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

## ***Ethiopia – Complex Emergency***

Situation Report #4, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

July 9, 2008

*Note: The last situation report was dated June 11, 2008.*

### **BACKGROUND**

Consecutive seasons of failed rains, exacerbated by a rapidly growing population, rising inflation, endemic poverty, and limited government capacity, have led to chronic food insecurity and water shortages in Ethiopia. Approximately 7.2 million people continue to receive food or cash assistance through the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (GFDRE) Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), which is funded by multiple donors. The delayed onset and poor performance of the March to April *belg* rains, combined with the failure of the previous two consecutive rains, has resulted in below normal harvests and diminished pasture throughout Somali, Oromiya, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions. Significant humanitarian challenges, including flooding, conflict, malnutrition, acute watery diarrhea (AWD) outbreaks, delayed food response, and locust and armyworm infestations, confront populations in many areas of the country. In Somali Region, insurgent activity and security operations have disrupted trade networks, and restrictions on the movement of people and livestock combined with the onset of drought conditions have exacerbated food insecurity. In April 2008, the GFDRE, the U.N., and humanitarian partners launched an appeal for \$67.7 million to assist approximately 2.2 million people. As of June 12, the GFDRE and relief organizations report that the number of people in need of emergency assistance has increased to 4.6 million.

On October 15, 2007, U.S. Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto redeclared a disaster in response to ongoing humanitarian needs in Ethiopia. To date in FY 2008, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$380 million for emergency food assistance, risk reduction, health, nutrition, agriculture and food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs throughout the country.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Ethiopian Government PSNP Caseload</b>	7.2 million	GFDRE Food Security Coordination Bureau
<b>Additional Population Requiring Emergency Food Assistance</b>	4.6 million	GFDRE DPPA <sup>1</sup> - June 2008

### **FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Ethiopia.....</b>	<b>\$20,184,051</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> Assistance to Ethiopia .....</b>	<b>\$354,869,100</b>
<b>State/PRM<sup>3</sup> Assistance to Ethiopia .....</b>	<b>\$5,320,000</b>
<b>Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Ethiopia.....</b>	<b>\$380,373,151</b>

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Severe drought conditions and rising food prices, exacerbated by localized armyworm infestations are contributing to a growing humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia. According to revised DPPA estimates, 4.6 million people require emergency assistance. An additional 7.2 million people are targeted for assistance through the GFDRE-supported PSNP, of whom 5.4 million individuals require two to three months of further emergency assistance. As a result, the total emergency caseload over the next six months is nearly 10 million people.

Most affected areas include SNNP Region with 1.3 million targeted beneficiaries, Oromiya Region with 1 million affected persons, and Somali Region with more than 1 million individuals requiring immediate assistance. In addition, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) reports deteriorating food security in Amhara Region, where more than 815,000 people currently require assistance.

On June 12, the GFDRE issued a revised appeal for \$325 million in response to deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Ethiopia. The appeal includes \$268

<sup>1</sup> GFDRE Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency (DPPA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

million for emergency food assistance and more than \$38 million for non-food needs.

A USG Humanitarian Assistance Team (HAT) in Ethiopia continues to conduct humanitarian assessment trips to affected areas to examine health, nutrition, food security, livelihoods, and water and sanitation conditions to inform future USAID humanitarian interventions. The USG HAT is also working with USAID/Ethiopia to support critical livelihoods rehabilitation and disaster risk reduction activities.

### ***Health and Nutrition***

In addition to previously identified malnutrition hotspot areas in SNNP and Oromiya regions, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that food security conditions are deteriorating in Afar, Amhara, and Somali Regions.

In the most affected areas of Hadiya, Kembata-Tembaro, Sidama, and Wolayita zones of SNNP and lowland areas of West Arsi, Arsi, East Harareghe, West Harareghe, and Bale zones of Oromiya Region, GFDRE officials report high rates of child malnutrition, as well as incidents of adult malnutrition in some areas. The DPPA estimates that approximately 75,000 children in drought-affected areas suffer from severe acute malnutrition and reports increasing admission rates for therapeutic feeding programs in Oromiya and SNNP. The GFDRE Emergency Nutrition and Coordination Unit and Ministry of Health (MOH) are leading efforts to address current reporting gaps that have resulted in an underestimation of the numbers of children receiving treatment countrywide. However, ENCU data as of July 7 indicates that at least 20,000 children are receiving treatment in SNNP and Oromiya regions.

USG HAT field assessments to Wolayita and Gurage zones, SNNP Region, indicate that despite recent rains and germinating crops, the area is experiencing deteriorating food security conditions and rising cases of malnutrition as a result of the impact of protracted drought and past failed crops. Current crops will not be ready for harvest until August or September at the earliest.

On June 24, UNICEF launched an emergency appeal for \$49.2 million to enhance ongoing response efforts to meet immediate humanitarian needs, including current shortfalls of available supplemental and therapeutic food commodities. USAID/OFDA has provided \$5 million to UNICEF to procure additional ready-to-use therapeutic Plumpy Nut food supplies to treat severe acute malnutrition.

### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

On June 20, OCHA reported that 391,000 metric tons (MT) of mixed food commodities are required to meet

food needs for 4.6 million relief beneficiaries through December. An additional 90,000 MT of cereals, valued at \$72 million, are needed for the estimated 5.4 million people covered by the GFDRE PSNP from July to September. However, as of July 8, WFP reports a 381,340 MT shortfall in food commodities for the remainder of 2008, valued at an nearly \$330 million. In coordination with DPPA and food aid donors, WFP is working to develop a plan to serve as many people as possible with available resources.

To date in FY 2008, USAID/FFP has provided 453,260 MT of P.L. 480 Title II and Emerson Trust emergency food assistance valued at nearly \$355 million in response to food needs throughout Ethiopia. In total, USAID/FFP assistance is benefiting approximately 5.5 million Ethiopians in FY 2008.

### ***Agriculture and Food Security***

High domestic food prices resulting from localized food shortages are negatively impacting food security for affected populations. In areas of Somali Region, the price of maize has increased by 270 percent since January 2008, according to WFP. Wheat prices in Amhara, Oromiya, and SNNP regions have increased by 79 percent, 74 percent, and 26 percent respectively. In addition, sorghum prices increased by 66 percent in Amhara Region and by 77 percent in Oromiya Region during the past five months. According to WFP, local prices for cereals have exceeded global market prices and are expected to continue to escalate through September, further reducing the purchasing capacity of particularly poor households.

Armyworm infestations are negatively affecting new crops, pasture, and livestock in areas of Oromiya, Somali, Amhara, and SNNP regions, according to WFP. On June 27, WFP reported new cases of armyworm infestation in 14 woredas of Arsi Zone in Oromiya Region and livestock deaths from consuming armyworm larvae in East Imey Woreda in Gode Zone, Somali Region. In addition, armyworm infestations have affected an estimated 5,105 hectares of planted land in South Wello Zone in Amhara Region, according to WFP.

To date in FY 2008, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$3.5 million to support food security and agriculture programs in Somali and Oromiya regions, including strengthening animal health services to mitigate the impact of livestock diseases and improve pastoralist population's resilience to shocks, such as current drought conditions.

### ***Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene***

OCHA reports increasing numbers of AWD cases, including in North Gonder Zone, Amhara Region, and Oromiya, Somali, and SNNP regions. As of July 6, the MOH reported a total of 852 cases of AWD and nine

deaths countrywide since January 2008. During the week of June 30, USAID/OFDA committed an additional \$800,000 to UNICEF for water, sanitation,

and hygiene interventions to mitigate the impact of water-related diseases and improve clean water access.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

<b>USG ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2008</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
CHF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Somali Region	\$450,000
Concern	Nutrition	Amhara, Oromiya, Tigray, and SNNP Regions	\$2,580,737
DPPA	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$418,625
International Committee for the Development of Peoples (CISP)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Oromiya Region	\$175,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Risk Reduction	Oromiya and SNNP Regions	\$1,150,199
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Somali Region	\$1,218,721
Mercy Corps	Agriculture and Food Security	Oromiya and Somali Regions	\$1,355,887
Save the Children/U.K. (SC/UK)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Somali Region	\$1,724,436
U.N. Development Program	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Somali Region	\$363,051
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Somali Region	\$309,678
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Somali, SNNP, and Oromiya Regions	\$7,336,442
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Somali Region	\$500,000
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Emergency Relief Supplies	Somali Region	\$510,680
USAID's Pastoralist Livelihoods Initiative	Risk Reduction	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Tufts University	Risk Reduction	Somali Region	\$100,000
FEWS NET	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$483,232
	Administrative Support	Countrywide	\$507,363
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$20,184,051</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	239,050 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance and Emerson Trust	Countrywide	\$178,555,100
WFP and NGO Partners	214,210 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance (toward the Productive Safety Net Program)	Countrywide	\$176,314,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$354,869,100</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
IRC	Refugee Assistance	Tigray Region	\$500,000

UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,800,000
Somali Cultural Literacy Center	Refugee Assistance	Addis Ababa Region	\$2,222
Africa Humanitarian Action	Refugee Assistance in Shimelba Camp	Tigray Region	\$8,378
ZOA	Refugee Assistance in Shimelba Camp	Tigray Region	\$9,400
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$5,320,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2008</b>			<b>\$380,373,151</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 9, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance




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