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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)  
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

## **Kenya – Food Insecurity**

Fact Sheet #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

September 30, 2010

*Note: The last situation report was dated August 18, 2010.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- In FY 2010, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$1.4 million to support recovery following prolonged drought in arid and marginal agricultural areas, benefiting up to 94,000 individuals. USAID/OFDA programs improve pastoralists' ability to sell livestock, restock livestock lost due to drought, and assist destitute pastoralists to pursue alternative income-generating activities.
- In September, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) highlighted the potential effects of the declared La Niña weather event for Kenya food security. La Niña events are often associated with below-average rainfall in eastern Kenya and above-average rainfall in western Kenya. Decreased rainfall in eastern Kenya could hinder vulnerable pastoralists' recovery from prolonged drought, while above-average rainfall in western Kenya could consolidate food security or lead to flooding.
- Insecurity in Somalia and resultant refugee flows continue to impact host communities and humanitarian operations in North Eastern Province. Although two average to above-average rainy seasons have contributed to improved food security in areas of northeastern Kenya and southern Somalia, below-average predicted rainfall for the coming seasons could contribute to increased refugee flows into Kenya while increasing pressure on host community coping mechanisms.
- USAID/OFDA programs intend to promote food security and drought resilience by supporting humanitarian interventions in nutrition, increasing access to safe drinking water, and strengthening vulnerable households' ability to sustain livelihoods.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>Total Number of People in Need of Emergency Food Assistance</b>	1.6 million	KFSSG <sup>1</sup> – March 2010
<b>IDPs<sup>2</sup> in Kenya</b>	268,600	OCHA <sup>3</sup> – March 2010
<b>Refugees in Kenya</b>	404,000	UNHCR <sup>4</sup> – August 2010

### **FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN FUNDING**

**USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya .....\$10,204,556**  
**USAID/FFP<sup>5</sup> Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya .....\$101,907,300**  
**State/PRM<sup>6</sup> Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya .....\$36,546,212**  
**Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya .....\$148,658,068**

### **CONTEXT**

- Recurrent seasons of failed or poor rains, sustained high food prices, environmental degradation, disease outbreaks, and flooding have led to food insecurity throughout Kenya in recent years, straining coping mechanisms, exacerbating pre-existing chronic poverty, and contributing to increased inter-ethnic conflict over access to limited land and water resources. Food insecurity has also occurred in the context of ongoing civil and political unrest, including violence and displacement associated with the December 2007 election. The majority of displaced individuals have subsequently returned to areas of origin; however, some populations remain displaced and await additional assistance pledged by Kenyan authorities.
- Following an above-normal February to March short rains harvest and the early onset of the March to September long rains, food security is improving in most areas of Kenya. Ample rainfall has improved pasture and water availability,

<sup>1</sup> Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)

<sup>2</sup> Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

<sup>3</sup> U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

<sup>4</sup> Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<sup>5</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

resulting in higher quality livestock and increased milk productivity for the majority of pastoralists. However, populations in areas of Turkana District, Rift Valley Province, and Isiolo and Marsabit districts, Eastern Province, remained highly food-insecure due to below-normal rainfall and higher than average cereal prices, according to OCHA. In addition, food insecurity remains moderate in areas of Central, Coast, Eastern, Rift Valley, and Western provinces, where April and May flooding damaged standing crops, grain stores, livestock, irrigation systems, water supplies, and key transport routes.

- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, on October 1, 2009, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Ranneberger renewed the disaster declaration for food insecurity in Kenya for FY 2010.

### ***Agriculture and Food Security***

- Vulnerable populations in pastoral and marginal agricultural areas of Kenya are recovering from drought due to two average to above-average rainy seasons in late 2009 and 2010, including the long rains growing season, which ended in August in Central, Eastern, Nyanza, and Western provinces and southern Rift Valley Province, and yielded above-average production, positively contributing to overall food security.
- FEWS NET notes that forecasted below-average rainfall during the October to December short rains due to the La Niña weather event could reverse drought recovery gains in vulnerable pastoral areas of eastern Kenya. Food security indicators could decline significantly beginning in early 2011. Due to the region-wide below-average rainfall effects usually associated with La Niña phenomena, Kenyan pastoralists' traditional migration destinations in Ethiopia or Somalia may also experience below-average rainfall. Drought-prone agricultural areas in southeastern and coastal marginal agricultural lowlands face considerable deteriorations in food security if short rains are below-average, since these areas produce 70 percent of annual output during the October to December rains.
- The Kenya Food Security Technical Working Group, comprised of U.N. and Government of Kenya representatives, is currently conducting an urban food security assessment. Data collected to date indicates that approximately 35 percent of the population resides in urban areas, with many individuals experiencing poor food security conditions.

### ***Health and Nutrition***

- Despite improvements in food security, malnutrition rates have not declined accordingly in some pastoral areas of North Eastern Province. Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates exceed 25 percent in Mandera West District, and rates exceed the U.N. World Health Organization-designated 15 percent emergency threshold in Mandera Central, Wajir South, and Wajir East districts.
- According to OCHA's Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN), pastoral populations in North Eastern Province often sell more nutritious foods such as milk, eggs, and beans, to purchase starches. In addition, decreased herd sizes due to prolonged drought and migration leave children without access to milk during extended periods. Pastoral populations also face limited access to health services, which can contribute to malnutrition.
- In FY 2010, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$4.5 million for emergency nutrition interventions, including initiatives designed to train health workers and community members to manage acute malnutrition cases. USAID/OFDA programs benefited more than 42,000 children under five years of age, representing approximately 15 percent of the 281,000 malnourished children in Kenya in 2010, as calculated by the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF).

### ***Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)***

- According to OCHA, health and WASH partners have controlled cholera outbreaks in 34 of 35 affected districts. Between January and mid-September, Kenya experienced nearly 3,400 cholera cases, including 72 deaths. Kuria West District, Nyanza Province, reported 114 cases and nine deaths during August.
- USAID/OFDA WASH programs provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities and help promote hygiene in areas of need. For example, NGO Welthungerhilfe (WHH) improves shallow wells and provides water catchment infrastructures such as rock catchments and subsurface dams to increase access to safe drinking water for residents in Kyuso and Mwingi districts, Eastern Province and Tana River District, Coast Province. In FY 2010, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$10.2 million for WASH activities in Kenya, benefiting up to 89,000 people

### ***Refugees in Kenya***

- Ongoing conflict in Somalia continues to result in refugee inflows to Kenya, with 5,900 new arrivals in August, according to UNHCR. UNHCR reported that as of August, more than 338,000 Somali refugees resided in Kenya. Approximately 289,000 refugees reside in the Dadaab Refugee Complex, initially designed to accommodate only 90,000 people. UNHCR and other agencies are working to relocate approximately 40,000 refugees from the most crowded Dadaab camps to a new camp extension in the complex.
- Conflict along the Kenya-Somalia border has affected humanitarian assistance work in North Eastern Province. As of mid-September, OCHA reported that ongoing insecurity in Somalia has contributed to reduced humanitarian access to beneficiaries, particularly in Mandera District.

## USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA

FY 2010			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location / Province</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, and WASH	Rift Valley Province	\$833,349
Concern Worldwide	Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Humanitarian Studies, Analysis, or Applications; and Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$1,186,924
Horn Relief (HR)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, and WASH	North Eastern Province	\$1,585,404
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$308,645
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Natural and Technological Risks	North Eastern Province	\$486,214
Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS)	Emergency Relief Supplies	Countrywide	\$200,000
Mercy USA	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$299,622
Merlin	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$557,131
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
Save the Children/United Kingdom (SC/UK)	Nutrition	North Eastern Province	\$498,074
UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WHH	WASH	Coast Province	\$1,237,640
	Program Support Costs	Countrywide	\$11,553
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$10,204,556</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
U.N. World Food Program (WFP)	109,840 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Central, Coast, Eastern, North Eastern, and Rift Valley Provinces; Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$101,907,300
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$101,907,300</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
CARE	Education and Community Services, and WASH	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$1,828,456
The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychosocial Assistance	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$749,231
Film Aid	Education	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$593,203
Handicap International	Assistance to Persons with Disabilities	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$465,000
Heshima Kenya	Gender-Based Violence Protection and Response	Nairobi	\$200,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$2,948,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Psychosocial Assistance	Kakuma Refugee Camp	\$300,000
Lutheran World Relief (LWR)	Multi-Sectoral Response	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$934,607
Ngazi Moja Foundation	Social Services to Urban Refugees	Nairobi	\$24,333
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Education and Shelter	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$838,000
Save the Children (SC)	Child Protection	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$765,382

UNHCR	Refugee Assistance and Protection	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$26,300,000
WFP	Food Warehouse (Ifo Camp Extension)	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$36,546,212</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA IN FY 2010</b>			<b>\$148,658,068</b>

<b>FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE</b>	
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>	<b>\$10,204,556</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>	<b>\$36,546,212</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>	<b>\$101,907,300</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA</b>	<b>\$148,658,068</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

### **PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION**

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Kenya may be available at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID: [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)