

OFDA
Disaster
Case Reports

Upper Volta Drought
Late 1977 through 1978

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

UPPER VOLTA - Drought

Data

Date: Late 1977 through 1978 (FY 78)

Location: Most of Upper Volta

No. Affected: 442,000

Damage: Shortages of food grains, seed, and animal feed resulted in nutritional deprivation and livestock losses

The Disaster

Rains during the 1977 planting and growing seasons began late, were below average, and were poorly distributed. As a result poor harvests, especially in the central part of Upper Volta, were approximately 16% below normal. The deficit of food grains was estimated to be about 65,000 MT (including 30,000 MT for security stocks).

Action Taken by the Government of Upper Volta (GOUV)

The Government of Upper Volta made significant internal reorganization changes in an effort to improve its ability to manage programs for marketing, storing, and distributing food grains as well as for its emergency grain program.

Assistance Provided by the United States Government (USG)

The USG contributed 6,105 MT of soy fortified sorghum grits (SFSG), 7,150 MT of soy fortified cornmeal (SFCM), 4,118 MT nonfat dry milk, and 688 MT vegetable oil from P.L. 480 Title II stocks (including transportation) valued at.....\$8,232,000

The Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) made a grant to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for internal transportation costs for the approximately 12,000 MT of the Title II foods mentioned above that were distributed by CRS.....\$153,769

TOTAL \$8,385,769

Assistance Provided by U.S. Voluntary Agencies

In response to the drought, CRS and the Southern Baptists substantially augmented their ongoing programs. CRS distributed approximately 12,000 MT and the Southern Baptists approximately

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6,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II foods. CRS was granted \$153,769 by OFDA toward the internal transport of the emergency food supplies. (See above)

Assistance Provided by the International Community *

International Organizations

European Economic Community (EEC) - 8,500 MT of cereals

World Food Program (WFP) - 10,000 MT of sorghum

Governments

Belgium - 2,500 MT of wheat/wheat flour

France - 4,000 MT of sorghum

Germany, Fed Rep. - 2,500 MT of rice

Netherlands - 4,000 MT of sorghum

Switzerland (Government & Red Cross) - in kind contribution of \$67,485

Voluntary Agencies

Germany, Democratic Republic Red Cross - \$68,363 in kind

U.S.S.R. Red Cross - \$30,870 in kind

TOTAL \$166,718

* Please note: the figure for total international assistance is an approximation. In many cases the cash value of in kind aid is unavailable.

