OVERALL PERFORMANCE

The United States (US) ranked 17th in the HRI 2011, improving two positions from 2010. Based on the pattern of its scores, the US is classified as a Group 2 donor, “Learning Leaders”. Donors in this group are characterised by their leading role in support of emergency relief efforts, strong capacity and field presence, and commitment to learning and improvement. They tend to do less well in areas such as prevention, preparedness, and risk reduction efforts. Other Group 2 donors include Canada, the European Commission, France and the United Kingdom.

The US’ 2011 global score was below the OECD/DAC and Group 2 averages. The US scored below both averages in all pillars, with the exception of Pillar 1 (Responding to needs), where it scored above both averages.

Overall, the US performed significantly better in the qualitative, survey-based indicators than in the quantitative indicators. Humanitarian organisations in the field generally see the US as an engaged, committed partner, but with some clear areas for improvement. Compared to its OECD/DAC peers, the US did best in indicators on Funding to NGOs, Adapting to changing needs, Timely funding to complex emergencies, Advocacy towards local authorities and Facilitating safe access. Its scores were relatively the lowest in indicators on Un-earmarked funding, Reducing climate-related vulnerability, Funding for reconstruction and prevention, Funding international risk mitigation and Human rights law.