USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Commonly Used Acronyms

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

ACF	Action Contre la Faim
AAH	Action Against Hunger
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AmRC	American Red Cross
ARC	American Refugee Committee
AVSI	Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale
CCF	Christian Children's Fund
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale (International Cooperation)
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FHI	Food for the Hungry International
GAA	German Agro Action
IMC	International Medical Corps
IRC	International Rescue Committee
IRD	International Relief and Development
Merlin	Medical Emergency Relief International
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
SC	Save the Children
UMCOR	United Methodist Committee on Relief
VSF	Vétérinaires Sans Frontières

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

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

U.S. Government (USG)

CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DART	Disaster Assistance Response Team
DCHA	Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
FFP	Office of Food for Peace
GDA	Global Development Alliance
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
OFDA	Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
OTI	Office of Transition Initiatives
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
RMT	Response Management Team
State	U.S. Department of State
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

Country of Origin

/B	Belgium
/UK	United Kingdom
/US(A)	United States of America

Miscellaneous

cm	centimeter
FY	fiscal year
IDP	internally displaced person
km	kilometer
mph	miles per hour
MT	metric ton
P.L.	Public Law

Measurement Conversion

1 hectare = 2.471 acres

1 meter = 39.37 inches

1 millimeter = 0.039 inch

1 kilometer = 0.62 miles

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OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)

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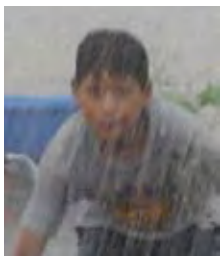

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OUR MANDATE . . .

SAVE LIVES

Courtesy of Vietnamese Red Cross

Photo by David Lillie, USAID

ALLEVIATE SUFFERING

Photo by Rob Andrew, USAID

Photo by Rebecca Gustafson, USAID

REDUCE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DISASTERS

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

OFDA Director Ky Luu

Innocent civilians displaced from their homes are among the world's most vulnerable people. They deserve our best effort.

– Ky Luu, Director of USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

In 2007, an estimated 24.5 million people worldwide were considered to be internally displaced persons (IDPs), and some of USAID's largest emergency response programs occurred in precisely those areas with the largest IDP concentrations, such as Sudan. Through activities funded by USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the most vulnerable, including widows, elderly, and handicapped, received lifesaving support; IDP families who lost their homes received shelter; and men and women with little access to income learned new skills and found employment.

In addition to responding to the immediate humanitarian needs of IDPs, OFDA has also taken broad initiatives, both within the USG and the wider humanitarian community, to raise awareness of the plight of IDPs. To address the enduring psychological, emotional, physical, and economic hardships of IDPs, often lasting beyond the official end of the emergency, OFDA has worked closely with USAID development colleagues to ensure that IDP needs continue to be prioritized in the difficult transition from emergency programs toward longer-term recovery activities.

In 2004, USAID formally outlined official USG policy that IDPs should be granted the full security and protection provided under international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and national law. Together with our colleagues in the U.S. Department of State, OFDA has pushed for greater legal recognition and international protection for IDPs. OFDA has taken important steps to make sure that our funding goes to humanitarian projects that not only provide for IDPs' material well-being but also attempt to protect IDPs from violence, abuse, harassment, and exploitation.

OFDA is also supporting efforts to reform and improve the response of U.N. humanitarian agencies at the field and headquarters levels to better meet the needs of IDPs and encourage development of strategic, well-coordinated humanitarian plans to replace current ad hoc international responses. We insist that humanitarian agencies be more accountable for their successes and failures in the field, especially when innocent lives are on the line.

Addressing the needs of IDPs poses a fundamental challenge of adhering to the prevailing norms of state sovereignty while also recognizing a broader human and humanitarian responsibility to protect the most vulnerable. No single donor or organization possesses sufficient resources to meet all of the needs of the world's IDPs nor to address the complex political and strategic issues that IDPs raise. But working together as an international humanitarian community, we can make tremendous strides to reduce the individual suffering of displaced persons and create a broader international framework that will address more completely the plight of IDPs.

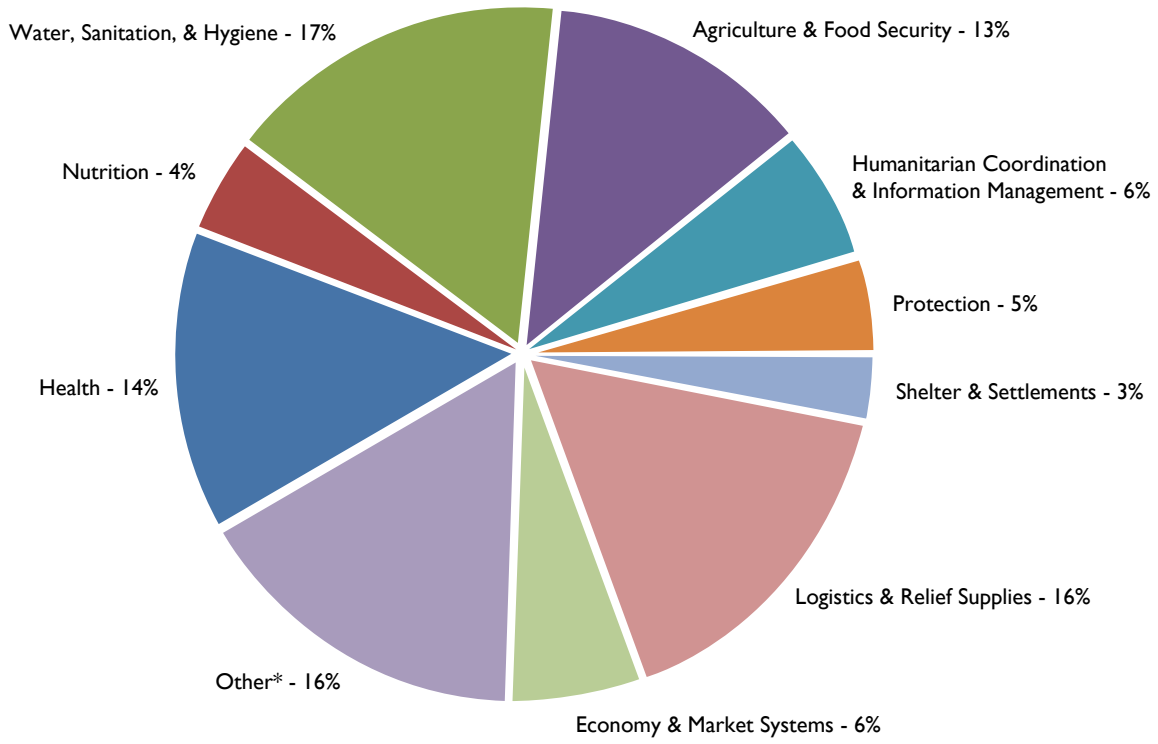
YEAR IN REVIEW

FAST FACTS FOR FY 2007	
Number of OFDA disaster responses	77
Number of countries to receive OFDA disaster support	57
OFDA's total budget	$573.4 million
OFDA percentage of USAID budget	3.8%
Most frequent disaster	Floods
Most funded sector	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

In FY 2007, OFDA responded to 77 disasters affecting more than 94 million people in 57 countries. Ongoing conflicts, flooding, drought, food insecurity, a cyclone, an Ebola hemorrhagic fever outbreak, and a meningitis outbreak confronted countries throughout Africa. Asia and the Pacific region experienced natural disasters, including typhoons, a cyclone, earthquakes, and flooding, as well as complex emergencies. Nine countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia (EMCA) required assistance to address issues related to flooding, wildfires, a cyclone, and complex political and security challenges. Hurricanes, heavy rainfall, and flooding led to the majority of disaster declarations in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, while wildfires and an earthquake also required OFDA's assistance.

In both natural and complex disasters, affected populations required emergency assistance, including safe drinking water, emergency shelter, health care services, food assistance, and emergency relief supplies such as soap, kitchen sets, blankets, and water containers. Countries facing insecurity or emerging from periods of political or economic volatility also required support for local capacity building, protection of vulnerable populations, and coordination of international humanitarian response efforts.

OFDA ASSISTANCE BY SECTOR

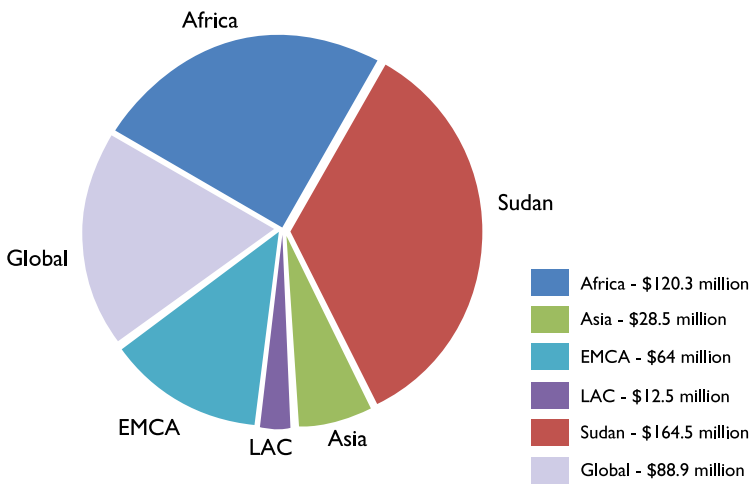


*Other includes chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) preparedness activities; urban search and rescue activities; and administrative support.

In FY 2007, OFDA provided nearly $479 million for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies and to support relief activities in the following sectors: water, sanitation, and hygiene; health; agriculture and food security; nutrition; shelter and settlements; economy and market systems; protection; humanitarian coordination and information management; and logistics and relief commodities. OFDA deployed Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs) or assessment teams to Belize, Central African Republic, Chad, Greece, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Sri Lanka and supported USAID's field offices in Sudan.

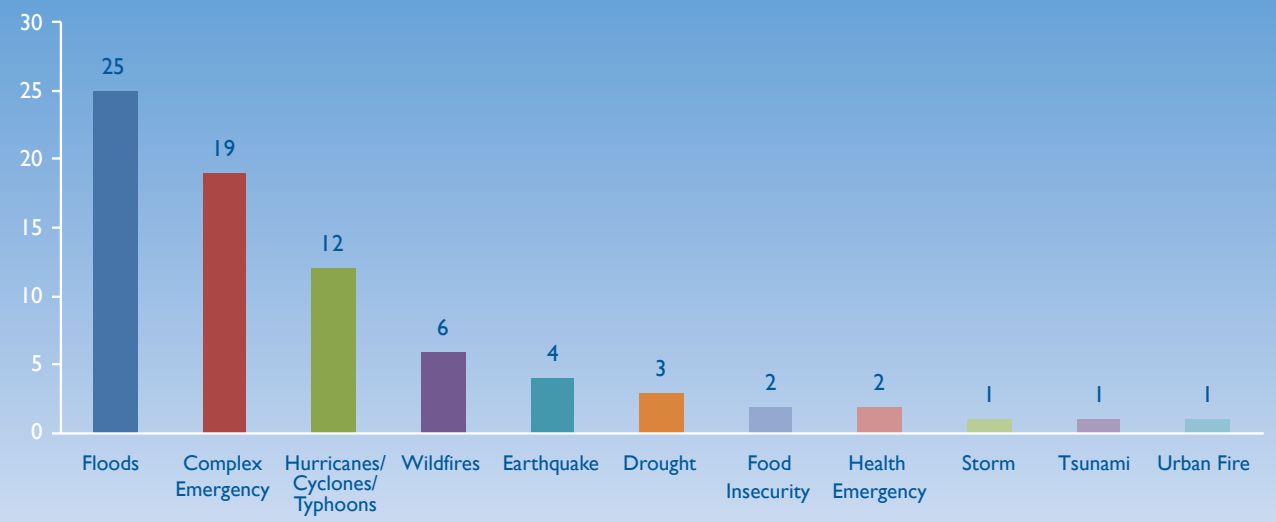
LARGEST RESPONSES IN FY 2007		
COUNTRY	DISASTER TYPE	FUNDING
Sudan	Complex Emergency	$162.9 million
Iraq	Complex Emergency	$37.3 million
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Complex Emergency	$29.0 million
Lebanon	Complex Emergency	$25.6 million
Somalia	Complex Emergency	$22.6 million

OFDA FUNDING BY REGION

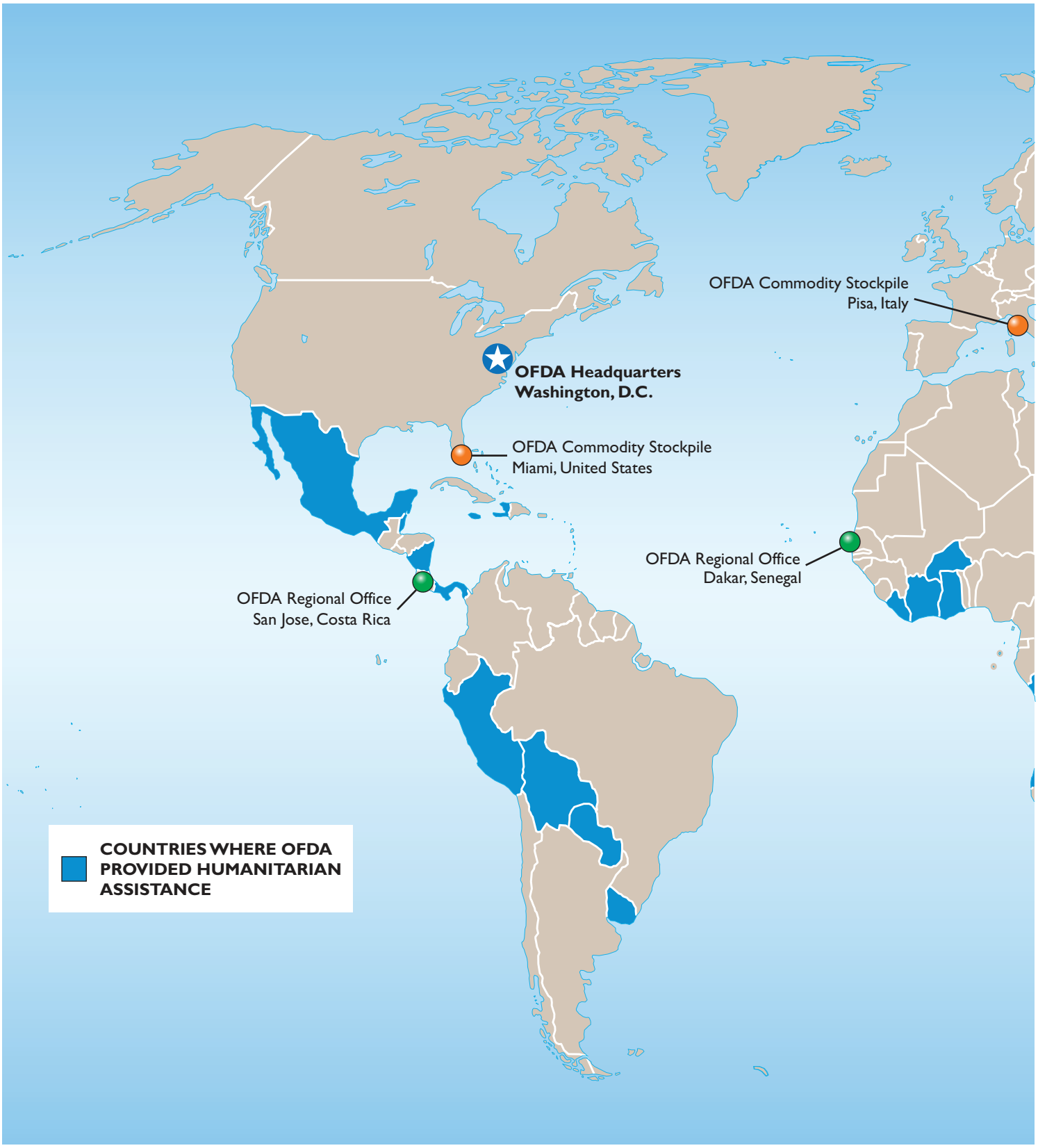


In addition to responding to ongoing disasters, OFDA directed more than $70.4 million, including nearly $28.7 million for avian influenza preparedness activities, to prepare for and mitigate the hazards of natural disasters. OFDA tailored these disaster risk reduction programs to the specific risks that communities may face and designed the programs to build and improve local disaster management capabilities. In FY 2007, these efforts included support for storm early warning systems, volcano monitoring programs, and improved emergency communication networks.

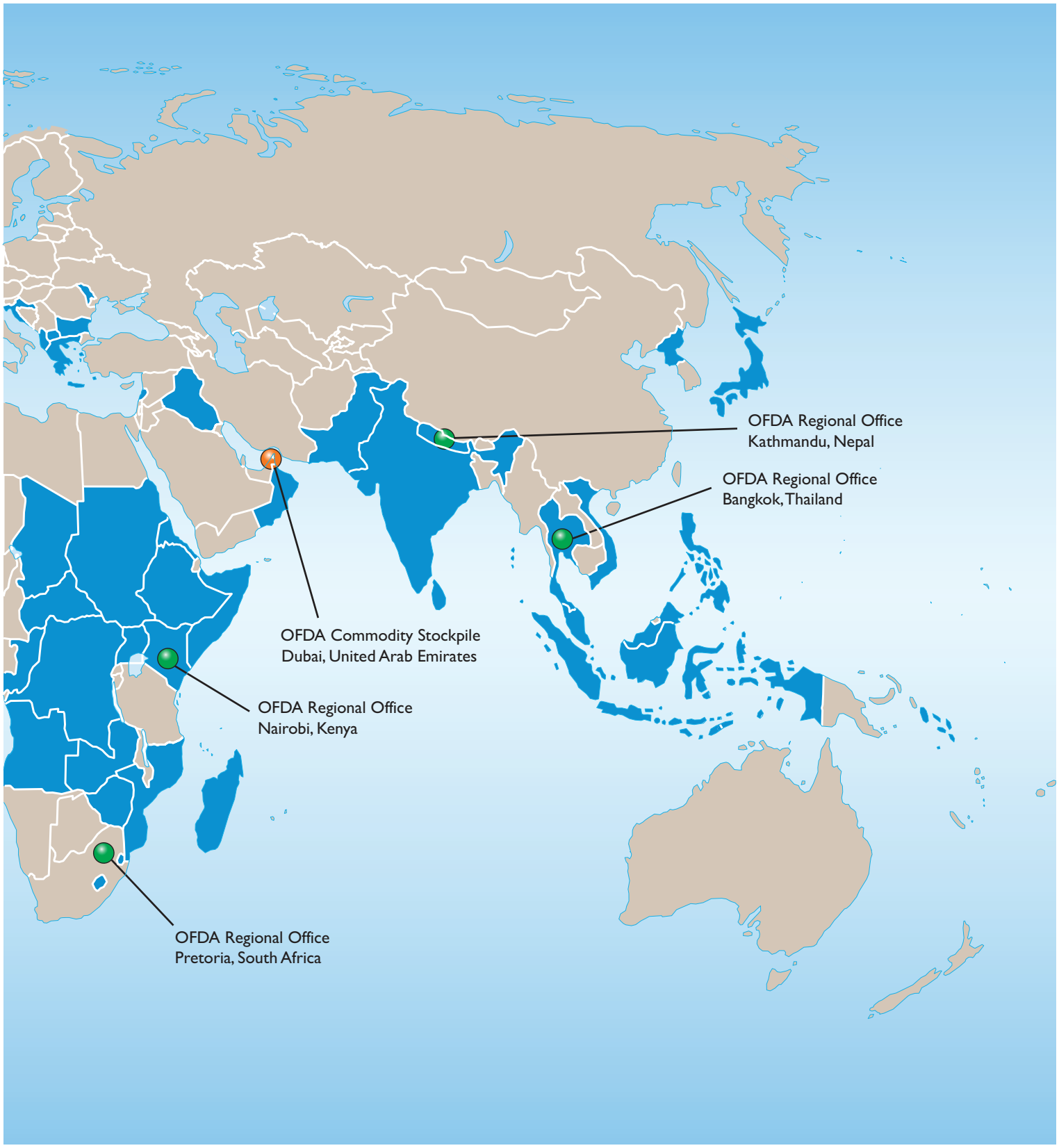
TYPES OF DISASTERS REQUIRING OFDA RESPONSE



OFDA DISASTER



RESPONSES IN FY 2007



How the U.S. Government Provides International Humanitarian Assistance

USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)

The USAID Administrator is designated as the President's Special Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance. Housed within USAID, OFDA is the lead U.S. Government (USG) office responsible for providing humanitarian assistance in response to international emergencies and disasters. With a mandate to save lives, alleviate suffering, and reduce the social and economic impact of disasters, OFDA's 250 staff members and consultants work around the clock to monitor global hazards and potential areas of need. In cooperation with other USG offices and international humanitarian experts, OFDA is ready to respond whenever disaster strikes.

Each year, OFDA responds to dozens of international disasters, including rapid-onset events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanoes; slow-onset emergencies such as prolonged drought leading to food insecurity; and complex conflict situations resulting in humanitarian crises. In addition to disaster response activities, OFDA also supports a range of disaster risk reduction projects designed to reduce the impact of natural hazards in disaster-prone countries.

An official disaster declaration (see sidebar) allows OFDA to begin providing humanitarian assistance to affected populations. OFDA closely coordinates all activities with the U.S. Embassy or USAID Mission in the affected country to determine if and when USG humanitarian assistance may be appropriate. OFDA's response depends on the scale of the event and the needs of affected communities and may encompass a range of activities, including one or more of the following:

- Deployment of a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) or an assessment team to disaster-affected areas;
- Activation of an on-call Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington, DC;
- Procurement, transportation, and distribution of emergency relief supplies, such as plastic sheeting, water containers, water purification units, blankets, and health supplies, from one of OFDA's three regional warehouses;
- Provision of funding for flash appeals and proposals from implementing partners,[1] including international and local NGOs, U.N. agencies, or international organizations;
- Pre-positioning of personnel and relief supplies in the event of an impending disaster, such as a hurricane or volcano eruption;
- Support for various relief and rehabilitation activities through grants to implementing organizations. Examples of OFDA-funded activities include the local purchase of relief supplies for populations in remote locations, managing primary health care

[1] Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, provides flexible authority that permits OFDA to respond to the needs of disaster victims in a timely manner.

OFDA-funded relief commodities reach hurricane-affected populations in Nicaragua (Courtesy of ADRA).

programs, implementing cash-for-work activities, providing seeds and tools to displaced farmers, repairing roads and bridges damaged by an earthquake, or restoring water systems in drought-stricken countries.

Global Staff

OFDA regional advisors, based in offices in Costa Rica, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, and Nepal, are strategically located in the most disaster-prone areas of the world and are able to quickly reach disaster sites to assess needs and begin programming assistance. OFDA also has field-based staff in countries where humanitarian needs require vigilant monitoring, such as Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. For larger responses, OFDA program officers and/or an emergency disaster response coordinator (EDRC)

Anatomy of a DART

If the scope of a disaster merits, a DART deploys to the affected area, and an on-call Washington-based RMT is activated. DARTs often include specialists in water and sanitation, health, nutrition, shelter, agriculture, livestock, and/or protection. These experts conduct rapid assessments and coordinate with sector specialists from U.N. agencies and other relief organizations.

Administrative, communications, and information officers on the DART work to support assessment teams by relaying information on urgent needs and recommendations on appropriate USG assistance to the RMT. When necessary, members of U.S.-based Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams or other technical specialists deploy as part of the DART. In the event of U.S. Military involvement in a disaster response, OFDA may deploy a military liaison officer to the field and to the relevant Combatant Command (COCOM) to coordinate activities between OFDA and military responders.

can remain in disaster-affected countries for up to one year following a disaster to monitor and support ongoing projects and ensure that OFDA-funded activities continue to meet the needs of affected communities.

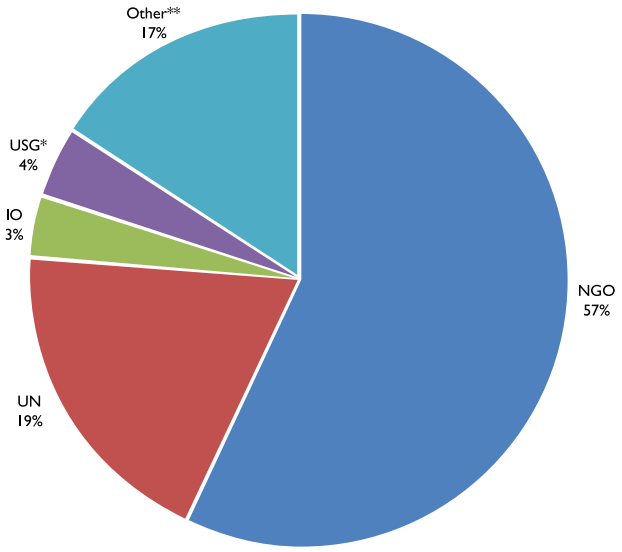
Flexible Programming

In addition to conducting assessments of affected areas, OFDA staff carefully monitor implementing partners' programs to ensure that resources are used wisely and to determine if projects need to be adapted to changing conditions. See the feature article on Lebanon on page 91 for an example of how OFDA adapts activities to evolving needs.

Disaster Risk Reduction Activities

OFDA is increasingly investing in programs designed to prepare for and mitigate both natural disasters and complex emergencies. Disaster risk reduction activities enhance a country's capacity to manage hazards and disasters by promoting the sharing of technology and services between the United States and the affected country. In addition to building partnerships with national emergency response agencies, OFDA frequently implements activities in conjunction with regional or technical organizations, such as the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), and other offices within USAID.

OFDA FUNDING BY AGENCY TYPE



*USG denotes the portion of assistance provided through agreements with other USG agencies.
**Other denotes the portion of assistance managed through other USAID offices as well as program support costs.

OFDA provides funds for the local purchase of relief commodities, including water containers, buckets, blankets, and other essential items, such as the commodities pictured above in Côte d'Ivoire (Photo by Regina Davis, USAID).

From Relief to Development

As an emergency response transitions from addressing immediate needs to considering longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction, OFDA works with other offices within USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), as well as USAID's regional bureaus and overseas missions, to facilitate a smooth transition of emergency programs to medium- and longer-term development activities. See the feature article on page 43 for an example of relief to development programming.

Other USG Offices that provide Humanitarian Assistance

Although OFDA is the lead U.S. agency responding to international disasters and humanitarian emergencies, many other offices within the USG provide technical and material assistance to deliver assistance rapidly and efficiently.

A shelter fortified with OFDA-provided plastic sheeting benefits a family affected by flooding in Mozambique (Courtesy of IOM).

Other USAID/DCHA Offices that Provide International Humanitarian Assistance:

Office of Food for Peace (FFP): Provides food commodities to implementing partners to address both emergency food needs and food security development activities.

Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI): Facilitates the transition from crisis and conflict to peace and stability by aiding in the demobilization of combatants or developing democratic governance and media structures within the affected country.

Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM): Supports early responses to address the causes and consequences of instability and conflict and seeks to integrate conflict mitigation and management into USAID's programs.

Office of Military Affairs (OMA): Builds effective working relationships with the U.S. Department of Defense, including maintaining emergency response readiness, coordinating planning, and developing joint training, education, and exercises.

International Humanitarian Assistance Provided by Other USG Offices:

The **U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (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 Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

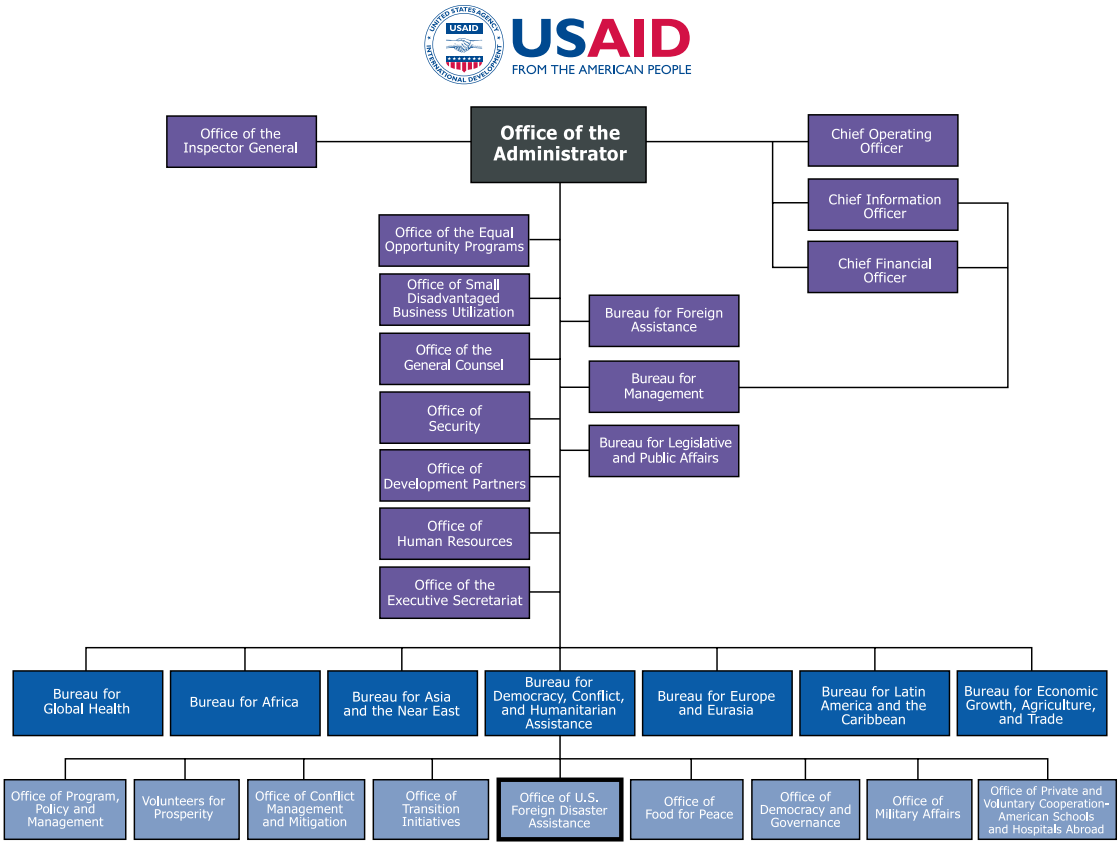
The **U.S. Department of State's Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS)** leads, coordinates, and institutionalizes USG civilian capacity to prevent or prepare for post-conflict situations, and to help stabilize and reconstruct societies in transition from conflict or civil strife.

The **U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)** frequently collaborates with OFDA to coordinate and direct the utilization of military assets, including personnel, supplies, and equipment, for humanitarian assistance overseas. DOD has two Congressional authorities to engage in humanitarian activities: Humanitarian and Civic Assistance (HCA) and Foreign Humanitarian Assistance (FHA).

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** provides food assistance to support emergency feeding programs in countries experiencing food shortages due to drought and civil conflict. USDA provides food assistance through the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition and Food for Progress programs.

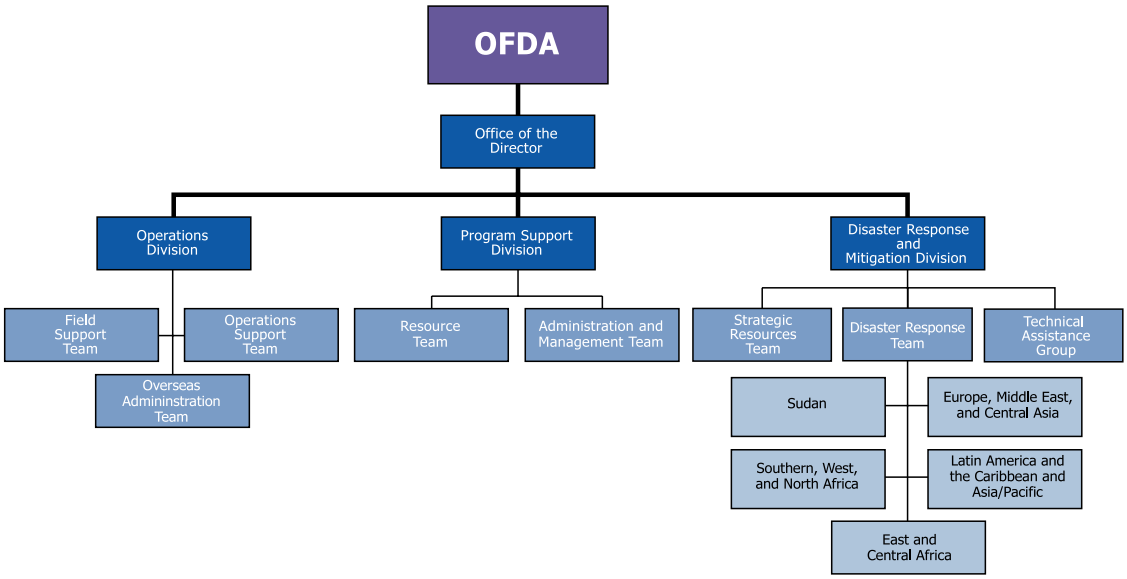
Depending on the type of disaster, the **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS)**, **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**, and **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** will provide technical assistance in coordination with OFDA to assess needs and determine the extent of the USG response.

OFDA-funded plastic sheeting strengthens a shelter in a Chadian IDP camp (Photo by Stan Stalla, USAID).



Organization:

OFDA is organized into three divisions under the management of the Office of the Director. The Disaster Response and Mitigation Division is responsible for coordinating the provision of humanitarian assistance and relief supplies. The Operations Division develops and manages logistical, operational, and technical support for field offices and disaster response, including urban search and rescue teams, DARTs, and RMTs. The Program Support Division provides programmatic and administrative support, including budget and financial services, procurement planning, contracts and grants administration, training support, information technology, communications support, and information services.



Principled Humanitarianism

Marian Spivey-Estrada

The number of people affected by natural disasters is increasing annually and has nearly doubled in the past two decades.[1] At the same time, the number of conflicts generating humanitarian needs shows no sign of abating. As civilian populations all too often bear the brunt of armed conflict, it is important to recall the humanitarian principles that inspire our dedication and define our work.[2]

The Humanitarian Imperative

OFDA strives to support and implement eight basic humanitarian principles. First and foremost is the humanitarian imperative, or the idea that human suffering must be addressed wherever it is found, with particular attention to the most vulnerable populations such as children, women, the displaced, and the elderly. This principle is at the very core of OFDA's work, integrated into our mandate to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and reduce the economic impact of disasters.

Humanitarian Principles

1. Humanitarian Imperative
2. Neutrality
3. Impartiality
4. Independence
5. Do No Harm
6. Protection
7. Capacity Building
8. Accountability

Neutrality

To respond to the humanitarian imperative, neutrality and impartiality are key. Neutrality implies that humanitarian agencies will not take sides in hostilities based on political, racial, religious, or ideological identity. Neutrality allows humanitarians to assist the most needy populations on both sides of a conflict. However, neutrality does not mean refusal to interact with armed groups. Relief agencies often must coordinate with armed groups or government authorities to gain access to vulnerable populations. In Darfur, USAID played a critical role in negotiating access to populations in need in areas controlled by government and opposition forces.

Impartiality

The humanitarian principle of impartiality ensures that aid reaches all who are suffering based solely on need. The USAID Policy on Assistance to IDPs states, "Support should always be provided on the basis of greatest need and without partiality or discrimination, regardless of political factors." OFDA strives to ensure impartiality in all programming—ensuring assistance reaches populations ranging from Muslims of the Shia and Sunni sects in Iraq to Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups in Sudan.

Independence

Independence requires that humanitarian agencies isolate humanitarian objectives from political, economic, military, or other aims. As part of the USG, OFDA cannot operate independently from government policies. However, OFDA strives to defend the independence of our partners and liaises with other USG agencies to ensure the humanitarian perspective is understood. For example, the U.S. Military is, in some cases, best positioned to rapidly deliver relief commodities to disaster areas. When military support is required, OFDA leads the U.S. Government response and works through established liaison officers to ensure that these operations remain under the authority and control of humanitarian actors, with the U.S. Military supporting logistical operations as needed.

Do No Harm

The concept of 'do no harm' is a critical humanitarian principle—in essence a corollary of the humanitarian imperative. Without careful planning, humanitarian programs, however well intentioned, can inadvertently create negative consequences for beneficiaries. Through best practices in humanitarian assistance, OFDA aims to eliminate or minimize these consequences in all programs. As an example, the USAID Policy on Assistance to IDPs states that, "Humanitarian and development aid to IDPs and other vulnerable populations should not place them in greater danger or empower those respon-

[1] According to the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) at the University of Louvain in Belgium, more than 254 million people were affected by natural hazards in 2003, compared to 90 million in 1990.

[2] The 'notwithstanding' clause of Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 states that no statutory or regulatory requirements shall restrict OFDA's ability to respond to the needs of disaster victims in a timely fashion.

sible for the violence, exploitation, or abuse suffered by IDPs. External aid should not produce inequalities or dependencies, nor should it exacerbate local tensions."

To 'do no harm' requires sophisticated analysis of each situation and its political, cultural, and social environment. OFDA continuously monitors programs to ensure these concerns are taken into account. In addition, OFDA works to ensure that beneficiaries are involved in designing and delivering assistance. This enables OFDA to best target assistance, reduces discrimination in the participatory process, and ensures the buy-in of local populations. When a community decides which members are most in need of assistance, these beneficiaries are less likely to be targeted or stigmatized as a result of participation in a relief program.

Protection

Other humanitarian principles, including protection, capacity building, and accountability, stem in part from the concept of 'do no harm.' Populations are at risk during flight to new areas, where they are often separated from family members and vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation, and harassment. Protection activities assist IDPs and other vulnerable populations in reducing or managing these risks. In recent years, USAID has made considerable strides in this area, as evidenced by efforts to mainstream protection into all responses as well as support stand-alone protection activities when appropriate.

Material assistance alone does not ensure the well-being of targeted populations. In Nepal, for example, the decade-long civil conflict between the Government of Nepal and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist displaced an estimated 200,000 people. In FY 2007, a significant number of IDPs returned home and continued to face protection concerns. In response, OFDA funded NRC to assist the return and reintegration of IDPs in a fair, safe, and dignified manner through the provision of information, counseling, and legal assistance.

Capacity Building

In addition to protecting vulnerable populations, it is also necessary to build their capacity to cope with crises. Across the globe, regardless of the sector, OFDA programs aim to deliver life-saving assistance while building capacity. According to the USAID IDP Policy, "Humanitarian assistance and development strategies should build upon and enhance the capacities of IDPs and use local structures to the extent feasible." Examples of OFDA programs with capacity building objectives include clean water interventions involving community-based water management committees, community-based therapeutic care for malnutrition, and trainings for local health staff and agricultural extension workers.

Accountability

When combined, these humanitarian principles aim to ensure accountability to the beneficiary community as well as to the donors who make the assistance possible—in the case of OFDA, the American people. OFDA continuously reviews programs to ensure they are meeting the needs of beneficiaries. OFDA has written—and continues to revise—detailed grants guidelines in order to maximize the resources for beneficiary populations and help ensure accountability. In addition, through the Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative (GHDI) and frequent bilateral discussions, OFDA coordinates with other donors to avoid duplication of efforts and produce sound humanitarian strategies for all countries in need of assistance.

Humanitarian principles are the guiding force for relief work and enable OFDA and other relief agencies to successfully provide assistance to populations worldwide. By adhering to humanitarian principles, OFDA is better able to fulfill its mandate: to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and mitigate the social and economic impact of disasters.

Key Documents on Humanitarian Principles

- Code of Conduct for International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief
- UNICEF's Humanitarian Principles
- The Relevance of Humanitarian Principles (Feinstein International Famine Center)
- Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship
- Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

Focus on Protection

Tens of thousands of women and children suffer rape and other forms of violence as acts of war in conflicts throughout the world. In one example, the U.N. received reports of 27,000 sexual assaults in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's South Kivu Province in 2006 alone. Because many cases go unreported, this number is likely a fraction of the total number across the country. Victims of sexual violence face physical and emotional trauma and often are confronted with social stigma or rejection from their families as a result of the incident.

From Uganda to Sri Lanka, conflict and crises increase children's vulnerability to abuse and exploitation. In more than 20 countries around the world, an estimated 200,000 to 300,000 children are serving as soldiers for both government and opposition forces.[1] In Northern Uganda alone, as many as 30,000 children have been abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army and forced to serve as soldiers, laborers, and sex slaves.[2]

OFDA programs in eastern Chad focus on protection of children (Photo by Stan Stalla, USAID).

[1] Human Rights Watch
[2] UNICEF

OFDA's Approach to Protection

Protection problems are not always visible.

OFDA prepares staff to be aware of potential protection problems in everything that we do.

OFDA is the only donor providing training to partners on how programs can address the protection needs of beneficiaries.

In FY 2006, OFDA began funding programs that address fundamental protection problems as a core objective.

Meeting the needs of disaster victims entails so much more than providing material assistance. After a natural disaster strikes or a conflict erupts, civilians face threats that are not readily visible from the outside: a breakdown of law and order, lack of physical safety, and the potential for rape and sexual violence. In a disaster, affected individuals all too commonly encounter exploitation by authorities, discrimination and intimidation by rival groups, forced conscription, and separation from families. Vulnerable populations—including women, children, widows, and elderly, disabled, and displaced persons—are often disproportionately affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies. The loss of family and community support structures exacerbates the burden of poverty and low social status. In insecure environments, women and children in particular are at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse. International relief specialists refer to these threats as protection problems.

Among international donors, OFDA is at the forefront of the humanitarian community's effort to place greater emphasis on protection across all levels of relief planning and implementation. For OFDA, addressing protection concerns is integral to following the humanitarian principle of 'do no harm.' As such, OFDA works to ensure that its programs do not inadvertently harm beneficiaries or increase their risks.

OFDA personnel undergo training on protection issues and methodologies, and DARTs and assessment teams regularly include protection specialists. OFDA's Field Operations Guide and funding guidelines for implementing partners provide extensive guidance to help staff and partner agencies recognize and address

protection problems in the field more effectively. Since USAID adopted an agency-wide policy for IDPs in 2004, OFDA has worked with fellow USAID offices and other USG agencies to implement and strengthen protection activities for vulnerable populations in emergencies. OFDA's commitment to address protection concerns is demonstrated through programs across the globe.

Protection in Africa

Darfur, Sudan

Protection problems are rife in Darfur, where conflict affects more than 4.2 million people. Although humanitarian access continues to be restricted, OFDA partners are implementing humanitarian protection strategies to address protection concerns whenever and wherever possible. This includes responding to sexual and gender-based violence, improving camp coordination activities, and assisting vulnerable populations. An OFDA assessment in FY 2007 found that each of the seven NGOs implementing OFDA-funded health activities in Darfur has participated in U.N. trainings on clinical management of sexual and gender-based violence and has developed case management protocols to ensure the confidentiality of survivors and provide appropriate medical care. Four of the NGOs provide survivors with referrals to other support activities. Two implementing partners are also using their role as camp coordinator to expand protective programming within the camps by ensuring that assistance reaches vulnerable individuals, including separated or unaccompanied children, unaccompanied elders, and persons with disabilities.

Eastern Chad

In eastern Chad, conflict has affected more than 800,000 people, including IDPs and members of host communities. Since 2006, fighting in eastern Chad has displaced thousands of people, the majority of whom are women and children. In FY 2007, OFDA initiated support for a new protection program responding to child protection concerns in IDP settlements in Goz Beida, eastern Chad, where an estimated 41,000 IDPs reside. In June 2007, OFDA partner SC/UK conducted a rapid assessment of child protection concerns in Habile and Aradip IDP sites near Goz Beida. The assessment found that the most pressing protection concerns include child recruitment, child disappearances, and violence, including sexual and gender-based violence against children.

Women and girls face protection risks outside IDP camps in Darfur, Sudan (Photo by Tiaré Cross, USAID).

In response, SC/UK established child-friendly spaces to provide recreational activities in an environment conducive to children's well-being, as well as to address protection concerns such as physical insecurity, psychosocially distressed children, and children at risk of recruitment. At the child-friendly spaces, SC/UK also identified individual cases of extremely vulnerable children, such as orphans and girl widows, enabling effective, individually tailored response, monitoring, and follow-up. Through this program, identified vulnerable children and their families received relief items or were referred to other agencies for additional services.

Great Lakes

In areas of central Africa in FY 2007, continued conflict between various armed groups, restricted humanitarian access, and underdeveloped government capacity left communities vulnerable to higher incidences of rape and sexual violence and without timely or adequate access to medical services. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where more than 1.4 million Congolese remain internally displaced, OFDA provid-

ed funding for emergency health care within community structures for victims of sexual violence. Health care providers also encouraged women and children to seek additional services as needed, and provided training for men and women to raise awareness of the prevalence and impact of sexual and gender-based violence. In Uganda, where conflict prevents an additional 1.4 million people from returning home, OFDA supported UNICEF and the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to work with government and non-government systems to promote and protect basic rights for women and girls, and to increase locallyavailable medical, legal, and psychosocial services.

Somalia

In 2006 and 2007, residents of southern and central Somalia confronted drought, floods, and conflict, and relief agencies were forced to respond to diverse needs in a constantly changing environment. To help identify and understand the risks confronting vulnerable Somalis, OFDA supported UNHCR to monitor population movements, alert the humanitarian community to human rights abuses, and improve early response efforts, including referrals for medical, legal, and psychosocial services. Through UNHCR, OFDA funding facilitated partnerships among protection agencies and strengthened support services for affected populations.

West Africa

In 2002 and 2005, reports surfaced of sexual exploitation and abuse of refugees and IDPs in coastal countries of West Africa. The reports included allegations that humanitarian workers and U.N. peacekeepers were involved in perpetrating the abuses. To counter future sexual exploitation and abuse in emergencies throughout the region, OFDA is tackling the issue at every level: from headquarters to project sites, from directors to field staff.

In Liberia, OFDA supported a U.N. Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Coordination Officer responsible for training U.N. staff and implementing partners, improving reporting and investigation systems for sexual exploitation and abuse cases, and strengthening coordination at the local and national levels. OFDA has funded WFP to facilitate protection workshops in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia for WFP and partner agency staff to integrate protection issues into strategies and action plans targeting IDPs and refugees.

During the five-year conflict in Côte d'Ivoire, rape and sexual abuse were used to humiliate and terrorize the civilian population. To improve protection of women and girls and reinforce mechanisms for prevention and response to gender-based violence, OFDA supported UNICEF and IRC to provide medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance to victims of sexual violence in western Côte d'Ivoire. This assistance is also expanding knowledge and expertise of the issue through trainings for beneficiary communities and NGO workers and activities to raise awareness of sexual violence in communities. As IDPs began returning home following the March 2007 peace agreement, OFDA supported UNHCR's protection monitoring activities in areas of return in Guiglo, Bangolo, Duékoué, Bloléquin, Danané, and Man districts. Through these protection activities, UNHCR is ensuring that IDPs return voluntarily and under conditions of safety and dignity, as well as working with Ivorian authorities and relief agencies to address social cohesion problems faced by IDPs in villages of return.

Protection Workshops in Dakar and Pretoria

In January and June 2007, OFDA hosted humanitarian protection workshops in Dakar, Senegal, and Pretoria, South Africa, for implementing partners in West Africa and Southern Africa, respectively. Staff members from USAID missions and 42 organizations came from Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Zambia, and Zimbabwe to attend the workshops. In addition to introducing USAID's IDP policy, the workshops provided participants with an overview of OFDA's approach to humanitarian protection and allowed them to share best practices with staff from other organizations.

OFDA is expanding opportunities for implementing partners to participate in protection trainings. Following up on successful trainings in West and South Africa, as well as with partners' staff in Washington, D.C., OFDA plans to hold field-based humanitarian protection and IDP workshops in additional OFDA regions in FY 2008.

Protection in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia

Iraq

In Iraq, approximately 2.2 million people remain internally displaced and vulnerable to the social, emotional, and physical distress of conflict. In response, OFDA partners implemented protection activities in the majority of Iraq's governorates in FY 2007. OFDA supported workshops to raise awareness of gender-based violence for vulnerable women and funded child-friendly spaces to allow children and youth access to psychosocial services, recreational space, and educational activities. Implementing partners established psychosocial support centers, trained staff at orphanages on child psychology and behavior management, and supplied these facilities with appliances, recreational items, and medical equipment. OFDA's funding also supported psychosocial services for women, youth, and people with disabilities.

Lebanon

In Lebanon, the destruction wrought by the 2006 conflict particularly affected young children. In response, OFDA funded partners to implement a range of protection activities specifically targeting children. Projects included the construction of sports fields and basketball courts, designed to provide youth a way to alleviate conflict-induced stress. Similarly, the organization of summer camps for conflict-affected children provided them with additional outlets to process and overcome recent traumatic experiences.

In addition, OFDA supported the renovation of schools and orphanages damaged by the conflict. Through therapeutic workshops, more than 2,400 youth learned about mine risks, children's rights, citizenship, personal hygiene, and nutrition. OFDA supported mental health and well-being workshops, art therapy trainings, supportive counseling training, and numerous community meetings on topics such as maternal and child health, risks from landmines and cluster bombs, sustainable water usage, and civics. Meetings on women's health and village sports tournaments are other examples of OFDA-funded protection activities in Lebanon.

Protection in Asia and the Pacific

Sri Lanka

Beginning in April 2006, renewed fighting in Sri Lanka led to widespread displacement in several of the country's eastern districts. Due to recruitment by armed groups, children in Sri Lanka are particularly vulner-

Lebanese children affected by the 2006 conflict participate in an OFDA-funded activity (Courtesy of CHF International).

able when separated from the informal protection offered by extended family and community networks. In response, OFDA funded partner organizations to undertake humanitarian protection activities to support these conflict-affected children. Activities include establishing child-friendly spaces for recreation, distributing educational materials, and providing psychosocial support. Child protection officers worked with parents, teachers, community leaders, and local government to raise awareness regarding child protection issues. OFDA partners also assisted in the registration of children who were unaccompanied or separated from their families, facilitating additional aid and family reunification.

Nepal

The decade-long civil conflict in Nepal displaced an estimated 200,000 people. Even as the peace process proceeds, those now returning home face continuing protection concerns, including intimidation and violence due to ethnic or political affiliations, as well as a lack of law and order in some areas. With funding from OFDA, NGO partners are assisting the return and reintegration of displaced populations in a safe, fair, and humane manner. Returnees are provided with information and counseling before leaving for their communities. Once displaced persons return to their homes, protection officers work with local government offices and NGOs to monitor any abuses and to implement conflict resolution programming to encourage successful reintegration.

IDPs and returnees in Nepal learn how to address protection problems through an OFDA-funded program (Photo by Jeff Drumtra, USAID).

East Timor

In East Timor, approximately 100,000 people remain displaced due to civil unrest following political and social tensions in 2006. While security has improved since the deployment of an international police force, many IDPs remain reluctant to return due to fears of potential attacks by neighbors or gang members. OFDA is funding partners to integrate protection programming in IDP camps by training camp managers and NGO staff, and facilitating the implementation of follow-up activities such as public awareness campaigns and gender-sensitive needs assessments in the camps. In addition, partners are working with the Government of East Timor to assist in the safe return and reintegration of IDPs and supporting community groups promoting reconciliation and resettlement activities.

Regionwide

Protection is also an important piece of OFDA-funded responses to natural disasters in Asia and the Pacific. In April 2007, an earthquake and tsunami affected two provinces in the Solomon Islands, severely damaging local infrastructure and displacing entire villages in already economically disadvantaged areas. In response, OFDA supported programs focusing on immediate shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene needs. Within these sectors, the programs were structured to ensure that both men and women contributed to the decision-making process, the distribution of goods helped minimize social conflict, and the most vulnerable populations benefitted from emergency programming.

An Enduring Commitment

Whether supporting implementing partners to respond to gender-based violence in Darfur, monitoring displaced populations in Somalia, or funding child-friendly spaces in Lebanon and Sri Lanka, OFDA is increasingly equipping the humanitarian community to address protection concerns whenever and wherever they may surface. OFDA is committed to helping vulnerable populations worldwide effectively manage the many risks they face.

OUR BENEFICIARIES

Photo by Stan Stalla, USAID

Photo by Robert Barton, USAID

Photo by Alejandro Torres, USAID

Photo by Rob Andrew, USAID

Photo by Jeff Drumtra, USAID

Photo by Tom Dolan, USAID

Photo by David Lillie, USAID

$277 million in **OFDA** assistance

32 OFDA responses in FY 2007

Complex emergencies in **11** countries

4,200,000 beneficiaries in **Darfur**, Sudan

Flooding across **11** countries

Field presence or office in **9** countries

DART deployed in response to **Somalia**

Assessment teams deployed to **Chad** and **Central African Republic**

AFRICA

OFDA REGIONAL RESPONSES AND PRESENCE IN FY 2007

OFDA responded to 32 disasters in 21 countries in Africa in FY 2007. Complex humanitarian emergencies continued in Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. OFDA responded to flooding in Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, the Republic of the Congo, Sudan, Uganda, and Zambia.

In total, OFDA provided nearly $277 million in funding for humanitarian programs in Africa. OFDA deployed a DART in response to the complex emergency in Somalia and assessment teams to Chad and the Central African Republic. In addition, OFDA maintained a field presence in Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Liberia, Sudan, and Uganda, and regional offices in Senegal, Kenya, and South Africa.

ANGOLA – Floods

In January 2007, heavy rainfall caused extensive flooding in Angola's Luanda, Bengo, Huambo, Lunda Norte, and Benguela municipalities. The floods killed more than 70 people, destroyed homes, and displaced an estimated 15,000 people, according to OCHA. The flooding also led to an increase in cholera cases. From January 1 to February 20, WHO reported more than 7,000 cases of cholera, including 240 deaths.

On January 25, U.S. Ambassador Cynthia G. Efird declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding in Angola. In response, OFDA provided more than $610,000 for emergency relief activities, agricultural recovery, capacity building initiatives, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs. OFDA partners procured and distributed emergency relief supplies to approximately 7,800 flood-affected people. To support agricultural recovery, OFDA funded the distribution of seeds and agricultural tools for 2,300 vulnerable households affected by the floods. In response to the threat of water and sanitation-related diseases, OFDA supported cholera response efforts for more than 100,000 beneficiaries. OFDA also contributed to building the emergency planning and response capacity of Luanda Province's Department of Health through training and technical support on the use of geographic information systems as a tool in public health planning and risk monitoring programs.

Implementing Partners in Angola
CARE, Development Workshop Angola, IOM, and UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $617,932

BURKINA FASO – Multiple Emergencies

Epidemic

Between January and April 2007, Government of Burkina Faso (GOBF) health authorities reported 25,044 cases of meningitis, including 1,663 deaths. The number of reported cases exceeded the total number reported during the last major meningitis epidemic in Burkina Faso in 1996. According to OCHA, 41 of the 55 health districts required immediate assistance to treat meningitis and prevent further loss of life. The rapid increase in the number of reported cases strained the capacity of the GOBF to respond.

On April 10, 2007, U.S. Ambassador Jeanine E. Jackson declared a disaster due to the spread of meningitis. In response, OFDA contributed $450,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Ouagadougou to provide urgently needed vaccinations to maintain control of the meningitis epidemic. More than 530,000 people benefited from these vaccinations. Combined with funding from other donors, OFDA's contribution completed the vaccination requirement for the country's ongoing immunization program.

Implementing Partner in Burkina Faso
UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $450,000

FACTOID

Epidemic waves of meningitis occur every 10-14 years in an area spanning from Senegal to Ethiopia. Following the last episode in 1996 and 1997, and a significant rise in outbreaks in 2006, health experts noted that an upcoming wave could potentially affect more than 160,000 people in 2007 and 2008. WHO suspects an increasing number of outbreaks over the coming years. A significant gap persists between the anticipated caseload and available vaccines for prevention and antibiotics for treatment.

Floods

Heavy rainfall from July to September 2007 caused flooding in 21 of Burkina Faso's 45 provinces. The most affected provinces included Kouritenga in the east, Houet and Banwa in the west, and Yantenga, Soum, and Loroum in the north. According to the GOBF, the flooding killed 52 people and affected nearly 93,000 others, most of whom sought shelter in school buildings. The floods also damaged houses, bridges, roads, and an estimated 17,700 hectares of crops.

On September 26, U.S. Ambassador Jeanine E. Jackson declared a disaster due to the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Ouagadougou for the provision of vouchers that allowed beneficiaries to purchase food and emergency relief supplies.

Implementing Partner in Burkina Faso
CRS

OFDA Assistance $50,000

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, continued fighting between the government and armed opposition groups affected an estimated 1 million people in the Central African Republic (CAR). In the northwest, clashes intensified between government forces and the Popular Army for the Restoration of Democracy, whereas in the northeast security improved following the April 2007 peace agreement between the Government of CAR and the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity.

Compounded by widespread banditry and insecurity attributed to Chadian and Sudanese opposition forces, the conflict resulted in the displacement of an estimated 290,000 people, including 212,000 IDPs in northern CAR and 79,000 refugees in Chad and Cameroon, in FY 2007. This represented an increase of 70,000 from the number of displaced identified in FY 2006.

Most IDPs fled their home villages and took refuge in nearby forests, where they had limited access to food, water, and health care. Insecurity also prevented many subsistence farmers from planting or harvesting crops. By July 2007, improved security conditions had enabled some IDPs to return and resume livelihood activities. In addition, a number of new relief agencies arrived in country, expanding the capacity of the humanitarian community to assess conditions and provide assistance. However, banditry and sporadic clashes continuously threatened these improvements in humanitarian conditions.

On January 31, 2007, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires A. James Panos redeclared a disaster in response to the increasing humanitarian needs in CAR. In response, multiple USAID teams traveled to CAR to assess humanitarian conditions and monitor the progress of relief activities. USAID also delivered two airlifts of emergency relief supplies, including 734 rolls of plastic sheeting, 6,700 water jugs, 32,160 bars of soap, and 6,675 wool blankets. Valued at nearly $590,000, including transport, the supplies assisted 24,000 IDPs in Ouham and Vakaga prefectures.

OFDA provided nearly $4.9 million to support emergency humanitarian activities in the sectors of agriculture and food security, health, nutrition, coordination, logistics, livelihoods, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. OFDA partners rehabilitated water sources to benefit more than 400,000 people. OFDA support also provided an estimated 130,000 beneficiaries with primary health care services, while nearly 100,000 others benefited from interventions in the sectors of economy and market systems and agriculture, including through the distribution of seeds and tools.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in CAR through FFP, which contributed 14,866 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations in CAR.

In FY 2007, State/PRM assisted refugees living in eastern CAR, including recently displaced Darfuris, as well as IDPs in CAR. State/PRM programs provided emergency services, including health care, as well as supported protection activities.

IDPs benefit from OFDA-funded water projects in CAR (Photo by Shelley Cheatham, USAID).

Implementing Partners in the Central African Republic
ACF, FAO, IMC, International Partnership for Human Development, IRC, Merlin, OCHA, WFP, and WHO

OFDA Assistance .....$4,876,031[1]

FACTOID

Unlike displaced populations in most conflict zones, the majority of IDPs in CAR have not fled long distances to reside in camps. Instead, families have moved from primary residences, situated along the roadsides, to agricultural fields, located 2 to 10 km into the bush. The displacement has required a unique response. To avoid a larger protection crisis, NGOs have assisted populations in hiding by pre-arranging times to quickly provide assistance along the roads.

A resident of a host community in Chad receives OFDA-funded agricultural tools (Photo by Stan Stalla, USAID).

CHAD – Complex Emergency

Since 2003, fighting between Government of Chad (GOC) armed forces and opposition groups combined with interethnic tensions have resulted in a complex emergency impacting Chad's eastern region. From November 2006 to June 2007, a spike in displacement occurred due to a lack of security and stability in the region, bringing the total IDP population to more than 180,000 people, according to OCHA. The conflict also affected 700,000 people in host communities. In addition to IDPs, eastern Chad also hosted 231,000 Sudanese refugees and 50,000 refugees from CAR in FY 2007. Eastern Chad is one of the harshest environments in Africa, and relief agencies expanded established refugee programs to respond to the growing IDP population needs in FY 2007.

On October 3, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Marc M. Wall redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in eastern Chad.

On January 14, 2007, a USAID team arrived in Chad to assess the needs of newly displaced IDPs and host communities. Based on the recommendations of the team, USAID deployed a field officer to continue to monitor and coordinate humanitarian activities with USAID partner organizations.

In FY 2007, OFDA provided nearly $9 million to support emergency programs in eastern Chad. Funding priorities included health, agriculture and food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. OFDA also supported protection, nutrition, and coordination programs, as well as humanitarian air transportation. Through two airlifts, OFDA provided more than $697,000 in relief commodities, including 850 rolls of plastic sheeting, 1,920 hygiene kits, 6,700 blankets, and 10,700 ten-liter water containers. These commodities benefited more than 29,000 newly displaced IDPs.

As the IDP population rapidly increased, OFDA partners expanded programming to meet the new needs and establish basic services in areas where displaced populations gathered. OFDA supported the construction of boreholes, wells, latrines, and water treatment systems to provide safe drinking water and sanitation services for conflict-affected populations, particularly IDPs. OFDA-supported health facilities provided treatment for malnutrition, waterborne illnesses, and endemic diseases.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in eastern Chad through FFP and OTI. FFP provided more than 37,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance. OTI funded a humanitarian radio service in

[1] In response to the complex emergency in CAR, OFDA provided a total of more than $5.7 million, including approximately $850,000 in FY 2008 disaster funds and stockpiled commodities.

eastern Chad that disseminated important information to IDP and refugee populations.

State/PRM assisted IDPs and refugees in eastern Chad through programs focused on food security, income generation, sanitation, psychosocial needs, education, health, and protection.

Implementing Partners in Chad
ACTED, AirServ International, CRS, FAO, IMC, IRD, MENTOR Initiative, OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, SC/US, WFP, WHO, and World Concern

OFDA Assistance $8,764,223

CÔTE D'IVOIRE – Complex Emergency

FY 2007 marked a major turning point in resolving Côte d'Ivoire's conflict, which started after an attempted coup d'état in September 2002 divided the country into an opposition-held north and a government-controlled south. On March 4, 2007, President Laurent Gbagbo and opposition leader Guillaume Soro signed a peace agreement, paving the way towards reunification and disarmament. The security situation in most parts of Côte d'Ivoire began to improve but remained fragile due to the country's division. While positive steps were made towards consolidating peace in Côte d'Ivoire—enabling some IDPs to voluntarily return to their villages of origin—the country continued to experience challenges. Intermittent conflict, primarily instigated by local militias, and latent mistrust between communities in western Côte d'Ivoire hindered the return of IDPs. The breakdown of essential public institutions and lack of government services continued to disrupt the livelihoods of the population in the north.

Due to the effects of conflict and insecurity, 712,230 Ivorian IDPs and returnees continued to require humanitarian assistance during FY 2007. Ongoing humanitarian needs included basic access to services, food aid, safe drinking water, and shelter for displaced and returning populations. Lack of access to and low quality of health care remained significant concerns. According to UNICEF, 7.3 percent of Ivorian children were acutely malnourished, attributed partly to a low level of food diversity in the country. Protection concerns included reports of human rights abuses against women and girls in the country's western region, where perpetrators used rape and sexual abuse to intimidate the civilian population.

On November 24, 2006, U.S. Ambassador J. Aubrey Hooks redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing complex emergency in Côte d'Ivoire. Throughout FY 2007, USAID teams traveled to western Côte d'Ivoire to assess the humanitarian needs of IDPs, the impact of the peace agreement on IDPs and returnees, and protection issues in areas of return. OFDA provided nearly $3 million to programs focused on facilitating IDP returns and promoting reconciliation and stability in areas of return in western Côte d'Ivoire through protection, health, agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities, as well as humanitarian coordination and information management efforts.

OFDA's partners managed multi-sectoral programs to assist IDPs to return to and reintegrate in former areas of residence and to support vulnerable host families in those areas. Through these programs, nearly 25,000 IDPs and host community beneficiaries enjoyed improved access to housing, relief commodities, safe drinking water, and hygiene education, as well as agricultural activities and markets. Together with other donors, OFDA supported "go and see" visits for rep-

Returning families benefit from OFDA-funded seed distributions in Côte d'Ivoire (Photo by Regina Davis, USAID).

resentatives from IDP groups who wished to return home, but remained apprehensive about conditions in areas of origin.

OFDA also funded interventions in multiple sectors to facilitate returns, focusing on the protection of IDPs, returnees, and other vulnerable populations. OFDA partners managed protection programs aimed at mitigating the effects of gender-based violence and providing medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance to vulnerable populations, assisting more than 238,600 individuals. To help prevent sexual violence, OFDA also supported activities to raise awareness and offered protection training courses. In addition, OFDA-funded programs improved access to health care for more than 55,000 conflict-affected people, as well as provided water pumps and promoted sanitation and hygiene activities to assist more than 31,000 others in areas of return. OFDA partners also provided seeds and tools to increase food production for more than 12,200 beneficiaries and implemented programs to strengthen coordination and communication among humanitarian responders in the country.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Côte d'Ivoire through FFP, which contributed 6,810 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.

State/PRM supported the voluntary repatriation of Liberian refugees and provided protection, health, education, water and sanitation, community rehabilitation, and gender-based violence prevention and response services to refugees, IDPs, and other vulnerable populations.

Implementing Partners in Côte d'Ivoire
CARE, FAO, IOM, IRC, SC/UK, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP

OFDA Assistance $2,996,216

FACTOID

Beginning in 1998, the conflict in the DRC drew in ten African nations, earning the title of Africa's World War. Since the start of the conflict, OFDA has provided more than $201 million in vital emergency assistance to vulnerable populations in the DRC. The USG, including other offices of USAID, State, and USDA, has provided more than $680 million in humanitarian assistance.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, a resurgence of military activity threatened to unravel the peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Throughout 2007, security in North Kivu Province deteriorated as a result of clashes between the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC) and dissident troops led by General Laurent Nkunda. As a result, more than 318,000 people fled their homes—the highest rate of displacement in three years, according to OCHA. At the same time, FARDC clashes with other armed groups led an additional 40,000 people to flee their homes in South Kivu Province.

Improved security in and large-scale returns elsewhere offset increased conflict and widespread displacement in the Kivus. In Ituri District and Katanga Province, the surrender and disarmament of multiple armed opposition groups encouraged many displaced persons to return home. According to OCHA and UNHCR, over the course of a year, more than 600,000 IDPs and 89,000 refugees returned home.

Due to the effects of conflict and insecurity, more than 1.1 million IDPs and 2.2 million returnees continued to require emergency assistance in FY 2007. The displaced lacked access to basic services such as health care. Many also required food assistance as sporadic insecurity restricted access to agricultural land and markets. In areas of improving security, returnees required assistance to reintegrate, rebuild, and reestablish livelihoods. Throughout eastern DRC, conflict and related violence generated protection concerns, including among women and girls who suffered from sexual and gender-based violence.

On September 29, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Roger A. Meece redeclared a disaster in response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in the DRC. In total, OFDA provided nearly $29 million to support emergency activities targeting conflict-affected populations. Program priorities included health, nutrition, emergency relief supplies, agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, protection, coordination, road rehabilitation, and the transportation of relief personnel and materials.

Beneficiaries of an OFDA-funded food security project in Shabunda, South Kivu Province, tend plots as part of a program to increase food variety and availability and decrease malnutrition in the DRC (Photo by Jack Myer, USAID).

Through multiple grants, OFDA partners improved access to health care for more than 545,000 beneficiaries in eastern DRC. Health care activities focused on the restoration of primary health services, health staff training, and the reconstruction and rehabilitation of health structures and roads and bridges for people to reach these facilities. In areas where security had improved, OFDA worked with the USAID regional bureau to transition emergency health activities to development programs.

To improve the productivity of small landholder farmers, OFDA distributed seeds and agricultural tools, trained local associations in seed multiplication to introduce improved seed varieties, and rehabilitated roads and bridges to facilitate farmers' access to markets. These projects benefited more than 600,000 IDPs and returnees. In addition, OFDA supported activities to ensure sustainable food security, benefiting more than 150,000 people through training for livelihoods such as tailoring, banking, carpentry, and masonry.

OFDA also supported a rapid response fund and emergency relief supply stockpile in Goma. When rapidly rising IDP populations depleted the stockpile, USAID immediately airlifted additional commodities, including plastic sheeting, blankets, cooking sets, water jugs, soap, and high protein biscuits, to benefit up to 100,000 people.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in the DRC through FFP and the Bureau for Africa (AFR). FPP contributed 33,822 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations and former combatants participating in the national disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration process.

To address protection concerns, AFR provided care and treatment for rape survivors through support for international organizations that work with local NGOs, health structures, and community-based organizations. USAID programs aimed to enable local organizations to provide a package of support to survivors, including medical assistance and referral, psychosocial support, socio-economic reintegration, and judicial support and legal referral when appropriate. In addition, OFDA programs incorporated and promoted the mainstreaming of protection concerns across sectors.

In FY 2007, State/PRM continued to assist refugees in eastern DRC as well as Congolese refugees returning from neighboring countries. Refugees and returnees benefited from programs including water and sanitation services, protection and gender-based violence prevention, livelihoods support, and food assistance.

Implementing Partners in the DRC
AAH/USA, Air Serv International, Concern, FAO, FHI, GAA, Handicap International, IMC, IRC, Medair/Switzerland, OCHA, Première Urgence, Solidarités, Tearfund, UMCOR, and UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $28,993,028

Ebola

On September 10, 2007, CDC and the Biological Laboratory of Franceville, Gabon, confirmed cases of Ebola hemorrhagic fever in West Kasai Province, eastern DRC. At the end of FY 2007, Kasai Province health officials had reported 372 suspected cases of Ebola virus, including 166 deaths, representing a 45 percent mortality rate. The epicenter of the outbreak was in the Mweka rural health zone, although suspected cases were reported as far as 300 km away in neighboring East Kasai Province. Significant delays in reporting suspected outbreaks hampered the government's ability to contain the spread of the disease. On September 10, following the confirmation of Ebola in West Kasai, the Congolese Minister of Health requested international assistance to contain the outbreak.

On September 21, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Samuel V. Brock declared a disaster in response to the Ebola outbreak in West Kasai Province. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 to develop and promote key messages to health staff and communities, as well as to produce leaflets, job aids, and other mass media materials.

The USG also responded to the Ebola outbreak through AFR and CDC. AFR provided support to expand ongoing surveillance and control activities. CDC worked with national authorities to collect samples and confirm cases of the virus.

Women displaced by fighting in eastern DRC build temporary shelters using banana leaves and OFDA-provided plastic sheeting (Photo by Cara Christie, USAID).

Implementing Partner in DRC
UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $100,000

FACTOID

Ebola is transmitted by close physical contact with an infected person or direct contact with the bodily fluids of infected persons, and is one of the most virulent diseases known. Previous experience in Ebola outbreak response indicates that it is essential to move rapidly to initiate control and containment measures in order to minimize the number of persons at risk of exposure. The incubation period for Ebola hemorrhagic fever is 21 days. Two incubation periods (42 days) must pass, without identification of any new cases, before an outbreak is considered controlled.

ERITREA – Complex Emergency

Recurring droughts over the past seven years have resulted in acute food and water shortages, livestock losses, and diminished livelihood opportunities for communities throughout Eritrea. In FY 2007, economic and political challenges continued to contribute to commodity shortages and high food prices, and exacerbated existing poverty and deteriorating humanitarian conditions. Despite political constraints that prevented comprehensive assessments, UNICEF and Government of Eritrea Ministry of Health reports indicated rising malnutrition rates and high child morbidity stemming from poor access to safe drinking water, pervasive food insecurity, and infectious diseases.

On October 6, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Scott H. DeLisi redeclared a disaster due to ongoing food and water insecurity in Eritrea. In total, OFDA provided nearly $3 million in humanitarian assistance for Eritrea in FY 2007. OFDA programs supported international coordination efforts and ongoing health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs. With OFDA assistance, partner organizations reached more targeted beneficiaries through ongoing vaccination campaigns,

improved the capacity of health care facilities, and increased access to potable water and sanitation facilities for more than 6,000 people in remote areas.

Implementing Partners in Eritrea
CRS, OCHA, and UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $2,893,648

ETHIOPIA – Multiple Emergencies

Floods

Unusually heavy rainfall in October and November 2006 caused widespread flooding in Somali Region, Ethiopia. The flooding killed 80 people and affected 362,000 others, including 122,500 displaced individuals. The most affected zones included Gode, Afder, Liben, and Korahe, where OCHA reported an increased incidence of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) and intestinal parasites due to the consumption of stagnant water and damage to sanitation facilities. In addition, damage to irrigation canals in Gode Zone disrupted agricultural activities, undermining longer-term food security.

In July 2007, heavy rains and overflowing lakes and rivers led to additional flooding in Ethiopia. The flooding killed 17 people and affected approximately 226,000 others, including residents of Amhara, Gambella, Afar, Tigray, Somali, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions, according to OCHA. In total, an estimated 45,000 hectares of crops were damaged.

On November 7, 2006, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Vicki J. Huddleston declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding in Somali Region. In response, OFDA allocated more than $460,000 in rapid response funds through a global agreement with WFP for emergency air operations to assist flood-affected populations inaccessible via road. In addition, OFDA worked closely with DOD's Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) to coordinate the airlift of emergency relief commodities to Gode Zone in Somali Region.

In August 2007, OFDA funded two commercial airlifts of 1,100 rolls of plastic sheeting, 2,500 wool blankets, and 16 Zodiac boats to facilitate distributions of emergency relief supplies in flood-affected areas. In total, these commodities were valued at more than $825,000, in-

OFDA funding supports vulnerable communities in drought-affected areas of Eritrea (Courtesy of UNICEF).

OFDA's Evolving Role in Ethiopia

Learning from decades of disaster responses in Ethiopia, OFDA has adapted programs to better enable vulnerable populations to cope with crisis.

Ethiopia's vulnerabilities. Ethiopia faces a number of underlying vulnerabilities, including endemic poverty associated with subsistence-based farming, a large and rapidly growing population, recurrent droughts and environmental problems, diminished coping mechanisms following repeated shocks, and poor infrastructure.

How have OFDA's programs changed? In response to Ethiopia's chronic vulnerabilities, OFDA's programs have evolved from a strictly disaster response framework to a livelihoods-based developmental relief approach that emphasizes providing relief while simultaneously building capacity and sustaining livelihoods.

OFDA now prioritizes community-based water management and alternate water systems to ensure that communities continue to benefit from newly constructed boreholes and repaired water systems.

To treat malnutrition, OFDA supports community-based therapeutic care, which enables families to treat malnourished children at home, rather than at therapeutic feeding centers.

To support food security and agriculture, OFDA now funds livelihood fairs, instead of providing seeds and tools.

OFDA supports community-based animal health activities, early warning systems, the provision of small ruminants, and market support, rather than destocking and restocking livestock.

Through rapid response agreements with NGOs on the ground, OFDA is able to quickly respond to deteriorating conditions and prevent larger crises.

What is the end result? Although emergency needs continue due to underlying vulnerabilities, OFDA's programs are strengthening the ability of Ethiopians to cope. At the same time, OFDA's support for basic emergency programs ensures that experts remain in country to monitor conditions and mitigate the impact of future crises.

cluding transport. According to USAID field staff, early warning and preparedness efforts, improved since the 2006 floods, mitigated greater loss of lives.

USAID also responded to flooding in Ethiopia through FFP, which provided more than 60,010 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance. A portion of this assistance benefited flood-affected populations.

In FY 2007, State/PRM continued to provide assistance for refugees in Ethiopia, some of whom were affected by the flooding.

Complex Food Security Crisis and Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, populations in Ethiopia remained vulnerable as a result of consecutive seasons of drought conditions, endemic poverty, chronic malnutrition, flooding, and localized agricultural failure. Insecurity and declining humanitarian access further exacerbated the situation, particularly in Somali and Oromiya regions.

Pockets of food insecurity persisted in areas of Afar, Amhara, Gambella, Oromiya, and SNNP regions. Although favorable *dehr* rains from October to De-

cember 2006 contributed to limited recovery, past droughts and flooding had eroded assets and coping strategies, causing persistent food insecurity. High levels of malnutrition existed in areas of Oromiya and SNNP regions, and the poor performance of the 2007 *meher* rains compounded these problems.

Humanitarian conditions deteriorated most significantly in Somali Region, where military operations disrupted trade networks, led to restrictions on the movement of people and livestock, and reduced humanitarian access. Below-average April to June *gu* rains further compounded vulnerabilities.

Many regions of Ethiopia also faced continued outbreaks of AWD due to the absence of clean drinking water, poor sanitation, and a lack of community education programs. According to OCHA, the majority of AWD cases were reported in Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, Somali, SNNP, and Tigray regions.

Women transport water in Somali Region of Ethiopia, where OFDA supports water and health activities (Courtesy of UNICEF).

In the 2007 Joint Humanitarian Appeal for Ethiopia, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the U.N., and humanitarian partners requested emergency assistance for nearly 1.4 million people, 85 percent of whom resided in pastoral areas of Somali and Oromiya regions. In addition, the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) aimed to provided assistance to approximately 7.3 million chronically food insecure persons throughout Ethiopia.

On December 7, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing complex food security crisis in Ethiopia. On August 16, 2007, Ambassador Yamamoto declared a disaster due to the complex emergency in Ethiopia's Somali Region.

In FY 2007, OFDA provided more than $12.4 million to 14 implementing partners for humanitarian interventions in Ethiopia. OFDA-supported relief activities included health, nutrition, coordination, food security, agriculture, economy and market systems, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs. Throughout FY 2007, OFDA maintained staff in Ethiopia to monitor humanitarian conditions and ongoing programs.

Through multiple grants, implementing partners worked to prevent ongoing vulnerabilities and continued shocks from resulting in a major humanitarian emergency. In FY 2007, OFDA programs benefited more than 1.5 million people countrywide. OFDA-funded food security and agriculture activities included the construction of canal and irrigation systems and support for community-based animal health programs to increase agricultural production and restore household assets. Through support for mobile health and nutrition teams and community-based therapeutic care, OFDA programs assisted more than 800,000 residents in need of health and nutrition services. In addition, implementing partners worked to reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality from waterborne illnesses through hygiene promotion, latrine construction, and water source rehabilitation programs.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Ethiopia through FFP. As the largest donor of food assistance to Ethiopia, FFP provided 289,520 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to meet immediate needs and address chronic food insecurity through the PSNP. In addition, FFP contributed 60,010 MT of food assistance for relief programming in FY 2007. In total, FFP assistance benefited approximately 8.6 million Ethiopians.

To assist Sudanese, Eritrean, and Somali refugees in Ethiopia, State/PRM funded health services, food commodities and stoves, water and sanitation facilities, and protection and gender-based violence prevention and response activities. State/PRM also supported HIV/AIDS prevention activities, pre-primary education, business skills training and livelihoods support, and an urban refugee project in Addis Ababa.

Implementing Partners in Ethiopia
ADRA, CARE, CHF International, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (International Committee for the Development of Peoples), Concern, CRS, GAA, GOAL, IMC, IRC, Mercy Corps, OCHA, UNICEF, and WFP

OFDA Assistance $12,422,622

GHANA – Floods

Heavy and persistent rainfall in late August and September 2007 resulted in flooding in Ghana's Upper East, Upper West, and Northern regions. On August 27, the Bagre Dam in neighboring Burkina Faso released water into the White Volta River, exacerbating flooding in Ghana. According to the Government of Ghana, the flooding killed 56 people. The U.N. reported that the flooding left 75,000 people in need of assistance, many of whom sought shelter in school buildings and churches, while others stayed with relatives and friends. The flooding also destroyed houses, schools, and health facilities and damaged water supply systems, irrigation systems, and food storage and processing facilities. The destruction of key infrastructure such as bridges and roads restricted access in some areas, hindering the provision of relief assistance and the transport of basic commodities.

On September 17, U.S. Ambassador Pamela E. Bridgewater declared a disaster due to the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Ghana for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies. The relief supplies, including cooking utensils, insecticide-treated mosquito nets, and blankets, benefited 5,000 people in the most flood-affected area of Bongo District, Upper East Region.

Implementing Partner in Ghana
CRS

OFDA Assistance $50,000

KENYA – Floods

Unusually heavy rainfall in October and November 2006 caused widespread flooding in many parts of Coast, Western, and North Eastern provinces of Kenya. The flooding resulted in the deaths of 114 people and disrupted water supplies, leading to an increased incidence of water-related diseases, including an outbreak of Rift Valley fever (RVF). According to WHO, the RVF outbreak resulted in a total of 684 cases, including 155 deaths, between November 2006 and March 2007.

Floods also destroyed crops and farmland, raising concerns over long-term food security. In addition, significant damage and destruction to roads and infrastructure disrupted access and the provision of humanitarian supplies to affected areas. In total, aid agencies reported that the floods affected 723,000 people, including 100,000 refugees at the Dadaab refugee complex in North Eastern Province.

On November 15, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Ranneberger declared a disaster due to the impact of the flooding on the Dadaab refugee complex. On November 28, Ambassador Ranneberger issued a second disaster declaration in response to the cumulative impact of the flooding countrywide. In response, OFDA provided nearly $1.4 million in flood relief activities, emergency airlifts, distribution of relief supplies, health services, vaccinations to counter the spread of RVF, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs. OFDA also deployed an agricultural specialist to assist in developing a regional approach to RVF and funded health assessments to counter the outbreak. Ongoing FY 2006 OFDA programs in flood-affected

FACTOID

RVF, a viral disease that affects domestic animals and humans, is most commonly associated with mosquito-borne epidemics during years of unusually heavy rainfall and flooding. Excessive rainfall allows mosquito eggs—naturally infected with the RVF virus across Africa—to hatch, and the resulting mosquitoes transfer the virus to livestock on which they feed. First reported by veterinary officers in Kenya in the early 1900s, RVF is generally found in regions of eastern and southern Africa where sheep and cattle are raised.

Combating Drought in Southeastern Kenya

Karie Atkinson

A small amount of funding has gone a long way in Makueni District, an area in southeastern Kenya where drought occurs every three to four years. Between March 2005 and May 2007, OFDA provided $1 million to implementing partner German Agro Action for a program to allow 25 percent of the region's population, primarily drought-affected farmers, to access clean drinking water within a reasonable walking distance. A principal goal of the OFDA program was to address the immediate needs of drought-affected populations through long-term solutions not only to cope with drought, but also to improve child health, protect women and children, and improve the nutritional status of families.

Long-Term Solutions for Emergency Problems

Long-term solutions prioritized community management by training local communities on how to construct, operate, and maintain low-cost rainwater collection systems. OFDA also financed the training of communities on how to keep records, lead and manage groups, and promote basic sanitation and hygiene practices. Training was an essential component of the program to give communities ownership and responsibility.

Involving communities in the development of these long-term water solutions supported OFDA's prioritization of community management. Water projects included hand pump wells and systems connecting primary school roofs and natural rock formations to water storage tanks.

Over the lifespan of the program, OFDA funded the construction of a total of 25 hand pump wells. One hand pump well in the village of Mathayoni is reaching about 700 people with clean drinking water while also providing water for cattle through a separate water pipe extension. The water is also enabling the community to irrigate its garden of maize, potatoes, green peas, and papaya trees surrounding the well.

"The water is clean, runs all year round and we can use it for drinking, building houses, washing clothes, and watering our community fruit and vegetable gardens," says Catherine Wanza, a 23-year old farmer who stopped at the shallow well to fill up a container of water.

Income the community generates from selling drinking water and water for livestock (one shilling per 20-liter

Beneficiaries gather near an OFDA-funded water project in Kenya (Photo by Mary Beth Brennan, USAID).

container) goes into a community savings account that is used to cover the cost of maintaining and repairing the well. "With the income generated from selling water, our community is saving up for another pump to water vegetables," says Simon Muindi, chairman of the village water committee. "We are nearly half way there with 10,500 shillings saved. A pump costs about 25,000 shillings," he continues.

OFDA also enabled 40 primary schools in the area to access clean drinking water through supporting the use of primary school roofs to funnel rain water into 50,000 liter water storage tanks. Gutters on the sides of the roof collect and filter rain water that goes into pipes leading to an attached water storage tank made of stone and concrete.

Asked about the impact of the water program on her daily life, 15-year old Mwende Kyalo, a student at Kamunyuni Primary School replies, "We don't have to carry water anymore to school and we know the water is safe to drink."

Abel Kasyoka, the school's headmaster, emphasizes the improvement in children's health and academic performance since the availability of clean drinking water in January 2007. "Since we have been able to get drinking water at the school, there have been fewer incidents of water-borne diseases," he says.

OFDA, through German Agro Action, also reached drought-affected populations in the area by transforming three natural rock formations in the area to collect rain water and installing 12 water storage tanks at the bottom of each rock formation to capture the flow of rain water. These storage tanks have the capacity to hold up to a total of 1.8 million liters of water.

The village of Uvilio has a large rock formation that is now being used to collect rain water. The rock has a surface area of over 9,000 square meters. Rocks were cleaned and then natural gutters were carved into them. The rain water flows through these gutters and then hits a concrete wall at the bottom before it is filtered through underground pipes into the water storage tanks that can hold up to 150,000 liters of water each.

Since January 2007, the community has been selling the water from the storage tank for two shillings per 20-liter container. With the income, the village has so far saved 8,000 shillings for tank maintenance and repair costs.

Program Saves Time for Women and Children and Reduces Vulnerability

The program has helped women and children, the communities' primary water carriers, save time that they could be using to do other important things such as generating income or going to school. In the dry season, it is not uncommon for women and children to walk up to 15 km to the nearest water source.

Before the construction of the OFDA-funded shallow well in the village of Mathayoni, Catherine Wanza, a 23-year old farmer, used to walk approximately six km (or seven hours round trip) for drinking water and water for her animals, often carrying up to two 20-liter containers on her back or by donkey. Today she travels less than a kilometer and can transport up to ten containers of water (200 liters) by donkey cart.

"Now that people don't have to walk such long distances, they have more time to take care of activities in the home and work in their shambas (gardens)," explains Simon Muindi, chairman of the village's water committee. As a result of thriving gardens, families are enjoying a more nutritional diet and improved food security.

School children like 15-year old Mwende Kyalo from Kamunyuni Primary School are also saving time since they can access clean drinking water at their schools rather than traveling the long distances they used to do to collect water for their families. The time saved is allowing them to focus on their studies and not miss school. "The children's concentration has improved since they don't have to worry about traveling far distances for water," says Abel Kasyoka, the school headmaster.

In addition, safety and security conditions for community residents have improved with water points closer to homes. Women and children no longer need to travel long distances in isolated areas, reducing the potential for attacks.

OFDA plans to extend this successful model to mitigate drought in similar areas. "This intervention has proven to be a winner because it builds upon locally-accepted low-cost technologies," says Al Dwyer, OFDA Regional Advisor. "The program's expansion into other areas will only increase the region's ability to cope with drought," he adds.

areas also met emergency needs, targeting the health and water and sanitation sectors.

USAID also responded to flooding in Kenya through FFP, which provided 33,630 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, a portion of which was used to assist flood-affected populations.

State/PRM supported refugee programs in Kenya, including activities to benefit flood-affected populations. DOD's Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) assisted in airlifting relief supplies to Dadaab camp.

Implementing Partners in Kenya
GAA, CDC, Kenya Red Cross Society, UNICEF, and WFP

OFDA-funded water catchment areas in northern Kenya increase access to safe drinking water for people and livestock, thereby boosting nutrition from increased animal milk production (Photo by Al Dwyer, USAID).

OFDA Assistance $1,363,168

LESOTHO – Food Insecurity

During FY 2007, Lesotho experienced heightened food insecurity as a result of one of the country's worst droughts in 30 years. Failed rains during the 2006/2007 agricultural season led to significant crop failure and water shortages. FAO and WFP reported that the production of maize—Lesotho's staple food—decreased by 50 percent compared to the previous year. Exacerbated by poverty, the effects of HIV/AIDS, and high prices for imported South African maize, the food security crisis affected nearly 400,000 people, or 20 percent of Lesotho's population. On July 9, the Government of Lesotho issued a national food security emergency declaration and appealed for international assistance.

On July 10, 2007, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires W. Patrick Murphy declared a disaster due to food insecurity in Lesotho. Throughout FY 2007, USAID teams traveled to affected areas to assess humanitarian conditions and monitor the food security situation.

In response to emergency needs, OFDA provided more than $540,000 to improve the access of 8,700 vulnerable households, or 52,200 individuals, to maize, sorghum, and bean seeds for the 2007/2008 planting season in Berea, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, and Quthing districts. This program facilitated community pooling of resources to purchase vegetable seeds, enabling a greater diversification of households' diet.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Lesotho through FFP, which contributed 16,900 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.

Implementing Partners in Lesotho
CARE and World Vision

OFDA Assistance $542,256

LIBERIA – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

Following successful elections in 2005 and the inauguration of a new president, Liberia achieved progress, particularly in the areas of security, economic revitalization, infrastructure, the provision of basic services,

Liberian women participate in an OFDA-supported protection program that raises awareness of rape, domestic violence, and sexual abuse (Photo by Joanna Crandall, USAID).

governance, and rule of law. UNHCR completed repatriation programs in July 2007, assisting more than 105,000 refugee returns since October 2004. During FY 2007, USAID, together with other USG partners, continued to transition relief activities in Liberia to development projects, particularly in the health sector.

However, in FY 2007, ongoing problems resulting from 14 years of intermittent civil strife persisted in Liberia. The conflict shattered the country's economy and social infrastructure, as well as the health and education systems. In addition, the destruction of roads and bridges hindered the return of displaced persons, the delivery of essential services, and the re-establishment of livelihoods and markets.

On October 5, 2006, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Louis Mazel redeclared a disaster due to ongoing humanitarian challenges in Liberia. In total, OFDA provided nearly $2.5 million in vital emergency assistance to conflict-affected Liberians, prioritizing health care provision and protection programs.

As programs in Liberia continued to shift from responding to an emergency situation to promoting development, OFDA worked to eliminate potential gaps in assistance and health care services. In FY 2007, OFDA supported the country's health sector through assessments of functioning clinics, extensions of continuing health programs, and activities aimed at reducing excess mortality and morbidity. To diminish the potentially adverse public health impact of closing clinics, OFDA contributed to health programs focused on child health, immunizations, HIV/AIDS, and health education, assisting nearly 400,000 beneficiaries in Lofa and Nimba counties.

USAID also responded to humanitarian needs in Liberia through FFP and OTI. In FY 2007, FFP contributed 10,700 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, including yellow split peas, corn soya blend, vegetable oil, and bulgur. OTI-sponsored programs improved capacity in effective planning, budgeting, communication, and coordination with relevant counterparts.

State/PRM supported programs providing repatriation and reintegration assistance to refugees and IDPs through health, education, gender-based violence prevention, micro-enterprise development, and protection programs, as well as humanitarian air passenger service for relief personnel assisting in repatriation efforts.

Implementing Partners in Liberia

USAID's Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival (BASICS), EQUIP Liberia, FAO, IMC, IRC, and UNDP

OFDA Assistance $2,461,666

OFDA supports programs aimed at preventing sexual exploitation and abuse of children in Liberia (Photo by Joanna Crandall, USAID).

Bolstering the Healing Process: Continuous Health Care in Liberia

Taleen Vartan

The transition from relief to development marks a critical period for a country recovering from conflict. Affected residents, who have depended on humanitarian assistance during years of civil strife, can suddenly face reduced access to basic services such as safe drinking water, adequate shelter, or health care. Oftentimes, post-conflict governments have limited capacity and resources to meet these needs.

The goal of humanitarian assistance—to provide life-saving support and meet immediate needs—differs considerably from that of development—to ensure a sustainable system where a community can independently provide for its own needs. Bridging the gap between the two has long been a challenge for providers of both types of assistance. If development programs have not yet commenced as relief funding declines, an interruption in service provision could harm populations in critical need of assistance.

To minimize the potentially adverse impact for vulnerable communities in Liberia, OFDA is supporting the coordination of the post-conflict health sector transition. OFDA is working closely with USAID/Liberia and USAID's Bureaus for Global Health and Africa, enabling the Government of Liberia (GOL) to address urgent health needs while building capacity to restore vital, sustainable health services in a country emerging from 14 years of civil conflict.

A child receives health care at a clinic in Liberia (Courtesy of ECHO).

The Dilemma: Liberia's Reliance on International Support for Health Care Provision

By 2003, which marked the end of Liberia's civil war, 95 percent of health facilities had been destroyed or rendered non-functional, and no more than 20 trained Liberian doctors provided clinical care. In addition, merely 7 percent of people in rural areas maintained access to clean drinking water. Since FY 1990, OFDA has provided more than $106 million to assist conflict-affected populations in Liberia. Together with international humanitarian response to the emergency, this assistance has helped restore basic services, alleviate extreme poverty, and reduce high rates of infant and maternal mortality.

While Liberia no longer faces immediate needs as a direct result of the conflict, the country confronts immense and ongoing challenges that could take years to offset. The Liberian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW) suffers from limited financial, material, and human resources, and NGOs still operated more than 70 percent of health facilities as of June 2007. As humanitarian agencies begin to reduce their activities, Liberia could face a gap in basic health services and a decline in overall funding, which together could result in further service disruption and reduced access to health care for Liberians. The transition gap, if unaddressed, could adversely affect 2.7 million Liberians, as only 36 percent of functioning health facilities have secured funding through the end of 2008.

The Response: OFDA Assessment of the Transition Gap in Health Care

In FY 2007, OFDA, along with State/PRM and USAID/Liberia, funded the ongoing operation of 101 of the 300 NGO-supported health facilities in Liberia. As USG assistance transitions from humanitarian to long-term development, USAID is working with MOHSW to ensure the continuity of health service delivery and to support the development of a national health system. Setting the transition process into motion, OFDA supported two workshops in Monrovia, one in April 2005 and another in August 2006, which was co-hosted by USAID, MOHSW, and WHO. These workshops facilitated discussion about consolidating

In an OFDA-supported workshop in Monrovia, participants discuss Liberia's post-conflict health sector transition (Courtesy of BASICS).

health services and improving the transition process and fostered collaboration among the various actors in the Liberian health sector, including USAID, U.N. agencies, NGOs, MOHSW, and health teams from all of Liberia's 15 counties.

Following the workshops, OFDA funded USAID's Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival (BASICS) project to better determine the scope of the health transition gap and to provide coordination, technical assistance, and support for the transition process in Liberia. As part of the project, BASICS assisted MOHSW to develop Liberia's National Health Policy and Plan to guide the implementation of health services at the county level.

Setting the foundation for Liberians to continue accessing essential heath services, the BASICS project used a novel approach: a systematic survey, funded by OFDA, that assessed the relative public health impact of USG-funded clinics. The BASICS survey numerically ranked the public health significance of each USG-funded facility according to geographic location, population, service utilization, staffing patterns, services delivered, demand for services, equipment, medical supplies, infrastructure, and operating budget. Based in part on the survey results, OFDA, in conjunction with USAID/Liberia and implementing partners, decided where and how to continue funding health clinics during the transition. Correspondingly, since the results of the BASICS analysis indicated that each of the USG-funded facilities remained critical for Liberian families in need of health services, OFDA has ensured the continued funding of these health clinics through July 2008 and identified other donors to support previously funded OFDA clinics. As an outcome of the assessment, OFDA and our partners are shifting from funding individual clinics to supporting a broader health system at the county level.

Based on the results of BASICS's analysis, OFDA supported a series of workshops in June 2007 to build the capacity of county health teams and strengthen service delivery. Striving to develop human capacity and enhance partnerships, the workshops emphasized community involvement to build public confidence in Liberia's health system. These workshops played a pivotal role in encouraging county-level leadership and planning, preparing MOHSW and NGOs for the health transition, and supporting the implementation of the new National Health Policy and Plan.

The Next Steps: Moving Forward with Liberia's Health Transition

Through a process initiated during the emergency phase, OFDA and USAID/Liberia have formulated a strategy for transition to development funding that mitigates harm to vulnerable Liberians in urgent need of health care. By collaborating with the GOL and key stakeholders to systematize health care provision and create a basic package of health services, OFDA has helped to identify essential activities for continuation during the transition. In the future, OFDA plans to use the transition gap analysis in Liberia as a model approach for other post-conflict countries shifting from an emergency context to long-term development.

Storm

On March 21, 2007, a severe storm struck Ganta and surrounding towns and villages in Nimba County, Liberia, destroying more than 500 homes and damaging approximately 3,000 others, leaving 3,500 people homeless. According to USAID/Liberia, 85 percent of the damaged houses belonged to former IDPs and refugees who had recently returned to their areas of origin after nearly 15 years of intermittent conflict.

On April 12, U.S. Ambassador Donald E. Booth declared a disaster due to the impact of the storm in Ganta. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Liberia for the procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies for storm-affected populations.

Implementing Partner in Liberia
Liberian Red Cross Society

OFDA Assistance $50,000

Floods

In August 2007, heavy rains resulted in flooding along the St. Paul River, affecting 10 communities in and around Monrovia, Liberia. Assessments by the Liberian Red Cross Society and the Government of Liberia indicated that the flooding damaged nearly 1,200 houses, leaving 7,000 people homeless in the six most affected communities. Approximately 60 percent of the affected population, mainly women and children, sought shelter with relatives and friends, while most men remained to protect household properties. In total, the flooding affected an estimated 17,000 people.

On September 13, 2007, U.S. Ambassador Donald E. Booth declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $35,000 for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, such as plastic sheeting, blankets, sleeping mats, water containers, and soap.

Implementing Partner in Liberia
Liberian Red Cross Society

OFDA Assistance $35,000

Crops grow from seeds provided by OFDA, bolstering food security for populations in southern Madagascar (Courtesy of USAID/Madagascar).

MADAGASCAR – Multiple Emergencies

Food Insecurity

Failed rains in early 2006 led to significant crop failure and food insecurity in southern Madagascar. Shortened rains in January and inconsistent rainfall in September resulted in successive poor harvests, impacting approximately 300,000 people. In affected areas, some households exhausted coping mechanisms employed in response to decreased income and food security.

From December 8 to 11, a USAID team participated in a food security assessment. On December 13, the Government of Madagascar (GOM) declared a state of emergency for southern portions of the country and requested international assistance to address the localized food insecurity.

On December 18, 2006, U.S. Ambassador James D. McGee declared a disaster due to food insecurity in southern Madagascar. In response to emergency needs, OFDA provided nearly $1.2 million to support food security and agricultural recovery and reduce the impact of future shocks on vulnerable populations. OFDA partners managed emergency agriculture projects that benefited more than 500,000 people through the reintroduction of sorghum production, including the distribution of high-quality sorghum seeds, in southern Madagascar. OFDA's assistance also benefited more than 6,000 people who received improved maize seed

and chickpeas, as well as sweet potato and cassava cuttings. These seed distributions helped beneficiaries improve food security in the medium term and provided strategic seed stocks for future years.

USAID also responded to emergency food needs in Madagascar through FFP, which contributed 6,460 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, including beans, peas, rice, sorghum, and vegetable oil.

Implementing Partners in Madagascar
CRS and FAO

OFDA Assistance $1,176,506

FACTOID

Madagascar, one of the largest African rice producers, harvests more than 3.5 million tons of the grain per year. The country's staple food, rice is eaten three times a day by many families. Cassava, bananas, and sweet potatoes are also important components of the Malagasy diet.

Cyclone

Between December 2006 and March 2007, five successive tropical storms and cyclones hit Madagascar, including Bondo in December, Clovis in January, and Gamede and Favio in February. On March 15, Tropical Cyclone Indlala struck Madagascar's northeastern coast in Antalaha District with winds up to 124 mph, killing 88 people, leaving more than 30,000 others homeless, and affecting more than 188,000 people in total, according to OCHA. Rainfall from the storms led to widespread flooding, which damaged infrastructure, destroyed crops, and threatened local food security.

In response to the storms, the Malagasy National Office for Disaster Management and Preparedness provided affected populations with emergency relief supplies, including food, plastic sheeting, and tents. Effective early warning and alert systems minimized the casualties from the storms; however, the consecutive cyclones and extensive flooding depleted local and national response resources, leading the GOM to request international assistance. From March 14 to 21, a USAID assessment team visited affected regions in Madagascar to evaluate the damage from Cyclone Indlala and previous storms.

On March 23, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Henderson M. Patrick declared a disaster due to widespread flooding from Cyclone Indlala. In response, OFDA provided more than $870,000 to distribute emergency relief supplies and support activities in the sectors of logistics, agriculture, food security, and economic recovery. OFDA contributed $275,000 to restore ground access to isolated regions, improve logistical capacity, and transport food assistance and emergency relief supplies to remote communities affected by the cyclones. OFDA partners supported post-cyclone agricultural and economic recovery among vulnerable populations through distributions of agricultural tools and improved rice, beans, and vegetables seeds; cash-for-work programs to repair productive agricultural infrastructure and roads to markets; health education campaigns; and community-based programs to strengthen disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management.

Implementing Partners in Madagascar
CARE and WFP

OFDA Assistance $872,125

Individuals struggle to cross areas flooded by rainfall brought by cyclones in Madagascar (Courtesy of USAID/Madagascar).

MOZAMBIQUE – Floods and Cyclone

Between December 2006 and February 2007, heavy rains across the northern and central regions of Mozambique, together with severe rainfall in neighboring countries, led to flooding along the Zambezi River Basin in Tete, Manica, Sofala, and Zambezia provinces. On February 22, 2007, Tropical Cyclone Favio made landfall in Vilankulo District, Inhambane Province, with winds of 144 mph, leading to water and wind damage in the southern districts. According to the Government of the Republic of Mozambique's (GRM) National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC), the floods and the cyclone displaced 163,000 residents, damaged infrastructure, and destroyed crops, negatively impacting local food security. In total, the GRM reported that the floods and cyclone killed 9 people and affected an estimated 500,000 others.

On March 6, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Daniel A. Johnson declared a humanitarian emergency in Mozambique due to the flooding and cyclone. In response, OFDA provided an initial $50,000 through USAID/Mozambique for emergency relief supplies. From March 19 to 23, a USAID team traveled to flood-affected areas to assess damages and identify priority needs. Based on the team's assessments, OFDA provided nearly $1.9 million to meet the emergency needs of an estimated 48,000 beneficiaries in Mozambique. This included the airlift of 1,260 rolls of plastic sheeting and 50,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets, support for livelihoods and agricultural recovery activities, and the provision of water, sanitation, and hygiene services. In addition, OFDA funded repairs to a damaged radio tower, radio equipment, and storage facilities used for flood and cyclone early warning in Inhambane Province.

USAID also responded to emergency needs through FFP and USAID/Mozambique. FFP contributed 6,036 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to meet the immediate food needs of those affected by flooding and Tropical Cyclone Favio. USAID/Mozambique provided emergency relief supplies, including local water treatment products and mosquito nets, and also supported interagency flights to deliver relief supplies to flooded areas.

Implementing Partners in Mozambique
FEWS NET, IOM, IRD, Population Services International, and SC/US

OFDA Assistance .....$1,910,694[2]

Floodwaters inundate the Zambezi River basin in Mozambique (Photo by Sidney Velado, USAID).

[2] Including nearly $460,000 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled more than $2.3 million.

USAID's Capacity-Building Program Helps Save Lives in Mozambique

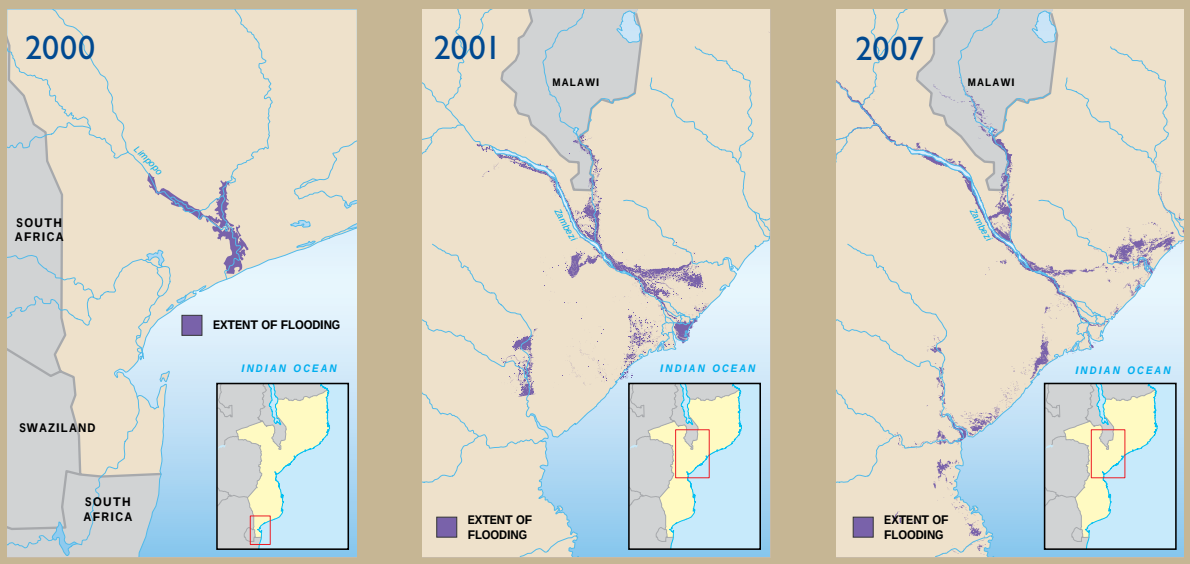
In 2000, a series of intense cyclones hit Mozambique and caused unprecedented flooding in the Limpopo Basin, killing approximately 700 people and affecting 2 million others. The following year, flooding along the Zambezi and Shire River basins killed 115 people and affected 500,000 others.

To support disaster mitigation efforts following these emergencies, USAID launched the Mozambique Integrated Information Network for Decision-Making (MIND) project, as part of FEWS NET. Since FY 2004, OFDA has contributed nearly $350,000 to the MIND project. In coordination with Mozambican governmental agencies and universities, international and local NGOs, and USGS, MIND has strengthened early warning systems for cyclones and flooding and helped improve disaster management and contingency planning at the national and local levels.

Families displaced by floods in central Mozambique receive humanitarian assistance (Photo by Alexandra Riboul, USAID).

Although the extent of the flooding along the Zambezi River Basin was significantly greater in 2007 than in 2001, only nine people were killed during the recent flood and cyclone emergency, compared to 115 in 2001. The GRM's 2007 response, under the leadership of the INGC, is a testimony to the success of the MIND project. As the Zambezi River's rising water levels threatened to flood low-lying areas in early February, INGC issued a red alert, activating the national disaster response plan. Immediately, INGC set in motion the coordination structure for emergency response—strengthened since the 2001 floods—in the affected areas and the capital. Under this structure, INGC activated the national and regional emergency operations centers to ensure the effective coordination of evacuation, rescue, and relief operations by national, international, civilian, and military actors. Communities along the Zambezi River Basin were evacuated and relocated. Coordination response hubs were established in Caia and Maputo. INGC officials at the district level identified immediate emergency needs, in conjunction with national and international relief organizations. All these efforts greatly reduced the loss of life and property and are a measure of the success of the MIND project and the country's strengthened disaster response capacity.

Flooding in Mozambique



Sources: U.S. Government, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Dartmouth Flood Observatory

FSAU Nutrition Surveillance in Somalia: A Critical Resource in a Crisis Environment

Patricia Hampton

Since 1991, civil strife and inter-clan conflict combined with endemic poverty have fueled an ongoing complex emergency in Somalia. The FAO Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU), established in 1994 with OFDA funding, stands at the forefront of international humanitarian efforts to monitor the needs of millions of vulnerable Somalis. In particular, the Nutrition Surveillance Project, created in 2000, has become the focal point for the collection, analysis, and distribution of nutrition information, a key indicator of the well-being of a population. For over thirteen years, the partnership between OFDA and FSAU has ensured the flow of critical and accurate nutrition, food security, and livelihood information, enabling decision makers within the humanitarian community to respond to emergency conditions and develop long-term strategies to improve the quality of life of the Somali people.

A health worker measures a child's height during a nutrition assessment in Berdalle district, Bay Region, Somalia (Courtesy of FSAU).

Operating in the Face of Challenges

Insecurity severely limits the presence and access of international humanitarian staff in Somalia, resulting in significant challenges to information collection. FSAU's ability to consistently operate against the volatile backdrop of Somalia is notable and unique. The Nutrition Surveillance Project's emphasis on partnership and local capacity development is a central component of its success.

The Nutrition Surveillance Project has actively cultivated relationships with local authorities and organizations, including collaborating with more than 110 health centers across the country. In addition, the project has invested substantially in the recruitment and training of national staff. As a result, over the course of the seven years of the Nutrition Surveillance Project, hundreds of Somalis have received training to track and compile nutrition information at the village level. The project also maintains a full-time field presence of 13 Somali nutrition analysts, supported by professional researchers and nutritionists based in Kenya.

Monitoring Methods and Mechanisms: Making a Difference

In a fluid and unstable environment, characterized by repeated shocks of drought, floods, and insecurity, nutrition reporting and analysis provides a valuable tool to evaluate the extent of crises and identify populations at risk. The Nutrition Surveillance Project employs a range of mechanisms to track and compile nutrition information, including assessments and site surveillance. Comprehensive nutrition assessments are designed to identify the prevalence, impact, and possible causes of malnutrition to alert authorities to areas of concern and inform appropriate interventions and mitigation strategies. Staff are also able to conduct rapid assessments in acute crises precipitated by a shock, such as sudden population displacement from flooding or conflict, when nutrition information is urgently needed.

In 2006, the Nutrition Surveillance Project's monitoring and reporting in Bakool Region alerted the humanitarian community to the impact of three successive failed rainy seasons on food security and nutrition rates. The project's identification of high numbers of malnourished children and pregnant women in the region helped inform OFDA's decision to prioritize nutrition interventions to these vulnerable groups. Through implementing partner IMC, OFDA established community therapeutic feeding facilities to treat hundreds of malnourished children in Bakool.

Since 2002, the Nutrition Surveillance Project has either led or technically supported 70 percent of the estimated 105 nutrition assessments conducted throughout Somalia, covering approximately 95 percent of the country. FSAU maintains a database of information gathered, along with all available nutrition data from the last 20 years in Somalia, which is used to monitor nutrition conditions over time and identify underlying causes and trends in malnutrition.

In addition to conducting large assessments in various locations, the Nutrition Surveillance Project also regularly monitors 132 villages selected from areas of concern. In these villages, the project collects nutrition and related data on a regular basis to closely monitor vulnerable populations, enabling FSAU to alert the humanitarian community when conditions decline, before a crisis manifests.

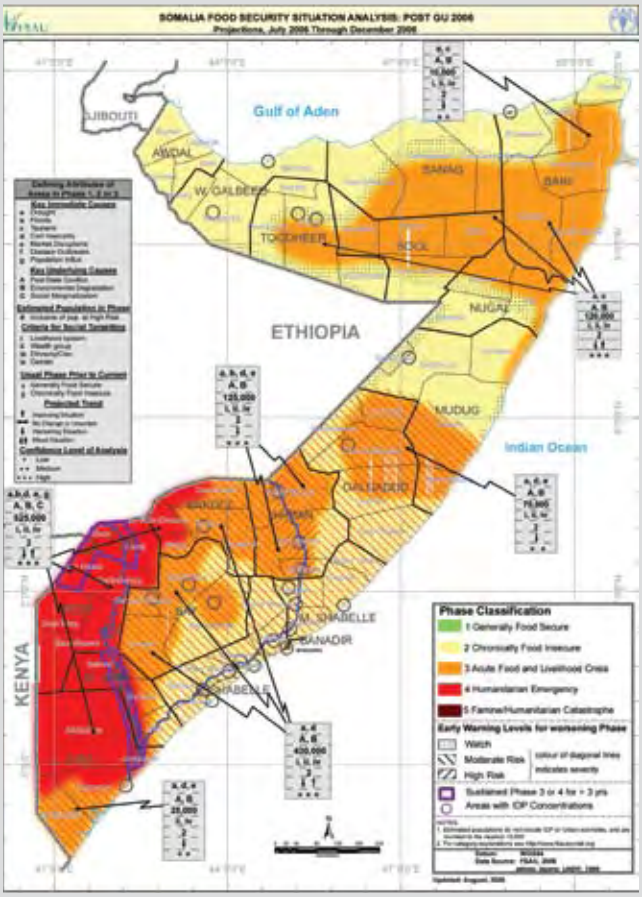
Strengthening Capacity and Strategies to Combat Malnutrition

As the co-chair of the Nutrition Working Group for Somalia with UNICEF, FSAU's Nutrition Surveillance Project has played an important role in strengthening nutrition coordination structures for Somalia, particularly through efforts to standardize nutrition assessments. The project provides technical assistance and produces a variety of resource materials to assist other agencies with nutrition monitoring and reporting.

In addition to its core function of nutrition data collection and analysis, the project helps develop health messages and strategies to combat malnutrition. The Nutrition Surveillance Project is promoting improved techniques of food preparation and preservation through a series of trainings and resource materials that target a wide range of actors, including NGO staff and local community members. In promoting the preservation of meat through a simple process using locally available ghee, or animal fat, the project is helping families to maintain diets rich in protein during leaner periods. FSAU has also developed local language resources on the prevention of micronutrient deficiency disorders, such as iodine deficiency.

Conclusion

The Nutrition Surveillance Project's combination of consistent access, reliable information, and comprehensive analysis has made it a focal point for humanitarian response efforts in Somalia and a potential model for broader application across East Africa. Since 2000, the demand for FSAU nutrition data has grown steadily to include humanitarian organizations in Somalia and across the Horn of Africa, donors, U.N. agencies, and academic institutions, with nearly 150,000 users accessing the FSAU website each month in 2007. FSAU's co-location with FEWS NET in Nairobi has further facilitated the integration and dissemination of critical health and nutrition information provided by the Nutrition Surveillance Project and climate and essential warning reporting generated by FEWS NET. In the context of continuing insecurity, vulnerability, and uncertainty in Somalia, the Nutrition Surveillance Project is a critical resource. According to OFDA Regional Advisor Georgianna Platt, "FSAU's nutritional monitoring and early warning mechanisms in Somalia have been invaluable, providing critical information to donors and implementing partners that allows for effective humanitarian response."



An FSAU map depicts food security and humanitarian needs by region in Somalia (Courtesy of FSAU).

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO – Floods

In November 2006, two weeks of continuous heavy rain led to widespread flooding in and around Brazzaville, the capital of the Republic of the Congo (ROC). According to the Government of the ROC, flooding and subsequent landslides damaged numerous homes, killed 6 people, and displaced as many as 5,000 residents, primarily in the Brazzaville neighborhoods of Ngamakosso, Mama Mbouale, Mpila, and Kinsoundi.

On November 18, U.S. Ambassador Robert I. Weisberg declared a disaster due to the flooding and landslides. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville for the procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies, including food, safe drinking water, blankets, clothing, and kitchen sets.

Implementing Partners in the Republic of the Congo
International Partnership for Human Development

OFDA Assistance $50,000

SOMALIA – Complex Emergency

Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, and recurring cycles of flooding and drought have generated an ongoing complex emergency in Somalia. In FY 2007, violence between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government and militias associated with the Council of Islamic Courts compounded poor living conditions resulting from more than 16 years of civil strife and inter-clan conflicts. Ongoing conflict, piracy, and border security regulations hampered the ability of relief agencies to transport personnel and supplies into and within Somalia.

In FY 2007, continued cycles of flooding and drought increased food insecurity in the central and southern regions. Unusually heavy rainfall in October and November 2006 caused widespread flooding in south and central Somalia. As a result, Somalia was affected by outbreaks of water-related diseases—including more than 32,000 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) and more than 100 suspected cases of Rift Valley fever (RVF), according to WHO.

During the April–June main *gu* season, poorly distributed rains across southern and central Somalia resulted in decreased access to water for people and livestock as well as crop failure, according to FEWS NET. Due to failed crops, increased food prices, and disrupted livelihoods, vulnerable households continued to face poor food diversity and increased malnutrition. Between March and June, nutrition assessments conducted in Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Bay, and Gedo regions indicated global acute malnutrition (GAM) and crude mortality rates above emergency thresholds.

In FY 2007, the number of IDPs in Somalia fluctuated due to flooding and conflict. Approximately 255,000 people were displaced at the height of the flooding in late 2006. In addition, between February and August 2007, fighting in and around Mogadishu displaced an estimated 465,000 people. IDPs strained the limited resources of host communities recovering from repeated shocks of conflict, drought, and floods. As of August 2007, more than 1.5 million Somalis required

Members of local women's groups participate in OFDA-supported community gardening projects in Somalia (Courtesy of ADRA).

humanitarian assistance, representing a 50 percent increase since March 2007.

On October 5, 2006, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger redeclared a disaster in Somalia due to the ongoing complex emergency for the 18th consecutive year. As a result of increased humanitarian needs, from December 2006 to March 2007 the USG maintained a DART in Nairobi, Kenya, to monitor humanitarian conditions and coordinate with relief agencies operating in Somalia.

In FY 2007, OFDA provided a total of nearly $22.6 million to support relief programs in Somalia. OFDA's activities addressed the basic needs of the most vulnerable populations through activities in the sectors of food security and agriculture, economy and market systems, health, nutrition, coordination and information management, logistics, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

OFDA contributed more than $4.6 million for humanitarian interventions in agriculture and food security and economy and market systems. More than 181,000 Somalis benefited from agricultural and food security interventions, including the distribution of seeds and tools to support local seed systems, support for kitchen gardens to improve household diets, and the provision of fishing gear to improve food availability and generate income. An additional 137,000 Somalis benefited from economy and market systems programs, including cash-for-work activities to improve local purchasing power and road, market, and canal rehabilitation to stimulate agricultural productivity and economic activity.

OFDA provided nearly $11 million to support health, water, sanitation, and hygiene activities in Somalia. Nearly 470,000 Somalis benefited from emergency health activities, including AWD response activities and the provision of emergency health services to children and pregnant and lactating women. More than 788,000 Somalis benefited from water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions, including activities such as rehabilitating water systems and constructing latrines.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Somalia through FFP, OTI, and the Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM). FFP contributed more than 77,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, including cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, and corn-soya blend, to feed malnourished children and lactating women countrywide. OTI and CMM together provided $1.25 million to support peacebuilding efforts through the National Reconciliation Congress.

State/PRM provided nearly $25 million to organizations supporting Somali refugees and conflict-affected populations in Somalia. This funding supported refugee feeding programs and shelter, protection, and emergency relief activities benefitting refugees in Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Somalia.

Implementing Partners in Somalia
ADRA, CARE, FAO, Horn Relief, ICRC, IMC, Mercy Corps, OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and World Vision

OFDA Assistance $22,577,844

FACTOID

A resurgence of pirating in Somalia's coastal waters negatively impacted humanitarian relief efforts in FY 2007, as relief agencies rely on commercial shipping services to transport large quantities of emergency food aid to Somalia from Yemen, Kenya, and other international ports. Alternative overland routes increase transport costs and lead to significant delays of food distributions during rainy seasons when floods damage roads and bridges.

SUDAN – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, Sudan continued to experience concurrent humanitarian challenges in at least three separate regions of the country. Two years since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which ended the two-decade North-South war in Sudan, displaced populations had begun to return home and rebuild livelihoods. In Southern Sudan, efforts to transition from relief to development continued as an estimated half a million people displaced from decades of fighting returned to areas of origin in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas. However, the large influxes of returnees further strained scarce resources in many areas of Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.

In Darfur, the humanitarian emergency escalated in FY 2007 with more than 200,000 people newly displaced, bringing the total IDP population to 2.2 million. Additionally, conditions for the humanitarian response worsened with attacks targeting aid agencies, ongoing bureaucratic impediments imposed by Sudanese government officials that delayed relief activities, and reduction in access to beneficiaries due to widespread insecurity. Despite these challenges, U.N. agencies and NGOs continued to provide assistance to the 4.2 million conflict-affected people in Sudan's western region.

With the signing of the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement in October 2006, security improved in eastern Sudan during FY 2007, but humanitarian conditions remained poor due to the lack of development opportunities in the region. Poor access to eastern Sudan continued to pose challenges to the implementation of humanitarian programs.

A displaced woman collects water from an OFDA-funded water point in Zalingei, Sudan (Photo by Jane Strachan, USAID).

On October 16, 2006, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Cameron R. Hume redeclared a disaster due to the complex emergency in Sudan. On April 14, 2007, Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi E. Frazer, and Special Assistant to the President for African Affairs at the National Security Council Bobby Pittman, Jr., visited USAID programs in IDP camps in North Darfur.

In response to the complex emergency, OFDA provided more than $162.9 million to support the humanitarian operation in Darfur, as well as relief programs in Southern Sudan, the Three Areas, and eastern Sudan in FY 2007. OFDA funding in Darfur provided for the basic needs of populations living in IDP camps and supported humanitarian programs for host communities and conflict-affected rural populations. In FY 2007, OFDA funded approximately 40 emergency feeding centers located primarily in Darfur that provided supplementary feeding and medical treatment for the malnourished. In Southern Sudan, OFDA funding priorities included health, food security and agriculture, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Approximately 300 OFDA-funded health facilities in Southern Sudan, the Three Areas, and eastern Sudan provided life-saving services to vulnerable populations. In addition, OFDA supported organized returns programs to transport returnees from northern Sudan to Southern Sudan and also assisted those displaced within southern states to return to their areas of origin. OFDA prioritized funding for community-based relief projects targeting areas receiving the highest levels of returnees in order to prevent conflict and ensure successful community reintegration.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Sudan through FFP and OTI. FFP contributed nearly 355,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance for Darfur, Southern Sudan, White Nile State, eastern Sudan, and the Three Areas. OTI supported peacebuilding and gender-based violence prevention activities through small grants countrywide, as well as conflict prevention programs in Jonglei and Upper Nile states. In addition, OFDA worked with OTI, FFP, and USAID/Sudan to transition from relief programs to more development-

IDP youth construct latrine slabs in Kass, Sudan, as part of an OFDA-funded livelihoods program (Photo by Laura Chapman, USAID).

oriented programs that can be handed over to other agencies and local authorities in Southern Sudan.

In FY 2007, State/PRM continued to provide assistance for IDPs and refugees in Darfur, as well as support for refugee reintegration, gender-based violence prevention, protection, and repatriation in other areas of Sudan.

Implementing Partners in Sudan
AAH/USA, ACF, ACTED, ADRA, ARC, AVSI, CARE, CRS, CHF International, Christian Mission Aid (CMA), Concern, CRS, FAO, FHI, GOAL, IMC, IOM, IRC, Medair, Mercy Corps, Merlin, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Oxfam, Pact, Relief International, Samaritan's Purse, SC/US, Solidarités, Tearfund, UMCOR, UNDP, U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), U.N. Environmental Program (UNEP), UNHCR, UNICEF, UNJLC, OCHA, VSF/B, WFP, WHO, World Relief, World Vision, and ZOA Refugee Care

OFDA Assistance $162,946,362

Floods

Unseasonably heavy rainfall in northern, eastern, and southern regions of Sudan resulted in flooding that affected 15 out of 25 states in 2007. The flooding that began in late June 2007 affected more than 410,000 people countrywide and resulted in 64 deaths and 335 injuries.

On July 19, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Alberto M. Fernandez declared a disaster due to the effects of flooding in Sudan. In response, OFDA airlifted 1,300 rolls of plastic sheeting, valued at $603,488, to assist approximately 78,000 flood-affected individuals in northern Sudan. In Southern Sudan, OFDA provided relief commodities and support for logistics and transportation of relief commodities, as well as support for emergency programs in health, water, sanitation, and hygiene through the U.N. Emergency Response Fund for Sudan. USAID staff assessed flood-affected areas in Khartoum, Kassala, Northern Kordofan, Unity, Upper Nile, and Jonglei states.

USAID also responded to flooding through FFP, which provided more than 200 MT of P.L. Title II emergency food assistance and enabled an expanded two-month humanitarian air operation.

Implementing Partners in Sudan
NPA, OCHA, and UNDP

OFDA Assistance $1,603,047

Individuals help offload 1,300 rolls of plastic sheeting airlifted by OFDA to Khartoum, enough to provide temporary shelter for approximately 78,000 flood-affected people in Sudan (Photo by Taylor Stager, USAID).

At the Forefront: OFDA Advocates for IDP Assistance in Eastern Chad

Taylor Stager

A Scene Too Familiar

In November 2006, more than three years after the crisis in Darfur began, new reports of Arab militia attacks started to emerge out of eastern Chad. News stories of armed men on horseback burning villages harkened back to images of the early stages the Darfur conflict. Approximately 60,000 Chadians were displaced in early 2006 due to localized fighting between government forces and opposition groups. However, the introduction of Darfur-like Arab militia attacks raised fears that the Chadian conflict could escalate as rapidly as the Darfur conflict had, potentially causing large-scale displacement.

IDP Mandate in Action

USAID is the lead agency tasked with coordinating USG assistance to IDPs worldwide, and OFDA's mandate often places the office at the center of IDP responses. In early 2006, OFDA partners began assisting Chadian IDPs, many of whom sought refuge with family members near their hometowns and required minimal assistance. Later in the year, with the situation worsening in neighboring Darfur and the humanitarian community in eastern Chad focused on supporting 234,000 Sudanese refugees, OFDA recognized that capacity to assist new IDPs was limited. Nearly all humanitarian resources in Chad were devoted to sustaining the lifeline for the 12 camps housing Sudanese refugees, and reporting on the IDPs remained scarce. As the IDP population in eastern Chad climbed to 112,000 in January 2007, OFDA was a leader in advocating for expanded assistance tailored to the needs of the IDP population.

OFDA airlifts plastic sheeting, water containers, and blankets for 20,000 newly displaced people in Dar Sila and Assoungha departments of eastern Chad (Photo by David Lillie, USAID).

An OFDA program provides agricultural tools and seeds to IDPs like this woman in eastern Chad (Photo by Jack Myer, USAID).

OFDA on the Ground

In January, USAID deployed an assessment team to eastern Chad to investigate conditions, report on the humanitarian situation, and make programming recommendations. Laden with equipment to facilitate communication from the remote desert of eastern Chad, the team traveled to refugee and IDP sites near the towns of Abeche, Farchana, Iriba, and Bahai. Through its assessments, team members learned that many IDPs had fled rapidly with few belongings and had no place to sleep during the cold nights. At the team's recommendation, OFDA rapidly mobilized to airlift plastic sheeting, water containers, and blankets for 20,000 new IDPs in Dar Sila and Assoungha departments.

"It was invaluable for us to witness firsthand the emerging crisis to determine how to provide the best assistance those in greatest need," said team leader Kate Farnsworth. "Many families did not have time to gather supplies before leaving their homes. The blankets and plastic sheeting OFDA provided protected thousands of people from the harsh elements in the region."

Leadership on All Fronts

Upon returning to Washington, the team urged the international community to increase assistance to the IDPs. OFDA staff who participated in the assessment presented their findings to representatives from State, Congress, and the NGO network InterAction, and briefed U.N. staff in New York. OFDA also continued to issue regular public reports on the humanitarian situation in eastern Chad.

OFDA led action at the field level, deploying a field officer in early March and becoming the first international donor to maintain a humanitarian presence in the region. OFDA more than doubled its eastern Chad budget, which grew from approximately $3.9 million in FY 2006 to approximately $8.7 million in FY 2007, with the additional $4.8 million in assistance specifically designated for IDPs. As part of this increase, OFDA provided $1,000,000 to OCHA to help open offices in the IDP centers of Goz Beida, Abeche, and Farchana so that OCHA could prioritize and coordinate assistance for IDPs.

OFDA intensified its efforts as the number of IDPs continued to rise: 140,000 in April; 179,000 in August. OFDA's programs expanded to provide a full assistance package to IDPs. OFDA-funded water points, latrines, shelter materials, household supplies, and health, nutrition, and protection services became available in many IDP centers. OFDA partners distributed seeds and tools to help IDPs and host communities plant crops.

Advocacy and Action Yield Results

As the result of OFDA's advocacy and action, nearly 180,000 IDPs in Chad now have better access to life-saving services and other assistance to ease the difficulty of displacement. In Chad and throughout the world, OFDA will continue to lead efforts to assist IDPs.

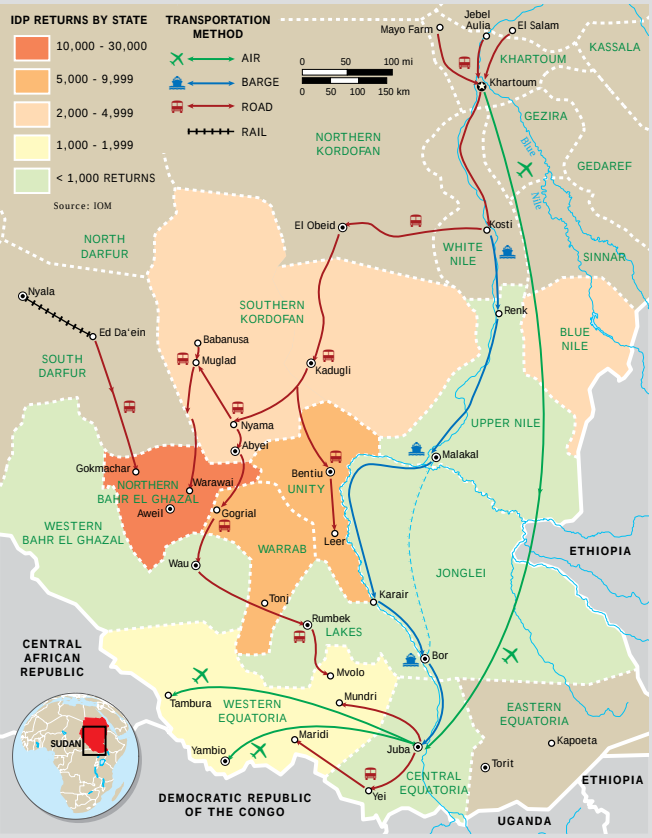
OFDA programs in eastern Chad focus on protection of children and vulnerable groups (Photo by Stan Stalla, USAID).

By Road, Plane, and Barge: OFDA Assists Displaced Southern Sudanese to Return Home

Tiaré Cross

Since 2005, hundreds of thousands of Sudanese people have embarked on a journey of more than 1,000 km, traveling by bus, truck, plane, and barge to return home after decades of internal displacement. In the two years since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which ended the North-South conflict, Sudanese have grappled with how to rebuild a war-torn country, heal divided communities, and resume pre-war lifestyles. An estimated 500,000 displaced Sudanese returned home in 2005 and 2006, but 3.7 million people remain internally displaced. In 2007, aid agencies expected an additional 500,000 Sudanese to return to their areas of origin in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas,[1] either independently or through organized return programs. To ensure safe passage and successful reintegration, OFDA provided $4.5 million in FY 2007 to IOM's organized returns program, as well as funding to other partners to build and repair water points, increase food security, expand livelihood options, and provide health care in communities receiving returnees.

IDP Returns to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas



Getting Ready

Before the journey begins, families gather at an IOM departure center on the outskirts of Khartoum and receive medical screening and children receive vaccinations. Anyone who is ill receives medical treatment before traveling, as the trip is long and arduous. After medical screening, families receive enough food and relief supplies to last until they arrive at their destination.

Different Routes Home

The most common return route is to travel from Khartoum to Abyei in buses or trucks, with a stopover at the Kosti way station in White Nile State. From Abyei, many families travel to other states in Southern Sudan. IOM transports the returnees to the nearest town, and the returnees often have to walk the remaining distance to rural villages. However, some returnees travel the majority of the distance on a barge from Kosti to Juba, Central Equatoria State, which can take as long as 21 days. During the rainy season when roads are impassible, IOM transports returnees home by airplane. Although air operations are costly, for some remote locations in Southern Sudan they are the only feasible way to bring people home. Some groups began their journey by boarding a train from South Darfur and eventually continuing to Northern Bahr el Ghazal State via road.

Assistance Provided at Final Destination

Under IOM's program, returnees arriving at their final destination receive a three-month food ration from

Lucia, pictured with her family at Wau way station, is traveling to her village of Bazia in Western Bahr el Ghazal State after 18 years of making a living selling tea and sewing in Khartoum. She decided to return to Southern Sudan to care for her ailing father and because life in Khartoum was difficult (Photo by David Lillie, USAID).

1 The Three Areas refers to the Abyei Area, Southern Kordofan State, and Blue Nile State.

WFP and seeds and tools from FAO. The most vulnerable households also receive relief items such as blankets, plastic sheeting, and cooking utensils. Even if a family has returned unassisted, they can receive food and other relief commodities upon registration with the Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Center (SSRRC). Through IOM, OFDA is supporting the development of SSRRC reception centers in five strategic locations in Southern Sudan to ensure that spontaneous returnees are recorded and receive assistance.

Rebuilding and Reintegrating

Upon arrival home, families confront the tremendous challenge of rebuilding homes and livelihoods, as well as reintegrating into communities that they left decades ago. During the more than two decades of civil war, schools, health facilities, and water sources were destroyed by fighting and years of neglect. Throughout Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, OFDA partners operate health care centers, drill additional boreholes, provide livelihood skills training, and improve water and sanitation facilities. OFDA's community-based approach aims to ensure that people who have returned home are able to resettle, reintegrate, and rebuild. In some cases, OFDA partners use a cash-for-work approach to inject cash into the economy, complete community improvement projects, and build traditional household structures called *tukuls* for returnees to inhabit. In 2007, OFDA partner Mercy Corps completed nine "Return to Home" projects in Abyei, involving construction of 135 *tukuls*, 9 community centers, and 18 pit latrines, using local materials and cash-for-work methodology. The project injected a total of $47,700 into Abyei town's economy and employed 400 returnees. Through other OFDA-funded programs, returnees learn new skills in carpentry, beekeeping, baking, brickmaking, and small business management. Several programs even provide small grants to the trainees to start-up their own business upon return home.

Although the civil war has ended, for many the real challenges are only beginning, but most people are just happy to be home. Even though many have come home, millions of displaced people within Sudan are still waiting to return. Many people are waiting to see if their villages remain secure, some are saving up cash for the journey, and others worry that their families will not have enough food, water, or health services back at home. OFDA remains committed to helping those who are ready to make the journey home, as well as working to improve basic community services so that others will have a future to return to when they are ready.

With an estimated 24.5 million IDPs worldwide in 2006, OFDA continues to respond to internal displacement around the globe, providing relief supplies, health care, shelter, and other basic services, as well as helping to ensure that vulnerable groups are protected from violence and exploitation.

Zacharia, above, left his home town when he was six years old. Now 26, Zacharia returned home on July 11 on the first IOM flight bringing returnees from Khartoum to Yambio, Western Equatoria State. Upon reaching home in Yambio, he hopes to find his parents, whom he has not seen for 20 years (Courtesy of IOM).

In 1989, Jounis, at right, fled with her family from Wounduruba village in Lainya County, Central Equatoria State, first to Juba and then to Khartoum. She arrived in Khartoum with few belongings and spent the next 15 years living in an IDP camp, where she gave birth to both of her daughters. When asked how she felt about returning to Southern Sudan, Jounis said, "Now it will be a new life, a new phase of my life, tomorrow I will see my people. I will be catching up after all these years. I am very happy. I am proud to go. We will face problems, but we will tolerate them. We will build houses and cultivate." (Courtesy of IOM).

SWAZILAND – Drought

A prolonged dry spell and high temperatures during the 2006/2007 agricultural growing season resulted in the worst recorded maize crop failure in recent Swazi history. The crop failure, combined with high food prices, the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, and several consecutive years of below normal harvests, resulted in heightened food insecurity during FY 2007. FAO and WFP reported that the 2006/2007 crop production only met approximately 13 percent of Swaziland's food requirement. An estimated 407,000 people, or 40 percent of the country's population, faced food shortages and required food assistance. On June 6, 2007, the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland declared a national drought disaster and appealed for international assistance.

On June 19, 2007, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Lynn A. Allison declared a disaster in Swaziland due to drought and food insecurity. Throughout FY 2007, USAID teams traveled to affected areas to assess humanitarian conditions and monitor the food security situation.

In response to emergency needs, OFDA provided more than $380,000 to support 62,000 vulnerable households through improved provision of water for communities, rehabilitation of water supply facilities for agriculture activities, and the promotion of rainwater harvesting and conservation technologies. OFDA also supported the repair and replacement of 47 existing non-functioning water points, which benefited more than 10,000 people.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Lesotho through FFP, which contributed 8,720 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.

Implementing Partners in Swaziland
FAO and IRD

OFDA Assistance $384,400

UGANDA – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, after two decades of conflict, the Government of Uganda (GOU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) continued to make slow progress toward peace. Despite the temporary suspension of peace talks, the GOU and LRA largely respected ceasefire agreements. As a result, security improved throughout northern Uganda, and IDPs increasingly departed camps to move closer to areas of origin.

Northern Uganda's IDP camp population declined by 50 percent—from 1.8 million at the end of 2005 to 916,000 in May 2007. Approximately 540,000 returned home, mostly to areas in Lango sub-region, while more than 380,000 others relocated to new, less congested camp sites located closer to their villages of origin in Acholi and Teso sub-regions. Humanitarian organizations were challenged to maintain emergency services in camps while supporting new services and recovery efforts in return and transit areas.

Access to farmland improved throughout northern Uganda, challenging relief agencies to support efforts to reestablish livelihoods. In Acholi sub-region, the country's most insecure area, access to farmland increased by 40 percent, according to OCHA. Remaining camp residents were able to farm more land due to a reduced camp population and an enlarged security perimeter. Most IDPs who returned home or relocated closer to their villages of origin were able to farm their original lands. In both cases, increased access to land improved food security.

On October 2, 2006, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Andrew G. Chritton reissued a disaster declaration in response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in northern Uganda. Throughout FY 2007, OFDA staff monitored programs from USAID's newly-established sub-office

FACTOID

Swaziland is experiencing one of the most severe HIV/AIDS epidemics in the world. According to UNAIDS's 2006 Report, the country has an HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 33.4 percent–the highest in the world. The epidemic has affected the small kingdom in dramatic ways. Approximately 50,000 children have lost one or both parents as a direct result of AIDS, and 60 percent of hospital admissions are due to HIV/AIDS-related illnesses. The majority of deaths occur among people aged 15–49, the nation's most productive population segment. In the last decade, life expectancy at birth has dropped from 51 years to 39.4 years as a direct result of HIV/AIDS.

OFDA programs provide potable water to displaced families in northern Uganda (Photo by Al Dwyer, USAID).

in Gulu. In addition, multiple USAID assessment teams traveled to affected areas to review progress in the return process and examine the potential to transition from relief to development programs.

OFDA provided nearly $12.8 million to support emergency programs in the sectors of water, sanitation, and hygiene; agriculture and food security; protection; humanitarian coordination and information management; and infrastructure rehabilitation. OFDA activities provided services in established camps as well as in new sites located in areas of origin, as part of OFDA's focus on sustainable returns.

OFDA directed a significant portion of its funding toward water, sanitation, and hygiene activities. Through multiple grants, OFDA partners rehabilitated springs, hand dug wells, and boreholes; installed water tanks and taps; constructed latrines and hand-washing facilities; and promoted improved hygiene and sanitation practices for more than 573,000 IDPs. OFDA-funded programs trained local staff to maintain water and sanitation equipment.

OFDA also funded small-scale food security and agriculture programs to enable approximately 800,000 camp residents and returnees to grow food and restart their livelihoods. OFDA supported both seed fairs and direct seed and tool distribution programs. OFDA also supported efforts to improve humanitarian coordination in order to best identify and meet needs in a constantly evolving situation. Other programs addressed sexual and gender-based violence, environmental health, and the distribution of relief supplies.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Uganda through FFP, which contributed 64,210 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance. In support of the return process, FFP resettlement packages provided three-month rations to 270,000 returnees in Gulu, Lira, and Pader districts.

In FY 2007, State/PRM continued to assist refugees and victims of conflict in Uganda through programs addressing protection, health, water and sanitation, gender-based violence, HIV/AIDS, and trafficking in persons.

Implementing Partners in Uganda
AAH/USA, Associates in Rural Development, AVSI, Cooperazione e Sviluppo, CRS, FAO, FHI, IRC, Lutheran World Relief, Medair, Mercy Corps, OCHA, UNICEF, and UNHCR

OFDA Assistance $12,779,280

Floods

Heavy rains from May to September 2007 led to flooding in Uganda's Teso Region, particularly affecting Katakwi and Amuria districts. Following an assessment conducted in early September, USAID estimated that the flooding affected 45,000 people, the majority of whom were subsistence farmers. The cumulative effects of the rainfall compromised the structural integrity of some mud homes, inundated latrines, and waterlogged fields. The USAID assessment team reported significant crop loss, minimal food reserves, and a lack of planting material for the upcoming agricultural season. On September 8, the GOU's Office of the Prime Minister requested international assistance to mitigate the effects of the flooding.

On September 14, U.S. Ambassador Steven A. Browning declared a disaster due to the impact of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 through USAID/Uganda for shelter and emergency water and sanitation activities for affected populations. In addi-

tion, OFDA provided $400,000 for agricultural inputs for affected populations.

Implementing Partners in Uganda
FAO and Ugandan Red Cross Society

OFDA Assistance $500,000

IDPs carry water from OFDA-funded wells in northern Uganda (Photo by Mary Beth Brennan, USAID).

ZAMBIA – Floods

Between January and April 2007, heavy rains led to flooding in areas of Central, Northern, North-Western, and Western provinces in Zambia. According to international media reports, five people died as a result of the flooding. After conducting a rapid multi-sectoral flood impact assessment in late February, the Government of Zambia's Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) reported that the flooding resulted in the displacement of an estimated 65,000 people and caused significant damage to infrastructure and crops, negatively impacting local food security.

According to the DMMU, the floods affected 41 of the country's 72 districts, including 295,000 residents in need of immediate food assistance. More than 1.4 million people were indirectly affected and required assistance to rehabilitate damaged schools, homes, and roads. From February 12 to 23, an OFDA regional advisor traveled to Zambia, providing technical assistance to the DMMU in preparation for the rapid flood assessment.

On April 10, 2007, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Andrew A. Passen declared a disaster due to the impact of the flooding in Zambia. In response to emergency needs, OFDA provided more than $280,000 to support agricultural and food security recovery and the distribution of emergency relief supplies. To strengthen the food security and livelihoods of 28,000 flood-affected vulnerable beneficiaries, OFDA partners provided agricultural inputs and tools, including seeds and fertilizer, and training in conservation farming.

Implementing Partners in Zambia
Africare and Zambian Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $283,769

ZIMBABWE – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, conditions for the majority of Zimbabweans continued to deteriorate due to the declining access to basic services, the country's collapsing economy, and detrimental government policies. Displacement as a result of new and existing Government of Zimbabwe (GOZ) policies continued during the year, increasing vulnerability and poverty. High levels of food insecurity resulted in part from the GOZ's approach to land redistribution, which destroyed the country's formerly productive agricultural sector and resulted in a dramatic decline in domestic food production. The poor 2006/2007 agricultural season, hyperinflation, high unemployment, and declining access to basic social services exacerbated these conditions in FY 2007.

In June 2007, food security in Zimbabwe further worsened as a result of government policies to curb profiteering related to inflation. A GOZ order forcing manufacturers and retailers to cut the price of goods by 50 percent exacerbated existing shortages of food, basic commodities, and fuel available to the public.

On October 6, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Christopher W. Dell redeclared a disaster in Zimbabwe due to the ongoing complex emergency. Throughout FY 2007, USAID teams traveled to affected areas to assess humanitarian conditions.

In FY 2007, OFDA provided more than $1.6 million in response to the complex emergency in Zimbabwe. OFDA's funding supported vulnerable and displaced populations by strengthening livelihoods and providing assistance in the sectors of agriculture, food security, relief commodities, humanitarian coordination, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Through a consortium of NGOs and together with other international donors, OFDA contributed to livelihood recovery, improved economic capacity, and decreased food insecurity for 12,000 urban and peri-urban households in five provinces affected by Operation Murambatsvina. In addition, OFDA's partners supported displaced Zimbabweans through a multi-sectoral program that provided basic household and relief commodities, basic health services, and initiatives to protect vulnerable populations.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Zimbabwe through FFP, which contributed 175,460 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance.

OFDA Assistance $1,626,668

Drought

During the October 2006 to April 2007 agricultural season, poor rains and drought conditions, combined with lack of affordable agricultural inputs, resulted in widespread crop failure in southern Zimbabwe. The most affected provinces were Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, Midlands, Masvingo, and Manicaland. Experts estimated that the maize shortfalls left between one-third and one-half of the country's food requirements unmet. FAO and WFP reported that approximately 4.1 million people—more than one-third of Zimbabwe's estimated total population—required food assistance between October 2007 and March 2008.

The ability to maintain water and sanitation infrastructure remained a critical challenge throughout Zimbabwe, particularly in urban areas. Due to the GOZ's limited ability to finance imports, public authorities were unable to purchase sufficient quantities of raw materials, such as supplies and water treatment chemicals, to maintain water and sanitation systems. In addition, soap and other basic hygiene supplies were increasingly beyond the purchasing power of many poor Zimbabweans or simply unavailable in local markets.

A beneficiary participates in brick-making activities through an OFDA-funded livelihoods recovery program in Zimbabwe (Photo by Charles Setchell, USAID).

On June 11, 2007, U.S. Ambassador Christopher W. Dell declared a disaster due to the drought in Zimbabwe. In FY 2007, OFDA provided nearly $3.5 million to support food security and agricultural recovery, mitigate the impact of water and sanitation-related diseases, and increase the resilience and coping capacity of vulnerable groups.

OFDA partners managed agriculture and livelihoods projects that benefited more than 63,000 people through improved land management approaches, such as the expansion of rainwater collection systems, training on conservation farming, creation of fodder banks, and improvement of livestock health, as well as the establishment of goat production for income generation. To reduce vulnerability to water and sanitation-related diseases, OFDA partners supported more than 270,000 people through the provision of basic hygiene items, public health promotion activities, and increased access to potable water and sanitation facilities.

OFDA Assistance $3,469,594

Tackling Food Insecurity and Promoting Developmental Relief in Southern Africa

Alexandra Riboul

Since 2001, several countries in Southern Africa have experienced heightened food insecurity due to adverse climatic conditions, chronic poverty, and the impact of HIV/AIDS. In response to the region's growing vulnerability, OFDA has promoted developmental relief programs that meet the immediate emergency needs of drought-affected populations while addressing the challenges related to the underlying causes of food insecurity. By adopting a developmental relief approach, OFDA has provided short-term emergency assistance in a way that lays the foundation for future development initiatives. Whether by strengthening local capacity and resilience, supporting individual and community livelihoods diversification, or helping to mitigate the impact of future disasters in other ways, OFDA's developmental relief programs have not only helped vulnerable populations recover from the effects of drought, but also continue to benefit communities after the acute phase of a crisis has passed.

In Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia, OFDA funds a variety of programs that tackle the challenges faced by subsistence farmers through small-scale irrigation systems, livelihoods diversification, rainwater harvesting, and crop diversification. The following stories illustrate ways in which OFDA is helping to decrease dependence on rain-fed agriculture and maize while strengthening resilience to withstand recurring droughts.

Dairy Cows, Treadle Water Pumps, and Sweet Potatoes: Supporting Agricultural Recovery and Diversifying Livelihoods

Malawi

Like most Malawians, Symon and Alefa Mateyu are smallholder farmers who are unable to grow enough food to last the entire year. Most Malawian families depend on a single harvest of maize grown during the rainy season in small landholdings. In 2006, life began to improve for Symon, Alefa, and their family. Through the OFDA-funded Rehabilitation through Irrigation and Production Extension program, Symon, Alefa, and other members of their community received improved seed varieties, training in conservation farming, and material and technical assistance to construct a small-scale irrigation system. With this knowledge and technology, Symon and Alefa grew maize under irrigation during the dry season, which allowed them

Southern Africa's Achilles Heel: Dependence on Rain-Fed Agriculture and Maize

Most rural populations in Southern Africa are subsistence farmers who depend on rain to water their crops, which they use to feed their families and earn some cash for other household purchases. Because the region's staple food is maize (white corn), most of the land and agricultural resources are devoted to maize production. Other crops, such as cassava, millet, and sorghum, are grown on a smaller scale and serve to complement maize as food or as cash crops sold to purchase maize. However, maize is not drought-resistant and is highly susceptible to insufficient or poorly timed rains. In addition, until the early 20th century, maize was only used as a complement to millet and sorghum, which were Southern Africa's historical staple foods. Prolonged dry spells, erratic and inconsistent rains, or unusually hot weather can cause significant maize crop losses for subsistence farmers. Successive years of drought and other production shocks in many parts of Southern Africa have reduced crop productivity and undermined livelihoods, leaving farmers increasingly food insecure and vulnerable and making recovery more difficult.

Few smallholder farmers in the region use or have the technology to utilize harvested or ground water to irrigate crops. Those who irrigate crops do so only for small vegetable gardens and use water buckets, hand-dug wells, and a lot of back-breaking work. Without the technology to efficiently supply crops with sufficient water year-round or the technical assistance to adapt cropping to meet the challenges of increasing climate variability, drought-prone rural populations in Southern Africa are at the mercy of the weather.

to double their annual production and feed their family, selling the surplus in the local market. In just three months, Symon and Alefa made more than $200, a significant improvement from the average annual household income of $400 in Malawi.

On the whole, this program has helped 3,000 vulnerable subsistence farmers and their families in six chronically food insecure districts of Malawi. As part of the program—implemented by an NGO consortium that includes Africare, CARE, CRS, Emmanuel International, SC/US, and World Vision—farmers like Symon received training on agronomy and small-scale irrigation technologies, such as treadle pumps and gravity flow irrigation systems. The construction of irrigation structures, including canals, small dams, and rainwater harvesting embankments, has also benefited these communities.

Mozambique

The men and women of Liozuane community in Massinga District, Mozambique, had worked long hours for several months under the intense sun, digging with basic hand tools, moving soil and rocks, and laying cement. All the hard work paid off in September 2006 with the completion of the project: a water catchment area nearly the size of an Olympic swimming pool with the potential to hold 2.4 million liters of water. The catchment area—including filtration tanks, distribution systems, and water troughs for animals—allows the community to collect and preserve rainwater for use during the dry season.

Liozuane's water catchment area was one of eight built by communities that lacked a close, reliable, year-round source of safe water. Part of the multi-component Harvest Program funded by OFDA and implemented by IRD, the catchment areas benefit nearly 35,000 farmers in drought-prone Massinga District. In addition to expanding access to rainwater harvesting and small-scale irrigation, the program trained farmers to improve the production of drought-resistant crops. With improved varieties of seedlings, farmer groups planted 100 hectares of cassava and sweet potatoes. The program also provided cashew trees and pineapple suckers, which will generate income in future years.

Through an OFDA-funded project, community members worked together to build a water catchment area in Liozuane, Mozambique. The completed resevoir is nearly the size of an Olympic swimming pool (Top and center photos by Ian Moise, USAID; bottom photo courtesy of IRD).

A measure of the program's success has been the strong endorsement from the Government of the Republic of Mozambique (GRM). The Vice-Minister of Agriculture; agriculture directors from Maputo, Tete, and Cabo Delgado provinces; and other governmental authorities have visited the program. All recognized the important role of the communities in the project and hailed it as a success, expressing their interest in seeing it replicated in other areas. As part of the GRM's development plan, President Armando Guebuza has recommended that other drought-affected districts in the country construct water catchment areas like those in Massinga.

A family in Choma District, Zambia, benefits from an OFDA-funded treadle pump to irrigate dry-season crops (Photo by Alexandra Riboul, USAID).

Zambia

Peter Kawana, a farmer in Zambia's Southern Province, lost most of his crops in the 2004/2005 drought. The previous two years had already been difficult for Peter's family and others in Southern Province; drought and other production shocks had depleted family food stocks and reduced their savings. In April 2006, after graduating from the food aid program, Peter was selected to participate in the OFDA-funded Emergency Livelihoods Recovery in Zambia program, implemented by a consortium of NGOs including CARE, CRS, International Development Enterprises, Land O'Lakes International Development, and World Vision. Through the program, Peter gained new skills such as producing organic fertilizer, cultivating nutritionally-rich vegetables, setting up and maintaining appropriate small-scale irrigation systems, and using a treadle pump to irrigate his fields. With this training, a treadle pump, tools, and seeds, Peter planted a larger portion of his field during the dry season and, after feeding his family, sold surplus sweet potatoes and vegetables when most local markets' stocks were exhausted.

Like Peter, 3,000 other farmers received agronomy and crop management training and participated in either small-scale irrigation or dairy development projects. Beneficiaries received either drip irrigation kits or treadle pumps, which allowed them to plant a larger area of dry-season crops, such as onions, cabbages, rape, and eggplant, while also helping to reduce water waste. Due to the variety and availability of produce year-round, farmers and their families are healthier and are able to sell their surplus crops for additional income.

As part of the program's dairy development project, Land O'Lakes International Development trained beneficiaries in dairy management, cattle care, and animal feed production. Participants gained important skills by joining dairy farmer cooperatives and working with milk collection centers. After completing their training, beneficiaries received a pregnant cow. One year later, families gave the calf to another community member, ensuring that the program's benefits were shared by helping additional households transition from subsistence farming to sustainable dairy livelihoods. Dairy production has allowed beneficiaries to diversify their livelihoods through the sale of milk and to improve

OFDA-funded developmental relief programs help boost crop production and food security for farmers like Peter Kawana in Zambia's Southern Province (Photo by Alexandra Riboul, USAID).

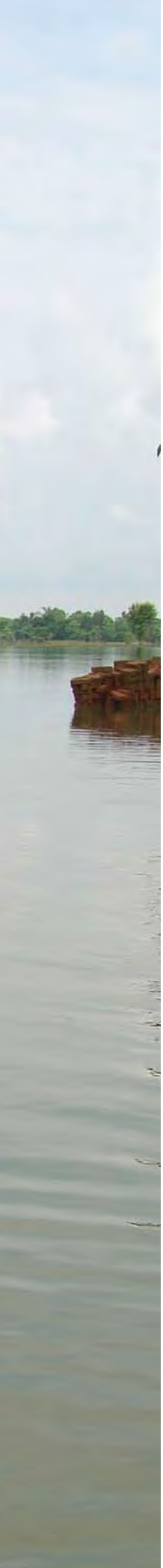
household nutrition through milk consumption, particularly during the hunger season.

The Way Ahead

The variety of OFDA-funded interventions in Southern Africa helps to enhance the coping mechanisms of vulnerable subsistence farmers and thus improve their families' food security. At the same time, these interventions benefit communities in the longer-term through increased productive capacity and strengthened resilience. In addition, through these developmental relief programs, OFDA is identifying best practices in water management and conservation farming to continue informing its developmental relief strategy throughout Africa. OFDA is sharing these best practices and successes with development partners and encouraging them to integrate disaster risk reduction into their long-term programs. Through this developmental relief approach, OFDA is more comprehensively fulfilling its mandate in response to recurring droughts and other future disasters in Southern Africa.

A drawing by program staff illustrates a gravity flow water system in Malawi (Photo by Chris Pratt, USAID).

Photo by Sue McIntyre, USAID



$22 million in **OFDA** assistance

21 OFDA responses in FY 2007

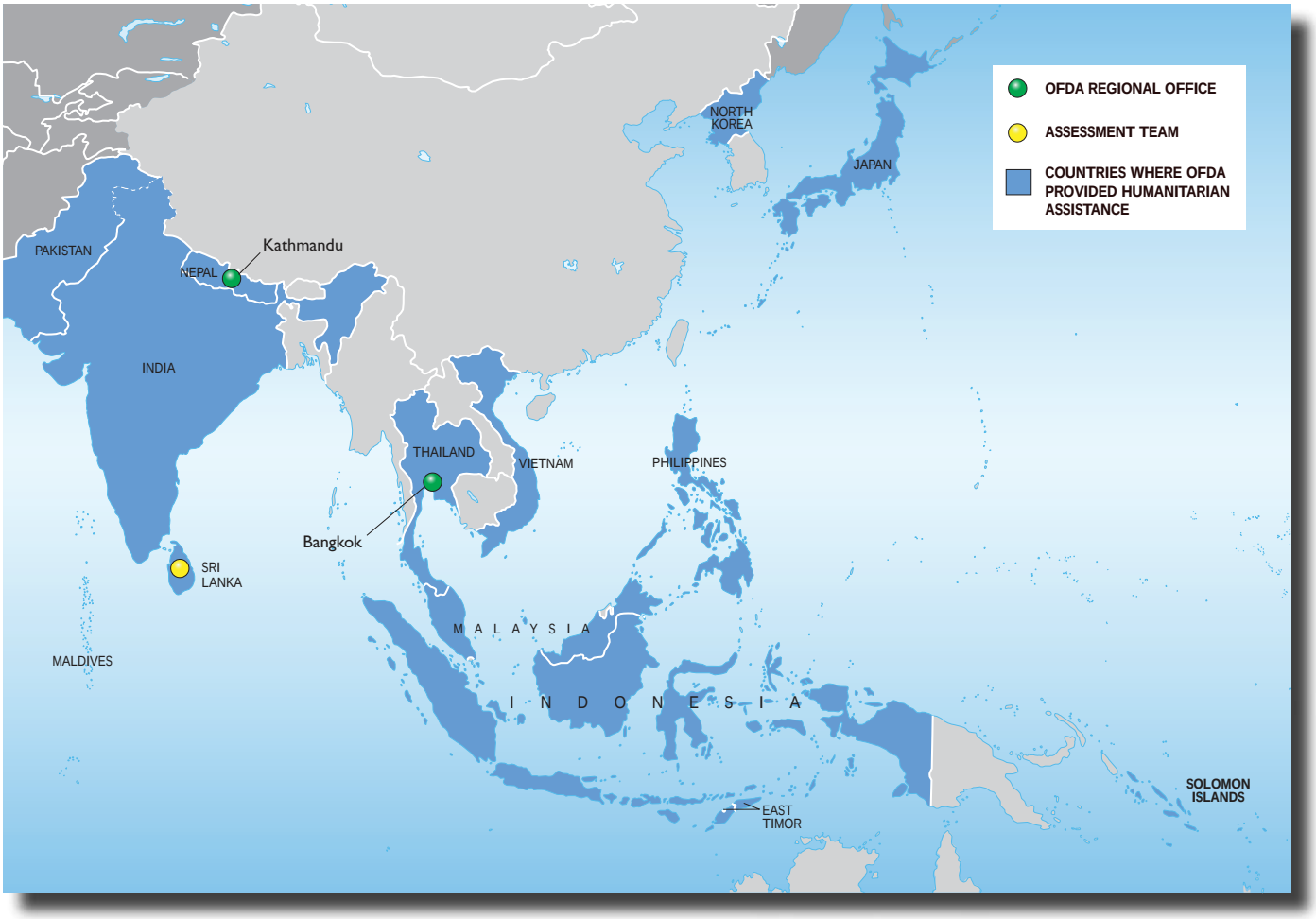
Floods in **8** countries

Regional offices in **2** countries

Assessment team deployed to **Sri Lanka**

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

OFDA REGIONAL RESPONSES AND PRESENCE IN FY 2007



OFDA responded to 21 disasters in 14 countries in Asia and the Pacific in FY 2007. Flooding affected India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Maldives, Nepal, North Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam. OFDA also responded to ongoing complex humanitarian emergencies in East Timor, Nepal, North Korea, and Sri Lanka.

In total, OFDA provided more than $22 million in funding for humanitarian programs in Asia and the Pacific in FY 2007. In response to declining humanitarian conditions and new displacement in Sri Lanka, OFDA deployed an assessment team. OFDA also maintained regional offices in Nepal and Thailand.

EAST TIMOR – Complex Emergency

In April 2006, the commander of East Timor's armed forces, with the support of the former Prime Minister, dismissed nearly 600 soldiers who were protesting alleged discrimination against military personnel from the western part of the country. Exacerbating existing political and social tensions, the dismissals resulted in riots, confrontations between the police and military forces, and subsequent clashes involving youth gangs.

At its height, the violence resulted in the displacement of approximately 150,000 East Timorese, according to the U.N. and humanitarian monitoring organizations. As of September 30, 2007, approximately 100,000 people remained displaced. Of this total, 30,000 IDPs sheltered in camps near the capital city of Dili, and an estimated 70,000 IDPs remained with host families and communities in other districts.

On December 19, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Grover Joseph Rees III redeclared a disaster due to the violence and resulting IDP situation in East Timor. OFDA provided nearly $1.2 million to support health, humanitarian coordination and information management, IDP assistance, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities in FY 2007.

USAID also responded to emergency needs through FFP and USAID/East Timor. FFP provided 2,260 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to WFP. USAID/East Timor funded protection and peacebuilding activities.

Implementing Partners in East Timor
CARE, CRS, and UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $1,197,566

INDIA – Floods

From June to August 2007, exceptionally heavy monsoon rains led to widespread flooding, significantly impacting 17 states in India. The floods killed more than 2,250 people and affected approximately 43 million others, according to the Government of India (GOI). Flooding particularly impacted Assam, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh states. The floods caused more than $2 billion in damages, and at the height of the emergency the GOI operated 1,325 relief camps to shelter nearly 1 million people.

On August 7, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Steven J. White declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/India to help meet the emergency needs of flood-affected populations. In addition, OFDA contributed $1

Flood-affected community members in Bihar Province, India, transport emergency food commodities (Photo by Sue McIntyre, USAID).

A member of an OFDA-funded medical team provides assistance to women in Indonesia (Courtesy of IMC).

million to support nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs in eight flood-affected districts in Bihar State. From August 10 to 20, an OFDA regional advisor traveled to India and conducted assessments in flood-affected areas in conjunction with USAID/India, GOI authorities, and humanitarian organizations.

Implementing Partners in India
Prime Minister's National Relief Fund and UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $1,050,000

INDONESIA – Multiple Emergencies

Floods

In mid-December 2006, heavy rains led to widespread flooding in Aceh, North Sumatra, and Riau provinces on the eastern side of Indonesia's Sumatra Island. According to OCHA, the flooding killed more than 260 people and displaced more than 300,000 in Aceh Province, where NGOs and international organizations continued to work on recovery programs following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. The flooding also killed 21 people and displaced 50,000 others in North Sumatra Province, and affected 592 families in Riau Province.

On December 26, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires John A. Heffern declared a disaster due to the impact of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 for emergency relief commodities for affected populations.

Implementing Partners in Indonesia
IFRC and Indonesian Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $100,000

Floods

In early February 2007, heavy rains flooded approximately 60 percent of Jakarta Province and parts of the neighboring Bekasi and Tangerang districts in Indonesia. The flooding resulted in 68 deaths and displaced more than 386,000 people. Flood waters as high as four meters inundated more than 100,000 houses and 1,498 schools. The flooding also disrupted telecommunications systems and electricity networks and blocked major roads and railways.

On February 5, U.S. Ambassador B. Lynn Pascoe declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $200,000 to support immediate relief efforts, the distribution of relief items, and the provision of water, sanitation, and hygiene services.

Implementing Partners in Indonesia
CARE, CRS, IMC, Indonesian Red Cross, Mercy Corps, National Board of Muhammadiyah, and World Vision

OFDA Assistance $200,000

Earthquakes

On March 6, 2007, two earthquakes of magnitude 6.4 and 6.3 stuck Indonesia's West Sumatra Province, causing 67 deaths and more than 460 serious injuries in six districts, according to OCHA. The earthquakes severely damaged more than 13,000 houses, displaced more than 136,000 people, and temporarily disrupted power supplies, telecommunications systems, and road networks in the affected areas.

On March 7, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires John A. Heffern declared a disaster due to the impact of the earthquakes. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 through USAID/Indonesia to support relief efforts, including the provision of hygiene kits, plastic sheeting, water containers, cooking utensils, and sleeping mats. In addition, through an existing OFDA preparedness arrangement with the Government of Indonesia, USAID supported the deployment of a mobile medical team in the affected area.

Implementing Partner in Indonesia
IMC and Mercy Corps

OFDA Assistance $100,000

Earthquake

On September 12, 2007, a magnitude 8.4 earthquake struck near the western coast of Sumatra, 80 miles southwest of Bengkulu City. The earthquake was followed by numerous aftershocks, including one of magnitude 7.9. The earthquakes killed 25 people, injured at least 100 others, and affected approximately 57,000 residents in West Sumatra and Bengkulu provinces. Assessments conducted by the Government of Indonesia indicated the earthquakes also destroyed nearly 18,000 houses and destroyed or severely damaged more than 950 educational and health facilities.

On September 14, U.S. Ambassador Cameron R. Hume declared a disaster due to the earthquake's impact. On September 14, the U.S. Consulate in Medan and USAID/Indonesia deployed a joint assessment team to Bengkulu Province. OFDA contributed $300,000 to support humanitarian activities in earthquake-affected areas. OFDA partners distributed emergency relief supplies to 10,000 households in Bengkulu and West Sumatra provinces. OFDA's assistance also benefited 2,500 households with increased access to safe drinking water and an additional 2,500 households with temporary shelter in Bengkulu Province. OFDA supported the provision of temporary shelter and construction kits for approximately 3,000 households in the Mentawai Islands. In addition, an OFDA implementing partner and a local counterpart organization deployed a 14-person mobile medical team to Bengkulu City through an existing OFDA preparedness grant.

Implementing Partners in Indonesia
CARE, IMC, and Mercy Corps

OFDA Assistance $300,000

An Indonesian family receives relief supplies and learns about clean water practices at home through an OFDA-funded program (Courtesy of CARE).

OFDA Disaster Risk Reduction Programs Pay Dividends in Bangladesh

Michael Keegan

In June 2007, heavy rainfall battered Bangladesh's second largest city, Chittagong, triggering a series of landslides and inundating coastal areas in the southeast of the country. Despite the ferocity of this initial monsoon storm, and the ensuing severe monsoon season, the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) and organizations working in the country had the capacity to respond without a formal appeal for international assistance, due in part to disaster risk reduction efforts supported by OFDA and other donors.

Bangladesh's Geographic Vulnerability to Floods and Storms

Bangladesh is one of the most flood-prone countries in the world. More than 250 rivers flow through the country, many of which originate in the snows of the Himalayan mountain range that stretches through Nepal, India, and Bhutan. Floods cover more than 20 percent of Bangladesh during the typical summer monsoon rains. In more severe monsoon seasons, water covers as much as 60 percent of the country. In the past century, floods and storms in Bangladesh have killed more than 650,000 people and affected more than 350 million others.

Given these vulnerabilities, OFDA has been working with the GOB for many years to prepare for and mitigate the effects of potential flooding, including programs in community-based flood monitoring and emergency flood preparedness, as well as regional capacity-building to improve forecasting. This preparation was tested in June 2007, as local authorities and organizations responded to landslides and flash floods that killed more than 120 people and affected at least 500,000 others. Nine feet of mud buried some of the most affected areas.

OFDA-Funded Disaster Risk Reduction Programs Respond

Among the first responders to the flooding, local fire service and civil defense personnel conducted search and rescue operations and helped to evacuate residents. These emergency responders had benefited from training through the OFDA-funded Program for Enhanced Emergency Response (PEER), which promotes disaster preparedness through the development of national and regional cadres of professional emergency response instructors. Ongoing throughout much of South Asia, PEER training includes medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness for mass casualties after a disaster.

Community volunteers trained through the Program for Hydrometeorological Risk Reduction in Asian Cities (PROMISE) also responded by assisting rescuers and apprising authorities of local conditions. In 2005, OFDA initiated PROMISE in five major cities vulnerable to flooding, including Chittagong. Implemented through the Bangladesh Disaster Management Center, the program trained community members who then formed disaster management committees in Chittagong's ten wards. Carried out in early 2007, this ward-based disaster risk management training improved communication between local authorities, NGOs, disaster management committee volunteers, and ward residents, and assisted in creating action plans and identifying vulnerabilities.

> Before the training, I always thought of myself and my family during a disaster, but now I think of others, particularly the disabled and vulnerable. Training made us think as "we" and not just "I".
>
> — PROMISE Participant, Chittagong, Bangladesh, July 21, 2007

In addition to these preparedness programs, six mobile water treatment units supplied potable water to those affected by the flooding and landslides throughout the monsoon season. Ten zodiac boats and ten water ambulances also provided vital transportation for both humanitarian workers and affected populations. This equipment had been pre-positioned with the NGOs CARE, SC/US, and World Vision in Bangladesh as part of an OFDA-supported program to improve the emergency response.

Flood-affected community members receive safe drinking water from an OFDA-funded mobile water treatment unit in Bangladesh (Courtesy of South Asia Partnership).

Disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives Aid Effective Response

As a result of these and other preparedness and mitigation initiatives, when the rains struck in June, the GOB and NGOs in Bangladesh were able to respond quickly and effectively without extensive international assistance. The fact that no OFDA emergency relief response was necessary for the June storm represents a significant indicator of the success and sustainability of disaster risk reduction programs in Bangladesh.

Note:

OFDA disaster risk reduction programs also contributed to mitigation and early response efforts following Cylone Sidr in November 2007, which will be described in the FY 2008 Annual Report.

For more information, please refer to the Bangladesh fact sheets, available on the USAID website at:

www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance

JAPAN – Earthquake

On July 16, 2007, a magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck Niigata Prefecture, located 150 miles north of Tokyo in central Japan. The earthquake resulted in 9 deaths and as many as 1,000 injuries and damaged more than 700 houses, leading to the evacuation of approximately 13,000 people. The earthquake also caused landslides, widespread power failure, and water shortages. Numerous aftershocks followed the quake.

On July 17, U.S. Ambassador John T. Schieffer declared a disaster due to the impact of the earthquake. In response, OFDA contributed $100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to support local NGOs' relief efforts through a Japanese humanitarian organization.

Implementing Partner in Japan
Japan Platform

OFDA Assistance $100,000

FACTOID

Approximately 20 percent of the world's earthquakes of magnitude 6 or greater occur in Japan, which is situated on the "Ring of Fire" arc of volcanoes and ocean trenches that partly encircles the Pacific Basin. A tremor occurs in Japan at least every five minutes, and each year up to 2,000 quakes can be felt in the country.

MALAYSIA – Floods

Beginning in December 2006, heavy rains resulted in some of the worst flooding in Malaysia in more than a century. The rains particularly affected the southern states of Johor and Pahang. Additional extensive rainfall in mid-January 2007 triggered severe flooding in southern peninsular Malaysia, with some areas submerged under three meters of water. According to the Government of Malaysia, the flooding killed 17 people, affected approximately 137,500 others, and caused more than $28.6 million in property damage.

On January 17, U.S. Ambassador Christopher J. LaFleur declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to support emergency relief efforts, including the local purchase of relief supplies, related logistical support, and assistance for the return and initial recovery of flood-affected populations.

Implementing Partner in Malaysia
Malaysian Red Crescent Society

OFDA Assistance $50,000

MALDIVES – Floods

From May 15 to 17, 2007, seasonal high tides and large waves exacerbated by intense winds flooded at least 68 of the 194 inhabited islands in the Maldives. According to OCHA, the floods did not cause any deaths, but damaged 579 houses and displaced 1,650 people. Flood waters also affected local infrastructure, water supplies, and crops on many islands. The flooding was the most widespread on record, apart from the December 2004 tsunami, according to the Government of the Maldives.

On May 22, U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives Robert O. Blake declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 for emergency water, sanitation, and hygiene services for affected populations.

Implementing Partner in the Maldives
UNICEF

OFDA Assistance $100,000

NEPAL – Multiple Emergencies

Complex Emergency

From 1996 to 2006, civil conflict between the Government of Nepal (GON) and the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) resulted in 13,000 deaths and the displacement of 200,000 people, according to humanitarian organizations. The U.N. reported that as many as 70,000 IDPs and 130,000 refugees, including approximately 107,000 refugees from Bhutan, remained in Nepal as of July 2007.

In January 2007, the CPN-M and the Seven Party Alliance (SPA), a coalition of democratic political par-

ties, agreed to an interim constitution. On April 1, the CPN-M and the SPA formed an interim government.

In early 2007, groups of Madhesis, who consider themselves to be the indigenous people of the southern plains, or Terai Region, carried out protests and blocked roads to voice discontent with the interim constitution and alleged long-standing discrimination by Pahadis, or those of hill origin. Violence continued in the Terai Region for much of 2007. Insecurity and intimidation in the Terai Region impeded humanitarian organizations and the GON from delivering services to affected populations.

On October 11, 2006, U.S. Ambassador James F. Moriarty redeclared a disaster due to ongoing humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. In FY 2007, OFDA allocated more than $4.7 million for IDPs and other conflict-affected populations. With OFDA funding, partners provided relief commodities and implemented programs in agriculture and food security, protection, logistics, humanitarian coordination and information management, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

USAID also provided assistance through FFP and OTI. FFP provided 6,470 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to WFP. OTI supported a small grants program in Nepal to bolster the current peace process and strengthen governance mechanisms.

In addition, State/PRM supported protection and refugee assistance activities for Bhutanese and Tibetan populations in Nepal.

Implementing Partners in Nepal
IRC, NRC, OCHA, SC/US, UNHCR, and WFP

OFDA Assistance $4,753,428

Floods and Landslides

In July 2007, heavy monsoon rains led to extensive flooding and landslides, severely affecting 47 of Nepal's 75 districts, according to the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS). The floods and landslides killed at least 146 people, affected approximately 460,000 others, and destroyed nearly 25,000 houses. NRCS surveys indicated particularly severe flooding in the plains districts of Banke, Bardiya, and Kailali in the west, as well as Dhanusa, Saptari, Siraha, and Udayapur in the east. Political groups and flood-affected individuals also engaged in strikes and blockades, preventing assistance from reaching some affected communities, according to OCHA.

Beneficiaries of an OFDA-funded food distribution gather in Humla District, Nepal (Photo by Sue McIntyre, USAID).

On July 31, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Robert L. Hugins declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and landslides. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Nepal for the local purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies. In addition, OFDA partners distributed flood relief supplies pre-positioned through an existing OFDA-funded preparedness program. In conjunction with USAID/Nepal and implementing partners, an OFDA regional advisor also traveled to affected areas to monitor program activities.

Implementing Partners in Nepal
NRCS and SC/US

OFDA Assistance $50,000

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA – Multiple Emergencies

Floods

In August 2007, heavy rains caused severe flooding in nine provinces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), including the capital city of Pyongyang. The floods killed 454 people, displaced nearly 170,000 others, and affected nearly one million residents. Rising flood waters damaged or destroyed 241,251 houses, thousands of schools and hospitals,

and other public buildings. Flood waters inundated at least 10 percent of agricultural land countrywide.

On August 16, USAID authorized $100,000 in OFDA assistance for affected populations in the DPRK. Through implementing partners, OFDA supported the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, including blankets, water containers, and shelter materials, to assist approximately 83,000 people.

Implementing Partners in DPRK
Mercy Corps and Samaritan's Purse

OFDA Assistance $100,000

Complex Emergency

In recent years, food shortages and natural disasters, including widespread flooding in August 2007, have exacerbated conditions for vulnerable populations in DPRK. These problems have placed additional strains on the public health care system by increasing the need for health care, particularly in remote areas.

OFDA provided implementing partners more than $4 million to assist affected populations. In two phases, partner organizations are supplying hospitals in several DPRK provinces with basic medical equipment and supplies, power generators, and energy resources to benefit more than 450,000 people.

Implementing Partners in DPRK
Eugene Bell Foundation, Global Resource Services, Mercy Corps, and Samaritan's Purse

OFDA Assistance $4,000,006

PAKISTAN – Cyclone

On June 23, 2007, Tropical Cyclone Yemyin resulted in high winds, heavy rains, and flash flooding near the coastal areas of Sindh and Balochistan provinces in southern Pakistan. The cyclone killed 420 people, displaced more than 300,000 others, and affected an estimated 2.5 million people. According to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, flood waters severely disrupted commercial and port activities in the city of Karachi, damaged cotton and cash crops in Sindh Province, and undermined local livelihoods in the livestock and fisheries industries.

On July 1, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Anne W. Patterson requested that OFDA provide humanitarian assistance on behalf of the U.S. Government to those affected by the cyclone in Pakistan. In response, OFDA provided more than $1.9 million to support emergency shelter and water and sanitation activities, as well as the distribution of emergency relief commodities to affected populations.

Implementing Partners in Pakistan
ARC, CRS, and Mercy Corps

OFDA Assistance.....$1,942,107[1]

PHILIPPINES – Typhoon

On November 30, 2006, Typhoon Durian (also known as Typhoon Reming) struck the southern Luzon Region of the Philippines with sustained winds of approximately 120 mph and gusts of up to 140 mph. Classified as a super typhoon, the storm affected nearly 3.2 million people in 14 provinces. Torrential rains and mudslides, particularly in the area of the Mount Mayon volcano, left more than 1,400 people dead or missing and injured more than 2,100 others. According to the Philippines' National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), the typhoon damaged more than 542,000 homes and forced approximately 96,000 people to

An OFDA-funded program helps cyclone-affected families construct transitional housing in Pakistan (Courtesy of CRS).

[1] In response to the cyclone and ensuing floods in Pakistan, OFDA provided a total of more than $3.5 million, including nearly $1.6 million in FY 2008 disaster funds.

seek refuge in 531 evacuation centers. In total, the NDCC estimated that the typhoon caused more than $112 million in damages.

On December 4, U.S. Ambassador Kristie A. Kenney declared a disaster due to the effects of Typhoon Durian. In response, OFDA provided $250,000 for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies to affected areas. OFDA also airlifted relief commodities, valued at more than $346,000, including transport, to meet the needs of approximately 7,000 families. These commodities included 7,008 hygiene kits, 250 rolls of plastic sheeting for temporary shelter, and 7,600 ten-liter water containers.

Implementing Partners in the Philippines
Philippine National Red Cross Society and World Vision

OFDA Assistance ..... $466,113[2]

A resident of southern Luzon Region surveys the damage from Typhoon Durian (Courtesy of USAID/Philippines).

SOLOMON ISLANDS – Tsunami

On April 2, 2007, a magnitude 8.1 earthquake struck 345 km northwest of Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands. The resulting tsunami killed 52 people and displaced approximately 9,000 residents in Western and Choiseul provinces, according to the Solomon Islands National Disaster Council (NDC). The island of Gizo in Western Province sustained the worst damage. The Government of Solomon Islands declared a state of emergency after initial assessments from the Solomon Islands Police and the NDC.

On April 3, U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu Leslie V. Rowe declared a disaster due to the effects of the tsunami. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Port Moresby to address the immediate needs of affected populations through the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies. OFDA provided an additional $200,000 for emergency shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities.

DOD assisted with the transport of humanitarian commodities and personnel, flying 36 helicopter missions. In total, DOD evacuated 20 people, transported 155 humanitarian relief workers, and delivered nearly 13 MT of humanitarian relief supplies.

Implementing Partner in the Solomon Islands
World Vision

OFDA Assistance $250,000

FACTOID

The Solomon Islands form an archipelago in the Southwest Pacific, approximately 1,900 km northeast of Australia. With topography ranging from mountainous islands to low-lying coral atolls, the Solomon Islands form a 1,450-km chain stretching from Papua New Guinea southeast across the Coral Sea to Vanuatu.

[2] Including more than $130,000 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled nearly $600,000.

SRI LANKA – Complex Emergency

More than two decades of conflict between the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist group has led to an ongoing complex emergency in Sri Lanka, resulting in at least 65,000 deaths. Since 2006, renewed violence between the GOSL and the LTTE has displaced more than 300,000 persons, in addition to the more than 200,000 IDPs displaced from previous years of conflict or the December 2004 tsunami.

Insecurity and restrictions by the GOSL and LTTE hindered humanitarian access and the delivery of relief supplies. In August 2006, the closure of a key highway to the Jaffna peninsula in northern Sri Lanka limited maritime access for an estimated 600,000 people. The 2002 ceasefire broke down as GOSL and LTTE representatives failed to reach an agreement on the reopening of the highway in October 2006, resulting in renewed violence in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. The renewal of conflict in 2006 has led to continued displacement of local populations.

Floods due to monsoon rains in late December 2006 and early January 2007 further exacerbated humanitarian conditions in Sri Lanka, affecting an estimated 90,000 people and temporarily displacing 25,000 others during the first weeks of January, according to the GOSL's National Disaster Management Center.

On October 6, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Robert O. Blake redeclared a disaster due to the increasing conflict and resulting IDPs. In 2007, USAID emergency staff made numerous trips to affected areas, assessing humanitarian conditions, determining priority needs, and monitoring ongoing programs

In FY 2007, OFDA provided nearly $7 million to support activities targeting conflict-affected populations in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. Program priorities included protection, risk reduction, health, economy and market systems, shelter, nutrition, relief commodities, information management, coordination, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

OFDA-funded protection programs included child-friendly spaces, distribution of emergency relief supplies, support for registration of unaccompanied or separated children, medical aid and other psychosocial support, and educational activities for an estimated 4,000 women and 17,500 children in Ampara, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Trincomalee districts. OFDA also established an emergency funding mechanism to provide sub-grants to humanitarian aid organizations responding to rapidly changing needs among conflict-affected populations.

Recently returned IDPs contemplate their future outside a temporary shelter in Sri Lanka (Photo by Doug Mercado, USAID).

OFDA also funded interventions in other sectors to benefit vulnerable populations, including IDPs and returnees. OFDA partners provided health and hygiene education services and water and sanitation facilities, serving nearly 16,000 IDPs and nearby community members. OFDA-funded programs improved and upgraded community infrastructure and emergency shelter through cash-for-work and capacity building programs, reaching more than 15,000 IDPs.

OFDA supported humanitarian coordination and information management activities, including geographic information services. OFDA funded the development of multimedia information resources on topics including aid delivery and services, benefiting at least 300,000 IDPs.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Sri Lanka through FFP, which contributed 24,200 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance for IDPs and other vulnerable populations throughout the country.

State/PRM provided funding for emergency programs to facilitate the movements of conflict-affected individuals; restore family links; support water, sanitation, and hygiene activities; and provide emergency relief supplies, medical aid, shelter, and household items. State/PRM also supported programs to protect and assist refugees and IDPs in Sri Lanka.

A family in eastern Sri Lanka benefits from a rainwater collection system built with support from OFDA and other donors (Photo by Diedra Spencer, USAID).

Implementing Partners in Sri Lanka
ACTED, CRS, Internews, OCHA, SC/UK, UMCOR, UNICEF, WFP, and World Vision

OFDA Assistance $6,995,615

THAILAND – Floods

In October 2006, extensive monsoon rains in Thailand led to severe flooding in 19 central and northern provinces, including the most affected provinces of Ayutthaya and Ang Thong. According to the Government of Thailand's Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the flooding killed 49 people, affected more than 2.4 million residents, and caused more than $8.1 million in damage to infrastructure, which hindered access to flood-affected areas.

On October 11, U.S. Ambassador Ralph L. Boyce declared a disaster due to the magnitude of the damage caused by the flooding in central and northern Thailand. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Thailand to support emergency evacuation activities and the procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies, such as safe drinking water, hygiene kits, and basic household goods.

Implementing Partner in Thailand
Thai Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $50,000

VIETNAM – Multiple Emergencies

Typhoon

On October 1, 2006, Typhoon Xangsane (local name Milenyo) struck coastal areas of central Vietnam before weakening into a tropical storm. IFRC reported that the typhoon left 71 people dead or missing, injured 525 others, and impacted 1.3 million residents. The typhoon most affected the provinces of Danang, Quang Nam, and Hue. According to the Vietnamese Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC), Typhoon Xangsane destroyed 320,000 houses and damaged more than 200 schools and offices as well as 9,983 hectares of rice farms. The CCFSC estimated that Typhoon Xangsane caused $625 million in damages.

On October 6, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Jonathan M. Aloisi declared a disaster due to the magnitude of the damage caused by Typhoon Xangsane. In response, OFDA provided more than $100,000 for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief commodities and shelter materials in affected areas. In addition, an OFDA regional advisor traveled to Vietnam to conduct assessments.

Implementing Partners in Vietnam
IFRC and Vietnamese Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $103,500

Typhoon

On December 5, 2006, Typhoon Durian (local name Reming) struck southern Vietnam, causing severe damage to coastal areas, collapsing houses, damaging infrastructure, and flooding schools. IFRC reported that the typhoon left at least 95 people dead or missing, injured 1,360 others, and severely affected an estimated 1.2 million residents. According to the CCFSC, loss of life was reduced due to the Government of Vietnam's (GVN) early preparation and evacuation efforts. The storm most affected the provinces of Ba Ria Vung Tau, Ben Tre, Binh Thuan, Vinh Long, and Tien Giang. The GVN estimated that the typhoon caused $22 million in damages, including damage to or destruction of nearly 245,000 houses.

The Thai Red Cross distributes OFDA-funded emergency relief supplies to flood-affected populations (Courtesy of Thai Red Cross).

Residents affected by typhoons in Vietnam receive OFDA-funded relief kits (Courtesy of Vietnamese Red Cross).

On December 6, U.S. Ambassador Michael W. Marine declared a disaster due to the magnitude of the damage caused by Typhoon Durian in southern Vietnam. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 for emergency relief supplies such as household items, cooking stoves, water containers, and mosquito nets for those most affected by the typhoon.

Implementing Partners in Vietnam
IFRC and Vietnamese Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $100,000

Floods

In early August 2007, heavy monsoon rains from Typhoon Pabuk resulted in floods and landslides in 15 provinces in central Vietnam. The floods and landslides were the most damaging to impact Vietnam since 1944, killing 74 people and affecting an estimated 416,000 others. The flooding damaged or destroyed 172,000 houses, schools, and health clinics; contaminated water sources; and destroyed rice crops, causing an estimated $130 million in damage, according to IFRC. The provinces of Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, and Dak Lak, classified by the GVN as among the poorest in Vietnam, were the most severely affected.

The GVN and provincial-level authorities responded to the flooding by providing food and medical supplies, rebuilding houses, and clearing debris. However, the magnitude of the disaster led the GVN to request international assistance on August 17.

On August 21, U.S. Ambassador Michael W. Michalak declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 to support emergency relief efforts in flood-affected districts of central Vietnam.

Implementing Partner in Vietnam
CARE

OFDA Assistance $50,000

Photo by Rob Andrew, USAID

$64 million in **OFDA** assistance

10 OFDA responses in FY 2007

Wildfire responses in **5** countries

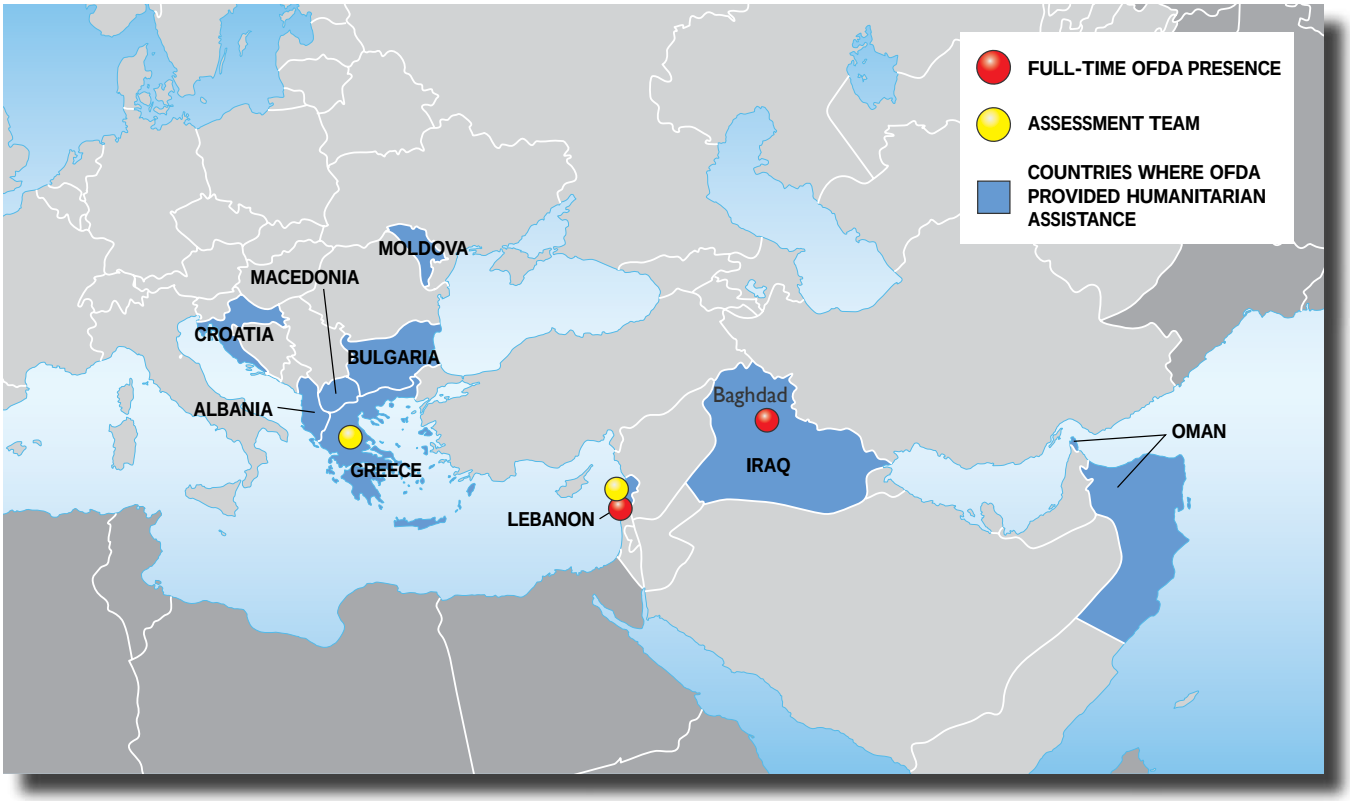
800,000 people received OFDA assistance in **Iraq**

Field presence in **2** countries

Technical assistance team deployed to **Greece**

EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND CENTRAL ASIA

OFDA REGIONAL RESPONSES AND PRESENCE IN FY 2007



OFDA responded to 10 disasters in nine countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia in FY 2007. Wildfires across Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, and Macedonia required OFDA assistance. OFDA also responded to ongoing complex humanitarian emergencies in Iraq and Lebanon, a drought in Moldova, and a cyclone in Oman.

In total, OFDA provided more than $64 million in funding for humanitarian programs in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia. In response to wildfires in Greece, OFDA funded a technical assistance team to advise the Greek government. OFDA also maintained a full-time humanitarian advisor in Iraq, while a program officer remained in Lebanon for the duration of FY 2007 after the departure of the Lebanon DART in December 2006.

ALBANIA – Wildfires

In July 2007, Albania faced severe forest fires as a result of high temperatures and dry conditions in southeastern Europe. According to the U.S. Embassy in Tirana, active wildfires affected 21 of the country's 36 districts. The most serious fires were located in Kolonja, Vlora, Puka, and Tropoja districts. The fires injured 60 people, destroyed 15 homes, consumed fire fighting equipment, and ravaged more than 2,000 hectares of forest land. Wildfires also threatened additional residential and forest areas, and widespread smoke caused health issues, particularly in women and children. To combat the fires, the Government of Albania (GOA) mobilized all available military, police, firefighter, and forest service personnel.

On July 27, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Stephen A. Cristina declared a disaster due to the loss of property and livelihoods and potential loss of life as a result of the wildfires. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Albania to assist the GOA in combating the wildfires. In addition, OFDA provided $175,000 to defray the fuel and operational costs of aircraft to bring fires under control and to support preparedness activities for the GOA Ministry of the Interior's Civil Emergency Department.

Implementing Partner in Albania
GOA

OFDA Assistance $225,000

BULGARIA – Wildfires

In late July 2007, Bulgarian authorities reported as many as 2,000 wildfires across the country. Extremely high temperatures, heavy winds, and ongoing dry conditions exacerbated the fires and caused the blazes to spread. The fires killed one person, injured nine others, and destroyed woodlands, parks, and farmlands across 230,000 hectares. Smoke inhalation also led a large numbers of Bulgarians to seek medical assistance. According to U.S. Embassy in Sofia, the most affected districts included Veliko Turnovo, Kyustendil, Montana, Sodia, Smolyan, and Stara Zagora in the southern and western regions of the country. The Government of Bulgaria declared an emergency in 4 regions and 11 municipalities and requested international assistance.

On August 1, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Alexander Karagiannis declared a disaster due to the impact of the wildfires in Bulgaria. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Bulgaria for the purchase of fire fighting equipment.

Implementing Partner in Bulgaria
Bulgaria Civil Protection Agency

OFDA Assistance $50,000

OFDA funding supported the purchase of emergency firefighting equipment in Croatia (Courtesy of USAID/Croatia).

CROATIA – Wildfires

Unusually hot and dry weather and strong winds exacerbated the 2007 wildfire season in Croatia, according to the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb. In July 2007, more than 800 separate blazes in southern, northeastern, and northwestern districts burned woodlands, natural park land, and farms and caused a large number of civilians to suffer from smoke inhalation. Unexploded landmines from the conflict in the early 1990s, together with mountainous and inaccessible terrain, hindered efforts to combat the blazes.

On August 7, U.S. Ambassador Robert A. Bradtke declared a disaster due to the impact of the wildfires in Croatia. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Croatia for the local purchase of emergency firefighting equipment to assist fire responders in Konavle and Zupa Dubrovacka municipalities.

Implementing Partners in Croatia
Konvale and Zupa Dubrovacka Municipal Fire Authorities

OFDA Assistance $50,000

GREECE – Wildfires

In mid-August 2007, as many as 170 wildfires burned throughout Greece. On August 25, the Government of Greece (GOG) declared a national state of emergency. Although nearly all of the blazes were under control by the end of August, 76 people lost their lives, according to IFRC. The fires also destroyed a large number of homes; damaged communications, electric, and water infrastructure; and burned hundreds of thousands of acres of forests and olive groves. According to the GOG's Ministry of Economy and Finance, the fires caused an estimated $2.2 billion in damages.

On August 27, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas M. Countryman declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the wildfires in Greece. In response, OFDA immediately provided $100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Athens for the local purchase and distribution of food, shelter, and clothing for fire-affected families. OFDA also procured and transported essential relief items, including tents, blankets, and sleeping bags, valued at more than $500,000.

A U.S. Forest Service soil scientist examines the soil absorption capacity of a wildfire on Evia Island in Greece (Photo by Yoni Bock, USAID).

In consultation with the U.S. Embassy in Athens, USAID and USFS deployed a team of technical experts in September 2007 to assist GOG authorities with addressing fire management, emergency management systems, fire investigation, emergency rehabilitation of burned areas, and ecosystem and watershed restoration. Based on the team's recommendations, OFDA and USFS implemented a $1.35 million technical assistance program, which included the provision of 3,000 sets of fire resistant shirts, pants, helmets, and gloves; supported ongoing collaboration in stabilization and rehabilitation of damaged land; and planned technical support for firefighting command and control systems. Including funding programmed through existing agreements with USFS and more than $800,000 in FY 2008, OFDA's total assistance to Greece was valued at nearly $2 million.

Implementing Partner in Greece
Hellenic Red Cross

OFDA Assistance ..... $398,815[1]

IRAQ – Complex Emergency

In FY 2007, increased rates of sectarian and conflict-related displacement across Iraq contributed to a deteriorating humanitarian situation. According to U.N. agencies, as of the end of FY 2007, approximately 2.2 million people were internally displaced in Iraq, including more than 1 million displaced since the February 2006 bombing of the Al-Askari mosque in Samarra. While the three northern governorates of Erbil, Dohuk, and Sulaymaniyah mainly received rather than generated IDPs, the remaining central and southern governorates both received and generated IDPs. In addition, authorities in 11 out of Iraq's 18 governorates limited or restricted the movement of IDPs either into or out of the governorate, further exacerbating emergency conditions.

According to IOM and UNHCR, approximately 20 percent of post-February 2006 IDPs sought shelter in abandoned public buildings or other informal settle-

[1] In response to the Greece wildfires, OFDA provided a total of nearly $2 million, including approximately $760,000 in funds programmed from existing arrangements with USFS and more than $800,000 in FY 2008 funding.

ments. An additional 20 percent of the IDPs moved in with relatives or host families. The remaining 60 percent rented housing. Newly displaced families overwhelmed local water, sanitation, health, and electrical infrastructure and strained the absorption capacity of host families and communities.

Priority humanitarian needs in FY 2007 included emergency relief supplies, food, shelter, and livelihoods for displaced families and host communities. Extremely vulnerable groups, such as women, the elderly, and children, also required access to both emergency and routine medical care. Host communities required assistance to repair and improve medical facilities and water and sanitation infrastructure serving both local populations and displaced families. Despite ongoing insecurity, some humanitarian organizations were able to implement emergency activities to provide food, water, health care, and safe spaces to displaced families.

With more than $37.2 million in humanitarian assistance in FY 2007, OFDA's activities targeted more than 500,000 IDPs and host families. OFDA worked through five NGO and international organization partners to implement a program spanning all of Iraq's 18 governorates in the following areas: health, emergency relief supplies, shelter and settlements, income generation, host community support, data collection and analysis, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Some projects were multi-sectoral, such as expanding a school and upgrading its water and sanitation facilities to accommodate IDP children, while simultaneously providing jobs for IDPs with the work involved and supporting the host community through the school improvements.

In Al Anbar, Babil, Baghdad, Al Basrah, Diyala', Arbil, Karbala', Al Qadisiyah, Salah ad Din, and As Sulaymaniyah governorates, OFDA funded the provision of emergency relief supplies and water purification units to 108,000 conflict-affected Iraqis. In six districts of Al Anbar Governorate, OFDA partners distributed safe drinking water to 30,000 people, including 21,000 IDPs. Across Babil, Najaf, Al Muthanna', Karbala', and Dhi Qar governorates, OFDA supported mobile medical teams to provide emergency health assistance to 50,000 beneficiaries, 80 percent of whom were IDPs.

In addition to addressing immediate relief needs, OFDA's humanitarian programs included activities to protect water points, create livelihood and employment opportunities, and repair damaged infrastructure. In Diyala' and southern As Sulaymaniyah governorates, an OFDA partner renovated latrines, secured existing water points, and established new water points to benefit 12,000 people. In Al Muthanna' and Wasit governorates, OFDA extended water pipelines, thus providing water for household latrines and sanitized water points for 22,000 beneficiaries.

Youth display a banner at an OFDA project site in Ninewa Governorate, Iraq (Courtesy of IMC).

In every governorate of the country, OFDA also funded humanitarian organizations to collect data on IDP movements and needs in order to better determine the prioritization of humanitarian assistance.

In conjunction with State/PRM, OFDA also supported capacity-building programs for the Government of Iraq Ministry of Displacement and Migration at both the national and local level.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Iraq through the Bureau for Asia and the Near East, which continued to implement numerous programs that included activities to promote economic growth, Iraqi government capacity, and community participation in local governance.

In FY 2007, State/PRM funded programs in Iraq to assist and protect non-Iraqi refugees, IDPs, and other communities affected by conflict inside Iraq.

OFDA Assistance $37,277,690

LEBANON – Multiple Emergencies

Humanitarian Emergency

At the height of the July–August 2006 conflict between between Israeli Defense Forces and Hezbollah militias, the Government of Lebanon estimated that nearly 975,000 Lebanese had fled their homes. While most of the displaced returned home shortly after the ceasefire on August 14, 2006, the 34-day conflict killed 1,200 people and injured more than 4,400 others.

Emergency needs resulting from the conflict persisted in FY 2007. Damaged infrastructure and the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) remained a challenge for organizations providing humanitarian assistance. The conflict also negatively impacted the regional economy in southern Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley, limiting the ability of families to earn income and hindering prepara-

An OFDA partner distributes blankets to vulnerable families in Aitaroun, Lebanon, in preparation for winter weather (Photo by Rola El Solh, USAID).

tions for winter. Farmers, shephards, and fishermen were particularly affected.

On July 25, 2006, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey D. Feltman declared a humanitarian emergency in Lebanon due to ongoing insecurity and humanitarian needs, and OFDA's humanitarian activities and early recovery programs continued into FY 2007.

Overall, OFDA assistance benefited more than 2 million people in more than 500 villages countrywide. In FY 2007, OFDA provided nearly $25.6 million in humanitarian and early recovery assistance to Lebanon, including support for the distribution of food and relief supplies; winterization of shelters; infrastructure rehabilitation; water, sanitation, and hygiene services; livelihood recovery activities; and programs to address food security, agriculture, health, nutrition, protection, and psychosocial needs. To address winter-related needs, one partner provided more than 17,000 families with diesel to power stoves and heat homes, distributed blankets to approximately 40,000 beneficiaries, and waterproofed more than 650 homes in Lebanon's Marjeyoun, Bent Jbail, and Bekaa districts. Another partner distributed food items, emergency relief supplies, and hygiene kits to 20,000 individuals. Water infrastructure projects, including the construction of new water reservoirs, installation of water piping, and repairs to electricity generators, benefited a further 20,000 people.

A child in Watta El Khiam, Lebanon, receives OFDA-funded emergency relief supplies (Courtesy of World Vision).

To address the risks associated with UXO, OFDA supported activities such as public awareness campaigns to educate local populations, especially children, about the dangers of UXO. OFDA also supported programs to address the needs of individuals injured by UXO. Through the production and distribution of mine awareness posters, flyers, billboards, calendars, and brochures, OFDA-financed UXO-mitigation reached nearly the entire population of southern Lebanon.

USAID also responded to emergency needs in Lebanon through FFP, which contributed 700 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, including wheat flour and lentils, to support food security through the early recovery operation.

The Department of State's Bureau of International Organization Affairs and DOD also supported demining activities in Lebanon, including UXO clearance activities and mapping of UXO.

Implementing Partners in Lebanon

ACDI/VOCA, ACTED, American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), CRS, CHF International, FAO, Habitat for Humanity, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Mercy Corps, World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF), and World Vision

OFDA Assistance $25,571,173

Innovative Livelihood Programs in Lebanon

Yoni Bock

In early 2006, Lebanon was in the midst of a rapid recovery from nearly 20 years of conflict and civil wars. Farmers were once again growing citrus, grapes, apples, and olives; thousands of fishermen had rebuilt sea-oriented livelihoods; and herds of sheep and goats roamed verdant hills and valleys. However, for 34 days in July and August 2006, the din of artillery shells and the barrage of gunfire between the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Hezbollah militias threatened to once again disrupt the lives and livelihoods of Lebanon's many fishermen, farmers, and herders.

The 2006 conflict was noteworthy for the intense escalation of hostilities and rapid movements of large numbers of Lebanese fleeing the conflict zone. Equally noteworthy, however, was the fact that displaced populations returned swiftly to areas of origin following the August 14 ceasefire, surprising humanitarian responders who had prepared for an emergency operation to meet the needs of thousands of IDPs. In this evolving humanitarian setting, OFDA responded by shifting emergency priorities to meet changing needs. As the initial emergency phase subsided and returning populations obviated the need for long-term assistance to displaced families, OFDA redesigned its humanitarian program to address one of the most pressing emergency needs, namely livelihood assistance for conflict affected families so as to restore the regional economy to pre-conflict standards. Each of the following examples illustrates a small portion of a larger, comprehensive program, which focused on small cash grants, use of local labor, and vocational training to mitigate the longer-term impact of the conflict.

Fishermen

To assist affected fishing families, OFDA implementing partner CHF International distributed emergency relief commodities, hygiene kits, and basic fishing tools, such as nets and hooks to conflict-affected fishing families, benefiting 17,000 people. In northern Lebanon, CHF contributed to the reconstruction of both the local fish market and the boat warehouse, enabling nearly 300 fishermen to resume their economic activities. Relying on local labor to procure and distribute commodities, CHF provided tools and fishing supplies to more than 800 families and assisted numerous other community members with short-term income generation activities.

Farmers

With OFDA support, CHF launched a program to ensure that ripening olives could be harvested on time and would not rot on the trees. Employing 300 workers, CHF harvested nearly 250 hectares of olive orchards in 112 villages in northern Lebanon and the Mount Lebanon region. Eight hundred olive growers benefited from the program, and the activity generated nearly 13,000 person days of work. CHF's innovative program reduced the cost of harvesting and allowed numerous unskilled laborers to develop specific job expertise.

Herders

For rural inhabitants in the Bekaa Valley, the 2006 war occurred during the main animal buying and selling season when herders earn the bulk of their yearly income. The war disrupted traditional market networks and threatened the economic security of farmers, who faced two equally negative options: either sell herds at drastically reduced prices or take out loans to cover the cost of feeding animals and families. Both choices would have left farmers further in debt. However, through its OFDA-funded Rapid Animal Feeding Aid Project, ACDI/VOCA provided herders with animal feed and other relief commodities to enable affected families to avoid taking on additional debt to meet the needs of their animals. Activities such as these protected existing livelihoods and helped mitigate the potential consequences of the war. Overall, ACDI/VOCA's assistance directly impacted approximately 4,500 individuals in

> "Being unable to milk the sheep and goats during the war, I lost my income for the whole year. Without assistance, I would have had to either sell more of my herds to cover up for the cost of feeding or take loans out with high interest rates that God only knows how I would have been able to pay back."
>
> — Abou Hassan, a beneficiary of ACDI/VOCA's RAFA Program in the Bekaa Valley

500 families, saving family flocks and ensuring food and economic security during the 2006/2007 winter.

Vocational Training

Beyond providing physical resources for livelihood recovery, OFDA also supported skills training and vocational workshops to expand employment opportunities and build local agricultural capacity. Through America Near East Refugee Assistance's (ANERA) Southern Agriculture and Business Recovery Program, nearly 400 students enrolled in eight-week courses on topics as diverse as business management, product labeling, food processing safety and hygiene, and zaatar—a traditional middle eastern spice mix—growing and processing. The presence of ANERA's training activities predated the 2006 emergency. However, the workshops took on additional importance following the conflict and were instrumental in ensuring that a broader segment of the Lebanese population could access jobs requiring specific marketing and management skills.

The Road to Recovery

More than a year after the conflict, the economic patterns of day-to-day life in Lebanon have resumed. Although Lebanon continues to grapple with political crises over the direction of the country, the negative consequences that often ensue from violent conflict—inflation, massive displacement, and food insecurity—have been notably absent. The resumption of "normal" economic behavior is due in part to the OFDA's creative livelihood programs and the recognition of business and market systems programs as central drivers of humanitarian recovery. The ability of relief agencies to quickly and creatively adapt activities to changing needs contributed significantly to the success of emergency assistance programs. Finally, the presence of preexisting NGO partners and the robust involvement of the USAID mission in Lebanon ensured that innovative proposals from implementing partners could be reviewed in timely manner, that OFDA could fund discrete project components, and that activities would eventually be transferred to USAID/Lebanon management once the initial funding period ended.

A beneficiary of the OFDA-funded Rapid Animal Feeding Aid program in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley holds two young goats from his herd (Courtesy of ACDI/VOCA).

Humanitarian Emergency

From late May through early September 2007, fighting between Government of Lebanon armed forces and militias in the Nahr al Bared Palestinian refugee camp, located outside the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, killed 340 military forces, militia members, and civilians, and displaced approximately 40,000 camp residents. The conflict also resulted in considerable social and economic costs, including the destruction of homes, businesses, and general infrastructure in the Muhammara, Bebine, and Aabdeh municipalities. On September 10, the U.N Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) issued a flash appeal for $55 million to assist affected Palestinian refugee families.

On September 7, U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey D. Feltman declared a humanitarian emergency as a result of the situation in northern Lebanon. In response, OFDA provided $100,000 through USAID/Lebanon for the purchase of food rations, including rice, lentils, sugar, milk, oil, and beans, for 1,100 Lebanese families living in the area surrounding the Palestinian refugee camp. These families were directly affected by the Nahr El Bared conflict but were not covered under UNRWA's appeal.

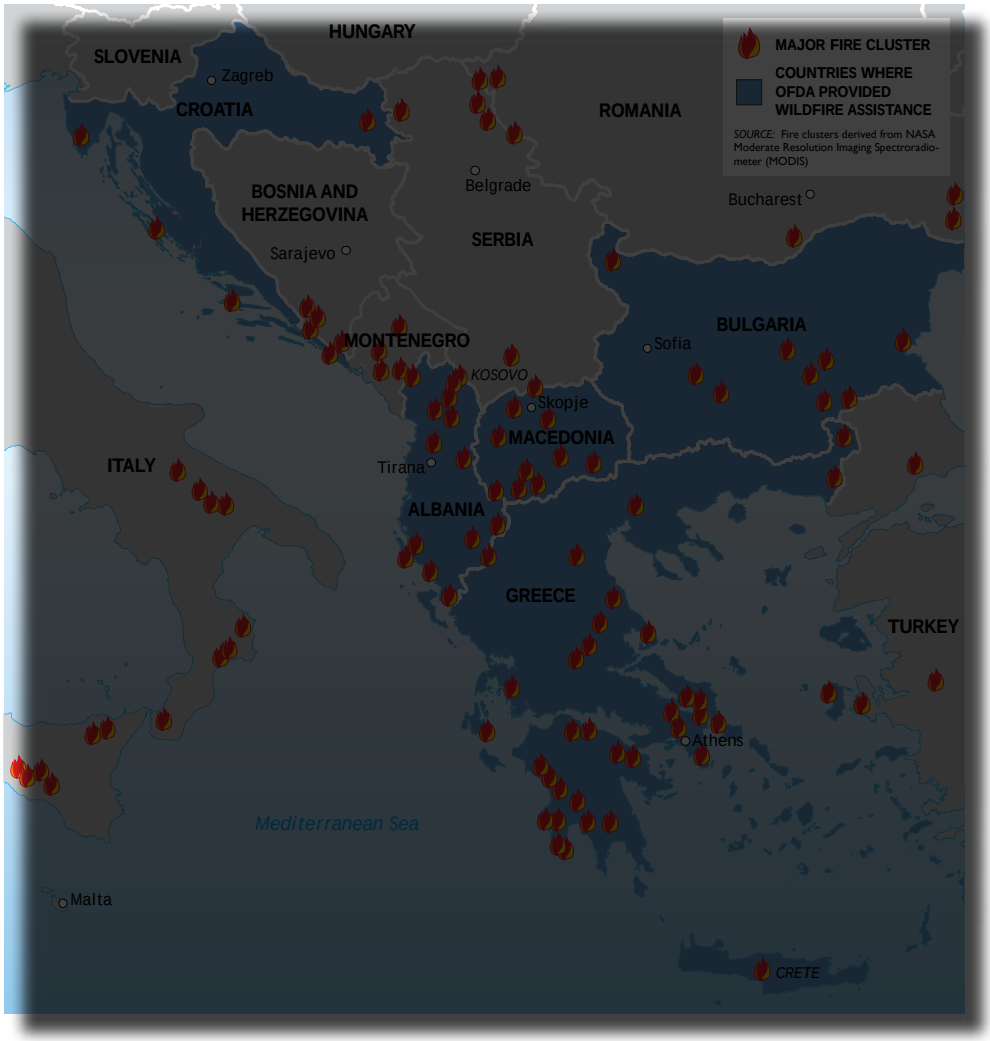
Implementing Partner in Lebanon
CHF International

OFDA Assistance $100,000

MACEDONIA – Wildfires

In July 2007, as a result of high temperatures and dry conditions in southeastern Europe, wildfires consumed more than 3,000 hectares of forests in 32 municipalities throughout Macedonia. The most serious fires were located in Tetovo, Veles, Strumica, and Bitola municipalities. According to the U.S. Embassy in Skopje, the fires caused one death due to smoke inhalation and directly impacted approximately half of Macedonia's population of 2 million people. On July 18, the Government of Macedonia (GOM) declared a state of emergency due to the high temperatures and wildfires. At the height of the emergency, firefighters from Macedonia and neighboring countries battled 39 blazes in a single day. Several

June to September 2007 Wildfires in Southeastern Europe



of the fires were located in the vicinity of major urban areas, threatening lives and vital infrastructure.

On July 25, U.S. Ambassador Gillian A. Milovanovic declared a disaster due to the loss of property and livelihoods from the wildfires. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Macedonia to municipal firefighting brigades for equipment and tools.

Implementing Partner in Macedonia
USAID/Macedonia

OFDA Assistance $50,000

MOLDOVA – Drought

During the summer of 2007, extremely high temperatures and minimal rainfall led to widespread drought conditions in 28 of Moldova's 32 regions. According to a joint FAO–WFP assessment, the drought impacted 84 percent of Moldova's arable land, leading to losses of approximately $406 million in failed crops and livestock deaths. The FAO–WFP assessment further indicated that farmers lacked the financial means to purchase seeds for the fall 2007 planting season. On July 26, President Vladimir Voronin declared the drought in Moldova to be a disaster. The Government of Moldova indicated that farmers needed approximately 4,000 MT of seeds for fall planting.

A drought affected crops such as these in Moldova (Courtesy of USAID/Moldova).

On August 24, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Kelly A. Keiderling declared a disaster due to the impact of lost crops, livestock, and livelihoods on Moldova's largely agriculture-based economy. In response, OFDA provided $250,000 through USAID/Moldova for the local purchase and distribution of 4,000 MT of seeds to drought-affected farmers.

Implementing Partner in Moldova
Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs

OFDA Assistance $250,000

OMAN – Cyclone

On June 6, 2007, Tropical Cyclone Gonu struck the coastal areas of northern and central Oman with high winds and torrential rains, killing nearly 50 people. In Muscat and coastal areas, flooding and mudflows from Gonu severely damaged local infrastructure, including bridges, roads, and electricity networks. The storm most severely impacted Omanis and expatriate workers living in low-lying areas in the path of flood waters. In response to the cyclone, the Government of Oman established a donation fund through the Oman Charitable Organization to provide emergency food, water, housing, and clothing to affected communities.

On June 12, U.S. Ambassador Gary A. Grappo declared a disaster due to the impact of Cyclone Gonu on Oman. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Muscat for the procurement and distribution of emergency relief commodities in cyclone-affected areas.

Implementing Partner in Oman
Oman Charitable Organization

OFDA Assistance $50,000

Photo by Olga Palma, U.S. Embassy in La Paz

$5.6 million in **OFDA** assistance

13 OFDA responses in FY 2007

Hurricane responses in **6** countries

42,000 people received OFDA assistance in **Peru**

Regional office in Costa Rica

Assessment teams deployed to **Nicaragua**
Belize
Mexico
Jamaica
Peru

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

OFDA REGIONAL RESPONSES AND PRESENCE IN FY 2007

OFDA responded to 13 disasters in 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in FY 2007. A magnitude 8.0 earthquake resulted in 593 deaths and widespread destruction in Peru. Hurricanes caused extensive damage in Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, and St. Lucia. OFDA responded to flooding in Bolivia, Haiti, Panama, and Uruguay, and to wildfires in Paraguay. In addition, OFDA continued building local capacity through a regional program that has prepared more than 44,000 emergency personnel to respond to disasters.

In total, OFDA provided nearly $5.6 million in funding for humanitarian programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. OFDA deployed an assessment team in response to the Peru earthquake. During the hurricane season, OFDA also deployed teams to Belize, Jamaica, Mexico, and Nicaragua. OFDA maintained a regional office in Costa Rica, as well as a network of Latin America- and Caribbean-based disaster experts, to monitor humanitarian developments throughout the region.

BELIZE – Hurricane

From August 20 to 21, 2007, Hurricane Dean made landfall approximately 40 miles north of the Belize–Mexico border as a category five storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale. According to the Government of Belize (GOB), high winds and heavy rains resulting from the hurricane damaged or destroyed at least 900 houses. Aerial estimates also indicated that the storm destroyed the entire export papaya crop, valued at more than $20 million, and caused at least $1.2 million in damage to sugar crops, affecting the livelihoods of small farmers. As a result of the damage, the GOB declared the northern districts of Corozal and Orange Walk as disaster areas. In total, the GOB's Ministry of Health estimated that Hurricane Dean directly affected 20,000 people.

On August 23, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Leonard A. Hill declared a disaster in Belize due to the impact of Hurricane Dean. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Belmopan for the purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies. In addition, USAID airlifted OFDA relief commodities, including 500 wool blankets, 1,056 hygiene kits, 100 rolls of plastic sheeting, and 5 chainsaw kits for debris removal, benefiting up to 11,000 individuals. Including transport, these commodities were valued at $86,954. A two-member USAID emergency team conducted assessments and identified needs in conjunction with the GOB's National Emergency Management Organization.

Red Cross staff in Belize carry boxes of OFDA-funded relief supplies following Hurricane Dean (Photo by Beryl Armbrister, USAID).

Children displaced from their homes due to flooding congregate under a temporary shelter in Beni Department, Bolivia (Photo by Alan Hurdus, USAID).

Following Hurricane Dean, in anticipation of Hurricane Felix's impact in early September, OFDA provided $25,000 to the Belize Red Cross in preparedness assistance to stock relief warehouses.

Implementing Partners in Belize

Belize Red Cross

OFDA Assistance ..... $112,300[1]

BOLIVIA – Floods

From December 2006 to January 2007, heavy rains caused widespread flooding, landslides, and the overflow of major rivers in eight of Bolivia's nine departments. According to PAHO, the flooding killed 50 people, affected nearly 104,000 families, and damaged crops on more than 366,000 hectares of farmland.

On January 22, U.S. Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. OFDA's senior regional advisor and a Peru-based

[1] Including $25,000 in preparedness funds and nearly $50,000 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled approximately $190,000.

OFDA consultant deployed to Bolivia to conduct damage assessments in coordination with USAID/Bolivia and the Government of Bolivia.

To meet the needs of flood-affected communities, OFDA provided nearly $400,000 for health services, agricultural tools, and the purchase and distribution of shelter and emergency relief supplies. In addition, through three airlifts supported by OFDA and DOD, OFDA provided 7,800 water containers, 7,336 hygiene kits, and 290 rolls of plastic sheeting valued at more than $450,000, including transport.

Implementing Partners in Bolivia
ADRA, AmRC, Centro de Investigación, Educación, y Servicios, International Development Association, and Zodiac of North America, Inc.

OFDA Assistance ..... $810,445[2]

FACTOID

Bolivia is part of the OFDA-funded South America Regional Initiative (SAMI), which incorporates emergency prevention and preparedness activities into local development plans. From September 2005 to October 2006, OFDA trained nearly 240,000 people, including government officials as well as international and local NGO representatives, in emergency preparedness concepts and methodologies.

DOMINICA – Hurricane

From August 16 to 17, 2007, high winds, storm surge, and flooding resulted from Hurricane Dean—then a category two storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale—which passed near the eastern Caribbean island of Dominica. Hurricane-force winds killed 2 people, injured 30 others, and damaged or destroyed more than 800 houses. In addition, the storm damaged an estimated 95 percent of Dominica's agricultural sector, according to IFRC.

On August 15, a four-person USAID emergency team arrived in Bridgetown, Barbados, in advance of Hurricane Dean's approach to the eastern Caribbean, and two additional OFDA team members deployed to Dominica and St. Kitts.

A large slab of concrete from a damaged building rests precariously on a hilltop in Dominica following Hurricane Dean (Photo by Julie Leonard, USAID).

On August 23, U.S. Chief of Mission for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Clyde I. Howard declared a disaster due to the effects of Hurricane Dean. In response, OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bridgetown for the local purchase and transport of emergency shelter repair materials to affected areas. In addition, OFDA airlifted 75 rolls of plastic sheeting, valued at more than $60,000, to meet emergency shelter needs of up to 3,750 people.

Implementing Partner in Dominica
Dominica Office of Disaster Management

OFDA Assistance $82,188

HAITI – Floods

In late November 2006, unusually heavy rainfall led to flooding and landslides in Haiti's Northwest, Nippes, and Grand-Anse departments. The flooding killed 7

[2] Including stockpiled commodities of nearly $30,000, OFDA's assistance totaled approximately $840,000.

people, injured 10 others, and affected more than 4,000 families. The flooding also caused significant damage to infrastructure, destroying or damaging more than 900 houses, as well as hospitals, schools, water systems, and bridges.

On December 8, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas C. Tighe declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Haiti for the local procurement and distribution of relief commodities to an estimated 2,500 flood-affected residents, as well as to support efforts to clear roads blocked by mud and landslides.

Implementing Partner in Haiti
Government of Haiti's Ministry of Public Works

OFDA Assistance $50,000

JAMAICA – Hurricane

On August 19, 2007, Hurricane Dean struck the southern coast of Jamaica as a category four storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale. According to the Government of Jamaica's (GOJ) Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), winds, storm surge, and flooding associated with Hurricane Dean affected 6 of the island's 13 parishes, with the parishes of Clarendon, Manchester, and Saint Catherine sustaining the most damage. The hurricane killed 4 people, injured 241 others, and damaged or destroyed more than 30,000 homes. According to the GOJ's Ministry of Agriculture, the hurricane also caused significant damage to the sugarcane, banana, coffee, and cocoa crops, undermining local livelihoods. In total, IFRC reported that Hurricane Dean impacted at least 160,000 people.

A storm surge caused by Hurricane Dean carried a boat on shore in Jamaica (Courtesy of Map Action).

On August 17, OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Jamaica to procure emergency preparedness supplies. On August 18, a six-person USAID emergency team arrived in Kingston ahead of Hurricane Dean. The USAID team conducted damage assessments and coordinated with U.N. agencies, GOJ authorities, NGOs, donors, and other disaster assessment teams after the storm hit.

On August 20, U.S. Ambassador Brenda LaGrange Johnson declared a disaster due to the effects of the hurricane. In response, OFDA provided $150,000 through USAID/Jamaica for the purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies to affected areas. In addition, OFDA provided $100,000 to support emergency health services.

On August 22, OFDA airlifted 560 rolls of plastic sheeting, 6,250 blankets, 5,000 ten-liter water containers, and 2,592 family hygiene kits to meet the needs of approximately 12,000 hurricane-affected residents. Including transport, the value of the relief commodities totaled more than $297,000.

Implementing Partners in Jamaica
OPDEM and PAHO

OFDA Assistance .....$329,329[3]

[3] Including $25,000 in preparedness funds and nearly $220,000 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled more than $570,000.

During Hurricane Dean, floodwaters surge over beaches in Chetumal, Mexico (Photo by Pedro Soto, USAID).

MEXICO – Hurricane

On August 21, 2007, Hurricane Dean struck the Mexican states of Campeche, Quintana Roo, and Yucatan as a category five hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale. After passing over the Bay of Campeche, Hurricane Dean re-entered Mexico through Veracruz State as a category two hurricane on August 22. After weakening, Dean continued through central Mexico as a tropical storm, affecting Hidalgo, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, and Puebla states. In total, the storm killed at least nine people, damaged 52,000 houses, caused severe damage to the agricultural sector, and led to flooding and landslides across central Mexico. The hurricane affected an estimated 207,800 people across six states, according to IFRC.

On August 19 and 20, a six-person USAID emergency team arrived in Mexico in advance of Hurricane Dean's approach. Following the passage of the hurricane, USAID staff conducted field assessments in coordination with the Government of Mexico.

On August 27, U.S. Ambassador Antonio O. Garza, Jr., declared a disaster in Mexico due to the effects of Hurricane Dean. In response, OFDA provided nearly $250,000 for the local purchase and transport of roof repair materials, benefiting approximately 4,000 hurricane-affected families in Quintana Roo State.

Implementing Partner in Mexico
AmRC

OFDA Assistance $249,957

NICARAGUA – Hurricane

On September 4, 2007, Hurricane Felix struck the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua as a category five storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale. The hurricane killed at least 102 people and affected more than 180,000 others, according to the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, and Assistance in Nicaragua. In total, the storm damaged or destroyed more than 19,000 houses and nearly 180 public buildings in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) and Jinotega and Nueva Segovia departments. Hurricane Felix also damaged fruit orchards and affected approximately 95,000 hectares of corn, rice, and other crops.

On September 4, the Government of Nicaragua (GON) declared a state of disaster due to the effects of Hurricane Felix. The lack of all-weather roads to and from the Puerto Cabezas area in RAAN hindered the delivery of assistance to affected areas.

Prior to the onset of hurricane season, OFDA prepositioned relief supplies, including hygiene kits and kitchen sets valued at approximately $45,000, with the Nicaraguan Red Cross (NRC). Immediately prior to Hurricane Felix's landfall, OFDA provided an additional $25,000 in preparedness assistance to the NRC. On September 4 and 5, a 10-person USAID emergency team arrived in Managua to assess damages and coor-

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and an OFDA regional advisor speak to the press following a humanitarian needs assessment of hurricane-affected areas in Nicaragua (Photo by Pedro Soto, USAID).

dinate response activities with GON authorities, U.N. agencies, DOD, and NGOs.

On September 5, U.S. Ambassador Paul A. Trivelli declared a disaster due to the hurricane. In response, OFDA provided $675,000 through USAID/Nicaragua to purchase relief supplies locally and to support emergency programs such as health activities. In addition, via six airlifts to Puerto Cabezas, USAID provided 940 rolls of plastic sheeting, 3,552 hygiene kits, 3,875 blankets, and 13,000 ten-liter water containers from the OFDA warehouse in Miami. The total value of the relief supplies, including transport, was nearly $590,000.

DOD air support was critical to the success of relief operations. Between September 6 and 17, DOD delivered an estimated 165 MT of emergency relief supplies from OFDA's Miami warehouse as well as various donated supplies via 115 relief flights from Puerto Cabezas to 37 hurricane-affected communities. In addition, DOD transported 20 GON Ministry of Health personnel to various affected communities and airlifted 74 injured or sick persons to Puerto Cabezas.

Implementing Partners in Nicaragua
ADRA, CARE, CRS, Iglesia Morava, Misión Para Cristo, NRC, and PAHO

OFDA Assistance .....$1,217,490[4]

[4] In response to Hurricane Felix, OFDA provided a total of more than $2.2 million, including $70,000 in preparedness funds and approximately $910,000 in FY 2008 disaster assistance and stockpiled commodities.

PANAMA – Multiple Emergencies

Fire

On March 21, 2007, a fire broke out in a shantytown in Panama City. The fire destroyed 137 houses, killed 2 people, and affected approximately 725 others.

Following the fire, Government of Panama officials requested USG assistance. In response, OFDA provided more than 500 cots as well as 140 cooking stoves with gas tanks, worth a total of $25,000. On March 23, U.S. Ambassador William Alan Eaton presented these commodities to affected populations in Panama.

Implementing Partner in Panama
Government of Panama

OFDA Assistance $25,000

Floods

In November 2006, heavy rainfall led to flooding in Kuna Yala Territory, Coclé and Colón provinces, and the Capira, Chorrera, and Chepo districts of Panama Province. The flooding killed 11 people and affected approximately 5,820 others, according to the Panamanian National System of Civil Protection.

On November 24, U.S. Ambassador William Alan Eaton declared a disaster due to the impact of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/

U.S. Ambassador William Alan Eaton and Panamanian Minister of Government and Justice Gloria Golcher examine OFDA-airlifted relief commodities (Photo by Ricardo Berganza, USAID).

Panama for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies and for the rehabilitation of damaged water systems. USAID also airlifted emergency relief supplies, including 2,010 hygiene kits and 1,200 ten-liter water containers, for flood-affected populations.

In addition, DOD deployed a 35-member team to assist with the humanitarian response and airlifted relief supplies to remote areas in Panama.

Implementing Partners in Panama
Panamanian National System of Civil Protection and Red Cross Society of Panama

OFDA Assistance ..... $93,000[5]

PARAGUAY – Wildfires

A five-month absence of rain, intense heat, and slash-and-burn agriculture exacerbated severe wildfires across northern Paraguay in September 2007. As of September 19, wildfires had destroyed approximately 1 million hectares of crops, pasture, and forest, affecting at least 25,000 families. The Government of Paraguay (GOP) estimated that economic losses as a result of the fires totaled more than $30 million.

On September 12, the GOP declared a national emergency due to fires in Amambay, Canindeyu, Concepción, and San Pedro departments. The GOP sent 120 firefighters and approximately 500 soldiers to control the fires and provided food to affected populations. From September 15 to 17, rains in affected areas extinguished most of the fires.

On September 13, U.S. Ambassador James C. Cason declared a disaster due to the wildfires. In response, OFDA provided $200,000 through USAID/Paraguay for firefighting equipment and the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies to affected populations. In addition, through an interagency agreement with USFS, OFDA funded the shipment of firefighting equipment, valued at more than $144,000, from USFS stockpiles in the U.S. to Paraguay. OFDA also deployed a forest fire specialist from its regional office in Costa Rica to conduct assessments and determine needs, in conjunction with the U.S. Embassy in Asunción and USAID/Paraguay.

Implementing Partner in Paraguay
Paraguayan Red Cross

OFDA Assistance $344,200

[5] Including approximately $13,000 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled more than $100,000.

PERU – Earthquake

On August 15, 2007, a magnitude 8.0 earthquake struck off the Pacific coast of Peru. The earthquake's epicenter was located near the town of Chincha Alta, 95 miles southeast of Lima. Aftershocks continued for several weeks. The earthquake resulted in 593 deaths and 1,291 injuries, according to the Government of Peru (GOP). While the earthquake caused damage in many central provinces, the most affected were Cañete, Chincha, Ica, Pisco, and Yauyos. The earthquake destroyed more than 48,000 houses and damaged approximately 91,000 others. The earthquake also damaged roads, schools, and hospitals and disrupted electrical, water, and sewage services. In mountainous areas, the earthquake resulted in landslides that damaged or buried irrigation canals crucial for the areas' agriculture-based economies.

On August 16, U.S. Ambassador P. Michael McKinley declared a disaster due to the effects of the earthquake. USAID immediately deployed a six-member emergency team to join USAID/Peru staff in assessing damages, determining humanitarian needs, and coordinating the USG relief effort.

Based on the USAID team's assessments, OFDA provided more than $2.4 million to support emergency activities in Peru. Funding priorities included shelter; water, sanitation, and hygiene; rubble removal; and the procurement and distribution of relief supplies. OFDA provided temporary shelter assistance for approximately 4,500 affected families in Cañete, Chincha, Ica, and Yauyos provinces. OFDA partners assisted families and communities with rubble removal, construction of temporary shelters, and rehabilitation of existing water and sanitation systems. The Peruvian Corps of Voluntary Firefighters, which has received technical assistance and training from OFDA for several years, provided support for the implementation of the shelter program.

In addition, through five airlifts, OFDA delivered 1,100 rolls of plastic sheeting, four 10,000-liter water bladders, 7,800 ten-liter water containers, 15,000 blankets, and 500 body bags, as well as an office support module for the U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team. Valued at more than $1 million, including transport, these commodities benefited thousands of earthquake-affected Peruvians.

FACTOID

Peru, and most of the South American Pacific coast, is located on the border of two tectonic plates. The South American plate sits beneath the entire continent and extends across the Atlantic Ocean about halfway to Africa. The Nazca plate extends across the Pacific Ocean along most of South America's west coast.

The August 15 earthquake flattened a house in San Clemente District, Peru, leaving only a door in the midst of the rubble (Photo by Alexandra Riboul, USAID).

The USG also responded to emergency needs through DOD, which deployed medical teams to provide surgical and basic primary care in the affected areas, two C-130 planes to transport a surgical operating room package, medicines, and medical and emergency relief supplies.

Implementing Partners in Peru
CARE, Caritas, Peruvian Red Cross, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children, UNDAC, and World Vision

OFDA Assistance .....$2,208,547[6]

ST. LUCIA – Hurricane

From August 16 to 17, 2007, high winds, storm surge, and flooding resulting from Hurricane Dean affected the eastern Caribbean island of St. Lucia. Passing by St. Lucia as a category two storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale, the hurricane killed one person, caused widespread damage in the agricultural sector, and damaged housing and infrastructure.

On August 15, a four-person USAID emergency team arrived in Bridgetown, Barbados, in advance of Hurricane Dean's approach to the eastern Caribbean.

On August 23, U.S. Chief of Mission for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Clyde I. Howard declared a disaster in St. Lucia due to the effects of Hurricane Dean. In response, OFDA provided 50 rolls of plastic sheeting for emergency shelter repair activities, valued at more than $40,000, including transportation.

Implementing Partner in St. Lucia
St. Lucia National Emergency Management Organization

OFDA Assistance ..... $22,182[7]

[6] In response to the Peru earthquake, OFDA provided a total of nearly $2.7 million, including approximately $500,000 in FY 2008 disaster funds and stockpiled commodities.

[7] Including $18,250 of stockpiled commodities, OFDA's assistance totaled more than $40,000.

URUGUAY – Floods

In April and May 2007, unprecedented heavy rainfall caused severe flooding in central and southern Uruguay. Durazno, Soriano, and Treinta y Tres were the most affected departments, according to OCHA. At its peak, the flooding resulted in the evacuation of more than 12,000 residents and affected an estimated 110,000 people. Floodwaters caused serious structural damage to numerous houses and other buildings, cut off transportation routes, and damaged infrastructure.

Floodwaters inundate city streets in Uruguay following unprecedented rainfall in April and May 2007 (Courtesy of Mercedes Rambla Hotel).

On May 11, U.S. Ambassador Frank E. Baxter declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. In response, OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo to a flood relief fund created by the Office of the President of Uruguay. These funds were used for the local purchase of emergency relief supplies including food, safe drinking water, blankets, and cleaning kits. In addition, two OFDA disaster specialists traveled to Uruguay to conduct assessments.

Implementing Partner in Uruguay
Government of Uruguay's Office of the President

OFDA Assistance $50,000

Experts and Expats: Responding to Disasters in the LAC Region

Diedra Spencer

Throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, floods routinely decimate cropland and destroy vital infrastructure. Millions of people brace themselves for hurricane-related devastation each year. Active volcanoes threaten mountain villages. Earthquakes level buildings. Landslides and drought wreak havoc on young and old alike. Forest fires flare out of control. Spanning more than 30 countries and territories, composed of myriad ethnic groups, and including populations that speak approximately 350 official or indigenous languages, this region is as diverse as the disasters that beset it.

To meet the complex challenges inherent to disaster preparedness and response in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, OFDA launched the Regional Disaster Assistance Program (RDAP) in Latin America in May 1989 and expanded the program in 1991 to include Caribbean countries. Through this program, OFDA not only monitors conditions and responds to rapid-onset disasters but also prepares populations through area-specific and culturally appropriate training programs.[1] RDAP supports local disaster assistance efforts from Brazil to the Bahamas, from Peru to Panama, each of which is prone to a unique variety of natural disasters and has varying national and local response capabilities.

An OFDA regional advisor, RDAP disaster management experts, and an RDAP on-call consultant collaborate with other disaster responders to assess conditions in Nicaragua following Hurricane Felix (Photo by Alejandro Torres, USAID).

[1] Since 1998, partner organization International Resources Group has implemented RDAP.

An RDAP disaster management expert and Nicaraguan Red Cross volunteers teach a hurricane-affected community how to use OFDA-funded plastic sheeting (Photo by Pedro Soto, USAID).

First Responders: Disaster Experts in the LAC Region

RDAP supports a network of 19 Latin America- and Caribbean-based disaster experts who promote and enhance local disaster response capabilities. The experts monitor disasters and corresponding humanitarian conditions firsthand in the 30 countries where RDAP is operational. Located throughout the region, the network of experts enables OFDA to respond appropriately and quickly when disasters arise.

Living in countries across the region and available for immediate deployment at all times, the experts are able to quickly arrive at a disaster site, reducing or obviating the need for slower and more expensive deployments of international staff, including expatriate staff from OFDA headquarters or other donor countries. RDAP experts have years of experience working in national disaster management agencies and international emergency response organizations and have extensive contacts throughout their respective countries.

For more than 18 years, these experts have conducted damage assessments, transmitted assessment results to OFDA headquarters, and provided guidance on disaster responses. Each year during the Atlantic hurricane season, RDAP experts deploy to countries in the projected path of major storms to initiate early coordination with local disaster agencies, ensuring a swift and effective response. As part of RDAP, OFDA also maintains a roster of on-call disaster management consultants who may be called upon as needed in the wake of a sudden-onset emergency. When necessary, OFDA deploys additional headquarters-based staff to assist RDAP experts and consultants.

RDAP's Tailored Training and Technical Assistance Programs

Beyond responding to rapid-onset emergencies, RDAP disaster experts provide guidance on disaster preparedness and mitigation activities by supporting a multi-course training and technical assistance program. The program includes instruction in disaster management concepts, training methodology, and technical disciplines. Throughout the region, these experts tailor training and technical assistance programs to meet the needs—and build upon the strengths—of local and national disaster management experts.

Training program participants include local and national government officials as well as representatives of civil defense agencies, firefighters, NGOs, local Red Cross Societies, and the private sector, all of whom are among the first to respond to any disaster. Relevant and practical, training programs supported by RDAP have prepared thousands of people. More than 44,000 disaster or disaster-related professionals throughout the LAC region have successfully completed at least one of these

courses. In addition, more than 4,600 disaster management instructors across 30 countries have been certified through the RDAP-supported program.

Demonstrating Success

A measure of the program's success is the way in which it has evolved since its inception. When OFDA first implemented this program, RDAP experts conducted the training courses, which OFDA funded. As time passed, RDAP experts spent less time conducting the training programs and more time facilitating "train the trainer" programs and developing capacity. RDAP's approach assisted local and national disaster management organizations to begin conducting their own programs using RDAP materials, methodologies, and tools. Concurrently, these local and national organizations began funding many of these training programs, drills, and exercises.

Today, the assistance program has assumed a life of its own. Disaster response organizations in host countries are funding the entirety of—and, in many cases, independently facilitating—training and technical programs developed under RDAP, calling upon the RDAP experts for technical guidance when needed. LAC countries now benefit from "second generation" disaster management leadership and capabilities, as former participants emerge not only as trainers and facilitators but also as senior disaster managers and policy makers in their respective countries.

Through the RDAP regional training program and with the assistance of disaster experts throughout the LAC region, OFDA swiftly responds to disasters and effectively prepares local and national disaster responders to do the same. The ultimate aim of the RDAP training program is to ensure that local populations are prepared for and can adequately respond to disasters. RDAP succeeds when countries no longer require as much—or any—assistance from the USG to respond to disasters. This success results from developing institutional capacity, increasing knowledge, and enhancing disaster response skills.

Courtesy of the USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program

$70.4 million in **OFDA** assistance

Disaster risk reduction activities in **30** countries in
Latin America and the Caribbean

Disaster alert text messages
reaching nearly **800** Philippine National
Red Cross and partner agency staff

Drought mitigation programs in
6 countries in **Southern Africa** to
strengthen communities' food security

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

A staff member of an OFDA-funded risk reduction program and a local Cambodian villager discuss the Mekong River Flood Early Warning System (Photo by Fiona Shanks, USAID).

In FY 2007, a variety of natural disasters simultaneously tested and strengthened OFDA's commitment to disaster risk reduction. To minimize populations' risks to all types of natural disasters, OFDA devoted more than $70.4 million to disaster risk reduction programs, including nearly $28.7 million for avian influenza preparedness activities, in FY 2007.

By making these strategic investments, OFDA is saving lives, alleviating suffering, protecting assets and infrastructure, and helping avert costly relief operations. Since OFDA's establishment in 1964, the office has been a leader in developing not only emergency response activities but also disaster risk reduction capacities worldwide.

OFDA's Disaster Risk Reduction Programs: Minimizing Impact and Enhancing Self-Sufficiency

OFDA supports a variety of disaster risk reduction activities implemented by partner organizations. Recognizing that effective risk reduction programs must be tailored to the specific—and often multiple—hazards that communities face, OFDA emphasizes building local disaster management capabilities. OFDA strives to promote local and national disaster risk reduction and capacity through the provision of training and technical assistance. By enhancing the ability of both the national government and local communities to identify, mitigate, and respond effectively to potential crises, OFDA continues to work toward advancing self-sufficiency in disaster management. In collaboration with governments, U.N. agencies, NGOs, and local communities, OFDA strongly encourages multi-sectoral dialogue and action to address disaster risk reduction in an integrated, comprehensive manner. Assisting nations to effectively manage their own risks, mitigate disaster impacts, and avert crises safeguards key human and economic investments.

OFDA provided nearly $49 million for global disaster risk reduction programs in FY 2007, including in the following areas:

- Avian Influenza Preparedness
- Volcano monitoring and surveillance programs
- Strengthening international, national, and regional capacity on hydrometeorological forecasting and applications
- Protection of IDPs and vulnerable populations
- Mitigation of the effects of transboundary pests
- Promotion of high quality livestock and seed interventions
- Emergency health and nutrition preparedness programs

Latin America and the Caribbean

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) are highly vulnerable to a host of natural disasters ranging from earthquakes and hurricanes to floods, landslides, volcanoes, and drought. In addition, several countries in the region face civil conflict and complex emergencies. Since the establishment of the Regional Disaster Assistance Program[1] (RDAP) in 1989, OFDA's disaster risk reduction programs in the region have evolved to provide greater technical assistance and enhance local and national capabilities to effectively respond to, manage, and reduce the impact of natural disasters. For example, in many LAC countries, a national cadre, developed through previous trainings, now conducts disaster management training, and OFDA provides only technical assistance through a regional office and network of consultants.

Reducing Risks and Saving Lives in Colombia

The USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) in Colombia illustrates OFDA's outstanding performance in the LAC region. An OFDA-funded risk reduction program implemented by USGS since 1986, VDAP provides technical assistance to volcano-monitoring organizations worldwide. VDAP components include crisis response, training for risk assessment, the development of early warning systems, and the transfer of volcano-monitoring equipment and technology.

Following the February 2007 eruption of Nevado Huila Volcano, USAID deployed three volcanologists to the affected area. The team provided technical training on volcano-monitoring technology, response-related communication contingency plans, and the development and implementation of evacuation plans. On April 18, a second eruption occurred, resulting in a lahar (volcanic mudflow). Relying on the training provided by VDAP during the first visit, INGEOMINAS, a Government of Colombia (GOC) volcano and earthquake agency, recommended the evacuation of an estimated 5,000 people from the affected area on the southern side of the volcano prior to the eruption. VDAP's assistance in successfully forecasting eruptions and the rapid and timely response of VDAP and the GOC proved integral to saving lives and preventing serious injures. In April, VDAP returned to Colombia to assist INGEOMINAS in interpreting data on the volcano's activity. VDAP also improved and expanded the monitoring network at the volcano and INGEOMINAS observatory infrastructure in Popayán, Cauca Department.

[1] See "Experts and Expats: Responding to Disasters in the LAC Region" on page 106.

A community fire brigade works with local farmers to build a fire break in a high risk area in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula (Courtesy of Niños y Crías).

Wildfire Prevention and Disaster Preparedness in Mexico

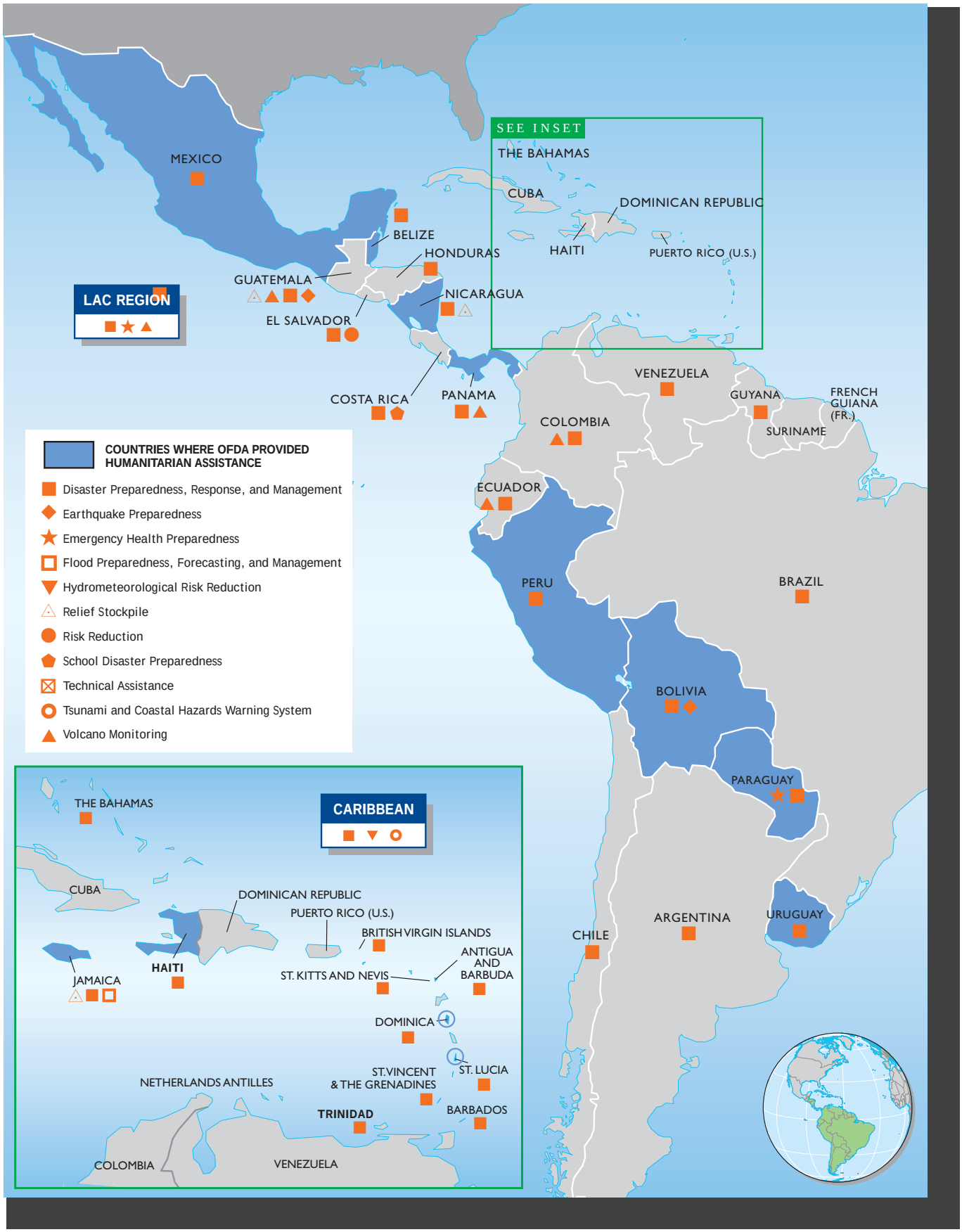
In 2005, three hurricanes—Emily, Stan, and Wilma—destroyed trees and brushed across more than 860,000 hectares of land in Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula, increasing the wildfire risk from the piles of hurricane-related debris. To address these concerns, OFDA partnered with USFS, USAID/Mexico, and the Government of Mexico's National Forest Commission to develop a plan to manage the risk of wildfire and ensure effective and safe responses at the local, regional, and national levels. Based on the ongoing work of USAID/USFS Fire Management Program, the program helped increase inter-agency coordination and capacity at all levels while mitigating health, environmental, and economic damages. Between 2005 and 2007, program activities focused on prevention, preparedness, and planning and concentrated on priority areas identified by an inter-agency assessment conducted in December 2005.

Through the program, hurricane-affected communities conducted workshops to identify components to include in the communities' fire protection plans. More than 190 staff in relevant agencies in the affected states of Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatán, and Quintana Roo received training in USFS Incident Command System, a method for responding to fires and other disasters, to enhance their effectiveness at coordinating disaster management.

OFDA's Hurricane Preparedness Efforts for the Hurricane Season of 2007

Before the first hurricane of 2007 made landfall in the LAC region, forecasters had already warned that the 2007 Atlantic hurricane activity would be above average. OFDA's preparedness initiatives for the hurricane season started with the pre-positioning of relief supplies in vulnerable areas of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. By the peak of the hurricane season in September, OFDA had drawn on the pre-positioned commodities in response to hurricanes Dean and Felix, ensuring that critical relief supplies reached affected communities without delay.

ONGOING OFDA DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



In Latin America and the Caribbean, OFDA provided nearly $7 million for disaster risk reduction programs in FY 2007, including in the following areas:

- Disaster management and first responder training
- Simulation exercises for disaster preparedness, including hurricanes and earthquakes
- Early warning systems for floods and tsunamis
- Earthquake and volcano monitoring and surveillance programs
- Emergency health preparedness programs

Strengthening Risk Management in El Salvador

In October 2005, two eruptions at the Ilamatepec Volcano deposited a large amount of material at the volcano's summit. Following the volcanic eruptions, heavy rains resulted in floods, landslides, and lahar in surrounding communities. To address the country's vulnerability to these natural hazards, in FY 2007, OFDA provided funding through USAID/El Salvador to the Centro de Protección de Desastres (CEPRODE) to support activities to strengthen the risk mitigation and disaster management capacities in the municipalities of El Congo, Santa Ana, and other communities on the eastern side of the Ilamatepec Volcano. The program manages capacity building activities to support risk reduction activities and promote appropriate emergency response actions. Project activities include creating school, municipal, and community civil protection commissions; developing plans and risk maps; equipping shelters, operation centers, and emergency brigades; identifying secure evacuation routes; conducting periodic evacuation simulations; leading risk management trainings for students and teachers; and installing rain gages in three schools. CEPRODE coordinates efforts with a variety of partners, including the National Civil Protection System and the Government of El Salvador's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health.

Asia and the Pacific

OFDA's disaster risk reduction efforts in Asia and the Pacific began in 1995 in order to address the region's vulnerability to a host of natural and human-made disasters. Natural disasters such as the Pakistan earthquake in 2005 and the South Asian tsunami in 2004, as well as pressure from growing populations and uncontrolled industrialization, have tested existing local and regional disaster management capabilities. OFDA works to empower local responders in the region and promotes an integrated approach to disaster risk reduction, based primarily on long-term engagement with national disaster management authorities.

OFDA-funded disaster risk reduction programs in Asia include flood and storm early warning systems, disaster management training, urban disaster mitigation initiatives, volcano-monitoring equipment and training, earthquake safety initiatives, and community-based conflict mitigation programs.

Promoting Private Sector Role for Disaster Assistance in China

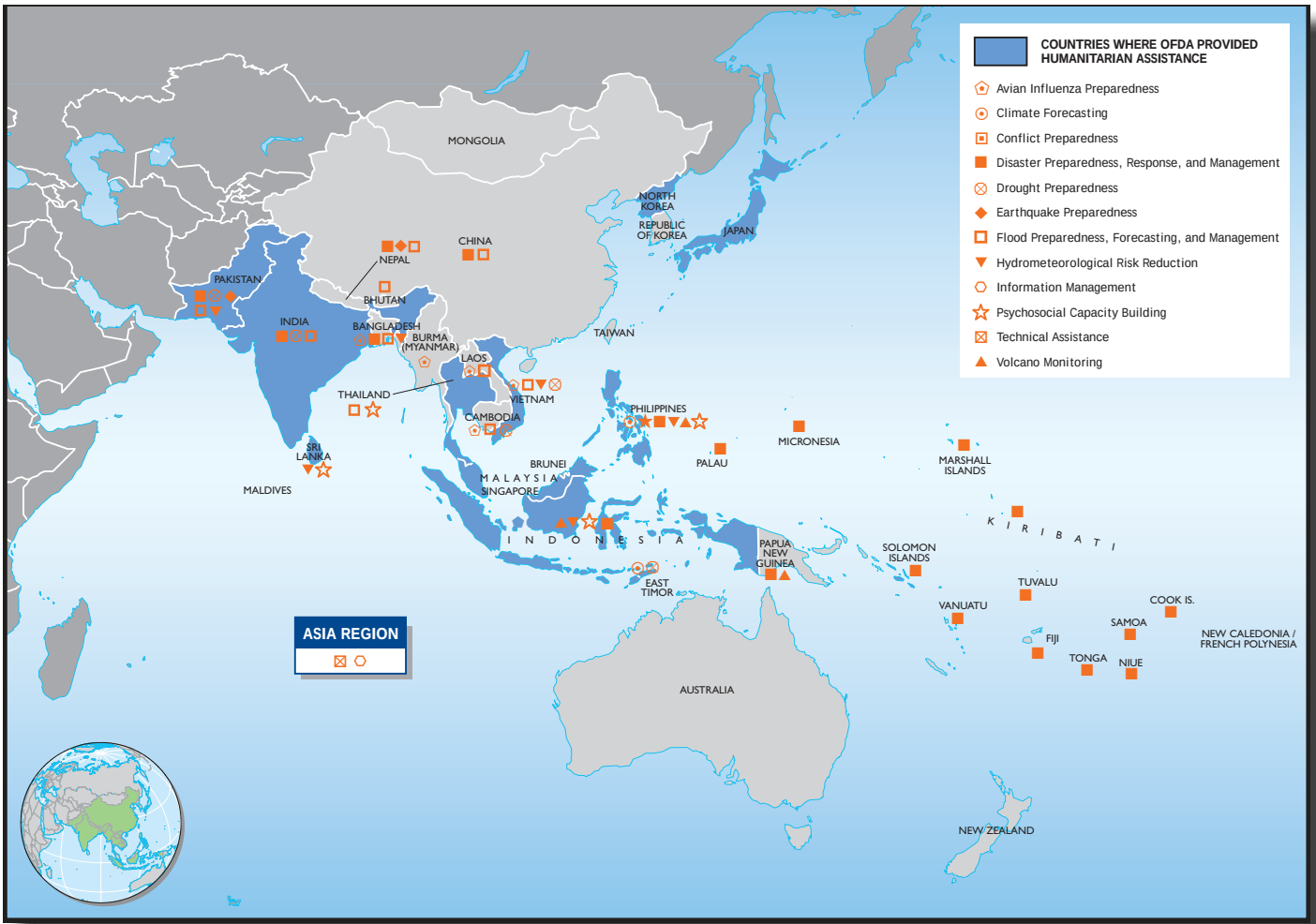
To address the recurrence of natural disasters in China, OFDA is supporting The Asia Foundation (TAF) to enhance private sector participation in and contributions to disaster risk reduction, and to promote multi-sectoral approaches to disaster management. TAF is cooperating with the American Chamber of Commerce in China, Chinese business associations, and the Government of the Republic of China's Ministry of Civil Affairs, which has a lead role in disaster management in the country. The program also involves domestic NGOs and charities such as the China Charity Federation. Project activities include national awareness-raising workshops, community-based mitigation initiatives, capacity-building training for NGOs, and the development of a webpage and a disaster preparedness manual.

Earthquake Mitigation: Providing Seismic Resistant Shelters in Indonesia

Indonesia is one of the most seismically active countries in the world due to the country's location at the junction of the colliding Australian and Eurasian tectonic plates. Because the country is part of the Pacific "ring of fire," multiple earthquakes occur in Indonesia each year. Since FY 2004, OFDA has responded to six earthquakes in Indonesia that disrupted the lives of over one million people and destroyed or damaged thousands of houses and shelters.

Recognizing both the short- and long-term shelter needs of earthquake survivors, OFDA supports transitional shelter interventions, which are designed to lay the groundwork for long-term reconstruction. OFDA promotes the use of salvaged and existing

ONGOING OFDA DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



local building materials to allow affected populations to create earthquake-resistant houses. This strategy enhances cost-effectiveness, livelihood generation, hazard mitigation, and sustainability.

Following the magnitude 6.3 earthquake that struck the Indonesian island of Java in May 2006, OFDA contributed approximately $5 million to support direct shelter interventions and training programs. A portion of these funds was used to provide transitional shelter assistance to more than 18,000 households. Shelter reconstruction activities indirectly benefited affected populations through livelihood restoration and increased household security.

OFDA's successful transitional shelter efforts in Indonesia resulted in the extension of the program, in collaboration with the World Bank, through FY 2007. In support of this program, the World Bank allocated $6.5 million for the construction of approximately 24,000 transitional houses.

Power Text System: Disaster Alert System in the Philippines

On January 22, 2007, U.S. Ambassador Kristie A. Kennedy and the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) Chairman Senator Richard Gordon launched a disaster alert system via an exchange of text messages. An increasingly popular and low-cost method of communication, text messaging alert systems are being adopted by disaster management agencies for rapid mass dissemination of disaster alerts. With only $7,660 from OFDA, the PNRC was able to purchase software to issue text message disaster alerts in the Philippines.

The text messages provide weather alerts, reaching local officials and populations at the sub-district level. The alerts enable the PNRC to quickly mobilize response teams to provide assistance to affected

U.S. Ambassador Kristie A. Kennedy and PNRC Chairman Senator Richard Gordon launch the disaster alert system via text messaging in the Philippines (Courtesy of U.S. Embassy in Manila).

populations, as well as issue alerts and evacuation instructions when appropriate. As of November 2007, approximately 800 Red Cross staff, in addition to staff from other partner agencies, were receiving regular disaster updates through the Power Text System. The PNRC is working to expand the database so that additional members will be able to send and receive information across the country. According to Roderic Salve at the PNRC, "The use of the PNRC Disaster Alert System through the Power Text Messaging Software had indeed given us an edge in providing real-time emergency and disaster information coming from the field and as well as disseminating this information to our management staff for decision making and actions."

In Asia and the Pacific, OFDA provided nearly $6.5 million for disaster risk reduction programs in FY 2007, including in the following areas:

- Training in Disaster Management
- Strengthening local and regional risk mitigation programming for volcanoes, earthquakes, and floods
- Developing national and regional emergency response experts
- Promoting drought and flood preparedness programs
- Supporting conflict mitigation initiatives

Africa

Building on the successes of disaster risk reduction programs in Asia, the Pacific, and LAC, OFDA supports preparedness initiatives to target many hazards across Africa. Similar to Asia and LAC, African countries are vulnerable to a host of natural disasters, as well as challenges posed by ongoing crises, including drought, food insecurity, and protracted civil unrest. OFDA disaster risk reduction efforts in Africa emphasize building local capacity and improving communication, transportation, and information networks to more effectively respond to disasters.

Reducing Food Insecurity through Drought Mitigation in Southern Africa

In Southern Africa, rural communities rely heavily on rain-fed agriculture. Variability in rainfall can adversely impact crop productivity. Because of a lack of resources and technology available to poor, rural farmers in Southern Africa, low or irregular rainfall patterns or flooding across the agricultural season or in the aggregate can put thousands of households at serious risk of food insecurity. Production shocks and food insecurity can deter economic growth and development and undermine resilience to future crises. Malaria, HIV/AIDS, and other public health and nutrition risks can further exacerbate the situation. In FY 2007, OFDA provided more than $3 million to support drought mitigation initiatives to strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable communities in Southern Africa.

In FY 2007, OFDA began a partnership with International Relief and Development (IRD) to strengthen food security through a drought mitigation program in Shiselweni and Lubombo districts in Swaziland. The districts were selected due to their high vulnerability to droughts and the large percentage of population relying on food assistance. Through the use of a community-based approach, IRD is expanding the availability of safe drinking water, conducting hygiene promotion activities, and increasing farm yields through water harvesting systems and conservation farming techniques. Together, these activities are helping to mitigate the adverse effects of cyclical drought patterns by increasing community resilience.

OFDA is also supporting CRS to implement the Rehabilitation through Irrigation and Production Extension (RIPE II) program to conduct irrigation activities to increase food production in the most vulnerable communities of Malawi. Building on the successful implementation experiences of the OFDA-funded RIPE I program in 2005, RIPE II will continue to increase food security in Malawi through the implementation of small-scale, community-based, replicable irrigation systems. As a result, vulnerable communities will have consistent food production and experience self-sufficiency.

Strengthening Nutrition Activities in Burkina Faso and Chad

Following the 2005 nutrition crisis in Niger, populations in many Sahelian countries continued to experience high rates of persistent acute malnutrition. The 2005 crisis highlighted the challenges that host countries face in responding to acute malnutrition and the importance of elevating nutrition in Sahelian countries' development plans. Since 2005, OFDA has made significant investments to develop and revise treatment protocols using a community-managed acute malnutrition model. This capacity is intended to serve as a sustainable means for host governments to treat acute malnutrition and better manage surges in acute malnutrition in the future.

With OFDA funding, UNICEF is implementing a one-year project to reduce the rates of severe acute undernutrition and mortality in children under the age of five. UNICEF is providing nutrition education to promote optimal infant and young child feeding practices and hygiene, conducting training for health workers and community volunteers, and distributing therapeutic foods and other nutrition supplies. UNICEF is collaborating with WFP, Valid International, WHO, communities, and relevant government ministries.

In Africa, OFDA provided more than $8.4 million for disaster risk reduction programs in FY 2007, including in the following areas:

- Expansion of nutrition activities in Burkina Faso and Chad
- Drought mitigation through community management in Southern Africa
- Irrigation and production extension programs
- Cassava mosaic disease mitigation efforts
- Disaster-warning networks, including radio stations
- Climate forecasting and applications

Assessing Future Earthquake Risk in Algeria

Following the magnitude 6.8 earthquake that struck east of Algeria's capital city of Algiers in May 2003, OFDA immediately airlifted emergency relief supplies to earthquake-affected communities. To reduce the impact of future earthquakes in the region, OFDA provided $220,000 in FY 2005 for a two-year earthquake mitigation project implemented by USGS in partnership with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Institut de Physique du Globe in France, and Centre de Recherche en Astronomie Astrophysique et Géophysique in Algeria. The initiative enhanced the assessment of earthquake risk in both the highly populated city of Algiers and the active seismic belt that spans Morocco, Northern Algeria, and Tunisia. In addition, the team implementing the project has developed seismic hazard analysis tools for Algerian researchers to assess regional earthquake hazards and raise public awareness.

Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia

Natural disasters such as avalanches, cyclones, drought, earthquakes, floods, and wildfires frequently affect countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia (EMCA). In addition to natural disasters, rapid urban growth and environmental degradation are

ONGOING OFDA DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN AFRICA, EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND CENTRAL ASIA

leading to overcrowding and forced settlement in risk-prone, marginal lands in rural and urban areas throughout the region. Recognizing these vulnerabilities, OFDA supports several disaster risk reduction projects in EMCA, including hazard mitigation programs and a shelter and settlements initiative.

An OFDA shelter specialist assesses seismic-resistant transitional shelter in Kabul, Afghanistan (Photo by Lee Malany, USAID).

Capacity Building Program for Emergency Management in Turkey

In March of 2007, a team of specialists from OFDA, the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue traveled to Turkey to discuss emergency management systems with various stakeholders within the Government of Turkey. Following the initial consultation, representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, OFDA, and the U.S. Forest Service continued to explore the potential for a partnership program based on identified gaps from the March visit.

The Kabul Area Shelter and Settlements Project (KASS)

In an effort to address limited low-cost housing in what may be the world's fastest growing city, OFDA supported the creation of a shelter and settlements program in seven of Kabul's 22 districts, in formal partnership with USAID/Afghanistan, implementing partner CARE and for the first time in the history of OFDA a local government, the Kabul Municipality (KM). KASS project featured the provision of seismic-resistant transitional shelter; latrines, safe water supplies, drainage, and road graveling; and training programs in environmental health, sanitation, and seismic hazard mitigation. Vulnerable households have also benefited from the creation of 35 community councils to help prioritize and respond to local needs for public services and liaise with KM authorities on shelter and settlements issues. More than 26,000 people received shelter assistance as part of project activities.

In Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia, OFDA provided nearly $32,000 for disaster risk reduction programs region in FY 2007, including in the following areas:

- Capacity-building for transitional initiatives
- Shelter and settlements monitoring

Stemming the Spread of Cassava Mosaic Disease in East and Central Africa

Marian Spivey-Estrada

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 sub-Saharan Africa. In a continent where HIV/AIDS, erratic climate conditions, and conflict continuously threaten household agricultural production, cassava is a critical crop for food insecure households. The cassava plant is drought tolerant and performs well in poor soils. Cassava roots can also be harvested over a long timeframe and stored longer than other crops, making it ideal in conflict situations. Not surprisingly, the annual gross production of cassava is greater than that of any other crop on the African continent.

Despite its heartiness, during the late 1980s cassava began to encounter an unusually severe pandemic of cassava mosaic disease (CMD) virus. CMD rapidly spread across East and Central Africa, leading to losses of more than 40 percent of total production. Countering the spread of CMD has not been easy. The first signs of the disease—yellowing, stunting, and leaf loss—are often misdiagnosed by farmers, who assume plants are sickly due to a lack of rain. While plant yields are reduced during the first agricultural season of infection, it is not until the second or third season that farmers are confronted with the devastating impact: the lack of productivity in all infected plants. The sharp decline in cassava production causes a shock to household food security and also contributes to the spread of the disease, since farmers create their own planting material from diseased plants. As a result, CMD has disrupted local economies and threatened food security in virtually all areas where cassava is grown.

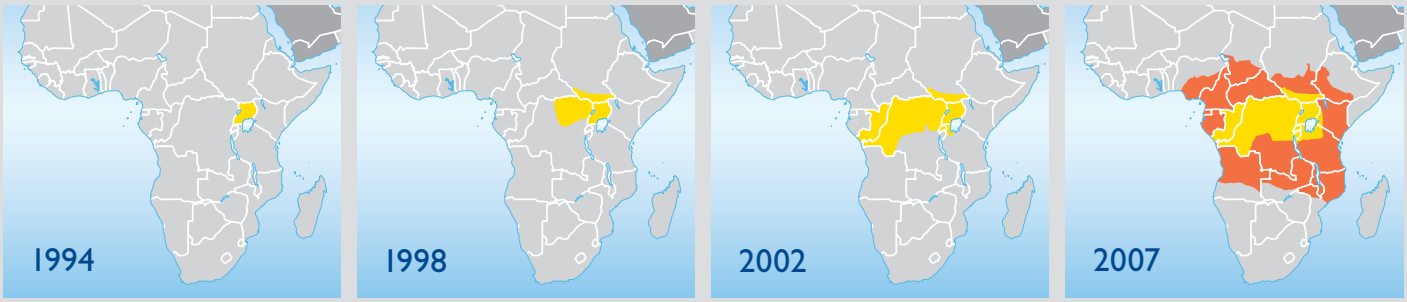
For nearly a decade, OFDA-funded mitigation programs have played a key role in catalyzing regional control efforts. In October 1998, OFDA began funding the Emergency Program to Combat the CMD Pandemic in East Africa, the first region-wide CMD control program of its kind. Since then, OFDA partner the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) has monitored the spread of CMD, conducted information campaigns on disease identification, and multiplied and disseminated CMD-resistant planting material to vulnerable farmers in East and Central Africa. Today, the impact of OFDA funding is both visible and widespread.

> "What we are having to deal with here is a bit like a crop plant equivalent of the HIV/AIDS crisis: a devastating infection sweeping through cassava crops across a vast geographic area."
>
> – James Legg, IITA

Visualizing the threat

Two cassava mosaic viruses—African Cassava Mosaic Disease and East African Cassava Mosaic Disease—had long been present across Sub-Saharan Africa, reducing yields but not completely destroying the crops. However, in the late 1980s, strains of these viruses combined in north-central Uganda, resulting in a more destructive form of the virus, with severe symptoms and dramatic crop losses in nearly all varieties of cassava.

In the 1990s the pandemic spread in all directions—throughout Uganda and then into western Kenya and Tanzania. In 1997 and 1998, with USAID support, a number of international agricultural research centers conducted diagnostic surveys in nine African countries, concluding that serious control efforts were needed.



Source: IITA

The CMD pandemic spread across East and Central Africa between 1990 and 2007, eventually encompassing nine countries.

Mitigating the effects of the CMD pandemic

Since 1998, when OFDA began to support efforts to combat severe CMD, implementing partner IITA has managed and expanded a comprehensive CMD mitigation program (see box), targeting areas of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Republic of Congo, Burundi, and Rwanda. An independent evaluation commissioned in 2004 validated OFDA support for CMD mitigation efforts. According to the study, the introduction of CMD-resistant planting material has had a pronounced effect on the recovery of cassava production, food availability, and household food security.

In general, the new CMD-resistant varieties produce significantly higher yields than traditional varieties, bolstering incomes by enabling farmers to sell surplus production. Beneficaries have used the proceeds from cassava sales to pay children's school fees, purchase small livestock, and hire labor to assist in crop production.

CMD Mitigation Activities Implemented by IITA

- *Monitoring and diagnostics surveys.* To best target mitigation activities, IITA charts the pandemic's spread and identifies areas worst-affected and immediately threatened.
- *Multiplication of CMD-resistant varieties.* IITA provides regional leadership in the multiplication and dissemination of base stocks of newly-identified CMD-resistant varieties, mitigating the effects of food shortages and crop losses.
- *Germplasm diversification and exchange.* There are relatively few strains of CMD-resistant cassava. In order to strengthen stocks of CMD-resistant material, IITA works to diversify and exchange new germplasm, ensuring new varieites remain resistant to evolving CMD strains.
- *Training and information dissemination.* IITA ensures technology transfer for extension workers and farmers and promotes CMD mitigation at the community level.
- *Project management and monitoring.* IITA oversees CMD mitigation programs across the region, ensuring successful activities in each country proceed at the maximum speed.

By substituting cassava flour for wheat flour, they have also reduced food expenditures, purchased other basic necessities, and increased savings. Beneficiaries who took part in stem multiplication and diffusion reaped even more benefits, as they were able to participate in training sessions and commercialization activities. In many cases, improved agronomic practices ensued. For example, many beneficaries now plant stems horizontally to expose more nodes to the soil, which produces more roots and overall higher yields.

Commericialization activities have enhanced the food-security impacts of the CMD Program. IITA distributed a small number of cassava processors to community-based organizations involved in stem multiplication. Hand- and fuel-powered cassava chippers and flour-mills enable groups to process and sell surplus, improving incomes and access to food. As a result, community-based cassava processing groups have reduced labor time, improved the quality of chips and flour, and now can command higher prices.

Examining the status of CMD mitigation efforts at the country level

A cursory glance at three countries in various stages of recovery illustrates how OFDA assistance has enabled IITA to improve food security by curbing the effects of CMD.

Uganda

Since 1998, IITA mitigation activities in Uganda have achieved significant results. Data collected in 2007 revealed that, for the first time, CMD-resistant varieties are cultivated in more than half of all farmers' fields in Uganda. Moreover, a CMD-resistant variety is now the most widely cultivated of all cassava varieties in Uganda. WFP has noted that cassava produced and consumed by IDPs permits WFP to broaden the coverage of its limited food resources. The conflict-affected northern districts, where uprooted populations require continuous restocking, are the only areas where IITA activities continue.

Kenya

In 2002, following six years of intensive IITA interventions, cassava production recovered to pre-pandemic levels in Kenya. IITA activities in Kenya worked particularly well as they built on the country's strong national research system, linkages between regional and international organizations, and willingness to take policy and procedural steps to speed up

recovery. CMD-resistant varieties are now grown by almost one-third of cassava producers in Western and Nyanza provinces. This represents nearly 20 percent of cassava production for all of Kenya.[1]

Burundi

Since 2002, OFDA support for CMD pandemic mitigation in Burundi has galvanized the countrywide effort to restore cassava production, earning support from both government and civil society organizations. With support from IITA, the Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi (ISABU) has led control efforts by identifying the most resistant and farmer-preferred varieties, working with governmental and NGO partners to start multiplication and dissemination efforts, raising awareness of the CMD threat, and implementing training programs. Multiplication work is proceeding rapidly across Burundi, and farmers are now beginning to plant disease-resistant varieties. IITA expects significant results in the next four years.

A farmer shows the roots of a CMD-infected cassava plant. A plant infected with severe CMD might yield 1 kg with little if any roots (Courtesy of IITA).

[1] Although a number of projects have supported CMD mitigation in Kenya, the OFDA project represents the largest and most sustained contribution.

Farmers show a cassava root from a CMD-resistant variety. A healthy cassava plant can yield 4.2 kg of roots (Courtesy of IITA).

And Beyond

In view of the continued expansion of the pandemic, IITA continues to sustain and extend mitigation work. The project is working to address deteriorating food security situations as CMD expands south and west to bordering countries, including CAR, Cameroon, Angola, Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique. IITA is currently conducting a comprehensive CMD monitoring survey in Zambia to provide key baseline data on the status of cassava and CMD prior to the anticipated arrival of the pandemic.

Making a difference

With OFDA support, IITA has pioneered the use of disease surveillance to monitor the spread of the disease and target interventions, initiating activities ahead of the pandemic 'front'. By taking a holistic approach to tackling the CMD pandemic, OFDA's CMD Mitigation Project has led CMD mitigaton efforts across East and Central Africa.

As a consequence, the project has arguably been the most important contributor to the regional CMD pandemic mitigation effort in East and Central Africa. Most importantly, CMD-resistant varieties are now available to a large number of cassava producers, resulting in significant improvements in the food security of millions of vulnerable people. For more information on the OFDA IITA project, visit http://c3project.iita.org.

Funding Summary - FY 2007 Disasters

Obligations from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Affected	Dead[1]	Obligation[1]	Disaster Assistance Provided by OFDA
Africa						
Angola	Floods	01/25/07	15,000	71	$617,932	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; capacity building, food security, agriculture, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Burkina Faso	Meningitis Epidemic	04/10/07	25,044	1,663	$450,000	Health activities
Burkina Faso	Floods	09/26/07	92,794	52	$50,000	Vouchers to purchase food and emergency relief supplies
Central African Republic[2]	Complex Emergency	01/31/07	1 million	-	$4,876,031	Airlift of emergency relief supplies; food security, agriculture, health, nutrition, humanitarian coordination, logistics, livelihoods, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Chad	Complex Emergency	10/03/06	880,000	-	$8,764,223	Agriculture, food security, health, protection, nutrition, humanitarian coordination and information management, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs; humanitarian air transportation; airlift of emergency relief supplies
Côte d'Ivoire	Complex Emergency	11/24/06	712,230	-	$2,996,216	Protection, health, agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, humanitarian coordination, information management, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
DRC	Complex Emergency	09/29/06	3.3 million	4 million	$28,993,028	Health, nutrition, agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, emergency relief supplies, protection, humanitarian coordination programs; road rehabilitation; transportation of relief personnel and materials
DRC	Ebola	09/21/07	372	166	$100,000	Dissemination of health messages
Eritrea	Complex Emergency	10/06/06	-	-	$2,893,648	Coordination, health, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene programs
Ethiopia	Complex Emergency	08/16/07	500,000	-	*funded through ongoing programs*	Agriculture, food security, livelihoods, and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions
Ethiopia	Complex Food Security Crisis	12/07/06	1.4 million	-	$12,422,622	Agriculture, food security, livelihoods, health, nutrition, humanitarian coordination, economy and market systems, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Ethiopia	Floods	11/07/06	588,000	97	*funded through ongoing programs*	Emergency air operations; airlift and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Ghana	Floods	09/17/07	75,000	56	$50,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Kenya	Floods	11/15/06	100,000	-	*funded through ongoing programs*	Emergency relief activities
Kenya	Floods	11/28/06	723,000	269	$1,363,168	Emergency airlifts, purchase and distribution of relief supplies, health services, and vaccinations to counter the spread of RVF
Lesotho	Food Insecurity	07/10/07	400,000	-	$542,256	Food security and agriculture activities
Liberia	Complex Emergency	10/05/06	345,600	-	$2,461,666	Health care and protection programs
Liberia	Floods	09/13/07	17,000	-	$35,000	Procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Liberia	Storm	04/12/06	3,500	-	$50,000	Procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Madagascar	Cyclone	03/23/07	188,000	88	$872,125	Agriculture, food security, economic recovery, and logistics activities; distribution of emergency relief supplies
Madagascar	Food Insecurity	12/18/06	300,000	-	$1,176,506	Agriculture and food security activities

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Affected	Dead[1]	Obligation[1]	Disaster Assistance Provided by OFDA
Mozambique[3]	Cyclone and Floods	03/06/07	500,000	9	$1,910,694	Airlift and distribution of emergency relief supplies; livelihoods, food security, agriculture, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities; repairs to damaged radio tower and equipment for flood and cyclone early warning system
Republic of the Congo	Floods	11/18/06	5,000	6	$50,000	Procurement and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Somalia	Complex Emergency	10/05/06	1.5 million	-	$22,577,844	Agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, emergency relief supplies, health, humanitarian coordination, logistics, nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene activities; humanitarian air service
Sudan	Complex Emergency	10/16/06	9 million	2.2 million	$162,946,362	Health, shelter, nutrition, food security and agriculture, water, sanitation, and hygiene, relief commodities, humanitarian transportation, protection, coordination, income generation, livelihoods, and economic recovery programs; support for displaced populations to return home to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, including transportation and relief supplies
Sudan	Floods	07/19/07	410,000	64	$1,603,047	Airlift and distribution of emergency relief supplies; health and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Swaziland	Drought	06/19/07	407,000	-	$384,400	Water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Uganda	Complex Emergency	10/02/06	1.8 million	0	$12,779,280	Agriculture, food security, protection, humanitarian coordination and information management, infrastructure rehabilitation, water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Uganda	Floods	09/14/07	45,000	-	$500,000	Shelter, food security, agriculture, and water sanitation, and hygiene activities
Zambia	Floods	04/10/07	1,738,583	5	$283,769	Distribution of emergency relief supplies; agriculture and food security activities
Zimbabwe	Complex Emergency	10/06/06	-	-	$1,626,668	Agriculture, food security, emergency relief supplies, shelter and settlements, livelihoods for vulnerable urban populations, humanitarian coordination and information management, water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Zimbabwe	Drought	06/11/07	4.1 million	-	$3,469,594	Agriculture, food security, emergency relief supplies, risk reduction, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Subtotal Africa					$276,846,079	
Asia and the Pacific						
East Timor	Complex Emergency	12/19/06	100,000	-	$1,197,566	Health, humanitarian coordination, IDP assistance, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
India	Floods	08/07/07	43 million	2,253	$1,050,000	Local purchase of emergency relief supplies; nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs
Indonesia	Earthquakes	08/07/07	136,834	67	$100,000	Provision of emergency relief supplies
Indonesia	Earthquake	09/14/07	57,000	25	$300,000	Emergency relief activities
Indonesia	Floods	12/26/06	352,960	281	$100,000	Provision of emergency relief supplies
Indonesia	Floods	02/05/07	512,173	68	$200,000	Emergency relief activities; distribution of relief supplies; and water, sanitation, and hygiene services
Japan	Earthquake	07/17/07	1,000	9	$100,000	Emergency relief activities
Malaysia	Floods	01/17/07	137,500	17	$50,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Maldives	Floods	05/22/07	1,650	0	$100,000	Water, sanitation, and hygiene services

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Affected	Dead[1]	Obligation[1]	Disaster Assistance Provided by OFDA
Nepal	Complex Emergency	10/11/06	200,000	-	$4,753,428	Provision of emergency relief supplies; programs in agriculture and food security, protection, logistics, humanitarian coordination, and water, sanitation, and hygiene
Nepal	Floods and landslides	07/31/07	460,000	146	$50,000	Local purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies
North Korea	Complex Emergency	-	-	-	$4,000,006	Basic medical equipment and supplies, power generators, and energy resources
North Korea	Floods	08/16/07	Nearly 1 million	454	$100,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Pakistan[4]	Cyclone	07/01/07	2.5 million	420	$1,942,107	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs
Philippines[5]	Typhoon	12/04/06	3,190,744	1,482	$466,113	Airlift, purchase, and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Solomon Islands	Tsunami	04/03/07	9,000	52	$250,000	Water, sanitation, and hygiene, and shelter activities; purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Sri Lanka	Complex Emergency	10/06/06	1,015,000	-	$6,995,615	Economy and market systems, emergency relief supplies, health, humanitarian coordination, logistics, nutrition, protection, risk reduction, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Thailand	Floods	10/11/06	2.4 million	49	$50,000	Emergency evacuation activities; purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Vietnam	Floods	08/21/07	416,000	74	$50,000	Emergency relief activities
Vietnam	Typhoon	10/06/06	1.3 million	71	$103,500	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief commodities and shelter supplies
Vietnam	Typhoon	12/06/06	1.2 million	95	$100,000	Emergency relief supplies
Subtotal Asia and the Pacific					$22,058,335	
Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia						
Afghanistan	Complex Emergency	-	-	-	$13,300	Assessment of shelter needs in urban areas
Albania	Wildfires	07/27/07	360	0	$225,000	Firefighting support, including fuel and operational costs for aircraft and emergency preparedness
Bulgaria	Wildfires	08/01/07	-	1	$50,000	Firefighting equipment
Croatia	Wildfires	08/07/07	-	0	$50,000	Firefighting equipment
Greece[6]	Wildfires	08/27/07	-	76	$398,815	Deployment of technical assistance team, emergency firefighting assistance, and purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Iraq	Complex Emergency	-	2.2 million	-	$37,277,690	Health, emergency relief supplies, shelter and settlements, income generation, host community support, data collection and analysis, and water, sanitation, and hygiene
Lebanon	Humanitarian Emergency	-	975,000	1,200	$25,571,173	Support for distribution of emergency relief supplies and food; agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, health, nutrition, shelter and settlements, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene activities
Lebanon	Humanitarian Emergency	09/07/07	40,000	340	$100,000	Emergency food commodities
Macedonia	Wildfires	07/25/07	1 million	1	$50,000	Firefighting support
Moldova	Drought	08/24/07	-	0	$250,000	Local purchase and distribution of seeds
Oman	Cyclone	06/12/07	-	49	$50,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Subtotal Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia					$64,035,978	

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Affected	Dead[1]	Obligation[1]	Disaster Assistance Provided by OFDA
Latin America and the Caribbean						
Belize[7]	Hurricane	08/23/07	20,000	0	$112,300	Deployment of OFDA team to conduct assessments, identify needs and coordinate with government and relief agencies; purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; airlift of wool blankets, hygiene kits, plastic sheeting, and chainsaws for debris removal
Bolivia[8]	Floods	01/22/07	517,975	50	$810,445	Health activities, provision of agricultural tools, purchase and distribution of shelter and emergency relief supplies; airlift of water containers, hygiene kits, and plastic sheeting
Dominica	Hurricane	08/23/07	-	2	$82,188	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; airlift of plastic sheeting
Haiti	Floods	12/08/06	4,040 families	7	$50,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; cleanup activities
Jamaica[9]	Hurricane	08/20/07	160,000	4	$329,329	Deployment of OFDA team to conduct assessments and coordinate with government and relief agencies; airlift, purchase, and distribution of emergency relief supplies; health activities
Mexico	Hurricane	08/27/07	207,800	9	$249,957	Deployment of OFDA team to conduct assessments and coordinate with government and relief agencies; purchase and distribution of emergency shelter repair materials
Nicaragua[10]	Hurricane	09/05/07	188,726	102	$1,217,490	Deployment of OFDA team to conduct assessments and coordinate with government and relief agencies; health activities; airlift and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Panama	Fire	-	725	2	$25,000	Cooking stoves with gas tanks and cots
Panama[11]	Floods	11/24/06	5,820	11	$93,000	Airlift, purchase, and distribution of emergency relief supplies; rehabilitation of damaged water systems
Paraguay	Wildfires	09/13/07	25,000 families	8	$344,200	Deployment of forest fire specialist; emergency firefighting equipment; purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies
Peru[12]	Earthquake	08/16/07	655,674	593	$2,208,547	Deployment of OFDA assessment team to assess damages, identify needs, and coordinate USG emergency assistance; shelter and water and sanitation programs; rubble removal; purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies; airlift of plastic sheeting, blankets, water bladders, water containers, body bags, and office support module for the U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team
St. Lucia[13]	Hurricane	08/23/07	-	1	$22,182	Airlift and distribution of plastic sheeting
Uruguay	Floods	05/11/07	110,000	0	$50,000	Purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies, including food, safe drinking water, blankets, and cleaning kits
Subtotal Latin America and the Caribbean					$5,594,638	
TOTAL FY 2007 DISASTER RESPONSE					$368,535,030	

Notes:
1) A hyphen (-) in the dead and/or affected columns indicates that reliable information was not available.
2) OFDA provided a total of $5,726,359 in emergency assistance to CAR, including $850,328 of FY 2008 disaster funds and stockpiled commodities.
3) OFDA provided a total of $2,370,594 in emergency assistance to Mozambique, including stockpiled commodities valued at $459,900.
4) OFDA provided a total of $3,524,610 in emergency assistance to Pakistan, including $1,582,503 of FY 2008 disaster funds.
5) OFDA provided a total of $596,361 in emergency assistance to the Philippines, including stockpiled commodities valued at $130,248.
6) OFDA provided a total of $1,980,818 in emergency assistance to Greece, including $759,985 in funds programmed from existing arrangements with USFS and $822,018 in FY 2008 disaster funds.
7) OFDA provided a total of $186,954 in emergency assistance to Belize, including $25,000 in preparedness funds and stockpiled commodities valued at $49,654.
8) OFDA provided a total of $837,569 in emergency assistance to Bolivia, including stockpiled commodities valued at $27,124.
9) OFDA provided a total of $572,244 in emergency assistance to Jamaica, including $25,000 in preparedness funds and stockpiled commodities valued at $217,915.
10) OFDA provided a total of $2,201,428 in emergency assistance to Nicaragua, including $913,938 of FY 2008 disaster funds and stockpiled commodities and $70,000 in preparedness funds.
11) OFDA provided a total of $106,560, in emergency assistance to Panama, including stockpiled commodities valued at $13,560.
12) OFDA provided a total of $2,688,380 in emergency assistance to Peru, including $479,833 of FY 2008 disaster funds and stockpiled commodities.
13) OFDA provided a total of $40,432 in emergency assistance to St. Lucia, including stockpiled commodities valued at $18,250.

FY 2007 Disaster Risk Reduction Activities

Country or Category	Activity	Obligation	Assistance Provided by OFDA
Africa			
East and Central Africa	Cassava Mosaic Disease Mitigation	$250,000	Cassava mosaic disease (CMD) mitigation, including multiplication and dissemination of disease-resistant plants, training, and information dissemination on CMD and its management
East and Central Africa	Climate Forecasting	$200,000	Regional seasonal climate prediction system and applications of climate information for various sectors, including early warning of climate-related hazards in support of regional risk reduction and sustainable development
Kenya	Avian Influenza Preparedness	$85,190	Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of personal protective equipment for Avian Infuenza (AI) preparedness.
Lesotho	Drought Mitigation	$399,185	Introduction of community-based small-scale water irrigation projects
Liberia	Protection	$99,994	Capacity building to promote legal protection for survivors of gender-based violence
Madagascar	Drought Mitigation	$465,000	Support to build or rehabilitate water catchment areas; establishment of a Madagascar food security National Vulnerability Assessment Committee (NVAC); food-for-work activities
Malawi	Capacity Building; Drought Mitigation	$500,000	Small-scale community-based replicable irrigation technology for drought mitigation; community-therapeutic care capacity building
Mozambique	Capacity Building	$82,072	Early warning system and support to community radio stations for information dissemination
Mozambique	Drought Mitigation	$163,599	Introduction of conservation agriculture techniques to mitigate the effects of drought
Mozambique	Drought Mitigation	$399,991	Community management of water harvesting systems and conservation farming
Mozambique	Drought Mitigation	$84,357	Food-for-work drought mitigation activities
Southern Africa	Capacity Building	$235,000	Urban search and rescue training and capacity building
Southern Africa	Capacity Building; Technical Assistance	$75,654	Capacity building for development of Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and Government of Angola staff to improve assessment tools; support for OFDA programs in Southern Africa
Southern Africa	Drought Mitigation	$150,000	Regional coordination and information management
Southern Africa	Drought Mitigation	$298,928	Support for contingency planning, emergency preparedness, and drought response, including dissemination of best practices, coordination of interventions, and technical support
Southern Africa	Drought Mitigation	$140,000	Regional FEWS NET office
Swaziland	Drought Mitigation	$399,963	Community management of water harvesting systems and conservation farming
West Africa	Capacity Building	$3,138,473	Capacity building to prevent and treat malnutrition, including improved nutritional surveillance and support for the implementation of community-based therapeutic care
West Africa	Capacity Building; Technical Assistance	$112,683	Assessment of nutrition situation in the Sahel; support for OFDA programs in West Africa
West Africa	Relief Stockpile	$370,000	Rapid response fund for West Africa and water, sanitation, and hygiene stockpile for Guinea
West Africa	Transport	$400,000	Humanitarian air service for relief agencies
Zambia	Drought Mitigation	$398,984	Promotion of sustainable water management techniques, crop diversification, and drip irrigation
Asia and the Pacific			
Regional	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$1,597,749	Creation of a cadre of earthquake preparedness trainers; capacity building for local and national disaster management agencies, including hospital preparedness for mass casualties
Regional	Drought Preparedness	$700,000	Drought preparedness activities, including community-based drought preparedness planning, water-effcient pratices, and improved land-use techniques
Regional	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management	$145,145	National flood preparedness activities and early warning systems, including community-based flash flood management

Country or Category	Activity	Obligation	Assistance Provided by OFDA
Regional	Hydrometeorological Risk Reduction; Psychosocial Capacity Building	$1,212,122	Climate forecasting applications; management of psychosocial trauma related to disasters
Regional	Information management; Technical assistance	$180,377	Information management for OFDA activities in Asia
Bangladesh	Avian Influenza Preparedness	$14,877	Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of personal protective equipment for AI preparedness
Bangladesh	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management	$23,100	Emergency flood preparedness, including maintenance and operation of mobile water purification plants
Cambodia	Avian Influenza Preparedness	$14,027	Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of personal protective equipment for AI preparedness
China	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$240,000	Promotion of private-sectorparticipation in and contribution to disaster preparedness, capacity building, and response
Indonesia	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$862,837	Capacity building for an Indonesian NGO to respond rapidly and effectively to disasters, including prepositioning of equipment and training of trainers
Laos and Vietnam	Avian Influenza Preparedness	$31,712	Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of personal protective equipment for AI preparedness
Nepal	Capacity Building	$437,556	Support for UNICEF and a local NGO to oversee an earthquake risk management program, including raising awareness and preparedness of seismic hazards and monitoring the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley
Pacific Islands	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$302,729	Capacity building and disaster management training to improve the performance of local and national disaster management agencies and individuals
Pacific Islands	Transition programming	$328,747	Preparing for the transition of Marshall Islands and Micronesia from the U.S Federal Emergency Management Agency to OFDA
Pakistan	Earthquake Preparedness	$25,000	Earthquake risk management conference, focusing on best practices and lessons learned
Philippines	Conflict Preparedness; Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$375,000	Conflict preparedness activities, including responding to internal displacement in western Mindanao; text messaging disaster alert software
Europe, Middle East, and Central Asia			
Afghanistan	Shelter and Settlements	$21,963	Monitoring of shelter risk reduction activities, including seismic-resistant transitional shelter
Turkey	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$10,000	Emergency management capacity building
Latin America and the Caribbean			
Regional	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management	$4,800,000	Maintenance of regional disaster management experts to respond to disasters and oversee a disaster management training program
Regional	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management; Emergency Health Preparedness	$1,041,423	Capacity building for health professionals; regional disaster response planning
Bolivia	Earthquake preparedness	$67,796	Earthquake monitoring and surveillance
Caribbean	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management; Hydrometeorological Risk Reduction; Tsunami and Coastal Hazards Warning System	$426,560	Capacity building to detect, monitor, and provide early warning of tsunamis; support for the creation of a tsunami and coastal hazards warning system; and development of hurricane hazard maps for the Caribbean basin

Country or Category	Activity	Obligation	Assistance Provided by OFDA
Costa Rica	School Disaster Preparedness	$50,000	Creation of a distance education module on school safety
El Salvador	Risk Reduction	$185,600	Strengthening risk mitigation and disaster management
Guatemala	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management; Earthquake Preparedness; Relief Stockpile	$45,000	Earthquake preparedness simulation exercise; establishment of emergency relief supply stockpile; support for the creation of a community forest fire management project
Honduras	Relief Stockpile; Technical Assistance	$30,700	Establishment of emergency relief supply stockpile and technical assistance
Jamaica	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management; Relief Stockpile	$60,000	Simulation exercise of flood early warning system; establishment of emergency relief supply stockpile
Nicaragua	Relief Stockpile	$45,000	Establishment of emergency relief supply stockpile
Panama	Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management; Volcano Monitoring	$98,851	Strengthening local emergency prevention and response, including the provision of volcano hazard maps for Panama disaster management authorities
Paraguay	Emergency Health Preparedness	$50,000	Dengue outbreak medical response
Global			
Agriculture and Food Security	Emergency Trans-boundary Outbreak Pests	$700,000	Support for the Assistance for Emergency Locust/Grasshopper Abatement (AELGA) to provide technical, material, and financial assistance to mitigation and control damage from emergency trans-boundary outbreak pests
Agriculture and Food Security	Global Seed Security	$250,000	Support for research to ensure the quality of seed interventions, including seminars for practioners and the production of Seed Aid Practice Briefs for relief agencies and a seed security assessment manual
Agriculture and Food Security	Livestock	$149,938	Support for the production of Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) to promote international standards for the design, implementation, and assessment of livestock inverventions to assist people affected by humanitarian crises
Geological Hazards	Volcano Monitoring	$1,100,000	Support for Volcano Disaster Assistance Program to provide technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations
Information Management and Coordination	Coordination	$2,414,484	Funding for OCHA and WFP to provide information support and coordination to the international humanitarian community
Information Management and Coordination	Coordination	$1,500,000	Support for global FEWS NET programs
Information Management and Coordination	Coordination	$891,995	Support for Sphere Project and InterAction to disseminate best practices and develop standards and guidelines in humanitarian assistance for NGOs and international organizations
Logistics and Relief Commodities	Coordination	$2,259,270	Funding for WFP and UNJLC to strengthen inter-agency collaboration on logistics and to support logistics cluster activations in the field; support for UNICEF's logistics activities within the following clusters: nutrition, education, and water, sanitation, and hygiene
Meteorological Hazards	Climate Forecasting	$1,450,000	Provision of access to weather, climate, and hydrologic and oceanic expertise and information; capacity building of national, international, and regional entities, including training on the application of satellite-based rainfall estimates to flood and droughts, flash flood guidance, and dissemination of information to vulnerable populations in remote areas
Meteorlogical Hazards	Flood Preparedness, Forecasting, and Management	$150,000	Flood hazard mapping, including identification of high risk areas and safe havens as well as training for scientists to use technology
Public Health and Nutrition	Avian Influenza Preparedness	$28,516,888	Procurement, stockpiling, and distribution of personal protective equipment
Public Health and Nutrition	Capacity Building	$100,000	Support for U.N. to issue guidelines for the community mamanagement of severe malnutrition; training on applying alternative sampling approach to assess prevalence of acute malnutrition

Country or Category	Activity	Obligation	Assistance Provided by OFDA
Public Health and Nutrition	Coordination	$1,950,000	Communicable disease control in emergencies, incuding technical and operational support, development of standards and new tools, the provision of training courses, and strengthening of parnerships with ministries of health, local authorities, U.N. agencies, and NGOs; support for UNICEF to strengthen inter-agency coordination within the nutrition cluster
Public Health and Nutrition	Emergency Health Preparedness	$20,000	Support for health conference for humanitarian agencies providing health care to populations affected by war and disasters
Public Health and Nutrition	Information Management	$319,500	Support for quarterly reports on key outcome indicators from emergency-affected populations, as well as twice yearly peer-reviewed papers on issues of relevance to nutrition practitioners
Public Health and Nutrition	Information Management	$613,783	Support for nutrition information management, including identification and dissemination of best practices through research and evaluation; technical support to develop policy guidance and capacity building for infant and young child feeding in emergencies; support for workshop to promote best practices in supplementary feeding; support for revitalization of nutrition information systems
Public Health and Nutrition	Quality Assurance	$100,000	Pre-certification of pharmaceutical wholesalers to ensure essential medicines purchased with OFDA funds meet internationally accepted quality standards
Public Health and Nutrition	Surge Capacity	$350,000	Support for the maintenance of a cadre of health and water, sanitation, and hygiene experts
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Capacity Building	$154,639	Capacity building program to promote the incorporation of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement into domestic laws and policies through translation into local languages and dissemination of the Principles and related materials
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Coordination	$900,000	Funding for the protection standby capacity (PROCAP) project to maintain and develop a cadre of qualified and experienced protection officers to support the strategic and operational response of U.N. agencies for IDPs and other vulnerable populations; support for WFP protection workshops in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Economy and Market Systems	$30,000	Livelihoods workshop to share realistic programmatic recommendations for livelihooods protection or rehabilitation in environments where beneficiaries cannot return home
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Economy and Market Systems	$289,738	Rapid market assessment toolkit development to enable field officers to determine the appropriateness of cash-based interventions in lieu of commodity distributions
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Information Management	$300,000	Support for database to track global IDP movements
Vulnerable Populations and IDP Protection	Protection	$200,000	Technical evaluation of the efficiency of stoves distributed to reduce fuel consumption and protect women and girls from attacks
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Coordination	$1,297,000	Support for UNICEF to strengthen inter- agency coordination within the water, sanitation, and hygiene cluster
Staff Support	Technical Assistance	$2,545,053	Monitoring and evaluation to ensure preparedness and mitigation programs are technically sound
Subtotal Disaster Risk Reduction			$70,425,232

OFDA Funding and Budget for FY 2007

Obligated Funding for FY 2007 Disasters	$368,535,030
Obligated Funding for Previous FY Disasters[1]	$195,740
SUBTOTAL - FY 2007 Obligated Funding for Disaster Response	**$368,730,770**
Disaster Risk Reduction Activities[2]	$70,425,232
Evaluation, Monitoring, and Planning	$2,036,998
Program Support and Operations	$37,589,231
TOTAL - FY 2007 Obligated Funding	**$478,782,231**
Budget Carryover to FY 2008	$94,709,485
TOTAL OFDA Budget for FY 2007	**$573,491,716**

1) This figure represents OFDA FY 2007 funding obligated for disasters that were declared during FY 2006. OFDA provided an additional $128,119 for the complex emergency in Burundi, $621 for floods in Guatemala, $10,000 for food insecurity in Mali, $53,000 for the drought in Niger, and $4,000 for the earthquake in Pakistan. Please refer to the OFDA Annual Report for FY 2006 for more information on these disasters.
2) This total includes $28,662,694 for avian influenza preparedness activities.

Disaster Summaries in this Annual Report

The disaster descriptions on the preceding pages cover USG FY 2007. From October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007, OFDA responded to 72 declared disasters. In addition, OFDA responded to emergencies in five countries for which no disaster declaration was issued.

Explanation of Assistance Covered

As the financial record of how OFDA dispensed emergency assistance funds in FY 2007, this report details only the assistance provided through OFDA's budget. In many of the disasters detailed in the preceding pages, other USG offices provided a level of humanitarian assistance in addition to the OFDA funds indicated. Every effort was made to note when other offices participated in a disaster response. For some responses, implementing partners' names have been omitted due to sensitivities regarding this information.

Detailed Situation Reports and Fact Sheets on Major Disasters Available Separately

Documents are available to provide more detailed information about declared disasters than is given in the case reports found in this annual report. Situation reports are four- to five-page documents that provide periodic updates on long-term, complex emergencies. Fact sheets are one- or two-page documents that focus on rapid-onset natural disasters or rapidly changing complex emergencies. For more information on where to find current situation reports, fact sheets, and other related information, please see page 133.

Situation Reports, Fact Sheets, or Program Summaries Produced for Major Disasters and Preparedness Programs in FY 2007

Asia - Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

Belize - Hurricane

Bolivia - Floods

Central African Republic - Complex Emergency

Chad - Complex Emergency

Côte d'Ivoire - Complex Emergency

Democratic Republic of the Congo - Complex Emergency

Dominica and St. Lucia - Hurricane

East Timor - Complex Emergency

Ethiopia - Complex Food Security Crisis

Horn of Africa - Floods

Latin America and the Caribbean - Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

Latin America and the Caribbean - Hurricane Season 2007

Lebanon - Complex Emergency

Mozambique - Floods and Cyclone

Nepal - Complex Emergency

Pakistan - Cyclone

Peru - Earthquake

Philippines - Typhoon

Somalia - Complex Emergency

South Asia - Regional Floods

Southeast Europe - Wildfires

Sri Lanka - Complex Emergency

Sudan - Complex Emergency

Global Sector Updates - IDPs and Protection; Risk Reduction, Disaster Preparedness, and Mitigation Programs; Agriculture and Food Security; Economy and Market Systems; Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics; Nutrition; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Uganda - Complex Emergency

Zimbabwe - Drought and Complex Emergency

PUBLICATION CREDITS

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The maps included in this report are for illustrative purposes only and are not authoritative representations. The boundaries and names used on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the U.S. Government.

OFDA PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the annual report, OFDA produces several other publications that are available on the Internet and by request:

* One of the most useful publications is the Field Operations Guide (FOG), a pocket-sized manual that contains methodology for conducting disaster assessments, as well as information on OFDA response procedures.

* In order to fulfill its mandate, OFDA has developed Guidelines for Unsolicited Proposals and Reporting to assist in the preparation of proposals for new grants and grant modifications for submission to OFDA. This guidelines publication provides information relevant to the grant proposal review and award process, outlines the main components of a grant proposal, and presents reporting guidelines.

* OFDA also produces current situation reports and fact sheets on selected international disasters and crises, which describe the humanitarian situation and the corresponding USG response.

Current situation reports, fact sheets, the FOG, and the Guidelines for Unsolicited Proposals and Reporting are available on the Internet at OFDA's home page http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/. Fact sheets and situation reports are also available on OCHA's ReliefWeb home page http://www.reliefweb.int/.

COVER PHOTO CREDITS

Front: Darfuri women in a village near Korma IDP camp, Sudan (Photo by Jane Strachan, USAID).

Back: Peruvian children gather at the door of a temporary shelter constructed with OFDA plastic sheeting (Photo by Phil Gelman, USAID).

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