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

Georgia – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

June 18, 2009

Note: The last situation report was dated October 31, 2008.

BACKGROUND

In early August 2008, heightened tensions led to armed conflict involving Government of Georgia (GoG) and Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) forces, as well as South Ossetian separatist forces, affecting populations in Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and additional areas within Georgia. On August 13, the GoRF and GoG signed a ceasefire agreement, and GoRF troops subsequently withdrew from certain locations across Georgia in late August. The U.N. estimated that the conflict displaced approximately 30,000 people within South Ossetia, nearly 130,000 individuals within other parts of Georgia, and an additional 38,000 South Ossetians who crossed the Russian border into North Ossetia.

On August 9, 2008, U.S. Ambassador John F. Tefft declared a disaster due to the humanitarian consequences of armed conflict in Georgia. In response, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) and a subsequent emergency disaster response coordinator to conduct field assessments in affected regions and facilitate humanitarian coordination and information sharing. In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$20.6 million to meet humanitarian needs resulting from the crisis. In total, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided approximately \$56.3 million in humanitarian assistance to Georgia, including more than \$1.8 million from USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP), more than \$16.3 million from the U.S. Department of State, and nearly \$17.5 million from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD).

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at Height of Crisis	130,000*	U.N. Agencies ¹ – April 2009
IDP Returns to Areas of Origin	104,000	U.N. Agencies – April 2009
Resettled IDPs**	18,000	U.N. Agencies – April 2009
IDPs Remaining in Collective Centers	8,000	U.N. Agencies – April 2009

* The estimate does not include approximately 30,000 people displaced within the disputed area of South Ossetia or 38,000 additional people from South Ossetia who fled into the Russian region of North Ossetia.

** The estimate represents the number of the total 130,000 IDPs that the GoG has moved to newly constructed settlements.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE (FY 2008 AND FY 2009)

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Georgia.....	\$20,645,096
USAID/FFP Assistance to Georgia	\$1,846,400
State/EUR/ACE² Assistance to Georgia	\$3,487,583
State/PRM³ Assistance to Georgia	\$8,319,204
State/PM⁴ Assistance to Georgia	\$4,500,000
DoD Assistance to Georgia.....	\$17,486,434
Total USAID, State, and DOD Humanitarian Assistance to Georgia.....	\$56,284,717

CURRENT SITUATION

According to the April 2009 joint U.N. assessment, many conflict-affected households in Georgia continue to require humanitarian assistance despite widespread returns and resettlement. Between December 2008 and February 2009, international monitors reported ongoing violence in and around South Ossetia and Abkhazia, including regular incidents affecting Georgian police and

civilians, as well as sporadic incidents targeting international monitors. Although violent incidents along the ceasefire line have decreased since March 2009, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the U.N. Observer Mission in Georgia have expressed concern that renewed conflict remains possible due to the April 2009 introduction of additional

¹ Joint U.N. assessment performed by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP)

² U.S. Department of State Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (State/EUR/ACE)

³ U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ U.S. Department of State Bureau of Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (State/PM)

GoRF forces and equipment into Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

International organizations note that the GoRF has not yet implemented aspects of the August 2008 ceasefire agreement that require GoRF troop withdrawal to positions held before the conflict and deployment of international monitors into affected areas, including South Ossetia. Ongoing GoRF presence in areas not previously under GoRF control continues to preclude Georgian IDP return in certain areas. Five rounds of internationally-moderated discussions involving delegations from the GoG, the GoRF, Abkhazia, and South Ossetia have failed to resolve territorial disputes to date.

Humanitarian Access

As of May 2009, humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations in South Ossetia remained constrained for the majority of aid agencies other than the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Since August 2008, GoRF and South Ossetian separatist forces have maintained control of the South Ossetian Akhagori District, which was previously populated predominantly by ethnic Georgians and administered by the GoG. In May 2009, the Council of Europe (CoE) called on South Ossetian and GoRF authorities to ensure freedom of movement and access to basic services for residents of Akhagori.

Population Movement and IDP Returns

Since October 2008, the presence of European Union (EU) monitors in Georgia has enabled many IDPs to return to areas of origin. According to the U.N., approximately 122,000 IDPs had returned to areas of origin or resettled as of April 2009. The remaining 8,000 IDPs in Georgia continue to reside in collective centers in Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli Region, bordering South Ossetia.

By April 2009, the GoG had relocated approximately 18,000 IDPs previously residing in Tbilisi collective centers to durable housing in nearly 40 newly constructed settlements in Kakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions. EU monitors report that GoG officials responsible for resettlement programming have offered little notice, information, and choice to IDPs. International and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have also noted concerns regarding the poor quality of new houses or rehabilitated buildings and a lack of social support and physical infrastructure in areas of resettlement.

Agriculture and Food Security

According to the World Bank, agriculture constitutes the basis of the economy of the conflict-affected Shida Kartli Region. The loss of 2008 harvest income significantly impacted livelihoods in affected areas. In October 2008, the Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs (CNFA) estimated that the conflict resulted in approximately 13,600 cattle deaths, valued at \$10.4 million, and

destroyed 158,500 metric tons (MT) of crops, valued at \$80 million and representing 64 percent of the expected 2008 harvest in Gori, Kareli, and Kaspi districts. During the 2008/2009 winter, villagers in affected areas reported agricultural livelihoods opportunities as the primary humanitarian need, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, the CoE reported in May 2009 that landowners in certain affected areas remain unable to cultivate fields due to the continued presence of landmines and unexploded ordnance.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided \$2.9 million to CNFA to provide farmers with seeds and farming machinery, as well as assistance with the plowing, cultivation, and planting of the winter wheat throughout the Shida Kartli region.

Economy and Market Systems

To date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided over \$2 million to support livelihood interventions in conflict-affected areas and GoG settlements. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA committed \$920,000 to CHF International for both community-based and individual livelihood support initiatives, and \$760,000 to implementing partner Mercy Corps to support market-driven, community-based livelihood early recovery activities for IDPs. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA supported efforts by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to provide skills training and access to microenterprise opportunities for approximately 1,000 IDPs and host community members and provided \$225,000 to Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) for the renovation of child friendly spaces through cash-for-work opportunities.

Logistics and Relief Commodities

In FY 2008, the USAID/DART worked with U.N. agencies and NGO partners to distribute approximately 1 million units of USG-provided commodities to conflict-affected Georgians. USAID/OFDA relief commodities and logistics assistance included local transportation and distribution of USG humanitarian assistance, valued at nearly \$3.5 million.

Between August 13 and September 4, DoD conducted 59 humanitarian missions, delivering relief commodities from U.S. Department of State and DoD warehouses in Germany and USAID stockpiles in Italy. The U.S. Department of State also responded to immediate emergency needs for conflict-affected populations by releasing pre-positioned disaster packages, including medical supplies, tents, blankets, bedding, hygiene items, and clothing. State/PRM, through U.N. agencies, funded IDP and refugee assistance.

In FY 2008 and 2009, USAID/OFDA provided funding to eight international NGOs and U.N. organizations for the procurement and distribution of critical humanitarian relief supplies. USAID/OFDA implementing partners the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE International, International Orthodox Christian

Charities (IOCC), Mercy Corps, Première Urgence (PU), and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) provided cots, mattresses, pillows, bed linens, blankets, kitchen sets, heating stoves, fuel, firewood, cooking stoves, winter clothing, and hygiene kits. In addition, implementing partner WFP provided support for logistics and the transportation of food and emergency relief commodities.

Nutrition

For several months following the conflict, IDPs in collective centers, villages, and other settlements remained largely dependent on food assistance. In April 2009, the joint U.N. assessment recommended the continued provision of food assistance to ensure food security until the harvest, which FAO expects to begin in June or July 2009. The assessment also found that basic food rations and livelihoods interventions in resettlement areas and collective centers had mitigated potential increases in malnutrition and contributed to food security. According to U.N. agencies, the GoG has also allocated land plots to resettled IDPs to help reduce food insecurity, although the quality and size of plots vary significantly.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA contributed \$1.5 million through the GoG response plan to WFP for procurement of approximately 1,100 MT of basic food commodities and distribution of food and emergency relief items for IDPs. USAID/OFDA also provided more than \$600,000 through USAID/Georgia to NGOs for complementary food commodities to support IDPs. In FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided 1,550 MT of food commodities, valued at more than \$1.8 million, through WFP. To date, the USG has provided approximately \$3.9 million in food assistance to Georgia, representing more than 50 percent of WFP food distributions.

Protection

According to a May 2009 CoE report, the situation in areas surrounding South Ossetia remains unstable, with ongoing reports of human rights violations and persistent protection issues.

The GoG and NGOs provided psychosocial support to vulnerable populations following the conflict. However, nearly 68 percent of IDPs exhibited post-traumatic stress symptoms, according to an October 2008 Georgian Society of Psychotrauma assessment. In November 2008, the NGO Merlin also reported increased levels of stress and depression in affected communities and identified mental health as a primary health need.

In response to psychosocial needs, USAID/OFDA has provided over \$1.2 million to CRS, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and SC/US to promote the well-being of children and youth through the establishment of child-friendly spaces in collective centers, conflict-affected villages, and GoG settlements. USAID/OFDA implementing partners have also organized and facilitated cultural and sport activities for

youth, and legal counseling, social mentoring, and conflict transformation training for adults. The USAID/OFDA protection portfolio is currently benefiting 23,000 IDPs in Tbilisi city and the Shida Kartli and Imereti regions.

Shelter and Settlements

During the 2008/2009 winter, the GoG prioritized shelter needs of IDPs unable to return to areas of origin and expected to provide permanent housing to remaining IDPs by the end of March 2009. However, as of April 2009, approximately 8,000 IDPs remained in collective centers in Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli Region.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$5.1 million to International Relief and Development (IRD) and CHF International for emergency shelter activities in support of the overall GoG IDP settlement plan, including support to host families through home repairs, upgrades, and cash grants for the purchase of shelter materials. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1 million to CARE and nearly \$320,000 to UMCOR for shelter materials needed to renovate kitchen facilities in collective centers and improve the ventilation of roofs in GoG settlements.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

In late January, OCHA reported concerns regarding waste collection and management, as well as wastewater drainage in collective centers and new settlements. In response to WASH needs, USAID/OFDA contributed \$750,000 to UNICEF to support hygiene promotion activities in collective centers housing IDPs. In addition, USAID/OFDA funded efforts by IRC to improve the health and well-being of conflict-affected populations through the provision of water and sanitation facilities for IDPs in collective centers.

USAID, STATE, AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA

FY 2009			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
ADRA	Logistics/Relief Commodities	Tbilisi city	\$132,583
CARE	Logistics/Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements	Shida Kartli region and GoG settlements	\$1,015,056
CHF	Economy and Market Systems; Shelter and Settlements	Kvemo Kartli and Shida Kartli regions, and GoG settlements	\$416,118
CNFA	Agriculture and Food Security	Shida Kartli region	\$2,899,999
CRS	Economy and Market Systems; Protection	Imereti region	\$399,952
IRC	Protection; WASH	Tbilisi city, Shida Kartli region, and GoG settlements	\$882,229
Mercy Corps	Economy and Market Systems; Logistics/Relief Commodities	Shida Kartli region	\$1,144,330
SC/US	Economy and Market Systems; Logistics/Relief Commodities; and Protection	Tbilisi city, Kvemo Kartli and Shida Kartli regions, and GoG settlements	\$774,761
UMCOR	Logistics/Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements	Imereti region	\$316,455
	Stockpile Commodities and Logistics		\$519,742
	Administration and USAID/DART Support		\$6,752
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$8,507,977
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	1,550 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Tbilisi City and Shida Kartli Region	\$1,846,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$1,846,400
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	Protection and Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$2,000,000
STATE/PM ASSISTANCE			
	Conventional Weapons Destruction and Humanitarian Mine Action	Tbilisi City and Shida Kartli Region	\$4,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PM			\$4,500,000
TOTAL USAID, STATE, AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA IN FY 2009			\$16,854,377
FY 2008			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
ADRA	Logistics/Relief Commodities	Tbilisi City	\$388,887

CHF	Economy and Market Systems; Shelter and Settlements	Kvemo Kartli and Shida Kartli Regions, and GoG Settlements	\$3,124,977
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Abkhazia, Imereti, and Shida Kartli Regions	\$112,714
IOCC	Logistics/Relief Commodities	Tbilisi City and Shida Kartli Region	\$200,000
IRD	Shelter and Settlements	Kvemo Kartli, Imereti and Shida Kartli Regions	\$2,528,404
PU	Logistics/Relief Commodities	Tbilisi city, Imereti and Shida Kartli Regions	\$300,000
SC/US	Economy and Market Systems; Logistics/Relief Commodities; and Protection	Tbilisi city, Kvemo Kartli and Shida Kartli regions, and GoG Settlements	\$316,709
UMCOR	Logistics/Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements	Imereti Region	\$350,267
UNICEF	WASH	Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli Region	\$750,000
WFP	Logistics/Relief Commodities; Nutrition	Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli Region	\$2,499,402
	OFDA Support to USAID/Georgia for Disaster Relief Activities		\$1,099,578
	Administration and DART Support		\$466,181
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$12,137,119
STATE/EUR/ACE ASSISTANCE²			
Multiple	Logistics/Relief Commodities	Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli region	\$3,487,583
TOTAL STATE/EUR/ACE			\$3,487,583
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	Protection and Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
IRD	Shelter and Settlements	Imereti region	\$569,204
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,750,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$6,319,204
DOD ASSISTANCE			
Multiple	Emergency Relief Supplies and Other Support	Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli region	\$3,976,434
	Airlift of USG Emergency Relief Supplies	Tbilisi city and Shida Kartli region	\$13,510,000
TOTAL DOD			\$17,486,434
TOTAL USAID, STATE, AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA IN FY 2008			\$39,430,340
TOTAL USAID, STATE, AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA IN FY 2008 AND FY 2009			\$56,284,717

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 18, 2009.

² Estimated value of food assistance.