



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

SOMALIA – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

September 17, 2004

Note: This report updates Somalia Fact Sheet #1 dated March 31, 2004.

BACKGROUND

- Since the collapse of Muhammad Siad Barre’s government in January 1991, Somalia has existed without an internationally recognized national government and suffered from outbreaks of armed conflict between rival clan groups. For the 13th consecutive year, Somalia faces a complex emergency as ongoing civil strife in the south and central regions and increasing violence in the north have disrupted agricultural and market activity, limited basic health and social services, strained household coping mechanisms, and severely restricted humanitarian access.
- Years of widespread violence, combined with extreme poverty, have resulted in the migration of approximately 400,000 refugees to neighboring Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. In addition, an estimated 350,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs, according to the 2004 U.N. Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP).
- Due to successive rainfall failures, the Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag, and Nugal regions of northern Somalia face serious drought and/or livelihood conditions. Below average rainfall has diminished available grazing lands and drinking water in pastoralist areas, causing livestock health and productivity to deteriorate. The poor performance of the livestock sector is exacerbated by reduced remittances from overseas, unchecked inflation, cross-border trade restrictions from Ethiopia, and livestock export bans imposed on Somalia and other countries in the Horn of Africa by several Persian Gulf countries. As an estimated 60 percent of all Somalis are pastoralists, the continuing decline in the livestock sector indicates a potential livelihoods crisis for the majority of the population.
- For 2004, U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in Somalia appealed for \$119.1 million in emergency, food, and development assistance through the CAP for vulnerable Somalis including IDPs, returnees, and women and children.

Numbers at a Glance

Total Affected Population	700,000 to 900,000	Source: Revised CAP, June 2004
Total Number of IDPs	300,000 to 370,000	Source: Revised CAP, June 2004
Somali Refugees	350,000	Source: Revised CAP, June 2004

Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance in FY 2004 \$4,274,262
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance in FY 2004 \$27,824,362

CURRENT SITUATION

Ongoing Insecurity and Limited Humanitarian Access

- According to the CAP Mid-Year Review, humanitarian conditions in Somalia remain precarious. The security situation in Somalia has deteriorated throughout the year, hampering relief efforts countrywide. Violence and armed conflict has continued in much of southern and central Somalia, while the murder of four aid workers between October 2003 and March 2004 in the self-declared Republic of Somaliland in the north, led to new operational restrictions on U.N. agencies and NGOs. Due to security concerns, humanitarian access in some critical areas was further limited. Nevertheless, aid agencies continued to work in Somalia and even intensified activities where possible.
- In May, inter-clan fighting in Gedo Region displaced between 3,000 and 3,500 people and caused hundreds of refugees to cross into Mandera, Kenya. Also in May, fighting between rival militia groups in Mogadishu left an estimated 60 people dead and thousands more displaced. In August, more than 20 people were killed due to factional fighting in Bay Region. Recently, humanitarian agencies have scaled down operations as tensions increased in southern Somalia over control of Kismayo port.
- In August, the U.N. Security Council extended the mandate of the Nairobi-based Monitoring Group for an additional six months to allow for continued monitoring of violations of the 12-year arms embargo on Somalia.

Drought Conditions Spread throughout Somalia

- According to USAID’s Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), near failure of the main season *Gu* rains has exacerbated a serious humanitarian situation as drought conditions spread beyond the northern regions to

central Somalia. In August, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) issued preliminary findings from a post-*Gu* food security, nutrition, and livelihood security assessment, which confirmed previous early warnings that pockets of severe food insecurity existed throughout Somalia.

- According to FSAU's August report, livestock losses in northeast Somalia ranged from 60 percent for sheep and goats to 80 percent for camels due to environmental conditions and degraded rangelands.
- Southern agricultural areas of Somalia face one of the worst cereal production years since 1995. FEWS NET reports that drought conditions have spread to Bari, Nugal, Mudug, and Galgaduud regions, which has affected the agricultural areas of the lower Juba Valley, northern Gedo, and parts of Hiraan and Bakool regions where crop production is only 20 percent of the normal yield.

Food Insecurity and Malnutrition

- According to FSAU's August Nutrition Update, malnutrition rates in all areas of Somalia are consistently above internationally recognized emergency levels, but the lack of humanitarian access to areas of concern seriously impedes aid agencies' ability to provide necessary interventions.
- FSAU's food security and nutritional assessments in northern Somalia in July indicated that 21.2 percent of the children in Sool Region were malnourished with 2.8 percent assessed to be severely malnourished. According to FSAU, critical areas of northern Somalia include the Sool Plateau, as well as Taleex, Lasanood, Huddun, Garoowe, Qardho, and Galdogob districts.
- In central Somalia, FSAU's July rapid assessment in Dhusamarreeb and Adaado in Galgaduud Region indicated malnutrition rates of 31 percent and 27.8 percent respectively, while the retrospective under five and crude mortality rates for Adaado district were 4.7 per 10,000 per day and 3 per 10,000 per day, respectively.
- In southern Somalia, ongoing civil strife has disrupted livelihoods and resulted in greater food insecurity. In northern Gedo Region where the usual level of acute malnutrition is already above 20 percent, FSAU reported that the number had increased to 37 percent in Bulahawa and 34.1 percent in Dolow.

Political Developments and Peace Process

- After more than 14 months of negotiations, Somali faction leaders signed an agreement on January 29, under the auspices of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), to establish a new Federal Transitional Parliament that would pave the way for presidential elections and the formation of a national government. On August 22, members of the transitional parliament were sworn in in Nairobi, Kenya. Legislators were selected under Somalia's clan system, with each of the country's 4 major clans allotted 61 seats in the assembly and a coalition of smaller clans sharing 31 seats.
- Despite the recent progress in peace negotiations, significant political challenges remain. According to the International Crisis Group, tasks facing the new authority include consolidating and monitoring a comprehensive ceasefire, controlling heavy weapons, demobilizing militia groups, and forming a new police and military force.

Status of Somali Refugees

- In June, the U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that more than 2,000 refugees from Aisha Camp in eastern Ethiopia had been repatriated to northwestern Somalia. With fewer than 12,000 Somalis remaining in the camp, UNHCR planned to close Aisha by the end of the year. In July, UNHCR closed Hartishek camp following the return of the last refugees to northern Somalia.
- UNHCR has identified Somalia as one of eight countries in Africa expected to see significant refugee returns over the next five years depending on the security situation and levels of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance from donor countries.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

- On October 1, 2003, Deputy Chief of Mission, Leslie Rowe of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi redeclared a disaster in response to the continuing complex emergency in Somalia.
- In FY 2004, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$4.3 million to support emergency water and sanitation, health and nutrition, logistics support, and capacity building activities in affected areas of Somalia.
- USAID/OFDA has granted \$350,000 to Action Contre la Faim (ACF) to continue its water and sanitation program in Gedo Region, repairing water sources and conducting education on human hygiene for an estimated 20,000 residents. In addition, USAID/OFDA responded to acute needs in the Sool/Sanaag plateau by reprogramming funds from other areas to support water and sanitation and nutrition activities in Sool Region. Through Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), USAID/OFDA provided more than \$490,000 to support water and sanitation programs in Sool Region for approximately 82,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA also provided nearly \$450,000 to Adventist Development and Relief Agency's (ADRA) water and sanitation programs, which assisted 31,900 people in Bakool and Bay regions.
- USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$80,000 to International Medical Corps (IMC) to extend emergency primary health care and specialized feeding to more than 790,000 beneficiaries in Bay, Bakool, and Hiraan regions. The program included vaccinations and immunizations, nutritional monitoring, maternal and child health programs, and emergency curative services.

- USAID/OFDA has provided \$1.4 million to UNICEF for emergency rehabilitation of water facilities, provision of potable water, and health and nutrition interventions for 170,000 beneficiaries countrywide. In addition, USAID/OFDA has approved \$800,000 to UNICEF's U.N. Common Air Services (UNCAS) to enable partner organizations to transport staff and supplies into Somalia. To support FSAU's nutrition surveillance program, USAID/OFDA has provided \$700,000 to FAO.
- In FY 2004, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has contributed 33,510 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$23.6 million through WFP and CARE. USAID/FFP's food assistance is provided to beneficiaries in Bay, Bakool, Gedo, Lower and Middle Shabelle, Lower and Middle Juba, Hiraan, Benadir, Bari, Nugal, Mudug, Awdal, Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool regions.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACF	Water/Sanitation	Bakool	\$350,000
ADRA	Water/Sanitation	Bakool, Bay	\$449,452
IMC	Health/Nutrition	Bakool, Bay, Hiraan	\$79,996
NPA	Water	Sool	\$494,314
FAO	FSAU - Nutrition Surveillance	Countrywide	\$700,000
UNICEF	Water/Sanitation, Health/Nutrition, Logistics	Countrywide	\$2,200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,274,262
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
CARE	13,050 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern and Central Somalia	\$8,599,000
WFP	20,460 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$14,951,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$23,550,100
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2004.....			\$27,824,362
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2004			\$27,824,362

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents total assistance for FY 2004.

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. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for their complex emergency response efforts in Somalia can be found at www.interaction.org. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Somalia may be available at www.reliefweb.org.
- 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; ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org
 - InterAction: www.interaction.org -> "How You Can Help"
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.org.

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