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

Kenya – Food Insecurity

Situation Report #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

December 11, 2009

Note: The last situation report was dated November 6, 2009.

BACKGROUND

Recurrent seasons of failed or poor rains, sustained high food prices, environmental degradation, outbreaks of disease, and flooding have led to deteriorating food security conditions throughout Kenya, 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 in Kenya has also occurred in the context of ongoing civil and political unrest, including violence associated with the December 2007 election that displaced more than 663,000 people in Nairobi and across areas of Rift Valley, Western, Nyanza, and Coast provinces, according to the Government of Kenya (GoK). Although the majority of displaced individuals have subsequently returned to areas of origin, vulnerabilities among remaining internally displaced persons (IDPs) and disruptions to agricultural production in affected areas have contributed to increased food insecurity.

On August 20, the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)¹ increased the projected number of people requiring emergency food assistance between September 2009 and February 2010 to 3.8 million individuals, representing a 32 percent increase since February 2009. In addition, the report identified approximately 2.5 million chronically food-insecure individuals located in urban areas, 100,000 persons displaced by post-election violence, 1.5 million primary school students in drought-affected areas, and 2 million rural HIV/AIDS patients as food insecure countrywide and in need of humanitarian assistance.

On October 1, 2009, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Ranneberger renewed the disaster declaration for food insecurity in Kenya for FY 2010. In FY 2009 and to date in FY 2010, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$269 million for humanitarian assistance programs in Kenya, including more than \$24 million in USAID/OFDA funding to support nutrition, economic recovery and market systems, health, agriculture and food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, as well as local food procurement and distribution.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Population in Need of Emergency Food Assistance until February 2010	3.8 million people	KFSSG – August 2009
Refugees in Kenya	376,377 people	U.N. – October 2009

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/FFP² Assistance to Kenya	\$75,315,800
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya	\$75,315,800

CURRENT SITUATION

Although the October to December short rains have moderately improved water and pasture availability throughout some pastoral areas of Kenya, aid agencies do not expect rapid or long-term food security improvements, as consecutive seasons of sufficient rainfall are required for pastoral populations to replace livestock lost during the prolonged drought. As a result, FEWS NET predicts only limited and temporary food security improvements following the main maize harvest in early 2010, with subsequent declines in food

security starting in April 2010 when limited food stocks associated with a poor crop production are depleted.

In addition, the GoK and humanitarian agencies expect enhanced rains to result in floods and mudslides in several areas of the country, potentially affecting 750,000 people and contributing to increased incidence of disease among humans and animals. Between late October and early November, heavy rains resulted in

¹ KFSSG works as an advisory body on drought management and food security in Kenya. The group consists of 12 members, including GoK departments and ministries, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), U.N. agencies, and the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

flooding in Coast, North Eastern, and Eastern provinces. While the flooding caused some population displacement and damage to farmland and infrastructure, a USAID/OFDA assessment in early November confirmed that affected areas in Coast Province sustained limited long-term flood damage or displacement and humanitarian agencies are meeting immediate needs of affected populations.

On December 3, the U.N. released the 2010 Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan (EHRP) for Kenya, seeking more than \$508 million in funding to address ongoing drought, internal displacement, and increasing refugee populations and urban vulnerabilities. The new EHRP represents an estimated 13 percent decrease from the revised 2009 requirement of \$576 million.

USAID/OFDA continues to conduct assessments, identify humanitarian needs, and monitor response efforts throughout Kenya.

Agriculture and Food Security

The onset of the October to December short rains has improved water and pastoral availability in some drought-affected areas of Kenya. As a result, FEWS NET anticipates limited, short-term food security improvements among pastoral communities by the end of December. However, northwestern areas of Kenya received little rainfall during November and drought conditions throughout these areas continue to result in increasing food insecurity and deteriorating humanitarian conditions.

As a result of insufficient February to August 2009 long rains, FEWS NET anticipates a 2010 main maize harvest of 1.9 million metric tons (MT), approximately 25 percent below the four-year average. The main harvest, which typically occurs between October 2009 and January 2010, constitutes more than 50 percent of Kenya's annual national maize production. FEWS NET expects the long rains harvest to provide sufficient food stocks to last through March 2010, though a substantial food deficit may occur beginning in April 2010 due to reduced crop production.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$17 million to support agriculture and food security and economic recovery and market systems interventions in Kenya, including programs designed to strengthen livelihood opportunities, protect and diversify household assets, and increase agricultural productivity among more than 663,000 vulnerable pastoralists and farmers.

Flooding

According to the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), heavy rains from October to early November resulted in flooding in Malindi, Magarini, Kwale, Kilifi, Mombasa, and Tana Delta districts, Coast Province, killing at least four people and displacing more than

1,000 households, or approximately 6,000 individuals. The floods also damaged or destroyed houses, latrines, and roads, as well as washed away GoK-provided seeds, potentially negatively affecting short rains crop production. However, GoK officials and humanitarian agencies report that floods have not resulted in significant increases in diseases or livestock deaths.

Between November 5 and 9, USAID/OFDA staff visited Coast Province to assess flood-related damage, humanitarian needs, and ongoing response efforts. According to USAID/OFDA observations and discussions with humanitarian agencies, the floods primarily affected Magarini and Tana Delta districts, with Malindi, Kwale, Kilifi, and Mombasa districts sustaining limited damage and displacement.

In the most-affected Tana Delta District, non-governmental organization (NGO) World Vision reported that floods displaced or affected an estimated 770 households, or approximately 4,674 people, as well as submerged houses and destroyed roads, preventing access to some areas. Of the affected population, KRCS estimated that floods displaced nearly 3,000 people from Tana Delta District to camps in the surrounding area, where KRCS, NGOs, and GoK ministries have provided individuals with assistance, including blankets, plastic sheeting, food, kitchen sets, and water treatment tablets.

In Magarini District, floods killed two individuals and displaced an estimated 588 households, representing more than 3,500 people, to neighboring schools and other facilities, as well as destroyed a section of the Malindi–Garsen road. To permit schools to resume classes, local organizations subsequently moved displaced individuals to four camps in the district. As of November 8, KRCS reported that an estimated 547 households resided in the camps.

In all districts assessed, USAID/OFDA reported that GoK, KRCS, and NGO staff are meeting the basic needs of flood-affected populations through the provision of emergency food and relief supplies. Based on the assessment, USAID/OFDA staff noted limited long-term flood damage or displacement within Coast Province, and relief agencies expected the majority of the displaced individuals to return home as flood waters continued to recede.

As of November 20, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that most areas in Coast Province, including flood-prone districts, had received limited or no additional rain since November 1. However, humanitarian and GoK officials continue to highlight concerns regarding a potential deterioration of humanitarian conditions if further heavy rains occur, particularly in areas already vulnerable due to previous floods.

USAID/OFDA maintains a robust network of implementing partners across Kenya that are capable of providing rapid assistance in response to potential flooding and emergency situations. USAID/OFDA staff continue to liaise with U.N., NGO, and GoK agencies in Coast Province and other flood-affected areas and closely monitor the progression of the short rains season.

Insecurity and Population Movements

The GoK has begun implementing a five-phase program to rehabilitate the Mau forest complex in Rift Valley Province—the largest of Kenya’s five main water towers and a critical source of water for 12 rivers that feed into lakes throughout the region. The rehabilitation program includes plans to evict between 20,000 and 25,000 settlers from the forest, initially targeting individuals residing in southwestern Mau forest. As of November 30, KCRS reported that an estimated 3,700 households, representing more than 22,000 people, had voluntarily departed southwestern Mau forest and relocated to nine camps in the surrounding area due to fears of forced evictions.

On November 19 and 20, USAID/OFDA staff participated in a joint assessment in southwestern Mau forest to evaluate the humanitarian needs of displaced individuals residing in two camps in Kuresoi District, Rift Valley Province. Based on USAID/OFDA observations and discussions with relief organizations, priority humanitarian needs in the two camps include the provision of plastic sheeting and WASH assistance.

At present, KCRS and other agencies have provided displaced individuals with health care services and non-food items. The GoK also reports providing displaced individuals with basic assistance, including food, water, and transportation. Humanitarian agencies remain concerned that conditions in the camp could rapidly deteriorate if heavy rains occur, resulting in the need for additional assistance. USAID/OFDA continues to monitor the situation and plans to conduct additional humanitarian assessments as necessary.

Inter-ethnic and resource-based conflict continues to result in population displacement in Kenya, exacerbating the impacts of drought and high levels of food insecurity. In total, OCHA reports that inter-ethnic tensions displaced an unknown number of individuals and killed an estimated 400 people in Kenya between January and November 30, representing an estimated 17 percent increase compared to the number of reported deaths over a similar time period in 2008.

Ongoing conflict and insecurity in neighboring Somalia has also resulted in population displacement to Kenya, with a daily average of 250 Somalis crossing into Kenya in 2009 to date. According to the Office of

the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 59,000 refugees arrived at the Dadaab refugee complex in the North Eastern Province of Kenya between January 1 and December 1, including more than 53,000 individuals from Somalia. In total, the U.N. reported that Kenya hosted more than 376,000 refugees as of December 2, with 71 percent of the refugee population residing in the Dadaab complex.

Relief agencies continue to note concern over humanitarian conditions within the Dadaab complex, as the camps host nearly 177,000 people more than the intended maximum capacity and the GoK has not yet approved the use of additional land for a new, fourth camp to alleviate overcrowding. Originally established to accommodate 90,000 people, the Dadaab complex currently hosts more than 267,000 individuals, according to UNHCR.

As of December 1, OCHA reported that humanitarian agencies had assisted with the relocation of 13,100 refugees from the Dadaab complex to Kakuma refugee camp in Rift Valley Province. As of December 2, Kakuma camp hosted more than 61,000 refugees. In 2010, the U.N. expects population movements into Kenya at similar levels to 2009, increasing the need to decongest camps and allocate new land to accommodate the continuing influx of refugees. The 2010 EHRP seeks more than \$257 million—representing more than 50 percent of the total funding—for refugee assistance.

In FY 2009, Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) provided more than \$27 million in funding to UNHCR and NGO partners for refugee assistance in Kenya, including shelter, health care, psychosocial services, and WASH interventions, as well as other assistance to refugee populations.

Health and Nutrition

Food insecurity throughout Kenya continues to result in deteriorating nutrition conditions among affected populations. The 2010 EHRP includes plans to provide health assistance to 300,000 people currently at risk of contracting diseases, including malaria and Rift Valley Fever. As of December 3, the U.N. reported global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates exceeding 20 percent in Turkana and Samburu districts, Rift Valley Province; Mandera and Wajir districts, North Eastern Province; and Marsabit District, Eastern Province.

In addition, GAM rates continue to rise in areas traditionally not affected by high levels of acute malnutrition, including Kajiado District, Rift Valley Province, and Kwale District, Coast Province, where rates now exceed 10 percent. According to OCHA, increased caseloads of acutely malnourished children are straining health facilities and limited resources.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$4.3 million to support nutrition activities throughout Kenya, particularly in highly food-insecure areas of Rift Valley Province.

Emergency Food Assistance

According to FEWS NET, an estimated 3.8 million Kenyans will require emergency food assistance through February 2010. Currently, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is distributing 50,000 metric tons (MT) of food assistance to 3.8 million beneficiaries per month through December 2009. Continuing food assistance needs in 2010 account for approximately 30 percent of the total amount requested in the 2010 EHRP. Although funding shortfalls resulted in a WFP pipeline break during the second half of 2009, WFP expects increased support from donors, including more than \$26 million from USAID/FFP, to restore the pipeline from January to March 2010.

To date in FY 2010, USAID/FFP has contributed 78,480 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to populations in Kenya, including 51,300 MT of food assistance, valued at more than \$51 million, through WFP for drought-affected populations and 27,180 MT of food assistance, valued at nearly \$25 million, to WFP for refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps. In FY 2009, the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided \$9 million for WFP school feeding programs and nutritional education support for mothers in Nairobi and surrounding areas.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Between January and December 10, the GoK Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation (MoPHS) recorded more than 11,000 suspected cholera cases, with nearly 750 laboratory confirmed cases and 251 cholera-related deaths in 53 districts in Kenya, representing a case fatality rate of 2.3 percent. During recent months, MoPHS recorded more than 4,000 suspected cholera cases, the majority of which occurred in Turkana and East Pokot districts, Rift Valley Province, and Marsabit and Moyale districts, Eastern Province. In East Pokot

District, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and OCHA report that a contaminated water source caused the increased number of suspected cholera cases, with 29 cholera-related deaths reported as of December 4.

Humanitarian agencies have expressed concern regarding the spread of cholera in Turkana and East Pokot districts due to population movements from affected areas to surrounding locations, limited capacity to respond to suspected cases, river contamination, lack of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities, and limited hygiene education. To date, the GoK has dispatched three military helicopters to the area to identify affected individuals and transport them to nearby health centers. KRCS and NGOs already operating in the area are also responding to humanitarian needs. During the coming weeks, the GoK plans to launch a cholera response plan, which will focus on health communication, water treatment, provision of medicines to communities and hospitals, health care worker training, and strengthening diagnostic procedures.

In Kakuma refugee camp, UNHCR, the GoK MoPHS, and WHO diagnosed and treated more than 181 suspected cholera cases during November. The U.N. and GoK officials continue to conduct hygiene promotion activities and water quality testing in the camp. On November 11, humanitarian organizations began a general distribution of 30,000 20-liter water containers, targeting more than 46,000 refugees in Kakuma camp. However, UNHCR notes that the current supply of non-food items remains insufficient to meet the needs in the camp.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$2.8 million to support WASH interventions in affected areas, including programs designed to increase access to safe drinking water and improve sanitation practices in Turkana District, Rift Valley Province.

FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location / Province</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE¹			
WFP	78,480 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Central, Coast, Eastern, North Eastern, and Rift Valley Provinces; Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$75,315,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$75,315,800
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA IN FY 2010			\$75,315,800

¹ USAID/FFP funding represents approximate value of food assistance as of December 11, 2009.