

Samaritan's Purse

OFDA

NFI Strategic Stock and Livelihood Assistance for Eastern DRC

Democratic Republic of Congo

Agreement No. DRC AID-OFDA-G-13-00072—Quarterly Report

Period: January 1, 2014 – March 31, 2014
 To: USAID-OFDA
 By: Samaritan's Purse
 Report Submission Date: April 30, 2014

Contact Information:

Field:
Douglas Anderson
 Country Director
 D.R Congo
danderson@samaritan.org

Head-Quarters:
Aaron Ashoff
 West Africa Regional Director
 Boone, North Carolina
aashoff@samaritan.org

Project Summary

The goal of this project is to respond rapidly to the needs of conflict-affected households by increasing the effectiveness of the humanitarian response. This project will quickly distribute non-food item (NFI) kits in emergency situations to help war-affected populations cope with displacement and loss. The kits will include standard NFIs to assist households trying to recover from material loss. The project activities will also increase food security by improving livelihood capacity through increased and diversified agricultural production and limited livestock distribution.

Project Summary

Sector 1: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities

Objective: To efficiently and rapidly respond to the needs of conflict-affected populations in Eastern Congo by strategically prepositioning NFI kits for distribution.

Number of Beneficiaries Targeted: 3,000 households (HHs), 18,000 beneficiaries

Beneficiaries Reached: To date, Samaritan's Purse (SP) has reached 1,960 households.

Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security

Objective: To improve livelihood capacity through increased and diversified agricultural production.

Number of Beneficiaries Targeted: 4,950 households, 29,700 beneficiaries

Beneficiaries Reached: 29,417

Of the 3,000 HHs selected for participation in agricultural training groups (ATGs), 2,951 HHs have attended trainings this quarter. A total of 40 nutrition demonstration gardens (NDGs) have been established, with an 83% attendance rate at trainings this quarter for the 1,750 targeted HHs. For the livestock subsector, 225 HHs have been selected and all are receiving goats and animal-husbandry training. Households were selected based on vulnerability scores, preferring the elderly and widowed.

Accomplishments

Sector 1: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities

As previously notified, the NFI team who works to support OFDA distributions has been temporarily supporting the OCHA project, funded by the reserve mechanism, to respond to the crisis in Southern Irumu. The OCHA project had a four-month project life and was able to supplement the OFDA-funded activities. The OCHA funding allowed SP to respond to the emergency needs of 4,255 households with the staff support financed by OFDA. Samaritan's Purse distributed 1,032 NFI kits through direct distribution and used the fair model to reach another 3,223 households.

Although the OCHA NFI-project activities have now been completed, SP still has a remaining 1,284 kits ready for distribution through OFDA. The current plan recommended by the NFI cluster is to continue to meet the emergency needs in Southern Irumu by distributing these kits in the Bwanasura region. These distributions are planned to be completed by mid-May.

Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security

Agricultural beneficiaries are trained by SP staff monthly, including hands-on participatory training in the field. SP has developed a locally appropriate curriculum and the following topics have been covered with beneficiaries during the last quarter: transplanting, plant care, integrated pest management, choosing and preparing land for staple crops, maintenance and protection of crops, cultivation techniques, and fundamental principles for good vegetable production. Goat beneficiaries have been trained on selecting quality goats, conditions for good goat reproduction, and prevention and management of internal and external parasites. Beneficiaries completed the construction of goat shelters before receiving the goats. These shelters were made through various design options and suggestions based on local materials available and the abilities of the household. Each design provides a quality shelter for the goats while enabling them to be cleaned regularly. Beneficiaries took the initiative to build goat shelters using local materials and environmentally sustainable methods. 160 goats have been distributed and the remaining goats will be distributed early next quarter.

Apart from the routine follow-up visits and trainings for ATGs, NDGs, and goat beneficiaries, all planned distribution activities to date are completed. Only a few remaining beneficiaries have not received their tools because they were absent from the tools fairs, requiring field assistants to deliver the tools individually. Samaritan's Purse staff directly distributed seeds, or coordinated seed fairs, for a total distribution of 65,720 kgs of

seeds for ATGs, and also distributed seeds to NDGs who have already begun to enjoy a plentiful harvest of vegetables. The Mambasa team has now completed the purchase of all goats and has distributed 160 goats to 50 households. Samaritan's Purse staff will continue to provide follow-up visits to goat beneficiaries to ensure proper care and to facilitate hands-on training for livestock husbandry.

Issues and Concerns

Sector 1: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities

The OCHA project has helped SP to respond to more needs in Southern Irumu, but it delayed the distribution of the remaining 1,284 kits funded by this OFDA project. Despite this delay that allowed for additional beneficiaries to be reached with OCHA funding, original objectives for this project will be met within the planned time frame.

Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security

Attendance for NDG trainings has been lower than expected in spite of sensitization by radio announcements and word of mouth. Some beneficiaries have protested that the tools distributed are not adequate for each person to have their own, although goals of working as a community were clearly explained at the beginning of the project. In response, Samaritan's Purse has worked with the health centers, schools, and local leaders to provide additional small individual plots for each beneficiary and several gardens have received additional tools for gardens with many beneficiaries.

Another concern has been the difficulty of finding sufficient numbers of goats to purchase at reasonable prices for Mambasa beneficiaries. To address this problem, goats were purchased where market prices were more stable, which sometimes required the goats to be transported long distances.

Plan for Next Quarter

Sector 1: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities

The NFI team will devote the next quarter to the distribution of the remaining 1,284 kits. As recommended by the NFI cluster, the location for distribution has already been selected and will be the villages and zone around Bwanasura on the Luna-Komanda axe. The team will perform evaluations and beneficiary selection during the second half of April with the intention of completing the distribution before the end of May. With this upcoming distribution, all activities to meet NFI objectives will be complete.

Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security

Samaritan's Purse staff in Faradje will purchase and vaccinate 560 goats and distribute them to 175 households. Regular training on animal husbandry, improved agricultural techniques, and nutrition will continue for goat beneficiaries, ATGs, and NDGs. A second seed fair and additional seed distribution is planned for the ATGs in preparation for the second planting season in June.

Performance Indicators:

Sector 1: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities

Indicator	Projected Total	1st Quarter 2014
Total number and per-item USD cost of NFIs distributed, by type	Plastic Tarps: 3,000 Nylon Cord Pieces: 3,000 Blankets: 9,000 Kitchen, Hygiene, and Household Kits: 1,500	\$ 0
Total number and per-item USD value of cash/vouchers distributed for NFIs, by type	Cash/vouchers distributed for NFIs value: 57 USD per beneficiary X 1,500 beneficiaries = \$85,500 USD	0
Total number of people receiving NFIs, by sex	Total: 18,000 -Female: 15,300 -Male: 2,700	0
Total USD cost of transport, by type	Total: \$64,500 -Overland transport—NFI distributions: \$34,000 -Ocean freight—NFI supplies: \$20,000 -Cross-border land transport—NFI supplies: \$10,500	Total: \$2,680 Ocean: \$50 Border: \$2,630
Total number of flights/trips provided, by type	International USA-DRC trips: 7 International Entebbe-DRC trips: 19.8 Domestic-flight trips: 24	USA: 0 EBB: 1 Domestic: 11
Number of people transported, by transport type	International USA-DRC for people: 7 International Entebbe-DRC for people: 19.8 Domestic flights for people: Estimated 132	USA: 0 EBB: 4 Domestic: 27
Total kilograms of commodities transported by truck.	NFI kgs transported domestically: 25,000 kg	0

Sector 2: Agriculture and Food Security

Indicator	Projected Total	1st Quarter 2014
Projected increase in number of months of food self-sufficiency due to seed-system activities/agricultural inputs for beneficiary households.	Increase of 5 months food self-sufficiency	2.6 months increase from baseline survey
Number of people benefiting from seed-systems/agricultural input activities.	18,000	18,789
Number of people benefiting from training on agricultural techniques and basic nutrition.	28,500	26,469

Number of animals benefiting from, or affected by, livestock activities.	640 goats	160 goats
Number of people benefiting from livestock activities, also shown by sex.	1,000 (600 female/400 male)	324 (168 female/156 male)
Number of veterinary interventions (e.g., treatments, vaccinations, etc.).	640 vaccinations	223 vaccinations
Number of animals treated.	640 goats	160 goats