

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) USAID Humanitarian Assistance in Review, 1997 – Present

Since 1998, regional and internal armed conflict has resulted in ongoing insecurity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), resulting in significant displacement and hindering health, water, and sanitation access for conflicted-affected populations. The protracted conflict has restricted access to agricultural land and local markets, undermined livelihoods, and increased population vulnerability. In addition, the DRC is susceptible to a variety of natural hazards, including floods, volcanic eruptions, and disease outbreaks. The country experienced significant flooding in 1998 and 2000, a major volcanic eruption in 2002, and malaria and Ebola epidemics in 2000 and 2007, respectively.



Since 2003, the cessation of major hostilities in the majority of the country and democratic elections held in July 2006 encouraged millions of displaced Congolese to return to areas of origin. However, the presence of armed groups continued to create areas of insecurity in eastern DRC and as a result, 750,000 people remained displaced in North Kivu Province through early 2008. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), recent conflict has displaced or secondarily displaced an estimated 252,000 people in North Kivu since August, increasing the total number of internally displaced persons to approximately 3 million people countrywide. Priority needs for internally displaced persons (IDPs) include access to basic services such as health care and food assistance, while recent returnees require assistance to reintegrate, rebuild, and reestablish livelihoods.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC (FISCAL YEARS 1997-2008), IN MILLIONS

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
OFDA	\$10.7	\$5.5	\$4.6	\$13.1	\$22.1	\$26.8	\$31.9	\$22.4	\$26.4	\$25.1	\$29.1	\$18.3
FFP¹	-	-	\$5.9	\$3.3	\$14.2	\$16.5	\$34.6	\$31.8	\$29.8	\$39.8	\$37.8	\$71.0
Other USG²	\$1.0	\$7.3	\$11.2	\$8.2	\$13.9	\$7.2	\$9.0	\$10.5	\$19.5	\$20.6	\$21.3	\$34.0
Total	\$11.7	\$12.8	\$21.7	\$24.6	\$50.2	\$50.5	\$75.5	\$64.7	\$75.7	\$85.5	\$88.2	\$123.3

¹ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

² Includes additional humanitarian assistance funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration and USAID's offices of Transition Initiatives and Conflict Management and Mitigation.



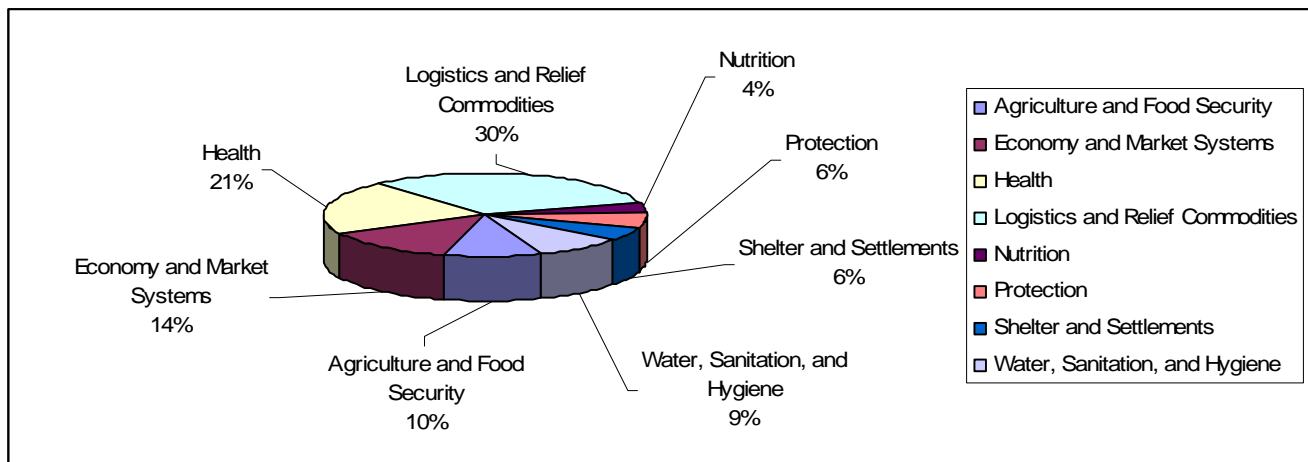
USAID/OFDA programs provide emergency relief supplies to thousands of conflict-affected IDPs in eastern DRC. Photo by Jack Myer, USAID.

Since 1997, USAID has provided nearly \$555 million in humanitarian assistance to the DRC, including more than \$240 million in relief commodities and emergency health, nutrition, agriculture, food security, economy and market systems, protection, coordination, road rehabilitation, and transportation interventions, and nearly \$314 million in food aid to date.

USAID/OFDA programs support returns and rehabilitate beneficiary livelihoods through targeted agriculture and food security programs, as well as critical road rehabilitation activities to facilitate economic recovery. In response to recent insecurity, USAID/OFDA has targeted assistance to the most affected populations in North Kivu Province. USAID/OFDA programs address immediate humanitarian needs through the provision of primary health services and delivery of emergency relief supplies.

In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA relief efforts total more than \$22 million and USAID/FFP has authorized 63,810 metric tons of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$100 million. USAID continues to monitor humanitarian conditions in the DRC and respond to evolving needs.

USAID/OFDA Non-Food Assistance to the DRC by Sector (FY 2008)³



³ Approximate percentage of assistance by sector, excluding administrative and support costs.