



DISASTER
RELIEF

CASE REPORT
Sahel Region (Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, and Chad)
Drought-1972 to 1975

Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523



Mother and child are among the drought refugees who fled their villages in search of food and water.

PHOTO BY CARE

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THE SAHEL DROUGHT

1972 to 1975

SUMMARY

Since the late sixties, prolonged drought conditions have affected approximately 23 million people in Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Upper Volta in the Sahel region of Africa. An estimated 8.4 million people have undergone extreme hardship of hunger, malnutrition and disease, and loss of livestock, crops, dwellings, and means of livelihood. As many as 100,000 persons are estimated to have died of starvation or related causes in these countries. Some seven million cattle have perished at an estimated loss of over \$288 million. Crop losses have been in excess of \$183 million. Losses in foreign exchange earnings are not known. While the spotlight has been on the magnitude of human suffering, the effect on the economies of the Sahelian countries has been so devastating it is likely to hold back development in many areas of the region for some time to come.

While the United States initiated food aid in 1972, relief efforts by the international community of nations and relief organizations, hereafter referred to as the international community, began slowly in March of 1973, as a result of an appeal by the Sahelian States to the United Nations. Assistance proceeded to build and expand throughout that year and reached extraordinary proportions in 1974. More than 784,000 metric tons of the 1.25 million tons of food pledged to the region since 1972, mostly grains but also including high-nutrition foods, have reached the affected countries.

Emergency relief also included medicines, shelter, tools, equipment, seeds, establishment and maintenance of relief camps, nutrition surveys, and medical and logistical teams. Costly and unusual means of transportation, such as in-country airlifts and camel and truck caravans over long distances to hard-pressed and otherwise unreachable areas, were utilized in addition to the usual surface delivery of foodgrains to African ports and trans-country movement by rail. An assorted and impressive number of recovery and rehabilitation projects were planned and implementation begun. According to available information, assistance provided and committed was valued at:

Grants

U.S. Government	\$228,200,000
U.S. Voluntary Agencies	15,600,000
International Community	163,400,000
	<u>\$407,200,000</u>

Loans

World Bank (IDA Loans)	29,600,000
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	3,000,000
	<u>\$ 32,600,000</u>

It was not until August 1974 that sufficient rains finally came to the Sahel, bringing with them a mixed blessing. As a result of the rains, the 1974 crop harvest was near normal and conditions measurably improved for the farmer. However, unlike the farmer who can better his conditions as a result of a good crop, the nomad depends for his livelihood and status on cattle, sheep, and goats, and many nomad families lost everything. Some of them are becoming self-subsistent again, but others who are still destitute may require an altered life-style and emergency relief for another year or more. The U.S. Agency for International Development (A.I.D.) and other donors are starting livestock programs which incorporate re-education of the pastoralists, land conservation and management, and higher production and yields with fewer cattle. In some areas floods caused by heavy rains also isolated communities and aggravated transportation problems.

INTRODUCTION

The history of disaster relief efforts yields no precedent for the novel kind of response demanded by the Sahelian drought. One of man's most ancient enemies, a drought in this century carries a greater potential for inducing disaster because the size of the human population today surpasses that at any other time in history. For this reason, a drought in Africa has never before had the repercussions of this one, but the Sahelian "drought" and the Sahelian "disaster" are not exactly synonymous. In reporting disasters, usually there is no difficulty in defining what it is that needs relief. By definition "disaster relief" makes possible the re-establishment of the status quo in the reuniting of families, the rebuilding of homes, and the restoring of communication and transportation links. Not so in the Sahel where the multiplicity of causal factors belies conventions of any kind or purpose. No form of emergency "relief" can immediately reverse the trend of desert encroachment, restore herds of camels, goats, and cattle, retrieve minimal water to perpetually parched lands, or reconcile people who are in spirit nomads to a sedentary way of life.

The individuality of this catastrophe in world history might be related to the individuality of this particular spot on the Earth. In the Arabic language, the word "Sahara" means "emptiness" or "nothing." *Sahel*, the Arabic term for "fringe," designates the border of the Sahara. This Border of Emptiness has fluctuated during the lifespan of our planet. The Sahara has been both more extensive and less extensive than now, which suggests that climatic conditions are always subject to change and vacillation. The Sahara is now in a phase of being more extensive.

Because it is an area of short-period and highly variable mid-year rain, the Dry Zone of West Africa is a more precarious environment than the Dry Zone on the northern border of the Sahara. In the north, the rains are more effective since they come during the winter or cool season and, although

they may vary in amount of fall from year to year, they come over a longer period. Any dry zone, and especially that south of the Sahara, is necessarily subject to extreme hazards of rainfall variation in amount, times of onset and cessation, and pattern of fall.

Thus it is a frail environment for the plants, animals and man which lacks the resilience and regenerative capacity of the temperate and humid regions. Mistakes in the use of the soil, water, and vegetation are magnified and corrected only with difficulty and expense. In the absence of wise land management practices, the semi-arid lands resist development by man. Nature, in the guise of a drought, formerly made corrections to man's mistakes by periodically introducing herself. The losses in the human and animal population which followed her appearance gave trees and grass a chance to recover, and in between acts the balance was kept by man's death at an early age.

European medicine and the demand for cotton, hides, skins, and now for peanuts has induced a greater population and more intensive cropping of the Dry Zone. Initially the effects of introducing better provisions for maintaining the health of people and animals removed the constraints that had previously prevented great increases in numbers. The elimination of inter-tribal warfare removed another inhibitor to population growth. Free movements of peoples and their livestock have also been periodically inhibited by taxes, as well as redirected due to new water and health sources. The survival of more nomads and animals coupled with higher demands for status stock and meat for export stimulated an increase in the number of livestock. These are among the reasons contributing to the concentration of grazing animals where they would be most likely to damage vegetation on which they depend. However, due to the drought effects and water losses, mass migration took place. Both crop growers and nomadic herders have thinned and degraded the sparse and frail thorn bush by cutting for fuel, animal feed and other needs, and by

fire for clearance to grow crops, to induce new leafage, or by accident. The education and training needed to permit the nomads to adapt to a different way of life has not accompanied the constraints or opportunities extant in their former way of life, with the result that the pattern of land inhabited by a semi-nomadic and semi-sedentarized population contributes more than did former patterns to the destruction of rangelands and the spread of the deserts. In time of drought, neither nomads nor farmers can adequately feed themselves from the fruits of the ground and marginal reserves.

food production problem. A.I.D. participated with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and with others in the regional rinderpest eradication campaign and had also engaged in pilot experiments in livestock production, ranching, and young farmer training. Between 1963 and 1970 total food production in the Sahelian states has increased at an annual rate of 0.4 percent. Population, on the other hand, increased at an annual average rate of 2.3 percent. The assistance provided by all donors was insufficiently concentrated on the relation of food to population to avoid



Villagers in desperation had to abandon their well-built huts to search for food and water when wells ran dry.

The fundamental disharmony between man and his environment in the Sahel has been growing steadily while perception of this disharmony has lagged both in time and in clarity. It is estimated that of all the research performed in the Sahelian countries, only six percent was related to the Sahel zone itself. Until 1972 the U.S. Government's programmed assistance to the Sahel region was modest and of a selective nature. This past assistance focused on necessary institution building, development of the capacities of nascent Ministries of Agriculture, and the

disaster as a result of unforeseen, prolonged drought conditions.

In the central west African nations in 1972-73, drought prohibited both the production of food and export of crops which earn foreign exchange. One of the results was that means of self-support for the individual farmer and the central governments were rapidly reduced. While it could not counter the effects of the drought, the admission of an urgent need for disaster relief permitted the governments to deal with the difficulties honestly and cooperatively.

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE

The drought has occasioned the use of the expression "the Sahel" to refer to the six countries most severely affected: Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Upper Volta, and Chad. The geographic sahel-sudano zone spans a belt across west Africa from Senegal to Chad, some 2,600 miles long, and reaches from the edge of the Sahara south to the northern fringe of the equatorial forests, roughly between 14 and 18 degrees latitude.

In the more northerly sahelian portion of the zone, annual rainfall is normally a scant 10 to 20 inches. There are an estimated 8 to 10 million people in this northerly sahel portion, many of whom are nomadic or semi-nomadic. South of the sahel is the sudanic zone with an average rainfall of 20 to 40 inches a year and a population of about 12 to 15 million people, who are largely subsistence farmers.

Millet and sorghum will grow south of the 14 inch rainfall line. Little, if anything, will grow north of the line, except hardy acacia and tamarisk trees and native prairie grasses for grazing livestock. Nowhere does the grazing last long enough to support a herd the year around. The herders follow the natural paths of grassland to the south and to markets in massive waves of migration. This has occurred for centuries and is the basis for most countries respecting the rights of herders to transgress borders and hold multiple "citizenship." The movements depend on the weather. Most experts agree that more historical information is needed in order to make accurate meteorological and climatological forecasts. A similar drought occurred in 1910-14, causing a disastrous famine. The years 1941-42 were also dry.

Scientists generally think that the drought is a cyclical phenomenon. However, some feel that a basic change is taking place in the climate of the equatorial belt, which moves

the desert southward. This, if true, would affect not only Africa but India, Central, and South America as well.

The six African countries together have an estimated population of about 23 million. About one-third of these were directly affected and nearly all were touched by the drought. The U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Center for Disease Control estimated that as many as 100,000 people may have died during the crisis period of 1973. The number of people migrating southward in search of pasturage for their animals and new employment for themselves was greatly increased. This influx was especially noticeable in urban areas, swelling the ranks of the unemployed and adding to the burden of central governments. In 1973 the population of Mopti, a city in Mali, jumped from its normal 55,000 to 110,000. Similarly, 120,000 people began living in and around Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania, whose normal population is 40,000 to 60,000. Not all will return to their former lives of pastoral and herding occupations, although with the 1974 rains the encamped populations, with some exceptions, have returned to former habitats. It is too soon to tell if this is temporary. The drought affected livestock most severely. It has been estimated that from 20 to 90 percent of all herds of cattle, camels, goats, and sheep were lost in 1973, and it will take years to rebuild national herds. The variable here is the uncounted herds reportedly driven to coastal countries.

Grain production in Mali dropped 50 percent in 1972 from the 1971 output. The millet harvest in the St. Louis region of Senegal plummeted from 63,000 tons in 1968 to 1,000 tons in 1972. In Upper Volta and Niger, grain production declined 30 to 50 percent; Mauritania's sorghum production in 1973 was down 75 percent. In 1974 in Mauritania's most productive agricultural region bordering the Senegal River, the spring planting was only 40 percent of the usual acreage because of subnormal bottom land flooding.

INDIVIDUAL SITUATION REPORTS AND IN-COUNTRY RELIEF ACTIONS

CHAD

Although inadequate data and statistics make it difficult to determine with precision the real impact of the drought on all parts of the country, an estimated 900,000 people were severely affected by the drought. Women and children comprised the majority in the groups of relief-dependent populations in the north, the men having moved with what remained of their herds to southern pastures, markets or to find work. Many of the displaced families followed their herds to Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Niger, and Nigeria. Several thousand of the displaced peoples gathered in squatter's camps around the capital of Ndjamená.

Summer 1974 rains were good and more crops were harvested in southern Chad. Although the hardships endured by the drought victims have been somewhat ameliorated, further improvements are necessary.



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Many complex problems have hindered relief operations—weak administrative structure, fractionalization of political groups, vastness of the country, lack of internal communications, limited means of transportation, and general security problems. Airlifts to inaccessible areas of the country became necessary both in 1973 and 1974. To this must be added the fact that there was no general government plan of relief action. The drought relief coordinator relied upon requests for assistance from prefects and subprefects throughout the country which generally were not made until the situation reached crisis proportions. Each request meant mobilizing supplies, personnel, transport, and fuel. The Government and other donors have made an effort to resolve this situation. Donors responded to emergencies on a case-by-case basis, providing direct aid through voluntary agencies, UNICEF, and the World Health Organization.

The recovery and rehabilitation program of the U.S. Government in Chad is somewhat more modest than in other Sahel countries, not because of lesser need, but because of limited government capacity to absorb special aid programs rapidly. Recovery and rehabilitation measures include development of grain storage facilities in deficit areas, establishment of an animal health program, accelerated grain and vegetable production under irrigated conditions in the Lake Chad area, construction and repair of village wells, and road repair work.

No information is available from the Chad Government on the losses to the country's economy as a result of the drought. It is known that livestock losses had a very serious impact on the budgetary and balance of payments situations of the country. Based on a 100,000 ton grain deficit for 1973/74 and nearly 40 percent reduction in the 4.7 million Chadian livestock herd, A.I.D.'s Office of the Foreign Disaster Relief Coordinator (FDRC) estimates dollar damage to be in excess of \$83 million. Information is not available on the assistance provided by the Chad Government and other in-country donors to the drought victims.

MALI

Mali was among the more seriously affected of the Sahel countries. Some 1.9 million of its people were faced with extreme hardship and suffering during the prolonged drought. Forty relief camps were set up to care for those most in need, particularly the nomads. Mali's grain production as well as its export crops of cotton and peanuts were heavily reduced, thus intensifying its already serious budgetary and balance of payments problems.

Mali's infrastructure and landlocked position make it both difficult to reach and to traverse. Most grain shipments enter Mali via the railway from the port of Dakar in Senegal. Although the railway had increased its capacity and was able to transport up to 15,000 tons of grain per month, this proved insufficient due to the substantial need. As a result, grain destined for Mali tended to accumulate in Dakar faster than the railway could move it. A recent agreement between the Senegal and Mali Governments aims at eventually raising the capacity of the rail line to about 28,000 tons a month. This will be difficult to accomplish but, if successful, Mali's food problems would be eased. In general, once in the country the internal transport of grain moves well. However, the Sixth Region (Gao area) is normally dependent upon river transport. Unlike the other regions or countries of the Sahel, this region becomes more, rather than less, accessible during the rainy season. Airlifts to this region were essential both in 1973 and 1974. Also, donors such as the United States assisted in experimental deliveries from Cotonou (Dahomey) through Niger to Gao and from Abidjan through Niger, and some 1,600 tons of grain were brought in by truck convoy from Algeria. Barge traffic is to be speeded up with the use of diesel engines specially designed for truck turn-around at off-loading points.

Except for problems with transport, the internal distribution system is well organized. Management of the relief camps has been much improved during the past year. Some

camps even stress food production, education for the young, and crafts. While there were some serious medical problems last year, these appear to be well under control now. Medical personnel have been rotated, and personal health record systems, inventories, and special child-feeding programs have been established.

Following are some relief activities undertaken by the Government of Mali to aid its drought victims, together with estimated values: Distribution in 1973 of 2,000 metric tons of sorghum from Sikasso region stocks (\$222,000); purchase of medicines, 80 five-ton vehicles, 10 trailer trucks of 25-ton capacity, 50 land-rovers, radio equipment, and 200,000 meters of cloth (\$887,500); payment to private transporters for trucks returning empty after making grain deliveries (\$744,800); road improvements, technical studies, and repairs (\$1,149,400). Total value: \$2,993,700. In addition, the Government utilized the entire military truck pool consisting of 75 five-ton capacity trucks and 1.2 million liters of fuel.

No exact figure is available on the impact of the drought on Mali's economy. However, estimates in excess of \$106 million are based on the deficit of 258,000 tons of grain for 1973/74 and on the loss of approximately 40 percent of the 5.3 million cattle herd.

The Malian and U.S. Governments have agreed on recovery and rehabilitation projects costing several million dollars. These are moving ahead rapidly and include development of water resources for villages, rural health programs, and agricultural/livestock needs, improvement of maintenance on roads to remote distribution points, and improved grain storage facilities. Emphasis has been given to improvement in transportation infrastructure to ensure that conventional systems can meet requirements next year without resort to airlift.

MAURITANIA

Mauritania was one of the more seriously affected of the Sahel countries. Drought victims in this country were estimated at 1.3 million. While the overall financial effect was not as great because of the importance



PHOTO BY CARE

Makeshift tent encampment of Africans who fled their drought-seared villages and barren fields in a desperate search for food and water.



PHOTO BY CARE

Villager in drought-stricken area gathers last few precious drops of water from a dried-out pond.

mining plays in the economy, livestock losses were significant and agricultural production was drastically reduced. The Government was faced with substantial, important budget and balance of payments shortfalls, much higher import needs, and heavy costs for relief and rehabilitation programs. Thousands of nomad families gathered around

urban centers in search of food, water, and shelter.

The situation throughout 1973 and most of 1974 was precarious. Mauritania's ability to receive, store, and distribute relief foodstuffs could not keep up with increasing donor flows. Distribution of stocks from Rosso and Nouakchott to the outlying areas was seriously hampered by sandstorms, limited availabilities of transport, length of travel time to the various regions, and lack of administrative capacity in logistic/transport management. Solving the problem of improving internal distribution of food grains became a major priority. Donor countries provided trucks and a vehicle maintenance facility and replaced a ferry that sank. The goal was to move out all grains that had built up in the ports of Rosso and Nouakchott. This goal was accomplished by the end of July 1974. However, some areas received inadequate supplies to rebuild inland stocks prior to the rains. In 1974, as in 1973, it was necessary to launch internal airlifts of food to remote deficit areas.

Mauritania was also recently affected by a large concentration of grasshoppers in several farming areas, which presented a serious threat to crops. Despite this, knowledgeable agriculturalists predicted a good 1974/75

harvest following a near-average rainfall in most sectors and near-record flooding of bottom lands in the Senegal valley. In November of 1974 the Ministry of Health stated that the Government considered the emergency situation over and that it would reassess current drought emergency relief operations. Feeding of displaced and herdless nomads clustered around towns is expected to continue but steps are also being taken to solve this problem.

In 1973 and 1974 the Government of Mauritania expended \$17.6 million for drought-related activities and set aside another \$9 million in a special drought fund for continuing relief activities. These funds were used for inland grain transport, medical assistance, and agricultural development.

After nearly one year of planning and construction, the Governor of Nouakchott during the last week of October 1974 opened for occupancy two new urban subdivisions to accommodate some 7,000 families, mainly nomad drought victims. The Government may decide to implement similar resettlement projects in other urban areas. Projects involving agriculture resettlement for former nomads are also underway in rural areas to the south.

The U.S. Government has reached agreement with the Government of Mauritania on several recovery and rehabilitation projects. Emphasis will be on strengthening food distribution systems, principally in terms of transport and storage, increasing vegetable and cereals production, and promoting animal health programs.

Although exact figures on losses are not available, estimates have reached \$34 million based on the 1973/74 200,000 ton grain deficit and up to a 90 percent loss in the country's 500,000 cattle herd.

NIGER

Initially the situation in Niger was catastrophic. An estimated 1.6 million of the population were severely affected. Grain harvests were extremely low in 1973, and there was also reduced production of cotton and peanuts for export which had a major effect

on Niger's budgetary and balance of payments position. Livestock losses were very heavy. Increasing numbers of nomads and farmers became dependent upon the government for food and relief. At one time there were approximately 250,000 displaced persons in relief camps. In addition to the country's own displaced population, there was an influx of nomads from other drought-stricken countries.

The country's problems were compounded by the difficulties of shipping grains into the country since it is landlocked. Moreover, it had limited transport, poor internal routes for moving grains to deficit areas, and insufficient grain storage facilities, all of which adversely affected food distribution. Airlifts of supplies to some areas were necessary in 1973 and 1974. Internal transport in Niger is receiving strong international support. Belgium, the United Kingdom, Austria, Sweden, the United States, and the Federal Republic of Germany have provided trucks or funds to meet internal distribution costs.

The rains in the summer of 1974 were good, and weather conditions in Niger now appear to be returning to normal. As conditions improved, the Government induced migrants concentrated at various food distribution points to return to their original regions with stocks of food, free transport back, and provision of seeds and hand tools for the planting season. Large numbers of them left the camps. Despite improvements in the general situation, the destitute nomads, who have no land, herds, or other means of self-sustenance, will continue to require special attention. The prospect for survival in the outlying areas is limited, and any lengthy interruption in the delivery system could again result in the need for temporary airlifts to isolated areas. Those remaining in the camps continue to receive adequate food.

Actions taken by the Government of Niger to make relief efforts more effective include cooperation with transport companies, coastal states, and international donors in speeding up shipment of grains from clogged ports to empty storehouses in Niger, use of any



Grain being shipped by rail from port cities to the land-locked countries of Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, and Chad.

means to distribute food to all regions of the country, and establishment of a \$6.7 million fund to aid drought victims.

A broad range of recovery and rehabilitation projects have been undertaken through an agreement between the Governments of Niger and the United States. These include accelerated production of rice along the banks of the Niger River, animal health and livestock feeding programs, construction of grain storage facilities, repairs to roads leading to remote areas necessary for grain distribution purposes, and pasture re-seeding. No figure is available from the Government of Niger on estimated dollar losses. AID/FDRC estimates this to be in excess of \$94 million based on a 268,000 ton grain deficit and loss of 43 percent of a 4.2 million cattle herd.

SENEGAL

Only a portion of Senegal lies in the arid areas. In addition, Senegal's economic activity, its geographic position as a coastal country, and its relatively sophisticated infrastructure have contributed to the country's generally better condition than the other Sahelian nations. It does, however, attract its



A 47-truck convoy crosses the Sahara Desert taking 1,500 tons of U.S. PL 480 Food for Peace sorghum from Algiers, Algeria to drought victims in Niger.

share of nomadic herdsmen, and the northeastern portion of the country was severely affected by the drought. There were substantial shortfalls in cereal and peanut production for export, and the country also registered an estimated 16 percent loss in livestock. The estimated drought-affected population was placed at 1.4 million.

It was not necessary to develop relief camps as was required in other countries of the Sahel. Relief measures in Senegal are well in hand, and nutritional surveys in the most affected areas indicated a relatively good status.

Senegal played a crucial role in helping neighboring Mali and Mauritania meet their cereal import needs by accelerating and expanding the use of Senegal's internal port, storage, and transport facilities. Much of the imports of Mali and Mauritania pass through Senegal. The facilities are generally in good condition, and rail and road capacities seem able to absorb both the requirement for internal distribution as well as transfers to other countries, so long as port receipts are fairly constant and regularly spaced.

Measures taken by the Government of Senegal to overcome problems which developed as a result of the drought include provision of pumping stations, digging of wells, development of pasture-related waterworks, development of dams and related studies, improvement in irrigation, improvement of land and diversification. Also, the construction of veterinary stations and laboratories, reforestation, creation of seed stations, provision of framework and equipment for fisheries, purchase of equipment and development of 30,000 hectares of land in the Fleuve region, development of hydro-agriculture and the purchase of agriculture-related material for the delta, and the development of rice-fields. Total cost to the Government of Senegal for these rehabilitation and recovery projects was estimated at \$10.8 million.

Recovery and rehabilitation projects agreed upon between the Senegal and United States Governments include provision of pumps for

wells, range rehabilitation, provision of human medicines and human and livestock vaccines, and improvement in agricultural production.

The Government of Senegal estimates its economic losses as follows: 567,619 tons of ground nuts (\$54.6 million); 246,384 tons of sorghum (\$17.5 million); 65,517 tons of rice (\$5.7 million); 400,000 head of livestock (\$17 million); and total dollar losses \$94.8 million.

UPPER VOLTA

Only a small part of the country lies in the true Sahelian area. Thus, while the drought has had a severe effect on this northern section of Upper Volta, the over-all impact was somewhat less than on some of the other Sahel nations. There were relatively few displaced persons in Upper Volta, approximately 3,000 to 4,000, all of them in the northern region and mainly nomadic families. The total population affected was estimated at 1.3 million.

The movement of food into Upper Volta proceeded fairly well through the ports of Lome (Togo), Tema (Ghana), and Abidjan (Ivory Coast). Enough grain moved into the country from these ports to enable the Government to pre-position food in remote areas before the start of the 1974 rainy season.

Internal distribution is being handled in an efficient manner. The Voltan Army was put in charge of internal transportation and administration of food distribution points in outlying villages. A national subcommittee for the drought, under the direction of Army officers, coordinates relief activities for the Government. Road and bridge repair programs along the distribution routes have been undertaken by Voltan Army engineers with the assistance of the U.S. Government and the European Development Fund. Another primary source of manpower for relief activities is Red Cross volunteers who assisted with the 1973 air-dropping operation and are presently providing medical assistance in northern outlying regions. In addition to the Red Cross, large amounts of medical supplies have been provided by



This cattle feeding station helped large numbers of livestock survive during the dry season.

UNICEF, the World Health Organization, other voluntary agencies, and donor nations.

Voltan charitable organizations have contributed limited amounts of financial assistance for drought victims. Because of its lack of resources, the Government was unable to make any direct budgetary outlays for drought relief. However, the 1974 budget exempts citizens of Voltan Sahel from paying head and livestock taxes. Contractors working in the northern region are also exempted from paying excise taxes. Direct budgetary contributions from the European Economic Community and France of from \$840,000 to \$1.2 million are expected.

An agreement for recovery and rehabilitation projects was reached between the Governments of Upper Volta and the United States. Activities include digging of 600 wells, repair and construction of earthen dams, expansion of animal traction by fabrication of low-cost farm machinery, production of trypano-resistant oxen, supplementary feeding of livestock, multiplication and production of

herds, construction of grain storage facilities, repair of key food distribution roads, and increasing rural public health activities. Other donors are also involved in these programs. The Government has also launched a rehabilitation program directed at the re-establishment of people on farms.

Dollar losses resulting from the drought have been estimated by the Government at between \$60 and \$80 million. This includes 18 percent to 24 percent reduction in agricultural production, both subsistence and cash crops, in the 1973 harvest and the loss of about 20 percent of the total livestock herd of 2.6 million cattle and 4 million sheep and goats.

GENERAL

The six African Sahelian states formed in March 1973 the Permanent Interstate Committee at Ouagadougou (CILSS). This organization was designed in part to be a link between handling the emergency and developing the basis for continued medium and long term efforts.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

In 1968 the U.S. Government began providing foodgrains for lesser drought emergency situations in the Sahel and made grants of PL 480 Title II food commodities for a grain stabilization program in five of the countries (Upper Volta, Niger, Mali, Senegal, and Mauritania). The drought in these five countries and Chad reached a crisis stage in 1973 because their governments were slow to recognize the worsening drought conditions and the effect on large numbers of people.

In the early fall of 1972, grain shipments from the United States intended for the regular AID/PL 480-assisted marketing and production programs for Mali, Senegal, Niger, and Upper Volta began to be drawn down rapidly for emergency needs. Critical food shortages were reported throughout the Sahel. In November 1972, the estimated deficit was 80,000 metric tons and that figure rose rapidly in succeeding months. By the time of the following year's harvest, the United States alone had provided 256,000 metric tons of grain and other donors together had provided 300,000 metric tons. Yet, throughout the six-state area, the grain deficit compared to normal years was estimated as high as one million metric tons—almost double what the world community could provide in relief. Nevertheless, the full implications of the disaster were only gradually recognized by the international community. The African states looked first to their own resources to deal with the calamity. Only reluctantly did they undertake to make formal declarations of disaster and appeal for assistance. This did not come until March 1973.

Prior to the formal declarations of disaster, those close to the situation worked with the African states to help as much as possible. Perhaps because A.I.D. was involved so much already with the problems of food production, the United States was among the first to react to the seriousness of the crisis.

In early October 1972, A.I.D. began to shift U.S. grain allotments from the concessional



Sorghum is loaded aboard a U.S. Air Force C-130 cargo plane and will be airlifted to inaccessible areas.

sales program in the area to emergency grants and alerted concerned Missions to report requirements on a continuing basis. As the seriousness of the situation became evident and the magnitude of food deficits became more apparent, the U.S. consulted with other donors on ways of enlarging and expediting assistance from all sources. By December, special arrangements had been made within A.I.D. to expedite emergency assistance and to provide a steady flow of information on food and transportation needs to all donors. A special task force consisting of representatives of A.I.D. and the Department of State was set up to look at the immediate problem and the long-term implications as well.

By early 1973, an international program of emergency assistance was emerging. In March 1973 FAO sent a team to the region to report on the situation and to provide for a more coordinated, international emergency effort. FAO headquarters in Rome then assumed the responsibility for coordination of assistance provided through UN agencies and for an interchange of information among donor nations.

On the following dates in 1973, American Ambassadors in the six countries notified AID/Washington that they had made disaster declarations, that they were exercising their \$25,000 disaster relief authorities to purchase urgently needed supplies and transport, and that recommendations for further assistance would be forthcoming: Niger, April 3; Mali, April 9; Chad, April 25; Upper Volta, May 1; Mauritania, May 7; and Senegal, May 8. These disaster declarations made it possible for AID/Washington to authorize further use of the contingency fund in responding to subsequent requests for non-food assistance. Throughout 1973, A.I.D. expedited large shipments of food and quickly responded to requests for disaster supplies, equipment, technical assistance, and air and land transport. Rehabilitation and recovery projects were begun and are continuing.

African states had requested and received assistance from many sources, of which the United States was but one of the partners. Therefore, in January of 1974, A.I.D. began to explore with African states and donor organizations the feasibility of a coordinated, long-term effort. Partly because of the U.S. Government's early awareness of the drought and partly because of the readiness of the United States to provide emergency food in crisis situations, the United States became the single largest donor to the emergency program.

From special appropriations by Congress, A.I.D. expended \$25 million for emergency relief and rehabilitation projects in FY 1974 and allocated \$70 million for FY 1975.

Summary of A.I.D.'s Assistance to the Sahel
The primary emergency relief contribution was the provision or commitment and trans-

port of over 590,000 metric tons of food grains (mainly to the original six countries of the Sahel, but also including Cameroon, Guinea, the Gambia, and an unallocated commitment for the region as a whole), for a value of\$127,308,000

Financed in FY 1973 from the contingency fund and in FY 1974/75 from special Congressional appropriations, A.I.D. made personnel and equipment available and allocated funds for the following non-food emergency relief activities totaling

\$20,354,000

- Cash grants to the FAO Sahelian Zone Trust Fund;
- Cash grants to UNICEF, U.S. voluntary agencies, and the League of Red Cross Societies (LICROSS);
- Arrangements for and payment of U.S. military airlifts or airdrops in Mali, Mauritania, Chad, and Niger;
- Purchase and delivery of vaccines, medicines, emergency hospitals, medical equipment, water supply vehicles, tools, trucks and spare parts, fuel, seeds, grain sacks, tarpaulins, and blankets;
- Provision of specialists to make crop reports, assess relief problems and bottlenecks, and conduct nutritional and ground water surveys;
- Provision of grain storage facilities;
- Reimbursement of relief agencies for transport costs;
- Maintenance of relief transport routes;
- Locust control;
- Co-sponsoring the Trans-Saharan Food Shipment.*

* A Trans-Saharan Food Shipment was an unusual undertaking. In September 1974 a 75-truck food convoy crossed the Sahara Desert to take 1,500 metric tons of U.S. Food for Peace sorghum from Algiers, Algeria, to drought victims in northern Niger, a landlocked country without railroads. A.I.D. Press Officer John Metelsky accompanied one segment of the convoy which traveled more than 1,600 miles over some of the world's most barren and hottest terrain. He was the first American to ever cross the Sahara on a food relief mission by truck convoy. Financed by A.I.D. and FAO's Office of Sahelian Relief Operations, the convoy's 20 and 30-ton trucks delivered the sorghum to Arlit, Agadez and In-Gall in Niger, where it was distributed to people suffering from years of severe drought and more recently from floods.

Funds allocated by A.I.D. for recovery and rehabilitation projects from two special Congressional appropriations \$80,489,000

These projects, many of which are already underway, include: range management, herd multiplication and production, pasture reseeding, human and animal health programs, accelerated grain and vegetable production involving irrigation, well repair and construction, road repair work, strengthening food distribution systems (transport and storage), earthen dam construction and repair.

Total Value of U.S. Government Assistance \$228,151,000

Information on assistance provided to individual countries by fiscal years is provided in Tables 1 and 2 below, and a record of A.I.D. cash grants to relief agencies is contained in Table 3. The figures appearing in Table 3 are included in the totals given in Table 1.

TABLE 1—BREAKDOWN OF DOLLAR VALUE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE BY COUNTRY
(in thousands of dollars)

Kind of Assistance	FY	Chad	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Senegal	Upper Volta	Regional	Totals
								(also includes Guinea, Cameroon and the Gambia)	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Food Grains	73	557	4,925	1,567	7,354	3,150	4,047	—	21,600
	74	6,184	17,649	12,122	26,111	4,055	9,453	1,041	76,615
	75	191	11,257	2,105	10,093	989	1,434	3,024	29,093
Sub-total		6,932	33,831	15,794	43,558	8,194	14,934	4,065	127,308
Emergency Non-Food Assistance	73	207	2,504	320	592	244	323	506	4,696
	74	490	3,815	460	421	207	251	3,043	8,687
	75	1,100	200	800	300	—	16	4,555	6,971
Sub-total		1,797	6,519	1,580	1,313	451	590	8,104	20,354
Rehabilitation and Functional Appropriations	73	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	74	1,967	3,155	2,180	2,500	1,421	2,762	3,475	17,460
	75	2,695	14,439	4,553	8,732	1,733	7,305	13,252	52,709
Sub-total		4,662	17,594	6,733	11,232	3,154	10,067	16,727	70,169
Funds Available for the Sahel but not yet obligated by country and purpose	75							10,320 ¹	10,320
GRAND TOTAL		13,391	57,944	24,107	56,103	11,799	25,591	39,216	228,151
								Fiscal Year	
								Totals—73	26,296
								74	102,762
								75	99,093
									228,151

TABLE 2—BREAKDOWN OF METRIC TONS OF GRAIN PROVIDED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BY COUNTRY

Grain deliveries	73	5,000	35,000	15,000	46,000	30,000	25,000	—	156,000
and commitments	74	25,500	89,277	56,433	110,323	25,250	38,277	8,000	353,060
(Tentative)	75	349	28,178	4,408	32,197	4,359	3,779	13,910	87,180
TOTAL		30,849	152,455	75,841	188,520	59,609	67,056	21,910	596,240

¹ This figure obtained by adding the emergency aid figure for FY 1975 (\$6,971) to the rehabilitation and functional figure for FY 1975 (\$52,709) and subtracting it from the \$70 million allocation for the Sahel.

TABLE 3—USG CASH GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
Africare	\$ 31,500 500,000 <hr/> 531,500	To help launch relief operations in six countries To start rural development projects
Catholic Relief Services	62,000 340,000 <hr/> 402,000	Well deepening in Senegal Earthen dam rebuilding/reconstruction and related agricultural development in Upper Volta
CARE	96,000 300,000 <hr/> 396,000	Dalloe Bosso Valley village development in Niger Food-for-work distribution program Chad
Church World Service	125,000	Agricultural development, date palm (lady bug) restoration in Niger
Lutheran World Relief	10,000	Seed distribution and multiplication
Voluntary Agencies	2,351,356	PL 480 and transport/ocean freight reimbursement for shipments to Niger, Upper Volta, Mali, Senegal, Chad (\$1,439,589); ocean freight reimbursement for privately donated goods (\$329,267); special Sahelian funds ocean freight reimbursement (\$582,000)
UNITED NATIONS:		
UNICEF	875,000	Extension of mobile health systems, support for rehabilitation programs
Sahelian Zone Trust Fund	2,300,000	UNICEF program (\$500,000); WHO health program (\$500,000); FAO/OSRO for seed distribution (\$300,000); FAO/OSRO logistic/transport support (\$1,000,000)
Special Sahelian Office	100,000	In support of SSO work with longer-term programming
League of Red Cross Societies	250,000	To assist relief food distribution for encamped populations
	<hr/> \$7,340,856*	

* These contributions are included in the grand total of \$228.2 million representing USG contributions and commitments for fiscal years 1973/74/75.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

U.S. voluntary agencies have become increasingly active in relieving the suffering and distress of the Sahel drought victims and in improving their means of livelihood. Their programs are varied. Some involve emergency relief, some are aimed at recovery and rehabilitation, and some are developmental in nature. Details of the assistance and work by specific voluntary agencies follow:

AFRICARE

This is a new organization which began activities in the Sahel in 1973. It has contributed from donations received from the private sector to all six countries cash, food, clothing, medicines, tools and equipment. AFRICARE is supporting village well development programs in Mali, Chad, and Niger as well as financing a feasibility study for ranch/crop production on a 700,000 acre ranch in Niger. Dollar value of assistance to date is: Mali—\$15,000; Niger—\$343,000; Senegal—\$128,500; Upper Volta—\$102,000; Mauritania—\$92,000; Chad—\$130,000. Unallocated—\$134,500. Total\$945,000

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
AFSC provided medicines and initiated a resettlement program in Mali. Value ..\$55,000

American ORT Federation

The Federation has a development program in veterinary medicine training in Mali and a maternal/child health and family program in Niger. Its two-year budget for these projects is: Niger—\$1,162,396, and Mali—\$88,781. Total\$1,251,177

American National Red Cross (ANRC)

ANRC has made cash donations for Red Cross relief activities through the League of Red Cross Societies totaling\$35,174

American Freedom from Hunger Foundation
The Foundation channeled its cash contribution through the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Church World Service, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, and AFRICARE. Total contributions\$20,815

Baptist World Alliance

This organization channels cash contributions through the African regional organization of Conseil de l'Entente, CARE, Church World Service, Medical Assistance Programs, Mennonite Central Committee, Baptist Mission, Baptist Mid-Mission, and Brothers Foundation. Funds contributed in 1973 and 1974 by country: Senegal, \$6,188; Upper Volta, \$5,000; Niger, \$18,600; Chad, \$1,500; and regional, \$3,000. These funds are being used to support food-for-work well digging and well improvement projects in Senegal, to obtain and transport food in Upper Volta, for the distribution of food and medical relief in Niger, and for food and well digging in Chad. Total funds contributed ...\$24,288

CARE

CARE has both emergency relief and development programs in Niger and Chad. In Niger, CARE has distributed relief commodities such as vitamin candy, Civil Defense ready-to-eat biscuits, baby food, medical supplies, water barrels, and 3,000 family amenity and household kits for a total value of\$2,500,000

The Dalloe Bosso Valley Development Project, a water resources and agricultural recovery program in Niger, began in March 1974 and is now being developed in 10 villages affecting 14,000 people. It is a long-term, small-scale irrigation, well building, training, and agricultural project that will eventually include reforestation, infrastructural development, and health care. In addition to \$96,500 contributed by A.I.D., CARE has received for this project from private donations the sum of\$115,530

In March 1974 CARE signed a country agreement with Chad. It has set up an office in Chad, donated food and medical supplies, and is now engaged in developing a delivery system for relief supplies and food-for-work projects in school construction, road building, and reforestation to which A.I.D. has made a cash grant of \$300,000. CARE's contributions for the Chad program as of

July 1974 amounted to \$1,170,000. CARE program commitments for both countries, excluding contributions from A.I.D., total . . . \$3,785,530

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

CRS relief efforts in the Sahel began building up in 1973. By June 1974 CRS was providing assistance to some 265,000 drought victims, and by November 1974 it had made 92 shipments of relief supplies by sea and air. Shipments consisted of USG-donated PL 480 food, 500 tons of dried milk, 544,000 tins of evaporated milk, wheat germ, textured vegetable protein, fish protein concentrate, 27 million vitamins of various kinds, medicines, eye and skin ointments, hospital supplies, 60,000 blankets, clothing, shelter materials, tools, irrigation equipment, vehicles, and six million yards of mosquito netting. The cost of these supplies, their transport, and long-range rehabilitation projects initiated or sponsored by CRS were financed from donations to CRS for Africa drought relief from the United States, Europe, and Australasia. In addition to the above emergency relief supplies, donated funds were used for the purchase of seeds for Senegal, the chartering of a DC-4 aircraft for relief flights from Ndjamena to Mongo in Chad, repairs to roads in Upper Volta to eliminate bottlenecks and facilitate distributions, grants for reforestation projects in both Senegal and Upper Volta, deepening of existing wells (550 in Senegal alone), reconstruction of animal herds in Niger, and furnishing of essential medicines to the Red Cross in Mauritania. CRS also has large-scale maternal/child health/nutrition programs in Senegal and Upper Volta. In Upper Volta it has an earthen dam rebuilding/reconstruction project and is engaged in related agricultural development for which the U.S. Government has contributed \$340,000.

Twenty-two organizations in 12 countries in Europe and Australasia contributed approximately \$1.2 million in cash and in kind in support of the CRS drought relief program. However, to avoid possible duplicate reporting, only the contributions from the

United States (exclusive of the food and funds provided by the U.S. Government through CRS) are credited here. From U.S. foundations, Catholic Diocesan collections or bloc grants, religious groups and/or organizations and individuals in the United States, donations amounted to . . . \$4,964,856 Breakdown of assistance by country was not available.

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC)

CRWRC has made cash donations to the Sudan Interior Mission, Mennonite Central Committee, and Church World Service on a regional basis and for food distribution, hospital work, and development projects in Niger, Nigeria, and Chad. Total donations . . . \$62,000

Church World Service (CWS)

CWS provided 311,523 pounds of clothing, blankets, food, and medical supplies to Niger and is involved in the following programs and projects in that country: water resources extension including drilling new wells, rebuilding old ones, and a training program; a mobile medical team consisting of one French doctor, two American nurses, one French and one Dutch nurse; and the Air Mountains Oasis Improvement Scheme, which represents an evolution from the "ladybug" campaign to save infested date palm trees to an integrated rural development project. The value of CWS emergency relief contributions is \$179,713, and its 1974/75 budget for relief and development operations, excluding A.I.D.'s grant of \$125,000 for the "ladybug" project, is \$1,102,487, for a total of . . . \$1,282,200

Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

LWR has allotted over a two-year period \$40,000 in support of the CWS "ladybug" project, which presumably is included in the above total CWS figure. LWR also has a two-year program for providing seed and transport at an estimated cost of . . . \$96,000 Not included in the \$96,000 is a cash grant to LWR by A.I.D. for \$10,000 for the seed project.



Drought refugees working on U.S. voluntary agency food-for-work projects in building rural schools and roads.

PHOTO BY CARE

Medical Assistance Programs (MAP)

For the 12 months ending June 1, 1974, MAP contributed food and medical supplies as well as funds for administrative expenses as follows: Mali—medical supplies \$19,808, cash \$2,000; Upper Volta—medical supplies \$9,443, cash \$2,000, expenses \$1,200; and Niger—food distribution expenses \$1,200. Total\$35,651

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

MCC provided \$200,000 in emergency aid consisting of food, milk powder, and vitamins and medicines to Chad in 1974. It also made food distributions and provided transportation by truck and aircraft. MCC plans to increase its budget and personnel to begin development projects in small dam construction, irrigation, and agricultural training. Total\$527,600

Operations Crossroads Africa

This organization sponsored a summer project in Mali with regard to converting old granaries into water storage facilities. No other details are available*

Relief for Africans in Need in the Sahel (RAINS)

RAINS is a coalition of 24 groups that has an active fund raising program in the United States. It has contributed to the African Permanent Interstate Committee of Ouagadougou (CILSS) and Upper Volta a total of \$193,000

Seventh-Day Adventist Welfare Service (SAWS)

SAWS provided high protein food and cash for Upper Volta (\$5,000) and budgeted funds regionally (\$16,000). Total\$21,000



PHOTO BY CARE

Famished children receive emergency nutritious food airlifted from the United States and distributed by a U.S. voluntary agency.

World Relief Commission (WRC)

WRC has been engaged in emergency relief and well digging in Chad, Upper Volta, Niger, and Senegal. WRC hopes to shift increasingly from relief feeding to development projects such as additional well digging, reforestation, animal husbandry, drip irrigation, nutrition clinics, and has established a funding goal to cover these costs of\$500,000
Breakdown by country was not available.

Southern Baptist Convention

The Baptist Convention has donated on a regional basis\$60,000

World Vision Relief Organization (WVRO)

WVRO made cash contributions to Upper Volta through the Federation of Evangelical Churches and Missions, and to Niger through the Government and Sudan Interior Mission.

It now has plans for its own development projects in both countries. Contributions to date and budget are as follows: Upper Volta—cash \$5,000, small dam building \$29,000; Niger—cash \$5,000, three projects—education \$27,962, wells \$2,500, peanut raising \$250,000. Total\$319,462

Young Men's Christian Association of the U.S. (YMCA)

The YMCA committed \$500,000 for the Sahel in 1974 and its projected 1975/76 budget is \$1 million. Its plans include comprehensive programs for rural community development through agricultural extension, education and self-employment, and smaller projects in sanitation, health care, well drilling, water resources, and livestock vaccination. Total ..
\$1,500,000

Total Assistance by U.S. Voluntary Agencies\$15,571,650

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND DONOR NATIONS

United Nations

In response to a report by two UN/FAO specialists, a UN task force was organized on February 27, 1973 to work with the authorities of the six Sahelian countries. On March 30, 1973 at an FAO-sponsored meeting of potential donor countries, it was announced that the six countries had declared themselves disaster areas.

The Sahelian Zone Trust Fund to receive worldwide donations for the purchase and transport of food, animal feed, vaccines, seeds, equipment, development of water and agricultural resources, etc., was established by the FAO on May 10, 1973. As of August 30, 1974 a total of \$15,561,921 had been contributed to this fund.

On May 28, 1973 UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim designated the FAO to coordinate the relief efforts of the UN agencies. The Director-General of the FAO, Addeke Boerma, established in Rome a special Office for the Sahelian Relief Operation (OSRO) under the leadership of J. V. A. Nehemia, and the Secretary-General designated Bradford Morse to be his coordinator in New York for the operation. In addition, Director-General Boerma established a special office in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta, to permit close liaison with the governments concerned to ensure that necessary supplies reached the affected populations in time.

While the primary role of the FAO in this drought disaster was to coordinate the relief efforts of the UN system, it also gave invaluable assistance to donor nations and international organizations in bringing aid to the drought victims of the Sahel. Key activities of the FAO/OSRO have been:

1. International appeals for cash, food, and other supplies through the OSRO Trust Fund or bilaterally;
2. Establishment of a Multi-Donor Food Assessment mission through which Africans

and donors alike reached agreement on anticipated import levels;

3. Establishment of an information exchange service which has helped guide donors in scheduling food shipments and recognizing potential port and transport difficulties. However, lack of inclusion in the reporting system of Russian and Chinese food donations and Sahel commercial imports was one cause of the 1974 port congestion problems;

4. Highlighting specific logistical problems and seeking donor support in resolving them, which included such actions as:

- Coordination of airlift activities in Niger, Upper Volta, Mali, Chad, and Mauritania by the United States, Canada, Belgium, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, West Germany, Spain, and Italy;
- Arrangements with the Nigerian Government to expedite food flows;
- Identification of truck transport requirements;
- Organization of road transport across the Sahara from Oran and Algiers to Gao and Agadez to increase supplies to isolated areas of Mali and Niger;
- Mobilization of a camel caravan to transport 2,000 tons of cereals to areas inaccessible to motor vehicles.

Agencies active in the Sahel drought relief program are UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the World Food Program (WFP).

The health program in the Sahel has been jointly sponsored by WHO, UNICEF, and LICROSS, with OSRO acting as a focal point when necessary. There have been no major epidemics. While hygienic and nutritional conditions have improved considerably, much remains to be done.

UNICEF continued distribution of high protein foods for children and mothers, medical supplies, and equipment to strengthen rural health services and mobile dispensaries, and is cooperating with the UNDP in medium-range water supply projects.



A nomad family receives their allotment of food. The size of the family determined the amount received.

The WFP obtained grants of grain from donor countries for its projects in the Sahel and has assisted the FAO in monitoring the drought situation.

The UNDP has approved projects and earmarked funds for water development programs in all six of the countries and is providing technical assistance on a regional basis with regard to the trans-Sahara road and river blindness control projects.

Much of the assistance provided by UN agencies was financed by the OSRO Sahelian Trust Fund or directly from cash or commodity grants by donor countries, and this has been credited to the donor country. The following are additional contributions from the UN system which are included in Table 4 on worldwide assistance: UNDP for seed—\$518,783; United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator—\$100,000; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees—\$10,000. Total\$628,783

League of Red Cross Societies (LICROSS)

LICROSS made numerous appeals to its member Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies around the world, and from these societies there has been a generous and steady outpouring of assistance for the Sahel. These societies and the League have been working through the Red Cross Societies and governments of the affected countries, WHO, UNICEF, and OSRO.

The Red Cross programs are aimed particularly at providing supplementary feeding and medical care to the most vulnerable sections of the drought-affected populations—children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, old persons, and the sick. The League and individual societies sent delegates, medical teams, and specialists such as transportation officers where needed. The League and Red Cross Societies of Germany, Norway, and Sweden airlifted supplies to special areas of need. The U.S. Government,

through the American National Red Cross, made a cash grant of \$250,000 to LICROSS to assist with its food distribution program for encamped populations.

As of July 1974, 43 societies had made contributions in cash and in kind valued at over \$8.1 million. These donations are included in the total assistance for each donor country. See Table 4 on worldwide assistance.

Financial Institutions

The World Bank Group announced IDA loans for projects in five of the six Sahelian countries:

- Niger—\$5 million credit for improving the Niamey airport;
- Mauritania—\$1,109,000 credit for a rice irrigation project in the Gorgol Basin;
- Upper Volta—\$8 million credit for a comprehensive agricultural development project in Bougouriba ORD;
- Mali—\$8 million credit for an integrated rural development project;
- Chad—\$7,500,000 for a rice irrigation project in the southeast.

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loaned Senegal \$3 million for projects to develop the country's industries and tourist facilities.

The \$120 million joint WHO/UNDP/FAO/IBRD river blindness (onchocerciasis) control campaign being financed largely through the IDA is receiving bilateral support from the United States and other countries. The proj-

ect is aimed at the Volta River basin and will affect seven countries in the area, where an estimated two million people are directly affected by the disease. It aims to control the disease and to lay the groundwork for redeveloping the area.

Donor Nations and International Organizations

Contributions of cash, grain, protective foods, seeds, water systems, equipment, medicines, medical equipment, transport vehicles, and other relief supplies were made by 62 nations (not including the United States), the European Economic Community, Arab League members, and eight international organizations either bilaterally, through the United Nations or through LICROSS and voluntary organizations. Many of these countries also financed, sponsored, or assisted with airlifts, construction of storage facilities, improvements in the transport system, health projects, agricultural, livestock, and water development programs.

Table 4 indicates the dollar value of contributions by donors to recipient countries. Figures in parenthesis above the dollar value indicate the number of metric tons of grain provided for crop years 1973/74. Value of the grain was not available but was estimated by AID/FDRC at \$185 per delivered ton, and this is included with other types of disaster assistance in the dollar figure indicated for each country.



U.S. donated grain, shipped in bulk, is bagged and then trucked or shipped by rail inland.

TABLE 4—VALUE OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL DONOR COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS
 Parenthetical figures represent metric tons of grain whose value is included in the dollar figure directly above

DONOR COUNTRY OR ORGANIZATION	RECIPIENT COUNTRIES							
	CHAD	MALI	MAURITANIA	NIGER	SENEGAL	UPPER VOLTA	REGIONAL**	TOTAL
Argentina							\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)
Australia							\$ 228,367	\$ 228,367
Austria				\$ 20,178			\$ 179,917	\$ 200,095
Bahrain							\$ 322	\$ 322
Barbados							\$ 984	\$ 984
Belgium	\$ 20,772	\$ 584,195 (3,000)	\$ 277,500 (1,500)	\$ 964,444 (5,000)	\$ 357,535 (1,900)	\$ 407,474 (2,000)	\$ 276,373	\$ 2,888,293 (13,400)
Botswana							\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Bulgaria		\$ 34,241			\$ 30,796			\$ 65,037
Canada	\$ 1,272,230 (6,878)	\$ 3,129,645 (16,917)	\$ 2,046,100 (11,060)	\$ 2,562,307 (13,798)	\$ 1,194,730 (6,458)	\$ 1,679,800 (9,080)	\$ 2,707,840	\$ 14,592,652 (64,191)
China (P.R.)	\$ 740,000 (4,000)	\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	\$ 3,651,998 (14,000)	\$ 1,851,500 (10,000)	\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	\$ 925,000 (5,000)		\$ 10,868,498 (53,000)
Cyprus							\$ 271	\$ 271
Denmark	\$ 8,851	\$ 583,934 (3,000)	\$ 925,000 (5,000)	\$ 2,308	\$ 185,000 (1,000)	\$ 371,157 (2,000)	\$ 422,773	\$ 2,499,023 (11,000)
Egypt	\$ 3,832		\$ 4,009		\$ 2,780	\$ 2,974	\$ 5,112	\$ 18,707
France	\$ 3,171,519 (17,000)	\$ 3,885,309 (20,000)	\$ 3,415,833 (18,000)	\$ 3,752,910 (20,000)	\$ 2,647,207 (14,000)	\$ 3,459,079 (18,500)	\$ 3,978,564 (21,500)	\$ 24,310,421 (129,000)
Fiji							\$ 633	\$ 633
Finland	\$ 20,114	\$ 28,178	\$ 7,419	\$ 20,114	\$ 2,096	\$ 20,114	\$ 253,709	\$ 351,744
Germany (F.R.)	\$ 209,250	\$ 2,815,688 (15,210)	\$ 3,599,402 (19,000)	\$ 3,307,184 (17,420)	\$ 1,326,215 (7,000)	\$ 1,110,000 (6,000)	\$ 2,488,962 (2,000)	\$ 14,856,701 (66,630)
Germany (D.R.)	\$ 74,450	\$ 31,935	\$ 16,532	\$ 23,655	\$ 27,918	\$ 27,918		\$ 202,408
Greece			\$ 3,887				\$ 1,630	\$ 5,517
Guyana							\$ 47	\$ 47
Hungary			\$ 925,000 (5,000)			\$ 11,290		\$ 936,290 (5,000)
Iceland			\$ 5,314				\$ 3,822	\$ 9,136
India				\$ 8,580				\$ 8,580
Indonesia							\$ 2,410	\$ 2,410
Iran							\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Iraq							\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Ireland							\$ 16,953	\$ 16,953
Israel							\$ 10,500	\$ 10,500
Italy							\$ 2,033,816 (10,000)	\$ 2,033,816 (10,000)
Japan			\$ 22,181		\$ 21,540		\$ 3,145,237	\$ 3,188,958
Kenya							\$ 4,168	\$ 4,168
Korea, North		\$ 1,488,000						\$ 1,488,000
Kuwait							\$ 103,225	\$ 103,225
Lebanon							\$ 225	\$ 225
Liberia							\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Liechtenstein							\$ 24,234	\$ 24,234
Luxemburg							\$ 37,634	\$ 37,634
Malta							\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
Monaco							\$ 2,256	\$ 2,256
Netherlands		\$ 24,148	\$ 34,296		\$ 29,700		\$ 978,963	\$ 1,067,107
New Zealand							\$ 32,918	\$ 32,918
Norway	\$ 49,444	\$ 215,918	\$ 18,604	\$ 529,385	\$ 12,109	\$ 190,310	\$ 2,133,792	\$ 3,149,562
Nigeria							\$ 1,110,000 (6,000)	\$ 1,110,000 (6,000)
Oman							\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Pakistan							\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)

TABLE 4—VALUE OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL DONOR COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS (Cont'd) Parenthetical figures represent metric tons of grain whose value is included in the dollar figure directly above

DONOR COUNTRY OR ORGANIZATION	RECIPIENT COUNTRIES							REGIONAL**	TOTAL
	CHAD	MALI	MAURITANIA	NIGER	SENEGAL	UPPER VOLTA			
Philippines							\$ 483	\$ 483	
Romania		\$ 8,454					\$ 10,887	\$ 19,341	
Saudi Arabia							\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
Spain			\$ 22,199		\$ 8,593			\$ 30,792	
Somalia							\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	
South Africa							\$ 250,761	\$ 250,761	
Sudan							\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	\$ 1,850,000 (10,000)	
Swaziland							\$ 8,720	\$ 8,720	
Sweden	\$ 234,584	\$ 208,705	\$ 21,623	\$ 949,467 (3,500)	\$ 72,943	\$ 195,486	\$ 3,010,630	\$ 4,693,438 (3,500)	
Switzerland	\$ 123,147	\$ 88,964	\$ 77,908	\$ 313,082	\$ 28,706	\$ 170,380	\$ 64,516	\$ 866,703	
Thailand							\$ 10,249	\$ 10,249	
Trinidad/Tobago							\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	
Turkey				\$ 23,588				\$ 23,588	
United Kingdom	\$ 18,111	\$ 1,902,009 (10,000)	\$ 20,104	\$ 52,859	\$ 5,814	\$ 43,880	\$ 2,161,841	\$ 4,204,618 (10,000)	
USSR	\$ 370,000 (2,000)	\$ 4,328,322 (23,000)	\$ 595,427 (3,000)	\$ 485,261 (2,500)	\$ 379,258 (2,000)	\$ 462,500 (2,500)		\$ 6,620,768 (35,000)	
South Vietnam							\$ 4,490	\$ 4,490	
Yugoslavia		\$ 58,708	\$ 28,385	\$ 29,030	\$ 29,273	\$ 56,128	\$ 50,000	\$ 251,524	
Arab League Members			\$ 18,000,000					\$ 18,000,000	
European Economic Community	\$ 2,960,000 (16,000)	\$ 11,285,000 (61,000)	\$ 3,515,000 (19,000)	\$ 8,232,500 (44,500)	\$ 5,920,000 (32,000)	\$ 5,550,000 (30,000)		\$ 37,462,500 (202,500)	
SUB-TOTAL FOR DONOR NATIONS EXCLUDING THE U.S.	\$ 9,276,304 (45,878)	\$ 32,551,353 (162,127)	\$ 37,233,721 (95,560)	\$ 23,128,352 (116,718)	\$ 14,132,213 (74,358)	\$ 14,683,490 (75,080)	\$ 31,422,834 (69,500)	\$ 162,428,267 (639,221)	
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:									
Miscellaneous		\$ 1,889		\$ 22,451	\$ 3,778		\$ 60,558	\$ 88,676	
Christian Aid							\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	
League of Red Cross Societies	\$ 15,170 (82)		\$ 74,370 (402)	\$ 6,803	\$ 6,803	\$ 6,803		\$ 109,949 (484)	
Food and Agric. Organization Staff							\$ 5,360	\$ 5,360	
UN Development Program							\$ 519,313	\$ 519,313	
UN Disaster Relief Office							\$ 100,444	\$ 100,444	
UN High Commissioner for Refugees							\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
World Council of Churches	\$ 69,148							\$ 69,148	
World Federation of Trade Unions							\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
SUB-TOTAL FOR ORGANIZATIONS	(82)	\$ 1,889	(402)	\$ 29,254	\$ 10,581	\$ 6,803	\$ 725,675	\$ 932,890* (484)	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT	\$ 13,391,000 (30,849)	\$ 57,944,000 (152,455)	\$ 24,107,000 (75,841)	\$ 56,103,000 (188,520)	\$ 11,799,000 (59,609)	\$ 25,591,000 (67,056)	\$ 39,216,000 (21,910)	\$ 228,151,000 (596,240)	
TOTAL FOR U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES	\$ 1,827,600	\$ 180,589	\$ 92,000	\$ 5,785,788	\$ 128,500	\$ 153,643	\$ 7,403,530	\$ 15,571,650	
GRAND TOTAL (Grain-MT)	\$ 24,579,222 (76,809)	\$ 90,677,831 (314,582)	\$ 61,507,091 (171,803)	\$ 85,046,394 (305,238)	\$ 26,070,294 (133,967)	\$ 40,434,936 (142,136)	\$ 78,768,039 (91,410)	\$ 407,083,807 (1,235,945)	

*Does not include contributions through international organizations where donor country was identified.

** The Regional column includes in addition to assistance provided on a regional basis or not yet allocated to a specific country food and other aid to Cameroon, Guinea and The Gambia.



There is much activity at this well as nomad women fill their water containers.

