BUREAU FOR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFDA

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

2000

Annual Report

Credits

The FY 2000 Annual Report of the U.S. Agency for International Development/Bureau for Humanitarian Response/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance was researched, written, and produced by Esmie Alegrado, Olga Bilyk, Jamy Bond, Kasey Channell, Laura Coughlin, Brady Hartley, Faye Henderson, Jeff Ladenson, Alex Mahoney, Wesley Mossburg, Matt Mueller, Joseph Ponte, Pia Rice, Amy Sink, Amy Tohill-Stull, Katharine Winings, and Giselle Zimmerman of MacFadden & Associates, Inc./Labat Anderson, Inc. in Washington, D.C. under contract number AOT-C-00-00-00224-00.

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Cover photo information:
(large photo) A building collapses from damage due to flooding in southern Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

(top photo left) USAID/FFP emergency food commodities are off-loaded at a USAID/OFDA-funded feeding center in Sudan (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

(top photo center) A helicopter delivers relief supplies for flood victims in southern Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

(Top photo right) Children await supplemental feeding at a USAID/OFDA-funded project site in Somalia (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA Publications

In addition to its annual report, USAID/OFDA produces several other publications that are available on the Internet and by request. One of the most useful is the Field Operations Guide (FOG), a pocket-sized manual that contains methodology for conducting disaster assessments, as well as information on USAID/OFDA response procedures. USAID/OFDA also produces current situation reports on selected disasters and crises around the world, which describe the humanitarian situation and the corresponding USG response.

Current reports are available on several Internet gophers and World Wide Web sites, such as:

USAID Home Page
http://www.usaid.gov

UNOCHA ReliefWeb Home Page
http://www.reliefweb.int

Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA) Disaster Information Center
http://www.vita.org

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Finding Like Minds in Hard Times

The requirements for humanitarian assistance, unfortunately, are on the increase. The humanitarian community has an obligation to recognize this and respond in as creative and proactive a manner as possible. One of the great rewards of working in the humanitarian arena is the mutual reinforcement that people of like minds provide to each other; assumptions are made that don't require explanation: "Yes, we will find some way of helping...was that ever a question?"

The humanitarian community has begun to think and operate in partnerships that reflect the realities of working in environments that are increasingly insecure.

Reinforcement like this is intellectual, emotional, and moral, and goes a long way during hard times. The individual attitudes have a direct impact on the organizations they represent, which in turn encourages institutionalization of truly cooperative behavior.

What we have increasingly seen, however, are arrangements and understandings put in place that greatly facilitate developing a shared agenda. At the same time, the unique identities of the individual organizations involved have not been compromised. The humanitarian community has begun to think and operate in partnerships that reflect the realities of working in environments that are increasingly insecure. Donors have acknowledged the value of such arrangements by recognizing their work in funding decisions. The development of cooperative arrangements represents a positive step in this direction, as reflected in the concerted efforts set forth to raise the standards of humanitarian relief. The Sphere Project* is conspicuous among these efforts.

Beneficiaries of USAID/OFDA-funded drought assistance programs in Paraguay (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

On a personal note, this will be my final message as Director. It has been an extraordinary experience in the best of company. Thank you all.

H. Roy Williams
Director
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

* The Sphere Project is an inter-agency collaborative effort to increase the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance through a Humanitarian Charter and minimum standards guide.

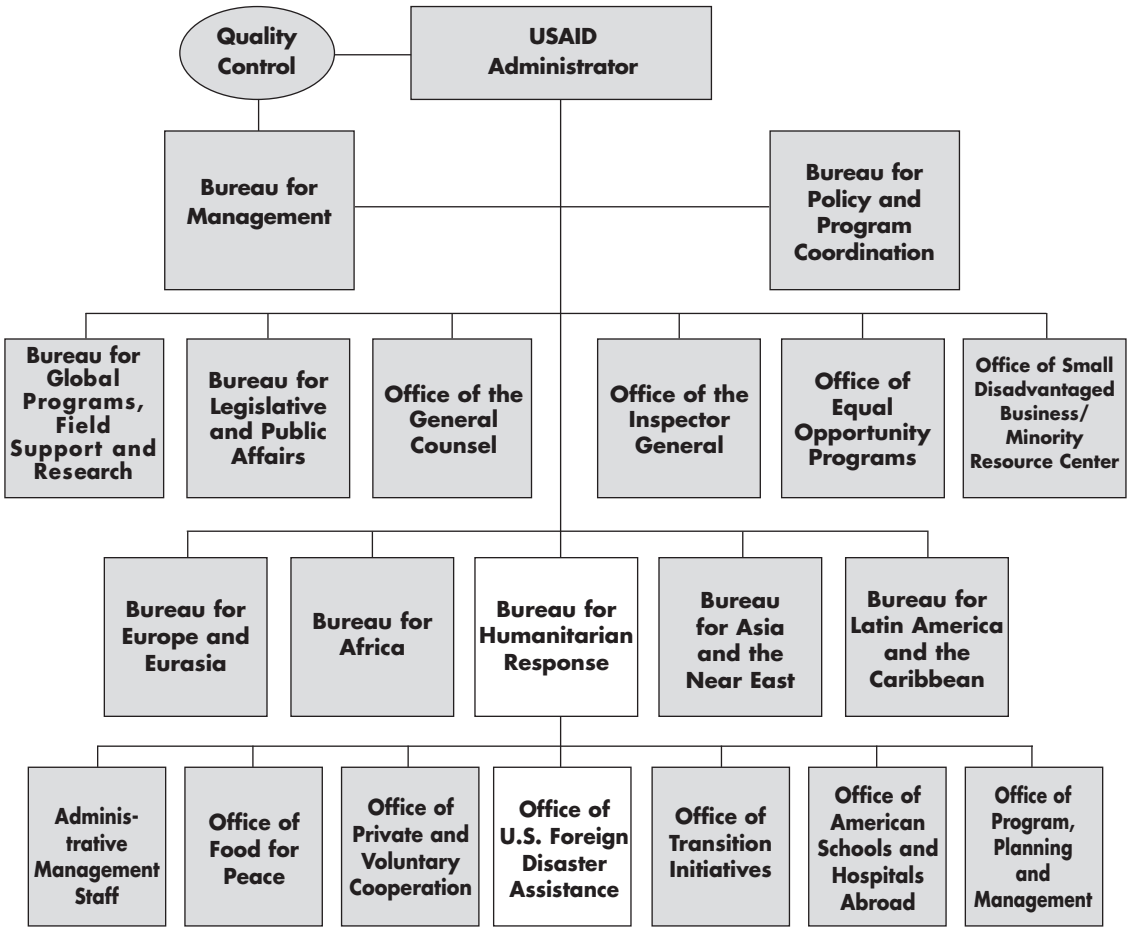
HOW USAID/OFDA WORKS

How the U.S. Government Provides Humanitarian Aid

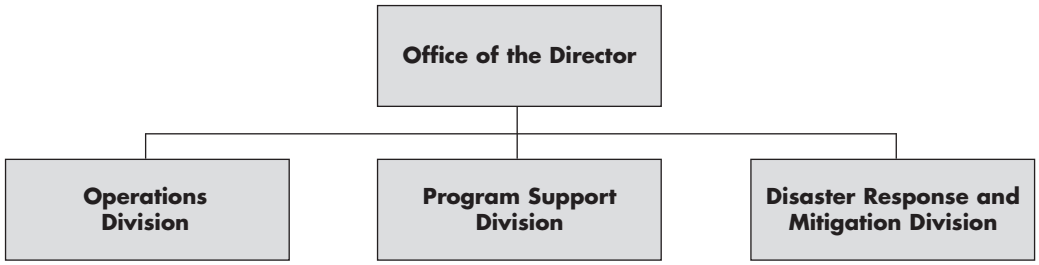
The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) is the office within USAID responsible for providing non-food humanitarian assistance in response to international crises and disasters. The USAID Administrator is designated as the President's Special Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance and USAID/OFDA assists in the coordination of this assistance. USAID/OFDA is part of the Bureau for Humanitarian Response (USAID/BHR), along with the Office of Food For Peace (USAID/FFP), the Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI), the Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation (USAID/PVC), and the Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (USAID/ASHA).

USAID/OFDA recently reorganized into three divisions, under the management of the Office of the Director. The Disaster Response and Mitigation (DRM) division is responsible for coordinating with other organizations for the provision of relief supplies and humanitarian assistance. DRM also devises, coordinates, and implements program strategies for the application of science and technology to prevention, mitigation, and national and international preparedness initiatives for a variety of natural and man-made disaster situations. The Operations Division (OPS)



Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

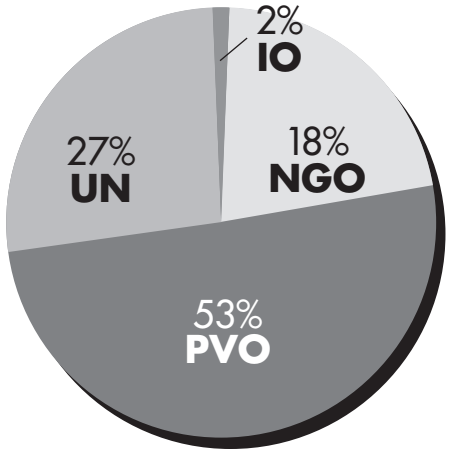


develops and manages logistical, operational, and technical support for disaster responses. OPS maintains readiness to respond to emergencies through several mechanisms, including managing several Search and Rescue (SAR) Teams, the Ground Operations Team (GO Team), field Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART), and Washington Response Managment Teams (RMT). The Program Support (PS) division provides programmatic and administrative support, including budget/financial services, procurement planning, contract/grant administration, general administrative support, and communication support for both USAID/OFDA Washington, D.C. and its field offices.

USAID/OFDA/DRM provides humanitarian assistance in response to a declaration of a foreign disaster made by the U.S. Ambassador or the U.S. Department of State. Once an event or situation is determined to require U.S. Government (USG) assistance, USAID/OFDA can immediately provide up to $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy or USAID Mission to purchase relief supplies locally or give a contribution to a relief organization in the affected country. USAID/OFDA also can send its own relief commodities, such as plastic sheeting, blankets, tents, and water purification units, from one of its five stockpiles located in Italy, Guam, Honduras, and the United States. Increasingly, USAID/OFDA deploys short- or long-term field personnel to countries where disasters are occurring or threaten to occur, and in some cases, dispatches a DART.

The largest percentage of USAID/OFDA's assistance goes to relief and rehabilitation project grants managed by Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and International Organizations (IOs). Relief projects include airlifting relief supplies to affected populations in remote locations, managing primary health care and supplementary feeding centers, and providing shelter materials to disaster evacuees and displaced persons. A rehabilitation project might immunize dislocated populations against disease, provide seeds and tools to farmers who have been affected by disasters, or drill wells or rehabilitate water systems in drought-stricken countries. USAID/OFDA carefully monitors the organizations implementing these projects to ensure that resources are used wisely and to determine if the project needs to be adapted to changing conditions. The goal of each project is to meet the humanitarian needs of the affected population, with the aim of returning the population to self-sufficiency.

USAID/OFDA Funding of Grants by Agency Type



The "notwithstanding" clause of Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 states that no statutory or regulatory requirements shall restrict USAID/OFDA's ability to respond to the needs of disaster victims in a timely fashion. USAID/OFDA follows the standard USAID procedures for routine procurements, but utilizes expedited or modified procedures when necessary to achieve its disaster response objectives. The first principle in disaster response accountability is to ensure that appropriate assistance gets to the neediest victims in time to minimize death and suffering. Procurement and accounting procedures may be expedited, but must include effective systems of internal control.

Not all of USAID/OFDA's assistance goes to provid-

ing aid in response to disasters. USAID/OFDA's mitigation staff oversees a portfolio of projects designed to reduce the impact of disasters on victims and economic assets in disaster-prone countries. Over the last several years, USAID/OFDA has invested in a number of programs in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, the World Environment Center, and other offices within USAID. These programs not only enhance a country's capacity to manage its own disasters and hazards, but also promote the transfer of technology, goods, and services between the U.S. and the host country. USAID/OFDA mitigation-related programs range from investing in drought early-warning systems that can possibly head off a famine to training local relief workers to manage the response to a disaster more effectively. USAID/OFDA is increasingly investing in programs designed to prevent, mitigate, prepare, and plan for complex emergencies, which are more the result of human actions than acts of nature.

Other U.S. Government Offices That Provide Foreign Humanitarian Assistance

USAID/OFDA is not the only office within the USG that provides humanitarian aid to foreign countries. USAID/FFP is responsible for administering the USG's foreign food aid programs, under U.S. Public Law (P.L.) 480 Titles II and III. Title II emergency food aid programs are targeted to vulnerable populations suffering from food insecurity as a result of natural disasters, civil conflict, or other crises. Title II emergency food aid is provided without repayment requirements, whereas Title III food aid is provided as a bilateral loan program to countries in need of assistance. USAID/OTI is the office within USAID responsible for providing assistance to countries that are in a stage of transition from crisis to recovery. Its assistance is designed to facilitate the transition to peace and democracy by aiding in the demobilization of combatants or developing democratic governance structures within the country. Other parts of USAID, such as the regional bureaus, provide foreign development aid, which often complements humanitarian relief programs or can be regarded as disaster recovery assistance. Countries that have achieved sustainable development are less likely to require massive USG humanitarian assistance.

Three of the biggest providers of USG humanitarian assistance are the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (State/PRM) and the U.S. Department of Defense's Office for Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs (DOD/PK/HA). USDA works closely with USAID/FFP in allocating surplus food commodities to developing countries, under the Section 416(b) program of the Agricultural Act of 1949. This food aid is often used for emergency feeding programs in countries experiencing food shortages due to drought or civil strife. In other countries, local currency proceeds from the sale of Section 416(b) food aid is used in support of disaster assistance projects. State/PRM provides multilateral grants to international relief organizations in response to refugee emergency appeals and contributes to the regular program budgets of organizations such as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). DOD/PK/HA coordinates the utilization of DOD assets for humanitarian assistance overseas. In addition, DOD works closely with USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Department of State to coordinate the Denton Program, a program that transports humanitarian goods on a space available basis, using U.S. military transportation. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also provide technical assistance in response to disasters and potential hazards overseas.

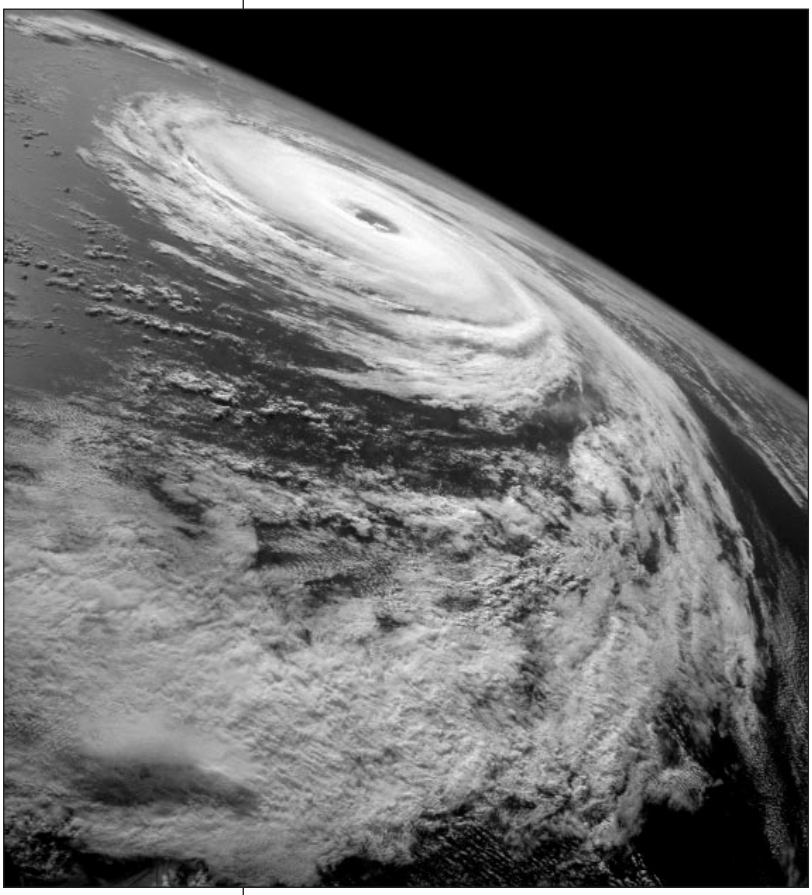
USAID/OFDA Top Five Programs FY 1990 – FY 2000

	COUNTRY	DISASTER	PROGRAM LENGTH	TOTAL FUNDING
1.	***Former Yugoslavia**	**Complex Emergency**	**9 years**	**$328.0**
2.	**Sudan**	**Complex Emergency**	**14 years**	**$280.7**
3.	**Angola**	**Complex Emergency**	**12 years**	**$137.6**
4.	**Somalia**	**Complex Emergency**	**12 years**	**$133.8**
5.	**Rwanda**	**Complex Emergency**	**9 years**	**$108.4**

*Accumulated funding for programs in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Kosovo, and Serbia-Montenegro.

BY ALEX MAHONEY

Environmental Degradation and Disasters: USAID/OFDA Rises to the Challenge



The impact of disasters on people and property is steadily increasing. During the 1990s, three times as many natural disasters affected communities than in the 1960s, but the economic losses due to natural disasters increased tenfold — from $4 billion to $40 billion a year, according to the February 2001 U.N. Intergovernmental Panel Report on Climate Change. Much of this increase is due to a dangerous combination of increasingly degraded natural environments, which contributes to the disastrous impact of natural events, and ever-larger populations moving into disaster-prone areas. Environmental degradation ranges from climate change to deforestation, desertification, and reduced water quality and supply.

USAID/OFDA and other members of the disaster relief community continue to face major challenges posed by the significant increase in worldwide disasters. These challenges demand stronger links between relief and development in the effort to prevent and reduce the impact disasters can have on lands and communities. USAID/OFDA is working toward a greater capacity and resourcefulness in responding to and mitigating these impacts by combining disaster reduction and prevention programs, linking with other USG agencies and international institutions, and strengthening its internal capacity for response.

The Many Facets of Environmental Degradation

An important factor driving environmental degradation is global population growth in the context of dire poverty. Much of the world's population growth is concentrated in urban areas, where half of the world's six billion people now live, according to a recent Population Institute report, and this proportion continues to grow at a rapid pace. Much of this urban growth is neither planned nor regulated. In some of the world's largest cities, between 30% and 60% of the urban population lives in unauthorized settlements, according to UNEP. The lack of socio-economic opportunities in rural areas is one of the factors that have pushed populations into cities to settle in the only affordable sites — precarious urban locations on the least desirable land. This land is often the most vulnerable to hazards, such as landslides or flooding. Populations concentrated in these areas can destroy the land's natural resiliency, thereby making it even more vulnerable. Unauthorized settlements are characterized by inadequate construction, poor or nonexistent sanitation, and high concentrations of people — all of which greatly increase vulnerability to disasters, as demonstrated vividly during Hurricane Mitch and the 1999 Venezuela floods.

Deforestation is one of the most visible signs of environmental degradation. According to the U.N.

Environment Program (UNEP), half the world's forests are located in developing countries; during the 20th century, forested areas in these countries were halved. Deforestation on hillsides leads to soil erosion, landslides, and increased risk of flooding as water runs off slopes rather than being absorbed. A reduction in the absorptive capacity of soils contributes to ground water resource depletion. If groundwater reserves are depleted, it can take many hundreds of years for them to be replenished; if groundwater is used beyond the replenishment rate, it becomes, in effect, a nonrenewable resource.

In arid regions, which cover some 40% of the Earth's land surface, a warmer Earth and increased pressure from human activities also could accelerate desertification. Desertification refers to the conversion of arid lands to deserts as a result of decreasing rainfall and loss of vegetation in a region, often the result of overgrazing, over-cultivation, or harvesting of trees and plants for fuelwood. Salinization also is a common problem in soils in arid regions, since salts accumulate in the upper soil layers over time, often exacerbated by irrigation with poor quality water and inadequate drainage. Both desertification and salinization can render soil useless for grazing or agricultural production, leading to the displacement of populations away from the region. When drought strikes, traditional agricultural coping methods for poor rainfall years may no longer be adequate to deal with these new challenges.

There is growing evidence that the Earth's climate is warming at a faster pace. The U.N. report on Climate Change concluded that the Earth's average temperature may rise by as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit during the next 100 years. Effects that may flow from global warming include weather that is increasingly volatile, storms that are more frequent and intense, and changing rainfall distribution patterns that flood some areas and leave others to suffer from drought conditions of unprecedented intensity. And these are only the short-term effects. Global warming may be expected to have longer-term effects as well: glaciers may melt and areas covered by permafrost may shrink, sea levels may rise, ocean currents may change, and warm climate diseases such as malaria and cholera may spread to new areas. Millions of people could be displaced as low-lying coastal areas are inundated by rising sea levels.

When environmental degradation leads to a scarcity of basic resources, such as food and potable water, social tension and conflict may arise either between or within states. Territorial rights to bodies of water shared across boundaries are an increasingly contentious issue. Furthermore, environmental degradation has the potential to spur large-scale population displacement as land becomes unusable or climate-related disasters drive people from their homes, just as drought conditions have done recently in Afghanistan. Migrations may lead to tension between migrants and host communities, particularly if resources also are scarce in the host area. Because a complex variety of factors are often what drive these conflicts, it is difficult to determine the role that environmental causes have played in conflicts to date.

Where There's a Will, There's a Way: USAID/OFDA Accepts the Challenge of Promoting Disaster Reduction and Preparedness

The effects of environmental degradation pose a twofold challenge to USAID/OFDA: How does USAID/OFDA work to reduce the cost and magnitude of future disasters? And how does USAID/OFDA prepare for larger and more frequent disasters? During the last several years, USAID/OFDA has worked to incorporate environmental considerations into the projects it funds around the world. Careful consideration of disaster response options is a critical element of USAID/OFDA's overall funding strategy. USAID/OFDA has incorporated strategic evaluation criteria into its grant proposal review process, which supports those practices that avoid environmental degradation, and mitigate the potential for disasters in the future.

In 1998 when floods struck Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, affecting an estimated 100,000 people, USAID/OFDA responded after the emergency with a project designed to reduce the population's vulnerability to floods in the future. The project, which was implemented through Catholic Relief Services (CRS), built 17 small check-dams from locally available materials, cleaned drainage canals, and reseeded degraded watershed areas to improve soil and moisture retention. When torrential rains again struck Kinshasa in February 1999, there were no injuries, no displaced residents, and no damaged homes in the project area. This successful project enabled the residents of Kinshasa to avoid a repeat of the $7.7 million in economic losses they suffered in 1998. These losses are not insignificant in a community where average monthly household incomes are less than $70. (For additional details, see "Food for Thought," p. 32.)

In March 1999, after surveying the extensive damage

Hillside homes destroyed by landslides near Macuto in Vargas State, Venezuela (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

Hurricane Mitch caused in Central America, President Clinton announced the $11 million Central American Mitigation Initiative (CAMI) and named USAID/OFDA as its chief implementer. The project works to reduce the impact of natural disasters by building the national capacity in Central American countries to forecast, monitor, and prevent those disasters. After identifying the root causes of the area's vulnerability to natural hazards, USAID/OFDA developed measurable objectives with which to address at-risk needs and designed strategic action plans. Currently, USAID/OFDA is cooperating with other USG agencies in implementing those plans. CAMI is one example of how USAID/OFDA is responding to the demand for greater links between relief and development, and cooperating with other agencies to implement projects dedicated to preventing and reducing the impact disasters can have on lands and communities. USAID/OFDA recognizes that prevention, reduction, and preparedness are three important factors in reducing the large-scale devastation that disasters such as Hurricane Mitch can have on vulnerable populations. (For additional details, see "The Central American Mitigation Initiative," p. 80.)

In FY 2000, the impact of floods in Vietnam was exacerbated because increased populations living in watershed areas placed more people in danger. Recognizing the need to address this problem, USAID/OFDA started supporting flood plain delineation efforts designed to map flood plains to determine where people should avoid building their homes in the future. These efforts also locate emergency shelters and determine evacuation routes to be used during future flooding.

In India and Pakistan, USAID/OFDA has funded several rainwater harvesting projects that work to improve the ability of communities to cope with current and future droughts. One aspect of these projects is to construct cisterns for rainwater storage, thereby reducing the amount of available water that goes unused, as well as the need to extract groundwater for household and agricultural use. These projects are an example of how USAID/OFDA supports activities that consider factors such as urban population growth in their design and implementation.

Together We Stand: USAID/OFDA Partnerships

USAID/OFDA recognizes that responding to disasters, reducing their potential impact, and preparing for when they strike requires a holistic approach, one that draws from different agencies and organizations with a range of expertise and abilities. USAID/OFDA is building partnerships with a variety of organizations to leverage one of its most valuable assets: expertise in disaster-related issues. Appropriate development practices can make the difference in avoiding disasters. As an office within USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Response, OFDA is well positioned to work in conjunction with other USAID bureaus and international organizations focusing on rehabilitation and development.

In Honduras, USAID's Land Use Productivity Enhancement (LUPE) program works to improve hillside agricultural practices. Under LUPE, 38,000 families growing crops on a hillside have adopted environmentally sustainable cultivation practices that reduce soil erosion on steep slopes from 37 tons per acre to less than half a ton, saving an estimated five million tons of topsoil annually. During Hurricane Mitch, LUPE farms withstood the ravages of the storm while soil erosion and landslides destroyed farms that did not adopt these practices. Following Hurricane Mitch, USAID played a major role in reconstruction assistance, "building back better," according to the LUPE approach. USAID/OFDA continues to play an active role in that effort.

In Africa, the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), funded by USAID's Africa Bureau with additional funding from USAID/OFDA, supports an exchange of trans-boundary water information and climate issues in Africa. FEWS NET provides monitoring and reporting on hydro-meteorological developments likely to affect food supplies. USAID/OFDA provides support to FEWS NET for areas of specific concern, such as cyclical droughts and flooding that contribute to humanitarian disasters.

In Asia, USAID/OFDA has cooperated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) since 1993 to promote the regional production of seasonal climate forecast information, which

can then be applied towards disaster prevention and preparedness through improved risk management. These efforts were instrumental in helping countries cope with the effects of the 1997-1998 El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) event.

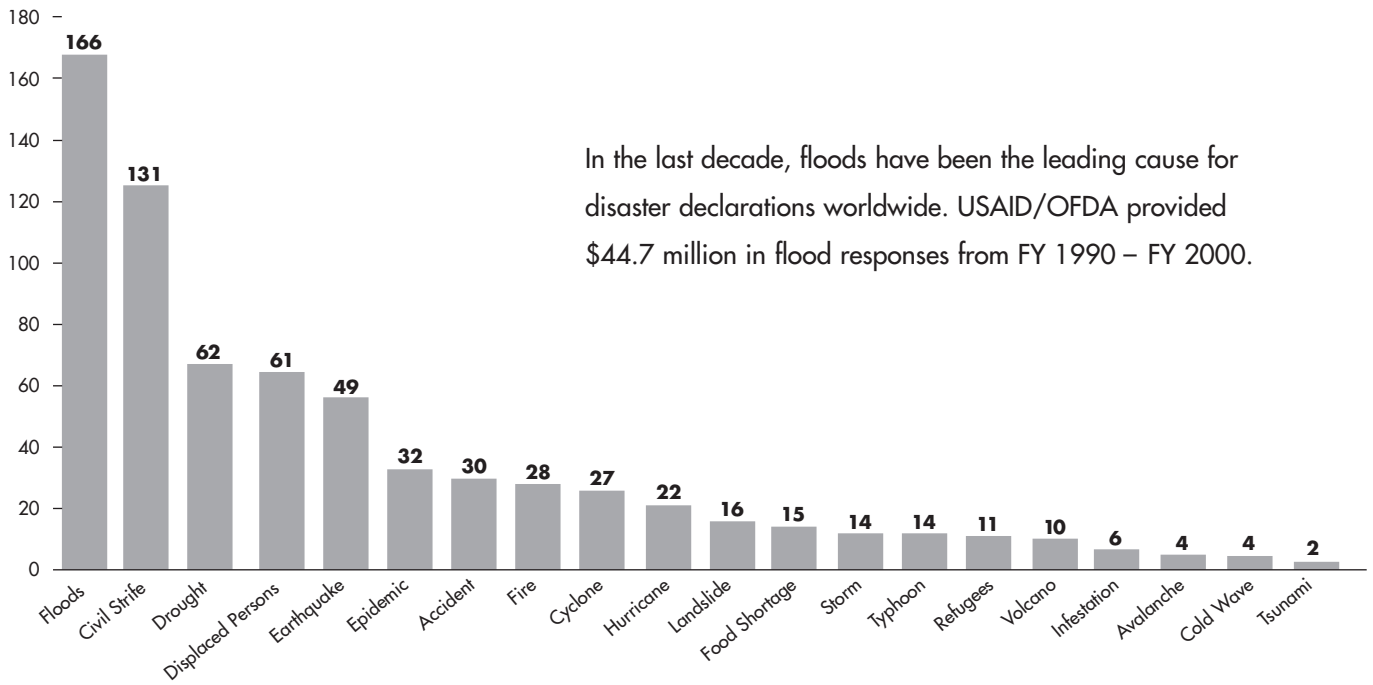
Furthermore, USAID/OFDA funds the Bangkok-based Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), which supports and encourages disaster reduction and preparedness activities. ADPC programs include the Program for Understanding Extreme Climate Events (ECE), a USAID/OFDA-supported initiative that was the result of an Asian regional meeting on El Niño-related crises held by NOAA in February 1998. ECE's goal is to significantly improve the understanding of how extreme climate events, such as El Niño and La Niña, can impact the environment in selected Asian countries. The program uses effective application of climate forecast information to reduce the disaster impacts of such events. The program currently runs in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam, and USAID/OFDA expects it to expand to Bangladesh and Thailand. (For additional details see "Disaster Preparedness in Asia," page 63.)

In the Caribbean, a multi-year program to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards is currently operating in cooperation with the Organization of American States (OAS) and with USAID support. The 1993-1999 Caribbean Disaster Mitigation Project (CDMP) promoted the adoption of disaster mitigation and preparedness techniques, technologies, and practices by the public and private sectors in the Caribbean region, thereby lessening the number of lives lost, reducing potential damage, and shortening the time it takes to recover from natural disasters. Also, in the Caribbean, USAID/OFDA works closely with international lending institutions to increase disaster preparedness awareness in development planning. During FY 2000, USAID/OFDA provided the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) with a start up grant to establish an in-house advisor. The advisor reviews development loans and ensures that project designs are sensitive to natural and environmental hazards. After three years, the advisor will become a permanent, self-supporting position within the CDB.

Strength From Within: USAID/OFDA Builds Internal Capacity

USAID/OFDA recognizes that effective disaster response, reduction, and preparedness require strengthened internal capacity. Recently, USAID/OFDA embarked on a number of capacity-building initiatives designed to improve its ability to respond swiftly when disaster strikes. In December 1999, USAID/OFDA established Response Management Teams (RMTs), pre-designated teams

Number of USAID/OFDA Disaster Declarations by Type FY 1990 – FY 2000



In the last decade, floods have been the leading cause for disaster declarations worldwide. USAID/OFDA provided $44.7 million in flood responses from FY 1990 – FY 2000.

A New USAID/OFDA Publication: Disaster Reduction: A Practitioner's Guide

Disaster Reduction: A Practitioner's Guide (DRPG) was produced by USAID/OFDA's Technical Assistance Group (TAG) and serves as a reference guide for the planning and development of disaster interventions with a specific focus on prevention and preparedness. The guide supplements USAID/OFDA's popular resource, Field Operations Guide for Disaster Assessment and Response (FOG), with a variety of techniques for incorporating elements of disaster preparedness and prevention into disaster response. The DRPG focuses on six main sectors: seeds and tools, livestock, water and sanitation, health, shelter, and food- and cash-for-work programs. Each chapter provides guidelines on assessing options, offers various types of interventions, and profiles two illustrative case studies. The DRPG also includes a reference bibliography, topical annexes, and an annotated Crop and Food Aid Calendar for Africa.

Three elements that provide the foundation for USAID/OFDA's mandate to save lives and alleviate human suffering are emphasized in the DRPG:

- *Preventive interventions that promote activities to minimize risk. For example, when reduced rainfall is anticipated, households may be encouraged to plant more drought-resistant crops.*
- *Activities that mitigate, or reduce, the effects of a disaster in the short-term and enable populations to recover quickly. The DRPG encourages the provision of relief items through local market channels as well as the engagement of local businesses in relief activities.*
- *Long-term initiatives that promote preparedness and can facilitate more timely and effective disaster response; for example, early-warning systems and emergency relief training.*

— Olga Bilyk

that are stationed in USAID/OFDA's Washington D.C. Operations Center. RMTs are responsible for coordinating all aspects of a major disaster response, from managing the field deployment of personnel and commodities to disseminating information. RMTs support Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs), which rapidly deploy to disaster situations on behalf of the USG to assess, gather information and report on current disaster situations, provide humanitarian coordination, and process grants to implementing partners.

Furthermore, USAID/OFDA has enhanced its staffing in its regional field offices in San Jose, Costa Rica; Nairobi, Kenya; and Manila, Philippines and in subregional field offices in Bridgetown, Barbados; Kingston, Jamaica; and Kathmandu, Nepal to improve the monitoring of potential crises, as well as conduct regionally-based management of disaster responses and mitigation activities. USAID/OFDA also has placed a regional advisor in Conakry, Guinea and Emergency Disaster Response Coordinators (EDRCs) in selected countries. In an effort to enhance its surge capacity, USAID/OFDA has established the Response Alternatives for Technical Services (RATS) program. The RATS program ensures that when a disaster hits, additional experienced professional staff are available, as needed, for immediate field deployment or emergency Washington support. USAID/OFDA also is working to increase its existing commodity stockpile capacities in New Windsor, Maryland; Miami, Florida; Pisa, Italy; Guam; and Soto Cano, Honduras as the need for emergency relief commodities has become greater. In Bangladesh and Mozambique, for example, USAID/OFDA was able to leave water purification units and Zodiac boats from nearby stockpiles to assist local authorities in responding to future flooding.

Finally, USAID/OFDA is developing a strategy in Asia to deal more effectively with the increased number of hydro-meteorological disasters. During FY 2000, USAID/OFDA deployed a hydro-meteorological advisor to Bangladesh to serve as a regional resource in preparedness activities, providing advice on activities such as the USAID/OFDA-funded, long-range flood-forecasting project for Bangladesh. A hydro-meteorological expert based in Washington, D.C. augments the advisor in Bangladesh, and is responsible for dealing with worldwide hydro-meteorological issues.

With the effects of environmental degradation already manifested in an increased number and intensity of disasters, and with further increases expected, USAID/OFDA is prepared to accept the challenge this poses to the international relief com-

Response Management Teams: When Disaster Strikes, USAID/OFDA Mobilizes

In FY 1999, with disasters such as the devastating earthquakes in Turkey, destruction from Hurricane Mitch in Central America, and a shelter crisis from civil strife in Kosovo, USAID/OFDA played an increasingly operational role in the field. Greater field presence placed greater demands on USAID/OFDA staff in Washington and ultimately led the office to establish Washington-based Response Management Teams (RMTs), an operation designed to provide sustained support for the increased number, size, and duration of USAID/OFDA DARTs. When a major disaster strikes, USAID/OFDA not only deploys a USAID/DART to the field, but also mobilizes the RMT in Washington to ensure accurate communication, appropriate analysis, quick response to field and USG requests, and prompt information dissemination.

An RMT is composed of pre-designated teams that are responsible for the planning, logistics, communications, reporting, and administrative duties during the length of a disaster response. The RMT coordinates with USAID/OFDA's USG partners in Washington on recommendations and decisions, and responds to inquiries from within the USG offices. The implementation of the RMT structure in Washington parallels that of a DART on the ground. In effect, the coordination and operation of relief activities in the field are reflected by similar roles in Washington. In FY 2000, RMTs were activated for the floods in Southern Africa and Venezuela, as well as for the second earthquake in Turkey. USAID/OFDA attributes RMT operational success to its very systematic and focused approach.

— Olga Bilyk

munity. By linking with other agencies and increasing its internal capacity to respond to larger and more frequent disasters, USAID/OFDA is improving the effectiveness of its response when disaster strikes. Even more importantly, however, USAID/OFDA is supporting international efforts in disaster reduction and preparedness by implementing projects that better prepare vulnerable communities worldwide for the impacts of disasters. It is with this effort that USAID/OFDA aims to reduce the devastating effects an increased number of disasters can have on populations and lands, thereby reducing the amount of emergency response these disasters will require.

USAID/OFDA'S TAG Team

USAID/OFDA's Technical Assistance Group (TAG) was created in 1998 as part of USAID/OFDA's dedication to adopting new programming and response capabilities in the face of evolving challenges to providing humanitarian assistance. As part of USAID/OFDA's Disaster Response and Mitigation Division (DRM), the TAG is the team of technical specialists who provide scientific expertise to USAID/OFDA's long-term planning, preparedness, and disaster response activities. Members have a wide range of sectoral expertise, including agriculture and food security, emergency and public health, water and sanitation, geoscience, climate, urban planning, contingency planning, cartography, and hydro-meteorology.

With these broad technical specializations, the TAG is able to provide USAID/OFDA with a global understanding of hazards and disasters, as well as the technical information needed for comprehensive disaster preparation and response. TAG members work with all of USAID/OFDA personnel, including regional offices and USAID Missions, and can serve on DARTs, assessment teams, and RMTs. Through inter-agency agreements and coordination with various USG agencies and bureaus, the TAG offers USAID/OFDA access to valuable USG resources, such as NOAA, USGS, and CDC. The team adds a significant value to USAID/OFDA activities by serving as a core staff for evaluating global trends in disaster occurrences, and developing methods to incorporate lessons-learned into USAID/OFDA's prevention, preparedness, and response activities.

— Olga Bilyk

Prior-Year and Non-Declared Disasters

Activities initiated in response to a disaster declaration often require additional funding for completion in subsequent fiscal years. In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA obligated a total of $1,751,652 in response to disasters declared in FY 1999 and FY 1998.

FY 1999 Carryover

El Salvador – Hurricane Mitch
Replenishment of 5,150 blankets to stockpile **$29,355**

Guatemala – Hurricane Mitch
Replenishment of 3,000 blankets to stockpile **$17,100**

Honduras – Hurricane Mitch
Replenishment of 2,541,024 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, water bladders, and body bags to stockpile..... **$165,500**

Macedonia – Refugees
Replenishment of 15,200 five-gallon water containers, 1,958,400 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, and 1,260 tents to stockpile **$687,780**

Nicaragua – Hurricane Mitch
Replenishment of 14,000 blankets to stockpile **$79,800**

Taiwan – Earthquake
Costs of deployment for Miami-Dade, Florida and Fairfax County, Virginia Search and Rescue teams..... **$752,117**

FY 1998 Carryover

Dominican Republic – Hurricane Georges
Replenishment of water bladders to stockpile **$20,000**

FY 2000 Declared Disasters

Disaster Summaries in this Annual Report

The disaster descriptions on the following pages cover the period of the USG's fiscal year, October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000. During FY 2000, USAID/OFDA responded to 66 new "declared" disasters.

How a Disaster is Declared

The Chief of the U.S. Mission declares a disaster in the affected country when he or she determines that a disaster exists that warrants a USG response and that is beyond the ability of the host country's response capacity. In the event that a U.S. Mission is not located in the affected country, the appropriate U.S. Assistant Secretary of State may declare a disaster. A disaster cannot be declared without a request from the host country for USG assistance. A disaster declaration allows the Chief of Mission or U.S. Assistant Secretary of State to allocate up to $25,000 (the "Disaster Assistance Authority") for host country relief efforts. USAID/OFDA releases the $25,000 Ambassador's Authority from its International Disaster Account (IDA) and provides the Mission with guidance to determine the need for additional USG assistance. USAID/OFDA sends assessment teams to disaster sites when needed to assist in the verification of relief needs.

USAID/OFDA Assistance and other USG Assistance

Many of the disasters in FY 2000 required a mix of USG financial and staff resources. The disaster descriptions include total dollar figures for the assistance provided from USAID/OFDA's IDA, as well as summary information on assistance provided by other USG offices, such as USAID/FFP, USAID/OTI, USDA, DOD, and State/PRM. It is not always possible for USAID/OFDA to verify total assistance provided by other USG offices. Wherever possible, State/PRM and USAID/FFP funding for regional grants, programs, and international appeals are listed separately.

Assistance Provided by U.S. PVOs, NGOs, and the International Community

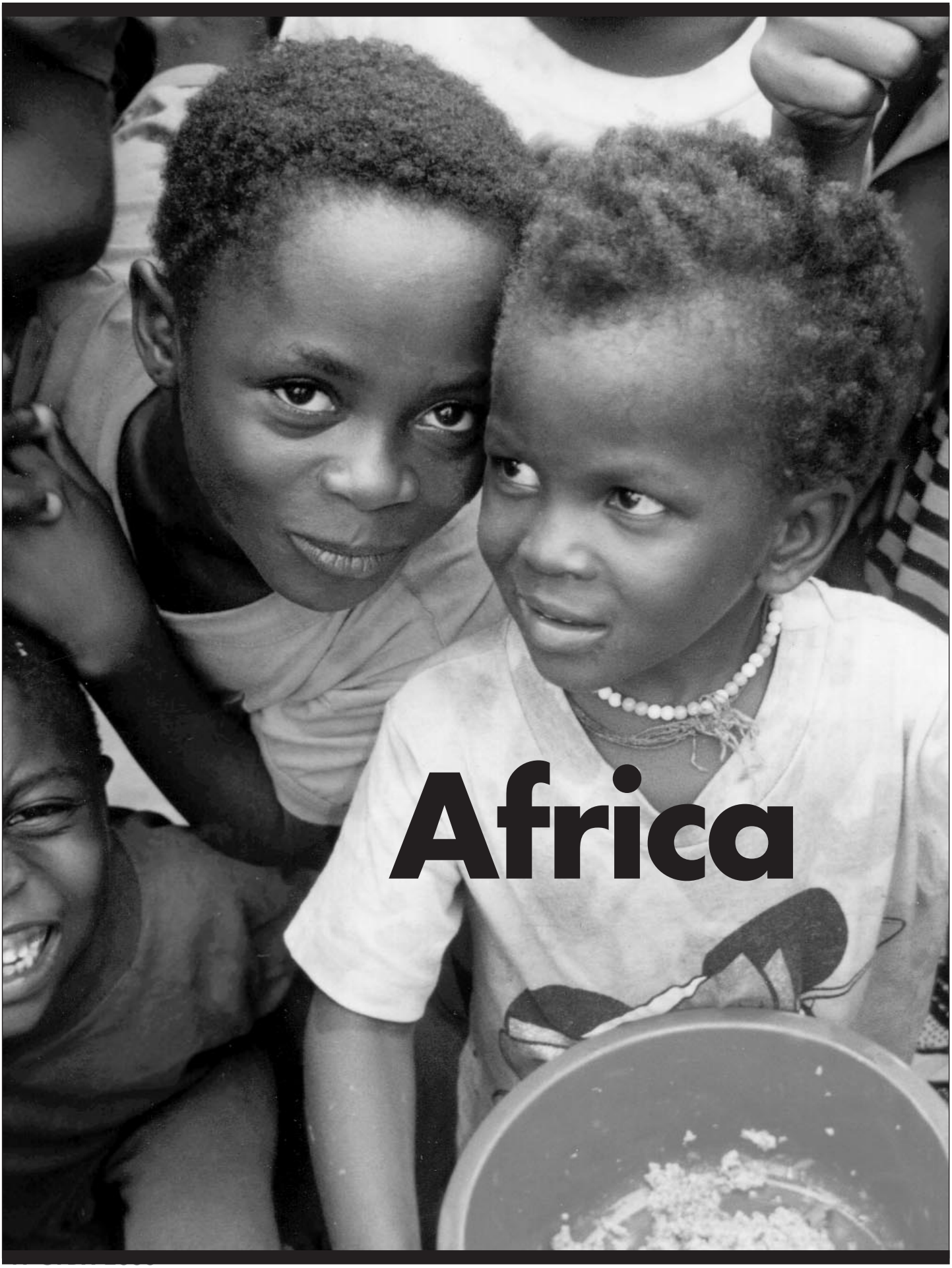
Information included in the disaster descriptions on assistance provided by U.S. PVOs, NGOs, and the international community is compiled from reports submitted voluntarily to USAID/OFDA. It is not always possible to verify the accuracy of these reports.

Detailed Situation Reports and Fact Sheets on Major Disasters Available Separately

USAID/OFDA produces documents that provide more detailed information about declared disasters than is provided in the case reports found in this annual report. Situation reports are 4-5 page documents updated periodically and written on long-term, complex emergencies. Fact sheets are traditionally one- or two-page documents written on natural disasters and complex emergencies that eventually may warrant situation reports.

Situation reports or fact sheets were written for the following major disasters in FY 2000:
Angola – Complex Emergency
Burundi – Complex Emergency
Caribbean – Hurricane Lenny
East Timor – Complex Emergency
Eritrea – Complex Emergency/Drought
Ethiopia – Complex Emergency/Drought
Horn of Africa – Drought
India – Cyclone
Sierra Leone – Complex Emergency
Serbia-Montenegro – Complex Emergency
Somalia – Complex Emergency/Drought
Southern Africa – Cyclone Hudah/Floods
Sudan – Complex Emergency
Turkey – Earthquake
Venezuela – Floods
Vietnam – Floods

Note: Historical and current situation reports and fact sheets also are available from USAID/OFDA upon request.



Africa

Angola

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The Government of the Republic of Angola (GRA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) have been waging a civil war almost continuously since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975. The Lusaka Protocol, signed in 1994, brought a temporary halt to the war. However, in 1998, UNITA, in violation of the four-year peace process, refused to disarm and launched fresh attacks. In December 1998, full-scale warfare resumed when the GRA responded by bombarding UNITA's strongholds in the central highlands.

In 1999, the conflict was focused in the central plateau provinces of Malanje, Huambo, and Bie, where UNITA besieged government-held cities for months. Counterattacks by the GRA in late 1999 and early 2000 produced significant military gains. The Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) succeeded in consolidating and expanding control of the provincial capitals and major cities. Despite sporadic attacks by UNITA and widespread insecurity, by the end of FY 2000, fighting was focused mainly along the borders with neighboring countries, causing Angola's war to spill over into Namibia and

(opposite) Young beneficiaries at a USAID/OFDA-funded feeding center in Sierra Leone (photo by Regina Davis, USAID/OFDA).

Zambia, intensifying regional tensions. The GRA's military success against UNITA forced the insurgents to return to guerilla warfare. Attacks and ambushes by rebels and bandits continued, particularly along key highways used for transporting goods, and even government-controlled areas suffered pervasive insecurity. UNITA continued to terrorize the civilian population, looting supplies, recruiting combatants, and taking hostages.

An estimated one million Angolans have suffered war-related deaths since the mid-1970s. Millions of unexploded landmines remain throughout the country. Thousands more were laid during FY 2000. More than 70,000 Angolans are estimated to have lost limbs as a result of landmine explosions, including hundreds of casualties and injuries in FY 2000. Of Angola's total population of more than 12 million, an estimated 3.7 million Angolans were war-affected at the end of FY 2000. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimated in July 2000 that 1.9 million Angolans continued to rely on food aid, and as many as 2.8 million would require some form of emergency assistance through the end of 2000.

As of July 2000, UNHCR estimated that 2.6 million Angolans were internally displaced throughout the country. Most of the displaced fled insecurity in rural areas and flocked to provincial cities.

As of July 2000, UNHCR estimated that 2.6 million Angolans were internally displaced throughout the country. An estimated 500,000 of this total were newly displaced during FY 2000. Most of the displaced fled insecurity in rural areas and flocked to provincial cities. The largest population movements occurred in Bie, Kwanza Norte, Huila, and Lunda Sul provinces, while the capital, Luanda, as well as Huambo and Malanje provinces, had the highest concentrations of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Tens of thousands of Angolans fled their country during FY 2000. As of June 2000, according to various estimates, more than 350,000 Angolans were living as refugees in neighboring countries — approximately 22,000 in Namibia, 220,000 in Zambia, and 102,000 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Epidemics and shortages of food and potable water continued to threaten the lives and health of vulnerable populations during FY 2000. In addition, the majority of the roads into the larger towns and cities to which IDPs fled were cut off due to conflict, landmines, and/or banditry. IDPs and residents competed for severely limited resources. The potential for epidemics in Angola remained high, especially in the overcrowded IDP camps and cities. Malaria, tuberculosis, measles, and diarrheal diseases were prevalent throughout the country, and there were recurrent epidemics of polio, meningitis, and pellagra. Malnutrition declined in some areas, due to good harvests and emergency relief interventions.

During FY 2000, instability continued to impede and sometimes prevent humanitarian assistance activities. Relief organizations were targets of harassment, looting, and crime by rebels and other insurgents. Due to poor or insecure roads, airlifts often provided more than half of the deliveries of relief commodities. However, the deteriorating condition of many airstrips made the delivery of emergency food commodities, particularly during the rainy season, treacherous, if not impossible. The Kuito airstrip, which served more than 200,000 beneficiaries, was in particularly poor condition.

On October 8, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Sullivan redeclared a disaster in response to the continuing complex emergency in Angola. The humanitarian situation had deteriorated in the previous year, and hostilities were escalating. The number of war-affected people at the time was estimated to be more than three million; and, of these, approximately two million were internally displaced. Angola clearly continued to require international humanitarian assistance.

During FY 2000, USAID/OFDA deployed several assessment missions to Angola and provided a total of $6.6 million to nine grantees, including U.N. agencies, PVOs, and NGOs, to implement emergency relief activities. USAID/OFDA supported Africare, CRS, International Medical Corps (IMC), Médecins Sans Frontiéres/Belgium (MSF/B), World Vision (WV) Incorporated, and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) for agricultural recovery programs, including seeds and tools distribution and technical assistance; nutritional screening and feeding programs targeted at children under five; primary health care activities, including immunization and training of tradi-

tional birth attendants; and water and sanitation activities, including the construction of water points and latrines, and training on how to use them.

Additionally, USAID/OFDA provided funding to Development Workshop, a local NGO, for a project that rehabilitated the city of Huambo's water system. Beneficiaries of this project included both residents of Huambo and the many IDPs located around the provincial capital. USAID/OFDA also funded UNOCHA's Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Unit (UCAH) for humanitarian reporting and coordination; and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) for a field network of Security Liaison Officers to exchange security information between local government officials, U.N. agencies, NGOs, and other humanitarian actors. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported the World Food Program's (WFP) aircraft, which provided a safe and reliable means of air transport for humanitarian assessments to isolated areas and the delivery of essential, high-value emergency food and medical items. Finally, USAID/OFDA funded an EDRC and co-funded a local information officer to provide USAID/Luanda and USAID/OFDA with programming coordination and regular field reporting on the changing humanitarian situation.

In FY 2000, USAID/FFP provided 68,200 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, worth nearly $50 million, to WFP and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for distribution to vulnerable groups. In addition, the USDA contributed 40,000 MT of Section 416(b) food commodities, worth more than $28 million, to WFP. USAID's Africa Bureau gave nearly $4.7 million for agricultural recovery programs, promotion of child survival, and polio immunization and treatment. It also provided $2.3 million for civil society building activities. USAID/Luanda worked closely with USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP on an integrated approach to humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation.

State/PRM contributed $50 million to UNHCR and $42.4 million to ICRC for refugee programs throughout Africa. State/PRM also provided $3.2 million to WFP for administrative costs associated with providing USAID and USDA food commodities to refugees. A portion of these funds was used to assist Angolan refugees. In addition, State/PRM provided approximately $2.5 million for refugees, returnees, and IDPs in Angola, including $2.4 million to UNHCR for protection and assistance to refugees from the DRC and Angolan returnees, and a $100,000 grant to WFP for the purchase of food for the Congolese refugees in Angola.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $6,665,994
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$87,354,128**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $94,020,122**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Burkina Faso

RETURNEES

In early November 1999, a land dispute in the Ivory Coast triggered several clashes between the indigenous Kru people and ethnic Lobe and Dangare immigrants from Burkina Faso. As a result, more than 15,000 Burkinabe farmers and agricultural laborers were driven from their homes. The majority of these immigrants had worked on cocoa plantations in the Ivory Coast for more than 10 years. When more than 11,000 displaced immigrants began returning to Burkina Faso, they found no access to food, clothing, housing, or medical care.

On November 26, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Daniel Santos, Jr. declared a disaster in Burkina Faso due to the sudden influx of Burkinabe citizens from the Ivory Coast. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Bamako to CRS for the purchase of food, medicine, mats, and blankets for Burkinabe returnees camped in Gaoua. State/PRM contributed $250,000 to UNHCR for reintegration of the returnees.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$250,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $275,000

Burundi

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The civil conflict between Burundi's minority Tutsi and majority Hutu continued with undiminished intensity for its seventh consecutive year in FY 2000. Ethnic violence erupted after the assassination of democratically-elected President Melchior Ndadaye in 1993 and continued after the coup d'etat that brought Major Pierre Buyoya to power in 1996. The violence caused the internal displacement of up to 800,000 people and forced thousands more to take refuge outside the country. As of April 2000, an estimated 770,000 people (12% of the total population) were displaced throughout the country and 559,000 (including 200,000 from a 1972 caseload) were living as refugees, most of them in camps in western Tanzania.

In FY 2000, the ongoing peace talks between the warring groups again failed to achieve a major breakthrough. Former South African President Nelson Mandela, acting as the new mediator in the negotiations, attempted to achieve agreement on terms that would provide for elections, military reform, and a power-sharing arrangement. President Clinton attended the signing ceremony of a "framework" peace agreement during a visit to Arusha, Tanzania, on August 28, 2000. The Hutu leaders, however, did not sign the agreement.

The Tutsi-led national government's policy of forcibly removing civilians to regroupment camps to flush out rebel forces had formally ended in early 1998 with the dismantling of the camps. In September 1999, however, after fighting broke out in the Bujumbura area, the army resorted again to the regroupment strategy, forcing thousands of people in the capital area from their homes and farms into makeshift camps. In Bujumbura Rural, more than 330,000 were confined to 54 camps in which disease and malnutrition were rampant. The locations and sheer numbers of the regroupment camps, as well as the general insecurity, posed logisti-

Beneficiaries of a USAID/OFDA-funded food security program in Karuzi Province, Burundi (photos by Kirsti Lattu, USAID/OFDA).

cal problems for relief workers attempting to provide emergency humanitarian assistance.

The October 1999 murders of two U.N. expatriates in an ambush in southern Burundi underscored both the deteriorating security situation in the country during FY 2000 and the growing risk to humanitarian aid workers responding to the crisis.

Adding to the humanitarian crisis in Burundi was the serious drought in 2000 that affected an estimated 330,000 households (26% of the total population). Inadequate and poorly-distributed rainfall had reduced crop production for three growing seasons, and the 2000 A season harvest was an average 26% below the pre-crisis average. Crop diseases and a lack of food reserves added to the critical food shortages that doubled rates of severe malnutrition in parts of Burundi.

The food security situation was especially precarious in the northeast provinces of Karuzi, Muyinga, and Kirundo. A nutritional survey conducted by MSF/B in Karuzi Province in March 2000 revealed a global malnutrition rate of 15% and a severe malnutrition rate of 3.9%, which was twice as high as in December 1998. The opening of additional supplementary feeding centers led to improved nutritional surveillance and the referral of severe cases to therapeutic feeding centers. Forced regroupment more than doubled the number of people requiring WFP food assistance, as well as the number needing supplementary and therapeutic feeding in the camps in Bujumbura Rural. However, insecurity prevented many from reaching the feeding centers, leaving uncertain the actual rate of malnutrition in the camps. Ongoing conflict and insecurity in much of the southern part of the country led to the displacement of a third of the population in Makamba, and further deterioration in the health and nutritional status of the people.

The lack of potable water and sanitation in the camps, coupled with high rates of malnutrition, set the stage for disease outbreaks. Incidence of malaria, dysentery, cholera, and typhoid threatened to rise to epidemic levels in the camps. A dramatic jump in the cases of malaria also was reported in Karuzi Province. In addition, the long-term disruption in routine childhood immunization contributed to a measles epidemic in FY 2000.

In July 2000, in response to international pressure, the Burundian government closed the regroupment camps in Bujumbura Rural, although many of those living there have been unable to return to their homes due to insecurity.

On October 4, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Mary C. Yates redeclared a disaster for Burundi in FY 2000 due to the continued humanitarian needs. USAID/OFDA responded with a total commitment of $13,271,130 in funding during FY 2000. In the nutrition and health sectors, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $5.3 million to Action Contre la Faim/France (ACF/F), MSF/B, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, IMC, and UNICEF to support supplementary and therapeutic feeding centers, train health workers, support vaccination campaigns, and provide essential drugs and medical supplies. USAID/OFDA food security activities, totaling nearly $2.8 million, were implemented by Concern, Solidarités, WV, Children's Aid Direct, Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to assist community groups in agricultural and livestock production, provide technical assistance and small loans to farmers, distribute seeds, and conduct assessments to better target food assistance. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) received $1.9 million from USAID/OFDA to provide water and sanitation assistance, while CRS received nearly $1.2 million to distribute non-food items. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $410,000 to UNOCHA to facilitate coordination among relief agencies; and supported UNDP with $193,000 to establish a field security communications network. USAID/OFDA continued to maintain an EDRC in Burundi to coordinate the USG humanitarian response and monitor the progress of USG-funded relief activities.

USAID/FFP provided 7,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $4 million. USDA provided 10,000 MT of Section 416(b) food commodities to WFP at an estimated cost of $5.9 million. State/PRM assisted IRC's and UNICEF's health and education programs for refugee children (including Burundians) in Tanzania; supported refugee-related programs in Tanzania through CARE, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), UNHCR, and WFP; and supported Great Lakes regional programs implemented by IFRC and UNHCR. A portion of these State/PRM programs benefited Burundians.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ..$13,271,130

***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $8,570,283**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $21,841,413**
***STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO BURUNDIAN REFUGEES IN TANZANIA $12,800,000**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Central African Republic

HEALTH EMERGENCY

In March 2000, a meningitis outbreak struck the Bria, Bambari, Birao, and Ngaoundaye areas of northeastern Central African Republic (CAR). By the end of the month, more than 1,400 cases of meningitis and 262 related deaths were reported, and by mid-April meningitis vaccination stocks were exhausted. On April 11, U.S. Ambassador Robert C. Perry

Urban Flood Mitigation Project in Bamako, Mali

In July and August of 1999, unusually heavy rains fell in Mali for several weeks, cutting vital rail lines to Dakar, Senegal, and disrupting road traffic to the regional capital of Mopti. In Bamako, flooding caused at least eight deaths and damaged more than 100 houses. Approximately 4,000 residents were forced from their homes by floodwaters; and many of the displaced found shelter in local schools, where up to four families crowded into each classroom. The Mayor of Bamako requested emergency U.S. assistance, since the municipal government lacked sufficient resources to respond to emergency needs. USAID/OFDA provided $10,000 to the Malian Red Cross Society for the purchase and distribution of food, medicine, and other emergency relief items to assist those displaced by the floods.

The floods in Mali are only one example of how a rapidly urbanizing world can lead to more natural hazards and increased vulnerability for certain populations. During the next 25 years, cities in developing countries such as Mali will account for nearly 95% of total global population growth. African cities will experience the highest rate of growth. Even within a region known for high urban growth rates, Mali outpaces many of its neighbors. World Bank and U.N. data suggest that the urban population of Mali will increase more than four-fold between 1995 and 2025. Bamako is growing at an annual average rate of roughly 6.4%, which could result in an increase from the current population of one million to nearly five million by 2025.

Rapid population growth has resulted in a significant deterioration of urban services and infrastructure. Nearly 60% of the population lives in unauthorized, poorly-constructed housing, with low levels of urban services, such as sewage disposal, refuse collection, water, and electricity. Furthermore, the disposal of solid waste into waterways and drains has emerged as a key contributing cause of recent widespread flooding in Bamako; and the problem is exacerbated by extreme deforestation in and near the city due to the destruction of trees for firewood. Given that heavy or torrential rains are nearly an annual occurrence in Mali (as in the rest of the Sahel region), combined with waterway overflows, deforestation, inadequate waste disposal, and the lack of effective land-use management practices to prevent development in flood-prone areas, the population of Bamako is particularly vulnerable to floods.

USAID/OFDA is seizing the opportunity to mitigate future flood damage in vulnerable areas such as Bamako, Mali. Following the 1999 floods and recognizing Bamako's potential for rapid growth and continuing vulnerability, USAID/OFDA decided to build upon the success of an earlier flood mitigation initiative in Kinshasa, DRC. In May 1998, USAID/OFDA funded a project through CRS to help remove the build-up of sand and mud from two communes of Kinshasa where torrential rains affected up to 100,000 residents. Commune families suffered direct economic losses of

(continued)

declared a disaster for CAR as a result of the meningitis outbreak. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to MSF/B. USAID/OFDA's funding of MSF/B assisted the Ministry of Health's efforts to immunize nearly 900,000 citizens against meningitis.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Comoros

HEALTH EMERGENCY

In December 1999, a cholera outbreak struck the island of Anjouan in Comoros. While the region of Domini was the most severely affected, areas of Noumakele, the poorest and most populous region of the island, also were impacted. More than 140 cases of cholera and 14 deaths were reported. On January 10, U.S. Ambassador Mark W. Erwin declared a disaster in response to the cholera outbreak. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Port

nearly $7.1 million, or the equivalent of approximately 55% of the annual average family income. In late May 1998, USAID/OFDA provided additional funding to CRS for a project to reduce and manage floodwater runoff. In the next year, CRS was able to mobilize the community to construct 17 small dams, made from bamboo cuttings, grass, and sandbags; strengthen water retention basins; and clean clogged canals. These measures were tested repeatedly during the 1999 rainy season, when torrential rains again hit Kinshasa in February. Although two of the 17 dams failed, no flood-related damage was sustained in the two communes, no residents were injured or displaced, and no livelihoods were affected. As a result of this USAID/OFDA "investment," more than 100,000 residents were spared the economic losses that they otherwise would have faced as a result of the 1999 floods. The success of this mitigation project eliminated the need for USAID/OFDA assistance in FY 1999.

In Bamako, USAID/OFDA is supporting a project that could serve as a model of sustainable action in other African cities. USAID/OFDA provided Action Against Hunger (AAH/USA) with a one-year (July 2000 – June 2001) grant of $294,000 for a pilot flood mitigation project in the Banconi District of Commune 1, one of Bamako's fastest growing, most densely populated, poorest, and most under served sections. During the 1999 floods, 416 families in the Banconi District were affected by flash flooding from nearby cliffs. Of Banconi's total population of approximately 200,000, more than 111,000 residents live in areas at high-risk for flood damage.

In July 2000, USAID/OFDA sent a two-person team to Bamako to help launch its newly funded flood mitigation project. Team members met with numerous local and national government officials, commune association members, and others who expressed considerable support for the project's objective to reduce the impact of flash flooding in two creeks traversing the commune. First, AAH/USA aimed to limit the uncontrolled flow of rainwater by constructing catchment basins, reinforced fragile creek banks with stones packed in iron wire, and planted trees along waterways.

One of the key aspects of AAH/USA's project is its effort to improve solid waste management practices in the community. Under the project, AAH/USA constructed four transit dumpsites and worked with community members, municipal sanitation services, and private garbage collection companies to clean refuse from waterways, and establish a sustainable system for garbage collection, disposal, and recycling. In addition, AAH/USA used education and training modules to increase awareness of flood hazards and hygiene (and its connection to water-borne diseases) among school children, the general public, and public officials. This includes periodic community clean-up days, complete with festive music and food. The project seeks to promote livelihoods by linking garbage collection, recycling, and composting with urban agriculture (forestry, livestock, and fisheries), particularly along waterways and drainage ditches.

USAID/OFDA expects that the pilot flood mitigation project in Bamako will serve as a model for other community-based natural hazard reduction activities in urban settings throughout Africa or other vulnerable regions of the world.

— Laura Coughlin

Louis, Mauritius to Aide Medicale Internationale (AMI), a French NGO. AMI used these funds to purchase emergency medical supplies, including intravenous fluid, ringer solution, disinfectant, and curative and preventative medical equipment, which were then used to treat communities at risk.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Democratic Republic of the Congo

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

Widespread fighting continued to destabilize both the DRC and the Great Lakes region throughout FY 2000, restricting humanitarian access to displaced and war-affected populations. Violence between Rwandan and Ugandan troops in Kisangani in June marked the most intense outbreak of violence in the DRC following the signing of the Lusaka Peace Accords in both July and August 1999. The political leaders of the DRC, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Angola, Rwanda, Uganda, and the main combatants were signatories to the Lusaka Accords. The fighting exacerbated regional insecurity, immobilized economic activity, and destroyed approximately 60% of the city. In response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation and continued insecurity in the DRC, U.S. Ambassador William L. Swing redeclared a disaster for FY 2000 on November 16, 1999.

Additional fighting was reported in Equateur, Orientale, Katanga, the Kasais, and North and South Kivu provinces. All sides in the conflict continued to violate the Lusaka Accords, which outlined a cease-fire and organized inter-Congolese dialogue. The accords also requested the deployment of 90 U.N. military observers in the U.N. Observer Mission (MONUC), which was increased to 5,500 peacekeeping troops in February 2000.

According to UNOCHA, an estimated 1.5 million people have been internally displaced within the DRC since August 1998. Most IDPs were integrated into host communities while an estimated 50,500 displaced were located in camps in Kisangani, Kinshasa, and Katanga provinces. USAID/OFDA's humanitarian assistance activities targeted the needs of vulnerable host populations and IDPs. UNHCR reported that more than 221,000 refugees from the DRC crossed into Angola (13,000), Burundi (21,000), the Republic of Congo (12,000), Rwanda (33,000), Tanzania (98,000), Uganda (8,000), and Zambia (36,000) to flee the ongoing conflict. In addition, an estimated 315,000 refugees from Angola (180,000), Burundi (19,000), the Republic of Congo (12,000), Rwanda (33,000), Sudan (68,000), and Uganda (3,000) fled into the DRC from insecurity in these neighboring countries. UNHCR access to all refugees was hindered by fuel shortages and impassable roads.

The uncertain security situation in the DRC prevented international humanitarian efforts from reaching widely dispersed and diverse groups of IDPs. In accessible regions, USAID/OFDA maintained 22 grants, totaling more than $13 million, with implementing partners AAH/USA, AirServ, CRS, Food for the Hungry International (FHI) German Agro-Action (IMA), IRC, Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN), Save the Children Fund/United Kingdom (SCF/UK), UNICEF, and World Relief Cooperation (WRC). In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA continued to fund an EDRC to monitor the emergency humanitarian situation and USAID/OFDA relief activities throughout the country.

Deterioration in the health sector was exacerbated by the increased strain of IDPs and refugees on local care networks and remained a leading cause for humanitarian concern in the DRC. USAID/OFDA responded by funding 10 grants that provided emergency nutrition assistance, urgent medical supplies, polio immunizations, and emergency basic health care to an estimated 2.4 million beneficiaries. MERLIN received approximately $1 million from USAID/OFDA to continue the provision of basic health care to war-affected in Maniema and Kasai Orientale.

In January 2000, the U.N. Secretary-General to the Security Council on MONUC reported that more than 2.1 million people (IDPs, refugees, and urban vulnerable) faced critical food insecurity. USAID/OFDA responded by providing seven grants, totaling approximately $4.8 million, for seeds and tools distribution and emergency agriculture infrastructure rehabilitation projects. These grants bene-

fited more than 700,000 people in Kinshasa, Katanga, North Kivu, and South Kivu provinces. In Kinshasa, USAID/OFDA provided more than $900,000 to IRC to distribute monthly food supplements, provide medical treatment to conflict victims and IDPs, supply emergency shelter materials, and organize a reunification program for unaccompanied children.

USAID/OFDA also provided $2.9 million to AAH/USA for the procurement of medical supplies and the establishment of therapeutic feeding centers in Katanga Province. IRC also received more than $2.2 million from USAID/OFDA to assist an estimated one million beneficiaries in Kisangani and South Kivu by improving vulnerable populations' nutritional status, establishing access to health centers, assuring adequate water and fuel supply, and repairing a vital trade bridge in the Luberizi region of South Kivu to provide humanitarian access. To assist in the coordination of NGO activities, USAID/OFDA funded a total of 10 grants in logistical support, coordination, volcano preparedness in Goma, and emergency shelter projects in FY 2000 that assisted an estimated 1.1 million beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA also provided approximately $1 million to Airserv to airlift plastic sheeting, medical supplies, and equipment to help alleviate the effects of violence in Kisangani.

In FY 2000, USAID/FFP assisted vulnerable populations in the DRC by providing 4,150 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $3.3 million. USDA provided 10,720 MT of Section 416(b) food commodities to WFP valued at more than $7.8 million. USAID/OTI provided more than $2.7 million to support negotiations on national reconciliation and the implementation of the Lusaka Peace Accords by civil society groups. State/PRM assisted in the care of refugees and emergency food procurement and distribution, totaling more than $5.5 million in FY 2000.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ..$12,931,593
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$19,478,700**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $32,410,293**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

A picture taken before drainage improvements were completed in affected Kinshasa communes (photo by Sarah Beakes and Eugulu Bosango, CRS).

A picture taken after drainage improvements in affected Kinshasa communes. These and other low-cost disaster reduction measures dramatically reduced the vulnerability of residents to flooding (photo by Sarah Beakes and Eugulu Bosango, CRS).

Democratic Republic of the Congo

FLOODS

In November and December 1999, extensive flooding in the DRC threatened approximately 1.5 million people in the vicinity of Kinshasa. According to UNOCHA, the water level of the Congo River rose from its average of 3.7 meters to 5.2 meters. Approximately 13,000 people in Bas-Congo region were rendered homeless due to the floodwaters. On November 30, 1999, the Government of DRC appealed to the international community for assistance. On December 1, 1999, U.S. Ambassador William L. Swing declared a disaster due to the flooding in DRC.

USAID/OFDA initially provided $45,000 in response through the U.S. Embassy to CRS to rehabilitate the drainage system in three sections of Kingabwa, a poor, densely populated (approximately 200,000 people) area located in the flood plain of the Congo River in eastern Kinshasa. The project aimed to improve water flow, lower the threat of flooding, and reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases by cleaning the canals and streams that serve as drains for Kingabwa. USAID/OFDA subsequently funded a grant of $115,507 to CRS to complete the drainage project.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$160,507

Democratic Republic of the Congo

HEALTH EMERGENCY

In January 2000, the DRC's National Malaria Control Program (PNLP) and the CDC conducted a joint assessment of the prevalence of malaria in health facilities in Kinshasa. The assessment revealed a dramatic rise in the number of cases of malaria among children. From 1998 to 1999, pediatric admission rates to Kinshasa General Hospital increased from 46% to 86%. The Congolese health care system was ill-equipped to effectively manage the sudden increase in caseloads; and delays in receiving treatment contributed to an elevated mortality rate.

On February 16, 2000, U.S. Ambassador William L. Swing declared a health emergency in Kinshasa. USAID/OFDA responded with the provision of $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to CRS to support the two main hospitals in Kinshasa in expediting the diagnosis and treatment of severe malarial cases in children.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Democratic Republic of the Congo

ACCIDENT

On April 14, 2000, a fire broke out in a warehouse at Ndjili International Airport in Kinshasa. The fire damaged several buildings and caused stored munitions and a fuel tank to explode. Authorities estimated that more than 100 people died and approximately 250 people were injured in the explosion. Local hospitals quickly became overwhelmed with the influx of patients.

On April 17, U.S. Ambassador William L. Swing declared a disaster in DRC and requested emergency relief funds to assist the victims of the explosion. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Kinshasa to the IFRC/Congolese Red Cross Society to address the most urgent needs of those victims injured in the explosion and fire.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Djibouti

DROUGHT

As in other countries in the Horn of Africa, Djibouti suffered from extensive drought conditions during FY 2000. According to the U.N., the drought adversely impacted approximately 150,000 people, more than one-sixth of the country's population. In-country water tables decreased significantly, according to WFP, and livestock health suffered from scarce pasture and water sources. The nutritional status of rural populations dependent on meat and dairy products from their herds deteriorated. According to Caritas, the number of malnourished children in its feeding program increased dramatically during the first quarter of 2000. Nomadic populations, facing decreased purchasing power due to deflated livestock prices, migrated to urban areas in search of assistance and additional sources of income. In June, lack of potable water and unsanitary conditions led to an outbreak of cholera. The Government of the Republic of Djibouti declared a drought emergency and requested international assistance in July 1999.

On April 13, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Lange Schermerhorn declared a disaster in Djibouti due to the effects of the drought. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to support a Caritas feeding program. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to Djibouti's National Office of Assistance to Refugees and Disasters (ONARS) for maintenance of trucks used for delivery of emergency food and water. In support of a U.N. appeal, USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to UNICEF for health and water initiatives to combat cholera.

In addition to USAID/OFDA funding, USAID/FFP and USDA also provided emergency food assistance. In FY 2000, USG emergency food aid to Djibouti totaled 2,765 MT and was valued at $1.4 million. In addition, State/PRM provided $455,000 to UNHCR and WFP for assistance to Somali, Ethiopian, and Eritrean refugees residing in Djibouti.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$173,557
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $1,882,100**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $2,055,657**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Eritrea

COMPLEX EMERGENCY AND DROUGHT

Eritrea and Ethiopia started fighting over contested areas of their shared border in May 1998. The conflict has been characterized by sporadic periods of fighting that have destroyed villages and towns in border areas, and forced more than one million Eritreans to flee their homes. On May 12, 2000, fighting between the two countries reignited. Ethiopian troops managed to push as far north

Women and children find safety in Zula IDP camp after being displaced by fighting in southern Eritrea (photo by Kim Smith, USAID/OFDA).

into Eritrea as Teseney in the west and Senafe in central Eritrea. An estimated one million Eritrean civilians were displaced, particularly in the Gash-Barka zone and more than 90,000 people fled to eastern Sudan, where an estimated 160,000 Eritrean war refugees were already residing.

Under the auspices of the Organization for African Unity (OAU), Eritrea and Ethiopia signed a cessation of hostilities agreement on June 18, 2000 in Algiers. Under the agreement, the U.N. will deploy approximately 4,200 peacekeepers and military observers as part of its Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). With a current mandate extending through September 15, 2001, UNMEE will monitor the cease-fire agreement through the demarcation of the border, coordinate with humanitarian organizations providing assistance, and oversee demining operations in contested areas.

Many of the estimated one million displaced persons were forced to leave their homes with few personal belongings. The IDPs congregated around bushes for shade and natural water sources. These groups lacked basic necessities such as shelter, food, potable water, and proper sanitary conditions. Crop cycles in Gash-Barka, the main agricultural zone in Eritrea, were completely disrupted by the conflict, adding to food insecurity.

After the signing of the cessation of hostilities agreement, many Eritreans returned to their places of origin or repatriated through a tripartite agreement between the Government of the State of Eritrea, the Government of Sudan, and UNHCR. However, nearly half of the displaced population was unable to repatriate due to the existence of landmines and unexploded ordnance and the threat of continued fighting.

During FY 2000, Eritrea also suffered from drought conditions, particularly in the Northern Red Sea and Debub zones. In addition, failure of the winter harvest in the eastern zones created additional needs for emergency food assistance. According to the U.N., approximately 335,000 people were adversely impacted by the drought in Eritrea. As in other parts of the Horn, pastoralist populations in Eritrea suffered extensive losses to their herds and other personal assets.

Based on the humanitarian impact of the border conflict and drought, U.S. Ambassador William Clarke redeclared a disaster in Eritrea on October 18, 1999. In response, USAID/OFDA provided more than $5.9 million for emergency relief programs in FY 2000. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed a DART to Eritrea on May 18, 2000, and maintained a presence in-country to monitor the situation and ensure appropriate USG response until the end of FY 2000.

Because of the sudden displacement of significant populations with the renewal of hostilities in May, USAID/OFDA focused much of its assistance on the provision of temporary shelter and other non-food commodities to IDPs. Through UNDP, UNHCR, and Africare, USAID/OFDA distributed emergency shelter materials, blankets, and household items to more than 250,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA provided additional support to ICRC for air transport of relief commodities and medical supplies as well as support for a WFP airlift of high-energy biscuits.

USAID/OFDA also supported numerous health and nutrition interventions during FY 2000 in Eritrea. USAID/OFDA awarded $1.5 million to UNICEF for supplementary feeding, the transport of potable water, and the repair of sanitation facilities that targeted 250,000 children and pregnant or lactating women. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided funding to IMC to establish mobile health clinics and supplementary feeding centers in Gash-Barka, and to train Ministry of Health staff on nutritional monitoring and survey methodology. Mercy Corps International (MCI) also received USAID/OFDA funding for an emergency feeding program in Debub zone.

USAID/OFDA contributed to food security in Eritrea through a grant to CARE to increase

agricultural production for drought-affected populations in the Northern Red Sea zone. USAID/OFDA procured eight rubbhalls (portable temporary warehouses) for WFP to increase food storage capacity.

In addition to USAID/OFDA funding, the USG provided emergency assistance to Eritrea through USAID/FFP, USDA, and State/PRM. USAID/FFP P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to Eritrea totaled 4,980 MT, valued at more than $2.5 million. USDA provided 108,000 MT of Section 416(b) assistance, valued at approximately $14 million. State/PRM provided more than $2.6 million in Eritrea for assistance to refugees and IDPs. In addition, State/PRM contributed $2 million to ICRC to assist war-affected populations, POWs, and detainees in both Ethiopia and Eritrea, and $5.7 million to UNHCR to support new Eritrean refugees in Sudan and surrounding countries, and Eritrean IDPs located along the Sudanese border.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $5,465,384
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$25,970,800**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $31,436,184**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Ethiopia

COMPLEX EMERGENCY AND DROUGHT

In May 1998, Ethiopia and Eritrea became consumed in a conflict over their shared border, which extends approximately 600 kilometers. The border conflict resulted in intermittent outbreaks of violence, destruction of infrastructure, and significant population displacements in both countries. The latest round of intense fighting between Ethiopian and Eritrean troops began on May 12, 2000. Ethiopian troops advanced far into Eritrean territory, displacing large numbers of Eritrean civilians, particularly in the Gash-Barka zone.

The OAU brokered a cessation of hostilities agreement that was signed by both countries on June 18. The agreement included plans for the deployment of a U. N. peacekeeping operation, the U.N. Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE). UNMEE's mandate calls for approximately 4,200 troops and military observers to monitor the two countries' adherence to the terms of the cease-fire and conduct demining operations that will facilitate the resettlement of war-affected populations. Approximately 350,000 people have been displaced in Tigray and Afar regions of Ethiopia by the conflict.

In addition to the border conflict, Ethiopia also has been hampered by the effects of three consecutive years of below average rainfall. In

USAID staff survey damage in the war-torn town of Zala-Ambesa along the border between Ethiopia and Eritrea (photo by Amy Sink, USAID/OFDA).

FY 2000, severe drought conditions culminated in the most widespread food crisis in the country since the famine of 1984-1985. Affected populations also suffered from severe water shortages, extensive livestock loss, and increasing malnutrition. Pastoralist populations in southern and southeastern Ethiopia, facing losses of as much as 90% of their herds, were forced to migrate to other areas in search of pasture and water sources.

On January 21, 2000, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's (GFDRE) Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) launched an appeal for emergency assistance for a population of 7.7 million affected by drought and 350,000 people displaced by the war in the north. In June, the U.N. issued a consolidated appeal for the drought in the Horn of Africa that sought assistance for 10 million Ethiopians. Following the failure of the secondary harvest in June – July 2000, the GFDRE revised its number of beneficiaries in need of assistance to 10.5 million.

Due to the continued effects of the border

USAID/OFDA and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
Cassava Mosaic Disease Pandemic Mitigation in East and Central Africa

Food for Thought

East and Central Africa is known for a long and complex history of both natural and man-made disasters. In the last three years, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) have seen either extreme drought or devastating floods on top of a recurring civil insecurity that has cost these populations stability for years to come. The collapse of regular harvests and the loss of short-term crops have dramatically affected agriculture production across the region and increased the population's need for food assistance.

Cassava, a starchy carbohydrate-based plant with leaves rich in protein, is a major source of dietary energy for more than 500 million people throughout much of sub-Saharan Africa. In countries where a healthy diet can be more of a challenge than a choice, the cassava plant offers high-energy carbohydrates and a moderate amount of protein, including eight essential amino acids. As if these dietary assets weren't enough, cassava also is cited as one of the most drought tolerant and weather resistant crops available — capable of high yields under marginal soil conditions. It is no surprise that the plant has developed into the most widely cultivated crop in East and Central Africa.

Despite its heartiness, however, during the late 1980s cassava production was in serious danger when an unusually severe pandemic of Cassava Mosaic Virus Disease (CMD) spread across hundreds of thousands of kilometers in East and Central Africa. The disease devastated crops, disrupted local economies, and threatened virtually all of the areas where cassava is grown, including Uganda, western Kenya, northwestern Tanzania, and southern Sudan. In addition, the threat rapidly spread to the neighboring countries of Burundi, DRC, and Rwanda.

In October 1998, in response to deep concerns over this potentially debilitating crop disease, USAID/OFDA began funding the Emergency Program to Combat CMD Pandemic in East Africa, the first region-wide CMD control program of its kind. The results have been remarkably successful, particularly in initiating efforts to revive cassava production in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, to monitor any pandemic recurrence, and to develop a CMD-resistant cassava variety in strategically placed harvest centers around the region. In an effort to build upon these successes, USAID/OFDA began funding a second program in June 2000, the Cassava Mosaic Disease Pandemic Mitigation Project. By growing CMD-resistant cassava strains, available in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, the project mitigates the effects of food shortages from crop losses due to drought or disease. The project also is working to address deteriorating food security situations in bordering countries that are victims of the westward expansion of CMD.

On August 1, 2000, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman made a visit to USAID/OFDA's implementing partner, the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan, Nigeria, as part of his research on hunger, infrastructure, and health care issues facing countries in Africa. IITA scientists informed former Secretary Glickman of the Center's development and distribution of improved cassava varieties to farmers in disaster-prone areas of Africa, and the program's significant impact on the future of cassava production and food security in East and Central Africa.

— Katharine Winings

conflict and drought on Ethiopia's population, U.S. Ambassador Tibor Nagy redeclared a disaster for Ethiopia on October 8, 1999. In response, USAID/OFDA provided a total of $14.7 million in emergency relief programs during FY 2000. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed significant personnel to the region as early as March 2000 to assess and report on the situation and expedite relief efforts. On May 18, 2000, USAID/OFDA deployed a DART to Ethiopia and maintained a presence in-country through the end of FY 2000.

Due to the severity of malnutrition and resulting health problems caused by the drought, USAID/OFDA provided more than $7 million to support health and nutrition programs in Ethiopia. Specific program activities included therapeutic and supplementary feeding, nutritional monitoring, vaccination campaigns, rehabilitation of health centers, and training of health care workers. USAID/OFDA's implementing partners for health and nutrition programs included ACF/F, ICRC, Concern Worldwide, GOAL, American Red Cross (AmRC), SCF/UK, and UNICEF. During the peak of the drought crisis in March, USAID/OFDA funded several emergency airlifts of high-protein biscuits, blended foods, and therapeutic milk to treat severely malnourished children in Gode and Afder zones of Somali region.

USAID/OFDA provided $1.7 million to support emergency water and sanitation initiatives in FY 2000. USAID/OFDA-funded projects with CARE, the International Committee for the Development of Peoples, and Cooperatione Internationale, increased water availability in Oromiya region through the rehabilitation and construction of water sources, emergency water tankers, and the distribution of water containers. USAID/OFDA also provided funding to IRC for similar water supply initiatives as well as the construction of sanitation facilities in Somali region. USAID/OFDA's water and sanitation programs targeted more than 400,000 beneficiaries in FY 2000.

USAID/OFDA provided more than $400,000 in FY 2000 to WV and FHI to improve food security for an estimated 55,000 households in Amhara region through agricultural activities. Upon the arrival of rains, WV and FHI provided households with seeds and tools, supported with USAID/OFDA funding, to increase the areas of cultivated land.

In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA provided $4.6 million to support logistics and coordination activities. Due to the enormous amounts of emergency food aid and non-food items that needed to be transported from Djibouti, USAID/OFDA provided funding to WFP to augment capacity at the Port of Djibouti and rehabilitate the main road running from the port to the Ethiopian border. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided support to UNDP to improve capacity at Berbera Port in Somalia. USAID/OFDA also sought to improve the coordination of logistics and relief activities through funding to UNOCHA, WFP, and UNDP's Emergency Unit for Ethiopia to provide security, reporting, air transport, and preparedness initiatives.

Ethiopian beneficiaries wait to register at a USAID/OFDA-funded supplementary feeding center in Welayita, Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region (photo by Amy Sink, USAID/OFDA).

In FY 2000, USAID/FFP P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to populations affected by drought and conflict in Ethiopia totaled 248,200 MT, valued at more than $106 million. USDA provided 480,000 MT of Section 416(b) emergency food assistance, valued at approximately $62 million. State/PRM provided approximately $4.8 million in support of refugees and displaced populations in Ethiopia. In addition, State/PRM provided $2 million to ICRC to assist war-affected populations, POWs, and detainees in both Ethiopia and Eritrea.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $14,663,905
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $173,816,200**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$188,480,105**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Ghana

FLOODS

In September and October 1999, heavy rains severely flooded the Upper West, Upper East, Northern, Brong Ahafo, and Volta regions of Ghana. The Government of Ghana reported 52 deaths, 1,500 cases of cholera, and more than 280,000 residents affected by the flooding. Economic and educational activities were severely disrupted when many of those who were rendered homeless sought emergency shelter in market stalls and school buildings.

In response to the humanitarian needs created by the flooding in Ghana, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Gail D. Mathieu declared a disaster on October 26, 1999. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Accra to the Ghanaian Red Cross (GRC). The GRC used the funds to provide blankets and kerosene lamps to displaced women and children. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed its urban planning/shelter expert to Ghana to participate in an inter-agency assessment of the shelter sector and to provide technical assistance in the development of a relief and resettlement plan.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Kenya

DROUGHT

Low rainfall and drought conditions, which plagued much of the Horn of Africa in FY 2000 also severely affected parts of northern and western Kenya. The areas most-affected included the districts of Moyale, Turkana, Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, and Samburu. According to the U.N., approximately 3.3 million people (2.2 million pastoralists and 1.1 million school children) were affected by drought in Kenya. Reports indicated that malnutrition rates in certain areas were twice normal levels, particularly in some of the refugee camps in northern Kenya. Herds dwindled and food prices increased as the result of losses to crops and pastures. In December 1999, the Government of Kenya (GOK) made an emergency appeal for international assistance in combating the ongoing drought.

In support of the GOK's appeal, U.S. Ambassador Johnnie Carson declared a disaster in Kenya on December 6, 1999. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial $25,000 for immediate relief activities in Turkana District.

USAID/OFDA provided a total of $5.7 million for drought relief interventions in Kenya during FY 2000. In the early stages of the drought, USAID/OFDA provided $11,500 to WFP to assess and improve practices for tar-

Participants in a USAID/OFDA-funded food security project in Kenya learn techniques of irrigation (photo by Caroline Abla, USAID/OFDA).

A USAID/OFDA-funded borehole water project improves access to potable water in Garrissa, Kenya (photo by Caroline Abla, USAID/OFDA).

geting and distributing emergency food aid to vulnerable populations. USAID/OFDA also provided a grant of more than $1 million to WV for food security and water activities in Turkana District. Program activities included monitoring of and training in food aid operations, nutritional surveillance, rehabilitation of water sources, supplementary feeding, and the provision of grinding mills.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided approximately $1.4 million to UNICEF for the provision of blended foods, essential medicine, and immunizations to 100,000 vulnerable children; and $386,000 to IMC for primary health care services and nutrition interventions in Samburu District.

USAID/OFDA also committed significant resources in FY 2000 for water activities to improve access to potable water for drought-affected populations and their livestock. USAID/OFDA awarded a grant to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) for the rehabilitation and construction of water sources to benefit approximately 130,000 people in Kitui District. USAID/OFDA also provided funding for water source rehabilitation and management initiatives in Marsabit and Mandera districts through grants to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and Rural Focus, respectively. USAID/OFDA funded UNICEF to provide emergency water and build local capacity in water management in three drought-affected districts.

To assist populations in the recovery of their livelihoods, USAID/OFDA funded several programs related to agriculture and livestock rehabilitation. USAID/OFDA funded LWR and Tufts University for a livestock/animal health program benefiting approximately 211,000 pastoralists. In addition, CRS received a grant from USAID/OFDA for a cash-for-work program in soil and water conservation. USAID/FFP provided $14 million for 24,147 MT of maize, peas, vegetable oil, corn soy blend, and beans to assist in the drought response. USDA provided 93,000 MT of Section 416(b) commodities (maize, corn soy milk blend, corn soy blend, and soy oil) to WFP, valued at $41.1 million.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $5,699,217
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$93,543,417**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $99,242,634**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Mauritania

FLOODS

Heavy rains from September through November 1999 caused significant flooding along the Senegal River and in some southern and central regions of Mauritania. In October, the Mauritanian Crisis Committee estimated that more than 11,000 families in the most-affected regions of the country remained without shelter, blankets, or mosquito nets. The total number affected was estimated at 200,000 people.

On November 18, U.S. Ambassador Timberlake Foster declared a disaster in Mauritania in response to the flooding. This was the country's second flood-related disaster declaration since September 1999. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott to three local organizations responding to the emergency needs of flood victims. The funds were distributed to Commune of Kaedi in Gorgol region, Crisis Committee in Boghe, Brakna, and an elected committee of affected residents in Rosso for the local purchase of tents, blankets, and mosquito nets. USAID/OFDA also provided approximately $89,000 to the Mauritanian Crisis Committee for the purchase of an additional 4,500 mosquito nets and 600 tents. The relief commodi-

ties were used to complete household kits containing one tent, one blanket, and two mosquito nets for distribution to flood victims.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$113,849

Morocco

DROUGHT

Drought conditions beset Morocco for the second consecutive year during FY 2000. The country's wheat production fell to 34% of its five-year average. In March, 2000, the Government of Morocco (GOM) launched a 15-month rural relief effort. However, at the end of the summer, more than 275,000 drought-affected residents in Tiznit Province were reported to be in need of emergency relief assistance.

On August 16, U.S. Ambassador Edward M. Gabriel declared a disaster for Morocco due to the effects of the drought. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Rabat to CRS to provide potable water to more than 6,000 beneficiaries in 12 rural communities in Tiznit Province. CRS activities included the provision and transport of potable water, the distribution of storage containers, and the implementation of village water management initiatives.

USAID/FFP and USDA provided 260,000 MT of emergency food commodities, valued at $25.6 million, under the P.L. 480 Title II and Section 416(b) programs. Some of these food commodities were monetized (sold on the local market) and the proceeds were used to fund relief programs to assist drought victims. The GOM distributed part of the monetized proceeds in the form of grants to support its Rural Development Fund. The grants supported activities such as road repairs, potable water projects, the purchase of irrigation equipment, livestock safeguard projects, and micro-credits for farmers. USAID/Rabat used nearly $3.1 million of the monetized proceeds for water resource management projects and agricultural micro-credit programs.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $25,600,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$25,625,000

Beneficiaries of a USAID/OFDA-funded nutrition and food security program plant gardens in the Republic of Congo (photo by Caroline Abla, USAID/OFDA).

Republic of Congo

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The armed conflict that began in late 1998 between militia groups and Republic of Congo (ROC) military forces affected at least one-third of the country's 2.7 million people. The destruction of property and infrastructure, looting, and human rights abuses were perpetrated by all sides. More than 200,000 people were displaced from Brazzaville, the ROC's capital, in December 1998 and January 1999. In total, the number of IDPs in the ROC was estimated at more than 800,000, most of whom spent the better part of a year living in the forest for safety. Farming, education, and health care activities were severely disrupted in the most-affected southern portion of the country.

As hostilities abated in 1999, some IDPs from Brazzaville began returning to the city, many of them in poor health and suffering from malnutrition. An additional 400,000 to 500,000 IDPs remained in the forests and villages of southern ROC where access was limit-

ed because of security concerns. After several months of living remotely, where they lacked adequate food and medical care, these IDPs were believed to be in even worse condition than the Brazzaville returnees.

After the signing of a cease-fire in December 1999 and the beginning of the demobilization of militia groups, the pace of the IDPs' return to their home villages accelerated. An estimated 10,000 returnees a week were registered in February 2000. At one registration site in Brazzaville, the number of children under five was only 10% of the population, instead of the normal distribution of 20%, indicating that a large number of children under five years of age had died during the period of conflict and displacement. Returning to villages with few or no social services and little economic activity, the IDPs required considerable assistance from relief agencies to help them rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

With the peace and reconciliation process continuing, the humanitarian situation improved by late July, and nearly all areas were accessible to relief agencies. As malnutrition rates dropped, the emphasis shifted from therapeutic and supplementary feeding to rebuilding and restocking the health infrastructure, and distributing seeds and tools to help rehabilitate the agricultural sector.

While the number of IDPs declined in FY 2000, concern was growing in Brazzaville about the influx of refugees from fighting in the DRC. As of late July 2000, up to 100,000 refugees from Equateur Province were scattered in villages along the ROC's bank of the Congo River, and 8,000 urban refugees from Mbandaka, DRC had settled in Likoula Province. Access to refugees in villages along the Oubangui tributary of the Congo River had become nearly impossible due to a lack of roads and a blockade of river traffic imposed by DRC military forces. According to a UNOCHA report, the number of DRC refugees in the ROC had grown to nearly 100,000 by the end of September 2000.

On October 12, 1999, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires James C. Swan redeclared a disaster for FY 2000, citing the continuing dire humanitarian situation in ROC. USAID/OFDA provided $4 million to continue or initiate humanitarian programs in FY 2000. ACF/F and CRS received funding totaling more than $2.1 for therapeutic and supplementary feeding programs, health care services, and food security to war-affected families in the Pool region. With $473,000 provided by USAID/OFDA, the FAO distributed essential agricultural inputs and supported the coordination of emergency agricultural operations. IRC received $888,398 to implement a health rehabilitation project in Dolosie, and UNICEF received $500,000 to support nutrition, vaccinations, and medical programs in Pool, Lekoumou, Buenza, and Niari regions.

USDA provided 7,400 MT of Section 416(b) food commodities to WFP valued at more than $5.6 million. State/PRM provided more than $1.4 million to UNHCR, IFRC, and IRC for their emergency and camp programs to assist Angolan and Congolese refugees in the ROC. State/PRM also provided $50 million to UNHCR and $42.4 million to ICRC for their Africa programs, a portion of which was used in the ROC; and more than $1 million to UNHCR, UNOCHA, and IFRC to support regional refugee-related programs, including those in the ROC.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $4,013,683
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $5,760,701**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $9,774,384**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Rwanda

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

In FY 2000, Rwanda continued to recover from years of civil strife. Although the security situation in Rwanda remained relatively calm in FY 2000, sporadic incidents of violence occurred. The most notable incident being the December 23, 1999 attack by armed Interahamwe on the Tamira resettlement site in Gisenyi's Mutura Commune, in which 29 people were killed and more than 40 were injured. There was also international concern over regional developments and their possible impact on Rwanda. Population movements in eastern DRC due to the continuing conflict there, as well as insecurity in neighboring

Burundi, held the potential for a new influx of refugees or an increase of IDPs in Rwanda.

Favorable rains in most parts of Rwanda during FY 2000, coupled with a return to stability in the fertile northwest areas, improved the overall food security situation. A crop production assessment in February 2000 concluded that food output countrywide increased approximately 37% in the Fall 1999 – Winter 2000 agricultural season over the previous fall/winter season. During the January to June 2000 growing season, however, insufficient and poorly distributed rains resulted in a sharp decline in crop production in the southern Kigali Prefectures, adversely affecting more than 374,000 people. According to UNOCHA, although overall agricultural crop production increased in 2000, food assistance was still required in the drought-affected areas.

Despite the improvements in security and agricultural production, the outlook for Rwanda's future was one of only guarded optimism. In FY 2000, an estimated 150,000 people in the northwest region remained vulnerable, including single-parent households, child-headed households, widows, returnees without land, and many of the people living in resettlement sites who had only limited personal assets. Many residents of northwest Rwanda still lacked access to health care and essential medicine (the price was beyond the means of much of the population), while many people in the resettlement sites lacked easy access to land and potable water. According to a September 2000 UNOCHA report, approximately 370,000 families (more than 1.5 million people) were still living under plastic sheeting or in damaged homes, and another 63,000 families were in abandoned housing. The food security situation, though improved in FY 2000, remained fragile due to the unpredictability of weather conditions and the potential for an upsurge in violence related to events in eastern DRC.

Citing concerns about the continuing and potential emergency humanitarian needs in Rwanda, U.S. Ambassador George M. Staples redeclared a disaster for FY 2000 on May 9, 2000. USAID/OFDA provided more than $1 million to continue its emergency assistance programs. USAID/OFDA provided Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) with $349,520 to support Gisenyi Hospital by training staff and providing essential medicines and medical supplies. USAID/OFDA provided $399,450 to IRC to continue its water and sanitation programs in Gisenyi Prefecture, including the repair and improvement of existing water systems to provide potable water for up to 50,250 people, as well as improve sanitation conditions in 16 primary schools. USAID/OFDA also provided $200,000 to support UNOCHA's coordinating and monitoring activities to identify areas of Rwanda with unmet humanitarian needs.

SCF/UK received $199,598 from USAID/OFDA to improve the health status of vulnerable populations in Kabaya District in Gisenyi Prefecture through the repair of existing health facilities and water systems, the provision of essential medicine and medical equipment, and training of health care staff.

USAID/FFP provided 5,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $3.8 million. State/PRM contributed $236,241 to support the American Refugee Committee's (ARC) Congolese refugee assistance program in Rwanda and provided $77,531 to assist IRC in the tracing and reunification of Rwandan refugee children in the ROC. State/PRM also assisted UNICEF's education programs for refugee children in Tanzania (including Rwandans), as well as Great Lakes regional programs implemented by IFRC and UNHCR.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $1,148,568
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$10,830,727**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $11,979,295**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Sierra Leone

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

Sierra Leone has been consumed by civil strife since 1991. The conflict has claimed more than 20,000 lives and, at its peak, forced almost half of Sierra Leone's 4.5 million inhabitants from their homes. An estimated 490,000 Sierra Leoneans were forced to seek refuge in other West African states, primarily Guinea (360,000) and Liberia (96,000). According to UNHCR, Sierra Leone is the leading country of origin for African refugees.

Widely divergent estimates of the total number of IDPs in Sierra Leone range from 500,000 to more than one million.

The Government of Sierra Leone (GOSL) and the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) signed a cease-fire agreement on May 18, 1999, and, on July 7, the Lome Accord, which formally ended eight years of civil war. The terms of the Lome Accord called for the disarmament of combatants, the release of all abducted civilians, the inclusion of rebel representatives in the GOSL's cabinet and other high-level government posts, and unhindered humanitarian access. On October 22, 1999, the U.N. Security Council approved the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping force in Sierra Leone, known as UNAMSIL, which by the end of FY 2000 included approximately 9,000 troops.

Despite the Lome Accord, numerous cease-fire violations continued, including fighting between rebel factions, killings and abductions of civilians, and attacks on humanitarian workers, their vehicles, and relief supplies. On October 1, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Melrose redeclared a disaster for Sierra Leone in response to the continued humanitarian crisis and emergency relief needs of IDPs and other vulnerable populations in Sierra Leone.

During FY 2000, the Western Area (including the capital, Freetown), the Southern Province, and some parts of the Eastern Province enjoyed relative security and improvements in humanitarian conditions. Despite the promises of the Lome Accord, however, rebel-controlled eastern and northern areas of the country remained largely inaccessible to relief agencies, jeopardizing the lives and well-being of thousands of vulnerable residents. Even in relatively secure areas, poor road conditions and recurrent fuel shortages hampered the delivery of emergency relief assistance.

The tenuous peace ended in May 2000 when RUF soldiers took approximately 500 U.N. personnel and UNAMSIL peacekeeping troops hostage, leading to the resumption of hostilities. Fighting continued throughout the rest of the year between insurgents and pro-GOSL forces, supported by UNAMSIL, particularly in northern areas. Many relief operations had to be suspended, including those in newly accessible areas, such as Tonkolili, Kambia, Lunsar, Kono, Makeni, and Kabala.

The deteriorating security situation triggered massive population movements. An estimated 300,000 people were newly displaced after May 2000. According to UNHCR, more than 10,000 Sierra Leoneans fled to Guinea during the summer of 2000. Fighting in August in Lofa County, Liberia, and violence in Guinea in September prompted the spontaneous repatriation of more than 7,000 Sierra Leonean refugees. Returnees and IDPs swelled already overcrowded IDP camps and host communities, putting tremendous strain on humanitarian facilities and capacities.

USAID/OFDA provided more than $11.7 million in FY 2000 to support 10 U.N. agencies, PVOs, and NGOs in implementing emergency programs in a number of sectors, including relief coordination, agriculture, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, agriculture, shelter, and logistics. USAID/OFDA funded CARE, Africare, CRS, and WV for agriculture rehabilitation programs in Tonkolili, Moyamba, Kailahun, Bo, and Kenema. USAID/OFDA supported agriculture programs that focused on the distribution of seeds and tools and provided agriculture extension services to help resettling families achieve food security. USAID/OFDA also funded FAO for the coordination of agriculture rehabilitation programs.

In addition, USAID/OFDA funded Africare, CRS, MERLIN, UNICEF, and WV to implement emergency health programs throughout accessible areas of the country, including maternal and child health care, vaccinations, and restocking health facilities with basic medicine and medical equipment. USAID/OFDA also supported ACF/F and MERLIN for therapeutic

Food distribution at a USAID/OFDA-funded feeding center in Sierra Leone (photo by Regina Davis, USAID/OFDA).

and supplementary feeding programs in Freetown, Waterloo, Magburaka, Makeni, Bombali, and Kenema. In support of water and sanitation efforts, USAID/OFDA funded ACF/F, MERLIN, and UNICEF to increase access to potable water and sanitation facilities, through water chlorination, well repairs, and latrine construction.

USAID/OFDA funded CRS' shelter rehabilitation programs in Kambia and Lunsar, which assisted 600 homeowners in reconstructing their damaged houses. USAID/OFDA also funded CARE's distribution of non-food items, including water containers and cooking utensils to IDPs, and provided CARE with an in-kind donation of 2,448,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting for distribution to IDPs in need of emergency shelter. In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA continued to support WFP's humanitarian helicopter used for assessments and delivery of emergency relief commodities. UNOCHA's Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Unit (HACU) for humanitarian coordination and reporting also was funded by USAID/OFDA.

USAID/FFP contributed 39,710 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at nearly $24 million, for distribution by WFP, CARE, CRS, and WV. USAID/FFP also provided $5.9 million to WFP for emergency food assistance to Sierra Leonean refugees in Guinea, and approximately $1 million to WFP for Sierra Leonean refugees in Liberia.

USAID/OTI provided more than $3 million for technical assistance with the implementation of the Lome Accord; a grant to WV to promote civil society peace-building and civic education initiatives; grants to WV and Management Services International to implement a non-formal education program for 60,000 ex-combatant and non-combatant young adults; and a grant to Search for Common Ground for media and distance learning projects focused on demobilization, reconciliation, and reintegration.

USAID's Bureau for Africa (USAID/AFR) provided $560,000 in FY 2000 to assist war victims through a grant to IRC for the rehabilitation and reintegration of former child soldiers and other war-affected children, and technical assistance to Handicap International, which provided prosthetics to the war-wounded. USAID/AFR also funded UNICEF to continue its children's tracing, protection, and assistance network. USAID/AFR also provided $50,000 in Special Self-Help funds to the U.S. Ambassador for a special rehabilitation project. In addition, USAID/AFR provided $1.9 million for elections assistance, strengthening the Sierra Leonean Prosecutor's office, human rights advocacy building, and income generation activities.

State/PRM provided more than $7 million for refugee repatriation and reintegration in Sierra Leone. State/PRM supported U.N. agencies [UNHCR, UNICEF, and the World Health Organization (WHO)], international organizations (ICRC and IFRC), and several PVOs (ARC, IRC, and IMC) in implementing a variety of programs assisting returnees, IDPs, and/or vulnerable populations. These populations included the rehabilitation of the health infrastructure, primary health care facilities, damaged schools, and a project to address gender-based violence. State/PRM also provided more than $5 million to assist Sierra Leonean refugees in Guinea and Liberia. In addition, State/PRM supported UNHCR's and ICRC's Africa programs through contributions totaling $84.5 million, a portion of which assisted Sierra Leonean refugees.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ..$11,772,847
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$37,780,262**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $49,533,109**

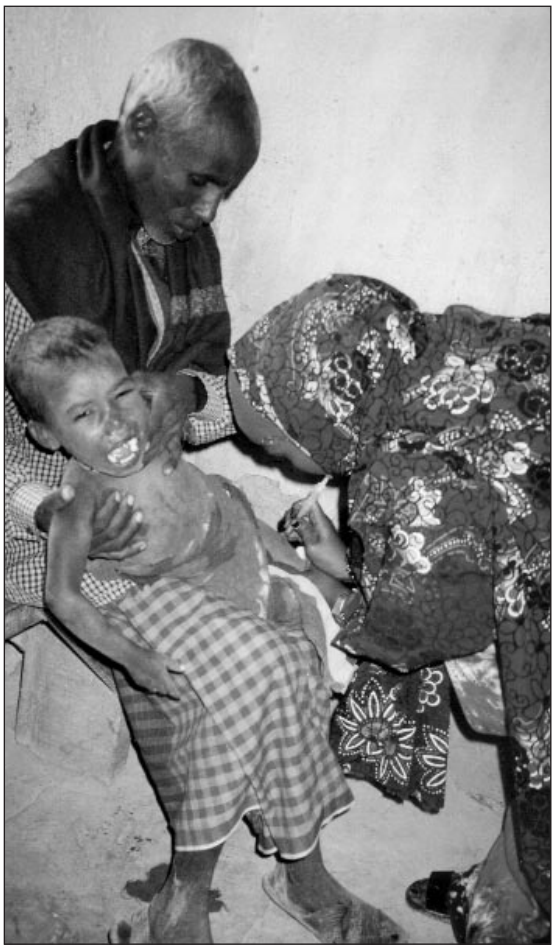
**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Somalia

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The political and social instability that prevailed following the collapse of the Siad Barre dictatorship in 1991 continued in Somalia for the ninth consecutive year during FY 2000. The absence of a central government, an infrastructure in ruin, and sporadic inter-clan warfare hampered rehabilitation and recovery efforts. The killings, lootings, and general banditry that forced the displacement of large segments of the population also limited access of relief workers to vulnerable groups and increasingly put the lives of relief workers in danger, especially in southern Somalia.

Civil strife, coupled with mercurial climate changes, affected agricultural production and created a precarious food security situation as FY 2000 began. Much of southern Somalia was still suffering from substantial crop and livestock losses that had occurred as a result of destructive floods in late 1997, while subsequent below normal rainfall resulted in drought conditions in that region and in the northwestern part of the country. Areas particularly hard-hit by the drought included Gedo, Lower Juba, Bay, Bakool, and Hirran in southern Somalia and Awdal, Togdheer, and Sanaag in the northwest. The main Gu cereal crop, accounting for between 75% and 80% of the annual agricultural production in normal years, was 29% below the post-war average in 1999. An estimated 750,000 people were vulnerable as a result of the drought, while another 450,000 were internally displaced and more than 300,000 remained as refugees in neighboring countries. Anticipating the need for continuing emergency humanitarian assistance in FY 2000, U.S. Ambassador Johnnie Carson redeclared a disaster for Somalia on October 28, 1999.



A child receives an immunization shot at a USAID/OFDA-funded clinic in Somalia (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

Three weeks of heavy rainfall in April and May, as well as near normal rainfall in June and early July 2000, brought relief to the drought-affected regions in the south and increased the likelihood for improved cereal production. Although the forecast indicated that most regions would have harvests substantially lower than the pre-war years, predictions for the Gu crop in the country's sorghum belt in 2000 were for one of the best in post-war years. The relatively good Gu rains also led to improved grazing and livestock conditions.

Although the available food supply for drought-affected populations was expected to improve soon after the harvest, pockets of vulnerability remained. Many agro-pastoralists who rely on rain-fed crop production and had been displaced by the war still suffered the cumulative effects of three consecutive years of crop failure, low livestock levels, and poor market access. Nutritional surveys conducted in southern Somalia during July 2000 reported that global malnutrition was more than 20%, despite successful food distributions. According to UNICEF, diarrhea and acute respiratory infections were possible factors contributing to the high rate of malnutrition. CARE and WFP continued free food distributions to vulnerable populations; but, with the improved outlook for local food production, they began to concentrate more on food-for-work programs that would assist in rehabilitating the rural infrastructure.

The positive impact of the Gu rains on livestock production was compromised by Saudi Arabia's September 18 ban on the import of livestock from East Africa and Yemen. This was prompted by an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever in a town in the southwestern region of Saudi Arabia. The ban had a substantial impact on Somalia's economy, which is based on livestock production and export.

Improved security conditions in many regions of Somalia allowed for population returns and the resumption of farming activities. However, incidents of inter-clan attacks and banditry continued to occur in FY 2000, threatening the safety of Somalis and relief workers. An armed attack on two WHO workers in Merka on September 19 rendered the town temporarily inaccessible to U.N. workers. Fighting between the Hawadly and the Galjeel surged throughout the Shabelle Valley in late FY 2000. Jowhar was plagued by banditry and fighting, and remained isolated from relief

(top) Construction on a well project in Somalia funded by USAID/OFDA (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

(above) Women collect water at the site of a USAID/OFDA-funded well project in Somalia (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

workers and U.N. humanitarian operations. In addition, accessibility to Mogadishu was restricted due to insecurity and hostage-taking.

USAID/OFDA assistance to Somalia totaled approximately $8.4 million in FY 2000 for emergency water, health, nutrition, and logistical support. Of this amount, nearly $2.3 million was provided in grants to ADRA, UNICEF, ACF/F, and NPA for water and sanitation activities in Benadir, Bakool, Bay, Togdheer, and Bari regions. These interventions, benefiting more than 350,000 people, included rehabilitating wells and boreholes, constructing pit latrines, and training and equipping water pump operators. In the health and nutrition sector, USAID/OFDA provided approximately $4.3 million to fund UNICEF, IMC, Aktion Africa Hilfe, and FAO for immunization and maternal health programs, training of health workers, provision of medical equipment and essential medicines, therapeutic and supplementary feeding programs, and nutritional surveillance. These health and nutrition activities benefited some two million beneficiaries throughout Somalia. USAID/OFDA also provided nearly $1.9 million in logistics support to UNICEF for air transport and to UNDP to increase the capacity of the ports in Bossasso and Berbera.

USAID/FFP delivered 10,320 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to drought-affected populations and 13,680 MT to the war-affected in calendar year 2000. This included carry-over emergency food commodities from FY 1999. The FY 2000 USAID/FFP contribution of 18,000 MT through CARE was valued at $11.5 million. USAID/FFP also contributed approximately $8 million to the WFP appeal for food aid to refugees from the region, including Somalis in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. State/PRM provided $1.3 million to UNHCR, IRC, and SC/US to support reintegration programs for Somali returnees in northwest Somalia. State/PRM also granted nearly $11 million for assistance to Somali refugees in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $8,388,598
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$12,831,993**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $21,220,591**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Southern Africa

FLOODS

Higher than seasonal average rainfall, coupled with four consecutive days of torrential rains in early February 2000, caused severe flooding in several countries in southern Africa. Reports indicated that this was the worst flooding in the region in several decades. In addition, Cyclone Leon-Eline passed through the region from February 20-26, bringing heavy rains and wind to previously affected areas. Reservoir releases in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Zambia in late February exacerbated the problem, as did continued heavy rains following the passage of Tropical Storm Gloria in early March. In early April, Cyclone Hudah struck Madagascar and Mozambique. The floods affected an estimated four million people in the southern Africa region, with more than 1,000 people killed.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique experienced the heaviest damage and loss of life of all the southern African countries affected by the flooding. Vast areas of the country were inundated as water levels reached flood stage on the Incomati, Limpopo, Buzi, Save, Pungwe, and Zambezi rivers. Severely affected areas included Maputo City and Maputo Province, as well as the provinces of Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala, and Manica. The seasonal rainfall in Mozambique that caused the disastrous flooding far exceeded normal levels. According to the Government of Mozambique (GRM), precipitation from January through March in Maputo, Inhambane, Gaza, and Xai Xai provinces were two to six times their normal averages.

Hundreds of thousands of people fled their homes and villages in an attempt to escape the rapidly rising floodwaters. Many of them were left clinging to rooftops or treetops, or were stranded on isolated patches of dry land, awaiting rescue. At least 640 Mozambicans perished, according to GRM figures released on March 17, 2000. The GRM also reported that more than two million people suffered severe economic hardships because of the floods; and, of that total, more than one million required food aid or medical assistance. As of March 17, 2000, 457,578 displaced persons were living in 117 accommodation centers and 16 isolated settlements.

In addition to the massive losses in housing and personal property, damage to roads, other infrastructure, and agriculture was widespread. The damage to schools was estimated at $20.8 million. Estimates issued by the GRM's Ministry of Agriculture and Development as of March 24, 2000 indicated that 134,250 families had lost approximately 141,400 hectares of crops.

On February 7, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Brian D. Curran declared a disaster in Mozambique due to the effects of the floods. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through

(left) A woman surveys damage to her home from Cyclone Hudah in Mozambique (photo by Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department).

(below) Aerial view of a flood-affected area in Mozambique (photo by Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department).

USAID/Maputo to MSF/Swiss-Luxembourg for emergency relief activities. USAID/OFDA deployed a two-person assessment team to Maputo on February 12. In response to the deteriorating situation, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID/DART to Maputo on March 1 to assess humanitarian needs, report on the situation, and coordinate assistance with relief agencies and other donors. The initial 34-member USAID/DART included health specialists from the CDC as well as water and sanitation experts. A 16-member Miami-Dade Emergency Search and Rescue (SAR) team and a five-member U.S. Coast Guard Water Search and Rescue team also became part of the USAID/DART. A second 12-member Miami-Dade SAR joined the USAID/DART on April 10, 2000, in anticipation of Cyclone Hudah's landfall. USAID/OFDA provided a total of nearly $2.2 million in support of the two Miami-Dade SAR operations, U.S. Coast Guard operations, and the administrative and personnel costs of the USAID/DART.

In addition, USAID/OFDA shipped to Mozambique 489,600 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 6,000 five-gallon water containers, and 6,000 wool blankets from its stockpiles via DOD aircraft, at a cost of $85,100. USAID/OFDA also provided nearly $400,000 to WFP for the purchase and delivery of sandbags, shovels, wheelbarrows, and cooking sets for flood victims. Through grants to AirServ and WFP, USAID/OFDA provided a total of $4.5 million for air operations, including the leasing of 13 aircraft used in rescue and relief activities.

To improve food security, USAID/OFDA provided WFP $1 million for the local and regional procurement of emergency food for a one-month food distribution. USAID/OFDA also provided $813,000 to World Relief and CARE for seeds and tools programs in Gaza and Inhambane provinces, which benefited a total of 33,640 families.

USAID/OFDA also supported WV and ACF/F with $550,520 for seeds and tools and emergency water and sanitation activities in Sofala Province. SC/US received $132,000 to provide emergency health and agriculture activities in Gaza Province for approximately 55,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA purchased and shipped WHO emergency health kits, valued at $51,502, to Mozambique for use by SC/US, SCF/UK, and World Relief to help the GRM's Ministry of Health replenish its stocks of medicine and medical supplies. Grants also were provided to Samaritan's Purse and Terre des Hommes to repair and restock targeted health care facilities in Gaza and Sofala provinces. In addition, USAID/OFDA supplied $6,000 worth of anti-malarial drugs to the GRM's Ministry of Health.

USAID/FFP contributed 8,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at $5.7 million, to WFP in Mozambique. USAID/Maputo provided $1.8 million in grants for emergency repair of infrastructure, such as rail lines and electrical systems.

In response to a request by the U.S. Embassy in Maputo, DOD deployed a Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team (HAST) to Mozambique and South Africa on February 17, 2000. On March 5, 2000, the U.S. European Command (EUCOM) deployed a Joint Task Force (JTF) to the region. Using military helicopters, boats, and C-130 aircraft, DOD personnel performed search and rescue missions, conducted aerial assessments, and distributed emergency relief supplies. DOD-chartered flights also delivered an estimated 40 MT of WFP high-energy biscuits from USAID/OFDA's stockpile in Pisa, Italy, for distribution to flood victims in Mozambique. The JTF worked to optimize cooperation between the numerous military and civilian aviation assets by setting up an Air Operations Center in Maputo. The JTF delivered more than 1,000 MT of emergency food, household items, and medicine to the districts of Buzi, Machanga, and Chibabana. DOD's activities were valued at $21 million.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ..$10,312,584
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $28,526,400
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$38,838,984

BOTSWANA

Botswana received heavy rains in the northeast, central, east, and southern districts. The most severely affected districts were in the east and south, where more than two-thirds of Botswana's population is concentrated. The Government of Botswana's (GOB) National Disaster Management Office reported 94,000 people affected and 15,730 homes damaged or destroyed following the rains and flooding associated with Cyclone Leon-Eline and Tropical Storm Gloria. Thousands of hectares of cropland also were submerged due to the floods.

On February 16, 2000, U.S. Ambassador John Lange declared a disaster for Botswana

due to the effects of the floods. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Gaborone to the Botswana National Disaster Management Office for the procurement of emergency sanitation systems for displaced populations.

On March 12, USAID/OFDA deployed a field officer to Botswana to assist with flood assessments and response efforts. A water and sanitation specialist joined the field officer on March 14. From March 13-17, the two USAID/OFDA team members conducted needs assessments in eastern Botswana. USAID/OFDA also procured and transported 72,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting and six water testing kits. The plastic sheeting and water testing kits were provided to USAID/Gaborone for use in flood-affected areas.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$46,244

SOUTH AFRICA

Floods affected Northern, Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape, and KwaZulu-Natal provinces, damaging houses, farms, dams, as well as electricity, water, telephone, and sewage systems. Mpumalanga and Northern provinces were the most severely affected, where more than 340 schools were damaged or destroyed. An estimated 100 people died as a result of the flooding, and thousands were left homeless. Damage to infrastructure was estimated at $39.4 million.

On February 16, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Delano Lewis declared a disaster for South Africa due to extensive flooding that severely affected northeastern South Africa and resulted in the displacement of several small, isolated populations. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Pretoria to the South African Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of blankets, emergency food, and other emergency non-food relief supplies to 3,000 displaced persons in Northern and Mpumalanga provinces.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

ZIMBABWE

The rains and flooding associated with Cyclone Leon-Eline and Tropical Storm Gloria affected the districts of Chiredzi (Masvingo Province), Plumtree (Matebeleland South Province), and Chipinge and Chimanimani (Manicaland Province) in eastern and southern Zimbabwe. Along the Save River valley in eastern Zimbabwe, crops were swept away or completely submerged under mud and sand. The roads into Chipinge District also were damaged severely or obstructed by debris. The U.N. and the Government of Zimbabwe reported that 100 people died and 116,000 people were impacted by the flooding. Of those affected, 20,000 were living in temporary accommodation centers.

On February 28, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Thomas McDonald issued a disaster declaration for Zimbabwe due to the effects of the floods. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/Harare to the Zimbabwean Red Cross in support of its relief activities. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $144,780 to CRS for the provision of non-food emergency relief supplies, such as cooking utensils, blankets, and water containers, to 15,000 people in the most adversely affected areas of Zimbabwe.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$169,199

MADAGASCAR

Heavy rains and winds from Cyclones Leon-Eline and Hudah affected five eastern districts, two western districts, and all districts in Antananarivo Province. The Government of Madagascar's National Disaster Unit reported that the districts on Madagascar's eastern coast between Vatomandry and Mahanoro suffered the most damage. An estimated 90% of cash and food crops and 65% of houses were destroyed, and 75% of health facilities were damaged. Approximately 210 people died and 278,000 people were affected.

On March 9, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Shirley Barnes declared a disaster for Madagascar due to damage from the torrential rains and winds. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to CRS for the provision of potable water and the clearance and rehabilitation of major roads. A USAID/OFDA regional advisor arrived in Madagascar on March 10 to coordinate and conduct damage and needs assessments with USAID/Antananarivo staff. A USAID/OFDA water/sanitation specialist and USAID/FFP officer arrived in Madagascar on March 17 to assist with the assessments.

USAID/OFDA provided $400,000 to WFP

to support the operation of two helicopters in conducting reconnaissance missions and delivering emergency food and non-food relief items to affected populations. USAID/OFDA also provided $421,000 to CRS for the implementation of emergency health and water projects, including the distribution of seeds and 500,000 packets of oral rehydration salts to 15,000 families. A USAID/OFDA field officer traveled to Madagascar on March 23 to replace the outgoing USAID/OFDA regional advisor. The water/sanitation specialist and the field officer departed Madagascar on April 2.

On April 4, a USAID/OFDA regional advisor was re-deployed to Antananarivo to assess the situation following Cyclone Hudah's landfall in northern Madagascar. The water/sanitation specialist returned to Madagascar on April 6 and a USAID/OFDA information officer arrived in Antananarivo on April 11. USAID/OFDA procured and transported 1,200,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 10,000 five-gallon water containers, and four Zodiac boats to Madagascar at a total cost of $327,573. The relief commodities and the Zodiac boats were consigned to CARE, which distributed the relief commodities in Antalaha and used the boats to deliver emergency supplies to isolated populations. All USAID/OFDA team members departed Madagascar on April 23. USAID/FFP contributed 1,160 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at $793,300, to WFP's emergency operations plan in Madagascar.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $2,099,322
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$793,300
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$2,892,622

Sudan

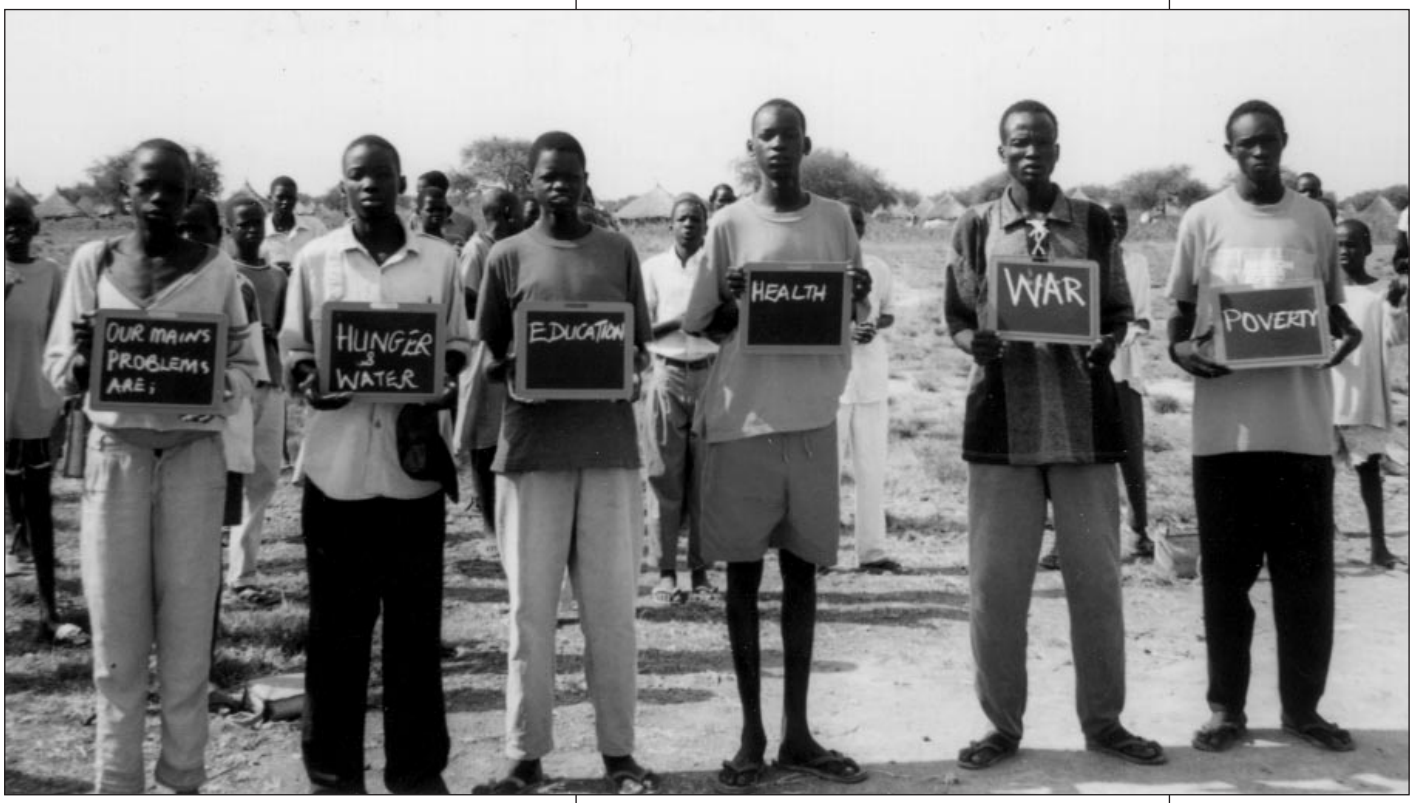
COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The long-running armed conflict between the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army and Movement (SPLA/M) continued through FY 2000. An estimated two million people have died in Sudan from fighting, famine, and disease since 1983. During FY 2000, there were an estimated four million IDPs in Sudan, including two million in greater Khartoum and 1.2 million in the transitional zone and southern areas. Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries numbered more than 400,000. Sudan also hosted refugees from other countries, including more than 147,000 Eritrean refugees registered in Sudan as of January 2000. With the outbreak of new fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea in May 2000, another group of Eritrean refugees (estimated at more than 90,000 people) fled to eastern Sudan. On November 8, 1999, due to continued conflict, population displacements, food insecurity, and the Sudanese population's general vulnerability, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Donald G. Teitelbaum redeclared a disaster for Sudan and requested continued USG emergency assistance during FY 2000.

Insecurity remained the leading constraint to humanitarian access. Fighting erupted in May 2000 between GOS and SPLA/M forces in Bahr el Ghazal Province in violation of a cease-fire in effect since 1998. In reaction to SPLA/M gains, the GOS dramatically intensified bombings, targeting civilian locations. The GOS bombed the U.N.'s Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) and ICRC aircraft on the ground, in a move that was unprecedented and violated a 1989 agreement by the GOS and SPLA/M not to target OLS operations. In August, GOS planes dropped 18 bombs near U.N. facilities at Mapel, causing the U.N. to temporarily suspend OLS operations. WFP evacuated relief workers from the area due to the targeting of relief facilities, and the bombing campaign led ICRC and NGOs to curtail activities in portions of Bahr el Ghazal.

On June 28, the U.S. Department of State expressed concern over continued cease-fire violations in Bahr el Ghazal by the GOS and SPLA/M, warning that a spread of fighting could lead to a major new humanitarian crisis. U.S. Department of State officials called on the GOS and SPLA/M to cease all attacks and honor their cease-fire commitments. The Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association (SRRA) warned that a food crisis was imminent in southern Sudan because the bombing campaign was interfering with the emergency food delivery operations of relief agencies. A July SPLA/M offensive in Bahr el Ghazal, including the seizure of towns in the northern part of the province and the blockage of an important GOS supply route, raised fears of substantial new displacements of residents living in the province.

In July, two U.N. planes made the first relief airlifts to the SPLA/M-controlled area of



Sudanese school children share their village's problems (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA).

the Nuba Mountains in more than a decade. The GOS, which under the terms of the tripartite agreement has veto power over OLS access, had not previously allowed OLS flights into the area. (Non-OLS relief agencies, including USAID/OFDA's implementing partners working in providing potable water and food security, could access the Nuba Mountain region through non-OLS air transport.)

An eruption of fighting in Upper Nile in mid-summer displaced tens of thousands of people to Bentiu and Rubkona, with an estimated 19,000 people arriving during the last four days of July. According to the U.N., relief organizations warned that the new IDP influx could sharply exacerbate existing food shortages. A July 6 alert from MSF warned that global malnutrition rates in Padeah, an isolated district in Western Upper Nile where conflict had displaced nearly 75% of the population, were at 35%, and approximately half of these cases were severely malnourished. MSF also reported that conflict in Padeah had displaced nearly 75% of the population. The U.N. reported on August 21 that WFP had started emergency food distributions to the new IDP arrivals in Bentiu and Rubkona.

Nearly 2.4 million people, mostly in the south, depended on emergency food deliveries during FY 2000 due to crop losses, civil strife-related displacements, and refugee influxes from the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict. In the health sector, a rapid assessment in Equatoria, Bahr el Ghazal, and Upper Nile found that infectious diseases accounted for more than 75% of all reported illnesses, and that among these, malaria and diarrheal diseases were responsible for nearly 40% of the total cases reported. Severe health and nutrition problems were reported in Bieh State, in southeastern Upper Nile, which had an estimated population of 200,000, and lacked potable water and health services in most districts.

An estimated two million people have died in Sudan from fighting, famine, and disease since 1983. During FY 2000, there were an estimated four million IDPs in Sudan, including two million in greater Khartoum and 1.2 million in the transitional zone and southern areas.

In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA provided more than $22 million in emergency humanitarian assistance to Sudan. USAID/OFDA assistance was provided to ACF/F, ACROSS, ADRA, ARC,

CARE, Christian Mission Aid, Concern, CRS, GOAL, IAS/MEDIC, IFRC, IRC, MEDAIR, NPA, SC/US, SCF/UK, UNICEF, Veterinarios sin Fronteras/Belgium (VSF/B), and VSF/G addressing humanitarian needs in health, water/sanitation, food security, agriculture, and livelihoods. USAID/OFDA also supported humanitarian coordination through UNICEF/OLS. USAID/OFDA's funding addressed humanitarian needs in opposition-controlled areas of Sudan, as well as targeted, war-affected beneficiaries in the GOS-held sectors. USAID/OFDA's funding programs in FY 2000 continued a strategic shift from relatively stable areas to traditionally underserved regions, including Upper Nile, the Nuba Mountains, southern Blue Nile, and eastern Sudan.

USAID/FFP provided 35,090 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food aid in FY 2000, valued at $33.4 million. USDA contributed 39,800 MT of Section 416(b) food valued at $36,500,000. USAID's Africa Bureau provided $3 million for the Sudan Transitional Assistance for Rehabilitation (STAR) program, which supports capacity-building efforts in opposition-held areas. State/PRM provided UNHCR and IFRC with more than $1.6 million to assist refugees in Sudan.

Beneficiaries await supplemental feeding at a USAID/OFDA-funded feeding project site in Sudan (photo by Mikaela Meredith, USAID/OFDA)

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE ..$22,023,691
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$78,168,354**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE ..$100,192,045**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Uganda

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The insecurity and population displacements caused by rebel attacks in northern and western Uganda continued in FY 2000. Since 1997, when the insurgencies intensified, hundreds of thousands of people have taken refuge in villages and camps established by local government officials under the protection of the Government of Uganda's (GOU) military force (UPDF).

In the northern districts of Gulu and Kitgum, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) resumed its insurgency in December 1999 after several months of relative calm. The renewed fighting forced many IDPs, who had ventured from the camps to reclaim their homes, to seek safety in the IDP camps once again. Rebel activity also increased in the western districts of Bundibugyo, Kabarole, and Kasese where the faction known as the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) intensified its campaign. In carrying out their campaigns of terror, both factions resorted to the use of ambushes, raids, and landmines. They attacked villages and IDP camps, looted and burned shelters, and abducted and killed civilians, many of them children. Other insurgent groups operated in the West Nile region, which sheltered more than 156,000 Sudanese refugees. The Ugandan factions were harbored and supported by the GOS in retaliation for Uganda's alleged support of resistance groups in Sudan. The GOU passed a law in January 2000 offering amnesty to surrendering combatants, but the legislation was slow to be implemented and did not result in an appreciable reduction in fighting by the end of FY 2000.

A further consequence of the periodic population displacements was the disruption in agricultural activity and the resulting food inse-

curity in the areas of conflict. Although some IDPs were able to leave the camps during the day to tend to their crops, many others were forced to abandon their plots of land. The unpredictability of armed raids and the frequent movement of IDPs in and out of the camps also prevented an accurate assessment of the size of camp populations and, therefore, of their needs. UNOCHA estimated the number of conflict-affected people at 824,346 as of February 2000. This number included 197,584 refugees sheltered in Uganda, 621,958 IDPs, and 4,804 abducted, and still missing, children. Relief agencies attempted to respond to identified needs for food assistance and the provision of potable water and sanitation in the camps and affected villages. However, because of the insecurity of road travel, their relief operations were often reduced or curtailed during periods of intense rebel activity.

In addition to the civil crisis in Uganda, parts of the country experienced a severe drought in FY 2000. Dry conditions in the northeastern districts of Moroto and Kotido left 250,000 people at risk, according to a WFP/NGO assessment in December 1999. As access to grazing decreased, the pastoralists of those districts migrated with their cattle to other areas, including eastern Kitgum and northeastern Lira districts, with resulting conflicts between local residents and the encroaching pastoralists. Insecurity remained high in the region as sporadic inter-clan clashes, killings, and cross-border raids between Uganda and Kenya pastoralists continued during FY 2000. Rains in August improved crop cultivation and access to pastures, decreasing but not eliminating the need for food assistance in Moroto and Kotido.

On October 29, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Martin G. Brennan redeclared a disaster for Uganda, citing the continuing humanitarian needs that existed in FY 2000. USAID/OFDA provided assistance totaling nearly $2 million. This included $480,020 for IRC to increase access to potable water and improve latrine systems in Kitgum District; $314,540 for AAH/USA to provide potable water in 14 IDP camps in Gulu District; $321,830 to MEDAIR to provide a water and sanitation project in Kotido District; $233,000 to CRS to provide resettlement packages and quality seeds to populations in eastern Kitgum and northeastern Lira displaced by the pastoralist's incursion; and a $145,726 grant to AAH/USA for an emergency water program in Bundibugyo District that would drill 16 boreholes, rehabilitate five traditional water sources, and construct a gravity flow system.

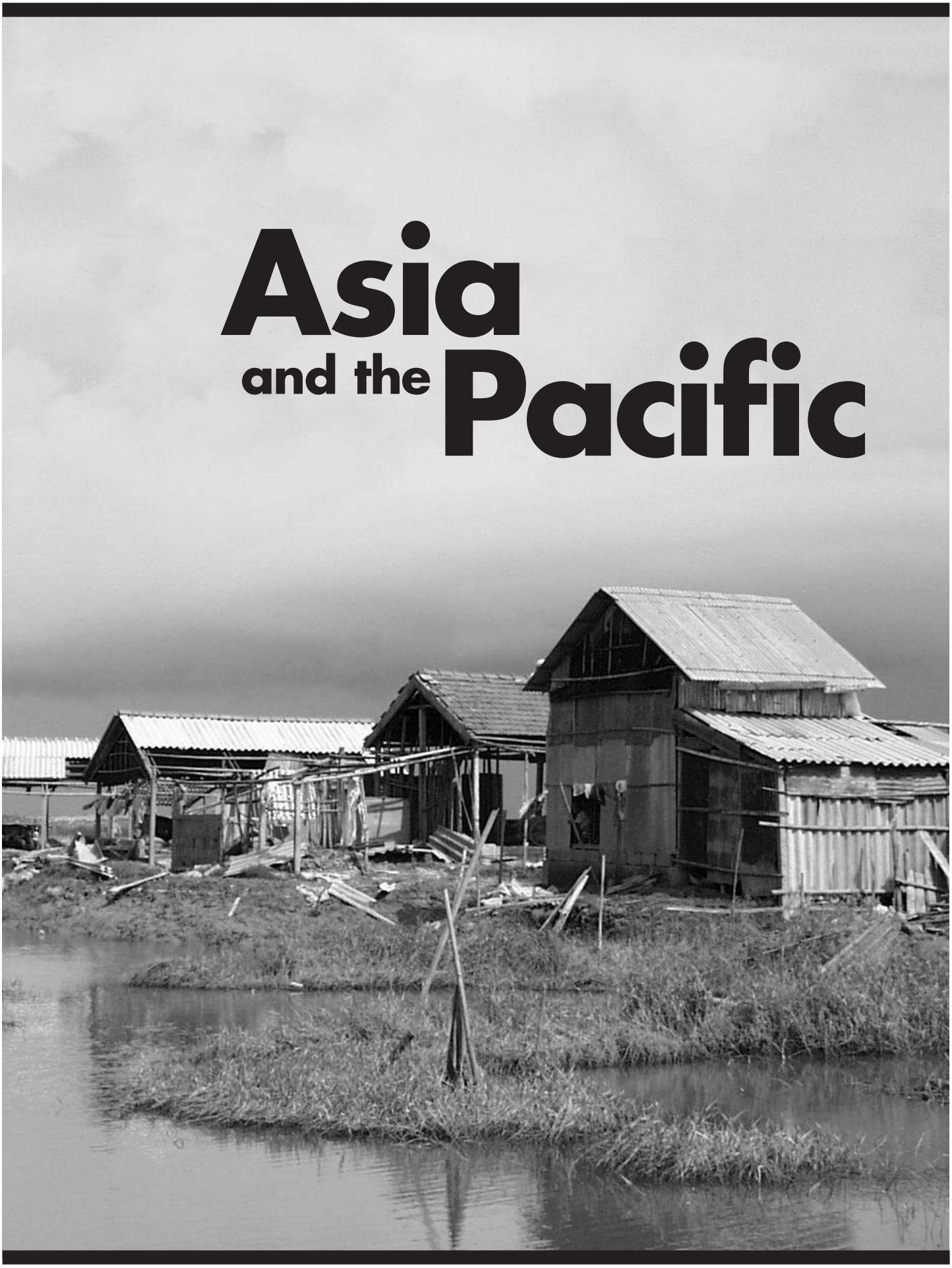
USAID/FFP contributed a total of 14,915 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at more than $8.7 million. State/PRM provided $5,265,299 through UNHCR, WFP, and IRC to support assistance and protection programs for Sudanese, Congolese, and Rwandan refugees in Uganda. State/PRM also contributed $220,000 to the IFRC for Ugandan Red Cross assistance to refugees from DRC and Rwanda.

The unpredictability of armed raids and the frequent movement of IDPs in and out of the camps also prevented an accurate assessment of the size of camp populations and, therefore, of their needs.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $1,973,372
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$14,237,299**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $16,210,671**

**These funding figures do not reflect $95.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, WFP, and ICRC for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Asia and the Pacific



China

EARTHQUAKE

Two earthquakes, measuring 5.9 and 6.5 on the Richter Scale, occurred in China's southwestern Yunnan Province on January 15, 2000. More than 1,000 aftershocks followed, including one on January 22 measuring 4.0 on the Richter Scale. The epicenter of the earthquakes was in Yaoan County.

Only seven people were killed, in part due to the fact that most residents had fled their homes before the second, stronger earthquake occurred. The Government of the People's Republic of China reported that 100,000 people were displaced, 400 residents were seriously injured, and approximately 300,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed as a result of the earthquakes. Damage to office buildings, bridges, telecommunications, roads, primary schools, electrical systems, and earthen dams was significant. The most seriously affected areas were located in remote mountainous regions. As a result, emergency relief assistance was slow to arrive and was

(opposite) Homes destroyed by floodwaters in Indonesia (photo courtesy of IFRC).

provided principally by the People's Liberation Army and local police units.

On January 31, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Prueher issued a disaster declaration due to damage caused by the earthquakes. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to Heart to Heart, a U.S.-based NGO with offices in nearby Sichuan Province. Heart to Heart used the funds to provide shelter materials to assist earthquake victims in rebuilding their homes.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

India

CYCLONE

On October 18-19, 1999, a severe cyclone hit the eastern coast of India, causing floods and wind damage in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, and West Bengal states. A second, larger cyclone (the worst to strike India in almost 30 years) hit Orissa and West Bengal states on October 29. The most severely affected districts were Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Jajpur, and Kendrapara. Other affected districts included Khurda, Puri, Nayagarh, Gajapati, Keonjhar, Mayurbhang, and Dhenkanal. The Government of India's Central Disaster Mitigation Center in the Ministry of Agriculture reported that 9,465 people were killed and 2,260 residents were injured as a result of the two cyclones. UNOCHA reported that the cyclones impacted approximately 15 million people and damaged or destroyed three million homes, leaving more than seven million people homeless. In addition, the cyclones damaged or destroyed 11,000 schools; killed 355,000 cattle; inundated 1,225,000 hectares of cropland; disrupted roads and rail lines; and interrupted electricity, water, and telecommunications. According to a U.N. Disaster Assessment Coordination (UNDAC) team, emergency needs included food, water, and medical assistance and medium-term needs included restoration and rehabilitation of telecommunications, houses, sanitation facilities, and schools.

On October 22, U.S. Ambassador Richard F. Celeste issued a disaster declaration for India due to the damage caused by the effects of the cyclone. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to meet the immediate needs of affected persons. Following an assessment by a USAID/OFDA regional advisor, USAID/OFDA provided $107,000 through USAID/New Delhi to CARE for the local purchase of plastic sheeting to provide temporary shelter for cyclone victims. Subsequently, USAID/OFDA provided $3.2 million for the provision of emergency household kits, seeds and tools for kitchen gardens, and potable water to 400,000 beneficiaries in the most-affected districts. Of this funding, $2 million was provided through USAID/New Delhi to CARE and $1.2 million to CRS.

In addition to USAID/OFDA assistance, USAID/FFP provided 10,380 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to CARE and CRS to meet the emergency food needs of 1.2 million cyclone victims. This USAID/FFP assistance, valued at $4.15 million, included 4,500 MT of corn-soya blend, 1,080 MT of vegetable oil, and 4,800 MT of bulgur wheat.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $3,302,000
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $4,150,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$7,563,600

India

DROUGHT

During the spring and summer of 2000, the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Orissa suffered from what some experts report was the worst drought to impact the region in the last 100 years. Within three of the five states, the affected populations exceeded 90 million and cattle livestock losses surpassed 54 million head. More specifically, 26 of 32 districts were affected in Rajasthan, with 26.2 million people impacted in 23,406 villages; 17 of 25 districts were affected in Gujarat, with 25 million people impacted in 9,421 villages; and 18 of 32 districts were affected in Andhra Pradesh, with 41.3 million people impacted in 17,431 villages.

The drought particularly impacted the rural poor, as previous monsoons and ensuing crop

failure left many farmers unable to meet basic needs and repay loans taken out for the previous year's planting season. The Government of India (GOI) instituted a large-scale work program to help families cope, but these were short-term in nature and were not able to address all of the needs of vulnerable families.

Unable to purchase basic necessities, many farmers migrated in search of employment and attempted to sell their cattle for cash, but found few jobs available and a non-existent livestock market. The principal needs of the affected populations included potable water, animal fodder, and food. Although adequate supplies of these basic commodities were available in India, difficulties in the distribution system prohibited sufficient quantities from reaching targeted communities. Although the GOI provided subsidized food to the rural poor during the drought, the market price of food remained beyond the purchasing power of those most marginalized.

On May 4, U.S. Ambassador Richard F. Celeste issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the drought in India. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial $25,000 through USAID/New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to assist the GOI's drought relief efforts. USAID/OFDA also dispatched a regional advisor to conduct an assessment of the conditions and needs in Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Orissa states. The USAID/OFDA assessment revealed the need to regenerate purchasing power to enable villagers to buy the basic goods that they lacked.

Based on the recommendations of the assessment, USAID/OFDA provided $943,325 through USAID/New Delhi ($523,000 to WV and $420,325 to CARE) for the implementation of cash-for-work projects. These projects benefited approximately 25,000 of the most-affected families living in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Modhpur, and Pali districts of Rajasthan State. Activities focused on creating and rehabilitating water retention infrastructure to increase livelihood security and storage capacity within the existing water-harvesting system, improving the health status of livestock, and decreasing rural-urban migration.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $59,214 through USAID/New Delhi to CRS for the construction and improvement of water harvesting structures in 95 drought-affected villages in Gujarat and Rajasthan states. The project benefited more than 17,000 vulnerable people living in women-headed households and households with children under the age of five.

According to USAID/Delhi, CRS diverted 3,280 MT of P.L. 480 Title II bulgur wheat and 190 MT of vegetable oil, valued at $1,164,840, from ongoing projects for the implementation of emergency food-for-work projects in Rajasthan and Gujarat states. These food-for-work projects benefited some 102,498 laborers and their families, and supported rehabilitation of the water harvesting system and construction of additional water harvesting facilities. Similarly, CARE diverted 915 MT of P.L. 480 Title II corn-soya blend and 114 MT of vegetable oil, valued at $446,325, from ongoing projects to assist 122,500 drought-affected beneficiaries in Rajasthan State.

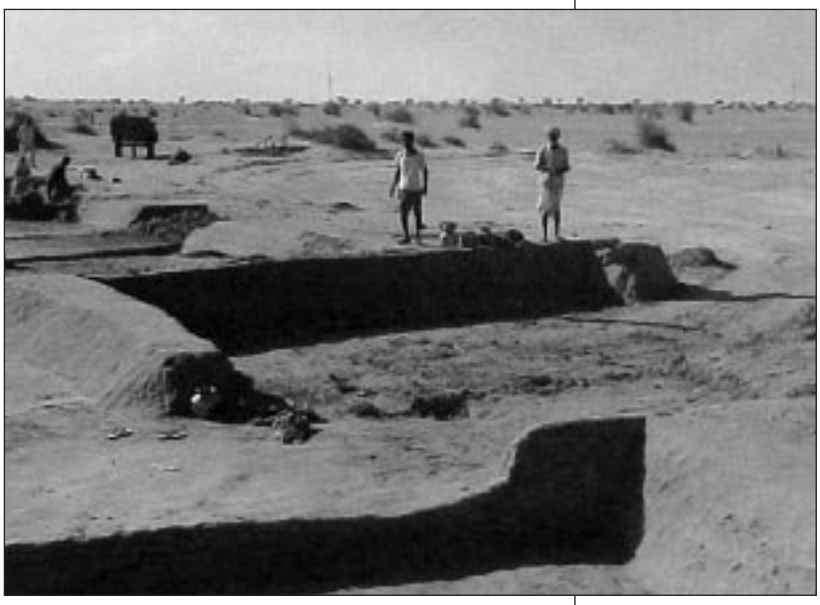
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $1,027,539
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $1,611,165
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$2,649,477

India

FLOODS

Torrential rainfall during the southwest monsoon that began in June 2000 led to disastrous flooding in several states in India, including Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, and West Bengal. More than 22 million people were affected in the four states, and the death toll reached 867.

Work completed on a village pond project funded by USAID/OFDA in India (photo courtesy of World Vision).



In Assam, water in the Beki River was at its highest level since 1978. The Government of India estimated that more than 3.6 million people in 3,717 villages in 18 of the 23 districts in the state were affected and 32 people died. The total affected area was 443,000 hectares, and damage to crops was estimated at $54.3 million.

Flooding in the Kosi and Ghandak rivers in Bihar affected an estimated 3.5 million people in 1,950 villages in 20 districts across the northern part of the state and took at least 35 lives. Approximately 296,000 hectares were affected by the overflow from the rivers, and crop damage was assessed at $4.5 million.

In Himachal Pradesh, flash floods in the Sutlej River on the night of July 31 caused the water level to rise from the Tibetan Plateau to Gobindsagar Lake in Bilaspur District. A reported 150 people perished in the flood, and damage to roads, bridges, and property totaled an estimated $218 million.

The monsoon floods later spread to West Bengal State, affecting 15 million people and killing 650. The discharge of water from the Massenjore Dam and Tilpara Barrage during a period of heavy rain caused flooding in several districts of the state. The cresting waters inundated large areas of the state capital, Calcutta. Widespread damage to homes, property, livestock, and crops was reported. Rail and road links were cut and telecommunications and power supplies disrupted. More than 1 million hectares of crops, with an estimated value of $220 million, were destroyed, and 800,000 homes were damaged.

The national and state governments undertook rescue and relief efforts. International aid agencies, including PVOs/NGOs and the WFP distributed food, shelter materials, and non-food relief items to the flood victims.

On August 21, 2000, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Albert Thibault declared a disaster due to the extensive flooding in Assam, Bihar, and Hamachal Pradesh. USAID/OFDA responded with a $25,000 contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to support relief activities in the flood-affected areas. As the flooding spread to West Bengal, U.S. Ambassador Richard Celeste requested from USAID/OFDA and received an additional $25,000 contribution to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $111,600 for AmRC to supply emergency kits to 30,000 victims in Assam.

CRS and CARE distributed a total of 2,300 MT of emergency food commodities from their regular USAID/FFP development programs to flood victims. The food was valued at more than $1 million.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$161,600
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $1,014,500
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$1,176,100

Cash-for-work laborers enlarging a pond in Luno Ki Basti village of Same Block in India (photo courtesy of World Vision).

Indonesia

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

Since 1998, political uncertainties and acute economic crises have resulted in growing unrest throughout the Indonesian archipelago. This unrest, compounded by escalating and increasingly violent and widespread sectarian and ethnic conflict, has fostered humanitarian emergencies in Kalimantan, Timor, Aceh, Sulawesi, the Malukus, and Irian Jaya. During FY 2000, violence in Indonesia killed hundreds of people and left more than 800,000 people displaced.

In Timor, the humanitarian situation quickly deteriorated in the last quarter of FY 1999, following the U.N.-sanctioned vote for Timorese independence in August 1999. In opposition to the outcome of this referendum, pro-integrationist militias rampaged through and plundered numerous towns in East Timor. They looted and burned private and public property, destroyed entire towns, killed hundreds of East Timorese, and drove an additional 450,000 from their homes (200,000 of whom fled to the surrounding hills and jungles of East Timor and another 250,000 of whom fled to West Timor, other areas of Indonesia, and neighboring countries).

The international relief community quickly mobilized to provide assistance to the East Timorese. On September 15, 1999, the U.N. Security Council voted unanimously to send a peacekeeping force (totaling approximately 7,500 troops) to East Timor. This force, termed the International Force for East Timor (INTERFET), gained political control of East Timor on September 27, at which time it began securing militia strongholds. Soon thereafter, relief agencies arrived in East Timor to provide for the humanitarian needs of the East Timorese.

On October 8, UNHCR began to formally repatriate East Timorese refugees from West Timor and elsewhere, with the logistical support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). At the same time, IDPs in East Timor were beginning to leave their safehavens in the hills and return to their villages. To provide for these returnees, UNOCHA and the U.N. Transitional Authority in East Timor identified six main areas for assistance: facilitating the voluntary return of East Timorese from West Timor and other locations; ensuring food security through the provision of daily rations and seeds and tools; providing a rudimentary health care network; ensuring potable water where a water system had been destroyed or damaged; revitalizing communities through education programs, providing psycho-social trauma counseling, and developing micro-credit schemes; and repairing and reconstructing approximately 35,000 residential houses. By spring 2000, although emergency relief assistance and repatriation efforts were ongoing, the emphasis of the international relief response in East Timor had shifted to rehabilitation and reconstruction. At the close of FY 2000, approximately 170,000 East Timorese had repatriated and most were well on their way to rebuilding their lives.

East Timor refugees at a camp along the West Timor border (photo by Julienne Vaillancourt, USAID/OFDA).

In West Timor, where an estimated 245,000 East Timorese refugees were registered at some 37 camps (principally in the districts of Kupang and Belu) at the height of the emergency, 90,000 - 100,000 refugees remained at the end of FY 2000. Refugee camp conditions improved throughout the fiscal year, but inadequate water and sanitation facilities and unacceptable levels of malnutrition remained evident. The lack of basic needs in the camps was partly attributable to substantial militia activity, which limited international NGOs from being able to gain access to camp populations.

At the end of FY 2000, militia elements still controlled many refugee camps and continued to intimidate potential returnees. The influence

A USAID/OFDA-funded immunization clinic in East Timor (photo by Julienne Vaillancourt, USAID/OFDA).

Displaced persons collecting water at a USAID/OFDA-funded water and sanitation project in Atambua (photo by Julienne Vaillancourt, USAID/OFDA).

of the militia in West Timor was highlighted on September 6, 2000, when militia members killed three expatriate UNHCR staff members in Atambua. Following this incident, the U.N. discontinued humanitarian assistance programs in West Timor. The evacuation of UNHCR personnel further compounded the overall condition of the refugees.

On October 4, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Robert Gelbard redeclared a disaster for Indonesia due to ongoing emergency humanitarian needs caused by the conflict in Indonesia's strife-torn provinces. In response, USAID/OFDA monitored developments in particularly volatile provinces and conducted assessments in those accessible areas where the humanitarian situation was dire.

USAID/OFDA provided more than $11.2 million in assistance in response to the complex emergency in Indonesia and East Timor during FY 2000. Of this total, USAID/OFDA provided $568,174 through USAID/Jakarta to WV for emergency assistance to IDPs and $302,000 through USAID/Jakarta to IMC for emergency health care in North Maluku. USAID/OFDA also provided $250,000 to USAID/Jakarta in support of an EDRC, who began serving in Jakarta in December 2000. The remainder of USAID/OFDA assistance to Indonesia during FY 2000 consisted of emergency relief projects for East and West Timor in response to the humanitarian crisis that ensued following the August 1999 vote for independence.

In September 1999, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor to Dili, East Timor and a program officer and information officer to Jakarta to assess humanitarian needs in East and West Timor, report on the current situation, and liaise with the U.S. Embassy, USAID/Jakarta, donor community, and relief organizations. USAID/OFDA staff remained in Dili and Jakarta until December 1999, at which time USAID/OFDA began conducting periodic visits to Jakarta and East and West Timor to monitor the humanitarian situation and progress of USAID/OFDA-funded relief projects.

In addition, during FY 2000, USAID/OFDA provided approximately $10 million in grants to WFP, UNICEF, CARE, Concern, IRC, CRS, WV, and IMC for logistical support, health activities, shelter materials, seeds and tools, mosquito nets, food commodities, and other non-food emergency supplies to meet the basic needs of IDPs in East Timor, refugees in West Timor, and returnees. USAID/OFDA also spent $229,380 in FY 2000 to replenish stockpiles with 1,224,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 20,000 blankets, and 5,200 five-gallon water containers provided to WFP in FY 1999 for distribution to IDPs in East Timor and refugees in West Timor.

In FY 2000, USAID provided additional humanitarian assistance in Indonesia and East Timor through USAID/FFP, USAID/OTI, and USAID/Jakarta. USAID/FFP provided $19.7 million for the purchase of 35,770 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food that was distributed throughout Indonesia and East Timor by WFP, WV, CARE, CRS, and MCI. In addition, the

USAID/FFP office in Jakarta provided $2.6 million in emergency food assistance. In FY 2000, USAID/OTI provided more than $21 million to support projects that focused on civil society, human rights, good governance, reconciliation, and local capacity-building. The USAID/Public Health and Nutrition (PHN) office in Jakarta funded approximately $3.5 million to ACF/F, WV, Project Concern International, SC/US, Uplift International, and Polio for emergency food and health assistance, primary health care, psycho-social counseling, immunizations, and medical supply airlifts in Indonesia and East Timor. Furthermore, since October 1999, USAID/Jakarta has committed $12.5 million in support of the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) coffee project in East Timor. This funding has supported income generation, employment, rehabilitation of coffee warehouses and health clinics, and repair or replacement of damaged processing equipment for approximately 30,000 families in East Timor.

During FY 2000, State/PRM provided $35 million in funds from the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) account as well as its regional account to UNHCR, IOM, ICRC, WFP, UNICEF, and a consortium of international NGOs for relief assistance in East and West Timor, repatriation of refugees, and reintegration of returnees.

Within days of INTERFET's creation, DOD began providing critical support to INTERFET, primarily in the areas of communications, logistics, planning, airlifts, and intelligence. DOD's military assistance to INTERFET during FY 2000 also included the deployment of approximately 20 Civil Affairs military personnel from Fort Bragg to the U.N. Civil-Military Operations Center (CMOC) in Dili and the secondment of three U.S. military officers to serve as military observers at UNTAET. In addition, DOD supported the East Timor transition to independence by deploying the U.S. Support Group East Timor (USGET) to Dili and Darwin in February 2000. USGET facilitated and coordinated U.S. military rotational operations, including periodic ship visits that provided engineering, medical, dental, and other humanitarian and civic assistance to the East Timorese people.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$11,212,545
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$82,401,314
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $93,613,859

Note: The funding figures for "Indonesia – Complex Emergency" do not include DOD assistance to INTERFET or for USGET. Nor do they include funding provided by USAID/Jakarta toward the NCBA project.

Indonesia

EARTHQUAKE

On June 4, 2000 at 11:28 pm local time, an earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter Scale occurred approximately 100 kilometers southwest of the coastline of Sumatra, approximately 33 kilometers below the Earth's surface. A second earthquake, measuring 6.7 on the Richter Scale, occurred 11 minutes later. The city of Bengkulu on the island of Sumatra and the island of Enggano were most severely affected by the tremors. Throughout the affected areas 103 people were killed, more than 2,700 injured, and thousands of residents were displaced from their homes in fear of additional damage that might arise because of aftershocks. Numerous buildings were damaged; water, electricity, and telephones were disrupted; roads were blocked by landslides; and the airport was temporarily closed due to the inoperability of navigational equipment.

On June 6, U.S. Ambassador Robert Gelbard issued a disaster declaration for Indonesia due to the damage caused by the earthquake. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Jakarta to help meet the emergency needs of those most severely affected. The USAID/OFDA senior regional advisor for Asia conducted an assessment in Bengkulu and on the island of Enggano between June 7-9. The assessment revealed that 20% of buildings sustained damage in Bengkulu (with 5% destroyed) while 70% of houses sustained damage on the island of Enggano (with 20% destroyed). The senior regional advisor determined that the local and international relief assistance provided was both appropriate and timely in response to the earthquake, and that no additional USAID/OFDA assistance was required.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Indonesia

FLOODS

Heavy rainfall on May 16-17, 2000 caused the Benanain River to overflow its banks, resulting in severe flooding of Malaka Tengah and Malaka Barat sub-districts in Belu District, West Timor. According to UNOCHA, 126 people died and 50,000 people (half of the affected area's total population) were affected as a result of the flooding. An estimated 20,000 people required emergency relief assistance, including approximately 16,000 East Timorese refugees living in camps in West Timor, and more than 5,800 people were evacuated to safety by IOM and UNHCR. Infrastructural and agricultural losses included the destruction of approximately 300 homes, key access bridges and roads, and the damage of nearly 10,000 hectares of cropland.

On June 2, USAID/OFDA's senior regional advisor for Asia assessed flood damage and needs in Belu District. Following meetings with local and provincial officials and various members of the affected population, the senior regional advisor determined that immediate humanitarian needs included food, cooking utensils, shelter materials, agricultural tools, and seeds. He reported that the Government of Indonesia and various relief organizations, including UNHCR, WFP, MSF, CRS, CARE, and Church World Services (CWS), were meeting the emergency relief needs of flood victims, but that additional assistance was necessary to restore livelihoods. In response to this recommendation, on June 6, U.S. Ambassador Robert Gelbard declared a flood disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Jakarta to Yayasan Sosial Keuskupan Atambua (YASSKA) to purchase agricultural tools and maize and mungbean seeds for 7,500 rural families.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Mongolia

WINTER EMERGENCY

In the summer of 1999, severe drought in Mongolia led to poor forage conditions, depriving cattle from gaining the necessary body weight to survive throughout the harsh winter of 1999. According to the State Emergency Commission, approximately 1.8 million animals died in 13 affected provinces as a result of cold weather and snowstorms that buried rangelands, depriving livestock of their food source. Consequently, more than 500,000 people (20% of the country's population) lost their source of income and food, putting them at risk of malnutrition and starvation.

On March 2, U.S. Ambassador Alphonse F. La Porta declared a winter emergency disaster in Mongolia. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Ulaanbaatar to the Mongolian Red Cross to provide emergency food, household commodities, and clothing to the most at-risk families. On April 4, USAID/OFDA provided $657,000 through USAID/Ulaanbaatar to the IFRC. Of this total, $636,230 was used for the purchase of wheat flour, millet, and rice to assist those most vulnerable, while $18,800 was designated for further IFRC assessments of the drought situation. A two-person USAID/OFDA assessment team conducted visits to disaster-affected areas between April 14-17. In support of this assessment team, USAID/OFDA also transferred $2,000 to USAID/Ulaanbaatar on April 4 to lease a helicopter.

In addition to USAID/OFDA funding, USAID/Ulaanbaatar provided $227,000 of unallocated local currency proceeds generated from the sale of USAID/FFP Title I food aid to the IFRC to support relief efforts.

During FY 2000, USAID's Asia and Near East (ANE) Bureau implemented development programs for Mongolia that addressed the underlying livestock vulnerabilities that were exacerbated by the winter emergency. In particular, USAID/ANE undertook the Gobi Regional Economic Initiative, which supported projects that assisted herders and rural residents in related businesses to develop better livestock and herd mixes to increase productivity and mitigate environmental impacts on fragile rangelands.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$692,665

OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$227,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $959,000

Philippines

VOLCANO

On February 15, 2000, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) issued a level three alert for Mayon Volcano, requiring all people residing within a six-kilometer radius to be evacuated. On February 24, following explosive-type earthquakes, increased lava and sulfur dioxide emissions, tremors, and ground swelling, PHIVOLCS raised the alert level of Mayon Volcano to level five, thereby requiring all people residing within eight kilometers to be evacuated. In addition, drifting ash led municipal authorities to evacuate people living within 15 kilometers of the southwest side of the volcano. At the height of the evacuation, the total number of evacuees numbered between 70,000 and 80,000. Approximately 60,000 of the evacuees resided in 41 temporary evacuation centers, while the remainder stayed with relatives. The evacuation centers, established at schools and other public buildings, were overcrowded and lacked adequate sanitation, potable water, and/or running tap water. Most evacuees returned to their homes after only a few weeks of being displaced, as volcanic activity subsided.

On March 1, personnel from USAID/OFDA, USAID/Manila, the U.S. Embassy, DOD, and the Government of the Philippines conducted a joint assessment of the area surrounding Mayon Volcano. The assessment team met with the governor, mayor, regional police inspector, commander of the disaster's task force, PHIVOLCS experts, and local health officials.

Based on this assessment, U.S. Ambassador Thomas C. Hubbard declared a disaster for the Philippines on February 29. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 in response through USAID/Manila to the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) to help meet the immediate needs of evacuees. Subsequently, USAID/OFDA provided 244,800 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, three 3,000-gallon water bladders, two water purification units, and 5,000 five-gallon collapsible water jugs. These relief commodities, valued at $87,894, arrived in the Philippines via two commercial airlifts at a cost of $115,300 and were consigned to the PNRC. USAID/OFDA also provided an additional $25,000 to the PNRC for the purchase, transport, and maintenance of portable latrines.

Following a military exercise in the Philippines, DOD provided approximately $150,000 worth of tents and dust masks for use by evacuees. In addition, some two-dozen U.S. troops assisted the Filipino military in setting up the DOD-procured tents for use by evacuees.

During the summer of 1999, USAID/OFDA provided financial support to the USGS's Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) to install four tilt meters and corresponding telemetry at Mayon Volcano. This technical assistance, valued between $20,000 and $40,000, helped to mitigate the impacts of the Mayon eruption by improving monitoring and disaster early warning plans.

***USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $253,194**
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$150,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $403,194

**This total does not include technical assistance provided prior to the eruption of the volcano.*

Southeast Asia

FLOODS

In FY 2000, unusually heavy and prolonged monsoon rains caused severe flooding in Southeast Asia. According to meteorologists, the rains were the worst to strike the region in 40 years. From July through September, twice the average rainfall hit the countries of Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, resulting in extensive flooding of the Mekong watershed. According to press reports, the regional flooding killed approximately 800 people, adversely affected more than eight million residents, and rendered at least two million people homeless. All of the affected countries, to some degree, experienced extensive crop damage, lack of potable water, sanitation concerns, an upsurge in the incidence of water-borne diseases, and food shortages.

(top) A family surveys flood damage to their home in Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

(above) A token of thanks is presented to a member of the U.S. Air Force who delivered emergency relief supplies to Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

Severe regional flooding also occurred in northeastern India and western Bangladesh in September and October 2000. Reported to be the worst in a century, these floods killed more than 1,300 people, affected an estimated 18 million residents, and caused more than one billion dollars in property damage.

CAMBODIA

The cumulative effects of the flooding in Cambodia were devastating and widespread. According to the Government of Cambodia's (GOC) National Committee for Disaster Management, 21 provinces were affected, with those in the southeast region worst hit (Kandal, Kompong Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, and Svey Rieng). The National Committee for Disaster Management reported that the floods killed 333 people and adversely affected nearly 3.5 million residents in central and southern Cambodia. Of those affected, approximately 387,400 people were evacuated to higher ground. The GOC also reported that 142,918 hectares of rice and subsidiary crops were destroyed, 132 health facilities were damaged, and 500,000 primary and secondary school students were unable to begin classes on time.

On August 1, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Kent M. Wiedemann issued a disaster declaration for Cambodia due to the effects of the flooding. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to AmRC for the purchase and distribution of emergency household kits. Continued flooding and worsening of the humanitarian situation in the northern, eastern, and southern provinces led U.S. Ambassador Wiedemann to issue a second disaster declaration on September 5. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an additional $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to AmRC to meet the immediate needs of flood-affected families. On September 20, in response to an IFRC appeal, USAID/OFDA provided $302,704 to AmRC for the purchase and distribution of additional emergency household kits (consisting of clothing, cooking utensils, basic tools, plastic sheeting, and sleeping mats).

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$352,704

VIETNAM

Flooding in the Mekong Delta area of Vietnam began in early August 2000, causing some of the most severe flooding ever in An Giang, Long An, Dong Thap, Kien Gang, and Can Tho provinces. According to UNOCHA, the flooding killed 460 people, affected five million residents, and displaced 670,000 people. In addition, UNDP reported that the flooding damaged or destroyed approximately 800,000 houses, 10,000 kilometers of roads, 13,000 bridges, 12,000 schools, and 163,500 hectares of rice and subsidiary crops. Because cropland in the affected areas was so heavily saturated, flooding continued late into the monsoon season and delayed planting for the 2001 crop cycle.

On September 15, 2000, U.S. Ambassador Douglas B. Peterson issued a disaster declaration for flooding in southeastern Vietnam.

USAID/OFDA responded to the disaster by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to the IFRC to meet the immediate needs of affected families in the Mekong Delta area. The IFRC used these funds in joint efforts with the Vietnam Red Cross to provide emergency food, shelter materials, cooking utensils, hygiene items, and potable water to flood victims. On September 26, USAID/OFDA provided another $216,160 to the IFRC in response to its appeal for Vietnam. These funds were used to purchase and distribute 3,500 emergency household kits, 3,000 fishing nets, and three motorized boats for use by the Vietnam Red Cross in SAR efforts and delivery of relief supplies.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$241,160

Note: In October 2000, USAID/OFDA provided additional emergency relief assistance totaling approximately $2.5 million in response to the regional flooding in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, India, and Bangladesh. This assistance will be reflected in the FY 2001 Annual Report.

Vietnam

FLOODS

During November 1999, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Sing Dinh provinces and the city of Da Nang in central Vietnam experienced the heaviest rainfall and flooding to affect the region in the last 40 years. The Government of Vietnam (GVN) reported 622 deaths, 70 people missing, 25,000 cattle killed, over one million people in need of emergency relief assistance, and more than 470,493 households affected as a result of the flooding. Furthermore, the GVN estimated that the floods damaged or destroyed 911,846 houses, 94,000 classrooms, 510 clinics, 97,008 hectares of farmland, 3,117 hectares of shrimp and fish farms, and 1,470 bridges.

On November 4, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Douglas B. Peterson issued a disaster declaration for Vietnam due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to IFRC and UNDP for the provision of blankets, plastic sheeting, and water purification tablets and units to meet the basic needs of those most affected. USAID/OFDA also provided $450,000 to IFRC in support of its international appeal for Vietnam. Of this appeal funding, USAID/OFDA provided $60,000 for the purchase and distribution of 5,000 household kits (containing blankets, mosquito nets, cooking utensils, and soap) and $390,000 for the construction of 2,727 concrete foundations for flood-resistant homes.

A woman stands beside her flood-damaged home in Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 391,680 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 2,400 blankets, and 3,200 five-gallon water jugs, valued at $51,760, to the Vietnam Red Cross and IFRC. DOD transported these relief supplies from Guam to the city of Hue on November 11 at an estimated cost of $60,000. DOD also conducted a medical assessment of flood victims between December 9-15 in Thua Thien-Hue. The assessment identified specific post-flood public health needs and ways to address these needs, including the construction of flood-resistant well systems.

Prior to the onset of this disaster, USAID/OFDA supported technical assistance programs to help the GVN build capacities to mitigate flood disasters in vulnerable areas of Vietnam. In FY 1999, USAID/OFDA provided $64,000 to NOAA in support of the develop-

ment of an implementation plan for a Red River flood-forecasting and early-warning system and $26,000 to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the provision of technical assistance in the construction of dams.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$552,760
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE.....$60,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $612,760

Vietnam

FLOODS

As villagers were beginning to replace lost household goods, rebuild damaged infrastructure, and replant destroyed crops, heavy rainfall in December 1999 intensified the effects of the severe flooding that occurred in central Vietnam in November 1999. The second flood disaster primarily affected the provinces of Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Khanh Hoa. According to the GVN, the December floods resulted in 120 deaths, four people missing, 203 injuries, and 400,000 people in need of emergency relief assistance. Furthermore, the GVN estimated that the flooding damaged or destroyed 409,234 houses, 677 schools, 135 classrooms, 119 clinics, 36,086 roads, 16,760 dikes, 36,044 fish ponds, and 37,526 hectares of farmland.

On December 8, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Dennis G. Harter issued a disaster declaration for Vietnam due to the effects of the flooding that occurred in December 1999. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi for the local procurement of urgently needed household supplies. USAID/OFDA provided an additional $200,000 to IFRC to compliment $450,000 disbursed to the organization following the November 1999 flood. This second tranche of funding to IFRC was used to construct an additional 1,400 concrete foundations for flood-resistant homes.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$225,000

A family's home is damaged by the floods in Vietnam (photo courtesy of IFRC).

Disaster Preparedness in Asia

Nearly half of the world's major disasters occur in the Asia and Pacific region, where typhoons, earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, landslides, famines, epidemics, and technological accidents all occur with considerable frequency. The impacts of each of these phenomena are compounded by significant population growth rates, urbanization, and environmental degradation. Each year, disasters in the Asia and Pacific region claim thousands of lives, render hundreds of thousands of people homeless, and destroy millions of dollars worth of infrastructure and personal property.

As its main conduit for mitigating the effects of disasters in the Asia and Pacific region, USAID/OFDA provides funding to the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), located in Bangkok, Thailand. ADPC is the leading center in the Asia and Pacific region dedicated to protecting communities and the environment from the devastation of disasters. ADPC works with national and local governments to develop the capabilities of countries to respond to disasters and to institute appropriate policies to mitigate their effects. ADPC achieves these goals through programs that focus on training, technical assistance, and information-sharing. The four key programs at ADPC are the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP), the Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), the Program for Understanding Extreme Climate Events (ECE), and the Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis Program (DANA). USAID/OFDA provides funding for each of these initiatives.

The AUDMP, launched in 1995, is ADPC's largest regional program. It was designed to make cities safer from disasters, with a goal of reducing the disaster vulnerability of urban populations, infrastructure, critical facilities, and shelter in targeted, secondary cities, and to promote replication and adaptation of successful mitigation measures throughout the region. Towards this end, the program conducts national demonstration projects, information dissemination and networking activities, policy seminars, and professional training in the target countries of Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.

ADPC works with national and local governments to develop the capabilities of countries to respond to disasters and to institute appropriate policies to mitigate their effects.

The PEER program, which is a collaborative initiative between ADPC, USAID/OFDA, and the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, commenced in October 1998, with an objective to develop and strengthen search and rescue training capabilities in Asia at national, regional, and sub-regional levels. This is the first initiative of its kind in Asia to impart skills and enhance the expertise of local responders to provide effective and coordinated on-scene management of rescue and medical response needs following a disaster. The four target countries are India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines.

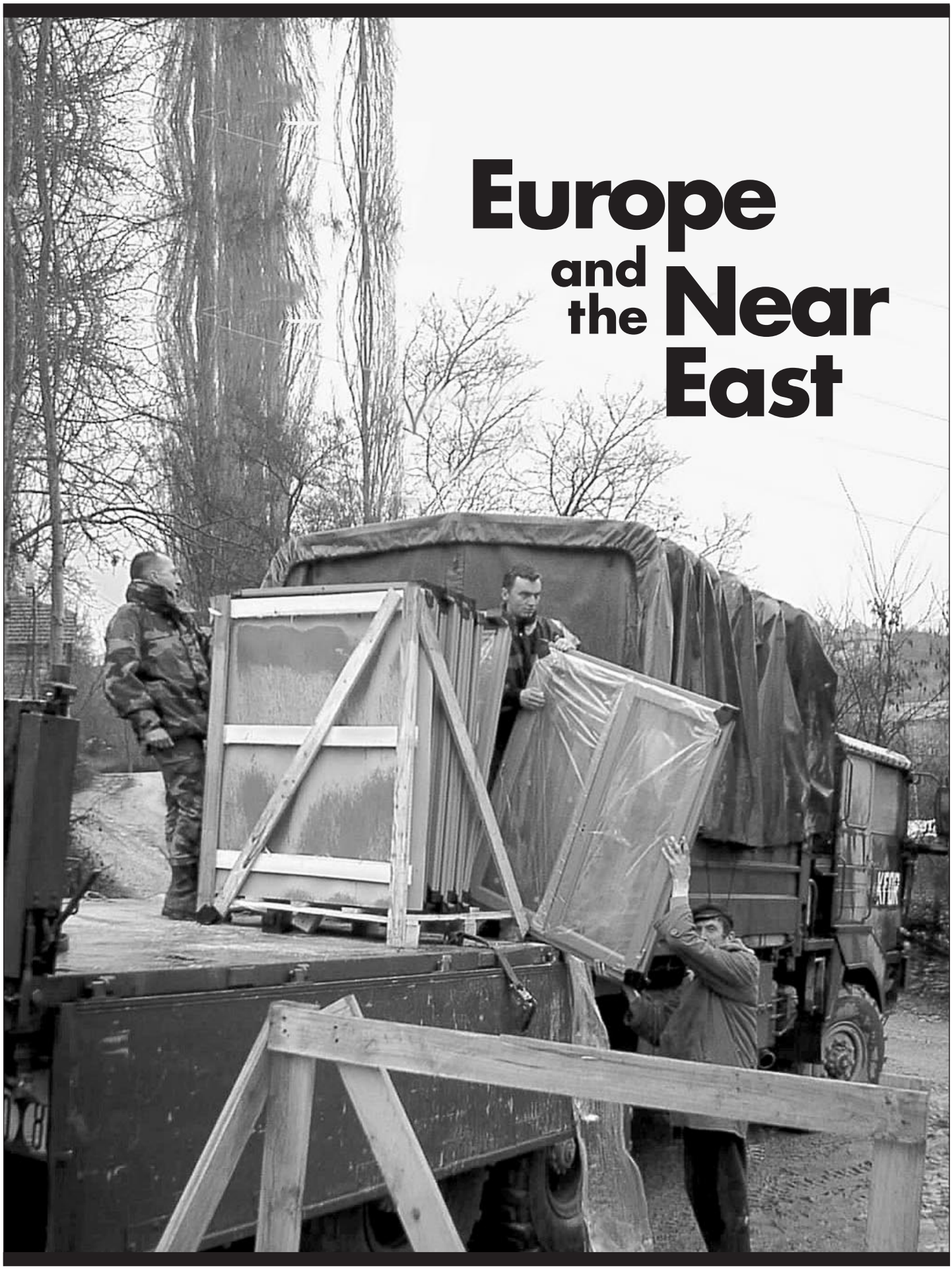
The ECE program is a follow-on initiative to the February 1998 Asian regional meeting on El Niño-related crises held by ADPC in collaboration with NOAA and partially funded by USAID/OFDA in February 1998. The goal of the program is to significantly improve the understanding of the impacts of extreme climate events such as El Niño and La Niña on society and the environment in selected Asian countries; and to reduce the disaster impacts of such events through effective application of climate forecast information. The program is currently operational in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam, and may expand to include Bangladesh and Thailand.

The DANA program, started in FY 2000, aims to develop a standard methodology and protocol to assist disaster managers in the Asia and Pacific region in assessing and reporting on post-disaster damages and needs. In doing so, disaster responses will be facilitated and coordinated through the optimization of local and international resources. In time, the DANA program will expand to encompass the development of a standard methodology for the assessment of rehabilitation and reconstruction needs and damaged infrastructure, training programs for rapid response teams, and planning for post-disaster needs.

Through the implementation of such mitigation programs, disasters will have a far less devastating impact throughout the Asia and Pacific region. Ultimately, by strengthening regional, national, and local capabilities to respond to disasters and instituting appropriate disaster mitigative policies, the region will witness a reduction in loss of life and property. In addition, the international relief community will realize a drastic reduction in the cost it bears to provide continual post-disaster assistance.

— Amy Tohill-Stull

Europe and the Near East



Afghanistan

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

Afghanistan remained a country in crisis during FY 2000 as more than two decades of conflict continued to take its toll on the population. The extended civil war in Afghanistan has resulted in an estimated 1.5 million deaths, and an additional 500,000 people injured or disabled. According to UNHCR, some 2.6 million Afghan refugees remain in other countries, the largest single refugee caseload in the world for the twentieth consecutive year. In addition, reports indicate that up to one million people are internally displaced. The extended warfare between rival factions in Afghanistan has included aerial bombing, cannon and rocket fire, anti-tank and anti-personnel landmines, and frequent sieges, all with little regard for the welfare of civilians.

By FY 2000, Afghanistan's most powerful faction, the Taliban, controlled roughly 90% of the country. The Taliban takeover brought relative stability to most areas under its control, but the lasting effects of the long-running war on an impoverished country has meant a continuing humanitarian crisis even for areas not directly affected by fighting. Government infrastructure, including the ability to deliver the most basic health, education, and other social services, has completely collapsed. Severe Taliban restrictions, including a prohibition on women working outside the home, have added to the crushing impact of poverty, particularly on the many households lacking able-bodied adult men.

Harassment ranging from property theft and arbitrary "taxes" on humanitarian goods to beatings, detentions, and killings continued to hinder the efforts of relief agencies in FY 2000. In March 2000, the U.N. temporarily withdrew from Kandahar Province after a series of raids by Taliban forces allegedly searching for a fugitive. In early August, seven civilians were killed when unknown assailants ambushed a humanitarian demining team in Badghis Province. In July, the Taliban imposed an edict prohibiting women from working for the U.N. and other international organizations, and in August

(opposite) Members of KFOR help offload emergency shelter materials at the USAID/OFDA depot in Ferizaj, Kosovo (photo by Paul Majarowitz, USAID/OFDA).

ordered the closure of 24 woman-run bakeries established by WFP. The Taliban rescinded the order to close the bakeries shortly thereafter, but the edict remained in effect. In addition to threatening the livelihoods of hundreds of women employed by international relief organizations, the edict adversely affected a variety of humanitarian programs that relied on female staff in order to gain access to women and children in need of assistance.

The humanitarian impact of the civil crisis in Afghanistan has spanned all sectors. In FY 2000, tuberculosis, measles, acute respiratory infection, and cholera remained major health problems. Only 12% of the population had access to potable water. Food prices rose sharply during the year, due to drought and a drop in currency value, aggravating an already perilous food security situation.

On October 1, 1999, Karl F. Inderfurth, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, redeclared a disaster in Afghanistan for FY 2000 to help meet the critical needs of victims of the continuing humanitarian crisis. USAID/OFDA responded with funding and in-kind donations to address basic humanitarian requirements in the areas of health, water and sanitation, shelter, infrastructure, winterization, and livelihoods. In health, USAID/OFDA provided $989,498 to ACF/F for a program to benefit 530,000 people in Kabul and surrounding areas for the treatment of malnutrition, maternal and child health care, and education for mothers and children. To address humanitarian needs in water and sanitation, USAID/OFDA provided $400,000 to CARE's emergency water supply program to combat disease by providing potable water to 35,000 households in Kabul.

In shelter, infrastructure, and winterization, USAID/OFDA provided $500,000 in support of the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development's (ACTED) winter emergency program for IDPs, including heating, shelter, and road repair activities. USAID/OFDA provided ACTED with an in-kind donation from its stockpile of 10,000 blankets and 480,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting for emergency shelter, at a combined value of $99,692, plus transport at a cost of $104,480. USAID/OFDA provided $300,000 in support of Shelter Now International's (SNI) program to benefit 2,500 households through reconstruction and relief activities for homes destroyed by October 1999 fighting in Takhar Province. USAID/OFDA also provided $360,049 to SC/US for supplemental heating in five hospitals in Kabul City and Maidan Shahr benefiting 40,000 people, and a heating project to benefit 2,300 IDP families in Kabul.

To address humanitarian needs stemming from chronic poverty, USAID/OFDA provided $46,000 to the Cooperative Center for Afghanistan for agricultural infrastructure rehabilitation benefiting eight villages in Bamiyan Province, and $100,000 to Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Support for Afghanistan (PARSA) for projects in Kabul benefiting an estimated 6,700 people with training as well as home schooling for girls.

USAID/FFP provided 26,870 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities through WFP and the Aga Khan Foundation at a cost of $13,977,900. USDA provided 135,000 MT of Section 416(b) wheat to WFP at an estimated cost of $58,762,385.

State/PRM provided UNHCR with $7.4 million for regional programs benefiting Afghan refugees and returnees in Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. State/PRM provided $6.1 million for NGOs addressing Afghan refugee needs in Pakistan, and provided $75,000 to support the administrative costs of WFP's Afghanistan programs. State/PRM provided ICRC with $6.6 million for Afghanistan programs as part of a $9.9 million contribution to ICRC's South Asia appeal. State/PRM also provided UNCHR with $4.1 million in unearmarked funds for UNHCR's general program for South Asia, a substantial portion of which benefited Afghan refugees. The State Department's Humanitarian Development Program allocated $3 million for demining in Afghanistan, of which $1.1 million was provided to HALO Trust, a British demining organization, and the remainder was provided to support UNOCHA's demining operations.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $3,952,588
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE ..$95,945,285**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE $99,897,873**

**These funding figures do not reflect $4.1 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR and ICRC for refugees and returnees in Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.*

Afghanistan

DROUGHT

During FY 2000, Afghanistan experienced its worst drought since 1971. As part of a larger region-wide drought affecting vast areas of Central and South Asia, the disaster caused significant losses of crops and livestock throughout Afghanistan, severely impacting most regions of the country. In total, UNOCHA estimated that the drought affected some 2.5 million farmers of rain-fed wheat and 80,000 nomadic livestock owners (Kuchis). WFP and FAO predicted that the burgeoning crisis will affect at least half of Afghanistan's estimated 25 million people by the summer of 2001. The drought also impacted urban dwellers, particularly because it coincided with a precipitous fall in the Taliban-controlled Afghani currency, further contributing to an already sharp rise in food prices.

The drought followed two successive years of low rainfall and snowfall levels that caused the water table to drop and rivers and lakes to shrink. Low rainfall in 1999 had forced many households in the country's most rainfall-dependent agricultural areas to sell more than 50% of their livestock in order to buy wheat last season. During the 2000-2001 agricultural season, livestock sales increased, while prices fell, causing serious damage to herders' livelihoods. In addition, what livestock were left were vulnerable to depleted fodder supplies.

On May 4, 2000, Assistant Secretary of State for Asia and the Near East Karl F. Inderfurth issued a disaster declaration for drought conditions in Afghanistan during FY 2000. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan to support a Mercy Corps International (MCI) agriculture and livestock program. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided CARE with $686,492 for agriculture and livestock programs in the Hazarajat region; UNICEF and U.N./Habitat with $250,000 each to provide emergency potable water projects for severely drought-affected populations in various locations; MCI with $929,359 to support potable water, agriculture, and livestock projects for farmers and displaced nomads in Kandahar Province; and SNI with $310,000 for an irrigation project in northern Afghanistan. USAID/OFDA provided U.N./Habitat with $500,000 for continued drought relief and emergency assistance in Kabul, Herat, and Kandahar.

USAID/OFDA also provided emergency relief assistance in response to Afghanistan's complex emergency, as did USAID/FFP. Some of this assistance was used to benefit drought victims. (For additional information, please see the preceding "Afghanistan – Complex Emergency" case report.)

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $2,950,851

Albania

REFUGEES

At the beginning of FY 2000, less than 4,000 refugees remained in Albania from a June 1999 peak of more than 465,500 ethnic Albanians who had crossed the Albanian border from Kosovo. On October 15, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Limprecht redeclared a disaster for Albania due to the continuing humanitarian needs of the remaining refugees. USAID/OFDA maintained its support for a contingency planner seconded to the Government of Albania's Emergency Management Group through December 1999, as well as funding for a water/sanitation engineer seconded to UNICEF. A USAID/OFDA grant to AAH/USA for nutrition, water, and sanitation activities was extended in FY 2000 with $140,639 in additional funding. To replenish relief commodities that were provided from USAID/OFDA's stockpile in support of emergency needs during FY 1999, USAID/OFDA procured 19,600 five-gallon water containers at a cost of $32,340. The USAID/DART, which was deployed to Tirana on April 2, 1999, ended operations on October 21, 1999.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $312,898

Georgia

DROUGHT

In the summer of 2000, lower than normal rainfall coupled with extremely high temperatures created a drought that adversely

affected five regions in eastern Georgia with an estimated rural population of nearly 1.2 million people. Rainfall averaged 50% of its normal level during the spring, and fell to less than 10% of its normal level during the summer. Agriculture throughout eastern Georgia was severely impacted. The most affected areas included the Kakheti region, which suffered damage to 89% of its wheat crop, 70% of which was completely destroyed, and Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo-Kartli, Shida-Kartli, and Mtskheta-Mtianeti. These areas suffered wheat crop damage of up to 87%, with total destruction of up to 57%. Many areas also experienced severe shortages of potable water.

On August 18, U.S. Ambassador Kenneth S. Yalowitz declared a disaster for Georgia due to the effects of the drought. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/Tbilisi to the Salvation Army to expand an existing feeding program with an additional kitchen in the most affected area of the Kakheti region. USAID/OFDA also deployed a humanitarian response advisor to Georgia to monitor the USG response to the drought. USAID/OFDA provided an additional $500,000 through USAID/Tbilisi to SC/US for the procurement and distribution of wheat seed to benefit 4,000 subsistence farming families in the Kakheti region. SC/US managed the procurement and distribution of seeds, with local relief organizations as implementing partners. USAID/FFP provided additional assistance in FY 2000 with a 2,000 MT contribution of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities to WFP at a cost of $984,600.

Under the Freedom Support Act, the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Special Advisor to the Secretary for the New Independent States provided an additional $3.4 million to support agricultural credit associations and purchase wheat seed for drought victims.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$554,205
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $4,384,600
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$4,909,600

Greece

FIRE

In July 2000, hot, dry winds from across the Mediterranean Sea combined with near record high temperatures and drought conditions to create an ideal situation for wildfires in Greece and neighboring countries. During the week of July 9, fires broke out on the Greek mainland and several Aegean islands. The wildfires destroyed homes, businesses, olive groves, and forests. On the island of Samos, one of the most affected areas, fires destroyed more than 13,000 hectares, or 70% of the island's green areas. On July 19, U.S. Ambassador R. Nicholas Burns declared a disaster for Greece due to the devastation caused by the wildfires. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Athens to meet the emergency needs of victims affected by the wildfires.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Hungary

ACCIDENT

On January 30, 2000, an accident in a Romanian gold mine released approximately 100,000 cubic meters of cyanide solution and tailings into the Szamos River, which runs from Romania into Hungary. The cyanide spill also affected the Tisza River in Hungary. On February 18, 2000, following a request for international assistance from the Government of Hungary, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas B. Robertson declared a disaster for Hungary due to the economic impact on residents who derive their livelihoods from the two rivers. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/Budapest to the Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights, a local NGO, to implement emergency livelihoods activities.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Hungary

FLOODS

In April 2000, the Tisza River in eastern Hungary flooded at record levels, affecting more than 150 villages and towns along its banks. On April 11, U.S. Ambassador Peter F. Tufo declared a disaster for Hungary due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $24,859 to USAID/Budapest for the local purchase of emergency relief supplies. On April 17, U.S. Ambassador Tufo reported that the situation was expected to remain critical for two more weeks and requested additional USAID/OFDA assistance. USAID/OFDA responded to the second request for assistance with $50,000 to USAID/Budapest for the local purchase of water pumps, sandbags, torches, and generators for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$74,859

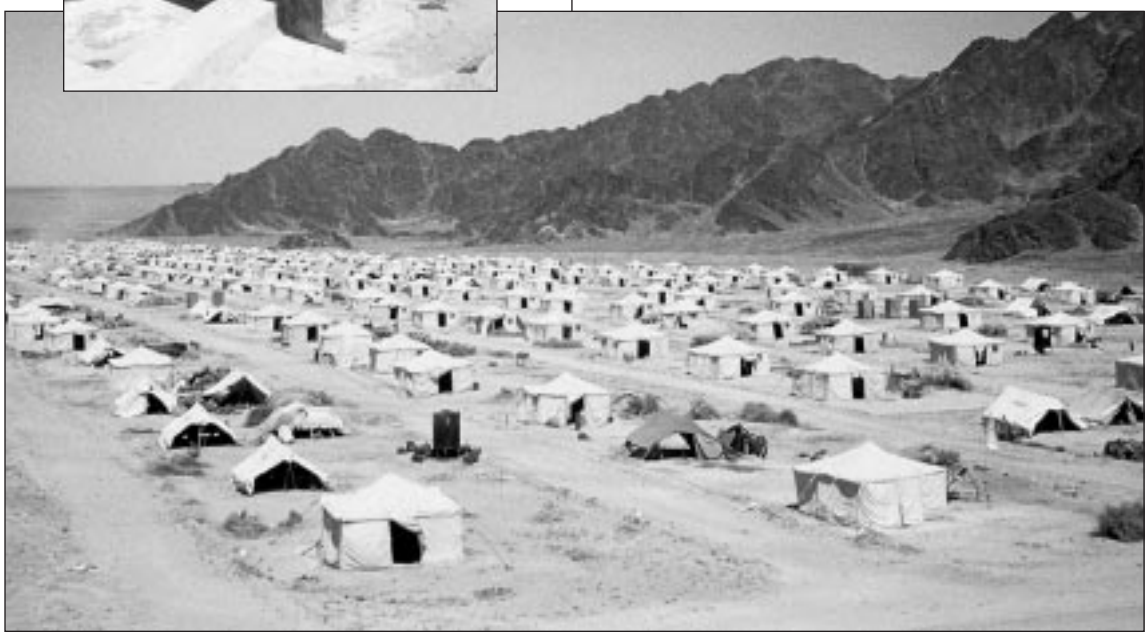
Pakistan

DROUGHT

During FY 2000, Pakistan experienced a drought that severely affected areas in the southeast and southwest, including large parts of Baluchistan and Sindh provinces. The drought reportedly affected between 2.5 and three million people, and was exacerbated by three preceding years of lower than normal rainfall. On May 15, U.S. Ambassador William B. Milam declared a disaster for Pakistan citing the deaths of several hundred people and a significant number of livestock. Because more than 70% of the population in the affected areas depends upon livestock for their livelihoods, purchasing power of families was severely impacted.

USAID/OFDA responded by providing $45,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad to support drought-related relief activities. The U.S. Embassy provided $25,000 to CWS for the provision of seeds, fodder, and potable water to benefit 15,180 people in the Tharparkar District of Sindh Province, and $20,000 to MCI to provide tents for drought-displaced persons. On September 12, USAID/OFDA deployed a two-person assessment team to Pakistan to visit drought areas, and meet with USG personnel, local officials, and relief organizations to assess the impact of relief activities to date, and to determine the extent of future emergency needs.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$45,000



(above) A USAID/OFDA-funded well rehabilitation project in Sindh Province, Pakistan (photo by Alex Mahoney, USAID/OFDA).

(left) USAID/OFDA-funded tents in the Siah Koh drought displacement camp in Baluchistan Province, Pakistan (photo by Alex Mahoney, USAID/OFDA).

Workers repairing a well funded by USAID/OFDA's well rehabilitation project in Kosovo (photo by Paul Majarowitz, USAID/OFDA).

(bottom) Installation of a sanitary wellhead in a village in the Ferizaj Municipality of Kosovo (photo by Paul Majarowitz, USAID/OFDA).

Romania

ACCIDENT

On January 30, 2000, an accident in a Romanian gold mine released approximately 100,000 cubic meters of cyanide solution and tailings into the Szamos River. On February 25, 2000, following a request for assistance from the Government of Romania, U.S. Ambassador James C. Rosapepe declared a disaster for Romania due to the direct environmental and economic impacts caused by the accident. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest to the Bucharest-based Regional Environmental Center. The Center used the funds to support local NGOs in providing relief to affected communities and assisting in mitigating the effects of the spill.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Romania

FLOODS

Heavy spring rains and melting snows caused severe flooding in northern and western Romania. The floods, described as the worst in 200 years, resulted in nine deaths, significant damage to hundreds of villages, and inundated more than 70,000 hectares of farmland. According to Romania's Supreme Defense Council, the flooding damaged 3,000 households in more than 500 localities, destroyed 250 bridges, and rendered 60 roads impassable. On April 21, U.S. Ambassador James Rosapepe declared a disaster for Romania due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest for emergency relief activities to assist the flood victims.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Serbia-Montenegro

COMPLEX EMERGENCY

By the fall of 1999, the situation in Kosovo had changed dramatically from the prior year. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) air campaign forced President Slobodan Milosevic's government to withdraw military forces from the province, and reversed the Yugoslav policy of mass expulsion of a significant portion of the province's ethnic Albanian population and widespread human rights abuses. The departure of the Yugoslav military and police from the province, coupled with the arrival of

NATO's Kosovo Protection Force (KFOR), allowed large numbers of deportees and refugees to return to Kosovo. International relief organizations also relocated to the province. The USAID/DART returned to Pristina from Skopje, Macedonia within days after hostilities ended in June 1999.

Notwithstanding these major positive developments, serious problems persisted. The security situation in Kosovo remained precarious. Landmines, booby traps, and unexploded ordnance limited humanitarian access in most of the province. Despite the presence of KFOR, inter-ethnic unrest continued, and violent incidents were targeted at minority groups as well as international relief organizations. With Kosovo cut off from economic links with Serbia, the restoration of infrastructure to provide basic necessities became a humanitarian issue. Finally, the Kosovo winter, a leading cause of humanitarian concern during 1998-1999, again loomed. The problem had become far larger, however, due to the widespread burning and looting of homes by Yugoslav forces during the conflict that left an estimated one-third of Kosovo's estimated 365,000 housing units damaged or destroyed. Of the damaged housing stock, more than 48,000 units were damaged beyond repair, and more than 33,000 houses were so severely damaged as to be uninhabitable. The rapid, spontaneous return of hundreds of thousands of people to the province heightened the urgency of the problem. It became clear that without a massive effort, hundreds of thousands of Kosovars might face the winter without sustainable shelter. On October 1, 1999, U.S. Chief of Mission in Pristina Lawrence G. Rossin redeclared a disaster for FY 2000, citing the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

To respond to the impending crisis, USAID/OFDA launched the largest emergency shelter program in its history. The $47.6 million program ($33 million in FY 1999 and $14.6 million in FY 2000), consisting of two primary shelter initiatives and an emergency contingency program, provided more than 20,000 emergency shelter kits containing wood framing, plastic sheeting, doors, insulation material, stoves, tools, and related building supplies for families living in damaged houses. The kits were designed to provide at least one warm, dry room in each house. USAID/OFDA also provided expanded roofing packages, which included framing timber and plastic sheeting, as a supplement to the emergency shelter kit for 7,900 households. The expanded roofing packages were provided under the condition that families receiving them would shelter one to two additional families.

A USAID/OFDA-funded roof repair is completed in Kosovo (photo by Paul Majarowitz, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA distributed emergency shelter packages through its implementing partners, as well as from the USAID/OFDA roofing depot in Ferizaj as in-kind donations to requesting NGOs, Red Cross/Crescent Societies, and community groups. USAID/OFDA coordinated its primary shelter initiatives with UNHCR and the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO). In total, the three donors provided more than 66,000 shelter kits to vulnerable residents of the province. USAID/OFDA supplemented its emergency shelter program with the Emergency Response Initiative (ERI), launched in January 2000 to provide an additional 500 roofing kits and supplementary shelter materials for up to 2,000 households. The ERI served as a contingency measure to fill arising gaps in existing shelter programs. An estimated 290,000 people benefited from the USAID/OFDA emergency shelter program.

USAID/OFDA implemented its shelter program through multiple organizations, providing funding support as well as in-kind contributions of shelter materials to ADRA, ARC, CARE, Concern, Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF), FHI, GOAL, IRC, MEDAIR, Relief International, and WV. USAID/OFDA contracted with Readiness Management Services, Inc. (RMS) to procure timber and transport it into Kosovo. RMS obtained the large quantity of timber required for the program from mills in Austria, Germany, and the Czech Republic and transported it by rail to Kosovo. The use of rail transport allowed RMS to avoid days-long traffic delays and hazardous road conditions encountered en route to Kosovo from the Blace border near Skopje, Macedonia. The large amount of shelter material required logisticians to use 36 trains varying from 10 to 16 cars in length over a two-month period.

With the end of winter and the successful completion of the emergency shelter program, USAID/OFDA closed its DART in Pristina on March 31, 2000. In its place, USAID/OFDA established the Kosovo Program Office (KPO) to continue to monitor its existing programs and the humanitarian situation, and to identify additional emergency needs. The KPO also served as a contingency measure in case the humanitarian situation deteriorated, allowing USAID/OFDA to retain the institutional knowledge and capacity that the DART had accumulated during its presence in Kosovo.

During FY 2000, USAID/OFDA also supported health activities with $208,175 in funding to AAH/USA for a nutritional program for mothers and children. USAID/OFDA funded IMC to continue its mobile health clinic project in minority and isolated rural communities through the spring of 2001. In agriculture, USAID/OFDA provided $1 million to FAO in support of a livestock vaccination program as part of the international effort to resume post-conflict agricultural production. In support of costs associated with the distribution of USAID/OFDA-funded Humanitarian Daily Rations in Kosovo, USAID/OFDA provided WFP with $92,044. Finally, USAID/OFDA provided $3.8 million in support of community infrastructure projects.

In FY 2000, USAID/OTI provided $8.6 million in funding for democracy-building activities in Kosovo such as civil society promotion and independent media development; and response to critical community needs, such as school reconstruction and local infrastructure. In Montenegro, USAID/OTI provided $1 million in funding to promote tolerance and democracy, including support for local NGOs and independent media. In Serbia, USAID/OTI provided $3.4 million in support of democratic elements in society, including direct grants to municipalities demonstrating democratic principles, delivering humanitarian commodities, supporting capacity-building for civil society groups, and establishing independent media outlets. USAID/FFP provided 81,150 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities to Serbia, Montenegro, and Kosovo in FY 2000 at a cost of $58.2 million. State/PRM contributed $14 million to NGOs assisting refugees returning from Serbia and Montenegro to their prewar homes in Bosnia and Croatia. In Kosovo, State/PRM contributed $28.2 million to NGOs and international organizations for health, water and sanitation, psycho-social activities, tolerance education, protection-related activities, and support for minorities. State/PRM also provided $40.6 million in regional funding to UNHCR, ICRC, UNICEF, UNOCHA, and WFP for programs throughout the Balkans, including programs supporting refugees and IDPs in Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Albania, and Macedonia.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $22,391,587
***OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $113,369,084**
***TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$135,760,671**

The Effort to Avert a Potential Disaster:

Lake Sarez

The tranquil waters of Lake Sarez have long been a ticking time bomb in the central Asian nation of Tajikistan. The lake was formed in 1911 when an earthquake caused a massive landslide that blocked the Amu Darya River. Today, the lake is 60 kilometers long and up to 500 meters deep, containing more than 50 billion cubic meters of water. Another major earthquake in this earthquake-prone region could destroy the lake's unstable dam. There have been at least three-dozen significant earthquakes in the area since 1990. Further adding to the danger, a high cliff overhanging the lake is likely to collapse in the event of an earthquake, sending billions of cubic meters of water cascading over the top of the dam. As the condition of the earthen dam itself gradually worsens, the threat of a rupture increases. If the dam breaks, it could send a wave up to 30 meters high racing through Tajikistan, as well as Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan, all of which lie downstream from the dam. While the likelihood of such a calamity is believed to be low, the potential consequences are high: an estimated five million people living in the area could be affected. A dam collapse at Lake Sarez might easily become the deadliest natural disaster in world history.

USAID/OFDA has long worked towards the goal of preventing disasters wherever possible. Spending funds on disaster prevention is an investment that can save countless lives and reduce the need for and costs of disaster response. During FY 1999, USAID/OFDA in part supported a U.N.-sponsored assessment mission of technical experts to the Lake Sarez Dam. In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA contributed $250,000 towards the Lake Sarez Risk Mitigation Project implemented by Focus Humanitarian Assistance. This multinational project, in partnership with the World Bank, will design and install systems to monitor lake levels, leakage rates, landslide movements, and other critical indicators that can forewarn of a potential disaster. The project works to strengthen emergency shelter areas by training communities in use and maintenance of the early-warning system. The project also explores the possibility of long-term engineering solutions.

An estimated five million people live in the areas that would be affected. A dam collapse could easily become the deadliest natural disaster in world history.

Local community and government involvement is critical to the monitoring system's success. Without the cooperation and input of local people and government officials, the system cannot continue to operate after international assistance ends. For this reason, USAID/OFDA is supporting a social component of the Focus Project that targets community development and training. The objective of this component is to develop agreements among the local villagers, community organizations, and government authorities on disaster management procedures and responsibilities, as well as mechanisms to monitor progress and deal with unexpected problems. Through Focus, in conjunction with local community organizations and the Tajikistan Ministry of Emergencies, USAID/OFDA is supporting the training of community members in disaster mitigation, including relocating and strengthening endangered infrastructure, water control, and slope stabilization. USAID/OFDA funds are assisting training programs in emergency response, including emergency coordination and communication, evacuation, rescue, first aid, and survival techniques. These programs also are instructing the local community in how to use and maintain the early-warning system.

With USAID/OFDA support, several scientists from the USGS are coordinating with Focus and local geoscientists and villagers to update existing data and hazard maps for vulnerable areas. This project will prepare maps of likely flooding, identify safe-havens for each vulnerable village, and establish evacuation routes using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, flood route modeling with modern analytical techniques, and local knowledge. In order to ensure the accessibility and maintenance of the routes, Focus, with USAID/OFDA funding, will provide the necessary logistical assistance. Finally, Focus plans to develop a disaster management information system for sharing among government and community organizations responsible for disaster management.

Thanks to a coordinated effort with other USG agencies, international donors, NGOs, and community groups, USAID/OFDA is addressing a hazard in Central Asia that threatens the lives of millions of people. Through support for the development of early-warning systems, evacuation plans, hazard maps, and training, USAID/OFDA is working to lessen the number of lives lost and the cost of disaster response in the event of a future dam collapse.

— Alex Mahoney

**These funding figures do not reflect $40.6 million in regional funding provided by State/PRM to UNHCR, ICRC, UNICEF, UNOCHA, and WFP for refugees and returnees throughout the Balkans.*

Tajikistan

DROUGHT

During FY 2000, Tajkistan received the smallest amount of annual precipitation in 74 years. In May 2000, rainfall was between 0% and 10% of normal levels in some key food producing areas, and cereal production totals for 2000 were no more than 25% of normal levels.

In response to the drought conditions, U.S. Ambassador Robert P. Finn declared a disaster for Tajikistan on July 28. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/Almaty to ACF/F to support an emergency intervention for treatment of malnutrition in children under age five in Pyanj District, one of the most-affected areas of the country. In addition, USAID/FFP provided 2,300 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at $1.4 million. USDA provided an estimated 65,000 MT of Section 416(b) food commodities to the Aga Khan Foundation, CARE, MCI, and SC/US at a cost of $10 million. In September, USAID/OFDA deployed a food security officer and a food officer from USAID/FFP to Tajikistan to assess the situation and determine the extent of future needs.

Malnourished children receive additional nutrition at a therapeutic feeding center funded by USAID/OFDA in Tajikistan (photo by Mary Mertens, USAID/FFP).

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $11,421,700
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$11,446,700

Turkey

EARTHQUAKE

Just before 7 p.m. local time on November 12, 1999, a powerful earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter Scale struck northwestern Turkey. The earthquake's epicenter was 115 miles east of Istanbul in the town of Duzce in Bolu Province. The affected area was on the edges of the area devastated by the August 17, 1999 earthquake. By December 14, the Government of Turkey (GOT) reported that 816 people were confirmed dead, and another 4,948 were injured. The earthquake damaged thousands of buildings, displaced an estimated 50,000 residents, and left some 20,500 people homeless.

Acting under an existing disaster declaration issued August 17, 1999 by U.S. Ambassador Mark R. Parris in response to the August 16 earthquake centered on Izmit, USAID/OFDA immediately activated a 67-person SAR team from Fairfax County, Virginia. An eight-person USAID/DART and the SAR team departed the next day and arrived in Turkey on November 14. The USAID/DART/SAR immediately began setting up operations and conducting aerial reconnaissance missions. A DOD Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team (HAST) also arrived November 14. For the next four

days, the USAID/DART/SAR conducted 24-hour search operations that by November 17 were ongoing at six different locations. Forty additional international SAR teams also conducted search and rescue operations. By November 18, international SAR teams had rescued a total of eight survivors from the rubble.

On November 17, U.S. Ambassador Mark R. Parris issued a disaster declaration for the November 12 earthquake, authorizing the release of USG emergency funds to support the relief effort. President Clinton visited the country in November and announced a $1 billion loan package to support Turkey's earthquake relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction efforts. Upon completing its emergency search and rescue effort on November 18, the USAID/DART/SAR team donated its tents, generators, heaters, and bottled water to the Devlet Hospital in Duzce. The hospital building was damaged during the earthquake, and these donations allowed for an additional field hospital to be established in Duzce. In addition, DOD donated 500 tents, originally deployed to Izmit for the August 1999 earthquake, to shelter Duzce earthquake survivors.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $2,713,975
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $1,400,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$4,113,975

(opposite and above) Extensive damage to apartment buildings and architectural structures is viewed from above after Turkey's second major earthquake in three months (photo by Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department).

Ukraine

ACCIDENT

On March 13, 2000, an explosion shook a coal mine in the town of Sukhodolsk, Luhansk Oblast, Ukraine. The explosion killed 80 people and injured seven. On March 15, U.S. Ambassador Steven K. Pifer declared a disaster for Ukraine, citing the hardships faced by the families of the injured and deceased. USAID/OFDA responded on March 16 by providing $25,000 through USAID/Kiev to support the local Community Humanitarian Assistance Program (CHAP) in providing emergency food, medical supplies, and other non-food basic relief items to the affected families.

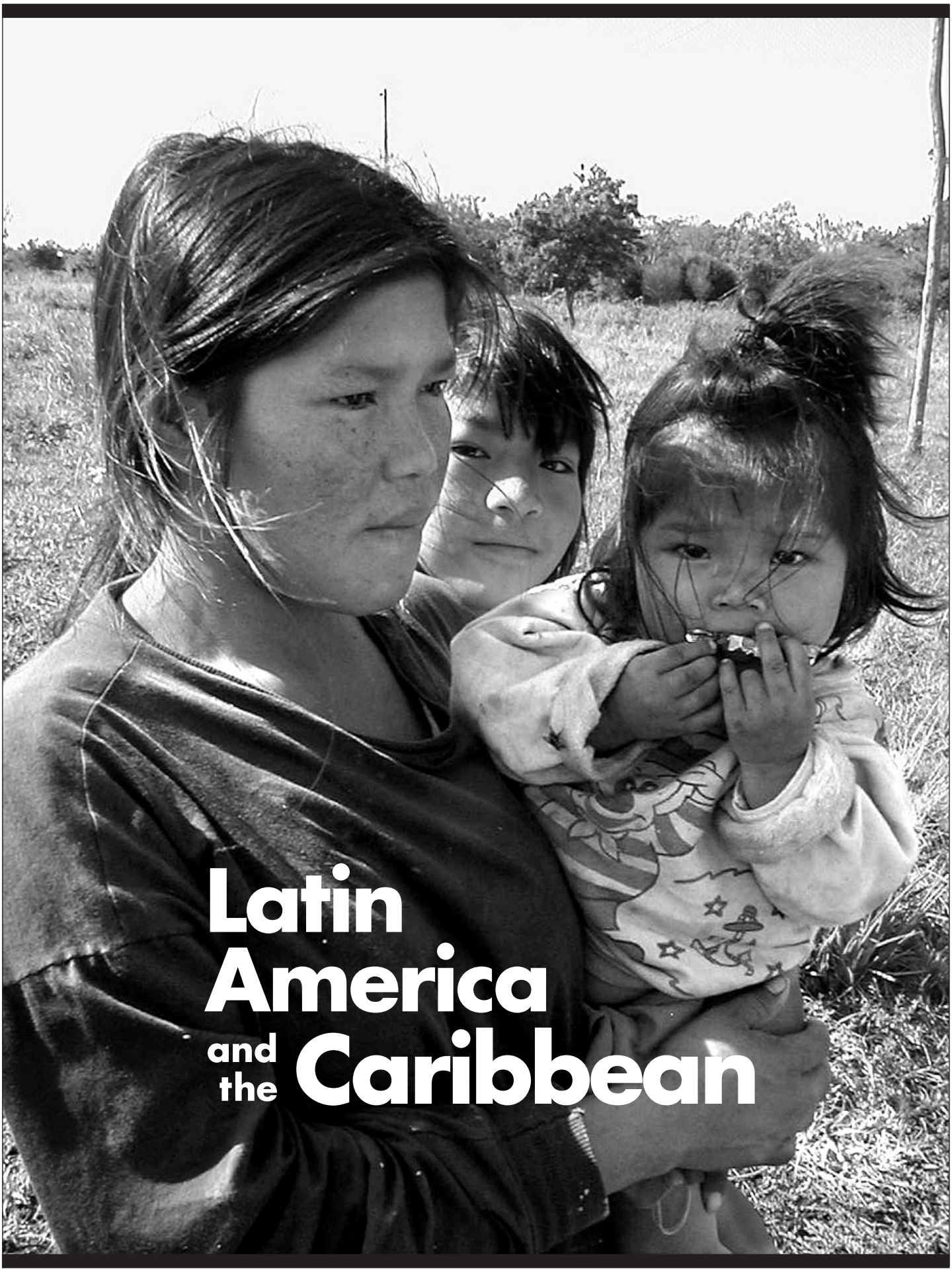
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Uzbekistan

DROUGHT

Uzbekistan experienced its worst drought in recent history during FY 2000. The western part of the country, where only one-tenth of the water normally used for irrigation was available during the year, suffered the most serious effects. The drought severely impacted both food and cash crops, and less than one-third of the population had access to potable water. On August 22, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Molly O'Neal declared a disaster for Uzbekistan in response to the drought. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Tashkent for a drought-related potable water program aimed at reducing the risk of water-borne diseases.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000



Latin America and the Caribbean

Bolivia

DROUGHT

In January 2000, serious drought conditions due to the delayed start of the rainy season affected the province of Gran Chaco in the department of Tarija. The drought hit hardest in the area around the municipality of Yacuiba, affecting an estimated population of 20,000 families. Most severely affected were approximately 4,000 small-holder farm families. Initial reports indicated low community water supplies in rural Yacuiba Municipality; and several other communities reported brackish wells and an insufficient quantity of potable water to meet community needs. On January 18, the Government of Bolivia (GOB) declared the area a disaster zone.

Following an assessment conducted between January 12-14, USAID/La Paz transferred nine previously provided USG water bladders from the city of Potosi to Yacuiba to complement municipal water distribution plans. In addition, USAID/La Paz redirected 300 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities to distribute to 3,960 affected families from March to May as supplemental food rations.

On January 26, 2000, U.S. Ambassador

(opposite) Beneficiaries of USAID/OFDA's drought assistance programs in Paraguay (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

Donna Hrinak declared a disaster due to the effects of the drought in Bolivia. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in La Paz to CARE for the distribution of food and the local purchase of water containers and chlorine water treatment solution. USAID/OFDA also sent a consultant to Bolivia to work with the U.S. Embassy and USAID/La Paz in monitoring the drought conditions and relief operations in Gran Chaco.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Caribbean

HURRICANE

Hurricane Lenny formed in the southwest Caribbean on November 14, 1999. At its peak as a category four storm, Hurricane Lenny produced maximum winds of almost 225 kilometers/hour and more than 76 centimeters of rain. After crossing over the eastern Caribbean islands, the hurricane continued in a westerly direction, passing just south of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Coastal infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and sea defenses sustained most of the hurricane's damage. On November 22, 1999, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires in Barbados Roland Bullen issued a disaster declaration for Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, DOMINICA, AND GRENADA

On November 29, the U.S. Embassy in Barbados requested assistance for Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, and Grenada. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 for each country through the U.S. Embassy in Bridgetown to UNDP to meet shelter and other emergency relief needs of displaced persons.

ST. LUCIA

On December 17, the U.S. Embassy in Barbados requested assistance for St. Lucia. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to UNDP to meet shelter and other emergency relief needs of displaced persons in St. Lucia.

REGIONAL ASSISTANCE

A six-person USAID/OFDA team consisting of two regional advisors and four disaster specialists from Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department deployed to the region on November 19 to assist with coordination, damage assessments, and identification of emergency needs. USAID/OFDA provided a $75,000 grant to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to meet the emergency needs of the victims of Hurricane Lenny for a period of six months. Project activities included improving water and sanitation conditions and preventing disease outbreaks and rodent control problems in Antigua and Barbuda, and St. Kitts and Nevis.

At the request of the Government of the Netherlands (GON), DOD supplied a C-130 aircraft to transport relief commodities from Curaçao to the islands of St. Maarten, Saba, and St. Eustatius. The GON fully reimbursed DOD for the cost of the transport.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$175,000

Chile

FLOODS

In early June 2000, heavy rainfall caused the Mapocho River to overflow its banks and flood parts of central Chile, including the capital Santiago and the port city of Valparaiso. The National Meteorological Service reported that, from June 12-14, more than 15 centimeters of rain fell in the greater Santiago region. Several landslides occurred in Valparaiso and more than 60,000 people were displaced in the affected areas due to the flooding.

On June 16, 2000, U.S. Ambassador John O'Leary declared a disaster for Chile due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to the Chilean Red Cross, Hogar de Cristo (a local NGO), and Caritas to help meet the immediate needs of flood victims.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Ecuador

VOLCANO

In mid-October 1999, Tungurahua Volcano, located south of Quito in the town of Banos, began intermittent eruptions that sent clouds of ash into the atmosphere and caused avalanches of mud and debris. Local authorities were forced to evacuate 25,000 residents from 23 communities in the surrounding area. Ashfall from the eruptions damaged more than 50,000 hectares of farmland and an undetermined quantity of pastureland. The ash fall also killed livestock and virtually eliminated all poultry production.

On December 3, U.S. Ambassador Gwen C. Clare declared a disaster for Ecuador in response to the eruptions at Tungurahua. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Quito to CRS in support of its emergency relief program for 150 displaced families most-affected by the evacuation. Following the declaration, USAID/OFDA deployed a consultant to Quito to coordinate relief activities with USAID/Quito. USAID/OFDA also provided $15,000 to USAID/Quito for the National Geophysical Institute to assist with operational costs associated with volcano monitoring and enhanced public outreach in the vicinity of Tungurahua. USAID/OFDA continues to provide technical assistance and monitoring of Tungurahua and Guagua Pichincha (Ecuador's other active volcano which is located outside Quito) as part of its ongoing funding of the USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$40,000

El Salvador

HEALTH EMERGENCY

In FY 2000, cases of dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) dramatically increased in El Salvador, with 211 cases reported and confirmed from January to September. On September 12, 2000, the President of El Salvador Francisco Flores declared a national emergency due to the continued increase in casualties as a result of the dengue and DHF emergency. Approximately 24 deaths resulted from the epidemic, all but one of which occurred in children under the age of 10. The Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance determined that they were unable to respond properly to the emergency and officially requested international assistance.

On September 14, U.S. Ambassador Rose Likins declared a disaster for El Salvador due to the dengue emergency. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador to the National Emergency Committee (COEN) for the purchase of medical supplies and equipment to facilitate the early diagnosis of DHF, adequately manage and monitor DHF, and provide DHF therapy to patients.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$25,000

Honduras

FLOODS

During September and November 1999, heavy rains triggered a national state of alert along the Ulua, Humaya, and Sulaco rivers in northwestern Honduras. Flooding and landslides occurred throughout the country, adversely affecting communities in many departments including Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa de Copan, Choluteca, Valle, and Morazan. Sections of Tegucigalpa were flooded repeatedly. The Honduran National Disaster Agency, COPECO, reported that 39 people were killed, 30,022 residents were evacuated, and more than 3,000 houses were damaged or destroyed. COPECO activated a state of alert in September, which allowed the Government of Honduras to implement critical disaster prevention measures, such as evacuations from vulnerable areas and coordination with COPECO's municipal counterparts.

On October 5, U.S. Ambassador Frank Almaguer redeclared a disaster for FY 2000 in response to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA airlifted 1,176,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to Tegucigalpa for distribution to IOM, CHF, and USAID/Tegucigalpa. Total cost of the plastic sheeting and transport was $35,000. USAID/OFDA also provided $220,141

to IOM and $161,450 to CHF for emergency shelter materials and water and sanitation assistance, which benefited 1,472 displaced families. Using USAID/OFDA plastic sheeting, IOM constructed 800 shelters in 10 municipalities in the departments of Cortes, Yoro, and Colon. CHF built 600 shelters in 29 communities in the departments of Yoro, Santa Barbara, Cortes, Atlantida, Choluteca, and Colon. (For additional background information, please see the "Honduras – Floods" case report in the FY 1999 USAID/OFDA Annual Report.)

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$416,591

Mexico

FLOODS

Several weeks of torrential rains struck east-central Mexico in October 1999 causing flash floods and mudslides in Hidalgo, Veracruz, Oaxaca, Puebla, Chiapas, and Tabasco provinces. More than 300,000 people were rendered homeless and an additional 500 people died as a result of the floods. At the height of the flooding, approximately 66,700 people were housed in government emergency shelters.

The Central American Mitigation Initiative

Mitigating Disasters Before They Happen

In late October 1998, Hurricane Mitch swept through Central America with sustained winds of 112 kilometers per hour, causing devastating floods, massive infrastructure and property destruction, and significant population displacement. Up to 10,000 people were killed, an estimated 3.6 million people were affected, and nearly 100,000 homes destroyed. On March 11, 1999, after surveying hurricane damage in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, President Clinton announced a three-year, $11 million Central American Mitigation Initiative (CAMI) and named USAID/OFDA as the project's implementer. CAMI's goal is to reduce or negate the impact of natural disasters in Central America by financing activities that increase the capability of regional, national, municipal, and community authorities and organizations to forecast, monitor, respond to, and prevent disasters.

USAID/OFDA's first activity was to fund a post-Mitch assessment by the International Resources Group (IRG) to determine gaps in disaster mitigation and response capacities in Central America, to identify root causes of vulnerabilities, prioritize risks from natural hazards, and develop measurable objectives required to address those gaps and weaknesses. Based largely on the findings from IRG's assessment, USAID/OFDA began designing and implementing action plans in cooperation with other USG agencies.

In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA provided more than $3.9 million for mitigation activities in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. This funding was provided to the USAID Missions in the four affected countries and the USGS. USAID/San Salvador received $500,000 to enhance the Salvadoran national emergency systems and implement environmental management interventions, USAID/Guatemala received $500,000 to bolster national emergency systems, USAID/Tegucigalpa received $1.5 million to strengthen national risk management systems, and USAID/Managua received $100,000 to hire a disaster mitigation advisor. USGS received $660,000 in funding for national flood alert systems and automated stream gauges in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. In Honduras, USGS will use the funding to support a geographic information and remote-sensing specialist to coordinate data-gathering, train specialists at the Honduran civil defense agency (COPECO) and its partner NGO, and reinforce the linkages between COPECO, its partner NGO, and the 40 towns involved in the USGS's municipal GIS project. USAID/OFDA also provided $840,000 to the USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) for a three-year period to address volcano hazards mitigation in Central America.

In FY 2001 and FY 2002, approximately $6 million will be awarded to NGOs for community disaster preparedness in Central America, and NOAA will receive funds (approximately $900,000) for strengthening early-warning systems in the region.

— Giselle Zimmerman

On October 13, 1999, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey Davidow issued a disaster declaration for Mexico in response to the mudslides and flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $100,000 through USAID/Mexico City to the AmRC for the purchase and distribution of emergency food for flood-affected families. The food was distributed with the assistance of the Mexican Red Cross. In addition, a USAID/OFDA regional advisor arrived in Mexico City on October 14 to coordinate USG relief efforts and conduct assessments with USAID/Mexico City staff.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$100,000

Paraguay

DROUGHT

In the fall of 1999, serious drought conditions affected parts of western and northeastern Paraguay following a prolonged period without significant rainfall. Severe frost, wildfires, and lack of infrastructure further exacerbated the drought conditions. An estimated 17 indigenous communities or 22,000 people in the department of Boquerón and 8,000 families in the department of San Pedro were affected by the drought. Significant losses of livestock and crops were reported in the departments of Boquerón, Presidente Hayes, Concepción, Caaguazu, and San Pedro.

On October 8, 1999, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Stephen G. McFarland redeclared a disaster for FY 2000 due to the drought in the department of Concepción, San Pedro, and Presidente Hayes. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Asunción to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of food to meet the immediate needs of approximately 4,000 affected families in the Department of Concepción and San Pedro.

On March 6, 2000, the U.S. Embassy in Asunción issued a second disaster declaration for Central Chaco. On March 9, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Asunción to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of emergency food to meet the immediate needs of drought-affected populations. Through USAID/OFDA assistance in FY 1999 and 2000, the Paraguayan Red Cross provided basic food rations for 25,750 people in 116 localities in the departments of Boquerón, Concepción, Presidente Hayes, and San Pedro.

At USAID/Asunción's request, a four-person USAID/OFDA non-food assessment team traveled to Paraguay between June 3-16 to evaluate humanitarian needs and make recommendations for the integration of basic needs into the USAID Mission's longer-term development program for Paraguay. Team members conducted field visits in the departments of Boquerón, Caaguazú, Concepción, and Presidente Hayes; met with members of the

A USAID/OFDA assessment team member inspects a community garden in the Department of Presidente Hayes, Paraguay, where rains gave new hope for a better harvest following months of drought (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

local governments affected, including representatives from the regional health and agriculture sector; and interviewed members of drought-affected communities.

A USAID/OFDA health specialist talks with drought victims in rural Paraguay to learn of the drought's impact on community health (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

The team did not recommend any additional emergency relief interventions since the major impacts of the drought had already subsided. However, the USAID/OFDA team recommended that USAID/Asunción examine potential interventions in the areas of risk management training and early-warning systems for forest fires. The team also recommended that USAID/Asunción consider supporting the provision of potable water through well drilling, water treatment, and health education programs. Finally, the team suggested that USAID/Asunción consider funding activities to reduce the vulnerability of small farmers to extreme climactic events, such as initiatives to improve crop storage, develop seed banks, and rotate livestock funds. (For additional background information, please see the "Paraguay – Cold Wave/Fire" case report in the FY 1999 USAID/OFDA Annual Report.)

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE.....$75,000

Venezuela

FLOODS

In early December 1999, two weeks of unrelenting rain led to flash flooding and mudslides in northern Venezuela. Rainfall accumulation along the northern coast for the first two weeks of December was more than 27 centimeters. An additional 89 centimeters of rainfall was recorded between December 14-16. On December 16, the Government of Venezuela (GOV) declared a state of emergency for the states of Carabobo, Falcon, Miranda, Nueva Esparta, Tachira, Yaracuy, Zulia, and Vargas, and the federal district of Caracas. The states of Miranda and Vargas were most severely affected by the flooding. According to IFRC, 30,000 people died and more than 400,000 residents were affected by the floods and mudslides. IFRC also reported that 190,000 people were evacuated from affected areas and housed in more than 600 temporary emergency shelters throughout the country. The Venezuelan civil defense reported 81,000 homes damaged and an additional 30,000 completely destroyed. According to HidroVen, the state-owned water authority, 70% of the water systems in the affected areas was damaged.

On December 16, 1999, U.S. Ambassador John Maisto declared a disaster in Venezuela due to the effects of the flooding and mudslides. In response, USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to the Venezuelan Red Cross and the Catholic-Episcopal Conference for the local purchase of non-food relief supplies, shelter materials, and emergency food.

USAID/OFDA deployed a five-person DART to Venezuela on December 18 to coordinate relief activities with the U.S. Embassy in Caracas and conduct damage and needs assessments. Total administrative support costs for the DART were $162,933. On December 19, USAID/OFDA provided $178,235 to the U.S. Embassy for the local purchase of relief supplies, including 30,000 tetanus-toxoid vaccines and 40,000 syringes. On December 19 and 20, USAID/OFDA airlifted 240,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 15,000 wool blankets, 5,600 five-gallon water containers, 10 3,000-gallon water bladders, and 1,500 body bags to Venezuela. A third airlift of relief commodities, including 195,840 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 1,600 five-gallon water containers, 1,600 wool blankets, and 6,000 hygiene kits and medical kits, arrived in Venezuela on December 23. Total cost for the purchase and transport of all relief commodities was $512,700.

USAID/OFDA provided $15,000 to the U.S. Embassy for the local purchase of equine encephalitis vaccine. The U.S. Embassy donated the vaccine to the GOV's agricultural health

agency.

The USAID/DART worked together with PAHO, HidroVen, and other relief organizations to help meet the emergency needs for potable water in the most severely affected states of Vargas and Miranda. On December 26, USAID/OFDA provided $263,284 for the purchase, transport, and technical support for three surface water purification units and two technicians. The units operated in Macuto (Vargas State), and provided 450,000 gallons of purified drinking water daily to meet the needs of 80,000 - 100,000 affected people.

On January 10, USAID/OFDA provided $376,124 for the purchase, transport, and technical support for six additional water purification units. Five of these units were installed in Vargas, in the communities of Caraballeda and Tanaguarena. The sixth unit was installed in Sotillo, Miranda. Due to the continued need for potable water, on January 11, USAID/OFDA provided $492,205 to the U.S. Embassy for the purchase, transport, and installation of 65 10,000-liter water tanks, 16 portable water-testing kits, 20,000 five-gallon water containers, an electric transformer, and rental of water tanker trucks. The water equipment and supplies were consigned to HidroVen and benefited 200,000 people in the states of Vargas and Miranda.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $200,000 towards a PAHO appeal to assist in the recovery of the Venezuelan water and sanitation and health sector and $150,000 towards a UNICEF appeal in support of water and sanitation activities.

The USAID/DART also assisted the GOV's Ministry of Environment and local experts in managing a hazardous material (HAZMAT) situation at the port of La Guaira in Vargas. USAID/OFDA provided $56,922 to deploy a four-person HAZMAT team from January 3-10 (comprised of one person from the EPA, one person from the CDC, and two people from a U.S. Coast Guard Strike Team). The team assisted the GOV in their initial assessment and the response plan to cordon off and secure the accident site. The team then provided technical assistance to the GOV in the contracting of detailed assessment and clean-up activities to private sector contractors. The team also worked with the GOV's on-site first responders in developing the necessary contingency and emergency plans. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided personal safety equipment for use by local HAZMAT experts. This equipment, valued at $20,928 (including transport), consisted of 25 pairs of chemical protection gloves and boots, 25 full-face emergency escape masks, 25 protection suits, one portable HAZMAT decontamination shower, and five self-contained breathing apparatus units with oxygen cylinders.

During the floods in Venezuela, DOD assisted with the response operation by transporting relief supplies and medical teams throughout the affected regions. DOD provided 10 helicopters to assist in search and rescue operations and evacuate injured and displaced persons. In addition to deploying the Joint Task Force (JTF) Fundamental Response, DOD provided a 12-person Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team (HAST). DOD also supplied $697,000 worth of medicine and medical supplies. In addition, DOD provided nine reverse osmosis water purification units (ROWPUs), which were utilized in the states of Miranda and Vargas. A DOD water assessment team traveled to Venezuela in early January and worked closely with the USAID/DART. The JTF assisted in monitoring the HAZMAT situation at the port of La Guaira. DOD assistance was valued at $8.7 million.

Following the immediate relief phase, a USAID/OFDA-funded team of scientists from the USGS traveled to Venezuela to undertake landslide hazard assessments of the affected areas, and to evaluate and document the magnitude and location of the effects of flash floods and landslides.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE $2,350,481
OTHER USG ASSISTANCE $8,700,000
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE.....$11,050,481

Hillside homes destroyed by landslides near Macuto in Vargas State, Venezuela. (photo by Alejandro James, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA's Global Training Program

Building Readiness and Capacity for Response and Risk Management

What so often prompts the need for U.S. emergency assistance when disasters strike is the very limited professional capacity many countries have to respond to a large-scale crisis. In the aftermath of a disaster, the vulnerability of the people affected and magnitude of the event can leave central and local governments overwhelmed and without the resources required for effective response. As a result, the local people, unorganized and untrained, take on the burden of dealing with the disaster alone. In many cases, human lives and economic assets are lost within the first 24-72 hours after a disaster has occurred, before professional services and support have arrived.

In the late 1980s, USAID/OFDA recognized the need to work with countries vulnerable to natural disasters to systematically help them prepare for disasters before they strike, thereby reducing the impact of these disasters when they do arrive. On the heels of a series of major natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), USAID/OFDA's LAC regional team in San Jose, Costa Rica designed and developed a disaster management training program. The program's objective was to enhance regional, national, and local capacity to plan for, respond to, and manage disaster events, as well as to strengthen host country and local capacity in reducing vulnerability to risk. Based on the program's enormous success, USAID/OFDA explored ways to modify and adapt it to fit different regional contexts and ultimately transfer its benefit to various locations around the world. The program first expanded to the Caribbean in 1992, then to the South Pacific in 1994, and in Asia in 1999, and is scheduled for implementation in Africa in 2001. This expansion is an example of how USAID/OFDA is working to make disaster management training a global program that is capable of targeting natural hazards unique to a particular region.

One of the advantages of USAID/OFDA's training programs is that despite their regional scope, they operate at the national or local level, and are managed by USAID/OFDA regional offices in LAC, Asia/Pacific, and Africa. Management responsibilities also are shared with regional partner agencies and institutions. Thanks to the hard work of both USAID/OFDA staff and host country nationals, the Office is gaining a reputation for providing unique and superior training programs. Unlike other training efforts that rely on external trainers who come to a specific region and deliver a training module, or send host-country nationals overseas for training, USAID/OFDA's global training program relies on its in-country base and custom-design, and train-the-trainer methodology.

Host country personnel are just as involved as USAID/OFDA staff in designing each course relative to the needs and vulnerabilities of the country in focus. Course participants represent local agencies that are among the first to respond to any disaster, including national and local civil defense agencies, firefighters, NGOs, local Red Cross Societies, and the private sector. This broad spectrum of representation works to promote cooperation and reduce organizational and sectoral barriers that frequently hinder disaster response operations. As a result, USAID/OFDA is well known for providing training courses of relevance and practicality. As of FY 2000, USAID/OFDA's various regional programs have created more than 12 courses, and several more are being developed.

The impact of USAID/OFDA's Global Training Program extends well beyond what was initially envisioned. In the LAC region, more than 17,000 disaster or disaster-related professionals have successfully completed at least one USAID/OFDA course. Universities in Brazil, Colombia, and Peru have incorporated USAID/OFDA-designed courses

(continued)

into their curriculum requirements. Fire services throughout the LAC region have accepted and are utilizing USAID/OFDA's Medical First Responder (MFR) course as their basic medical training. Each country in the LAC region has a cadre of local instructors capable of teaching the course on their own. Coordination at the national level between emergency authorities (including fire services in training, planning, and responding) has improved significantly in Venezuela, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Peru.

USAID/OFDA's Introduction to Disaster Management (IDM) developed by and for the South Pacific region is now being widely and successfully used in ten of the region's countries. The purpose of the course is to inform local officials and community members of national arrangements and their roles in disaster reduction and response. The course also has been used as a catalyst to develop village level disaster management committees, plans, and activities.

In the Asia region, there is a high demand for participation in USAID/OFDA's Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), operating in India, Nepal, Indonesia, and the Philippines. PEER was designed to address significant topics in a region that is prone to natural disasters. The program is comprised of three critical focus areas: Medical First Responder (MFR), Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR), and Hospital Preparedness in Emergencies. The objective of PEER is to integrate both non-medical and medical communities by working together in a disaster response — a union that is critical in the aftermath of a large-scale disaster. The program is an effort to improve the search and rescue capability and performance of first responders to effectively assess, treat, and transport victims of a disaster and to plan for, undertake, and manage effective search and rescues involving a high number of casualties.

(top) A Training for Instructors Workshop in Guatemala (photo by Jerry Williams, USAID/OFDA).

(left) Participants conducting hands-on training during a Medical First Responder Course in Quito, Ecuador (photo by Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department).

USAID/OFDA's Global Training Program lays the foundation for effective disaster response in vulnerable areas around the world. These programs enhance USAID/OFDA's visibility and network of contacts, allowing it to play a key role in pre-disaster planning. These same networks also can be utilized during a disaster response to help USAID/OFDA provide the most rapid and appropriate humanitarian assistance required.

— Joanne Burke

Summary of USAID/OFDA Response in FY 2000

Obligations from October 1, 1999 – September 30, 2000
This chart includes funds from the International Disaster Assistance account.

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
AFRICA						
Angola	Complex Emergency	10/08/99	1,000,000	3,700,000	$6,665,994	Grants to Africare, CRS, IMC, MSF/B, WV, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNDP, and WFP for agriculture, nutrition, primary health care, water and sanitation, coordination and reporting, security, and air transport programs. USAID/OFDA assessment team deployed.
Botswana	Floods	02/16/00	–	94,000	$46,244	USAID/OFDA field officer and water/sanitation specialist deployed. Procured and distributed plastic sheeting and water test kits.
Burkina Faso	Returnees	11/26/99		15,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority through USAID/Bamako to CRS for provision of food, medicine, sleeping mats, and blankets for returnees.
Burundi	Complex Emergency	10/04/99	200,000	1,120,000	$13,271,130	Grants to ACF/F, MSF/B, Gruppo di Volontario Civile, IMC, and UNICEF for health activities. Grants to Concern, Solidarités, WV, Children's Aid Direct, CARE, FAO, and WFP for agriculture and livestock, technical assistance, small loans, and seed distribution assistance to community groups. Grant to IRC for water and sanitation activities. Grant to CRS for distribution of non-food emergency relief supplies. Grants to UNOCHA and UNDP for coordination and security activities. EDRC funded.
Central African Republic	Health Emergency	04/11/00	262	900,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority through U.S. Embassy to MSF/B for meningitis immunization programs.
Chad	Health Emergency	04/13/00	580	2,600,000	$0	USAID/OFDA provided a $25,000 Disaster Assistance Authority grant through the U.S. Embassy to MSF/B to administer meningitis vaccines. However, after further evaluation, it was determined that the grant was no longer needed. Other assistance to the outbreak included the EU, France, Luxembourg, Italy, Taiwan, UNICEF, and WHO.
Comoros	Health Emergency	01/10/00	14	140	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority through the U.S. Embassy for the purchase of emergency medical supplies.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Complex Emergency	11/16/99	–	1,721,000	$12,931,593	Grants to AAH/USA, AirServ, CRS, FHI, IMA, IRC, MERLIN, SCF/UK, and UNICEF for activities in health, nutrition, seeds and tools, food assistance, coordination, shelter, and logistics. EDRC funded.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Floods	12/01/99		1,500,000	$160,507	Grant to CRS to rehabilitate drainage systems to prevent the spread of water-borne diseases.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Health Emergency	02/16/00	–	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to CRS in support of diagnosis and treatment of malaria in children at two main hospitals in Kinshasa.

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Accident	04/17/00	100	250	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through U.S. Embassy to IFRC/Congolese Red Cross and Red Crescent Society to address urgent needs of those injured in the explosion and fire.
Djibouti	Drought	04/13/00	0	150,000	$173,557	Grants to Caritas, ONARS, and UNICEF for feeding programs, maintenance of delivery vehicles, and health and water initiatives.
Eritrea	Complex Emergency and Drought	10/18/99	10,000+	1,250,000	$5,465,384	Grants to UNDP, UNHCR, and Africare for distribution of shelter materials, blankets, and household items. Grant to ICRC for air transport of relief and medical supplies. Grant to WFP for airlift of food relief. Grant to UNICEF for feeding and water and sanitation programs. Grant to MCI for emergency food assistance. Grant to CARE for agricultural programs. USAID/OFDA DART deployed.
Ethiopia	Complex Emergency and Drought	10/08/99	10,000+	10,500,000	$14,663,905	Grants to ACF/F, ICRC, Concern, GOAL, AmRC, SCF/UK, SC/US, and UNICEF for health and nutrition programs. Funded airlifts of emergency food assistance. Grants to CARE, CISP, IRC, and COOPI for water and sanitation activities. Grants to FHI and WV for food security programs. Funded logistical support and coordination activities through WFP, UNDP, and UNOCHA. USAID/OFDA DART deployed.
Ghana	Floods	10/26/99	52	280,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Accra to the Ghana Red Cross for distribution of blankets and kerosene lamps. USAID/OFDA urban planning specialist deployed.
Kenya	Drought	12/06/99	–	3,300,000	$5,699,217	Grants to WFP, WV, UNICEF, IMC, ADRA, LWR, UNICEF, and CRS for programs in food relief, food security, water management, nutrition, health, agriculture, and livestock.
Madagascar	Cyclone	03/09/00	210	278,000	$2,099,322	Grant to CRS for emergency health, road rehabilitation, seeds and tools, and water and sanitation activities. Procurement and transportation of Zodiac boats, plastic sheeting, and water containers distributed through CARE.
Mauritania	Floods	11/18/99	–	200,000	$113,849	Grants to the Mauritanian Crisis Committee and three local organizations for the purchase of tents, blankets, and mosquito nets.
Morocco	Drought	08/16/00	–	275,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Rabat to CRS for potable water activities.
Mozambique	Floods	02/07/00	640	2,000,000	$10,312,584	USAID/DART with SAR team deployed. Plastic sheeting, blankets, and water containers provided from USAID/OFDA stockpiles. Grants to MSF/Swiss-Luxembourg, WFP, World Relief, CARE, WV, ACF/F, WHO, SCF/UK, Samaritan's Purse, and Terre des Hommes for emergency relief activities, local procurement and distribution of food relief, emergency water and sanitation activities, agriculture programs, seeds and tools distribution, and emergency health activities. Grant to AirServ for chartered aircraft to support rescue and relief operations.

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
Nigeria	Complex Emergency	02/25/00	–	110,000	$0	USAID/OFDA provided the $25,000 Disaster Assistance Authority through USAID/Lagos to the Nigerian Red Cross Society for emergency food to IDPs. However, after further evaluation, it was determined that the $25,000 was no longer needed.
Republic of Congo	Complex Emergency	10/12/99	50,000	126,755	$4,013,683	Grants to ACF/F, CRS, FAO, IRC, and UNICEF for food relief, food security, nutrition, health, and agriculture activities.
Rwanda	Complex Emergency	05/09/00	–	1,500,000	$1,148,568	Grants to NPA, IRC, UNOCHA, and SCF/UK for health, water and sanitation, and coordination activities.
Sierra Leone	Complex Emergency	10/01/99	20,000	4,500,000	$11,772,847	Grants to CARE, Africare, CRS, WV, FAO, MERLIN, UNICEF, ACF/F, WFP, and UNOCHA for emergency programs in agriculture, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, coordination, non-food assistance, shelter, and logistics. Plastic sheeting provided from USAID/OFDA stockpiles.
Somalia	Complex Emergency	10/28/99	–	12,500,000	$8,388,598	Grants to ADRA, UNICEF, ACF/F, and NPA for water and sanitation activities. Grants to UNICEF, IMC, AAH/USA, and FAO for health programs. Funded logistical support through UNICEF and UNDP.
South Africa	Floods	02/16/00	100	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Pretoria to the South Africa Red Cross for the purchase of emergency relief supplies.
Sudan	Complex Emergency	11/08/99	2,000,000	4,400,000	$22,023,691	Grants to ACF/F, ACROSS, ADRA, ARC, CARE, CMA, Concern, CRS, GOAL, IAS/MEDIC, IFRC, IRC, MEDAIR, NPA, SC/US, SCF/UK, UNICEF, OLS, VSF/B and VSF/G for health, water/sanitation, food security, food distribution, agriculture, and livelihoods activities.
Uganda	Complex Emergency	10/29/99	–	824,346	$1,973,372	Grants to IRC, MEDAIR, and CRS for emergency water and sanitation activities (including potable water and latrine systems), resettlement packages, and seed distribution.
Zimbabwe	Floods	02/28/00	100	116,000	$169,199	Disaster Assistance Authority through USAID/Harare to the Zimbabwean Red Cross to support relief activities. Grant to CRS for the provision of non-food emergency supplies.
Subtotal					**$121,293,244**	
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Cambodia	Floods	08/01/00	333	350,000	$352,704	Grants to AmRC for the purchase and distribution of emergency household kits for flood-affected families.
China	Earthquake	01/31/00	7	100,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to Heart to Heart to distribute relief supplies to affected populations.
India	Cyclone	10/22/99	9,465	15,000,000	$3,302,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to meet immediate needs of affected persons. USAID/OFDA assessment completed. Grants to CARE and CRS for the local purchase of plastic

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
						sheeting, household kits, seeds and tools for kitchen gardens, and potable water for the most-affected districts.
India	Drought	05/04/00	0	90,000,000	$1,027,539	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to assist the GOI in relief efforts. USAID/OFDA assessment completed. Grants to WV and CARE to conduct cash-for-work programs and for CRS to construct and improve water harvesting structures.
India	Floods	08/21/00	867	22,000,000	$161,600	Grant to AmRC for emergency household kits to 30,000 flood victims in Assam, India.
Indonesia	Complex Emergency	10/04/99	–	800,000	$11,212,545	Grants to WV and IMC to provide seeds and tools, family kits, and emergency health care in North Maluku. Grants to WFP, UNICEF, CARE, Concern, IRC, CRS, WV, and IMC to provide logistical support, health programs, seeds and tools, agricultural implements, mosquito nets, food commodities and non-food commodities to IDPs in East Timor, refugees in West Timor, and returnees. EDRC funded by USAID/OFDA. USAID/OFDA assessments completed. Funded restocking of plastic sheeting, blankets, and water containers from USAID/OFDA stockpiles used during FY 1999 to assist IDPs and refugees.
Indonesia	Earthquake	06/06/00	103	2,700	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Jakarta to meet the needs of the most severely affected.
Indonesia	Floods	06/06/00	126	50,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Jakarta to Yayasan Sosial Keuskupan Atambua for the purchase of agricultural tools and seeds.
Mongolia	Winter Emergency	03/02/00	0	500,000	$692,665	Grants to the Mongolian Red Cross and IFRC to provide food, household commodities, and clothing. USAID/OFDA assessment team deployed.
Philippines	Volcano	02/29/00	0	70,000 – 80,000	$253,194	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S.Embassy to the Philippine Red Cross to meet the immediate needs of evacuees. Plastic sheeting, water bladders, water treatment units, and water containers provided from USAID/OFDA stockpiles. Funding for purchase, transport, and maintenance of portable latrines.
Vietnam	Floods	11/04/99	622	1,000,000	$552,760	Grants to IFRC and UNDP to provide blankets, plastic sheeting, water purification tablets, emergency household kits, and concrete foundations for flood-resistant homes. USAID/OFDA provided plastic sheeting, blankets, and water containers from its stockpiles to the Vietnam Red Cross.
Vietnam	Floods	12/08/99	120	400,000	$225,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided to the U.S. Embassy for the local procurement of urgently needed household items. Grant to IFRC to construct concrete foundations for flood-resistant homes.
Vietnam	Floods	09/15/00	460	5,000,000	$241,160	Grants to IFRC, in conjunction with the Vietnam Red Cross, for the provision of food, shelter materials, cooking utensils, hygiene items, emergency kits,

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
						and fishing nets. Funded three motorized boats for local Red Cross stockpile. Provided plastic sheeting, Zodiac boats, and water purification equipment to IFRC.
Subtotal					**$18,096,167**	
EUROPE AND THE NEAR EAST						
Afghanistan	Complex Emergency	10/01/99	1,500,000	25,800,000	$3,952,588	Grants to ACF/F, CARE, ACTED, SC/US, Cooperative Center for Afghanistan, and Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Support for Afghanistan to meet health, water and sanitation, shelter, infrastructure, winterization, and livelihood needs of affected populations. Blankets and plastic sheeting provided from USAID/OFDA stockpiles.
Afghanistan	Drought	05/04/00	–	2,500,000	$2,950,851	Grants to MCI, CARE, UNICEF, U.N./Habitat, and SNI to support livelihoods, agriculture, livestock, irrigation, and emergency potable water activities.
Albania	Refugees	10/15/99	–	4,000	$312,898	Grant extension to AAH/USA for nutrition, water, and sanitation activities. Funding for a contingency planner and a water and sanitation engineer. Replenishment of five-gallon water containers to USAID/OFDA stockpiles.
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Fire	08/31/00	$0	–	$0	USAID/OFDA provided the $25,000 Disaster Assistance Authority through the U.S. Embassy to local NGOs to meet the immediate needs of IDPs. However, after further evaluation, it was determined that the $25,000 was no longer needed.
Georgia	Drought	08/18/00	0	1,200,000	$554,205	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Tbilisi to the Salvation Army for feeding programs in the affected area.
Greece	Fire	07/16/00	0	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to meet the emergency needs of affected populations.
Hungary	Accident	02/18/00	0	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Budapest to the Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights for emergency livelihoods activities.
Hungary	Floods	04/11/00		2,000	$74,859	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Budapest for the purchase of relief supplies. Funding for the purchase of water pumps, sand-bags, torches, and generators.
Pakistan	Drought	05/15/00	0	2,500,000-3,000,000	$45,000	Grants to CWS and MCI for seed, fodder, and potable water activities. USAID/OFDA assessment completed.
Romania	Accident	02/25/00	0	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to Bucharest-based Regional Environmental Center for the support of families impacted by the spill.
Romania	Floods	04/21/00	9	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to meet the immediate needs of affected populations.

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
Serbia-Montenegro	Complex Emergency	10/01/99	–	–	$22,391,587	USAID/OFDA's emergency shelter program implemented through NGOs, Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies, community groups, and others. Grants to ADRA, Concern, GOAL, IRC, MEDAIR, WV, ARC, CARE, CHF, FHI, and Relief International for shelter activities. Contracted Readiness Management Services, Inc. to procure and transport timber. USAID/OFDA DART team deployed in FY 1999 remained in-country.
Tajikistan	Drought	07/28/00	0	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Almaty to ACF/F for the treatment of malnourished children.
Turkey	Earthquake	11/17/99	816	50,000	$2,713,975	USAID/OFDA DART with SAR team deployed.
Ukraine	Accident	03/15/00	80	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Kiev to Community Humanitarian Assistance Program for the provision of food, medical supplies, and other basic items to affected families.
Uzbekistan	Drought	08/22/00	0	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided to the U.S. Embassy for potable water activities.
Subtotal				–	**$33,170,963**	
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Bolivia	Drought	01/26/00	0	20,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to CARE/Bolivia for the distribution of emergency food and the local procurement of water containers and water treatment supplies. Monitoring and relief operations consultant sent to Gran Chaco.
Caribbean	Hurricane	11/22/99	0	–	$175,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Barbados to meet the immediate shelter and relief needs of affected persons in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent. USAID/OFDA assessment team deployed. Grant to PAHO for health and water and sanitation activities.
Chile	Floods	06/16/00	0	60,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy to the Chilean Red Cross, Hogar de Cristo, and Caritas to address immediate needs of the flood victims.
Ecuador	Volcano	12/03/99	0	25,000	$40,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S Embassy to CRS to support emergency relief programs for the evacuated population. Grant to the Geophysical Institute through USAID/Quito for volcano monitoring and public outreach efforts.
El Salvador	Health Emergency	09/14/00	24	–	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S Embassy to the National Emergency Committee for the purchase of medical supplies and equipment.
Honduras	Floods	10/05/99	39	30,022	$416,591	Grants to IOM and CHF to provide emergency shelter assistance. Plastic sheeting distributed to IOM, CHF, and USAID/Tegucigalpa from USAID/OFDA stockpiles.

COUNTRY	DISASTER	DATE	DEAD	AFFECTED	OBLIGATION	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE
Mexico	Floods	10/13/99	500	300,000	$100,000	Grant to AmRC for the purchase and distribution of emergency food to affected families. USAID/OFDA assessment completed.
Paraguay	Drought	10/09/99	0	28,000	$75,000	Grant to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of food to affected populations. USAID/OFDA assessment team deployed.
Venezuela	Floods	12/16/99	30,000	400,000	$2,350,481	Funding through the U.S. Embassy to purchase, transport, and provide technical assistance for water purification units, water tanks and tanker trucks, potable water testing kits, water containers, an electric transformer, vaccines, and syringes. Plastic sheeting, blankets, water containers, body bags, and hygiene and medical kits provided from USAID/OFDA stockpiles. USAID/OFDA-funded HAZMAT team deployed. Grants to PAHO and UNICEF for health and water and sanitation activities. USAID/OFDA DART deployed.
Subtotal					**$3,232,072**	
TOTAL					**$175,792,446***	

*Total USAID/OFDA spending does not include $1,751,652 in carryover activities during FY 2000 (see page 16).

Notes: (1) The Disaster Assistance Authority is a discretionary fund of up to $25,000 available to a U.S. Ambassador or Chief of Mission from USAID/OFDA upon the declaration of a foreign disaster to meet immediate relief needs.

(2) A hyphen (-) in the dead and/or affected columns indicates that information was not available.

(3) The totals for dead and affected persons in Angola, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, and Afghanistan are cumulative.

Commonly Used Acronyms

U.S. Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) and Private Groups

ADRA .....Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AAH/USA ....Action Against Hunger/United States
AmRC .....American Red Cross
ARC.....American Refugee Committee
CARE.....Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere
CHF.....Cooperative Housing Foundation
CRS .....Catholic Relief Services
CWS .....Church World Services
IMC .....International Medical Corps
IRC .....International Rescue Committee
LWR.....Lutheran World Relief
NPA.....Norwegian People's Aid
SC/US.....Save the Children/United States
SNI .....Shelter Now International
WV .....World Vision

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

ACF.....Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)
FHI .....Food for the Hungry International
MERLIN .....Medical Emergency Relief International
MSF.....Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders)
MCI .....Mercy Corps International
SCF .....Save the Children Fund

Country of Origin

/B .....Belgium
/F .....France
/G.....Germany
/UK.....United Kingdom
/US(A).....United States (of America)

International Organizations and United Nations (U.N.) Agencies

FAO.....Food and Agriculture Organization (U.N.)
ICRC .....International Committee of the Red Cross
IFRC.....International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
PAHO .....Pan American Health Organization (WHO)
UNDP .....U.N. Development Program
UNHCR .....U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF .....U.N. Children's Fund
UNOCHA ....U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WFP .....World Food Program (U.N.)
WHO.....World Health Organization (U.N.)
IOM..... International Organization for Migration

U.S. Government Organizations/Programs

BHR .....Bureau for Humanitarian Response (USAID)
CDC .....Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DART.....Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART)
DOD .....U.S. Department of Defense
EPA .....Environmental Protection Agency
FFP .....Office of Food for Peace (USAID/BHR)
HAST.....Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team (DOD)
NOAA.....National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OFDA .....Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/BHR)
OTI .....Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/BHR)
PRM.....Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (U.S. Department of State)
USAID .....U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA .....U.S. Department of Agriculture
USG .....United States Government
USGS.....U.S. Geological Survey

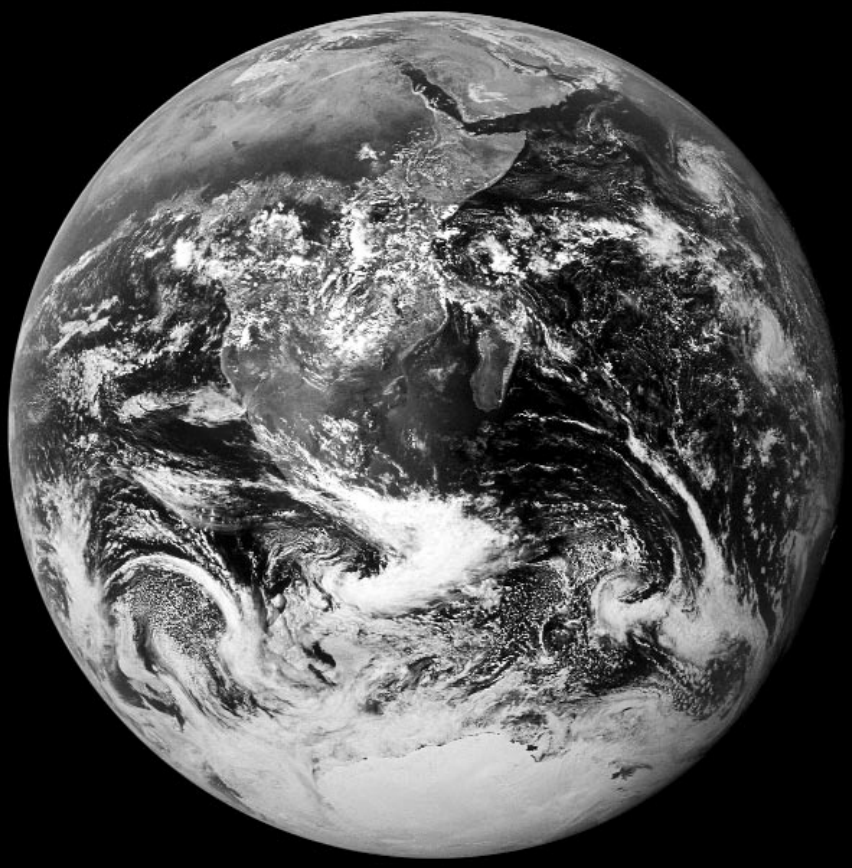
Miscellaneous

FY .....fiscal year
IDP .....internally displaced person
MT.....metric ton
P.L.....Public Law
SAR .....Search and Rescue

Measurement Conversions

1 hectare .....2.471 acres
1 centimeter ..0.3937 inches
1 meter .....39.37 inches
1 kilometer....0.62 miles

Notes



OFDA

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
Annual Report FY 2000

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