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U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
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) 2008

November 2, 2007

Note: The last fact sheet was dated September 14, 2007.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since October 27, tens of thousands of Mogadishu residents have fled the capital due to an upsurge in fighting and an intensification of Transitional Federal Government (TFG) security operations, according to U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- On October 30, more than 40 local and international NGOs issued a statement of concern regarding the escalating humanitarian crisis in southern and central Somalia and the impact of deteriorating access and security on relief operations. On November 1, the U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia issued a letter citing similar concerns.
- On October 30, following the resignation of Prime Minister Ali Mohamed Ghedi, President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed appointed Salim Aliyow Ibirow as Acting Prime Minister of Somalia's TFG. Ibirow will serve until a new Prime Minister is nominated.
- On October 3, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger reissued a disaster declaration for Somalia due to the ongoing complex emergency. More than 1.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, a 50 percent increase from January 2007, due to the cumulative effects of drought conditions, floods, and civil conflict, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Estimated Displacement from Mogadishu ¹	451,000	UNHCR ² – October 31, 2007
Long-Term IDP ³ Caseload	400,000	OCHA – July 31, 2007
Additional Population in Need of Assistance	785,000	FSAU ⁴ – August 2007
Somalia Refugees ⁵	335,000	UNHCR 2006 Global Trends Report – June 2007

FY 2007 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia.....	\$22,577,844
USAID/FFP ⁶ Assistance to Somalia	\$59,239,400
USAID/OTI ⁷ Assistance to Somalia	\$1,000,000
State/PRM ⁸ Assistance to Somalia	\$4,871,560
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$87,938,804

CURRENT SITUATION

Displacement

- Preliminary reports from UNHCR indicate that nearly 90,000 IDPs have been displaced following an escalation of fighting in Mogadishu since October 27. This figure includes 17,000 people displaced within the capital. The majority of newly displaced persons, including an estimated 46,000 in Afgooye, have fled to Lower Shabelle Region.
- Between April and September 2007, more than 325,000 IDPs were displaced from Mogadishu to the surrounding Galgadud, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Hiran, and Mudug regions, according to OCHA. Including the latest waves of displacement and the estimated 400,000 long-term displaced, the total IDP population in Somalia now exceeds 850,000.
- USAID implementing partners continue to provide food assistance and essential health, nutrition, agriculture and food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene services to displaced and conflict-affected populations throughout Somalia. On October 15, the USAID-supported U.N. World Food Program (WFP) began food distributions for 81,676 beneficiaries in Lower Shabelle.

¹ Figures represent estimated displacement from Mogadishu since April 2007, and do not reflect long-term displacement countrywide.

² Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees

³ Internally displaced person

⁴ U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security Analysis Unit for Somalia

⁵ Figures include approximately 335,000 Somali refugees currently living in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen.

⁶ USAID's Office of Food for Peace

⁷ USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives

⁸ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

- In northeastern Somalia, increased tensions between the self-declared Republic of Somaliland and the neighboring autonomous region of Puntland over the disputed Sool Region have displaced an estimated 56,000 people, according to U.N. reports. From October 22 to October 28, joint U.N. assessment teams visited the Sool Region to identify priority needs and coordinate response efforts.

Humanitarian Access

- Insecurity, renewed fighting in Mogadishu, border restrictions, and TFG and militia activities continue to impede humanitarian relief efforts throughout central and southern Somalia. NGOs cite pervasive harassment, intimidation, inconsistent taxation and registration policies, and increased delays at checkpoints as major obstacles to the delivery of emergency assistance.
- Despite negotiation efforts, Kenyan authorities officially informed USAID partner CARE that the Government of Kenya will not permit the transport of humanitarian relief commodities at the El-Wak border crossing into Somalia, where CARE emergency food assistance for an estimated 7,400 people has been delayed since late September.
- WFP has temporarily suspended food distributions in Mogadishu after the TFG seized and detained a WFP official from October 17 to 22. Security concerns had previously prompted a suspension of WFP distributions in the capital from June 25 to October 15.
- On October 21, WFP reported an attempted pirate attack on a WFP-chartered ship off the coast of Brava port, south of Mogadishu. The attack is the third security incident involving WFP vessels since January 2007.
- In coordination with U.N. and relief agencies, USAID staff in Nairobi are monitoring the humanitarian situation and ongoing response activities.

Health

- On October 2, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) issued an alert for a potential cholera outbreak in southern and central Somalia, following seven confirmed cases in Banadir and Bay regions. A previous outbreak from January to July caused 1,100 deaths and affected more than 37,000 people. WHO warns that new cases represent a greater threat to already vulnerable displaced and conflict-affected populations.
- USAID implementing partners the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO are providing cholera kits and oral rehydration therapy (ORT) supplies, including 24 million ORT packets, to affected populations.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- USAID/OFDA emergency relief activities in Somalia benefit more than 2 million people affected by repeated shocks of drought, floods, and conflict. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA relief efforts in Somalia totaled \$22.5 million for critical assistance to conflict- and disaster-affected people and humanitarian coordination. USAID/FFP provided more than \$59 million in food assistance to vulnerable populations in Somalia. USAID/OTI provided \$1 million to support peace-building efforts through the National Reconciliation Congress.
- State/PRM is assisting Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen and funding relief efforts within Somalia. In FY 2007, State/PRM provided nearly \$25 million to support Somali refugees and conflict-affected populations in Somalia, including through UNHCR and/or NGO refugee operations in Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia, as well as provided assistance for WFP refugee feeding programs. State/PRM allocated \$3 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for work with IDPs and conflict victims in Somalia. In addition, State/PRM provided unearmarked contributions to UNHCR and ICRC for Africa programs, a portion of which assists Somalia.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bakool, Bay Regions	\$950,000
CARE	Coordination, Economy and Market Systems, Logistics, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Gedo Region	\$5,132,245
FAO	Nutrition, Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$2,150,000
Horn Relief	Economy and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Lower Juba Region	\$886,785
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bakool, Hiran Regions	\$951,591
Matrix	12 Zodiac Boats and Motors	Flood-affected Areas	\$243,523

Mercy Corps	Relief Commodities, Economy and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Lower Juba, Middle Juba Regions	\$1,625,895
Mercy USA	Health, Nutrition	Hiran, Middle Shabelle Regions	\$302,877
OCHA	Coordination	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNHCR	Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	U.N. Common Air Service	Countrywide	\$878,470
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
WHO	Health	Southern Somalia	\$665,005
World Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$699,998
World Vision	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$500,000
	Program support costs	Countrywide	\$91,455
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$22,577,844
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
CARE	29,120 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgudud, Mudug Regions	\$22,756,300
WFP	48,370 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$36,483,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$59,239,400
USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE			
U.N. Development Program (UNDP)	Support for National Reconciliation Congress	Southern Somalia	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OTI			\$1,000,000
USAID/CMM ASSISTANCE			
UNDP	Support for National Reconciliation Congress	Southern Somalia	\$250,000
TOTAL USAID/CMM			\$250,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance, Protection	Countrywide	\$900,000
UNHCR	Response to Supplementary Appeal for IDPs	Countrywide	\$971,560
ICRC	Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,871,560
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2007			\$83,067,244
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2007			\$87,938,804

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 2, 2007.

² 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 identifying such organizations is available in the “How Can I Help” section of www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Somalia or by calling The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- 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.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/