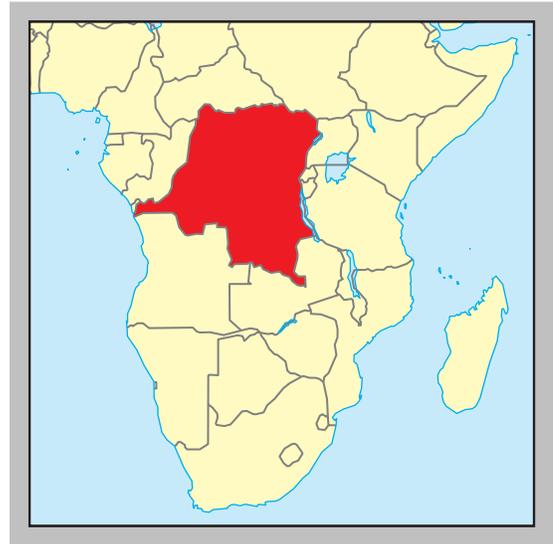


**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

**Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
USAID Humanitarian Assistance in Review, 1997 – Present**

Since 1998, regional and internal armed conflict has generated significant population displacement and associated humanitarian needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Access to health services and water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities remains limited for conflicted-affected populations. The protracted conflict has also reduced access to agricultural land and local markets, undermining livelihoods and increasing population vulnerability. In addition, the DRC is susceptible to a variety of natural hazards, including floods and volcanic eruptions, as well as disease outbreaks. The country experienced significant flooding in 1998 and 2000, a major volcanic eruption in 2002, and malaria and Ebola epidemics in 2000 and 2007, respectively.



Since 2003, the cessation of major hostilities in most areas of the country and democratic elections held in July 2006 encouraged millions of displaced Congolese to return to areas of origin. However, the presence of armed groups perpetuated insecurity in some areas, resulting in more than 2 million people remaining displaced in the DRC as of October 2009. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, security improvements in some areas of North Kivu Province led to increased internally displaced person (IDP) returns throughout 2009. However, an estimated 980,000 people in the province remained displaced in October 2009. Lord's Resistance Army activity in Orientale Province has also led to increased insecurity and displacement. Priority humanitarian needs for IDPs include access to basic services such as health care and food assistance, as well as protection, while recent returnees require assistance to reintegrate into communities, rebuild homes, and reestablish livelihoods.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE DRC (FISCAL YEARS 1997-2009), IN MILLIONS

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
OFDA	\$10.7	\$5.5	\$4.6	\$13.1	\$22.1	\$26.8	\$31.9	\$22.4	\$26.4	\$25.1	\$29.1	\$18.3	\$33.9
FFP¹	-	-	\$5.9	\$3.3	\$14.2	\$16.5	\$34.6	\$31.8	\$29.8	\$39.8	\$37.8	\$71.0	\$112.2
Other USG²	\$1.0	\$7.3	\$11.2	\$8.2	\$13.9	\$7.2	\$9.0	\$10.5	\$19.5	\$20.6	\$21.3	\$34.0	\$45.5
Total	\$11.7	\$12.8	\$21.7	\$24.6	\$50.2	\$50.5	\$75.5	\$64.7	\$75.7	\$85.5	\$88.2	\$123.3	\$191.6

¹ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

² Includes additional humanitarian assistance funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration and USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives and Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation.

Since 1997, USAID has provided more than \$699 million in humanitarian assistance to the DRC, including more than \$397 million in food aid and nearly \$270 million in relief commodities and support for emergency health, nutrition, agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems, and protection interventions. In addition, USAID funded efforts to improve humanitarian coordination and rehabilitate infrastructure.



USAID/OFDA programs provide emergency relief supplies to thousands of conflict-affected IDPs in eastern DRC (photo by Jack Myer, USAID).

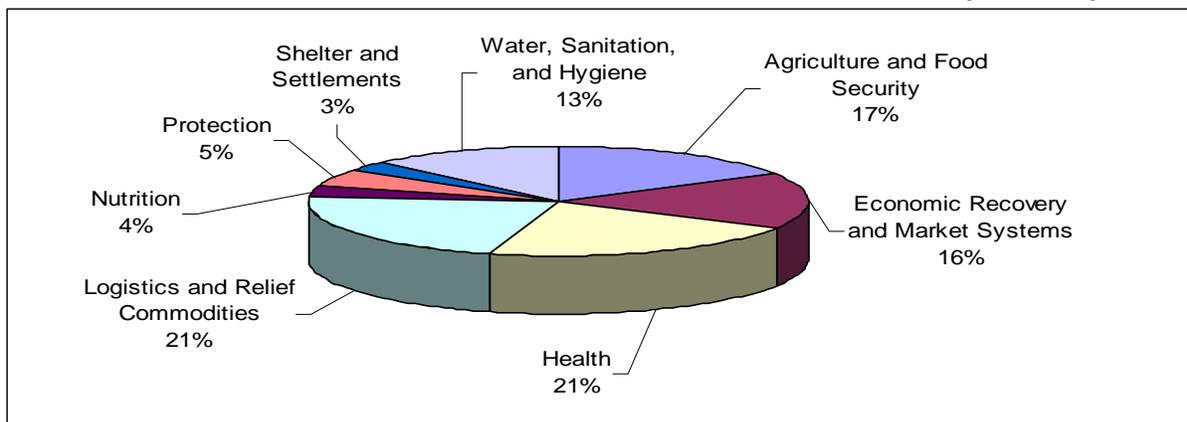
USAID/OFDA programs support IDP returns to home communities by rehabilitating beneficiary livelihoods. Assistance to returnees includes agriculture and food security support, as well as road rehabilitation activities to facilitate economic recovery. In response to recent displacement, USAID/OFDA has targeted humanitarian assistance to the most affected populations in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Orientale provinces. Implementing partners provide emergency relief supplies and primary health care services, including services for victims of gender-based violence, to IDPs and host communities.

From November 2008 to March 2009, a six-person Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) deployed to North Kivu Province to assess conditions and determine

the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected IDPs. In October 2009, a USAID/OFDA assessment team traveled to the DRC to conduct a rapid study in North Kivu Province of issues affecting IDPs, including beneficiary targeting challenges resulting from simultaneous returns and displacements in adjacent geographic areas.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$34 million in humanitarian assistance to the DRC and USAID/FFP contributed 72,080 metric tons of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$112 million. USAID continues to monitor humanitarian conditions in the DRC and respond to evolving needs. In addition, USAID/OFDA maintains two permanent program officers in the DRC.

USAID/OFDA Non-Food Assistance to the DRC by Sector (FY 2009)³



³ Approximate percentage of assistance by sector, excluding administrative and support costs.