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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 #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

January 24, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated September 28, 2010

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On December 1, 2010, the U.N. launched the 2011 Consolidated Appeal for Somalia, requesting nearly \$530 million for 229 projects to benefit approximately 2 million individuals affected by the ongoing complex emergency. The 2011 Consolidated Appeal funding requirements represent an 11 percent decrease from the 2010 mid-year Consolidated Appeal funding request of \$596 million. The U.N. attributes the decrease in the 2011 CAP requirements to a reassessment of food assistance needs, as well as improved cluster coordination structures and an improved project vetting process.
- The ongoing La Niña weather phenomenon has caused below-normal October to December *deyr* rainfall in many regions of Somalia. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) estimates that the number of food insecure individuals in Somalia will rise in early 2011 due to reduced food production, loss of livestock, and increased food prices as a result of poor rains. FSNAU is currently conducting countrywide post-*deyr* 2010/2011 seasonal assessment and plans to release findings at the end of January.
- On January 17, the Puntland Regional Government severed ties with the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG). The Puntland authorities claim that TFG officials had failed to include Puntland authorities in the U.N.-led Djibouti Peace Process and do not represent the needs and humanitarian concerns of the citizens of Puntland when working domestically and with international partners.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance in 2011	2 million people	2011 U.N. CAP – December 2010
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Somalia	1.47 million people	UNHCR ¹ – January 2011
Somali Refugees in East Africa and Yemen	658,773 people	UNHCR – January 2011

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SOMALIA

USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$16,667,075
USAID/FFP ² Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$15,000,000
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$31,667,075

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 TFG, backed by Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG led to further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. Following January 2009 Ethiopian troop withdrawals, conflict between armed militia groups in Somalia continues to displace populations and limit humanitarian access to affected areas.
- In addition, the combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall, conflict, floods, rising inflation, displacement, and diarrheal disease outbreaks have exacerbated food insecurity and resulted in significant acute malnutrition rates in Somalia. U.N. and humanitarian partners continue to coordinate efforts to improve access, but insecurity and targeted attacks against relief staff 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 Response

- On January 7, 2011, the U.N. Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia issued a statement expressing concern over the drought situation in Somalia due to the below-average October to December *deyr* rains. In addition,

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

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

the Humanitarian Coordinator announced that approximately \$4.5 million from the U.N. Common Humanitarian Fund had been earmarked for emergency drought response interventions.

- Humanitarian agencies plan to focus the drought response on the livestock, agriculture, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sectors, in addition to nutrition and food assistance. As of January 7, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP)-led Food Assistance Cluster—the coordinating body for food-related response activities—was preparing to scale-up emergency food distributions, although WFP will experience a break in the food pipeline during late March 2011, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Displacement, Insecurity, and Humanitarian Access

- As of December 31, 2010, fighting continued between TFG forces—supported by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)—and armed opposition groups in Mogadishu, killing at least 133 people and injuring at least 285 others since the end of November.
- From December 1 to January 14, conflict and insecurity displaced more than 9,000 people from Mogadishu, according to UNHCR. Approximately 5,600 people fled Mogadishu, while 3,400 people relocated to safer areas within the city. In total, UNHCR estimates that conflict and insecurity has left nearly 1.47 million people internally displaced in Somalia. As of late December 2010, a total of 658,773 Somali refugees resided outside the country, primarily in East Africa and Yemen. In addition, UNHCR reported that approximately 12,000 people had been displaced throughout Somalia due to drought conditions, as of January 21.
- In December 2010, armed opposition groups al-Shabaab and Hizbul Islam merged, consolidating control in central and southern Somalia under al-Shabaab. Since January 2010, al-Shabaab has banned WFP from operating in southern Somalia. On January 1, the armed groups suspended WFP targeted supplementary feeding programs (TSFP) operating in central and southern Somalia. Three feeding programs were in the Afgooye corridor, and the fourth was beginning in Harardhere later this year.

Emergency Food Assistance

- In mid-January, mortar rounds fired in the vicinity of Martini Hospital in Hamarjabjad District in Mogadishu disrupted a WFP general food distribution for IDPs. OCHA reports that the mortars are believed to have been fired by armed opposition groups targeting AMISOM troops reinforcing positions at the Mogadishu seaport.
- In FY 2010, USAID/FFP provided 18,650 metric tons (MT) of Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$15 million, to WFP for affected populations in Somalia.

Agriculture and Food Security

- According to FSNAU, all of Hiran Region and several areas of central Somalia have experienced below-average *deyr* rainfall, resulting in crop failure, deteriorated pasture conditions, and severe water shortages. OCHA reported that the below-average rainfall is most severely affecting populations residing in Bay, Bakool, Gedo, and Mudug regions.
- The below-average *deyr* rainfall has resulted in decreased crop production in southern Somalia, with harvest of sorghum—a staple food group for the majority of the poor Somali population—expected to be below-normal. According to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the combination of delayed rains, poor pasture conditions, acute water shortages, and low crop production will likely lead to worsening food security for poor and middle income households in Iskushuban, Alula, Qandala, and Bossaso districts in Bari Region until March 2011.
- Due to poor *deyr* rainfall, inadequate pasture and water sources have led to deteriorated livestock body conditions in central and southern Somalia. Since October 2010, livestock have migrated from pastoral areas of Gedo, Bay, Juba, and Shabelle regions towards the Juba and Shabelle valleys, in search of better pasture and grazing conditions.
- Although livestock prices have recently increased in Hiran Region, food security is not expected to improve due to a combination of rising civil insecurity and poor *deyr* rainfall, according to OCHA.
- USAID/OFDA FY 2010 funding continues to support agriculture and food security initiatives in Somalia for affected populations during FY 2011. For example, one program in Sanaag Region continues to benefit up to 9,600 beneficiaries through the enhancement of crop production and diversification of livelihood bases.

Nutrition

- FSNAU, the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Somaliland and Puntland Ministries of Health, and other humanitarian partners conducted nutrition surveys in Puntland, Somaliland, and areas of central Somalia, in November. Assessments were conducted of IDPs in Hargeysa, Burao, and Berbera in Somaliland; Garowe, Galkayo, Bossaso, and Qardho in Puntland; and rural livelihood zones in central Somalia. According to preliminary findings, the assessments indicated a general improvement in global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates, with GAM rates of 13 percent and 11 percent in Hawd and Addun livelihood zones in central Somalia, and 12.8 percent in Galgaduud Region—all below the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold level of 15 percent.

- FSNAU surveys conducted in Gedo Region during December 2010 indicated a worsening nutrition situation. Survey results indicated a global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate of 25 percent, an increase compared to the 17.9 percent GAM rate reported in the region during mid-summer. However, FSNAU noted that the increase in malnutrition rates has not been accompanied by an increase in mortality rates in surveyed areas.

Health

- During 2010, WHO and partners' early detection mechanisms enabled response to 74 percent of the 89 disease outbreaks in Somalia within 96 hours of reporting. This figure represents an 18 percent improvement in surveillance detection and response rates compared to the previous year.
- OCHA reports that the Health Cluster, the coordinating body for health activities, trained approximately 850 health workers during 2010, focusing on communicable disease surveillance outbreak detection and control, emergency surgical procedures, trauma management, and reproductive health. However, the number represents a decline of approximately 10 percent from the number of health workers trained in 2009. WHO believes the decline was related to ongoing insecurity and conflict.

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