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Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance

Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

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2002 Annual Report

PUBLICATION CREDITS

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USAID/OFDA PUBLICATIONS

In addition to its annual report, USAID/OFDA produces several other publications that are available on the Internet and by request. One of the most useful publications is the Field Operations Guide (FOG), a pocket-sized manual that contains methodology for conducting disaster assessments, as well as information on USAID/OFDA response procedures. In order to fulfill its mandate, USAID/OFDA has developed guidelines for proposals and reporting to assist in the preparation of proposals for new grants and grant modifications for submission to USAID/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. USAID/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, and the Guidelines for Proposals and Reporting are available on the Internet at:

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

UN OCHA ReliefWeb Home Page
http://www.reliefweb.int/

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Shomali Plains, Afghanistan
Complex Emergency
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Bolivia
Winter Emergency
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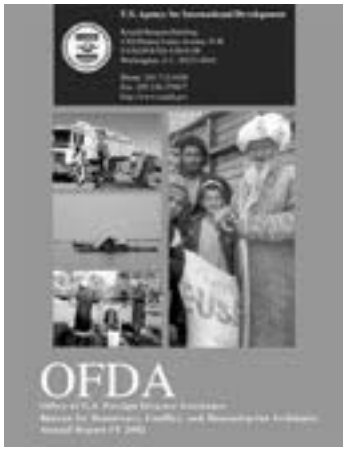

Right Photo
Afghanistan
Complex Emergency
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Middle Left Photo
Bangladesh
Floods
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Lower Left Photo
Sudan
Complex Emergency
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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

USAID/OFDA Director Bernd McConnell (second from left) speaks with Action Contre la Faim (ACF) and National Union for the Independance of Angola (UNITA) representatives during a needs assessment trip to Gamba, Angola (photo by Heather Evans, USAID/OFDA)

Since joining the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) in June 2002, I have enjoyed a rapid immersion into the roles that USAID/OFDA and its humanitarian partners play in mitigating and responding to complex emergencies and natural disasters. A remarkable amount of U.S. Government assets can be brought to bear through USAID/OFDA and its close DCHA partners — the Office of Food for Peace and the Office of Transition Initiatives — on the international disasters that have increasingly become a pervasive aspect of our political and social landscape.

My "welcome" to USAID was as the Director of USAID's Central Asia Task Force, which the Administrator initiated in late 2001 to coordinate and facilitate relief efforts in and around Afghanistan. That assignment gave me a deep appreciation of USAID's extensive commitment to humanitarian relief initiatives. While USAID/OFDA's focus in 2002 was largely on relief efforts in Afghanistan, we were able to keep our focus on the "rest of the world"—Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, and Sudan—in our pursuit of the execution of OFDA's mission to save lives, reduce human suffering, and mitigate the economic impact of disasters.

Throughout this year of demanding humanitarian crises, I have become very close to a variety of highly skilled, dedicated, and wonderful people throughout the humanitarian assistance community. Many thanks go not only to USAID/OFDA and other USAID staff but also to members of the United Nations, other international organizations, and USAID/OFDA's implementing NGO partners. In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided nearly $259.6 million in more than 50 countries to respond to disasters. We could not have done so without this cadre of humanitarian players.

It is an honor for me to work with USAID/OFDA. The experience has been profound and I look forward to the shared challenges of the future.

Bernd "Bear" McConnell
Director
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Publication Credits and USAID/OFDA Publications 1

Message from the Director 2

Table of Contents 3

Summary of USAID/OFDA Response in FY 2002 5

Commonly Used Acronyms 14

How the U.S. Government Provides Humanitarian Aid 15

Reducing Vulnerability and Restoring Livelihoods for Drought-Affected Populations 18

Additional Funding for Prior Year(s) Declared Disasters 24

FY 2002 Declared Disasters 25

Africa

Algeria — Floods 27
Angola — Complex Emergency 27
Feature Article: USAID/OFDA Assists in Reducing Angola's Maternal Mortality Rates 28
Burundi — Complex Emergency 30
Democratic Republic of the Congo — Complex Emergency 31
Feature Article: Strengthening Food Security in Burundi 31
Democratic Republic of the Congo — Volcano 33
Ethiopia — Drought 34
Guinea — Complex Emergency 35
Kenya — Drought 36
Liberia — Complex Emergency 37
Mali — Floods 37
Mali — Floods 38
Mauritania — Winter Emergency 38
Mauritania — Drought 38
Nigeria — Accident 39
Rwanda — Refugees 39
Rwanda — Floods 39
Rwanda — Health Emergency 39
Senegal — Winter Emergency 40
Sierra Leone — Complex Emergency 40
Somalia — Complex Emergency/Drought 41
Southern Africa (Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe) — Complex Food Security Crisis 42
Sudan — Complex Emergency 45
Feature Article: Providing Relief to Displaced Sudanese in Western Upper Nile Region 46
Tanzania — Accident 48
Uganda — Complex Emergency 48

Asia and the Pacific

Australia — Fire 51
China — Floods 51

Asia and the Pacific, continued

China — Floods 51
India — Floods 51
Indonesia — Complex Emergency 52
Indonesia — Floods 54
Feature Article: Supporting Earthquake Preparedness in Asia 55
Laos — Floods 57
Nepal — Complex Emergency 57
Nepal — Floods 57
Philippines — Typhoon 58
Republic of Korea — Floods 58
Thailand — Floods 58
Tonga — Cyclone 59
Vietnam — Fire 59

Europe, Middle East, and Central Asia

Afghanistan — Complex Emergency 61
Feature Article: Revitalizing Afghan Communities Through a Longer-Term USAID/OFDA Vision 64
Afghanistan — Earthquake 65
Albania — Floods 66
Central and Eastern Europe (Austria, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia) — Floods 66
Georgia — Earthquake 67
Iran — Earthquake 68
Russia — Floods 68
Syria — Floods 69
Tajikistan — Drought 69
Tajikistan — Floods 70
Ukraine — Accident 70
West Bank/Gaza — Displaced Persons 71

Latin America and the Caribbean

Belize — Hurricane 73
Bolivia — Floods 73
Bolivia — Winter Emergency 73
Chile — Floods 74
Guatemala — Drought 74
Feature Article: Strengthening Community Preparedness in Guatemala through CAMI 75
Haiti — Floods 76
Honduras — Floods 76
Jamaica — Floods 77
Jamaica — Floods 77
Nicaragua — Floods 78
Nicaragua — Fire 78
Nicaragua — Floods 78
Peru — Fire 79
Peru — Winter Emergency 79
Venezuela — Floods 80

SUMMARY OF USAID/OFDA RESPONSE IN FY 2002

Obligations from October 1, 2001 - September 30, 2002

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
AFRICA						
Algeria	Floods	11/13/01	711	40,000 - 50,000	$241,935	Disaster Assistance Authority provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Algiers to the Algerian Red Crescent Society to meet emergency needs. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 10,005 blankets, three 10,000-person medical kits, 100 heaters, and 100 generators. USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor to assess whether further assistance was warranted.
Angola	Complex Emergency	10/23/01	-	4,000,000	$20,537,667	USAID/OFDA provided grants to AAH/USA, Africare, CONCERN, CRS, GOAL, IMC, and UNICEF for emergency health initiatives; CRS, Africare, and CONCERN for nutrition activities; WVI and FAO to implement agriculture and food security programs; WFP for logistics; UNDP for security initiatives; and UN OCHA to support an Emergency Response Fund and coordination efforts.
Burundi	Complex Emergency	10/11/01	-	820,000	$13,397,788	USAID/OFDA provided humanitarian assistance through grants to CONCERN, CRS, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, IMC, IRC, MSF/B, Solidarities, UNDP, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, and WVI. USAID/OFDA funding focused on maintaining programs in the food security, emergency health, water and sanitation, nutrition, and non-food sectors, while strengthening the capacity of early warning and crisis management structures to respond to and mitigate new crises.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Complex Emergency	11/05/01	-	-	$22,014,253	USAID/OFDA provided emergency assistance to support food security and nutritional needs, contributed to emergency market infrastructure rehabilitation, and supported agricultural programs for war-affected, vulnerable populations, and IDPs. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through grants to AAH/USA, AirServ International, CRS, FHI, German Agro Action, IMC, IRC, Merlin, Premiere Urgence, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, WHO, and WVI.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Volcano	01/18/02	400,000	-	$4,790,117	USAID/OFDA provided funds to CONCERN, IRC, SCF/UK, Solidarities, and UN OCHA for emergency shelter assistance, water and sanitation projects, and the distribution of non-food relief commodities.
Ethiopia	Drought	03/06/02	-	6,300,000	$399,969	USAID/OFDA funded SCF/UK to establish an early warning information system based on a food economy analysis in Somali Region. USAID/OFDA provided assistance to IRC for a water and sanitation project in Somali Region, benefiting more than 60,000 residents.
Ethiopia	Drought	08/01/02	-	-	$865,391	USAID/OFDA partially supported GOAL for an emergency nutrition and health program in the Afar and Oromiya regions.
Guinea	Complex Emergency	11/05/01	-	200,000 - 250,000	$375,000	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to WFP to support a vulnerability assessment, mapping efforts, and logistics.
Kenya	Drought	10/10/01	-	1,800,000	$1,487,964	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to Tufts University for livelihoods initiatives; UNDP for coordination; UNICEF for health, nutrition, and water and sanitation programs; and IMC for health initiatives. Due to improving food security conditions, USAID/OFDA emergency activities began to phase out during FY 2002.
Lesotho	Complex Food Security Crisis	08/29/02	-	650,000	$20,000	USAID/OFDA supported agriculture and food security activities through FAO and the U.S. Embassy in Maseru.
Liberia	Complex Emergency	06/10/02	-	192,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Liberia to return the Phebe Hospital in Bong County to operational status.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Malawi	Complex Food Security Crisis	03/08/02	-	3,300,000	$4,640,990	USAID/OFDA provided support to CARE, CRS, Malawian Red Cross, UNICEF, USAID/Malawi, WHO, and WVI for programs in supplementary feeding, emergency nutrition, health, and agriculture.
Mali	Floods	10/04/01	2	3,500	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Bamako to AAH/USA for emergency agriculture, shelter, and non-food assistance for flood victims.
Mali	Floods	08/12/02	2	22,519	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Mali to Africare to address the immediate shelter, medical, and water and sanitation needs of flood victims.
Mauritania	Winter Emergency	01/23/02	25	33,000	$471,906	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott to the Mauritanian Red Cross for the procurement and distribution of blankets, mosquito netting, medical supplies, and plastic sheeting. USAID/OFDA also provided support to LWR for shelter reconstruction in the affected southern regions.
Mauritania	Drought	09/17/02	-	1,060,000	$42,220	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott to address the immediate nutritional needs of women and children under the age of 12 in the Aftout Region.
Nigeria	Accident	01/31/02	1,000	20,000	$66,085	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja to the Nigerian Red Cross Society for emergency relief to the victims of the accident. USAID/OFDA also deployed an assessment team to evaluate the immediate needs of explosion victims. USAID/OFDA airlifted 244,800 ft. of plastic sheeting, consigned to the IFRC, for emergency shelter needs.
Rwanda	Refugees	01/18/02		400,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Kigali to assist refugees and their Rwandan host families with potable water, emergency food, shelter materials, sanitation facilities, and medicine.
Rwanda	Floods	05/23/02	69	24,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Rwanda to the Rwandan Red Cross for the local purchase of blankets, water containers, and cooking utensils as well as the procurement of emergency shelter materials.
Rwanda	Health Emergency	08/09/02	13	70	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Rwanda to UNICEF for the purchase of meningococcal vaccines and related medical supplies for use in the Butare Province immunization program.
Senegal	Winter Emergency	01/22/02	28	100,000	$25,000	USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Dakar for the local purchase and distribution of blankets, clothing, emergency food, and temporary shelter materials.
Sierra Leone	Complex Emergency	10/29/01	-	12,000	$11,649,270	USAID/OFDA supported emergency health and nutrition programs implemented by AAH/USA, Africare, CRS, IMC, Merlin, and WVI; food security and agriculture activities through Africare, CRS, FAO, UMCOR, and WVI; water and sanitation efforts through AAH/USA and Merlin; and shelter and rural rehabilitation programs through CRS and CARE. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance to U.N. agencies, including UN OCHA and WFP, to support information, coordination, and logistics needs.
Somalia	Complex Emergency	12/07/01	-	350,000	$6,310,782	USAID/OFDA provided humanitarian assistance through seven international partners, including AAH/USA, ACF/F, ADRA, IMC, NPA, SCF/UK, and UNICEF. These programs included the provision of health services and nutrition programs in the southern, central, and northeastern regions; water and sanitation activities in Gedo, Sool, Sanaag, and Bakool regions; and support of the U.N. Common Air Service (UNCAS) for Somalia.
Somalia	Drought	12/21/01	-	-	*See above entry*	The U.S. Ambassador to Kenya redeclared a disaster for the drought situation in Somalia. See "Somalia - Complex Emergency" above for funding details.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Southern Africa Regional	Complex Food Security Crisis		-	-	$1,015,300	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to WFP to support regional management and logistics.
Sudan	Complex Emergency	10/15/01	-	4,000,000	$38,384,393	USAID/OFDA programs targeted children, war- and drought-affected, IDPs, and other vulnerable groups. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through 43 grants to 27 different NGOs or IOs, including: ACF/F, ACROSS, ADRA, ARC, CARE, The Carter Center, Christian Aid, Christian Mission Aid, CONCERN, CRS, FAO, GOAL, IRC, International Aid Sweden/MEDIC, MEDAIR, NPA, Samaritan's Purse, SCF/UK, SCF/US, UNDP, UNICEF, UN Habitat, UN OCHA, VSF/Belgium, VSF/Germany, WFP, and WVI.
Tanzania	Accident	06/25/02	200	1,600	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam to assist with the transportation of victims to hospitals and to provide medical supplies including masks, stretchers, intravenous drips, mattresses, bed sheets, blankets, and potable water.
Uganda	Complex Emergency	08/09/02		200,000	$1,558,882	Disaster Assistance Authority provided to the U.S. Embassy in Kampala to support the Ugandan Red Cross Society with the distribution of non-food commodities, including blankets, water containers, kitchen sets, and tarpaulins for temporary shelter. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided grants to support programs in health, water and sanitation, and response coordination, and supplied emergency non-food items through UN OCHA, CARE, IRC, Ugandan Red Cross Society, AAH/USA, and the Associazione Volontaria per il Servizio Internazionale.
Zambia	Complex Food Security Crisis	06/14/02	-	3,000,000	$1,538,560	USAID/OFDA provided grants to support agriculture, food security, and transportation and logistic efforts through CARE, the Cooperative League of the United States, the U.S. Embassy in Lusaka, and WVI.
Zimbabwe	Complex Food Security Crisis	10/18/01	-	6,700,000	$2,825,661	USAID/OFDA provided grants to support agriculture, nutrition, and field coordination activities, as well as an IDP advisor, through CARE, CRS, UN OCHA, and WVI.
Subtotal					**$132,934,133**	
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Australia	Fire	12/27/01	-	-	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Canberra to the New South Wales state government recovery fund to meet the emergency relief needs of fire victims.
China	Floods	05/29/02	6	600,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to the Red Cross Society of China for the distribution of emergency food and bedding supplies to flood victims.
China	Floods	06/27/02	800	37,000,000	$300,000	USAID/OFDA provided assistance through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to support an emergency appeal by the IFRC on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China.
India	Floods	08/27/02	475	1,684,000	$200,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance to the IFRC in support of an appeal for emergency commodities, such as shelter materials, food, utensils, personal hygiene kits, and medical supplies. Additional assistance was also provided to UNDP to help coordinate the disaster response, develop a database of damage and needs, map vulnerable areas, prioritize relief assistance, and develop a disaster information website.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Indonesia	Complex Emergency	10/11/01	-	1,200,000	$6,669,069	USAID/OFDA provided support to IRC for non-food relief commodities for IDPs; IMC for primary health and water and sanitation assistance; WVI for a community rehabilitation program, livelihoods projects, and non-food relief items; CRS for general emergency relief efforts; Mercy Corps for emergency IDP assistance; ACF/F for basic shelter, non-food relief items, and seeds and tools; CWS for shelter materials and seeds and tools; CARE for nutritional emergency feeding project; and to UN OCHA through the 2002 U.N. Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Indonesia.
Indonesia	Floods	10/24/01	57	365,000	$443,780	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Indonesia to the IFRC and Indonesian Red Cross for the procurement and distribution of essential relief items to meet the immediate needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance to CRS to meet additional emergency needs of flood and landslide victims; Mercy Corps for the purchase and distribution of blankets, water containers, plastic sheeting, tarps, and kerosene; and WVI to fund a program to improve water quality, conduct a basic health improvement campaign, and supply complete curative, preventative, and primary health care services for an estimated 50,000 flood victims.
Laos	Floods	09/05/02	-	150,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane to CARE for rice, seeds for the remaining six to eight weeks of the planting season, and non-food items, such as mosquito nets, for the most severely affected flood victims.
Nepal	Complex Emergency	04/09/02	-	-	$100,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Nepal to support assessments that would provide a better understanding of the IDP situation. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the Nepali Red Cross Society (NRCS) for the replenishment and transport of NRCS relief commodities, including blankets, tarpaulins, and winter clothing.
Nepal	Floods	08/13/02	375	-	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu to the IFRC in response to its appeal for assistance to the Nepali Red Cross Society. USAID/OFDA's funding was used to procure emergency food, blankets, clothing, water purification tablets, and shelter materials for the most vulnerable families.
Philippines	Typhoon	11/09/01	195	1,100,000	$100,000	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the Philippines National Red Cross for the provision of food, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito netting, and water containers to assist an estimated 10,000 affected families.
Republic of Korea	Floods	08/19/02	15	-	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to Gangwon Provincial Disaster Response Task Force for emergency relief commodities to help meet the emergency humanitarian needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance through the U.S. Embassy to the Korean Red Cross for additional relief supplies including emergency food, blankets, and clothing.
Thailand	Floods	09/10/02	24	33,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok to the Thai National Red Cross for the distribution of temporary shelter materials, emergency food, and potable water to the most severely affected flood victims.
Tonga	Cyclone	01/06/02	-	16,500	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji to the Government of Tonga. The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the local procurement of basic food items to provide immediate relief to storm victims.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Vietnam	Fire	04/25/02	-	100,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to CARE to address critical water needs and to assist with basic livelihoods recovery for families whose subsistence had been disrupted.
Subtotal					**$8,137,849**	
EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST, AND CENTRAL ASIA						
Afghanistan	Complex Emergency	10/04/01	-	-	$114,402,834	USAID/OFDA provided emergency humanitarian assistance in the form of grants and in-kind contributions to U.N. agencies, IOs, and NGOs. USAID/OFDA deployed a DART to Pakistan that was later replaced by a USAID/OFDA Program Office in Kabul. The DART coordinated humanitarian assistance response with the Pakistani-based Afghanistan international relief community. Other DARTs were established in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan to coordinate logistics and the delivery of relief assistance into Afghanistan. USAID/OFDA supported 25 relief organizations including ACF/F, ACTED, CARE, CONCERN, CRS, CWS, Focus/Aga Khan, GOAL, ICARDA, ICRC, IMC, IOM, IRC, SCF/US, Shelter For Life, Solidarities, Tufts University, UN Habitat, FAO, UNICEF, UN OCHA, and WFP.
Afghanistan	Earthquake	03/26/02	800	-	$25,000	USAID/OFDA responded by providing assistance to ACTED, who was already active in Baghlan Province managing the humanitarian response to drought and war, to assist in meeting the emergency relief needs of the earthquake-affected population. Other USAID/OFDA relief supplies, already in Afghanistan under existing grants, were directed by implementing partners IRC, CONCERN, GOAL, IOM, and UNICEF to the affected area.
Albania	Floods	09/26/02	-	80,000	*$213,878 in funding was provided by USAID/OFDA in FY 2003.*	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Tirana to WVI and AmRC/Albanian Red Cross for the purchase of non-food relief emergency commodities including clothing, potable water, bedding, blankets, and water pumps. USAID/OFDA also deployed a regional advisor to the affected area to assess the need for continued relief efforts. Funding was provided in FY 2003 by USAID/OFDA.
Central and Eastern Europe Regional	Floods		-	-	$2,883	USAID/OFDA provided an assessment team, which arrived in Prague, Czech Republic on August 25, 2002. The team included a public health advisor, a water and sanitation specialist, an environmental and technological hazards specialist, and a structural engineer.
Czech Republic	Floods	08/13/02	9	40,000	$171,400	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Prague to the Czech Red Cross for emergency supplies of sleeping bags, food, potable water, and other relief items. Additional USAID/OFDA assistance was provided through the U.S. Embassy for the purchase of ground-penetrating radar to assess the stability of flood-affected dwellings and to DOD for the transport of pumps and dryers to the Czech Republic. USAID/OFDA also airlifted water containers and personal hygiene kits from a USAID/OFDA stockpile for distribution to the flood victims.
Georgia	Earthquake	05/03/02	6	-	$124,713	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi to Mercy Corps to assist in meeting the emergency water and sanitation needs of victims affected by the earthquake.
Iran	Earthquake	06/22/02	227	135,000	$349,810	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the IFRC in support of its worldwide appeal to assist with the emergency relief needs of the victims of the earthquake. USAID/OFDA airlifted 5,000 blankets, 12,000 personal hygiene kits, six 10,000-liter water bladders, and two mobile water purification units each capable of providing potable water for up to 10,000 people per day.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Romania	Floods	08/20/02	8	15,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Romania to WVI for the provision of emergency relief commodities to flood-affected residents.
Russia	Floods	07/10/02	94	335,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to AmRC to help meet continuing emergency needs. AmRC used the funds to provide bed linens, blankets, hygiene kits, tents, sleeping bags, mattresses, cooking stoves, and kitchen sets to approximately 5,000 flood victims.
Slovakia	Floods	08/21/02	-	-	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Bratislava to support emergency relief assistance for the flood-affected population.
Syria	Floods	06/10/02	22	12,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Damascus to WFP for the procurement of emergency food to assist the victims. WFP locally purchased 141 MT of wheat flour for the production of bread that was distributed to 10,000 affected residents.
Tajikistan	Drought	10/10/01	-	-	$809,165	USAID/OFDA provided a grant to CARE for the purchase and distribution of 579 MT of improved winter wheat seeds and 2,041 MT of fertilizer. The CARE program was designed to boost household food security for 22,589 families lacking access to quality agricultural inputs.
Tajikistan	Floods	08/08/02	24	500	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Tajikistan to support the Aga Khan Development Network's Focus Humanitarian Assistance with the provision of tents, bedding, and other non-food items to the flood-affected population.
Ukraine	Accident	08/01/02	83	200	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Ukraine to Counterpart International's Community Humanitarian Assistance Program for the purchase of medical equipment and supplies to treat hospitalized spectators.
West Bank/Gaza	Displaced Persons	04/20/02	4,800	-	$262,607	USAID/OFDA airlifted 784 family tents, 1,602 personal hygiene kits, 1,600 water containers, and a water purification unit capable of providing potable water for up to 10,000 people per day. The relief commodities were consigned to U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees for distribution to refugee camp residents.
Subtotal					**$116,448,412**	
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Belize	Hurricane	10/10/01	22	68,000	$349,500	USAID/OFDA provided assistance through the U.S. Embassy in Belize City to the Red Cross Society of Belize and the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) for the local purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies to hurricane victims. USAID/OFDA also provided 489,600 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to the U.S. Embassy for approximately 800 temporary shelters in the districts of Stann Creek and Toledo. In addition, USAID/OFDA funded PAHO's emergency appeal for Belize to support water and sanitation activities, the rehabilitation of damaged health facilities, and the replacement of basic medical supplies. USAID/OFDA deployed a three-person assessment team from its regional office in San Jose, Costa Rica to conduct damage and needs assessments and coordinate relief efforts with the U.S. Embassy and Belize's National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO).

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Bolivia	Floods	02/20/02	63	5,000	$90,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Bolivia to CARE for the local purchase of seeds and tools and fertilizer to assist approximately 1,200 families in the Rio Abajo area who suffered significant crop losses. A USAID/OFDA regional advisor was deployed to assess the overall situation, coordinate with USAID/Bolivia and local authorities, and identify additional humanitarian needs. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided assistance to CARE to conduct an assessment of flood impacts and hazard mitigation measures in Rio Abajo.
Bolivia	Winter Emergency	07/12/02	20	-	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Bolivia to CARE to support the costs of transporting blankets and other USAID/OFDA-funded relief supplies to benefit approximately 2,800 families. The funds were also used to assist CARE in the transport of existing in-country stocks of P.L. 480 Title II development program food during the following three months.
Chile	Floods	06/05/02	14	221,842	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Santiago to the Chilean Red Cross, Hogar de Cristo Caritas de Chile, and Chile's National Office of Emergencies (ONEMI) for the local purchase of relief supplies.
Guatemala	Drought	10/18/01	-	-	$499,969	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the University Research Corporation, USAID/Guatemala's nutrition partner, to support an enhanced therapeutic feeding program. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance to four of USAID/Guatemala's food assistance partners - CRS, CARE, Self-Help and Resource Exchange (SHARE), and SCF/US - to increase nutritional surveillance and health education programs.
Haiti	Floods	05/29/02	31	-	$350,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Haiti to CRS to purchase, transport, and distribute locally available small tools, household supplies, and mattresses to flood victims. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) to conduct emergency road rehabilitation in affected isolated communities.
Honduras	Floods	10/30/01	7	62,557	$191,469	Disaster Declaration Authority provided through USAID/Honduras to AmRC, which in coordination with the Honduran Red Cross, locally procured relief supplies for 1,000 families and supported a dengue fever prevention campaign. USAID/OFDA provided assistance to the Honduras Permanent Emergency Commission (COPECO) for the transport of emergency relief supplies to flood victims in Yoro and La Mosquitia. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 244,800 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to COPECO for temporary shelter construction for between 400 and 600 families in the affected areas. USAID/OFDA also provided assistance to AmRC, Proyecto Aldea Global, and WVI for the purchase of emergency relief supplies, shelter materials for repairing damaged homes, and water and sewage systems in Yoro and La Mosquitia. USAID/OFDA deployed two regional advisors and a consultant, who conducted a three-week damage assessment and assisted USAID/Honduras with the overall emergency response.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Jamaica	Floods	11/08/01	-	6,000	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Jamaica to Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM). The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the local purchase of relief items, including building materials, food, bedding, mattresses, and water and sanitation supplies to assist 100 flood victims in the Portland and St. Mary parishes for a period of two weeks. In addition, two USAID/OFDA regional advisors were deployed to Portland and St. Mary to assess the overall humanitarian situation and coordinate with ODPEM and local authorities.
Jamaica	Floods	06/06/02	9	25,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Jamaica to the Jamaican Red Cross to locally procure and distribute emergency relief supplies, including food, mattresses, bedding, and utensils. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided funding that was used to purchase seeds and tools and fertilizers for local farmers whose livelihoods were impacted by the flooding.
Nicaragua	Floods	11/21/01	-	24,866	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Nicaragua to AmRC for the local purchase and distribution of emergency food, potable water supplies, seeds, and mosquito netting in the Coco River area of the Wapam municipality. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor to assist USAID/Nicaragua with the overall emergency response and to liaise with NGOs, Government of Nicaragua officials, and local authorities on coordinating relief efforts.
Nicaragua	Fire	04/18/02	-	16,700	$47,163	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan Forestry Institute and other local authorities to support the purchase of locally available fire suppression tools and materials, such as rakes, machetes, beaters, and shovels. USAID/OFDA deployed a fire management expert to work with INAFOR to assess the extent of damage caused by the forest fires and to determine the potential for future fires.
Nicaragua	Floods	05/30/02	1	10,000	$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan Red Cross to support the purchase and distribution of emergency food and other relief items for flood victims residing in shelters.
Peru	Fire	12/31/01	350	-	$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided support to a team of eight medical personnel from the Joseph M. Sill Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia. The team deployed for a three-day mission to treat burn victims, assist local medical authorities, and advise Peruvian Ministry of Health officials. In addition, USAID/OFDA funding partially replenished medical supplies and emergency equipment used by the local fire department to treat victims.
Peru	Winter Emergency	07/16/02	60	86,000	$48,020	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Lima to the Peruvian National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) for the local procurement of blankets, winter clothing, and transport of emergency relief supplies to victims in the affected areas.

Country	Disaster	Date	Dead	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Venezuela	Floods	07/26/02	4	55,000	$196,438	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to AmRC for the purchase and transport of emergency supplies to support the ICRC's ongoing relief efforts. USAID/OFDA also airlifted 612,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, ten 3,000-gallon water bladders, 5,004 personal hygiene kits, and 5,000 five-gallon water containers to Caracas. These relief items were consigned to Venezuela's National Office of Civil Protection for distribution to flood victims in the affected areas.
Subtotal					**$2,072,559**	
TOTAL					**$259,592,953***	

* Total USAID/OFDA spending does not include $4,461,991 in carryover activities during FY 2002 (see page 24).

Notes: (1) The Disaster Assistance Authority is a discretionary fund of up to $50,000 available to the U.S. Ambassador or Chief of Mission from USAID/OFDA upon the declaration of a foreign disaster to meet immediate relief needs. On April 1, 2002, the Disaster Assistance Authority was increased to $50,000 from $25,000.
(2) A hyphen (-) in the dead and/or affected columns indicates that reliable information was not available.

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

AAH/USA	Action Against Hunger/United States
ACF	Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)
ACTED	Agency for Technical Co-operation and Development
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AmRC	American Red Cross
ARC	American Refugee Committee
CARE	Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CWS	Church World Services
FHI	Food for the Hungry International
IMC	International Medical Corps
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LWR	Lutheran World Relief
Merlin	Medical Emergency Relief International
MSF	Médecins San Frontières (Doctors Without Borders)
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
PCI	Project Concern International
SCF/US	Save the Children Fund/United States
SCF	Save the Children Fund
SNI	Shelter Now International
UMCOR	United Methodist Committee on Relief
WVI	World Vision International

Country of Origin

/B	Belgium
/F	France
/UK	United Kingdom

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

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

U.S. Government Organizations/Programs

CAMI	Central America Mitigation Initiative
CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DART	Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART)
DCHA	Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EDRC	Emergency Disaster Response Coordinator (USAID/OFDA)
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning System Network
FFP	Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)
OFDA	Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)
OTI	Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI)
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State)
SOUTHCOM	United States Southern Command
State	U.S. Department of State
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USG	United States Government
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

Measurement Conversion

1 hectare	= 2.471 acres
1 meter	= 39.37 inches
1 millimeter	= 0.039 inch
1 kilometer	= 0.62 miles

Miscellaneous

FY	Fiscal Year
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
km	kilometer
mm	millimeter
MT	metric ton
P.L.	Public Law
sq. ft.	square feet

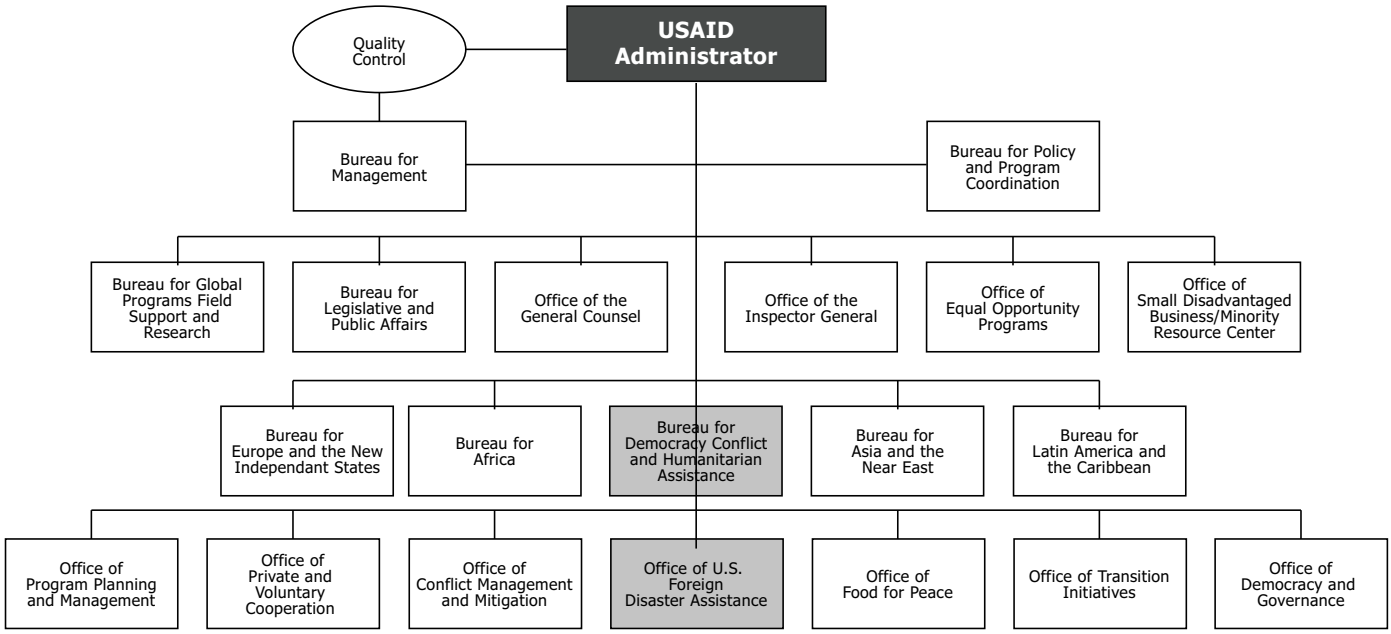
HOW THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDES HUMANITARIAN AID

THE OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

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

USAID/OFDA is organized into three divisions, under the management of the Office of the Director. The Disaster Response and Mitigation (DRM) division is responsible for coordinating with other organizations for the provision of relief supplies and humanitarian assistance. DRM also devises, coordinates, and implements program strategies for the application of science and technology to prevention, mitigation, and national and international preparedness initiatives for a variety of natural and human-caused disaster situations. The Operations (OPS) division develops and manages logistical, operational, and technical support for disaster responses. OPS maintains readiness to respond to emergencies through several mechanisms, including managing Search and Rescue (SAR) Teams, Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART), and Washington-based Response Management Teams (RMT). The Program Support (PS) division provides programmatic and administrative support, including budget/financial services, procurement planning, contracts and grants administration, general administrative support, and communication support for both USAID/OFDA and its field offices.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

USAID/OFDA/DRM provides humanitarian assistance in response to a declaration of a foreign disaster made by the U.S. Ambassador or the U.S. Department of State. Once an event or situation is determined to require U.S. Government (USG) assistance, USAID/OFDA can immediately provide up to $50,000 to the U.S. Embassy or USAID Mission to purchase relief supplies locally or give a contribution to a relief organization in the affected country. (*Note: On April 1, 2002, the $25,000 funding level was increased to $50,000.*) USAID/OFDA can also send its own relief commodities, such as plastic sheeting, tents, blankets, and water purification units, from its four stockpiles in Guam, Honduras, Italy, and Maryland, as well as a smaller cache in Florida. Increasingly, USAID/OFDA deploys short- or long-term field personnel to countries where disasters are occurring or threaten to occur, and, in some cases, dispatches a DART.

The largest percentage of USAID/OFDA's assistance goes to relief and rehabilitation project grants managed by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs) registered with USAID, and United Nations (U.N.) organizations (*See pie chart on next page*). Relief projects include airlifting supplies to affected populations in remote locations, managing primary health care and supplementary feeding centers, and providing shelter materials to disaster evacuees and displaced persons. A rehabilitation project might immunize dislocated populations against disease, provide seeds and tools to farmers who have been adversely affected by disasters, drill water wells, or rehabilitate water systems in drought-stricken countries. USAID/OFDA carefully monitors the organizations implementing these projects to ensure that resources are used wisely and to determine if the project needs to be adapted to changing conditions. The goal of each project is to meet the humanitarian needs of the affected population, with the aim of returning the beneficiaries to self-sufficiency.

Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, provides flexible authority that permits USAID/OFDA to respond to the needs of disaster victims in a timely manner. USAID/OFDA follows the standard USAID procedures for routine procurements, but utilizes expedited or modified procedures when necessary to achieve its disaster response objectives. The first principle in disaster response accountability is to ensure that appropriate assistance gets to the neediest victims in time to minimize death and alleviate human suffering. Procurement and accounting procedures may be expedited, but must include effective systems of internal control.

Not all of USAID/OFDA's assistance goes to providing aid in response to disasters. USAID/OFDA's mitigation staff oversees a portfolio of projects designed to reduce the impact of disasters on victims and economic assets in disaster-prone countries. USAID/OFDA has invested in a number of programs in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, the World Environment Center, and other offices within USAID. These programs not only enhance a country's capacity to manage its own disasters and hazards, but also promote the transfer of technology, goods, and services between the United States and its host country. USAID/OFDA mitigation-related programs range from investing in drought early warning systems that can possibly head off

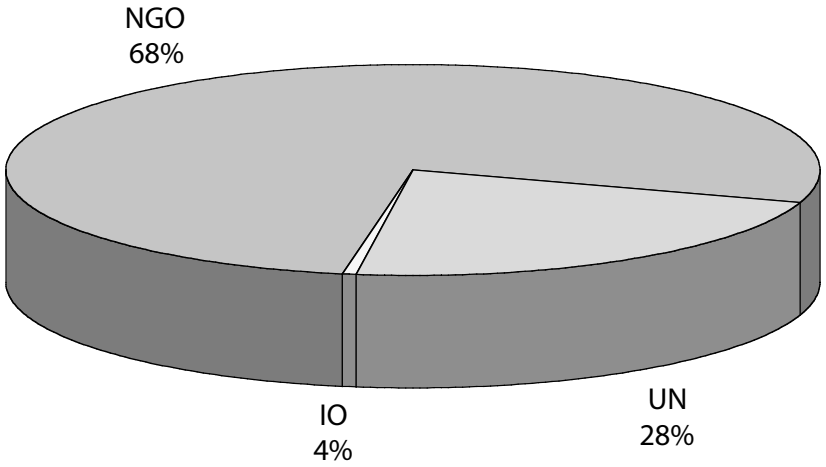
a famine to training local relief workers to manage the response to a disaster more effectively. USAID/OFDA is increasingly investing in programs designed to prevent, mitigate, prepare, and plan for complex emergencies, which are more the result of human actions than of acts of nature.

OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICES THAT PROVIDE FOREIGN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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

Besides USAID, three of the largest providers of USG humanitarian assistance are the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) and the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of Stability Operations (DOD/SO). USAID Missions and Regional Bureaus work closely with USAID/FFP in allocating surplus food commodities to developing countries, under the Section 416(b) program of the Agricultural Act of 1949. This food aid is often used for emergency feeding programs in countries experiencing food shortages due to drought or civil strife. State/PRM provides multilateral grants to international relief organizations in response to refugee emergency appeals and contributes to the regular program budgets of organizations such as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). DOD/SO coordinates the utilization of DOD assets for humanitarian assistance overseas. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also provide technical assistance, in coordination with USAID/OFDA, in response to disasters and potential hazards overseas. ❖

USAID/OFDA FUNDING OF GRANTS BY AGENCY TYPE - FY 2002



REDUCING VULNERABILITY AND RESTORING LIVELIHOODS FOR DROUGHT-AFFECTED POPULATIONS

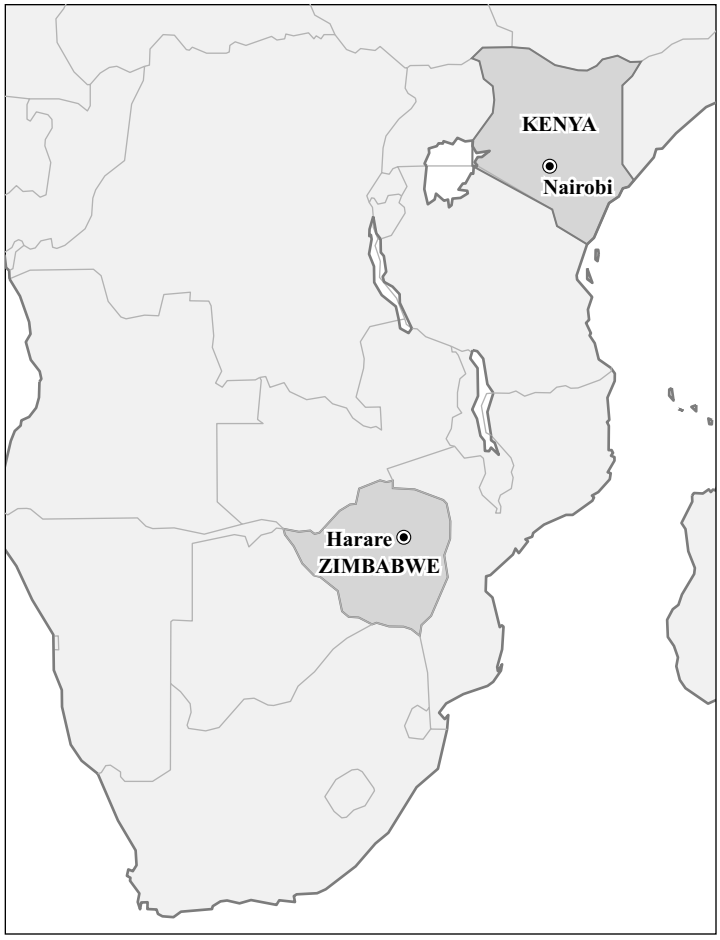
According to the United Nations World Food Program, more than 32 million people in Central Asia, the Greater Horn of Africa, and southern Africa were affected by drought during FY 2002. For a significant number of these people, drought was a chronic threat to their ability to provide for their families, increasing the risk of poverty, disease, and displacement. To assist those affected, USAID/OFDA initiated a multi-sector approach to mitigate the effects of drought through health programs, water and sanitation improvements, agricultural rehabilitation, and early-warning initiatives. USAID/OFDA's approach reduced vulnerability, lessened human suffering, and saved lives. By providing more than $133 million in FY 2002 for emergency relief and mitigation assistance to Afghanistan, the Greater Horn of Africa, and southern Africa, USAID/OFDA had a direct and positive impact on the lives of an estimated 28 million drought-affected people.

According to the United Nations World Food Program, more than 32 million people in Central Asia, the Greater Horn of Africa, and southern Africa were affected by drought during FY 2002.

Early Warning Systems

Reliable prediction of climatic conditions is essential in preventing drought-related vulnerability. In order to enhance early warning efforts and mitigate the impact of drought, USAID/OFDA supported a Drought Monitoring Center (DMC) in Nairobi, Kenya (for the Greater Horn of Africa) and Harare, Zimbabwe (for southern Africa) in FY 2002. The DMCs were and continue to be responsible for monitoring droughts and issuing warnings based on 10-day, monthly, and seasonal timeframes. The warnings notify stakeholders of adverse impacts on agriculture, water resources, energy production, health, and other socio-economic sectors. Although the 2000-2002 drought was one of the worst climatic periods in the history of the Greater Horn and southern Africa regions, the overall impact was relatively minimal due to the activities and efforts of the DMCs. National governments were able to appeal early for food donations allowing donors to respond in time. Government officials and implementing partners managed water allocation for hydropower production, and assisted farmers in choosing suitable crop varieties.

The DMCs produced seasonal climate outlooks, monthly bulletins that discuss 30-day regional rainfall distribution, drought severity, monthly/seasonal temperature, rainfall deviations from long-term averages, weather outlooks, and agro-meteorological



USAID/OFDA supports two Drought Monitoring Centers, one based in Nairobi, Kenya providing coverage for the Horn of Africa region and the other in Harare, Zimbabwe monitoring southern Africa.

Professor Laban Ogallo of the Nairobi, Kenya-based Drought Monitoring Center (DMC), supported by USAID/OFDA, points out annual and forecasted rainfall levels for the Horn of Africa region (photo by Sonya Green, USAID/OFDA).

conditions and impacts. Drought advisories generated by the DMCs allowed farmers to prepare for difficult growing conditions by planting quickly maturing and drought-resistant crops, planting earlier, making a timely purchase of pesticides, and intensifying locust control efforts. These agricultural preparations helped farmers in some areas improve their crop yields and increased their chances of maintaining their livelihoods even as a potential drought loomed.

In FY 1999, USAID/OFDA began supporting a similar climate information program in Niger and Uganda called RANET (New Radio and Internet Technology for Communication of Weather and Climate Information to Rural Communities for Sustainable Development in Africa). RANET works to make weather-related information more accessible to rural populations, drawing climate data from local and global sources, and distributing the information via digital satellite, receiving stations, computers, and radios. A February 2002 USAID/OFDA assessment of the program found that RANET has had a broad impact across a range of sectors. RANET's use of community radio stations to transmit information has helped improve agricultural production in Uganda and reduce drought vulnerability. The technology is a medium for other important community information such as health-related public service announcements, education, pest-borne diseases, HIV/AIDS information, and updates on agricultural market conditions.

A technician at the Nairobi, Kenya-based DMC checks regional weather data (photo by Sonya Green, USAID/OFDA).

Drought advisories, generated by the USAID/OFDA-supported Drought Monitoring Centers, have helped farmers prepare for difficult growing conditions.

Afghanistan

In FY 2002, Afghanistan experienced its third year of drought while emerging from twenty years of war and civil strife. An assessment conducted in early 2002 for USAID by the Tufts University Feinstein International Famine Center found that while Afghans had developed coping mechanisms to survive two decades of conflict, they had greater difficulty dealing with the ongoing drought. Coping mechanisms that may have worked in the earlier stages of the drought had been quickly exhausted. Afghan families watched their livelihoods slip away as rain-fed and irrigated agricultural production decreased with each year of continued drought. The assessment highlighted a 'cash famine' in which farmers lost income just as they were becoming dependent on markets for items that they once produced. The resulting debt triggered a downward spiral as farmers were forced to sell livestock,

Afghanistan

farming equipment, and other assets critical to their livelihoods. The sale of these items was not enough to offset crippling loans taken out by farmers in previous years in an attempt to recover from failed harvests. Even though drought conditions abated in parts of Afghanistan during 2002, and crop production increased 82 percent in the summer of 2002, many Afghans were already so impoverished that these improvements were not enough to generate economic recovery.

Since water is critical not only for drinking, but for sanitation, livestock care, and crop production, the Tufts assessment found that control over water access was often a matter of life or death.

The water shortages resulting from the drought further exacerbated the desperate situation of the Afghan people. As the drought persisted, the Tufts University assessment team found a marked rise in water insecurity due to limited access to potable water. The assessment also revealed that wealthier households were drilling deeper wells and installing more powerful pumps; a practice that limited water availability for poorer households. Since water is critical not only for drinking, but for sanitation, livestock care, and crop production, the Tufts assessment found that control over water access was often a matter of life or death. As a result, many Afghans with limited access to water were forced to travel longer distances to obtain their supply; a risky proposition given the numerous dangerous obstacles such as extreme heat or cold, insecurity, limited means of transportation, and hazardous road conditions.

The difficulty of accessing potable water increased the vulnerability of Afghans to disease. Given the risk of potential outbreaks, USAID/OFDA funded $114.4 million in programs to provide potable water and rehabilitate water systems, as well as initiatives to improve health conditions and prevent disease. For example, USAID/OFDA's health interventions included the rehabilitation of health clinics, birthing centers, and hospitals. Through UNICEF, USAID/OFDA supported inoculation campaigns against measles and polio for millions of children, while also improving basic health services, particularly for women and children. In addition, USAID/OFDA funded CARE to provide one-quarter of Kabul's water supply, focusing on the districts most vulnerable to disease due to poor sanitation. Other USAID/OFDA programs rehabilitated wells and water and sanitation systems.

In order to minimize the impact of the loss of livelihoods — debt, limited access to water, poor sanitation, and disease — USAID/OFDA focused

To prevent the onset of disease in Afghan populations with no or limited access to a potable water supply, USAID/OFDA funded many regional water stations, such as this CARE-operated station in Kabul (photo by Dick Owens, USAID/OFDA).

on the agricultural sector, as 70 percent of Afghans rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. Considering the importance of cash for vulnerable Afghans to purchase food, potable water, fuel, and other critical goods, USAID/OFDA funded rural rehabilitation with cash-for-work programs. In six districts of central Afghanistan, USAID/OFDA's implementing partner, the International Medical Corps, began a cash-for-work program with the goal of rehabilitating 60 wells, reconstructing or cleaning 15 km of irrigation canals, and providing cash infusions for 7,000 drought-affected participants. With overwhelming support, enthusiasm, and collaboration from impacted communities, the program exceeded expected outcomes and the project moved forward by establishing water management associations. With USAID/OFDA assistance, 79 wells are functioning, 15 fresh water springs are flowing, 143 km of canals were cleaned and rehabilitated, 66 km of roads were restored, and on an average day more than 3,000 people worked on projects that improved their communities. The revitalization of these communities has instilled a newfound sense of hope and reinvigorated a feeling of self-reliance in the residents of central Afghanistan, encouraging the return of refugees and internally displaced people who had fled disastrous drought conditions.

Greater Horn of Africa

Drought conditions in the Greater Horn of Africa, another area dependent on agriculture, improved slightly in portions of some countries during FY 2002, but the cumulative effects of three years of drought continued to adversely affect the livelihoods of agricultural and pastoral populations. Populations in southern and southeastern Ethiopia, faced with losses of between 60 to 80 percent of their herds in some areas, were forced to migrate in search of pasture land and water sources. According to a December 2002 U.N. study, conducted by its World Food Program (WFP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), crop production in Ethiopia had decreased 25 percent below 2001 levels while grain prices increased substantially. In Eritrea, also experiencing a third year of drought, the U.N. study estimated that 1.4 million of Eritrea's 3.3 million residents were affected by drought conditions causing major crop failure in agricultural areas and the substantial loss of livestock among pastoral communities. In Kenya, although drought conditions in parts of the country improved, 1.2 million people remained drought-affected during 2002.

Countries affected by drought in the Greater Horn of Africa

USAID/OFDA assessments in the Horn of Africa helped to target humanitarian assistance to the hardest hit sectors and populations in hope of reversing the multiplier effect of the drought.

Drought conditions were severe enough to impoverish communities in the Greater Horn of Africa; unfortunately other factors increased the impact of the drought. Ethiopia and Eritrea continued to experience the lingering effects of their 1998-2000 border conflict. A November 2002 USAID/OFDA assessment in Eritrea found that military and national service conscription and the resulting labor shortages played a significant role in exacerbating humanitarian needs, as did the displacement of war-affected populations, influxes of deportees from Ethiopia, repatriation of refugees, and border closures with Sudan and Ethiopia. USAID/OFDA assessments in the Greater Horn of Africa helped to target humanitarian assistance to severely impacted sectors and populations in

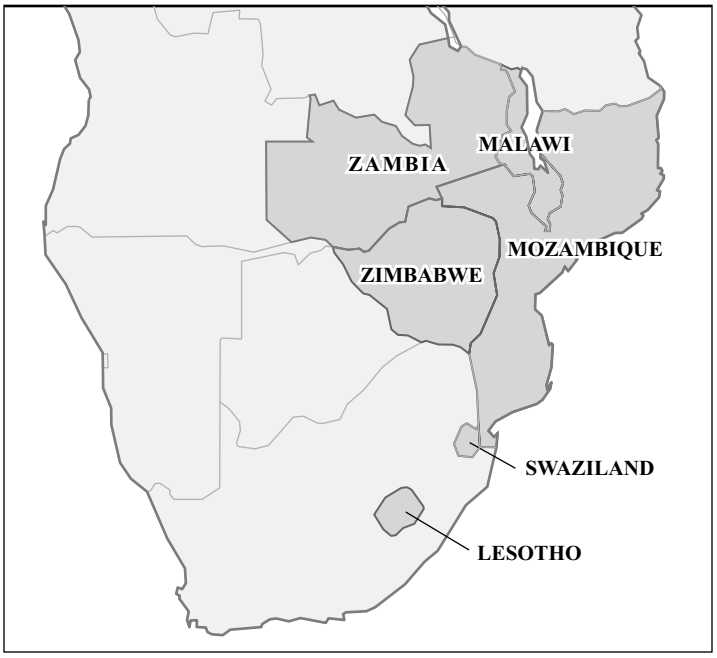
New construction or rebuilding of water and sanitation infrastructure, like this USAID/OFDA-funded project in northeast Kenya, helped the country transition to a recovery phase in FY 2002 (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).

the hope of reversing the multiplier effect of the drought. A USAID/OFDA assessment in Ethiopia determined that the most drought-affected areas were in Afar Region and the West Hararghe Zone of the Oromiya Region. As a result of these assessments, USAID/OFDA recommended and funded an early and robust intervention in the water and sanitation and agriculture sectors by a diverse range of humanitarian actors. A USAID/OFDA assessment team in Eritrea recommended a comprehensive seed assessment to help rehabilitate the agricultural sector, and suggested the destocking of pastoral herds due to limited water resources and fodder.

In Somalia, potable water availability remained limited, as did harvests in the northern Gedo Region and portions of the Bay, Bakool, and Shabelle regions. In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA utilized a multi-sector approach, supporting programs in such areas as water and sanitation, health, nutritional surveillance, and animal husbandry. The emergency assistance has had a direct and positive impact on the affected Somali population. One USAID/OFDA project in Somalia, implemented by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), focused on addressing severe water shortages stemming from chronic and acute drought by increasing availability and accessibility of potable water to 53,100 residents in the Bakol and Gedo regions in southern Somalia. One of these residents was Muslimo Abdi Mohamed. Before the program began working with local community leaders to improve water and sanitation conditions, Muslimo drew water, when available, for her eight children and ten other dependent family members from an open, contaminated well using ropes and buckets. After the well was rehabilitated, Muslimo and 60 others began getting clean, potable water. The impact of the USAID/OFDA program on families in a country affected by ongoing drought and civil war was tremendous. In addition to clean drinking water and improved sanitation practices, inhabitants used excess water from drainage canals to water home gardens allowing Muslimo to supplement her family's income by selling vegetables and sugar cane.

Southern Africa

In the southern areas of Africa, two consecutive irregular growing seasons resulted in drought conditions that have severely impacted Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Mozambique, Swaziland, and Lesotho were also affected. Southern Africans exhausted their coping mechanisms in a pattern similar to drought-affected Afghans. For example, a joint USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP assessment in Malawi found that the early onset of seasonal food scarcity coupled with rising food prices led to



Countries affected by drought in southern Africa

subsistence farmers liquidating their assets, including livestock, a primary coping mechanism and the key to their livelihood. Like the droughts in Central Asia and the Greater Horn of Africa, the impoverishment that accompanied the loss of livelihoods for southern Africans led to a decline in sanitation standards and an increased risk of disease. The regional food security crisis, resulting malnutrition, and high HIV/AIDS rates also heightened susceptibility to endemic diseases such as cholera and malaria.

Disease is both a cause and consequence of the loss of livelihoods. For example, a household with members infected by HIV/AIDS will have fewer people capable of earning family income through manual labor. A 1999 case study in Tanzania found that chronically ill family members could reduce household income by as much as 30 to 35 percent with each passing year. Moreover, the added costs of health care or even funeral expenses can further tax household resources.

In its paper exploring linkages between household food security and HIV/AIDS, the Food Economy Group, a partner to USAID's Famine Early Warning System (FEWS NET), noted that in drought-affected areas such as Kenya and sub-Saharan Africa, the people in the most economically productive age groups are those contracting HIV/AIDS. In addition, an FAO study found that women, who comprise 70 percent of the agricultural labor force in Africa, tend to have higher infection rates for HIV/AIDS. As deaths from HIV/AIDS rise, traditional community coping mechanisms that care for widows and orphans are placed under greater pressure. The relationship between poverty and disease is also exacerbated as stricken residents are forced to turn to prostitution or migrant labor, spreading the disease as they seek needed income.

USAID/OFDA sought to restore traditional livelihoods in the most drought-affected southern African countries, while minimizing the risk of disease. In Zimbabwe, USAID/OFDA funded two agricultural recovery programs and a combined nutrition and agricultural project. In Malawi and Zambia, USAID/OFDA supported three agricultural recovery projects responding to the urgent need to distribute seeds in time for the October 2002 rains. USAID/OFDA also aimed to improve health conditions in Malawi through a UNICEF emergency nutrition initiative and a WHO program to respond to a cholera outbreak and prevent future diseases.

Conclusion

Drought will remain a fact of life in the coming years for many disaster-prone countries, and USAID/OFDA is committed to using focused humanitarian interventions to help offset the most difficult impacts. Through USAID/OFDA-supported early warning initiatives, populations that experience drought are better prepared to mitigate its adverse effects. As drought-affected populations regain coping mechanisms and livelihoods, they become less vulnerable to future droughts. USAID/OFDA's emphasis on reducing vulnerability by supporting relief projects in multiple sectors such as health, agriculture, and water and sanitation is integral in strengthening and restoring communities. ❖

—By Brady Hartley

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PRIOR YEAR(S) DECLARED DISASTERS

Activities initiated in response to a disaster declaration often require additional funding for completion in subsequent fiscal years. In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA obligated a total of $4,461,991 in response to disasters declared in FY 2001.

FISCAL YEAR 2001 FUNDING CARRYOVER

AFGHANISTAN — Complex Emergency

Grant modification to ACTED for IDP camp management in Baghlan Province **$630,000**

Grant modification to IMC for health programs in Herat **$735,000**

Grant modification to FAO for seed multiplication program **$300,000**

Grant modification to UNICEF for nutrition, health, and water and sanitation programs **$1,650,000**

Cost of deployment of USAID/OFDA DART and related administrative costs **$144,300**

ANGOLA — Complex Emergency

Cost of transportation of relief supplies from a USAID/OFDA warehouse in Pisa, Italy to Luanda by ocean freight **$42,820**

ETHIOPIA — Drought

Grant modification to GOAL for health and nutrition activities in Afar Region **$865,391**

SIERRA LEONE — Complex Emergency

Cost of administration for International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) **$59,480**

VIETNAM — Floods

Funds provided to the Vietnam Red Cross to provide alternative income opportunities for landless laborers adversely affected by the floods **$35,000**

FY 2002 DECLARED DISASTERS

Disaster Summaries in this Annual Report

The disaster descriptions on the following pages cover the period of the USG's fiscal year, October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002. During FY 2002, USAID/OFDA responded to 75 declared disasters.

How a Disaster is Declared

The Chief of the U.S. Mission declares a disaster in the affected country when it is beyond the ability of the host country's response capacity and when he or she determines that a disaster exists that warrants a USG response. In the event that a U.S. Mission is not located in the affected country, the appropriate U.S. Assistant Secretary of State may declare a disaster. Since April 1, 2002, a disaster declaration provides for the Chief of the U.S. Mission or U.S. Assistant Secretary of State to access up to $50,000 (the "Disaster Assistance Authority") for host country relief efforts. Prior to April 1, 2002, the level of funding under the "Disaster Assistance Authority" was up to $25,000. USAID/OFDA releases the $50,000 Ambassador's Authority from its International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account and provides the U.S. Mission with guidance to determine the need for additional USG assistance. USAID/OFDA deploys assessment teams to disaster sites when needed to assist in verification of relief needs.

USAID/OFDA and other USG Assistance

Some of the disasters in FY 2002 required a combination of USG financial and staff resources. The disaster descriptions include total dollar figures for the assistance provided from USAID/OFDA's IDA account, as well as summary information on assistance provided by other USG offices, such as USAID/FFP, USAID/OTI, USDA, State/PRM, and DOD. It is not always possible for USAID/OFDA to verify total assistance provided by other USG offices.

Detailed Situation Reports and Fact Sheets on Major Disasters Available Separately

USAID/OFDA produces documents that provide more detailed information about declared disasters than is provided in the case reports found in this Annual Report. Situation reports are four-to-five page documents updated periodically and written on long-term, complex emergencies. Fact sheets are bulletized one-to-two page documents written on natural disasters and fast-onset complex emergencies.

Situation reports or fact sheets were produced for the following major disasters in FY 2002:

Algeria — Floods
Angola — Complex Emergency
Burundi — Complex Emergency
Central Asia Region (Afghanistan, Pakistan) — Complex Emergency
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) — Complex Emergency
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) — Volcano
Eritrea — Complex Emergency/Drought
Ethiopia — Complex Emergency
Indonesia — Complex Emergency
Kenya — Drought
Mano River Countries (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone) — Complex Emergency
Somalia — Complex Emergency/Drought
South and Southeast Asia (Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam) — Floods
Southern Africa (Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe) — Complex Food Security Crisis
Sudan — Complex Emergency

Note: Current situation reports, fact sheets, and other related information are available on the Internet at:

USAID/OFDA Home Page	UN OCHA ReliefWeb Home Page
http://www.usaid.gov/ofda/	http://www.reliefweb.int/

Historical situation reports and fact sheets are available from USAID/OFDA upon request.

AFRICA

Left Photo
USAID/OFDA provided substantial assistance to the Nuba Mountain population in Sudan during FY 2002. (Photo by Ted Maly, USAID/OFDA)

Right Photo
USAID/OFDA relief supplies provided in response to the Mount Nyiragongo volcano eruption near Goma in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (Photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA)

Algeria

Floods

On November 10, 2001, severe flooding and massive mudslides occurred after a prolonged period of drought, high winds, heavy rain, and hail struck northern Algeria. Sixteen of the country's 48 provinces were affected. Although the Government of Algeria (GOA) declared the Algiers, Oran, and Tipaza regions disaster areas, most of the damage occurred in the capital city of Algiers. According to GOA estimates, 711 people were killed and between 40,000 and 50,000 residents were rendered homeless. In addition, the GOA reported that more than 2,700 buildings and 109 roads were severely damaged by the floodwaters. According to GOA officials, the total cost of the flood damage was more than $300 million.

On November 13, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Gregory S. Slotta declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and following an international emergency appeal by the GOA. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Algiers to the Algerian Red Crescent Society for the local procurement of blankets, clothing, and medicines for the affected residents. On November 16, USAID/OFDA provided 10,005 blankets and three 10,000-person emergency medical health kits at the request of the U.S. Embassy. The airlifted supplies were valued at $103,190, including transport. On the same day, USAID/OFDA deployed its Urban Planning and Urban Disaster Mitigation Specialist to provide technical assistance and guidance to the GOA, city of Algiers, and local officials on a wide range of shelter, housing, and reconstruction issues, including flood mitigation and environmental management.

On November 28, a second airlift of USAID/OFDA relief commodities, containing 100 heaters and 100 generators, arrived in Algiers. The total value of the second shipment of supplies was $113,745, including transport. During the week of December 3, 2002, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor to assess whether further USAID/OFDA relief assistance was warranted and none was required.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $241,935

Angola

Complex Emergency

During October 2001, violence between the Government of the Republic of Angola (GRA) and the National Union for the Independence of Angola (UNITA) continued to affect nearly four million Angolan residents. Three decades of conflict have devastated the health services infrastructure, destroyed and damaged transportation networks, and threatened food security — leaving millions of Angolans in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. According to UN OCHA, by January 2002, the conflict had internally displaced more than 1.3 million Angolans. In April 2002, State/PRM reported that approximately 467,000 Angolans sought refuge in neighboring countries including Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Republic of Congo, and Namibia.

On February 22, 2002, Jonas Savimbi, who led UNITA for more than three decades, was killed during fighting with the GRA's Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). Savimbi's death marked a turning point in the armed conflict between rival liberation movements that began since Angola's independence in 1975. On April 4, 2002, the GRA and UNITA signed a Memorandum of Understanding that ended the 27-year civil war and reinstated the 1994 Lusaka Protocol. The peace process in Angola advanced rapidly and on August 2, 2002, parties to the conflict

A USAID/OFDA-funded food distribution center in Bié Province, Angola (photo by Sky Wiseman, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA Assists in Reducing Angola's Maternal Mortality Rates

During 2000, between 1,200 and 2,000 women died for every 100,000 live births in hospitals located in Luanda, Angola. While this statistic is extremely high, Angola's capital city has greater access to health services, including maternal and child health (MCH) care than provincial cities or rural areas. As nearly 30 years of civil war have devastated the health care system in Angola, hospitals are operational only in provincial capitals and lack facilities able to offer clean and modern medical services. In most areas, basic emergency obstetric and antenatal services are not available and trained doctors, nurses, and administrators are in short supply. Reports of maternal mortality ratios reaching 4,000 deaths per 100,000 live births are not uncommon in rural areas where public health services are not readily available.

Using a heat-retaining blanket provided through a USAID/OFDA-funded program, an Angolan mother nurses her child (photo by Heather Evans, USAID/OFDA).

Reports of maternal mortality ratios reaching 4,000 deaths per 100,000 live births are not uncommon in rural areas where public health services are not readily available.

According to UNICEF, the most common causes of maternal mortality reported include malaria, hemorrhage, infection, obstructed delivery, and toxemia. Approximately 50 percent of the maternal deaths in Angola often result from minor complications. More than 82 percent of births occur at home, and skilled medical personnel attend only 17 percent of births. In response to the MCH crisis in Angola, international humanitarian organizations have implemented projects throughout the country to provide basic supplies and training to traditional birth attendants (TBAs) working within the health care system, in an effort to increase women's access to basic childbirth assistance.

TBA training programs, supported by USAID/OFDA, have successfully reduced the maternal mortality rates in Angola. TBAs are trained to provide sanitary, safe deliveries and to identify possible pregnancy complications so women can be referred to either a health/maternity center or a district/provincial hospital. A USAID/OFDA NGO partner reports that the average maternal mortality rate in its area of operation has decreased from 1,241 deaths per 100,000 live births to only 293.

As the skills and practices of TBAs have improved, the number of referrals of high-risk pregnancies to district and provincial hospitals has increased. Although this increase is a positive indicator, it has also become more apparent that there is a significant need to upgrade the skills base of the practitioners at the referral centers. While TBAs and midwives are being trained by NGOs to identify complications that require emergency obstetrical care — such as cesarean sections, obstructed labor or hemorrhages — health facilities with the capacity to provide emergency obstetrical care services do not exist in most areas. In cases where emergency care is available, it is often inaccessible to those who can most benefit due to lack of transportation, timing or payment issues.

In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA's strategy in Angola focused on the need for emergency obstetrical care and supported activities that increased TBA effectiveness by further strengthening institutional systems. One USAID/OFDA NGO partner has involved the procuradoras or community advocates to establish an appropriate and efficient system

Continued on Page 29, "Angola's Maternal Morality Rates"

completed the demobilization of UNITA's armed forces and officially ended the conflict.

Following the April 2002 Memorandum of Understanding, USAID/OFDA participated in several assessments of the humanitarian situation from May through August 2002. The assessment teams highlighted the need for humanitarian assistance in the family reception areas (FRAs), public health support, food security initiatives, and emergency assistance to IDPs and returnees. On October 23, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Christopher W. Dell redeclared a disaster in Angola in response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

To support the peace process, USAID/OFDA provided more than $2.1 million in non-food emergency assistance commodities during June 2002 to meet the humanitarian relief needs of vulnerable populations in the FRAs. In total, three airlifts and one sealift delivered 50,000 blankets, 50,000 water containers, more than 6.1 million sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 50,016 bars of soap, and 25,000 kitchen sets to IOM for distribution. USAID/OFDA also provided a total of 36 10,000-person emergency health kits, valued at more than $217,000, through IMC and IOM to meet the needs of 360,000 vulnerable FRA residents, IDPs, and resettling populations.

A food distribution program, funded by USAID/OFDA, begins in the newly accessible town of Cuemba (photo by Jeff Bryan, USAID/OFDA).

In addition to the commodities provided by USAID/OFDA, U.N. agencies, and NGOs received more than $17.7 million to implement emergency health, supplemental feeding, water and sanitation, and food security programs. USAID/OFDA also supported $5.5 million in emergency health initiatives that included maternal and child health programs, public health initiatives, and immunization programs implemented by AAH/USA, Africare, CONCERN, CRS, GOAL, IMC, and UNICEF. USAID/OFDA provided $2 million to CRS, Africare, and CONCERN to support emergency nutrition activities, such as supplementary and therapeutic feeding centers. WVI and FAO received nearly $3.5 million to conduct agriculture and food security activities. USAID/OFDA supported AAH/USA efforts with $780,000 to meet the emergency needs of vulnerable

"Angola's Maternal Mortality Rates," continued

at the community-level to manage obstetric emergencies, and to increase the demand for prenatal and essential obstetric care.

USAID/OFDA's strategy in Angola focused on the need for emergency obstetrical care and supported activities that increased traditional birth attendant effectiveness by further strengthening institutional systems.

While the MCH situation in Angola is beginning to improve, current maternal mortality rates remain among the highest in the southern Africa region. As emergency obstetric care programs mature, TBAs will become significantly more effective. In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA will continue to monitor the MCH situation in Angola and work closely with USAID/Angola to address the ongoing emergency health concerns of vulnerable Angolan women. ❖

—By Kasey Channell

residents of newly accessible locations. In addition, USAID/OFDA contributed more than $6 million to support several U.N. activities in Angola, including UN OCHA's Emergency Response Fund and coordination efforts, UNDP security initiatives, WFP logistics support, and UNICEF IDP health surveys.

During FY 2002, USAID/FFP provided 89,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at $65 million through WFP. USDA contributed 39,700 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities, valued at $28.7 million. State/PRM provided $2.3 million through ICRC and UNHCR to support refugee programs.* In FY 2002, State/PRM funded $5.8 million in humanitarian demining programs.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $20,537,667
Other USG Assistance.....$101,850,000
Total USG Assistance $122,387,667

** State/PRM figures only include funding within Angola. State/PRM also provided assistance to Angola refugees throughout the region in FY 2002, totaling approximately $10 million. These figures do not reflect unearmarked State/PRM contributions to UNHCR and ICRC, valued at $31.4 million and $42.4 million respectively, for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Burundi

Complex Emergency

During FY 2002, ethnic conflict between the Tutsi and Hutu populations continued in Burundi for the ninth consecutive year. In August 2000, 19 Burundian political parties signed the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Accords, which included provisions for an ethnically balanced army and legislature, and for democratic elections to occur after three years of a transitional government. However, one year after the installation of the transitional government in November 2001, a cease-fire agreement still had not been reached between all opposition groups and the Government of Burundi (GOB), although cease-fire negotiations continued.

Clashes between opposition groups and GOB forces continued on a regular basis around the

International Medical Corps (IMC) personnel at their Muyinga, Burundi therapeutic feeding center consult with USAID/OFDA staff (photo by Pia Wanek, USAID/OFDA).

capital, Bujumbura, and sporadically across the country, sometimes prompting temporary population displacements. In FY 2002, an estimated 820,000 Burundians fled the country, most relocating to Tanzania, with others moving to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Zambia.

On October 11, 2001, U.S. Ambassador James Yellin redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing conflict and subsequent population displacements. During FY 2002, USAID/OFDA's funding focused on maintaining programs in the food security, emergency health, water and sanitation, nutrition, and non-food sectors, while strengthening the capacity of early warning and crisis management structures to respond to and mitigate new crises. In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than $13.3 million in humanitarian assistance to Burundi through grants to CONCERN, CRS, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, IMC, IRC, MSF/B, Solidarities, UNDP, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, and WVI.

USAID/FFP supported WFP's Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in the Great Lakes Region during FY 2002, which targeted more than 1.1 million vulnerable people in Burundi. During FY 2002, USAID/FFP provided 4,620 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities consisting of corn, pulses, and corn-soy blend to WFP for the Burundian portion of its Great Lakes program, valued at more than $2.4 million.

In FY 2002, USDA provided 140 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities to Burundi to assist in emergency food needs. The surplus food commodities, valued at $98,574, included corn-soy blend for WFP's PRRO. State/PRM contributed $1.2 million to UNHCR in FY 2002 to support UNHCR's refugee programs within Burundi.*

USAID/OFDA Assistance $13,397,788
Other USG Assistance.....$5,883,422
Total USG Assistance $19,281,210

** These contributions are in addition to State/PRM's unearmarked contribution to UNHCR for Africa, totaling $31.4 million in FY 2002. State/PRM also contributed $42.4 million to ICRC for its Africa-wide programs, a portion of which was used to support ICRC's programs in Burundi.*

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Complex Emergency

During FY 2002, insecurity, the lack of infrastructure, and restricted access to vulnerable populations continued to hamper the distribution of humanitarian assistance in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). A tenuous cease-fire held throughout FY 2002 in accordance with the Lusaka Accords brokered in July and August 1999. Insecurity in

Strengthening Food Security in Burundi

With an ongoing civil war that has severely weakened the health and social services infrastructure of Burundi, much of the population has become vulnerable to food insecurity. Erratic rainfall and the resulting diminished harvests have compounded food security concerns, while increasing the need for an early warning system. To strengthen food security and limit the effects of malnutrition and related diseases, USAID/OFDA has invested in Burundi's food security early warning and coordination mechanisms. The U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has developed a multi-sector response to malnutrition by establishing an early warning system in collaboration with UN OCHA, WFP, UNICEF, and other humanitarian partners with USAID/OFDA support. For example, as drought conditions cause water supplies to decrease, early warning systems could provide a timely response to potential sanitation problems. Also, factors such as diminished harvests and increased admissions to nutritional and health centers may be triggers for increased food assistance activity and a more robust health response.

In addition to providing assistance to the U.N. system in early warning and coordination, USAID/OFDA has been committed, through its NGO partners in Burundi, to providing funding for urgent health and nutrition initatives to meet basic humanitarian needs for vulnerable populations. As local populations become unable to produce sufficient levels of foodstuffs, the resulting food insecurity can lead to widespread malnutrition. Malnourished residents often require additional health assistance to treat diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis that adversely affect weakened populations. Severely malnourished people, particularly children, pregnant and lactating mothers, and the elderly, often require targeted therapeutic or supplementary food as nutritional supplements.

To strengthen food security and limit the effects of malnutrition, USAID/OFDA has invested in food security, early warning, and coordination mechanisms in Burundi.

USAID/OFDA supports community-based health services that provide training, supervision, follow-up, and other technical assistance for health workers through its implementing NGO partners. Many USAID/OFDA-funded programs provide humanitarian assistance in both the immediate and medium term, such as linking seeds and tools and education programs with the provision of emergency nutrition at therapeutic and supplementary feeding centers. Internal population displacement is a continuing problem in Burundi with local residents

Continued on Page 32, "Food Security"

urban and rural areas restricted access to agricultural land in FY 2002, limiting harvest yields and contributing to the food security crisis. Lack of access to traditional markets discouraged farming. Poverty was widespread and the health care system eroded due to a lack of resources and continuous looting by different parties in the conflict. Insecurity resulted in limited private sector activities and displacement of vulnerable populations.

The Inter-Congolese Dialogue, hosted in Sun City, South Africa, ended in May 2002 but did not result in an all-party agreement. The South Africa meeting of recognized parties attempted to develop a constitution, create an integrated military, and determine security measures for political leaders of a future transitional government. However, President Joseph Kabila and the Ugandan-backed opposition group Movement for the Liberation of the Congo (MLC) signed a partial agreement that designated President Kabila as interim President and the MLC's Jean-Pierre Bemba as interim Prime Minister.

On July 30, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda and President Kabila signed a peace agreement in Pretoria, South Africa. The Government of Rwanda pledged the withdrawal of all Rwandan forces from DRC territory, and the Government of the DRC (GDRC) agreed to assist in disarming and dismantling ex-Rwandan Armed Forces (ex-FAR) and Hutu militia Interahamwe forces in the DRC. On September 6, the Government of Uganda (GOU) and the GDRC signed an agreement on the withdrawal of GOU forces and the establishment of the Ituri Pacification Commission to focus on resolving conflict in the Ituri Region of Orientale Province. The U.N. Observer Mission in the DRC (MONUC) continued to monitor disarmament, demobilization, and resettlement activities for ex-combatants during FY 2002.

Nearly all foreign troops (from Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) withdrew from the DRC during FY 2002. Due in part to the troop withdrawals, maintaining security continued to be difficult throughout much of the country. The Rwanda-backed Congolese Democratic Assembly (RCD-G) based in Goma, North Kivu Province controlled much of North and South Kivu, Maniema,

Residents of Kinshasa gather to inspect newly reinforced embankments of a neighboring river as part of a USAID/OFDA-funded flood mitigation project (photo by Marion Pratt, USAID/OFDA).

"Food Security," continued

routinely forced to flee clashes between government forces and armed opposition groups. Therefore, a number of USAID/OFDA-supported NGOs have had to develop mobile health clinics and temporary supplementary feeding sites, in addition to rehabilitating health facilities in more secure areas.

One aspect of USAID/OFDA's approach to food insecurity in Burundi has been to provide emergency humanitarian relief to victims of malnutrition and disease through targeted feeding. USAID/OFDA also recognizes the need to build food security among populations to decrease dependence on external and temporary resources to meet basic food needs, and focuses on "crisis management" by supporting medium-term activities. For example, coordinating early warning systems with effective humanitarian relief efforts can reduce the impact of quick-onset crises, such as the dramatic increase in malnutrition rates and the concurrent malaria outbreak that occurred in Burundi during 2000-2001. Early warning and strong coordination can prompt timely, informed responses to population needs as they occur and before such situations can escalate into large-scale crises, requiring a broader response. ❖

—By Pia Wanek

Orientale, and Katanga provinces. In the eastern part of the country (northern Katanga, Maniema, and North and South Kivu provinces), fighting intensified involving ex-FAR/Interahamwe and Mai Mai forces against the RCD-G.

On November 5, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Aubrey J. Hooks redeclared a disaster as a result of the continued fighting and insecurity. During FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than $26 million in emergency relief assistance to the DRC, including assistance provided in response to the January 2002 volcano eruption. (*For additional information, please see "Democratic Republic of the Congo - Volcano" case report.*)

USAID/OFDA provided emergency assistance to support food security and nutritional needs, contributed to emergency market infrastructure rehabilitation, and supported agricultural programs for war-affected and vulnerable populations as well as IDPs. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through grants to AAH/USA, AirServ International, CRS, FHI, German Agro Action, IMC, IRC, Merlin, Premiere Urgence, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, WHO, and WVI.

In FY 2002, USAID/OTI provided $3.3 million in funding to Fondation Hirondelle, CARE, and Search for Common Ground to support the Radio Okapi program and to increase the availability of and access to balanced information. Radio Okapi's local language radio programs disseminate information about humanitarian assistance, the peace process, and demobilization and reintegration, while engaging Congolese countrywide in debates of national importance. Through a sub-grants program with CARE, USAID/OTI provided support to both national and local groups in the form of material and/or technical assistance to encourage compliance with the Lusaka Peace Accords and the advances made within the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

USAID/FFP provided WFP with more than 19,510 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance during FY 2002, valued at $16.6 million. During FY 2002, WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in the DRC assisted more than 800,000 IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations.

In FY 2002, USDA provided 18,400 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities to assist in emergency food needs through WFP's PRRO. The more than $15 million worth of surplus food commodities included 16,900 MT of cornmeal and 1,500 MT of vegetable oil.

State/PRM provided more than $5.5 million within the DRC in FY 2002.* State/PRM funded more than $4.7 million for UNHCR to assist refugees in the DRC, and approximately $700,000 to the IRC for camp management, health, water and sanitation, and agriculture assistance to Angolan refugees in Bas Congo Province in western DRC. State/PRM also provided approximately $100,000 in assistance to WFP, and $7,000 to the Ambassador's Fund for health assistance to refugees and vulnerable populations in Kinshasa.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $22,014,253
Other USG Assistance.....$40,457,805
Total USG Assistance $62,472,058

** These contributions are in addition to State/PRM's unearmarked contribution to UNHCR for Africa, totaling $31.4 million in FY 2002. State/PRM also contributed $42.4 million to ICRC for its Africa-wide programs, a portion of which was used to support ICRC programs in the DRC.*

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Volcano

On January 17, 2002, the 11,381-foot Mount Nyiragongo volcano erupted in eastern DRC producing three major lava flows. One of the flows threatened the town of Goma, located 18 km to the south. Lava covered 13 percent of the city, or approximately 4.6 square km. Of the estimated 450,000 residents of Goma, approximately 100,000 fled west towards Sake, Bukavu, and other locations within DRC, while 300,000 more victims of the eruption evacuated into Rwanda. (*For additional information on USG assistance for residents of Goma who fled into Rwanda, see the "Rwanda - Refugees" case report.*) The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo, which last erupted in 1977, reportedly killing 147 people, destroying 12,000 homes, and 10 km of roads.

Goma residents displaced by the Mount Nyiragongo volcano eruption collect potable water from a USAID/OFDA-funded water supply station (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).

On January 18, U.S. Ambassador Aubrey J. Hooks declared a disaster due to the destruction and displacement caused by the Mount Nyiragongo eruption. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to respond to emergency relief needs in the Goma region caused by the eruption. Between January and August 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than $4.7 million for emergency humanitarian assistance activities to CONCERN, IRC, SCF/UK, Solidarities, and UN OCHA. These activities included emergency shelter assistance, water and sanitation projects, and the distribution of non-food relief commodities.

On January 21, USAID/FFP approved a loan of 1,714 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at $1.1 million, to WFP from ongoing programs in the region.* Through several NGO implementing partners, WFP delivered approximately 7,000 MT of food assistance to an estimated 460,000 vulnerable people in the Goma region from the beginning of the emergency response until June 2002.

USDA approved a loan of 3,450 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities, valued at nearly $2.3 million, from existing programs in the region to assist people affected by the eruption.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $4,790,117
Other USG Assistance..... $2,255,000
Total USG Assistance $7,045,117

**Note: USAID/FFP emergency food assistance was in the form of a loan from otherwise reported programs and is therefore not counted toward the DRC - Volcano total USG assistance response.*

Ethiopia

Drought

During FY 2002, below-average *belg*, or secondary rains (March through May), coupled with delayed and sporadic *meher*, or primary rains (July through September), led to widespread food insecurity. The lack of sufficient precipitation during the *belg* season failed to replenish water sources in the pastoral areas of Afar, northeastern Oromiya, and northern Somali regions. In addition, given the poor *meher* rains, food insecurity continued to spread to agro-pastoral and agricultural areas, particularly in the lowlands and midlands of Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP), Tigray, and Amhara regions.

On July 12, 2002, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's (GFDRE) Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) issued a special alert to the international relief community on the food security situation. The DPPC alert warned that the number of people vulnerable to food insecurity would likely be significantly higher than anticipated in its original March 2002 appeal, with the potential of more than 11 million people in need of assistance by the end of 2002. Subsequent appeals by the DPPC and U.N. revised the number of Ethiopians vulnerable to food insecurity in FY 2002 to approximately 6.3 million people with the expectation that, under a worst-case scenario, the number of affected could reach 14.3 million people by early 2003.

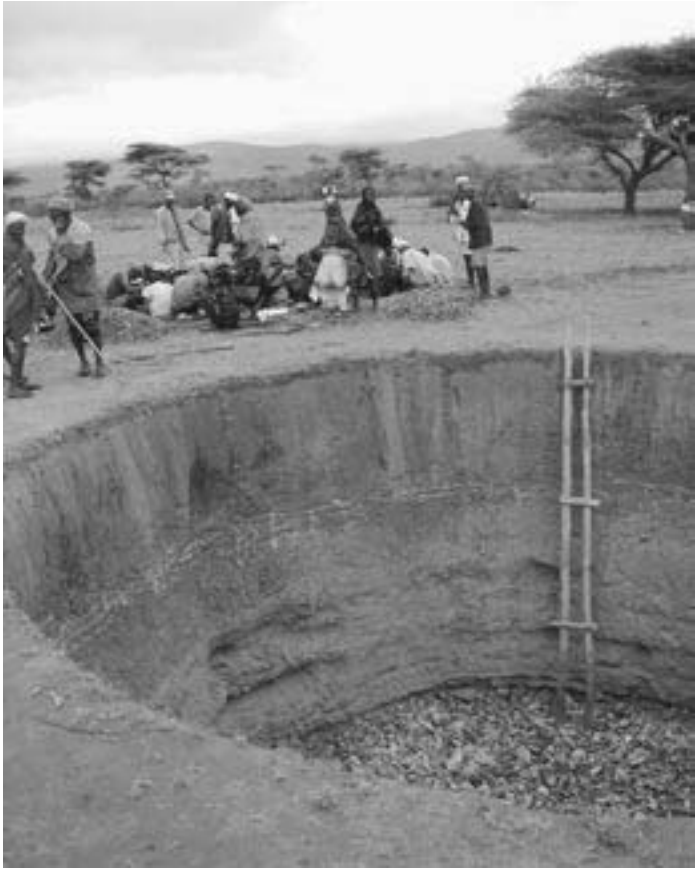
On March 6, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Tibor B. Nagy, Jr. declared a disaster due to the continued drought situation in Somali Region. USAID/OFDA provided $300,000 to SCF/UK to establish an early warning information system based on a food economy analysis in Somali Region. USAID/OFDA also provided $99,969 to IRC for a water and sanitation project in Somali Region, benefiting more than 60,000 residents.

In addition, on August 1, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas N. Hull III declared a disaster in response to the humanitarian effects of the developing drought situation throughout Ethiopia. In a joint program with USAID/Ethiopia, USAID/OFDA contributed $865,391 to support GOAL for an emergency nutrition and health program in the Afar and Oromiya regions. In addition to USAID/Ethiopia's support for GOAL, the USAID Mission provided disaster assistance to the GFDRE to implement a seed and water rehabilitation program in the SNNP Region.

In FY 2002, USAID/FFP provided more than 108,640 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at nearly $46 million. In addition, USDA provided 80,000 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities to Ethiopia in FY 2002, valued at more than $34.4 million.

In FY 2002, State/PRM made earmarked contributions of more than $7.2 million to refugee programs throughout Ethiopia. The State/PRM assistance was provided through UNHCR, WFP, and IRC for Sudanese refugees in Benishangul Region, Somali refugees in Somali Region, and Eritrean refugees in Tigray Region.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $1,265,360
Other USG Assistance.....$88,445,200
Total USG Assistance $89,710,560



Residents in Yabello, Ethiopia look over the construction of a water cistern as part of a USAID/OFDA effort to decrease drought vulnerability in the region (photo by Bradford Adams, USAID/OFDA).

Guinea

Complex Emergency

Violence and insecurity, in neighboring Sierra Leone and Liberia throughout the past decade, have forced hundreds of thousands of conflict-affected people to seek refuge in Guinea. Beginning in September 2000, attacks along Guinea's border with Sierra Leone and Liberia displaced more than 200,000 Guinean residents and hundreds of thousands of refugees. While the security situation in Guinea was stable during FY 2002, WFP and ICRC reported that as of January 2002, 200,000 to 250,000 Guinean IDPs remained in need of humanitarian assistance.

On November 5, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Barrie R. Walkley redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing IDP and refugee situation in Guinea. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $375,000 to WFP to support vulnerability assessment and mapping efforts, as well as logistical air support.

USAID/FFP contributed 5,150 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $3.2 million. State/PRM provided more than $13.2 million through AAH/USA, ARC, the Center for Victims of Torture, the IFRC, IRC, SCF/US, UNHCR, UN OCHA, and the U.S. Embassy in Conakry to support refugee and returnee populations within Guinea.*

USAID/OFDA Assistance $375,000
Other USG Assistance.....$16,432,208
Total USG Assistance $16,807,208

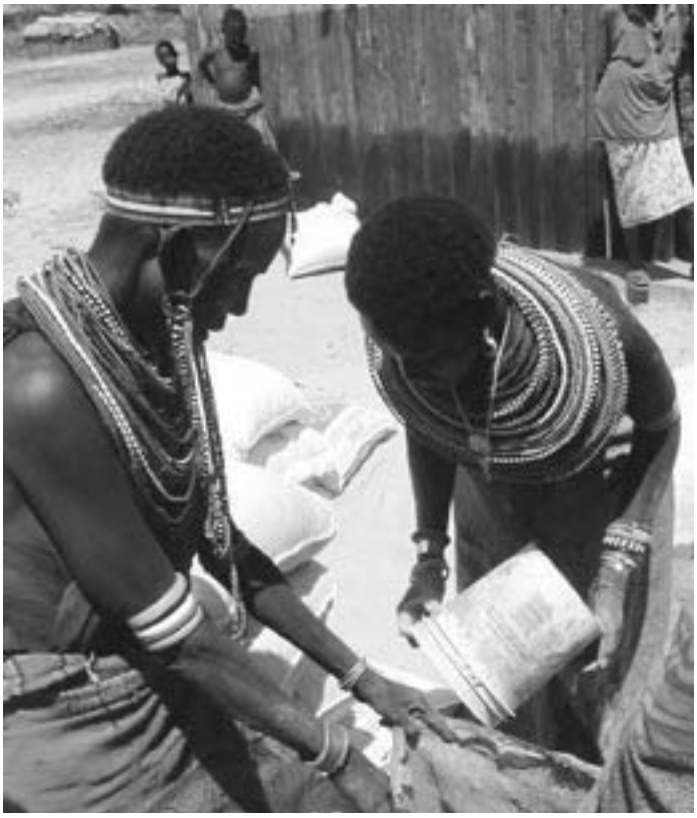
**State/PRM figures only include funding within Guinea. These figures do not reflect unearmarked State/PRM contributions to UNHCR and ICRC, valued at $31.4 million and $42.4 million respectively, for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Kenya

Drought

While some areas of Kenya entered the recovery stage after three consecutive years of drought, other areas remained food insecure and in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. The 2001/2002 short rains began in early November 2001 and replenished some water sources in previously dry pastoral areas and in the severely drought-affected marginal agricultural regions of the eastern and coastal provinces. The rains contributed to favorable harvests in the key growing areas, and some regions, such as Western and Nyanza provinces, began to recover. However, the short rains did not considerably improve food security in coastal marginal agricultural districts, particularly in Kwale, Kilifi, and lowland areas of Taita Taveta.

The erratic, insufficient 2002 long rains did not warrant a favorable crop production outlook for the country, according to Kenya's Drought Monitoring Center (DMC). However, some pastoral and agro-pastoral regions did improve, particularly during May, due to replenished water sources and pasture areas that pastoralists and agro-pastoralists depend on. Therefore, many areas transitioned from peak drought emergency levels into recovery efforts. As a result, in early 2002, WFP began the gradual reduction of its emergency operation (EMOP) relief assistance activities. WFP transitioned its emergency food assistance program toward initiatives that rebuilt pastoralists' capacity for mitigating the effects of droughts.



Kenyan residents distribute whole maize as part of a country-wide feeding program (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).

In early May 2002, heavy rains caused flooding and landslides in eastern pastoral districts and in the Lake Victoria basin in western Kenya, causing 68 deaths and affecting more than 120,000 residents. Later in May, continuing heavy rains caused additional flooding that affected more than 175,000 people and displaced more than 60,000 residents throughout Kenya. Tana River District was the most affected, with 27,000 people impacted. During May, USAID/OFDA representatives participated in an assessment to flood-affected areas to determine the humanitarian needs. The Government of Kenya (GOK) promptly responded with assistance to flood victims and, on June 28, launched an international appeal for $62.5 million.

On October 10, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Johnnie Carson redeclared a disaster in Kenya due to the continuing drought conditions that affected more than 1.8 million people. USAID/OFDA provided nearly $1.5 million to assist drought victims. The assistance was provided to Tufts University for livelihoods initiatives; UNDP for coordination; UNICEF for health, nutrition, and water and sanitation programs; and IMC for health initiatives. However, due to improving food security conditions, USAID/OFDA emergency activities began to also phase out during FY 2002.

In FY 2002, USAID/FFP provided 10,100 MT (6,300 MT of corn, 1,800 MT of wheat flour, 1,200 MT of yellow split peas, 500 MT of corn-soy blend, and 300 MT of vegetable oil) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at approximately $4.7 million, to WFP to assist food insecure populations throughout Kenya.

In FY 2002, USDA provided 20,550 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities (10,000 MT of wheat, 8,050 MT of wheat flour, and 2,500 MT of corn-soy blend), valued at approximately $10.6 million, to assist food insecure populations in Kenya. In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the GOK and WFP, USDA contributed 10,000 MT of wheat and 2,500 MT of corn-soy blend to WFP's EMOP in Kenya during FY 2002. The MOU included an agreement on the terms for bartering the donated wheat for local corn at a ratio negotiated with the GOK based on the local market value of the two grains, including applicable fees and duties for the wheat.

State/PRM provided more than $10.4 million to assist refugees in Kenya during FY 2002. State/PRM earmarked $3.4 million to UNHCR for refugee activities, contributed $2.4 million toward WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in Kenya, and provided $20,000 to the U.S. Ambassador's Fund to support shelter activities at the Kakuma refugee camp. CARE received more than $1.7 million in FY 2002 for camp management and other assistance programs at the Dadaab refugee camp. State/PRM contributed more than $1.2 million to LWR and more than $1.5 million to IRC for camp management, education, health, sanitation, and other programs at the Kakuma refugee camp.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $1,487,964
Other USG Assistance.....$25,727,993
Total USG Assistance $27,215,957

Liberia

Complex Emergency

Sporadic fighting, which began in FY 2001, between the Government of Liberia's (GOL) military forces and the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Development (LURD), continued in FY 2002 — affecting primarily Lofa County in northern Liberia. The situation intensified on May 6, 2002, when hostilities between GOL troops and LURD opposition forces resulted in the evacuation, large-scale looting, and destruction of the Phebe Hospital in Bong County.

On August 24, 2002, President Charles Taylor launched a national peace and reconciliation conference that major opposition leaders did not attend. President Taylor lifted the GOL-imposed ban on political rallies and public gatherings, as well as the state of emergency declared in February 2002.

UN OCHA estimated in September 2002 that the conflict internally displaced more than 126,000 Liberian residents. According to State/PRM, approximately 66,000 Liberians sought refuge in neighboring countries. The deterioration of the security situation in FY 2002 limited the ability of humanitarian assistance organizations to provide emergency relief commodities and services to the most vulnerable populations.

On June 10, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Bismarck Myrick declared a disaster due to the humanitarian consequences of the continued conflict in Liberia. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through USAID/Liberia to return the Phebe Hospital to operational condition.

USAID/FFP contributed 5,480 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $2.8 million. State/PRM provided more than $3.1 million through ACF/F, ICRC, IRC, and UNHCR to support refugee and returnee populations within Liberia.*

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000
Other USG Assistance.....$5,985,786
Total USG Assistance $6,010,786

**State/PRM figures only include funding within Liberia. These figures do not reflect unearmarked State/PRM contributions to UNHCR and ICRC, valued at $31.4 million and $42.4 million respectively, for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Mali

Floods

During late September 2001, extensive flooding affected the metropolitan area of Bamako, Mali's capital, as well as the nearby regions of Kidal, Koulikoro, Sikasso, and Segou. Heavy rains, which started in May 2001, initially caused the Niger River to overflow its banks. The flooding prompted workers at the Selingue Dam, situated an estimated 100 km south of Bamako, to open the dam's

floodgates. According to UN OCHA, the flooding caused two deaths and affected more than 3,500 residents. Government of the Republic of Mali officials reported that 2,320 people were displaced. The flooding also destroyed 1,400 dwellings and inundated an estimated 870 hectares of cropland. Some of those displaced were housed in schools, which delayed the start of the school year.

On October 4, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Ranneberger declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bamako to AAH/USA for emergency agriculture, shelter, and non-food assistance for the flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Mali

Floods

On July 26 and 27, 2002, the Cercle of Goundam area in the Tombouctou Region was inundated with 201 mm of rainfall, nearly half the annual average. According to the Government of the Republic of Mali's Ministry of Security and Civil Protection, the severe flooding caused two deaths and affected at least 22,519 residents. The flooding also damaged or destroyed 1,647 homes, inundated sorghum, cowpea, and peanut crops, and killed more than 8,000 livestock including cattle, donkeys, and small ruminants.

On August 12, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires John O'Leary declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Mali to Africare to address the immediate water and sanitation, shelter, and medical needs of flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Mauritania

Winter Emergency

Between January 9 and 11, 2002, flooding, caused by heavy rainfall, and unusually cold temperatures impacted approximately 5,500 families in the southern Mauritania regions of Gorgol, Brakna, and Trarza. According to UN OCHA, the floods and cold weather resulted in an estimated 25 deaths, the loss of 80,000 livestock, extensive damage to infrastructure, and inundated cropland in the affected areas.

On January 23, U.S. Ambassador John W. Limbert declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and cold weather. USAID/OFDA provided $17,220 through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott to the Mauritanian Red Cross for the procurement and distribution of blankets, mosquito netting, medical supplies, and plastic sheeting. USAID/OFDA provided $454,686 to LWR for shelter reconstruction in the affected southern regions.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $471,906

Mauritania

Drought

Below average cumulative rainfall totals for the 2002 growing season led to the failure of a majority of Mauritania's rain-fed crops. In addition, unseasonable rainfall and cold weather during January 2002 killed approximately 120,000 livestock that normally provide families with coping mechanisms during periods of food insecurity. On September 17, 2002, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (GIRM) appealed for international humanitarian assistance to meet the immediate needs of the drought-affected populations. According to the GIRM, nearly one million people were vulnerable to food insecurity as a result of the drought, while FEWS NET reported that as many as 60,000 people required immediate emergency relief assistance at the time of the GIRM appeal.

On September 17, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires John Olson declared a disaster due to the effects of the drought. USAID/OFDA provided $42,220 through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott to address the immediate nutritional needs of women and their children under the age of 12 in the Aftout Region.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $42,220

Nigeria
Accident

On January 27, 2002, a fire at a Nigerian military munitions dump caused a series of explosions in the densely populated Ikeja District of Lagos. According to Government of Nigeria officials, the explosions and subsequent panic caused more than 1,000 deaths, affected as many as 20,000 residents, and caused extensive damage and destruction to buildings and infrastructure in the immediate area. The majority of the fatalities resulted not from the actual explosions, but from the resulting panic in which fleeing residents drowned in a neighboring canal.

On January 31, U.S. Ambassador Howard F. Jester declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the explosions. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja to the Nigerian Red Cross Society to provide emergency relief to the victims of the accident. USAID/OFDA also deployed an assessment team to evaluate the immediate needs of explosion victims at a total cost of $10,500. In response to the assessment's findings, USAID/OFDA airlifted 244,800 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting from one of its stockpiles to the IFRC for emergency shelter needs, valued at $30,585 including transport.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $66,085

Rwanda
Refugees

On January 17, 2002, the 11,381-foot Mount Nyiragongo volcano erupted in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) producing three major lava flows. One of the flows threatened the town of Goma, 18 km to the south. Approximately 300,000 of Goma's 450,000 residents fled east to the Gisenyi and Ruhengeri areas within Rwanda.

On January 18, U.S. Ambassador Margaret K. McMillion declared a disaster in response to the influx into Rwanda of 300,000 people escaping the effects of Mount Nyiragongo's eruption. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Kigali to assist these victims and their Rwandan host families with potable water, emergency food, shelter materials, sanitation facilities, and medicines.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Rwanda
Floods

Heavy rains during May 2002 caused flooding and landslides throughout Rwanda, resulting in 69 deaths and damaging or destroying the homes of an estimated 4,000 families. The flooding also destroyed 23 bridges in the affected areas and left several main roads impassable during the first week of May. The Government of Rwanda's (GOR) Disaster Management Coordinator determined that there was an urgent need for shelter materials to assist 3,355 households. The GOR requested assistance from the USG to respond to the emergency.

In response to the GOR's request for USG assistance, on May 23, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Margaret K. McMillon declared a disaster due to the resulting damage from heavy rains, flooding, and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Rwanda to the Rwandan Red Cross for the local purchase of blankets, water containers, and cooking utensils, and procurement of emergency shelter materials from the IFRC warehouse in Nairobi, Kenya. The Rwandan Red Cross distributed the emergency relief commodities to residents whose homes were destroyed by the flooding or landslides.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Rwanda
Health Emergency

Between July 1 and August 7, 2002, the Rwandan Ministry of Health (RMOH) reported an outbreak of more than 70 cases of meningococcal meningitis in Butare Province, with 13 fatalities attributable to the bacterial disease. Nearly 800,000 people live in Butare Province and were at risk of exposure. In response to the emergency, the RMOH, with support from UNICEF, WHO, and MSF/F, instituted a mass immunization campaign for all Butare residents over

the age of six months. On August 8, the RMOH requested emergency assistance from the U.S. Embassy in Kigali to support the mass immunization program.

On August 9, U.S. Ambassador Margaret K. McMillion declared a disaster in response to the ongoing health emergency and deaths in Butare Province. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Rwanda to UNICEF for the purchase of meningococcal vaccines and related medical supplies for use in the Butare immunization program.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Senegal

Winter Emergency

Between January 9 and 11, 2002, the northern Senegal regions of Louga and Saint-Louis experienced unseasonably cold weather and severe flooding caused by heavy rainfall. The affected regions received as much as 115 mm of rainfall while the temperature dropped from 40 to 16 degrees Celsius. According to the IFRC, the combination of flooding and cold weather caused 28 deaths and impacted more than 100,000 people. In addition, the storm conditions damaged or destroyed nearly 14,000 homes, killed more than 105,000 head of livestock, inundated 581 hectares of cropland, destroyed more than 1,500 MT of rice, and damaged or destroyed schools and health facilities.

On January 22, U.S. Ambassador Harriet L. Elam-Thomas declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and cold weather. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Dakar for the local purchase and distribution of blankets, clothing, emergency food, and temporary shelter materials.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Sierra Leone

Complex Emergency

From 1991 through 2000, civil conflict in Sierra Leone and related armed fighting in neighboring Guinea and Liberia sustained a humanitarian emergency. At the peak of the conflict, violence displaced nearly half of Sierra Leone's 4.5 million residents. During FY 2002, the implementation of a July 1999 peace agreement, signed by the Government of Sierra Leone and the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF), continued with the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration campaign officially ending in January 2002. In May 2002, international observers characterized the peaceful presidential and parliamentary elections as free and fair, with a high voter turn-out. In addition, no significant security incidents occurred nor any evidence of large-scale efforts to disrupt the democratic process.

As of July 2002, despite increased security and the successful implementation of the peace process, approximately 12,000 Sierra Leonean residents remained internally displaced. Although many Sierra Leoneans displaced by the conflict returned to their homes or resettled in FY 2002, little support was available to rebuild homes or restore livelihoods. Nearly a decade of civil conflict had damaged or destroyed health, water and sanitation, transportation, and social service infrastructure. In early 2002, U.N. humanitarian assistance efforts shifted from the protracted provision of emergency assistance to the support of resettlement and recovery efforts.

On October 29, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Peter X. Chaveas redeclared a disaster due to the humanitarian needs of IDPs, returnees, and resettling populations. USAID/OFDA responded by providing more than $11.6 million in humanitarian assistance to support health, nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, and agriculture initiatives that targeted affected populations. Of this total, USAID/OFDA supported more than $3.8 million in emergency health and nutrition programs implemented by AAH/USA, Africare, CRS, IMC, Merlin, and WVI. To conduct food security and agriculture activities, Africare, CRS, FAO, UMCOR, and WVI received nearly $3 million. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported $730,000 in water and sanitation efforts through AAH/USA and Merlin. CRS and CARE received more than $2.8 million to implement shelter and rural rehabilitation programs. USAID/OFDA also provided $800,000 to U.N. agencies, including UN OCHA and WFP, to support information, coordination, and logistics needs.

Internally displaced Sierra Leoneans board trucks to return to their homes as part of an NGO-sponsored transport operation. Although many Sierra Leonean residents did return to their homes during FY 2002, approximately 12,000 people remained internally displaced (photo by Michael Marx, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/FFP provided 28,490 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at more than $24.2 million, through CARE, CRS, and WVI. State/PRM provided more than $12.3 million to support activities to assist refugees and returnees within Sierra Leone.*

USAID/OFDA Assistance $11,649,270
Other USG Assistance.....$36,535,820
Total USG Assistance $48,185,090

**State/PRM also provided assistance to Sierra Leone refugees throughout the region in FY 2002, totaling approximately $10 million. These figures do not reflect unearmarked State/PRM contributions to UNHCR and ICRC, valued at $31.4 million and $42.4 million respectively, for refugees and returnees throughout Africa.*

Somalia

Complex Emergency

Since the fall of Siad Barre's dictatorship in 1991, Somalia has lacked a functioning national government and has suffered from continued inter-clan warfare. In FY 2002, civil strife displaced thousands of people, disrupted markets, damaged and destroyed infrastructure, and prevented the delivery of domestic social services throughout much of Somalia. In addition, three consecutive years of below-normal rainfall produced drought conditions throughout most of the country, with the worst effects in the southern and northeastern regions.

Destitution among urban and pastoral groups, combined with ongoing conflict throughout most of the country, led to further population displacement within Somalia and migration to Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. The majority of displaced persons, which totaled more than 350,000 people in FY 2002, were located in and around urban areas, where insecurity and strained coping mechanisms prevented sustainable recovery.

Security issues complicated humanitarian response efforts in southern and central Somalia, with kidnappings, looting, and killings threatening both local and expatriate humanitarian workers. Intense fighting in northern Gedo Region, which began in April 2002, displaced at least 10,000 Somalis and forced relief agencies to suspend most activities in the region. U.N. security assessments confirmed the risk to U.N. and NGO operations and recommended that the U.N. maintain its existing security measures for the foreseeable future. However, pockets of Somalia remained calm, particularly in the northwest.

Other factors that adversely impacted the humanitarian situation in Somalia included the continued ban on the sale of Somali livestock imposed by the Government of Saudi Arabia, the devaluation of the Somali shilling, and the decision

by the USG to freeze the assets of the largest cash facilitator in Somalia used to transfer remittances from overseas. These developments eroded the livelihoods and purchasing power of affected populations.

On December 7, 2001, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Johnnie Carson redeclared a disaster due to the continuing humanitarian emergency in Somalia. U.S. Ambassador Johnnie Carson also redeclared a disaster for the drought situation in Somalia on December 21, 2001. FY 2002 funding by USAID/OFDA, as well as USAID/FFP, USDA, and State/PRM addressed conditions brought on by civil strife and the drought.

USAID/OFDA provided more than $6 million in humanitarian assistance through seven international partners, including AAH/USA, ACF/F, ADRA, IMC, NPA, SCF/UK, and UNICEF. These programs included the provision of health services and nutrition programs in the southern, central, and northeastern regions; water and sanitation activities in Gedo, Sool, Sanaag, and Bakool regions; and support of the U.N. Common Air Services (UNCAS) for Somalia.

During FY 2002, USAID/FFP contributed more than 7,800 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at $3.7 million, to WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) to assist 700,000 people affected by the drought. USAID/FFP also provided 17,910 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at more than $13 million, to CARE's emergency food program. This program supported general and supplementary feeding in the most severely affected areas of Gedo Region, as well as food-for-work in the Bay, Bakool, and Hiraan regions.

State/PRM provided $3.2 million for Somalia specific programs. State/PRM's humanitarian assistance was provided through UNHCR, SCF/UK, and IRC.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $6,310,782
Other USG Assistance.....$20,084,874
Total USG Assistance $26,395,656

Southern Africa

Complex Food Security Crisis

Due to a combination of adverse climate conditions for two consecutive growing seasons, mismanagement of grain reserves, and restrictive government policies that inhibit private sector commerce, several countries across southern Africa experienced the onset of a food security crisis in FY 2002. During the 2001/2002 growing season, unusually dry conditions extended across much of the region, from southern Zambia eastward and south to Lesotho, resulting in crop failures and limited production in many areas. Consecutive food shortages depleted regional stocks of surplus food commodities normally used to assist in years with production shortfalls. In addition, the HIV/AIDS pandemic exacerbated food insecurity conditions.

As a result of the food shortages, humanitarian crises emerged in Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Zambia, while poor and vulnerable households in Lesotho, Swaziland, and Mozambique also required emergency food assistance. The U.S. Ambassadors in Malawi, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, and Zambia declared disasters between February and May 2002 due to the impact of the food security crisis in each country.

In December 2001, USAID's FEWS NET detected corn shortages in the region, which enabled the USG

Countries affected by food insecurity in southern Africa

to respond early to the crises. Extremely vulnerable populations affected by the food security crises began receiving emergency food assistance in late spring 2002. However, the crises were expected to intensify as additional households exhausted coping mechanisms and became increasingly vulnerable to food insecurity before the 2003 harvest.

Lesotho

Lesotho had experienced two years of drought, which combined with frost, hailstorms, pest infestations, and poor soil management, led to consecutive poor agricultural seasons. In addition, household coping mechanisms had eroded due to a variety of factors, such as livestock theft and a decline in opportunities for wage labor. According to assessments conducted in mid-September 2002 by the Southern Africa Development Community's (SADC) Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Development Unit (FANR), 650,000 Lesothoans would require emergency food assistance through the end of March 2003.

On August 29, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Robert G. Loftis declared a disaster due to the food security crisis in Lesotho. USAID/OFDA provided $20,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Maseru to support agriculture and food security activities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $20,000

Malawi

The causes for Malawi's food insecurity crisis in FY 2002 included a poor internal food distribution infrastructure, below-normal harvests, and local problems in distributing nearly 167,000 MT of corn reserves during 2000 and 2001. The SADC FANR assessment estimated in September 2002 that 3.3 million people in Malawi will require emergency food assistance until the end of March 2003.

On March 8, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Roger A. Meece declared a disaster due to the food security crisis in Malawi. USAID/OFDA provided more than $4.6 million to support programs in supplementary feeding, emergency nutrition, health, and agriculture through CARE, CRS, the Malawian Red Cross, UNICEF, USAID/Malawi, WHO, and WVI. In addition, USAID/FFP provided 16,940 MT in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to WFP, valued at approximately $8.9 million. USDA also provided 3,000 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities, valued at more than $1.2 million.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $4,640,990
Other USG Assistance.....$10,143,782

Zambia

Drought conditions in southern and eastern areas of Zambia during the 2001-2002 growing season led to a poor corn harvest. Since this was the second

Residents of a Lesotho farming community harvest a successful wheat crop in late 2002. During 2001-2002, many crops were ruined early in the planting season by hailstorms and frost (photo by Ron Libby, USAID/OFDA).

A local researcher in southwestern Zambia inspects a harvest of hybrid maize. In 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than $1.5 million in food security assistance to Zambia (photo by Ron Libby, USAID/OFDA).

consecutive year of low crop yields, coupled with a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the population, traditional household coping mechanisms had eroded and caused food insecurity. In September 2002, the SADC FANR assessment estimated that nearly three million Zambians would require emergency food assistance until the end of March 2003.

On June 14, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Martin G. Brennan declared a disaster due to the food security crisis in Zambia. USAID/OFDA provided more than $1.5 million to support agriculture, food security, and transportation and logistic efforts through CARE, the Cooperative League of the United States (CLUSA), the U.S. Embassy in Lusaka, and WVI. USAID/FFP provided 17,260 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at nearly $7.2 million, to WFP. In addition, USDA provided 15,000 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities valued at more than $7 million.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $1,538,560
Other USG Assistance..... $14,290,154

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's food insecurity was caused by a combination of factors including drought, political violence, and the Government of Zimbabwe's (GOZ) chaotic seizure of once-productive commercial farms. In addition, poor GOZ economic policies restricted the availability of food and agricultural inputs or made them exorbitantly expensive. Of all of the affected countries in the region, Zimbabwe had the largest vulnerable population. The SADC FANR assessment reported in September 2002 that 6.7 million residents, nearly 50 percent of the population, would require emergency food assistance through March 2003.

On October 18, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Joseph G. Sullivan declared a disaster in response to the food security crisis in Zimbabwe. USAID/OFDA provided an IDP advisor and nearly $3 million to

Women at an IDP settlement camp prepare food as part of a USAID/OFDA-funded supplemental feeding program in Zimbabwe (photo by USAID/OFDA/Africa Regional Office).

Workers in Mozambique prepare to clear a field for seed planting as part of a World Vision International agricultural program (photo by Eric Kagame, USAID/OFDA).

support agriculture, nutrition, and field coordination activities through CARE, CRS, UN OCHA, and WVI. USAID/FFP provided 39,830 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at nearly $25.7 million, to WFP and WVI. In addition, USDA provided 8,500 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities valued at nearly $5 million.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $2,825,661
Other USG Assistance.....$30,674,152

Regional Support
USAID/OFDA provided $1 million to WFP to support regional management and logistics coordination efforts. USAID/FFP also provided an additional 248,100 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance and Emerson Humanitarian Trust assistance, valued at more than $127 million, to WFP. USAID/FFP's regional assistance benefited Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, as well as Mozambique and Swaziland, where disasters were not declared.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $1,015,300
Other USG Assistance.....$127,052,500

Total Assistance for Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

USAID/OFDA Assistance $10,040,511
Other USG Assistance.....$182,160,588
Total USG Assistance.....$192,201,099

Sudan

Complex Emergency

For all but eleven years since independence in 1956, the Sudanese population has been adversely impacted by civil war, mainly between the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Southern Peoples Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). Sudan also experiences periodic droughts. The humanitarian consequences of the war have been staggering. Since 1983, more than two million civilians have died from war-related events, including fighting, famine, and disease. More than four million people have been internally displaced.

Since 2001, through President George W. Bush's appointments of USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios as Special Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan and former U.S. Senator John Danforth as Special Envoy for Peace to Sudan, the USG has strongly supported serious and sustained negotiations between the GOS and SPLM/A to

A Sudanese NGO worker translates for a health education session for community leaders in Upper Nile, southern Sudan (photo by Ted Maly, USAID/OFDA).

increase humanitarian access to war-affected areas and to reinvigorate the peace process. On October 15, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Ray Brown redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan.

In FY 2002, this renewed USG involvement led to a formal cease-fire agreement for the Nuba Mountains, a framework for the cessation of attacks against civilians, the establishment of periods of tranquility for special humanitarian programs, and an international inquiry on slavery in Sudan. In addition, USG leadership helped to create a favorable environment for peace talks. These talks were connected under the auspices of the regional Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) that led to the Machakos Protocol signed by both the GOS and SPLM/A on July 20, 2002, and to subsequent progress in the peace negotiations. The main constraint to delivering humanitarian assistance to the Sudanese population in FY 2002 was the lack of access to war-affected populations due to conflict and insecurity. The U.N.-led consortium of Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS)

Providing Relief to Displaced Sudanese in Western Upper Nile Region

Over the course of Sudan's 19-year civil war, the months prior to the rainy season have typically been a time of increased military activity along the North-South divide, especially in the oil-rich western Upper Nile Region. WFP's 2002 Annual Needs Assessment (ANA), conducted in October 2001, estimated that more than 150,000 people were in need of humanitarian assistance in western Upper Nile Region. However, by April 2002, military skirmishes between forces of the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Southern People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A), the denial of humanitarian access to affected regions by the GOS, and an active aerial bombing campaign by the GOS against civilians in western Upper Nile left more than 300,000 residents isolated and in need of humanitarian assistance.

To address the urgent humanitarian needs in western Upper Nile Region, USAID/OFDA increased its support to NGOs working outside of the Operation Lifeline Sudan consortium.

In late June 2002, after denying the U.N. and NGOs working in the Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) consortium humanitarian access to the region for five months, the GOS approved a five-day UN/OLS operation for emergency assistance to five locations within SPLM/A-held areas of western Upper Nile. This operation quickly delivered 1,500 MT of emergency food commodities and essential non-food items to the population in need, most of which was provided by USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP. However, the limited humanitarian operation was not sufficient to meet the needs of all the affected population. It was clear that more assistance was required.

An IDP family in Leal, western Upper Nile (photo by Ted Maly, USAID/OFDA).

To address the continued humanitarian needs of western Upper Nile Region, USAID/OFDA increased its support to NGOs working outside of the OLS consortium to provide non-food relief items, such as blankets and plastic sheeting, to the displaced civilians. One non-OLS NGO, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), established an air bridge within southern Sudan, which quickly delivered

Continued on Page 47, "Displaced Sudanese"

delivered life-saving humanitarian assistance to most war-affected areas. However, large pockets of civilians received no humanitarian assistance due to the GOS' denial of access to areas in southern Sudan. In addition, GOS armed forces attacked relief centers several times, and bombed civilian settlements numerous times.

Beginning in July 2002, the GOS increased the number of locations to which it had denied OLS access. However, the GOS continued to deny humanitarian access to the entire western Upper Nile area in July 2002. Access to relief centers in the Equatoria Region was interrupted by fighting during September. For many war-affected communities in Sudan, the GOS' denial of access remains a long-term problem.

In FY 2002, USAID/OFDA's humanitarian assistance to Sudan totaled nearly $38.4 million. USAID/OFDA programs targeted children, war- and drought-affected, IDPs, and other vulnerable groups. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through 43 grants to 27 different NGOs or IOs, including

"Displaced Sudanese," continued

relief items to the affected region. This strategy of using different mechanisms to deliver assistance to a war zone – the UN/OLS system as the main mechanism, complemented by a small and flexible mechanism outside of OLS – proved its value again in late September 2002, when the GOS denied all humanitarian flights over southern Sudan. The non-OLS flights to western Upper Nile, such as USAID/OFDA's partnership with NPA, were the only flights within the region delivering humanitarian assistance during this two-week period.

Until peace is achieved, USAID/OFDA's assistance to non-OLS organizations, such as NPA, will remain an important part of the overall humanitarian assistance program in Sudan.

Through its USAID/OFDA grant, NPA began distributing basic non-food commodities to a displaced community in Leal in western Upper Nile, providing the only humanitarian relief assistance to more than 20,000 displaced persons in the area. The arrival of basic relief items allowed the displaced populace of Leal to establish temporary homes while they waited for a resolution to the war.

In October 2002, the GOS and SPLM signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), for a cessation of hostilities throughout Sudan as part of a broader peace process. This MOU included a provision for unimpeded humanitarian access that has allowed the UN/OLS to resume assistance

USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP relief commodities arrive in Leal, western Upper Nile (photo by Ted Maly, USAID/OFDA).

to western Upper Nile Region. With prospects for peace in Sudan better now than at any time in the past two decades, the parties – chiefly the GOS – will hopefully no longer use the denial of humanitarian access as a weapon of war. Until peace is achieved, USAID/OFDA's assistance to non-OLS organizations, such as NPA, will remain an important component of the overall humanitarian assistance program in Sudan. ❖

—By Jeff Ladenson

ACF/F, ACROSS, ADRA, ARC, CARE, the Carter Center, Christian Aid, Christian Mission Aid, CONCERN, CRS, FAO, GOAL, IRC, International Aid Sweden/MEDIC, MEDAIR, NPA, Samaritan's Purse, SCF/UK, SCF/US, UNDP, UNICEF, UN Habitat, UN OCHA, Veterinarios sans Frontieres (VSF)/Belgium, VSF/Germany, WFP, and WVI.

In FY 2002, USAID/FFP provided 69,460 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at more than $59.7 million. USAID/FFP food commodities were provided through WFP, ADRA, CARE, CRS, and NPA to war- and drought-affected populations, including IDPs, in both government- and opposition-held areas. USDA provided 43,000 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food, valued at more than $38.9 million to WFP.

Humanitarian relief to Sudanese refugees living in neighboring countries comprised another important component in the delivery of USG humanitarian assistance to Sudan in FY 2002. State/PRM provided extensive funding for humanitarian assistance to Sudanese refugees living in Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, and other countries.* (*To avoid double counting, State/PRM contributions are credited to those countries. See "Ethiopia - Complex Emergency/Drought," "Uganda - Complex Emergency," and "Kenya - Drought" case reports.*) In addition, State/PRM provided nearly $1.5 million to UNHCR, the IFRC, and WFP to support programs assisting refugees from other countries who live in Sudan.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $38,384,393
Other USG Assistance.....$101,284,378
Total USG Assistance $139,668,771

** These contributions are in addition to State/PRM's unearmarked contribution to UNHCR for Africa, totaling $31.4 million in FY 2002. State/PRM also contributed $42.4 million to ICRC for its Africa programs, a portion of which is used to support ICRC programs in Sudan.*

Tanzania

Accident

On June 24, 2002, a Tanzania Railways Corporation passenger train, carrying approximately 1,600 passengers, collided with a freight train between Morogoro and Dodoma in central Tanzania. The collision killed more than 200 passengers and injured hundreds. The Government of Tanzania's Prime Minister declared two days of national mourning, ordered doctors from public hospitals in the capital, Dar es Salaam, to travel to Dodoma to assist the accident victims, and requested international emergency assistance.

On June 25, U.S. Ambassador Robert V. Royall declared a disaster in response to the needs of the train victims. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam to the Government of Tanzania to assist with the transportation of victims to hospitals and to provide medical supplies, including masks, stretchers, intravenous drips, mattresses, bed sheets, blankets, and potable water.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Uganda

Complex Emergency

The Government of Uganda (GOU) anticipated the return from southern Sudan of approximately 3,000 - 4,000 former Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) abductees during March 2002. The GOU requested USG humanitarian assistance to deal with the expected influx. However, LRA abductees did not return in the numbers initially expected. Although U.S. Ambassador Martin G. Brennan declared a disaster on March 19, 2002 to assist the potential LRA returnees' repatriation, the U.S. Embassy in Kampala decided not to request assistance from USAID/OFDA until circumstances changed to warrant the emergency assistance.

Beginning in early June, 2002, approximately 2,000 LRA soldiers entered northern Uganda from southern Sudan. LRA forces continued to

systematically attack GOU military detachments, IDP settlements, and refugee camps in Gulu, Kitgum, and Pader districts. On August 5, the LRA overran the Acholi Pii refugee camp in Pader District, displacing more than 24,000 refugees and destroying 250 MT of WFP emergency food commodities. In addition to more than 440,000 people situated in IDP camps at the end of May, the renewed conflict in August displaced between 50,000 - 200,000 additional Ugandans.

In early August 2002, the GOU declared a humanitarian emergency in northern Uganda and issued an international appeal requesting donor assistance to respond to conflict-related destruction of property, widespread population displacements, and deteriorating health conditions. Malnutrition, malaria, respiratory infections, pneumonia, intestinal worms, and diarrhea were common among the IDPs. Inadequate sanitation and water supplies as well as long distances to health centers exacerbated the situation.

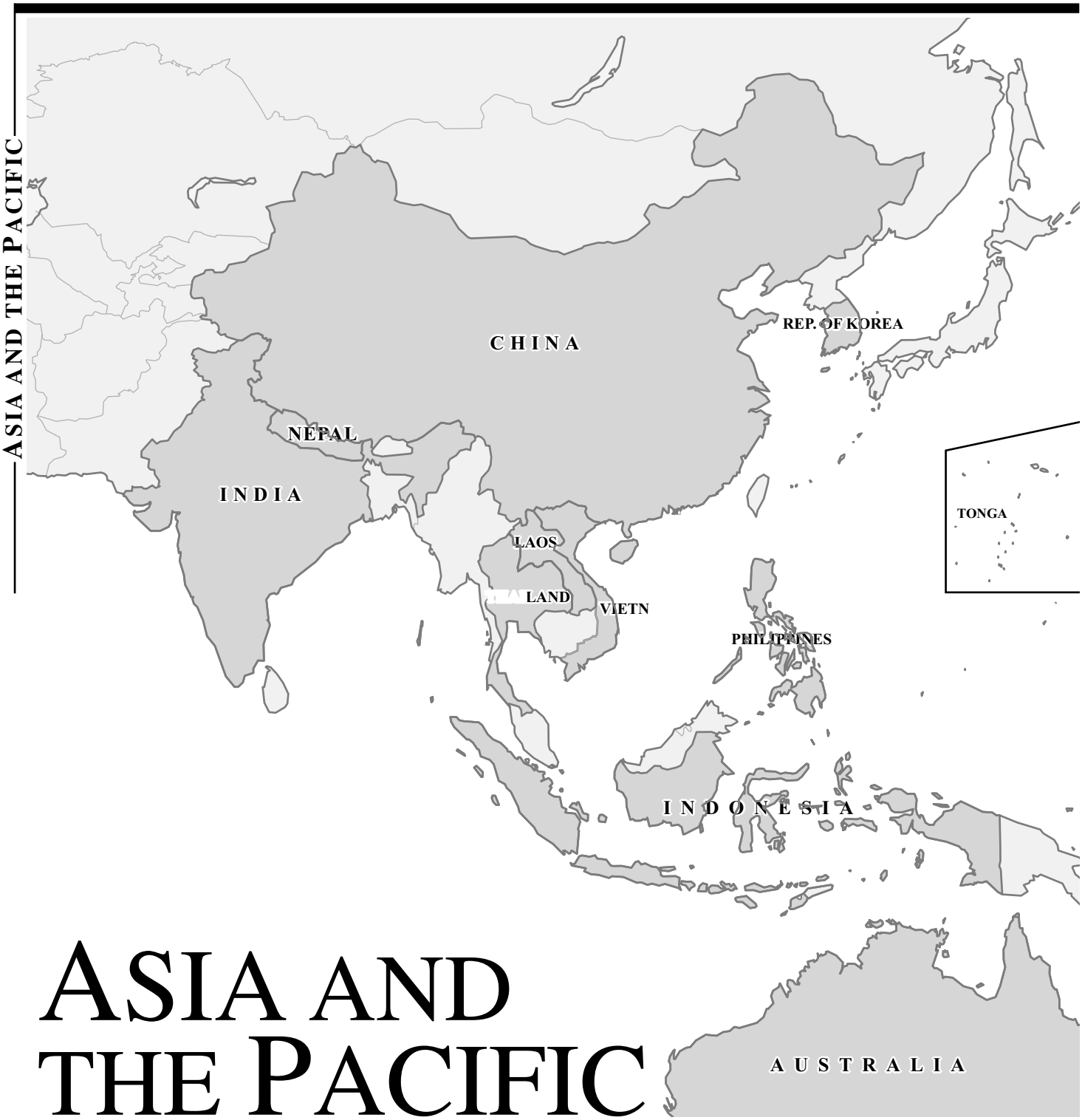
On August 9, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Donald Teitelbaum declared a disaster due to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in northern Uganda. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Kampala to support the distribution of non-food commodities, including blankets, water containers, kitchen sets, and tarpaulins for temporary shelter, by the Ugandan Red Cross Society (URCS).

USAID/OFDA assessment teams traveled to the Gulu District in northern Uganda on August 7 and September 30 to evaluate the humanitarian situation in the affected areas. In response to the crisis, USAID/OFDA provided more than $1.5 million to support programs in health, water and sanitation, and response coordination, and supplied emergency medical kits, through UN OCHA, CARE, IRC, URCS, AAH/USA, and the Associazione Volontaria per il Servizio Internazionale.

USAID/FFP provided 28,600 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to WFP, valued at more than $15.3 million. USDA provided 1,489 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities to Uganda to assist in emergency food needs. The surplus food commodities were valued at more than $1 million. State/PRM contributed more than $6.2 million to assist refugees residing in host communities within Uganda.*

USAID/OFDA Assistance $1,558,882
Other USG Assistance.....$22,559,571
Total USG Assistance $24,118,453

** These contributions are in addition to State/PRM's unearmarked contribution to UNHCR for Africa, totaling $31.4 million in FY 2002. State/PRM also contributed $42.4 million to the ICRC for its Africa programs, a portion of which was used to support ICRC's programs in Uganda.*



ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Lower Left Photo
A truck falls victim to landslides in Jakarta, Indonesia.
(Photo by Dr. Krishna Pribadi, Intitut Teknolgi Bandung)

Lower Right Photo
A USAID/OFDA-funded broom-producing livelihoods program in Vietnam.
(Photo courtesy of CARE)

Australia

Fire

From December 24, 2001, to early January 2002, the state of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory experienced a series of severe bush fires. The bush fires moved across affected areas in 20- and 30-mile wide fronts. More than 100 fires threatened many of Sydney's suburbs and burned through major national parks and coastal areas. No deaths or injuries were reported, but the fires destroyed over 150 houses and left more than 12,000 homes damaged or without electricity. In addition, the fires restricted access to major highways and rail lines and destroyed thousands of hectares of forest and grazing lands.

On December 27, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Michael P. Owens declared a disaster in response to the destruction caused by the bush fires. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Canberra to the New South Wales state government recovery fund to meet the emergency relief needs of fire victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

China

Floods

Beginning on April 15, heavy rainfall caused extensive flooding in the Ili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture of Xinjiang Province in northwest China. The heavy rainfall lasted up to four weeks in some affected areas. The typically arid area received precipitation equivalent to the average annual rainfall within a few weeks, resulting in severe flooding and damage. According to the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC), the flooding caused six deaths and impacted nearly 600,000 residents. In addition, the heavy rainfall damaged nearly 45,000 hectares of farmland and destroyed 90 bridges, 450 km of road, and more than 50,000 buildings, including nearly 550 schools. The total economic loss was approximately $76 million.

On May 29, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to the RCSC for the distribution of emergency food and bedding materials to the flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

China

Floods

Between early June and August 2002, central China received up to 508 mm of rainfall, resulting in severe flooding and landslides. The flooding caused nearly 800 deaths and impacted more than 37 million residents in eight provinces. The widespread flooding also destroyed more than 770,000 houses, damaged an estimated two million dwellings, inundated 400,000 hectares of farmland, and caused an estimated $3.7 billion in economic losses.

On June 27, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $300,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to support an emergency appeal by the IFRC on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China. The funds were used for the purchase and distribution of essential non-food relief items, including tents, water purification equipment, and bedding for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $300,000

India

Floods

Between June and September 2002, heavy monsoon rains caused flooding in the catchments of the Brahmaputra and adjoining rivers, causing extensive flooding in 13 northeastern states. Flooding was most severe in the states of Assam, with 22 of 23 districts affected, and Bihar, with 24 of 38 districts affected. According to the Government of India's National Disaster Management Division, flooding in Assam caused 41 deaths, affected nearly 84,000 residents, damaged an estimated 20,000 dwellings, and inundated approximately 571,000 hectares. In Bihar, flooding resulted in 434 deaths, impacted nearly 1.6 million residents, damaged approximately 400,000 dwellings, and submerged an estimated 185,000 hectares. Road, rail, and communications infrastructure were also disrupted.

On August 27, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA provided $100,000 to the IFRC to support an appeal for emergency commodities, such as shelter materials, food, utensils, personal hygiene items, and medical supplies. USAID/OFDA also provided an additional $50,000 to UNDP to coordinate the disaster response, develop a database of damage and needs, map vulnerable areas, prioritize relief assistance, and create a disaster website.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $200,000

Indonesia

Complex Emergency

During FY 2002, the intensity of civil conflict in Indonesia and the resulting adverse humanitarian consequences lessened slightly from FY 2001's instability. The regions of Aceh, Maluku, North Maluku, Papua, and Sulawesi continued to experience violence, displacing more residents and disrupting ongoing IDP resettlement efforts. However, Kalimantan and West Timor regions did not experience significant levels of ethnic or communal conflict during FY 2002.

According to WFP, there were nearly 1.2 million IDPs in Indonesia in FY 2002, a reduction of 100,000 IDPs from FY 2001. The regions with the most IDPs included Maluku, with nearly 265,000; southeastern Sulawesi, with more than 196,000; East Java, with nearly 184,000; and North Sumatra, with more than 122,000.

On October 11, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Robert S. Gelbard redeclared a disaster for FY 2002 due to the continuing humanitarian crisis in the affected provinces of Indonesia. USAID/OFDA provided nearly $6.7 million in emergency humanitarian assistance throughout FY 2002 to assist IDPs and conflict victims.

Aceh

On January 1, 2002, a bill, passed by the Government of Indonesia (GOI) granting special autonomy to Aceh, became official law. The province was renamed Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam and introduced *shari'a* (Islamic law) to the population. However, the transition was not fully implemented and failed to resolve the ongoing conflict between government forces and separatists. During FY 2002, GOI forces intensified military operations aimed against separatist guerrillas in Aceh.

USAID/OFDA provided $378,300 to the Consortium for Assistance to Refugees and the Displaced in Indonesia (CARDI)/IRC for non-food relief commodities for IDPs in Aceh as well as a rehabilitation effort for water and sanitation facilities. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $255,000 to IMC for health and water and sanitation assistance for Aceh IDPs in neighboring North Sumatra.

A villager in Aceh, Indonesia draws water from a newly constructed well, built during a USAID/OFDA-funded water and sanitation project (photo by Sky Wiseman, USAID/OFDA).

West Kalimantan residents clear cut forested lands to make way for construction of new dwellings for residents (photo by Surya Hasyiam, World Vision Indonesia).

Kalimantan

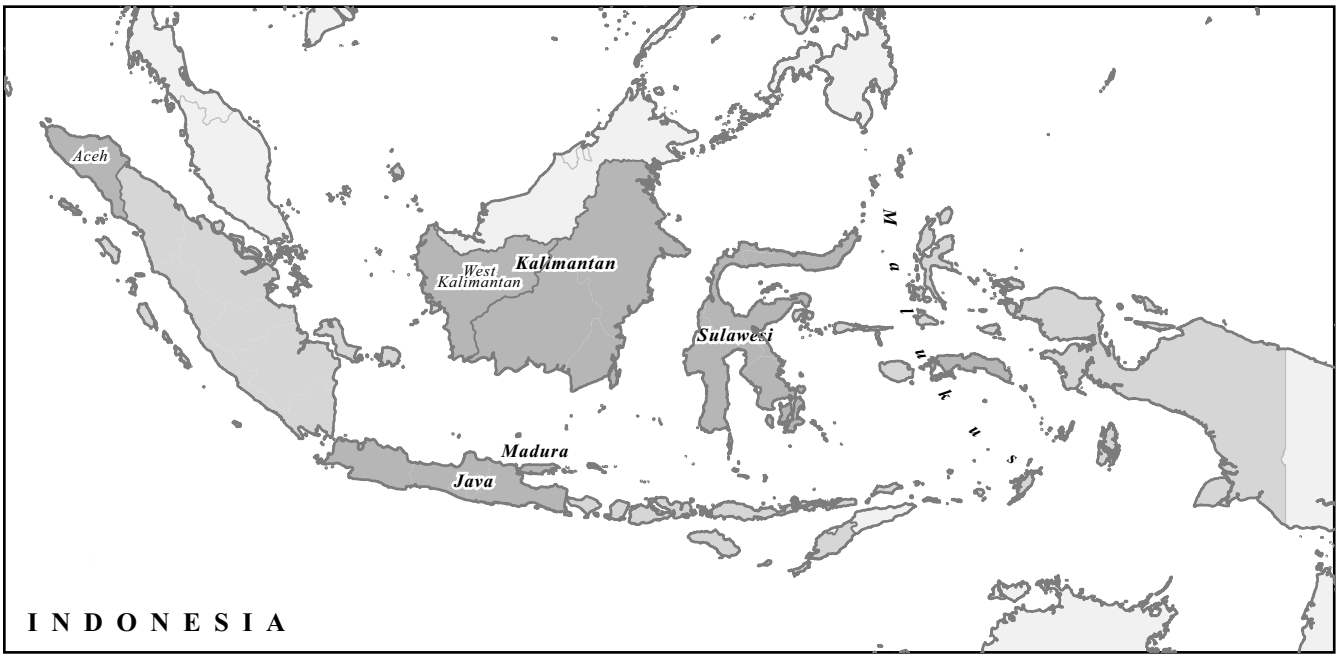
During FY 2002, the provinces of Central and West Kalimantan did not experience any significant new levels of ethnic violence. In February and March 2001, ethnic Dayaks drove all of the Madurese from Central Kalimantan. In West Kalimantan, ethnic tensions between Dayaks and Madurese continued but did not result in serious violence.

USAID/OFDA provided $457,450 to IMC for health and water and sanitation activities in West Kalimantan. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $200,000 to IMC for emergency water and sanitation relief efforts as well as primary health care assistance. USAID/OFDA supported WVI with $255,829 for a community rehabilitation program, livelihoods projects, and non-food relief items. USAID/OFDA also provided $210,214 to CRS for general emergency relief efforts for Madurese residents of West Kalimantan.

Maluku and North Maluku

During FY 2002, the provinces of Maluku and North Maluku continued to experience sporadic violence between Christian and Muslim groups, including bombings of civilians and communal violence. In North Maluku, violence continued to decrease as it had since the end of FY 2001. However, in Maluku, the level of violence was comparable to previous years. In February 2002, Christian and Muslim factions in the region signed the Malino II Peace Accord. While the accord established a framework for the return and resettlement of refugees, called for the disarmament of all involved militia, and appealed for the creation of joint security patrols, it had little effect on the level of violence throughout FY 2002.

USAID/OFDA provided $848,612 to Mercy Corps for emergency IDP assistance in Maluku through quick impact grants. USAID/OFDA provided $435,132 to IMC for primary health care activities in Maluku. WVI received $253,000 from USAID/OFDA for a community rehabilitation program in North Maluku. USAID/OFDA provided $189,913 to ACF/F for water and sanitation activities in North



Affected regions of Indonesia's complex emergency situation during FY 2002

Maluku. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $131,500 to ACF/F for basic shelter, non-food relief items, and seeds and tools for Maluku refugees.

Madura/Java Island
During FY 2002, Madura Island and parts of East Java continued to host large IDP populations from other regions of the country.

USAID/OFDA provided $378,000 to IMC for health and water and sanitation projects in Madura for ethnic Madurese refugees displaced from Central Kalimantan. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $355,912 to WVI for a temporary shelter program for IDPs in Madura and East Java.

Sulawesi
During FY 2002, conflict between Christian and Muslim groups continued in Central Sulawesi. Following the Malino Declaration Peace Accord in December 2001, levels of violence decreased temporarily. However, between May and July 2002, bombing and shooting incidents increased. In early August 2002, Christian-Muslim violence resulted in additional population displacements.

USAID/OFDA provided $570,717 to CWS for shelter materials, water and sanitation activities, and other non-food relief items for IDPs in Sulawesi. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $377,000 to CARE for shelter materials and seeds and tools for IDPs in Central Sulawesi. USAID/OFDA also provided $150,000 to Mercy Corps through quick impact grants for water and sanitation activities and health assistance in Central Sulawesi.

West Timor
Throughout FY 2002, West Timor did not experience any new significant levels of violence. However, toward the end of FY 2002, WFP reported that approximately 30,000 East Timorese remained in West Timor. USAID/OFDA provided $250,000 to CARE for a nutritional emergency feeding project in West Timor.

General Indonesia
In response to an IFRC appeal for assistance in strengthening the disaster response capabilities of the Indonesian Red Cross, USAID/OFDA provided $400,000 to UN OCHA through the 2002 U.N. Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Indonesia. During FY 2002, USAID/OTI provided approximately $6.9 million through 293 grants to local and international NGOs, for projects that focused on strengthening civil society, civil-military relations, community stabilization, governance, and media outlets throughout Indonesia. In addition, State/PRM provided grants totaling more than $2.3 million to UNHCR, UNDP, and IOM for East Timorese reintegration, transportation, and local integration programs.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $6,669,069
Other USG Assistance.....$9,240,319
Total USG Assistance $15,909,388

Indonesia

Floods

Between October 22 and 24, 2001, heavy monsoon rains caused flooding and landslides in the Central Java regencies of Banyumas, Kebumen, and Cilacap. Subsequent rains and the rupture of several river embankments caused severe flooding conditions in greater Jakarta. According to UN OCHA, the overall flooding and landslides caused 57 deaths and displaced an estimated 365,000 residents in greater Jakarta. The floodwaters also inundated more than 10,000 dwellings, destroyed 12,000 hectares of rice fields, and damaged a key rail line.

On October 24, U.S. Ambassador Ralph L. Boyce

A resident of Karawang, Indonesia helps carry livestock to safety during the October 2001 floods (photo by Dr. Krishna Pribadi, Institut Teknolgi Bandung).

declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. This disaster declaration was also applicable to subsequent monsoon-related flooding such as the Jakarta floods of January and February 2002. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Indonesia to the IFRC and the Indonesian Red Cross for the procurement and distribution of essential relief items to meet the immediate needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided $25,000 to CRS to meet additional emergency needs of flood and landslide victims.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to Mercy Corps to provide essential non-food relief commodities benefiting flood victims mainly in north and west Jakarta. The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the purchase and distribution of blankets, water containers, plastic sheeting, tarps, and kerosene. USAID/OFDA also provided an additional $35,000 to CRS to supply family recovery kits and water containers for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA also provided $158,780 through USAID/Indonesia to WVI to distribute emergency food commodities, basic survival kits, and clean-up tools to flood victims in the most severely impacted areas. USAID/OTI provided $60,000 to WVI to procure and distribute emergency hygiene kits to 10,000 affected households.

USAID/OFDA provided an additional $150,000 to WVI to fund a program to improve water quality,

Supporting Earthquake Preparedness in Asia

In 1950, nearly half of the world's urban earthquake-threatened populations lived in developing countries. By 2000, that number increased to approximately 85 percent. Urban populations in Asia are especially at risk because of major fault lines in the region. In an earthquake, 95 percent of the fatalities occur almost instantaneously as a result of collapsing buildings and flying debris. The level of community awareness, the enforcement of earthquake-resistant construction standards, municipal code development and enforcement, and the level of preparedness of those who are first to respond with assistance, can lessen the severity of the damage and the number of people killed. Community-level preparedness is the cornerstone of USAID/OFDA's activities in targeted earthquake-prone regions of Asia such as India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines.

The Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) focuses on earthquake preparedness by assisting local, regional, and national agencies in Indonesia, India, Nepal, and the Philippines. PEER courses are organized and conducted in medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness. PEER was started in 1998 as a collaborative effort between USAID/OFDA, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), and Miami-Dade (Florida) Fire Rescue. First responders are instructed on how to develop and strengthen skills that enhance their ability to provide effective and coordinated on-site management of rescue and medical response needs following a disaster. After the initial training, graduates of PEER develop replication courses in their local languages and countries in order to train other disaster management personnel.

The Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Project (AUDMP), implemented by ADPC, has been operating with USAID/OFDA support since 1995. AUDMP is designed to help reduce the disaster vulnerability of urban populations, infrastructure, critical facilities, and shelter through

Continued on Page 56, "Earthquake Preparedness"

Cities such as Kathmandu, Nepal are highly susceptible to earthquakes in the Asia region (photo by Rebecca Scheurer, USAID/OFDA).

"Earthquake Preparedness," continued

national demonstration projects, information dissemination and networking, policy seminars, and policy training in 10 Asian countries. AUDMP also conducts national demonstration projects in earthquake risk management in Kathmandu, Nepal; Bandung, Indonesia; and San Carlos, Philippines.

Nepal is one of the most seismically active countries in the world, located along the Great Himalayan Range. Urbanization, the lack of zoning in hazardous areas, and uncontrolled development without adequate building codes or safe building practices, have made urban populations in Nepal increasingly vulnerable to earthquake damage in recent years. AUDMP partnered with the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) in Kathmandu, Nepal and GeoHazards International in Palo Alto, California to implement the Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Plan to reduce the earthquake vulnerability of the Kathmandu Valley. Nepali masons, who had been taught earthquake-resistant construction techniques, traveled to India following the 2001 Gujarat earthquake to share their knowledge. They assisted Indian masons in retrofitting homes and rebuilding dwellings that had been destroyed. This initial AUDMP-NSET project ended in 2001, but because of its success, USAID/OFDA continues to support this mitigation program.

Schools in Nepal, such as this one in the Kathmandu Valley, were seismically retrofitted by USAID/OFDA partner National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) as part of a large-scale earthquake mitigation program in Nepal (photo by David Lillie, USAID/OFDA).

The NSET project in Nepal disseminates information to public officials and citizens on issues such as earthquake-resistant construction techniques, what to do in the event of an earthquake, and probable damage that may result from earthquakes of varying intensities. The awareness material is distributed via NSET representatives and international NGOs through schools, community organizations, professional associations, and government ministries. NSET materials are also distributed at the annual Earthquake Safety Day on January 15, an event organized and promoted by NSET to raise public awareness about earthquakes in Kathmandu.

In 1950, approximately half of the world's urban earthquake-threatened population lived in developing countries. By 2000, that number increased to approximately 85 percent.

USAID/OFDA further expanded its support in the Asia region through a Central Asia Seismic Hazard Mitigation program. The program emphasizes community-based initiatives to expand local organizational capacity to prepare for, manage, and respond to major earthquakes. Mitigation programs are currently being implemented in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

By informing and preparing local communities in earthquake-prone regions, USAID/OFDA minimizes the need for U.S. Government assistance after an earthquake. USAID/OFDA is establishing community preparedness activities, public education campaigns, and training of first responders for the eventuality of an earthquake. Preparedness makes a significant difference in a community's response ability, and can greatly reduce the eventual economic and human toll in an earthquake's aftermath. ❖

—By Olga Bilyk

A bicyclist peddles down a flooded central Jakarta street (photo by Dr. Krishna Pribadi, Institut Teknologi Bandung).

conduct a basic health improvement campaign, and provide complete curative, preventative, and primary health care services for an estimated 50,000 flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $443,780
Other USG Assistance.....$60,000
Total USG Assistance $503,780

Laos
Floods

During August 2002, heavy monsoon rains in Laos caused extensive flooding, particularly in the southern portion of the country. According to assessments by NGOs, the flooding affected more than 150,000 residents in nearly 580 villages in the provinces of Vientiane, Khaman, and Bolikhamsay. Heavy rains continued after floodwaters receded, causing severe damage to crops and livelihoods.

On September 5, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Douglas A. Hartwick declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane to CARE for rice, seeds for the remaining six to eight weeks of the planting season, and non-food items, such as mosquito nets, for the most severely affected flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Nepal
Complex Emergency

Since early 1996, Maoist opposition forces have become increasingly violent in their attempts to destabilize the Government of Nepal (GON). According to the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu, violence that was centered in the impoverished western regions of the country in 1996 affected all of Nepal's 75 districts in FY 2002. The violence has resulted in more than 6,000 deaths or injuries since 1996. In addition, the continuing violence has caused displacement of thousands of civilians in 62 of Nepal's 75 districts.

On April 9, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Malinowski declared a disaster due to the ongoing conflict and resulting emergency needs in conflict-affected areas. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Nepal for an independant assessment of the IDP situation. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to the Nepali Red Cross Society (NRCS) for the procurement and distribution of relief commodities including blankets, tarpaulins, and winter clothing.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $100,000

Nepal
Floods

Monsoon rains, which began in July 2002 and continued through August 2002, were earlier and more intense than in previous years. The rains caused severe flooding and landslides in eastern and central Nepal. According to the Government of Nepal (GON), the flooding and landslides left 375 people dead, 53 missing, and damaged or destroyed nearly 18,000 houses in 47 of Nepal's 75 districts. In addition, continued rainfall hampered the GON's search and rescue operations and restoration of communications and transportation links.

On August 13, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Malinowski declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S.

Embassy in Kathmandu to the IFRC in response to its appeal for assistance to the Nepali Red Cross Society. USAID/OFDA's funding was used to procure emergency food, blankets, clothing, water purification tablets, and shelter materials for the most vulnerable families.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Philippines

Typhoon

On November 8, 2001, Typhoon Lingling, with maximum sustained winds of 105 km per hour, passed over the south-central region of the Philippines. The resulting high winds and heavy rains led to flash floods and landslides in 11 provinces in six regions, severely impacting Camiguin Island. According to the Government of the Philippines, the flooding and landslides caused 195 deaths, left more than 100 people missing, and affected nearly 1.1 million residents. The flooding and landslides also buried some villages under tons of rock and mud, destroying 1,500 houses, and partially damaging more than 3,300 buildings.

On November 9, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Robert W. Fitts declared a disaster due to the damage caused by Typhoon Lingling. USAID/OFDA provided $100,000 to the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) for the provision of food, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito netting, and water containers to assist an estimated 10,000 affected families. In cooperation with the PNRC, DOD provided airlifts for the relief commodities at no additional cost. A USAID/OFDA regional advisor accompanied one of the flights and conducted further assessments of the emergency relief response.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $100,000

Republic of Korea

Floods

On August 4, 2002, heavy rains began and continued for several days, causing severe flooding and landslides in the Republic of Korea's central, southeastern, and southern provinces. U.S. Embassy officials in Seoul reported that the flooding caused 15 deaths and more than $600 million in damage to houses and buildings, severely impacting the provinces of South Kyungsang and Gangwon. According to the Korean Meteorological Administration, the flooding damaged an estimated 14,000 houses and buildings.

On August 19, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Thomas G. Hubbard declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to the Gangwon Provincial Disaster Response Task Force for emergency relief commodities to help meet the humanitarian needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy to the Korean Red Cross for additional relief supplies.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Thailand

Floods

During the first week of September 2002, heavy rainfall caused flooding and mudslides across northern Thailand, particularly in the Mae Hong Son, Loei, and Petchabun provinces. The flooding and landslides left 24 people dead, 11 missing, and an estimated 33,000 residents homeless.

On September 10, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Darryl N. Johnson declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and mudslides. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok to the Thai National Red Cross for the distribution of temporary shelter materials, emergency food, and potable water to the most severely affected flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Tonga

Cyclone

On December 31, 2001, and January 1, 2002, Tropical Cyclone Waka, with maximum sustained winds of 185 km per hour, struck northern Tonga. The islands of Niuafo'ou and Vava'u were severely impacted, but Ha'apai and Niua Toputapu were also affected. According to UN OCHA, the storm affected 16,500 residents and caused $51.3 million in damage. The Tonga Red Cross Society estimated that the storm destroyed more than 320 dwellings and damaged an additional 300 to 400 buildings. IFRC officials reported that Waka caused severe damage to the agricultural sector, creating food insecurity on Niuafo'ou and Vava'u.

On January 6, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Ronald K. McMullen in Suva, Fiji declared a disaster due to the damaging effects of cyclone Waka. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji to the Government of Tonga. The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the local procurement of basic food items to provide immediate relief for storm victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Vietnam

Fire

On March 24, 2002, a fire broke out in U Minh Thuong National Park in Kien Jiang Province, destroying nearly 2,500 hectares of forest. On April 12, 2002, a second fire started in U Min Ha Forest in Ca Mau Province, destroying approximately 3,000 hectares. Drought conditions in southern Vietnam exacerbated the fires and threatened Kien Gang Province's water supply. With low water levels in its four key reservoirs and rising levels of salinity in other water sources, more than 100,000 people were affected by acute shortages of potable water.

On April 25, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Raymond F. Burghardt declared a disaster due to the drought conditions and effects of the fires in southern Vietnam. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to CARE to address critical water needs and to assist with basic livelihoods recovery for families whose subsistence had been disrupted.

USAID/OFDA funded this fish restocking program in Vietnam, as part of a livelihoods recovery effort following the U Minh Thuong National Park fire (photo courtesy of CARE).

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST, AND CENTRAL ASIA

Left Photo
Flooding damaged a bridge in the Czech Republic.
(Photo by USAID/OFDA staff)

Right Photo
Emergency shelter kits are unloaded in Afghanistan.
(Photo by Jim Nuttall, USAID/OFDA)

Afghanistan

Complex Emergency

A decade-long Soviet occupation and ensuing civil strife left Afghanistan impoverished and mired in an extended humanitarian crisis. Government infrastructure, including the ability to deliver the most basic health, education, and other social services, collapsed. Severe restrictions by the ruling Taliban, including a ban on women working outside the home, added to the effects of poverty, particularly on the many households lacking working age men. A devastating regional drought compounded the humanitarian situation. The drought dried up wells, parched agricultural land, killed off livestock, collapsed rural economies, and eventually exhausted the coping mechanisms of many Afghans, forcing them to leave their homes in search of food and potable water. More than one million Afghans were internally displaced by the drought and civil war.

Afghan villagers inspect a USAID/OFDA-funded solar water heater unit (photo by Tom Dolan, USAID/OFDA).

Following the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001, fear of a U.S. reprisal against al Qaeda and their Taliban hosts triggered a new exodus from major Afghan cities, adding to the number of internally displaced Afghans. Further exacerbating the crisis, the Taliban ordered the departure of all foreigners, including the expatriate staffs of international humanitarian relief agencies. Those relief programs that were able to continue to function with local staffs were impeded in their work by rising lawlessness and Taliban harassment. Relief agencies predicted that the growing crisis would severely affect up to six million Afghans, making them reliant on international humanitarian assistance.

On October 7, 2001, the U.S.-led Coalition began a military campaign in Afghanistan against al Qaeda and Taliban forces. At the same time, the military forces of the Northern Alliance based in the northeast of the country intensified their war efforts against the Taliban. Several hundred thousand Afghan refugees crossed into Pakistan, and much larger refugee flows that had been anticipated did not materialize. Despite the onset of war, WFP managed to resume its emergency food operation in October with the goal of delivering 50,000 MT of food per month.

By December 2001, Taliban rule had collapsed. The new Afghan Interim Authority (AIA) led by Hamid Karzai was sworn in on December 22, 2001. With the Taliban's fall, humanitarian access to the country greatly increased and the process of rehabilitation and recovery began.

More than 100,000 Afghans formerly displaced along the front lines of the civil war in the northeast spontaneously returned to their homes to rebuild from near total devastation. Another 230,000 Afghans internally displaced in the northern, western, and central highland provinces by drought were assisted in returning to their places of origin by IOs and NGOs providing transport and reintegration packages of food and non-food relief items.

In the months following the fall of the Taliban, several hundred thousand Afghan refugees living in Pakistan, Iran, and other areas of Central Asia spontaneously returned to Afghanistan. An additional 1.7 million Afghan refugees, 1.5 million living in Pakistan, were assisted by UNHCR in returning home through its program of voluntary repatriation. One of the greatest challenges for the international community and the new Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, inaugurated after the emergency *Loya Jirga* (Grand Council), in June 2002, was to provide sufficient reintegration assistance to returned Afghans in their villages

to prevent a new wave of displacement as winter approached.

A famine was averted at the end of 2001, and crop yields increased 82 percent during the summer of 2002. Afghans, however, continued to be vulnerable to the adverse impacts of drought, rural indebtedness, loss of productive assets, lack of purchasing power, water shortages, insecurity, and ethnic persecution.

On October 4, 2001, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Christina B. Rocca redeclared a disaster for FY 2002 due to the continuing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. USAID/OFDA responded with emergency humanitarian assistance in the form of grants and in-kind contributions to U.N. agencies, IOs, and NGOs totaling $113.3 million. A USAID/DART, which had deployed to Pakistan in June 2001, coordinated humanitarian assistance with the Pakistan-based Afghanistan international relief community. Other USAID/DARTs were deployed to Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan to coordinate logistics and the delivery of relief assistance into Afghanistan. In January 2002, the USAID/DART in Pakistan relocated to Kabul, where it continued to coordinate and assess humanitarian needs until being deactivated on June 7, 2002. The USAID/DART was replaced by the USAID/OFDA Program Office in Kabul.

Residents of Bagram, Afghanistan constructed a well as part of a USAID/OFDA-funded water program (photo by David Plack, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA supported the basic needs of IDPs and other vulnerable Afghans through funding for the emergency provision of food, water, shelter, and non-food necessities by its NGO and IO implementing partners including: $2.5 million to ICRC for emergency assistance nationwide; $6.9 million to ACTED for assistance in the northeastern region; $988,087 to CRS and $1.4 million to Focus/Aga Khan Foundation for assistance in the central highlands; $3.3 million to SCF/US for assistance in the central and northern areas; $3.9 million to CARE for assistance in the central and southern regions; $3 million to Mercy Corps for assistance in the northeast and southern regions; $7.1 million to GOAL for assistance in the northern region; $4.6 million to IOM and $6.9 million to IRC for assistance in the northern and western areas; and $3.6 million to Shelter For Life (SFL) for assistance in the western and northeastern regions.

USAID/OFDA also supported health and nutrition programs, including: $4.2 million to UNICEF for nutrition, health, vaccinations, and water and sanitation programs nationwide; $8 million to IMC for primary and mother/child health care in the central and western regions; $1.7 million to ACF/F for health, nutrition, and water programs in the central highlands; $2.3 million to SCF/US for health and nutrition programs in the central and northern regions; $1 million to CARE for water and health programs in the central and southern regions; and $201,868 to Tufts University for a food security and livelihoods assessment.

USAID/OFDA supported the agricultural sector and other income-generating rehabilitative work in rural areas, including: $4.2 million to FAO for seed distribution and locust eradication in the north; $2.5 million to the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) for seed multiplication; $3.7 million to Mercy Corps for rural rehabilitation in the southern and northeastern regions; $2.9 million to CONCERN for agricultural rehabilitation and income generation in the northeastern region; $1.7 million to Solidarities for rural rehabilitation in the central highlands; $1.5 million to GOAL for rural rehabilitation and to improve winter access in the northern area; $1.3 million to IRC for rural rehabilitation in the northern

and western regions; $1 million to SFL to improve winter access in the western area; and $2.5 million to ACTED to improve winter access in the northeast, including through the Salang Tunnel. USAID/OFDA also provided UN Habitat with $382,850 to support solid waste removal in urban centers.

From October through December 2001, USAID/OFDA airlifted from its stockpiles in Maryland and Pisa, Italy approximately 55,000 blankets, 2.7 million sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 10,000 kitchen sets, 200 MT of high energy biscuits, one MT of sugar, and 10 emergency health kits with sufficient medical supplies in each to treat 10,000 people for three months. USAID/OFDA also locally purchased and transported 250,000 blankets and 350,000 wheat flour bags. The locally purchased and airlifted relief commodities were consigned to UNHCR, UNICEF, and IOM for distribution. Overall, USAID/OFDA provided $4.8 million in procurement, airlift, and transport support for relief operations in Afghanistan.

USAID/OFDA further supported logistics with $2.7 million to UN OCHA for coordination of humanitarian assistance programs countrywide, $1.6 million to AirServ International to provide humanitarian air transport, $49,902 to CWS for transport of non-food relief items, and $2.5 million in operational field support to the DART.

USAID/OFDA contributed $6 million to WFP for the local purchase of 15,000 MT of emergency food assistance and $12.2 million in support of overall WFP food delivery, air services, logistics, and equipment. USAID/FFP provided 282,870 MT of P.L. 480 Title II wheat and complementary emergency food assistance to WFP, valued at $159.4 million. USDA contributed 79,600 MT of Section 416(b) surplus wheat to WFP, valued at $38.7 million. DOD airdropped 2,423,700 humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) at a cost of $50.9 million. USAID/OTI provided $11.2 million to IOM for community reconstruction and media programs, $5.4 million to RONCO for a small grants program

Funded by USAID/OFDA, CARE provided potable water and latrines to residents in central and southern Afghanistan during FY 2002 (photo by Tom Dolan, USAID/OFDA).

and operational support, $3.5 million to UNDP in support of the Afghan Interim Administration and the *Loya Jirga* process, $1.1 million to Internews in support of journalist training, and $436,753 to Voice of America in support of media programming.

State/PRM provided $63.3 million to UNHCR, $21.1 million to ICRC, $7.8 million to IOM, and $4 million to the IFRC in support of programs serving Afghan refugees, returnees, and the internally displaced. State/PRM provided $3.1 million to UN OCHA and $500,000 to UNDP in support of emergency coordination and preparedness, and provided $6 million in support of WFP logistics and operations. State/PRM provided $1 million to WHO in support of basic health for returning Afghans, and $8 million to UNICEF in support of education and water and sanitation programs. State/PRM also provided $21.7 million to NGOs and other agencies for Afghan refugee, returnee, and internally displaced support programs.

The U.S. Department of State's Humanitarian Demining Program provided $3.3 million to HALO

Revitalizing Afghan Communities Through a Longer-Term USAID/OFDA Vision

After September 11, 2001, USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios announced a five-point assistance strategy for Afghanistan to: 1) reduce death rates; 2) minimize population movements; 3) lower and then stabilize food prices; 4) ensure aid reaches those for whom it is intended; and 5) begin developmental relief programs. Incorporating Administrator Natsios' strategy, USAID/OFDA, working through its DART in Kabul, intensified efforts to address emergency needs precipitated by the ongoing civil war and four years of drought. During the winter of 2001-2002, an unprecedented humanitarian response providing emergency food, water, shelter, blankets, and medical assistance succeeded in averting a famine and significantly reduced the suffering of the most vulnerable Afghans.

However, USAID quickly determined that it was imperative not just to meet the immediate emergency needs of Afghans, but also to break the spiral of vulnerability and address the underlying causes. The long-term effects of a prolonged drought were having a much deeper and more complex impact on Afghan communities than relief supplies alone could alleviate. A broader and more integrated approach was necessary. As a result, in an effort to improve understanding of these impacts and to better target USG assistance, Administrator Natsios commissioned the Feinstein International Famine Center at Tufts University to conduct an in-depth assessment of affected rural communities from January to May 2002.

An Afghani woman removes bread from an oven in a Kabul bakery as part of a cash-for-work program funded by USAID/OFDA (photo by Sue McIntyre, USAID/OFDA).

The long-term effects of a prolonged drought were having a much deeper and more complex impact on Afghan communities than relief supplies alone could alleviate.

The four-person assessment team conducted focus group interviews with more than 1,000 Afghans in 13 provinces in northern, central, southern, and western Afghanistan to analyze the reasons for such a high degree of vulnerability to food insecurity. The team concluded that there were four primary food insecurity factors: 1) poor diet, 2) depleted assets, 3) high debt, and 4) insufficient water supplies. To combat these interwoven factors, the assessment team recommended measures such as better targeted food assistance to rural areas, improving roads to increase access, repair of water

Continued on Page 65, "Revitalizing Afghan Communities"

Trust, $2 million to RONCO, $1 million to the U.N. Mine Action Program, and $700,000 to UNICEF in support of demining and mine awareness programs.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $114,402,834
Other USG Assistance.....$416,915,111
Total USG Assistance.....$531,317,945

"Revitalizing Afghan Communities," continued

systems for drinking sources and agricultural production, and funding of cash-for-work programs to relieve the enormous personal burdens of debt. USAID, including USAID/OFDA, was already implementing many of these recommendations. The final assessment report confirmed the appropriateness of USAID's strategy to focus on restoring rural productivity and livelihoods.

Following the team's findings, USAID/OFDA expanded its support of cash-for-work activities, achieving several parallel results including: the provision of emergency income to vulnerable households; a decrease in food insecurity; improvements in agricultural production; the stimulation of local economies and trade; and improved community infrastructure, such as market roads, schools, wells, irrigation systems, and mills. By August 2002, USAID/OFDA funding had supported more than 4,000 small rehabilitation projects, including repairs to approximately 2,600 km of roads, 1,500 wells and irrigation systems, and more than 100 schools and hospitals, benefiting communities throughout the entire country.

With a greater understanding of Afghanistan's vulnerabilities, USAID/OFDA has both assisted in meeting the emergency needs of the most vulnerable Afghans and contributed significantly to reducing food insecurity, strengthening livelihoods, and revitalizing rural communities in a drought and conflict-impacted country struggling to rebuild under a newly-won peace. ❖

—By David Plack

Afghanistan

Earthquake

An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter scale struck the province of Baghlan in northeastern Afghanistan on March 25, 2002 at 7:26 p.m. local time. The initial earthquake was followed by a series of aftershocks ranging in magnitudes between 4.5 and 5.8.

The Afghan Interim Authority (AIA) reported that 800 people died as a result of the 6.1 earthquake, more than 500 people were treated for injuries, and the homes of 14,000 families were damaged. The area most affected was the district of Nahrin in Baghlan Province, located at the epicenter of the earthquake. This inaccessible region had already been heavily impacted by drought. An estimated 80 percent of the local population was receiving emergency relief assistance prior to the earthquake because of increased vulnerability to malnutrition. The impacted area was also on the front lines of the civil war during the past decade, and is home to a significant number of recently returned displaced families.

On March 26, U.S. Ambassador Robert P. Finn declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the earthquake. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $25,000 to ACTED, which was operational in Nahrin managing the local humanitarian response to drought and conflict. The funds were used to assist in meeting the emergency relief needs of the earthquake-affected population. Other USAID/OFDA relief supplies, already in Afghanistan under existing grants, were directed by implementing partners IRC, CONCERN, GOAL, IOM, and UNICEF to the affected area. On March 27 and 28, DOD deployed an assessment team and transported relief supplies to the affected area using helicopters stationed at Bagram airfield.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Albania

Floods

In late September 2002, heavy rains caused extensive flooding in nine of Albania's 12 prefectures, particularly in the northwestern prefectures of Lezhe and Shkoder. According to the Government of Albania (GOA), the flooding displaced 9,700 families, more than 80,000 residents were affected throughout the country, and an estimated 120,000 people were left without electricity. In the Lezhe Prefecture, 262 homes were destroyed, 3,429 were damaged, and another 13,030 dwellings were partially flooded. In addition, floodwaters inundated more than 26,000 hectares of cropland, damaged national highways, and destroyed several bridges.

On September 26, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Elizabeth W. Shelton declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Tirana to AmRC/Albanian Red Cross and WVI for emergency non-food relief commodities including clothing, potable water, bedding, blankets, and water pumps. USAID/OFDA also deployed a regional advisor to the affected area to assess the need for continued relief efforts. On November 7, USAID/OFDA provided $163,878 to AmRC/Albanian Red Cross for the purchase and transportation of 19,104 hygiene kits and 10,000 blankets for flood-affected victims.

***USAID/OFDA Assistance ... $213,878 (FY 2003)**

** Although this disaster was declared at the end of FY 2002, the $213,878 of USAID/OFDA funding was provided in FY 2003. The total of $213,878 in USAID/OFDA funding will be noted in the USAID/OFDA FY 2003 Annual Report under the section entitled, "Additional Funding for Prior Year(s) Declared Disasters."*

Albanian authorities distribute relief commodities, including clothing, potable water, bedding, and blankets, to residents in Lezhe and Shkoder affected by floods in September 2002 (photo by USAID/OFDA).

Central and Eastern Europe

Floods

During August 2002, central and eastern Europe experienced some of the worst flooding in centuries. Floods caused the most damage in the Czech Republic, and serious damage occurred in Romania, Austria, Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia. The impact of the floods prompted the U.S. Embassies in Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Romania to declare disasters and request USG relief assistance.

USAID/OFDA responded to each of the flood declarations, and deployed an assessment team to determine the flood damage in the region. No USG

Flood-affected countries in Europe during August 2002. (USAID/OFDA declared countries are dark shaded).

relief assistance was provided to Austria based on the Government of Austria's internal capacity to respond to the flooding crisis. The USAID/OFDA assessment team, which arrived in Prague on August 25, included a public health advisor, a water and sanitation specialist, an environmental and technological hazards specialist, and a structural engineer. USAID/OFDA provided $2,883 to support assessment team costs.

Czech Republic

A week of heavy rainfall in the Czech Republic caused the Vltava River to swell to nearly 30 times its normal flow, flooding parts of Prague and Bohemia. The flooding killed nine people and resulted in the evacuation of up to 40,000 inhabitants. On August 12, 2002, the Government of the Czech Republic (GOCR) declared a state of emergency in six provinces and deployed soldiers to assist flood-affected residents.

On August 13, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Kenneth M. Hillas declared a disaster due to the extensive flood damage. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Prague to the Czech Red Cross for emergency supplies of sleeping bags, food, potable water, and other relief items. Additional USAID/OFDA support included $105,000 through the U.S. Embassy for the purchase of ground-penetrating radar to assess the stability of flood-affected dwellings. USAID/OFDA also provided $15,000 to DOD for the transport of pumps and dryers to the Czech Republic, and provided $1,400 for the transport of 6,400 water containers and 1,536 hygiene kits. The relief commodities were transported from a USAID/OFDA stockpile and consigned to AmeriCares for distribution in the flood-affected areas.

The Vltava River overflowed its banks into downtown Prague, Czech Republic (photo by George Havens, USAID/OFDA).

Romania

Heavy rains in Romania led to severe flooding of the Danube River and its tributaries from July 26 through August 15, 2002. The flooding affected 26 counties, with floodwaters damaging 1,317 homes and causing eight deaths. More than 15,000 people, primarily in rural areas, were affected by the flooding, which inundated more than 4,500 hectares of agricultural land. The floods also destroyed 400 bridges and rendered 430 km of road inaccessible.

U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Guest declared a disaster on August 20 due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded on August 21 with $50,000 through USAID/Romania to WVI for the provision of emergency relief commodities to flood-affected residents.

Slovakia

Heavy rains in central Europe increased the flow of the Danube River to nearly six times its normal level. Although the capital city of Bratislava experienced minimal flood damage due to an advanced warning of the flooding upstream, high waters along the Danube and mountain rivers in Slovakia affected a number of towns, particularly Denin, Cerny Baloch, Sturovo, Komarno, and Brezno.

On August 21, U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Scott Thayer declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Bratislava to support emergency relief assistance for the flood-affected population.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $274,283

Georgia

Earthquake

An earthquake measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale struck Tbilisi on April 25, 2002, at 10:40 p.m. local time. Six residents were killed, more than 70 people were injured, and 362 families were left homeless. The earthquake damaged several thousand buildings in the old city, including apartments, clinics, schools, prisons, and communal centers sheltering IDPs from the ongoing civil conflict. UN OCHA estimated that an additional 2,500 families would be displaced during a period of six months while the damaged apartment buildings were being repaired.

On May 3, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Philip N. Remler declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the earthquake. USAID/OFDA provided an initial $50,000 on May 6, and an additional $74,713 on May 15, both through the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi to Mercy Corps to assist in meeting the emergency water and sanitation needs of victims affected by the earthquake.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $124,713

Construction workers in Tbilisi use heavy machinery to remove earthquake debris (photo courtesy of USAID/Georgia).

Iran

Earthquake

An earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale struck western Iran on June 22, 2002, at 7:28 a.m. local time. UN OCHA reported that the earthquake caused 227 deaths and 1,300 injuries. An estimated 15,000 residential, commercial, and public buildings were destroyed or rendered uninhabitable in the three most affected provinces of Qazvin, Hamadan, and Zanjan. The Iranian Red Crescent Society estimated that 25,000 people were displaced by the earthquake and more than 110,000 people were affected. Telecommunications, electricity, and water services were disrupted or damaged. An estimated 2,000 hectares of farmland were also destroyed.

On June 22, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs William Burns declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the earthquake. The USG offered humanitarian assistance to the Government of Iran and Iranian President Mohammad Khatami accepted. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $50,000 to the IFRC in support of its worldwide appeal to assist with the emergency relief needs of the victims of the earthquake. USAID/OFDA also airlifted 5,000 blankets, 12,000 hygiene kits, six 10,000-liter water bladders, and two mobile water purification units each capable of providing potable water for up to 10,000 people per day. These relief commodities, valued at $299,810 including transport, were provided to UNICEF for distribution to victims affected by the earthquake.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $349,810

Russia

Floods

Heavy rains in southern Russia from mid to late June 2002 resulted in widespread flooding in nine regions. The most affected regions were Stavropol Kray, Krasnodar Kray, and Karachayevo-Cherkess republics. According to the Russian Ministry of Emergency Situations (EMERCOM), the flooding resulted in 94 deaths and affected more than 335,000 people. EMERCOM estimated that 7,519 homes

were destroyed, 45,733 were heavily damaged, and another 46,773 were partially flooded. In addition, 1,927 km of highways, 143 km of natural gas pipelines, 404 km of electrical lines, 581 km of water lines, and 498 bridges were either inundated or damaged.

On July 10, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Alexander R. Vershbow declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to AmRC to help meet continuing emergency needs. AmRC used the funds to provide bed linens, blankets, hygiene kits, tents, sleeping bags, mattresses, cooking stoves, and kitchen sets to approximately 5,000 flood-affected residents.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Syria

Floods

On June 4, 2002, the Zeyzoun Dam, located 350 km north of Damascus near the town of Hamah, collapsed at 3:40 p.m. local time. Cracks in the earthen dam were noticed earlier in the day and most downstream residents were able to evacuate. However, the dam collapse and resulting floodwaters killed 22 people, displaced an estimated 2,000 residents, and affected 10,000 other inhabitants. In addition, 8,000 hectares of arable land were inundated, 60 km of roads damaged, 500 homes destroyed, and 400 dwellings seriously damaged.

On June 10, U.S. Ambassador Theodore H. Kattouf declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the broken dam. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to WFP for the procurement of emergency food to assist the victims. WFP locally purchased 141 MT of wheat flour for the production of bread. The bread was distributed to 10,000 affected residents during July and August 2002.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Tajikistan

Drought

Diminished levels of rain and snow throughout 2001 marked a second consecutive year of drought in Tajikistan. Rainfall in the major food producing areas of the country was 60 percent below the long-term average, while snowfall was approximately 40 to 60 percent below this average. Drought conditions led to a serious decline in overall food production and threatened the livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations. An assessment conducted by FAO and WFP estimated that cereal production for 2001 decreased 15 percent compared to the previous year's already low level, and down 36 percent compared to the production averages during the previous five years. Farming families, suffering from diminished crops and lacking food surpluses, were forced to sell family assets in order to survive. Household data compiled by several NGOs suggested a noticeable decline in the nutritional status of residents in the most affected areas.

On October 10, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires James A. Boughner declared a disaster due to the effects of the continuing drought on Tajik livelihoods. USAID/OFDA responded by providing $809,165 to CARE for the purchase and distribution of 579 MT of improved winter wheat seeds and 2,041 MT of fertilizer. The CARE program was designed to boost household food security for 22,589 families lacking access to quality agricultural inputs.

USAID/FFP provided 35,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at $20 million, toward WFP's ongoing emergency and Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation in Tajikistan.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $809,165
Other USG Assistance.....$20,000,000
Total USG Assistance $20,809,165

Tajikistan

Floods

On August 7, 2002, warm temperatures caused part of a mountain glacier to dislodge into a lake above the village of Dasht, located in the Gorno-Badakshan Province of eastern Tajikistan. The raised water level of the lake triggered flash flooding and a mudslide, killing more than 24 people and affecting more than 500 residents in Dasht. The flooding also destroyed 75 dwellings and damaged 170 homes, a school building, a first aid station, seven km of power lines, and four km of roads. The Tajikistan Ministry of Emergency Situations, National Red Crescent Society, UN OCHA, and several NGOs deployed teams to the affected area to determine the emergency humanitarian needs.

On August 8, U.S. Ambassador Franklin P. Huddle declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Tajikistan to support the Aga Khan Development Network's Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) Agency with the provision of tents, bedding, and other non-food items to the flood-affected population.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

A mudslide completely destroyed a village situated on a flood plain in the Roshtkala district in eastern Badakhshan Province (photo by Suhrob Tursunov, USAID/Dushanbe).

USAID/OFDA emergency relief supplies were provided to assist the hospitalized spectators of an air show in Lviv, Ukraine (photo courtesy of USAID/Ukraine).

Ukraine

Accident

On July 27, 2002, a Ukrainian military fighter jet crashed into a crowd of spectators while performing aerobatic maneuvers at an air show in Lviv, Ukraine. The worst international air show disaster in history left 83 people dead, 200 spectators injured, and more than 70 people hospitalized.

On August 1, U.S. Ambassador Carlos E. Pascual declared a disaster due to the injuries resulting from the air show crash. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 on August 5 through USAID/Ukraine to Counterpart International's Community and Humanitarian Assistance Program (CHAP) for the purchase of medical equipment and supplies to treat the hospitalized spectators.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

West Bank/Gaza

Displaced Persons

On April 3, 2002, fighting in the West Bank's Jenin refugee camp destroyed 800 homes and displaced 4,800 refugees out of a total camp population of nearly 14,000 residents. The conflict also destroyed and damaged key infrastructure and interrupted social services. As a result, food, water and sanitation, and shelter needs of the camp were disrupted.

Humanitarian conditions within the camp were exacerbated by strict curfews imposed by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), limiting residents' access to essential commodities and means to maintain livelihoods. Access to the camp for emergency medical and humanitarian personnel was also restricted by the IDF, further contributing to the adverse humanitarian situation.

On April 20, U.S. Consul General Ronald L. Schlicher in Jerusalem declared a disaster due to the population displacement and limited capacity of the Palestinian Authority to respond to the humanitarian crisis. On April 22, USAID/OFDA responded with the provision of 784 family tents, 1,602 hygiene kits, 1,600 water containers, and a water purification unit capable of providing potable water for up to 10,000 people per day. The relief commodities, valued at $262,607 including transport, were airlifted and provided to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) for distribution to camp residents. A USAID/OFDA senior regional advisor and information officer deployed to the region on April 23 for two weeks to provide follow-on technical assistance to USAID/Tel Aviv.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $262,607

USAID/OFDA regional advisor Jack Myer surveys the remnants of homes in the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank after fighting occurred in the area (photo by Alex Mahoney, USAID/OFDA).

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Left Photo
Community leaders in Honduras are trained in risk management and emergency response by Central America Mitigation Initiative (CAMI) technical advisors. (Photo courtesy of CAMI)

Right Photo
Peruvian residents prepare to cut and distribute USAID/OFDA plastic sheeting for construction of emergency shelters. (Photo by Carlos Cordoba, USAID/OFDA)

Belize

Hurricane

On October 8, 2001, Hurricane Iris struck southern Belize near the towns of Independence, Monkey River, and Placentia. As a Category Four storm, Hurricane Iris produced maximum sustained winds of 225 km per hour. According to the Government of Belize, 22 people were killed, more than 68,000 residents were affected, and 3,718 homes in the districts of Stann Creek and Toledo were destroyed. The storm caused extensive damage to the agriculture and tourism sectors, and to health centers, schools, and government buildings.

A three-person assessment team from USAID/OFDA's regional office in San Jose, Costa Rica was deployed to Belize on October 9 to conduct damage and needs assessments and coordinate relief efforts with the U.S. Embassy and NEMO. On October 10, U.S. Ambassador Russell Fuller Freeman declared a disaster due to the effects of the winds and flooding.

USAID/OFDA provided $100,000 ($25,000 of which was the Disaster Assistance Authority) through the U.S. Embassy in Belize City to the Red Cross Society of Belize and the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) for the local purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies to hurricane victims. USAID/OFDA also provided 489,600 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to the U.S. Embassy for approximately 800 temporary shelters in the districts of Stann Creek and Toledo. The total value of the plastic sheeting was $74,500, including transport costs. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided $175,000 toward PAHO's emergency appeal for Belize to support water and sanitation activities, the rehabilitation of damaged health facilities, and the replacement of basic medical supplies.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $349,500

Bolivia

Floods

On February 19, 2002, heavy rain and hail caused the Choqueyapu River to overflow, which led to extensive flash flooding in the center of La Paz and 19 outlying rural communities to the south in the Rio Abajo area. The floodwaters swept away vehicles and pedestrians, collapsed homes, ripped up pavement, damaged bridges, and disrupted electricity. The floods also destroyed or washed away approximately 600 hectares of agricultural land. According to UN OCHA, the floods left 63 people dead, injured 140 people, destroyed 28 homes, damaged 126 dwellings, and affected approximately 5,000 residents.

On February 20, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Patrick Duddy declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Bolivia to CARE for the local purchase of seeds, tools, and fertilizer to assist approximately 1,200 families in Rio Abajo who suffered significant crop losses. A USAID/OFDA regional advisor was deployed to assess the overall situation, coordinate with USAID/Bolivia and local authorities, and identify additional humanitarian needs.

On March 14, the U.S. Embassy in La Paz and USAID/Bolivia delivered approximately 40 MT of emergency food, valued at approximately $15,000, to 1,490 farming families in Rio Abajo. USAID/Bolivia also provided $6,000 in medical supplies to flood victims. The Narcotics Affairs section of the U.S. Embassy donated 1,000 bags of cement.

On August 29, USAID/OFDA provided $40,000 to CARE to conduct an assessment of the impact of the flooding and hazard mitigation measures in the Rio Abajo area.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $90,000
Other USG Assistance.....$21,000
Total USG Assistance $111,000

Bolivia

Winter Emergency

Between late June and early July 2002, intense cold weather and snowstorms affected Bolivia in the South Lipez Province of the Department of Potosí, which borders Argentina and Chile. Freezing temperatures severely disrupted agricultural production and caused the death of approximately

Farmers in Potosí, Bolivia distribute USAID/FFP fodder for livestock affected by intense cold weather and snowstorms in June and July 2002 (photo by Carlos Cordoba, USAID/OFDA).

half of the livestock in the affected area. According to USAID/Bolivia and WFP, the extreme weather conditions impacted approximately 6,200 pastoral farming families and caused at least 20 deaths.

On July 12, U.S. Ambassador V. Manuel Rocha declared a disaster due to the effects of the winter storm emergency. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Bolivia to CARE to support the cost of transporting blankets and other USAID/OFDA-funded relief supplies to benefit approximately 2,800 families. The funds were also used to assist CARE in the transport of in-country stocks of P.L. 480 Title II development program food during the following three months.

USAID/FFP provided an additional $50,000 to address livestock emergency activities caused by the heavy snowfall. The funds were used to buy and transport fodder to the remaining livestock, which is the main source of livelihoods for the rural poor in the affected area.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000
Other USG Assistance.....$50,000
Total USG Assistance.....$100,000

Chile

Floods

From late May to early June 2002, heavy rains affected Chile's central and southern regions, with the most extensive flooding occurring in Santiago. According to Chile's National Office of Emergencies (ONEMI), the flooding caused 14 deaths, displaced 83,971 residents, destroyed at least 237 homes, and affected 221,842 people. The heavy rains flooded roads throughout the area, and left many communities without electricity and water. More than 75 percent of the streets in Santiago were flooded, including the capital's main highway.

On June 5, U.S. Ambassador William R. Brownfield declared a disaster due to the effects of the torrential rains and flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Santiago to the Chilean Red Cross, Hogar de Cristo Caritas de Chile, and ONEMI for the local purchase of emergency relief supplies for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Guatemala

Drought

During 2000 and 2001, Guatemala experienced dry conditions and irregular patterns of rainfall, leading to widespread drought conditions by late July 2001. The drought also caused severe damage to crops, particularly coffee and sugar, reducing employment and wages in the coffee industry by 50 percent, according to Anacafe, the National Coffee Association. Falling international coffee prices and reduced seasonal employment opportunities for small farmers and the landless poor further decreased food security among affected populations. These adverse conditions also contributed to pockets of acute malnutrition in isolated communities, particularly in poorer areas of the country such as El Quiche, Huehuetenango, Chiquimula, Chimaltenango, Baj Verapaz, and San Marcos. In October 2001, USAID/Guatemala estimated that between 100,000 to 125,000 families were at risk of food insecurity nationwide.

On October 18, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Prudence Bushnell redeclared a disaster due to the continuing effects of the drought. USAID/OFDA provided $125,000 to the University Research Corporation (URC), USAID/Guatemala's nutrition partner, to support an enhanced therapeutic feeding program.

Strengthening Community Preparedness in Guatemala through CAMI

The urban Las Vegas neighborhood of Guatemala City has not escaped the social ills that have beset numerous communities on the periphery of many of Central America's cities. High unemployment levels and poverty have created an environment conducive for the formation of adolescent gangs. Many women have turned to prostitution in order to support their families while others have abused drugs and alcohol.

In addition, physical conditions constantly put Las Vegas at the mercy of natural events. This community of approximately 725 residents is situated at the base of a steep ravine, through which the small Río Frío tributary runs. During the rainy season, the unstable, denuded hillsides give way causing dangerous landslides. The unfavorable natural conditions are exacerbated by construction in upper class neighborhoods located above Las Vegas. Builders have become accustomed to dumping unwanted construction materials onto the hillsides without regard for the implications of their actions.

USAID/OFDA launched CAMI to assist the most severely affected countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

During the dry season, the Río Frío slows to a trickle, which means that the effluent it normally carries comes to rest in the Las Vegas neighborhood. In addition, with the absence of sewers — and in many cases latrines — the residents of Las Vegas use the river banks as toilets, worsening sanitary conditions.

The Central America Mitigation Initiative (CAMI) project, implemented by the Social Pastoral of Caritas-Guatemala, became active in Las Vegas to begin resolving some of the problems that contribute to the community's extreme vulnerability. CAMI was developed as part of the USG's $630 million response to Hurricane Mitch in 1998. USAID/OFDA launched the three-year, $11 million initiative to assist the most severely affected countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. CAMI's goal is to mitigate or negate the impact of natural disasters in Central America by financing activities that increase the forecasting and response capability and infrastructure of national, regional, and community authorities and organizations.

The CAMI-funded project in Las Vegas began by strengthening the community's preparedness efforts through training and technical support. An emergency response committee was established, with subcommittees that focus on evacuation, emergency shelter, transportation, food, security, first aid, search and rescue, and environmental sanitation. With participation of the Las Vegas community, the committee developed a standard emergency response plan with a clear assignment of functions in the event of a disaster. Evacuation routes were marked with signs, and an area risk map was placed on a signboard in the center of the Las Vegas neighborhood. At the request of the community, the CAMI project provided funds to assist in refurbishing a small shed where the emergency committee operates. In addition, the community carried out simulations of emergency evacuations.

Beyond the original scope of the CAMI project, the Las Vegas emergency committee has taken proactive steps to address other issues. In an effort to complete latrine coverage in Las Vegas,

Continued on Page 76, "Community Preparedness"

Training workshops for community leaders, such as this seminar in El Salvador, stresses USAID/OFDA's commitment to community preparedness (photo courtesy of CAMI).

URC worked with the Guatemalan Ministry of Health to address acute child malnutrition in Huehuetenango, Quiche, Solola, San Marcos, Totonicapan, Quetzaltenango, and Chimaltenango departments.

USAID/OFDA also provided $374,969 to four of USAID/Guatemala's food assistance partners—CRS, CARE, Self Help And Resource Exchange (SHARE), and SCF/US—to increase nutritional surveillance and health education programs. In addition, USAID/FFP provided $1.2 million in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to support malnutrition victims. These funds assisted the four food partners in providing 1,650 MT of rice, beans, vegetable oil, and corn-soy blend to 56,919 residents in the affected regions of the Western Highlands and eastern portion of the country.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $499,969
Other USG Assistance.....$1,200,000
Total USG Assistance $1,699,969

Haiti

Floods

Between May 24 and 27, 2002, up to 500 mm (nearly 20 inches) of heavy rains in 20 townships in the South and Grande Anse departments of Haiti caused severe flooding and landslides. According to Haiti's Civil Protection Agency, the flooding caused 31 deaths, damaged 951 homes, destroyed 267 dwellings, and affected 7,667 families. The flooding also severely damaged roadways and other infrastructure, eroded hillsides, destroyed livestock and fields, and isolated various parts of the affected region.

On May 29, U.S. Ambassador Brian Dean Curran declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Haiti to CRS to purchase, transport, and distribute locally available small tools, household supplies, and mattresses to flood victims.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided a $300,000 grant on July 12 to the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) to conduct emergency road rehabilitation in affected isolated communities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $350,000

Honduras

Floods

Between October 29 and November 2, 2001, a tropical depression, which was later elevated to Hurricane Michelle on November 2, struck Honduras with rainfall of up to 508 mm. The ensuing floodwaters caused the heaviest damage to the country since Hurricane Mitch in 1998. The regions most affected were La Mosquitia, Yoro, and the North Coast provinces of Atlántida, Colon, and Cortes. According to Honduras' Permanent Emergency Commission (COPECO), the storm left seven people dead, forced the evacuation of 25,768 residents, and affected 62,557 people. Extensive flooding destroyed 123 houses and damaged an additional 1,395 dwellings. Roads, bridges, schools, public buildings, and potable water systems in the affected areas were also damaged, and the storm caused significant agricultural losses.

On October 30, U.S. Ambassador Frank Almaguer declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Honduras to AmRC, which in coordination with the Honduran Red Cross, locally procured relief supplies for 1,000 families and supported a dengue fever prevention campaign. USAID/OFDA

"Community Preparedness," continued

the community established an internal campaign of solidarity to raise funding to assist those residents who were unable to install a latrine. The Las Vegas emergency committee also obtained the necessary permits to gain access to a piece of municipal property above the community, and subsequently received the support of the municipal government for its reforestation.

These proactive actions demonstrate the consciousness-raising that CAMI has generated. The technical skills imparted by the CAMI project are of critical importance in preventing loss of life in cases of emergency. However, they do not measure the extent that CAMI has contributed to a deeper understanding of community vulnerability and to the awareness that through concerted action, mitigation of such vulnerability is possible. ❖

— by Kim Plikaitis

Local disaster response authorities prepare to distribute USAID/OFDA-provided plastic sheeting to construct temporary shelters for residents of La Lima, Honduras (photo by Tim Callaghan, USAID/OFDA).

provided an additional $50,000 to COPECO for the transport of emergency relief supplies to flood victims in Yoro and La Mosquitia.

In addition, USAID/OFDA provided 244,800 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting to COPECO for temporary shelter construction for between 400 and 600 families in the affected areas, valued at $31,469 including transport. USAID/OFDA also provided $60,000 to AmRC, Proyecto Aldea Global, and WVI for the purchase of emergency relief supplies, shelter materials for repairing damaged homes, and the rehabilitation of water and sewage systems in Yoro and La Mosquitia.

On November 3, USAID/OFDA deployed two regional advisors and a consultant to conduct a three-week damage assessment and assist USAID/Honduras with the overall emergency response. DOD's SOUTHCOM provided air transport for 58,000 pounds of emergency relief supplies to areas affected by the flooding, at a total cost of $69,930.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $191,469
Other USG Assistance.....$69,930
Total USG Assistance $261,399

Jamaica

Floods

Between October 29 and November 4, 2001, heavy rains from a storm, which became Hurricane Michelle on November 2, caused severe flooding in the parishes of Portland, St. Mary, St. Ann, St. Catherine, and St. Andrew. The flooding and resulting landslides damaged several main roads and bridges, isolated 10 communities, and affected approximately 6,000 people. According to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, the rains from the Category Four hurricane damaged or destroyed approximately 500 homes in the affected area.

On November 8, U.S. Ambassador Susan M. Cobb declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 through USAID/Jamaica to Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM). The USAID/OFDA funding was used for the local purchase of relief items, including building materials, food, bedding, mattresses, and water and sanitation supplies, to assist 100 flood victims in the Portland and St. Mary parishes for a period of two weeks. In addition, two USAID/OFDA regional advisors were deployed on November 9 to Portland and St. Mary parishes to assess the overall humanitarian situation and coordinate with ODPEM and local authorities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000

Jamaica

Floods

Between May 23 and 31, 2002, heavy rains caused extensive flooding and landslides in Jamaica's southern parishes of Clarendon, St. Catherine, Manchester, and St. Elizabeth. According to Government of Jamaica officials, the flooding and landslides caused nine deaths and affected more than 25,000 people. The flooding also severely damaged parts of the country's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, the potable water supply, electricity, and telecommunications. An estimated 500 residents

were housed in emergency shelters within the affected parishes, while others impacted sought temporary shelter elsewhere due to the damage to several hundred homes. Flooding also caused extensive losses to the agricultural sector, destroying cash crops and killing small livestock.

On June 6, U.S. Ambassador Susan M. Cobb declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Jamaica to the Jamaican Red Cross to locally procure and distribute emergency relief supplies including food, mattresses, bedding, and kitchen utensils. In addition, the USAID/OFDA funding was used to purchase seeds, tools, and fertilizer for local farmers whose livelihoods were impacted by the flooding.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Nicaragua

Floods

Heavy rains from a tropical depression, which later became Hurricane Michelle, swept through Nicaragua between October 28 and November 1, 2001. The storm caused severe flooding in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN), and the three RAAN municipalities most severely affected were Waspam, Rosita, and Puerto Cabezas. According to Nicaraguan Civil Defense officials, 24,866 residents were affected, 3,349 houses damaged, and 7,000 hectares of staple crops inundated. The flooding also caused extensive damage to roads and bridges, contaminated wells, killed livestock, and damaged waste treatment plants.

On November 21, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Paul J. Saxton declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding in the RAAN. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Nicaragua to AmRC for the local purchase and distribution of emergency food, potable water, seeds, and mosquito netting in the Coco River area of the Waspam municipality. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor during the week of November 19 to assist USAID/Nicaragua with the overall emergency response and to liaise with NGOs, Government of Nicaragua officials, and local authorities on coordinating relief efforts.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Nicaragua

Fire

Ongoing drought and severe insect infestation significantly increased the frequency and severity of forest fires during March and April 2002 in northern Nicaragua, especially in the departments of Nueva Segovia and Esteli. According to the Nicaraguan Forestry Institute (INAFOR), more than 2,000 families in nine communities, approximately 16,700 people, were threatened with displacement by the fires.

On April 18, U.S. Ambassador Oliver P. Garza declared a disaster due to the threat to human life presented by the forest fires. USAID/OFDA provided $47,163 through USAID/Nicaragua to INAFOR and other local authorities to support the purchase of locally available fire suppression tools and materials, such as rakes, machetes, beaters, and shovels. USAID/OFDA deployed a fire management expert to work with INAFOR to assess the extent of damage caused by the forest fires and to determine the potential for future fires.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $47,163

Nicaragua

Floods

Between May 24 and 31, 2002, Atlantic Ocean Tropical Storm Number Eight and Hurricane Alma in the Pacific Ocean caused severe flooding in 34 municipalities in the Pacific region of Nicaragua, primarily in the departments of Managua, Leon, Chinandega, and Rivas. According to the Nicaraguan National System of Prevention, Response, and Mitigation of Disasters (SNPMAD), the flooding resulted in one death, displaced approximately 3,000 residents, and affected an estimated 10,000 people. The flooding also caused extensive destruction to infrastructure, including roads, bridges, drains, and the potable water system, and damaged more than 1,000 homes.

On May 30, U.S. Ambassador Oliver P. Garza declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 through USAID/Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan Red Cross to support the purchase and distribution of emergency food and other relief items for flood victims residing in shelters.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $50,000

Peru

Fire

On December 29, 2001, a fire broke out in a commercial center of downtown Lima, engulfing five blocks of apartment buildings and stores. The area was crowded with shoppers and vendors selling fireworks for New Year's Eve celebrations. According to the Peruvian Civil Defense (INDECI), more than 350 people were killed and hundreds were hospitalized for burns and related injuries.

On December 31, U.S. Ambassador John R. Hamilton issued a disaster declaration due to the damage and destruction caused by the fire. USAID/OFDA provided $25,000 to support a team of eight medical personnel from the Joseph M. Still Burn Center in Augusta, Georgia. The team deployed on January 5, 2002, for a three-day mission to treat burn victims and assist local medical authorities. In addition, USAID/OFDA funding partially replenished medical supplies and emergency equipment used by the local fire department to treat victims.

On January 10, 2002, a six-person medical team, from the burn center at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, arrived in Lima to treat burn victims, assist local medical personnel, and advise Peruvian Ministry of Health officials. The team distributed $35,000 worth of medical supplies that they transported to responding hospitals and the Ministry of Health.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $25,000
Other USG Assistance.....$35,000
Total USG Assistance.....$60,000

Peru

Winter Emergency

In early July 2002, intense cold weather and snowstorms struck the Andean region of southern Peru. The departments most affected included Apurimac, Arequipa, Ayacucho, Cusco, Huancavelica, Moquegua, Puno, and Tacna, where there were reports of up to one meter of snow and temperatures below freezing in some areas. According to UN OCHA, the severe weather conditions caused approximately 60 deaths, damaged more than 20,000 homes, and affected more than 86,000 residents.

On July 16, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Elizabeth P. Hinson declared a disaster due to the effects of the extreme winter weather. USAID/OFDA provided $48,020 through the U.S. Embassy in Lima to the Peruvian National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) for the local procurement of blankets, winter clothing, and transport of emergency relief

INDECI personnel provide blankets and water containers to Peruvian residents in response to the intense cold weather throughout the southern region of the country (photo by Carlos Cordoba, USAID/OFDA).

supplies to victims in the affected areas. On July 18, a USAID/OFDA consultant accompanied U.S. Embassy and INDECI representatives on an assessment to determine the extent of crop and livestock losses.

USAID/FFP provided 2,889 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than $1.8 million. DOD, through the U.S. Navy, provided a donation of men's, women's, and children's winter clothing to victims affected by the cold weather and snowfall. The clothing donation was valued at $2,100.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $48,020
Other USG Assistance.....$1,870,281
Total USG Assistance.....$1,918,301

Venezuela

Floods

Heavy rains between July 18 and 20, 2002, caused rivers to overflow and resulted in severe flooding in the southwestern state of Apure, around the town of Guasdualito. Flooding also affected other parts of the country, to a lesser degree, and led the Government of Venezuela (GOV) to declare a state of emergency in Apure and five other states: Amazonas, Barinas, Bolivar, Delta Amacuro, and Portuguesa. According to Venezuela's National Office of Civil Protection, the flooding caused four deaths, displaced approximately 10,000 residents, and impacted 55,000 people.

On July 26, U.S. Ambassador Charles Shapiro declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided $50,000 to AmRC for the purchase and transport of emergency supplies to support ICRC's ongoing relief efforts.

On August 7, in response to a request by the GOV for additional humanitarian assistance, USAID/OFDA airlifted 612,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, ten 3,000-gallon water bladders, 5,004 personal hygiene kits, and 5,000 five-gallon water containers to Caracas. These relief items were consigned to Venezuela's National Office of Civil Protection for distribution to flood victims in the affected areas. The total value of these emergency commodities, including transport, was $146,438.

USAID/OFDA Assistance $196,438

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