRF is FEMA's primary funding source for disaster response and recovery, and the deobligated money becomes available for reallocation to other disaster-related needs.

**3. Reallocation Possibility:**

FEMA might reallocate the deobligated funds to other mission assignments, new disaster declarations, or ongoing projects. However, if no immediate need exists, the funds remain in the DRF until they are needed for future disasters.

**4. Budgetary Considerations:**

If the funds are not actively used for a specific disaster-related activity, they remain under FEMA's control. This allows FEMA to maintain flexibility in addressing emerging needs or covering costs for future emergencies.

In summary, deobligated MA funds essentially "return to the pool" of disaster relief funds for FEMA, allowing them to be used more efficiently for future needs or other authorized purposes. They do not simply disappear but rather remain available to support the agency's ongoing mission.

**Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)** funds have occasionally been used to support missions outside of the United States, but only under specific circumstances and within the legal and policy framework established by the U.S. government. Here are the main instances when this happens:

**1. International Disaster Assistance**

While FEMA's primary focus is on domestic disaster response and recovery, there have been limited cases where FEMA has supported international missions, typically as part of a U.S. government-coordinated effort. This is usually done in coordination with agencies like the **U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)** and its Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).

## 2. Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) and DOD Missions

If the Department of Defense (DOD) is called upon to support international disaster relief or humanitarian assistance missions, FEMA may reimburse DOD for mission assignment-related activities that fall under their jurisdiction.

## 3. Exceptional International Missions

In very rare cases, Congress may direct FEMA to provide disaster assistance internationally under special legislation or appropriations. This is highly unusual and would typically involve coordination with other federal agencies like the Department of State or USAID.

### Key Considerations:

- The use of DRF funds outside the U.S. must align with FEMA's statutory authority, which is primarily focused on domestic disaster response. Most international disaster assistance is handled by USAID, not FEMA.

Yes, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided substantial assistance to both Ukraine and regions associated with Israel, particularly the West Bank and Gaza.

### Assistance to Ukraine:

Since the onset of Russia's invasion in February 2022, USAID has been a pivotal contributor to Ukraine's humanitarian and development needs. Key areas of support include:

- **Humanitarian Aid:** USAID has delivered over \$2.6 billion in humanitarian assistance, addressing immediate needs such as food, water, shelter, and medical care for conflict-affected populations.  
[USAID](#)
- **Development Assistance:** Approximately \$5 billion has been allocated to support Ukraine's economic stability, governance reforms, and infrastructure rehabilitation.  
[USAID](#)
- **Direct Budget Support:** USAID has provided more than \$30 billion in direct budget support to the Government of Ukraine, ensuring the continuity of essential public services amidst the conflict.  
[USAID](#)

## Assistance to the West Bank and Gaza:

While USAID does not provide direct aid to the State of Israel, it actively supports development and humanitarian initiatives in the West Bank and Gaza, benefiting Palestinians and contributing to regional stability. Efforts include:

- **Economic Development:** In 2024, USAID announced an additional \$230 million to bolster economic recovery and development programs in the West Bank and Gaza.  
[USAID](#)
- **Humanitarian Assistance:** The agency has activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team to coordinate U.S. relief efforts, aiming to address the urgent needs of those affected by ongoing conflicts in the region.  
[USAID](#)
- **Peacebuilding Initiatives:** USAID facilitates programs that encourage collaboration between Israelis and Palestinians, fostering trust and mutual understanding to advance conditions for peace.  
[USAID](#)

These initiatives underscore USAID's commitment to supporting vulnerable populations and promoting stability in both Ukraine and the Middle East.

## Recent Developments in U.S. Foreign Aid Policies



[Financial Times](#)

[US officials push to exempt Ukraine from Rubio's foreign aid freeze Today](#)



[Reuters](#)

[US stops work on foreign aid after Trump orders review Yesterday](#)



[Financial Times](#)

[Marco Rubio demands immediate halt to virtually all US foreign aid Yesterday](#)

USAID (United States Agency for International Development) receives its funding from a variety of sources, primarily through Congressional appropriations and inter-agency collaborations. For its initiatives in Ukraine and the Middle East (e.g., West Bank and Gaza), the funding typically comes from the following key sources and agencies:

## 1. Congressional Appropriations

- **Foreign Assistance Appropriations Bills:**
  - The bulk of USAID's funding comes directly from annual appropriations by Congress, primarily through the **Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act**.
  - Congress earmarks funds for specific regions, countries, and programs, including those for Ukraine and the Middle East.
- **Supplemental Appropriations:**
  - In times of crisis (e.g., the war in Ukraine or major conflicts in Gaza), Congress often approves supplemental funding. For example:
    - Ukraine received significant allocations through **emergency aid packages** passed in 2022 and 2023.
    - Humanitarian crises in Gaza have been supported by emergency appropriations linked to broader Middle East policy initiatives.

## 2. U.S. Department of State

- The Department of State collaborates closely with USAID and provides funding for initiatives related to:
  - **Economic Support Funds (ESF):** For development assistance and governance reforms.
  - **Peace and Security Programs:** Often aimed at conflict mitigation, stabilization, and support for civil society.
  - **Humanitarian Assistance:** Funds managed through USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA).

## 3. International Disaster Assistance (IDA)

- Funds from the **International Disaster Assistance account** are allocated specifically for responding to crises like those in Ukraine and the Middle East. These funds are managed by USAID's **Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)** to provide food, water, shelter, and medical aid.

#### 4. Economic Support Fund (ESF)

- The **Economic Support Fund** is another critical source for funding USAID initiatives in conflict-affected regions. This fund is primarily used to:
  - Stabilize economies.
  - Build democratic governance systems.
  - Support recovery efforts after conflicts.

#### 5. Department of Defense (DOD) Transfers

- Under specific legislative authorities, the Department of Defense has transferred funds to USAID to support:
  - Stabilization and reconstruction efforts in conflict zones (e.g., Ukraine).
  - Humanitarian response operations in areas impacted by military actions (e.g., the Middle East).

#### 6. Other International Contributions (Co-Funding/Partnerships)

- While the U.S. government provides the majority of USAID's funding, there are instances of collaboration with international organizations and donors, such as:
  - **World Bank, United Nations agencies, and European Union programs** that co-fund humanitarian or development programs.
  - Partnerships with private organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

#### Summary:

USAID's initiatives in Ukraine and the Middle East are primarily funded by:

- U.S. Congress (via appropriations and supplemental aid packages).
- The Department of State (through Economic Support Funds and humanitarian assistance accounts).
- The Department of Defense (for stabilization-related efforts).
- International and multilateral partnerships.

Yes, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) has provided funding to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) during recent fiscal years. These transfers are typically designated for specific agreements, such as the

## Compact Aid Agreement.

### Fiscal Year 2023:

- **Anticipated Transfer:** FEMA's DRF included an anticipated transfer of **\$10 million** to USAID for the Compact Aid Agreement. [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#)

### Fiscal Year 2024:

- **Anticipated Transfer:** Similarly, in FY 2024, an anticipated transfer of **\$10 million** from the DRF to USAID was planned for the same purpose. [Home](#)
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These transfers are relatively modest compared to the overall DRF budget and are earmarked for specific international agreements. It's important to note that while FEMA's primary mission focuses on domestic disaster response and recovery, certain legislative provisions allow for limited collaboration with agencies like USAID to fulfill international commitments.

For more detailed information, you can refer to FEMA's monthly Disaster Relief Fund reports, which provide comprehensive insights into allocations and expenditures.