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

Somalia – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

June 20, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated January 24, 2011

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The eastern Horn of Africa is currently experiencing one of the world’s most severe food security emergencies, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). On June 7, FEWS NET issued an East Africa food security alert indicating that the current humanitarian response is inadequate to prevent a further deterioration of conditions in the region and that large-scale emergency assistance is urgently needed. The drought is particularly acute in southern and central areas of Somalia, exacerbating the impact of conflict and the ongoing humanitarian emergency. On June 10, USAID/OFDA’s East and Central Africa Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya, established a Drought Task Force to monitor evolving drought conditions.
- Since December 2010, the average daily cost of food for Somali families has increased between 21 and 27 percent, with areas in the south reporting increases of 37 percent. An estimated 2.4 million people require humanitarian assistance, although the number may further increase after the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) releases the post-*gu* assessment in August.
- USAID Assistant Administrator for DCHA Nancy Lindborg and USAID Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) Director Dina Esposito traveled to Kenya from May 23 to 27 to meet with U.S. Embassy in Nairobi and USAID/Kenya staff to discuss programming in the East Africa region. The U.S. Special Representative for Somalia, Ambassador John M. Yates, and Assistant Administrator Lindborg traveled to Hargeysa in Somaliland, to affirm the U.S. Government’s (USG) commitment to Somalia during the ongoing drought. While in Hargeysa, Ambassador Yates and Assistant Administrator Lindborg met with Somaliland President Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo, the Somaliland Minister of Planning, and local and international non-governmental organizations to discuss the need for assistance to address climate change, restore livelihoods, and respond to the influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from southern and central Somalia.
- To date in FY 2011, USAID has provided \$22 million in humanitarian assistance to Somalia. USAID/OFDA has provided \$7.5 million to support health, nutrition, water, sanitation, agriculture and food security, and humanitarian coordination and information management activities, targeting more than 700,000 beneficiaries. USAID/FFP has provided \$14.5 million for food assistance activities.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance until June 2011	2.4 million people	FSNAU – January 2011
IDPs in Somalia	1.46 million people	UNHCR ¹ – May 2011
Somali Refugees in East Africa and Yemen	732,107 people	UNHCR – May 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SOMALIA

USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia	\$7,500,000
USAID/FFP Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia	\$14,500,000
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$22,000,000

CONTEXT

- Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, floods, and recurrent droughts have generated a complex emergency in Somalia. From December 2006 to January 2009, fighting between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), backed by Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG led to a further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. Following January 2009 Ethiopian troop withdrawals, conflict between armed militia groups and TFG forces—supported by African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) forces—continues to displace populations and limit humanitarian access to affected areas.

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- The combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall and conflict have culminated in rising inflation, crop failure, livestock mortality, population displacement, food insecurity, and significant acute malnutrition rates in Somalia. U.N. and humanitarian partners continue to coordinate efforts to improve access, but insecurity, targeted attacks, and bans against humanitarian agencies continue to hinder the provision of relief assistance to affected populations.
- On October 7, 2010, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires a.i. to Kenya Lee A. Brudvig renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Somalia for FY 2011.

Drought Conditions

- The cumulative impact of the failed October to December 2010 *deyr* rains, a harsh January to March *jilaal* dry season, and poor April to June *gu* rains has led to poor or failed crops, livestock mortality, and high food prices. These effects are exacerbated by continuing conflict and insecurity, worsening food security conditions in many parts of Somalia.
- Drought- and conflict-related population displacement continues to increase within and to surrounding countries of Somalia. During May, UNHCR indicated that approximately 8,000 people arrived and were registered at the Dadaab refugee complex in Kenya. As of June 9, the Dadaab complex hosted an estimated 339,000 Somali refugees, representing 94 percent of the total 357,000 camp residents.
- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), an average of 80 people per day moved towards the Boqol Manyo and Malkadida refugee camps in southeast Ethiopia in May due to drought conditions. More than 11,000 Somali refugees arrived in Ethiopia during May. As of May 31, Ethiopia hosted more than 115,000 Somali refugees.

Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access

- While security restrictions on humanitarian organizations continue to restrict relief assistance across much of southern and central Somalia, humanitarian access has increased to areas of Galgadud Region in central Somalia, including Abudwaq, Xeraale, Balambal, Dhuusamareeb, Guriel, and Mataban. According to OCHA, improved access to these areas may enable humanitarian partners to reach approximately 330,000 people requiring humanitarian assistance.
- UNHCR reported that conflict and drought displaced 53,700 people within Somalia between February 23 and May 20. Of the total number, 27,100 people were displaced due to insecurity in Mogadishu, with 12,600 people leaving the city and 14,500 others moving to safer areas within Mogadishu. Approximately 63 percent of all displacements between February and May resulted from insecurity.
- As of April, UNHCR reported that 59,446 Somali refugees were received in countries of asylum, with the majority of refugees traveling to Kenya. Since January, approximately 420 people have fled Yemen and returned to Somalia due to ongoing civil unrest in Yemen.
- On May 30, a suicide bomber attacked an AMISOM base in Hawl Wadaag District, killing two African Union soldiers and wounding four others.

Emergency Food Assistance

- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is targeting 100,000 beneficiaries at 20 wet feeding sites in Mogadishu and Banadir Region. As of the first week in June, WFP was accessing populations at all wet feeding sites; however, the number of sites accessible remains highly dependent on the security situation.
- Between January and May, WFP distributed 38,800 metric tons of mixed food commodities to approximately 1 million beneficiaries—three-quarters of all targeted beneficiaries—throughout intervention areas, mainly in central Somalia and Mogadishu.
- WFP continues to face significant funding and pipeline shortfalls. Due to recent food shortages, WFP's May food distribution was reduced to 33 percent of beneficiary needs.
- During FY 2011 to date, USAID/FFP has provided \$14.5 million to WFP for general food distribution, supplementary feeding, food-for-work, emergency school feeding, mother and child feeding, and institutional feeding programs. WFP's programs target approximately 1.2 million drought- and conflict-affected people in northern Somalia and accessible areas in central Somalia and Mogadishu.

Agriculture and Food Security

- The harsh *jilaal* dry period and poor *gu* rains have led to a severe water crisis, with high water and cereal prices, lower cereal availability, deteriorating livestock body conditions, and increased numbers of livestock deaths in central regions of Somalia, according to FSNAU. As a result, southern Somalia is experiencing extreme food insecurity, exacerbated by conflict and restricted humanitarian access.
- Prices for locally produced cereal prices increased by 23 to 33 percent as of April due to dwindling grain stocks, high demand, rising transport costs, and stock hoarding, according to the FSNAU/FEWS NET April Market Data update.

- To date in FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$1.8 million for agriculture and food security programs in Somalia, including funding for a food security and nutrition monitoring system.

Health and Nutrition

- In early June, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) expressed concern regarding the rise in weapon-related injuries of children in Mogadishu during May. In May, 735 cases, or 46 percent of a total 1,590 weapon-related injuries cases, involved children under the age of five, compared to only 3 percent in April. Between January and May, more than 5,000 people were admitted to Mogadishu hospitals due to weapon-related injuries.
- According to OCHA, a cholera outbreak was reported in Mogadishu on March 31. The Health Cluster—the coordinating body for health-related activities in Somalia—conducted water quality monitoring activities, including the collection of water samples from Mogadishu, to establish safety levels and determine the presence of infectious materials in the water. The Health Cluster plans to use the findings of the water testing to guide future water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions. In addition, WHO prepositioned 17 diarrhea disease kits and seven interagency health kits in Mogadishu; the kits can treat approximately 1,700 severe acute watery diarrhea (AWD) cases and assist 70,000 people for a period of three months.
- Recent assessments and nutrition surveys in southern Somalia indicate that the global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence remains more than 20 percent, above the WHO emergency threshold level of 15 percent. Reports indicate that GAM rates in certain pastoral and agro-pastoral areas in Gedo, Juba, and Middle Shabelle regions may be as high as 30 percent.
- To date in FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided \$5.5 million to humanitarian partners for health and nutrition programs in Somalia.

FY 2011 USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

FY 2011			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Implementing Partner	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
Implementing Partner	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Sanaag, Togdheer, Awdal, and Sool Regions	\$1,000,000
Implementing Partner	Health and Nutrition	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,500,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	General Food Distribution; Supplementary Feeding; Food-for-Work and Assets; Emergency School Feeding; Mother and Child Health Feeding; Institutional Feeding	Northwest, Northeast, and Parts of Central Regions, and Mogadishu	\$14,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$14,500,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2011			\$22,000,000

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 20, 2011.

² Estimated value of food assistance for FY 2011

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 Somalia may be available at 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 – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int