



# Ready-to-Go Bikes

## A New Response

### Catastrophic Disaster Relief Project

In the early stages following a disaster event, survivors are left without the public and private means of transportation they once used. Roads and bridges are broken. Gas and power supplies are interrupted. Communication connections don't work. Individuals, families and communities are at the highest level of risk for more disastrous events happening to them. Without transportation, finding any resources - the things necessary for reestablishing a person's life - is a lot more challenging. While each disaster presents a unique set of obstacles, the need for immediate, alternative and simple transportation is universal. A reliable and easily-learned form of transportation is the bicycle.

When disaster strikes, people ask "What can I give?" Often, the first response is to send clothing. A new initial response is to send bikes. So remember...

### When disaster strikes... send bikes!

**The Need:** Alternative transportation in the early stages of disaster recovery. **The Goal:** To provide exactly that.

### An Easy-to-Do Project for Individuals or Groups

**Essentials:** A bike... Money for sending... The will to help

#### Step 1

#### Prepare Your Bike

In a disaster, there is no time to repair a bike and there are no supplies or bike shops. Your bike must be in very good condition to be of use in a disaster.

Both male and female adult-sized new or really good used bikes are appropriate to send.

A roadworthy and safe bike should include: reflectors, working brakes, good tires and tubes, no rust, a decent seat, not-worn-out bearings and if geared, gears that work.

Working lights, a bell and helmet are also useful. For additional details, go to the *Ready-to-Go* Bike Project at [www.renegaid.org](http://www.renegaid.org).

#### Step 2

#### Research the Options and Choose a Hub

Many organizations take supplies into disaster areas. They are set up and ready to go. The object of this project is to get your bike to one of them for immediate delivery and distribution.

The organizations you will find on the RenegAID™ website have already signed on to the *Ready-to-Go* Bikes Code of Ethics. They are your emergency teams, they are your **Hub** organizations.

Choose and contact one based on your preferences and location.

The *Ready-to-Go* Bikes Code of Ethics and **Hub** organizations are listed under the *Ready-to-Go* Bikes Project at [www.renegaid.org](http://www.renegaid.org).

#### Step 3

#### Transport Your Bike

Your bike will be taken into the disaster by your chosen **Hub** organization. Get your bike to them as soon as possible when it will do the most good.

Here are the options:

1. Take your bike to your chosen **Hub**.
2. Send your bike to the **Hub** as a package through a shipping company like FedEx or Greyhound Package Express.

For more details and to find a more complete list of shipping companies, visit the *Ready-to-Go* Bikes Project at [www.renegaid.org](http://www.renegaid.org).

**Ready-to-Go Bikes was developed and produced by RenegAID™, Innovative Disaster Relief ©2009.**

RenegAID's Mission: By producing innovative relief projects and programs, RenegAID™ is dedicated to improving people's ability to reestablish themselves in catastrophic disaster.

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