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

Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, & Somalia) – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

March 30, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated March 21, 2006.

BACKGROUND

Successive seasons of failed rains, including the critical October to December 2005 *deyr* season, have resulted in a humanitarian emergency across pastoralist areas of the Horn of Africa. USAID’s Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) estimates that more than 7 million people currently face crisis conditions, with the largest numbers affected in the region spanning southern Somalia, northern Kenya, and southern and southeastern Ethiopia. Relief efforts have been hampered by insecurity, which is limiting humanitarian access throughout Somalia and parts of Somali and Oromiya regions, Ethiopia. Resource-based conflict—inter-clan, as well as cross border—has also reportedly risen in Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia, as water, food, and forage supplies became depleted during the long dry season. Members of a USAID assessment team began to arrive in the region on March 29 to assess levels of food insecurity and make recommendations for future funding.

Numbers at a Glance		
Country	Estimated Numbers Affected	Source
Djibouti	70,000 to 150,000	FEWS NET January 2006
Ethiopia	2.6 million	FEWS NET February 2006
Kenya	3.5 million	FEWS NET March 2006
Somalia	2.1 million	Revised CAP* March 21, 2006

* U.N. Consolidated Appeals Process

Total FY 2006 USAID Assistance to the Horn of Africa.....\$166,161,998
Total FY 2006 U.S. Government (USG) Assistance to the Horn of Africa.....\$174,781,998

CURRENT SITUATION

USAID Assessment Team. On March 29, members of a USAID assessment team began to arrive in the region. Comprising an agriculture and livestock specialist, a food officer, a field officer, a water and sanitation officer, and information officers, the team will work with field-based staff to assess current humanitarian needs and make recommendations for future funding. Additional assessment team members will be deployed as needed.

Somalia¹. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that the failed 2005 *deyr* rainy season debilitated livelihoods and aggravated already difficult living conditions in southern Somalia. Consequently, the number of people targeted for humanitarian assistance in 2006 more than doubled from 1 to 2.1 million. The majority of affected communities are in southern Somalia, where the drought has depleted water sources and pasture, led to widespread crop failure and significant loss of livestock, and resulted in irregular population movements. Failing crops and the death of livestock have in turn contributed to increased levels of malnutrition among children.

Gedo Region, the region most affected by drought, is at moderate risk of a famine. According to OCHA, deteriorating living conditions have created an environment conducive to an increase in transmission of communicable diseases. If the upcoming April to June *gu* rainy season fails, humanitarian needs will likely increase. Given the significant possibility of below-normal rainfall, the Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) and FEWS NET/Somalia have warned that parts of southern Somalia are at a high risk of famine from July to December 2006.

FEWS NET reports that severe cereal shortages are causing cereal prices to continue to increase. Due to the poor condition of and lack of demand for livestock in local markets, livestock prices, particularly for cattle, are less than 50 percent of the February 2005 prices. In most referenced markets, the increase in cereal prices and decrease in livestock prices have negatively affected the terms of trade for pastoralists.

On March 21, the U.N. issued a revised Consolidated Appeal for Somalia. The revised appeal seeks nearly \$330 million for projects through the rest of 2006. More than 80 percent of the increase in funding requirements is a result of additional food needs. As of March 20, donors had committed nearly \$80 million toward the appeal. OCHA reports the establishment of

¹ Further information on the situation in Somalia and the USG response can be found in the USAID/OFDA Somalia Situation Report, located at www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance

an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) for Somalia, under which U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) will continue to collaborate with local authorities and communities toward the strategic priorities of the Consolidated Appeal.

Kenya. According to FEWS NET, as the dry season reaches its peak, household food security continues to deteriorate, particularly among pastoralists. Large numbers of livestock deaths, severe water shortages, an increase in both human and livestock diseases, and declining nutrition among pastoral households characterize the current situation in Kenya. Pre-famine conditions are evident in Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Marsabit districts. Among marginal agricultural farm households in the coastal and southeastern lowlands, a succession of poor seasons has caused food insecurity to increase. Water remains a critical commodity in North-Eastern province. Boreholes and tankering trucks are operating continually, with little or no down time, resulting in frequent breakages.

From March 21 to 24, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor performed assessments in the Marsabit District, near the border of Ethiopia, where tribal conflict is preventing many pastoralists from utilizing traditional dry season coping mechanisms. The lack of sufficient pasture is adversely affecting the livestock in this region. The Regional Advisor reported that the Kenyan Red Cross (KRC) is the lead agency that is targeting nearly 80 percent of the 136,000 inhabitants of Marsabit District for food assistance.

Ethiopia². The February through May *belg* rains have continued to fall in the highlands, and USAID has received reports of rains beginning in the highland capital of Jijiga in the Somali region during the past week. USAID has also received reports of rains in highland areas of the Borena zone of the Oromiya region. Recent rainfall in the Borena zone provided temporary relief to humans and livestock, refilling many surface water points and regenerating some browse. However, illnesses and animal deaths have increased due to contaminated water points and pneumonia. At present, 97 water tankers are operational in the Somali region; however, reports indicate that up to 150 tankers are needed to meet the immediate needs.

Despite recent rains, more than 2.6 million people still face extreme food insecurity. The food security situation in the Somali region continues to be critical in Liben, Afder, Gode, and parts of Fik zones, and below normal in the remaining zones. Food security also remains critical in Borena Zone of the Oromiya Region.

A government-led multi-agency reassessment mission began on March 28.

According to OCHA, the start of the short rainy season has been mixed, with near normal rain in some parts of Ethiopia and below normal rain in other parts of the country. The February rains in the southern areas were insufficient to improve the water and pasture shortages. Cereal prices in all major cities continue to increase or remain at seasonal highs, reflecting a widespread shortage of grain. Published estimates of a bumper harvest this year have not been realized in the marketplace.

Djibouti. According to FEWS NET, reduced pastures and drinking water in and around Djibouti have placed a strain on available resources. Conditions in the country have improved slowly as some moisture from the Red Sea has moved into the area. However, even with this relief, the area will need the start of the 2006 rainy season to fully recover. In the vicinity of the capital, conditions have been near normal. The drought, which covers most of the country, has seriously affected 70,000 to 150,000 people.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

The USG's ongoing assistance programs in the Horn of Africa enable aid agencies to respond quickly to the current emergency. To date in FY 2006, the USG has committed nearly \$175 million for immediate life-saving interventions, targeting the most affected areas in the Horn of Africa with water and sanitation, health, nutrition, and food assistance.

USAID's drought-response strategy in the Horn of Africa includes the following non-food humanitarian interventions: treating children suffering from acute malnutrition; providing emergency health services to vulnerable populations; rehabilitating existing water sources and facilitating the creation or enhancement of local water committees; providing animal vaccines; introducing small-scale livelihoods activities; and supporting logistics for relief operations.

Djibouti. To date in FY 2006, USAID has provided more than \$900,000 to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) to support emergency health and nutrition and food assistance programs. With food assistance from USAID, WFP is providing aid to 70,000 people. In addition, funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supports the Djibouti country program.

Ethiopia. The USG has contributed more than \$31.6 million thus far in FY 2006, to improve food security and agriculture, restore livelihoods in the most affected areas, improve health care, increase access to safe

² Further information on the situation in Ethiopia and the USG response can be found in the USAID/OFDA Ethiopia Situation Report, located at www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance

drinking water, support local NGOs, and strengthen government capacity. This amount also includes funding from State/PRM to UNHCR to assist refugees in Ethiopia. The USG is the largest donor of food assistance to Ethiopia, to date committing nearly 47,000 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance, valued at more than \$25.7 million, for emergency programs. USAID's food assistance is provided to vulnerable populations through direct distribution, food-for-work programs, emergency school feeding, maternal and child health, and selective feeding programs.

Kenya. To date in FY 2006, the USG has provided more than \$58.6 million for urgently-needed water and sanitation, health, and food assistance in the most affected areas of the country. This amount also includes

funding from State/PRM to UNHCR for refugees in Kenya.

Somalia. To date in FY 2006, the USG has committed more than \$83.6 million to support humanitarian activities in Somalia. With USAID funding, FSAU provides invaluable information regarding the humanitarian situation in Somalia by coordinating nutritional surveillance activities and providing a clearer picture of the economic impacts of drought, flooding, and insecurity. The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA) is implementing programs to provide 34,000 individuals with access to safe drinking water. In addition, USAID has provided 102,350 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance, valued at \$81.4 million, through CARE and WFP.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE³			
UNICEF	Health and Nutrition	Countrywide	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	1,240 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$809,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$809,400
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI IN FY 2006			\$909,400
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DJIBOUTI IN FY 2006			\$909,400

³ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 30, 2006.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
CHF	Water and Sanitation, Health	Somali Region	\$648,889
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Water and Sanitation	Afar, Oromiya, SNNPR, and Somali Regions	\$1,017,672
PSI	Water and Sanitation, Humanitarian Relief Supplies	Somali Region	\$197,009
WFP	Food Security and Agriculture	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
MERLIN	Water and Sanitation	Somali Region	\$350,000
	Administrative and Support Costs	Countrywide	\$334,061
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$3,547,631
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	40,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$23,266,200
NGO partners	6,900 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$25,766,200
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,300,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$2,300,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2006			\$29,313,831
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2006			\$31,613,831

³ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 30, 2006.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO KENYA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE³			
German Agro-Action	Water and Sanitation	Northeastern Region	\$500,000
UNICEF	Health	Countrywide	\$350,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$850,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	44,890 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	North, Northeast, and Southwest Kenya	\$31,564,800

WFP	19,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Refugee camps in northern Kenya	\$9,118,100
Consortium: Adventist Development and Relief Agency, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Food for the Hungry, and World Vision	34,650 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$11,856,600
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$52,539,500
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,250,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$5,250,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA IN FY 2006			\$53,389,500
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA IN FY 2006			\$58,639,500

³USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 30, 2006.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ADRA	Water and Sanitation	Bakool and Gedo Regions	\$449,267
FAO	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$700,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$1,149,267
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
CARE	54,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern and Central	\$48,113,000
WFP	48,350 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$33,287,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$81,400,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,070,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$1,070,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006			\$82,549,267
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006			\$83,619,267

³USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 30, 2006.



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