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

Kenya – Food Insecurity

Fact Sheet #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

August 18, 2010

Note: The last situation report was dated May 14, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In July, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported that aflatoxin contamination had destroyed more than 50 percent of the 2009/2010 maize harvest in central areas of Eastern Province. Contamination resulted in increased food insecurity as well as aflatoxin-related illness in areas where infected maize has entered the market. The early onset of the long rains and subsequent flooding, combined with poor maize storage, contributed to the contamination, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- USAID/OFDA is working to mitigate the negative consequences of food insecurity and drought by supporting humanitarian interventions in nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). In addition, USAID/OFDA is building the purchasing power of vulnerable populations through cash-for-work programs and vouchers that enable individuals to acquire productive economic assets.
- On August 4, the Kenyan constitutional referendum vote occurred without significant humanitarian impact. Humanitarian agencies, including the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) and OCHA, deployed staff to potential hot spots in advance of the referendum to prepare for a humanitarian response if needed. However, residents required little assistance and KRCS responded to individual needs without requiring international support.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Number of People in Need of Emergency Food Assistance	1.6 million	KFSSG ¹ – March 2010
IDPs² in Kenya	268,600	OCHA – March 2010
Refugees in Kenya	395,708	OCHA – July 2010

FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya\$10,204,556
USAID/FFP³ Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya\$101,907,300
State/PRM⁴ Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya\$33,711,171
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Kenya\$145,823,027

CONTEXT

- Recurrent seasons of failed or poor rains, sustained high food prices, environmental degradation, disease outbreaks, and flooding have led to food insecurity throughout Kenya in recent years, straining coping mechanisms, exacerbating pre-existing chronic poverty, and contributing to increased inter-ethnic conflict over access to limited land and water resources. Food insecurity has also occurred in the context of ongoing civil and political unrest, including violence and displacement associated with the December 2007 election. Although the majority of displaced individuals have subsequently returned to areas of origin, vulnerabilities among remaining IDPs and disruptions to agricultural production in affected areas have contributed to increased food insecurity.
- Following an above-normal February to March short rains harvest and the early onset of the March to September long rains, food security is improving in most areas of Kenya. Ample rainfall has improved pasture and water availability, resulting in higher quality livestock and increased milk productivity for the majority of pastoralists. However, populations in areas of Turkana District, Rift Valley Province, and Isiolo and Marsabit districts, Eastern Province, remained highly food-insecure due to below-normal rainfall and higher than average cereal prices, according to OCHA. In addition, food insecurity remains moderate in areas of Central, Coast, Eastern, Rift Valley, and Western

¹ Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)

² Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

³ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

provinces, where April and May flooding damaged standing crops, grain stores, livestock, irrigation systems, water supplies, and key transport routes.

- In response to ongoing humanitarian needs, on October 1, 2009, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Ranneberger renewed the disaster declaration for food insecurity in Kenya for FY 2010.

Agriculture and Food Security

- Market prices of staple crops remained low in most areas of Kenya in July, according to FEWS NET. The October long rains harvest will likely contribute up to 85 percent of 2010 national maize output, as indicated by FEWS NET. However, flood-affected populations residing along the Lake Victoria, Lake Tana, Nzoia River, and Turkwell River basins, as well as approximately 50,000 IDPs that remain displaced due to the 2008 post-election violence, will likely remain moderately food insecure in the coming months.
- Above-average livestock conditions resulted in livestock prices approximately 30 to 50 percent above the five-year average in June, according to FEWS NET. However, OCHA reported that drought conditions in northwestern Kenya had resulted in livestock migration to southern lowland grazing areas as of July. In addition, a foot and mouth disease outbreak in Isiolo District, Eastern Province, in May and June prompted the Government of Kenya (GoK) Ministry of Agriculture to temporarily quarantine livestock and conduct vaccination campaigns.
- In July, FEWS NET reported that heightened insecurity on the Kenya–Somalia border in Wajir, Mandera, and Garissa districts, North Eastern Province, continued to disrupt markets and impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance to food-insecure populations in Kenya. In addition, livestock raiding related to inter-communal conflict in Turkana District, Rift Valley Province, and central Marsabit District, Eastern Province, continues to impact food security conditions in the area.
- In response to continued food insecurity, USAID/OFDA supports cash-for-work and voucher programs benefiting approximately 94,000 people. The interventions aim to increase household income levels and facilitate the immediate purchase of food and necessary household items, including soap and kerosene.

Flooding

- Flooding resulting from the normal to above-normal long rains displaced populations and damaged infrastructure in coastal, lakeshore, and pastoral regions through June. According to OCHA, flooding has affected approximately 130,000 individuals since January.
- GoK Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation (MoPHS), National Disaster Operations Center, and Department of Mines and Geology officials conducted flood awareness campaigns from June 21 to 31 in flood-prone and landslide-prone areas in Rift Valley Province. USAID/OFDA grantee KRCS is providing emergency relief supplies to approximately 10,800 people in need of humanitarian assistance.

Health and Nutrition

- According to the GoK MoPHS, the overall nutrition situation in June 2010 remained largely unchanged compared to 2009, despite improved food security. In June, the GoK MoPHS reported that global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates remained between 17 and 28 percent in Wajir South, Wajir East, Mandera Central, and Mandera West districts, North Eastern Province, as well as West Pokot District, Rift Valley Province, exceeding the U.N. World Health Organization GAM emergency threshold of 15 percent.
- The number of acutely malnourished children residing in the Kakuma refugee camp in Rift Valley Province declined from an estimated 1,800 children in November 2009 to fewer than 1,200 children in June 2010, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). UNHCR officials attributed improvements to the doubling of ready-to-use therapeutic food distribution by non-governmental organization (NGO) partners since February.
- In response to malnutrition among vulnerable populations in Kenya, USAID/OFDA supports emergency nutrition interventions benefiting more than 42,000 people. The office also supports programs designed to build the capacity of Kenyan health workers to manage acute malnutrition cases.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- Health officials reported a reduction in the number of cholera cases in July countrywide, due largely to increased preventative efforts by the GoK MoPHS. As of July 14, health officials had controlled cholera outbreaks in 32 of 34 cholera-affected districts. In total, the GoK MoPHS reported an estimated 3,200 cholera cases between January 1 and July 14, including 63 related deaths.
- USAID/OFDA supports emergency water supply interventions benefiting approximately 52,000 people in drought-affected areas of Rift Valley Province. In addition, the office is funding programs intended to increase sustained access to safe drinking water, anticipate and manage drought conditions, and improve hygiene practices benefiting approximately 48,000 individuals in Rift Valley, North Eastern, and Coast provinces.

Emergency Food Assistance

- In May, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) distributed emergency food assistance to an estimated 2 million beneficiaries under the revised WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). On July 26, USAID/FFP reported that WFP reduced targeted beneficiaries from 1.6 million to 1.2 million food-insecure Kenyans for the remainder of 2010.

Refugees in Kenya

- Ongoing conflict in Somalia continues to result in increased refugee inflows to Kenya. An estimated 4,000 Somalis arrived in the Dadaab refugee complex in the North Eastern Province of Kenya between July 1 and 23. Somalis composed an estimated 92 percent of the approximately 32,000 refugees who arrived in Kenya between January and July 2010, according to UNHCR.
- As a result of continued refugee inflows, Ifo, Dagahaley, and Hagadera camps—located in the Dadaab refugee complex—hosted approximately 282,000 refugees as of July 2010, approximately three times intended capacity, according to UNHCR. UNHCR continues to expand Ifo camp to accommodate an additional 80,000 refugees.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA

FY 2010			
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location / Province	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems and WASH	Rift Valley Province	\$833,349
Concern	Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Humanitarian Studies, Analysis, or Applications; and Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$1,186,924
Horn Relief	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, and WASH	North Eastern Province	\$1,585,404
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$308,645
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Natural and Technological Risks	North Eastern Province	\$486,214
KRCS	Emergency Relief Supplies	Countrywide	\$200,000
Mercy USA	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$299,622
Merlin	Nutrition	Rift Valley Province	\$557,131
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
Save the Children/United Kingdom (SC/UK)	Nutrition	North Eastern Province	\$498,074
UNICEF	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	WASH	Coast Province	\$1,237,640
	Program Support Costs	Countrywide	\$11,553
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$10,204,556
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	109,840 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Central, Coast, Eastern, North Eastern, and Rift Valley Provinces; Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$101,907,300
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$101,907,300
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
CARE	WASH	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$1,200,000
The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychosocial Assistance	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$749,231
Handicap International	Assistance to Persons with Disabilities	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$465,000

International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$2,300,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Psychosocial Assistance	Kakuma Refugee Camp	\$300,000
Lutheran World Relief (LWR)	Multi-Sectoral Response	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$934,607
Ngazi Moja Foundation	Social Services to Urban Refugees	Nairobi	\$24,333
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Education and Shelter	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$838,000
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance and Protection	Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps	\$26,300,000
WFP	Food Warehouse (Ifo Camp Extension)	Dadaab Refugee Camps	\$600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$33,711,171
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA IN FY 2010			\$145,823,027

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE	
USAID/OFDA	\$10,204,556
USAID/FFP	\$101,907,300
STATE/PRM	\$33,711,171
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA	\$145,823,027

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 18, 2010.

² Estimated value of food assistance as of August 18, 2010.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Kenya may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - o USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - o The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - o Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/