

OEDA

Annual Report

In Memory of
Paul Bell 1929-2003



U.S. Agency for International Development
Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and
Humanitarian Assistance
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance



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Message from the Director

In FY 2003 USAID/OFDA responded to disasters worldwide ranging from cyclones and volcanoes to droughts and protracted conflicts. An increasingly dangerous environment for humanitarian workers and the need for robust operational responses to major complex emergencies made the year particularly challenging.

Many of our partners have been directly affected by the insecurity and volatility of the world in which we work. The loss of friends and colleagues in the bombing of the Baghdad U.N. headquarters in August 2003 caused great sorrow to all of us. Such incidents are a reminder of the increased dangers now facing relief workers.

Complex emergencies demand increasingly sophisticated relief operations, greater international coordination, and quicker mobilization of resources. Throughout the year Iraq challenged us to heighten our response capability and coordinate closely with a multitude of military, humanitarian, and civil society organizations. We shifted immense financial and human resources and adapted large-scale logistical operations to meet the humanitarian needs in a rapidly changing environment. Likewise in Ethiopia, due to the deepening food crisis, our office worked closely with U.N. agencies, implementing partners and other donor governments to expand operations quickly to meet the critical needs of an estimated 14 million Ethiopians.

In addition to these professional challenges, our office mourned the loss of Paul C. Bell, Jr., the USAID/OFDA Senior Regional Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Paul passed away on May 16, 2003, leaving behind a lifetime of achievement and service. During his 20 years with USAID/OFDA, Paul's commitment to our mission touched the lives of countless individuals, including the people he served, his staff, and colleagues throughout the international community. Among his many achievements, Paul developed the LAC Risk Management Training Program (RMTP). Since 1987 the RMTP has provided disaster management training to approximately 34,000 people in the LAC region. Many of these trainees are prominent disaster managers who have continued to further RMTP training in their own countries. This annual report is dedicated to Paul, in remembrance of his many accomplishments in the field of disaster management and humanitarian assistance.

Despite numerous challenges during the year, the international humanitarian community united efforts and combined tremendous resources—both human and financial—to achieve our common aim of saving lives and reducing human suffering. We are thankful for our dedicated colleagues within USAID and the U.S. Department of State with whom we work very closely, and our partners outside the U.S. Government, including U.N. agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other groups who are integral to USAID/OFDA's success. In particular, we appreciate the commitment and bravery of so many relief professionals who continue to work in dangerous environments despite the growing risks. Finally, we would like to thank Dr. Richard Olson for writing the tribute to Paul Bell that is contained in this issue.



Tamra Halmrast-Sanchez
Director
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

FY 2003 Declared Disasters

Disaster Summaries in this Annual Report

The disaster descriptions on the following pages cover USG fiscal year (FY) 2003. From October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003, USAID/OFDA responded to 61 declared disasters.*

How a Disaster is Declared

The U.S. Ambassador or Chief of the U.S. Mission declares a disaster in the affected country when the situation is beyond the ability of the host country's response capacity and when he or she determines that a disaster warrants a USG response. In the event that a U.S. Mission is not located in the affected country, the appropriate U.S. Assistant Secretary of State may declare a disaster. Since April 1, 2002, a disaster declaration allows the U.S. Ambassador, Chief of Mission, or U.S. Assistant Secretary of State to access up to \$50,000 (the "Disaster Assistance Authority") for host country relief efforts. USAID/OFDA releases the funds from its International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account and provides the U.S. Mission with guidance to determine whether the need exists for additional USG assistance. When necessary, USAID/OFDA deploys assessment teams to disaster sites to evaluate relief needs.

USAID/OFDA and Other USG Assistance

Many of the disasters in FY 2003 required a range of USG financial and staff resources. The disaster descriptions in the Annual Report include total assistance provided from USAID/OFDA's IDA account, as well as contributions provided by other USG offices, such as USAID's Office of Food For Peace and Office of Transition Initiatives; the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the U.S. Department of State/Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration; and the U.S. Department of Defense. Although USAID/OFDA strives to obtain the most accurate funding information from other USG agencies, official figures are not always available by the time the Annual Report goes to press. Therefore, funding information from non-USAID/OFDA sources may represent approximate values.

Detailed Situation Reports and Fact Sheets on Major Disasters Available Separately

USAID/OFDA produces documents that provide more detailed information about declared disasters than is provided in the case reports found in this Annual Report. Situation reports are four- to five-page documents that provide periodic updates on long-term, complex emergencies. Fact sheets are one- or two-page documents that focus on quick-onset natural disasters or rapidly changing complex emergencies. For information on where to find current situation reports, fact sheets, and other related information, please see the description of USAID/OFDA Publications on page 83.

Situation Reports or Fact Sheets Were Produced for the Following Major Disasters in FY 2003:

Afghanistan — Complex Emergency
Algeria — Earthquake
Angola — Complex Emergency
Asia (Region) — Disaster Preparedness Programs
Burundi — Complex Emergency
Côte d'Ivoire — Complex Emergency
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) — Complex Emergency
Eritrea — Drought
Ethiopia — Drought
India — Disaster Relief and Preparedness
Indonesia — Complex Emergency
Iraq — Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance
Liberia — Complex Emergency
Mano River Countries (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone) — Complex Emergency
Southern Africa (Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe) — Complex Food Security Crisis
Sudan — Complex Emergency
Uganda — Complex Emergency

*The official number of declared disasters in FY 2003 was 63. This Annual Report only reports on 61 disasters because two of the officially declared disasters did not ultimately require USAID/OFDA assistance.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

USAID/OFDA FUNDING SUMMARY- FY 2003 DECLARED DISASTERS

Obligations from October 1, 2002 – September 30, 2003¹

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
AFRICA						
Algeria	Earthquake	05/22/03	800	10,000	\$873,047	USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to the Algerian Red Crescent Society for local procurement of non-food relief commodities. In addition, USAID/OFDA airlifted 6,000 blankets, 600 tents, and three emergency health kits to provide medical supplies for 30,000 beneficiaries for three months. USAID/OFDA airlifted a second tranche of relief supplies including three water purification units, 10,000 blankets, 500 body bags, and five medical kits. USAID/OFDA also airlifted 1,000 tents.
Angola	Complex Emergency	11/07/02	-	-	\$19,516,211	USAID/OFDA provided emergency non-food relief commodities, including blankets, water containers, kitchen sets, and soap, valued at more than \$2 million. USAID/OFDA also supported more than \$6.7 million in emergency health and nutrition initiatives in Angola including maternal and child health programs, public health initiatives, and immunization programs implemented by AAH/USA, Africare, CRS, Christian Children's Fund, GOAL, and IMC. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$3.2 million to Development Workshop and Oxfam to improve the provision of water and sanitation for returnees. USAID/OFDA also supported programs to increase food security through the provision of seeds and tools and agricultural programs with grants totaling more than \$4.7 million to FAO and WVI. USAID/OFDA contributed more than \$2 million to UN OCHA and WFP for logistics and relief coordination activities.
Burundi	Complex Emergency	10/16/02	-	1,121,000	\$11,942,656	USAID/OFDA funded more than \$11.9 million in humanitarian assistance to Africare, CONCERN, CRS, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC), IMC, IRC, Solidarités, Tearfund, UN OCHA, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, and WVI.
Central African Republic	Complex Emergency	03/13/03	-	31,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided to CRS to reduce mortality rates by providing emergency medical supplies and health care to affected populations through a local NGO, the Association des Oeuvres Médicales pour la Santé en Centrafrique.
Côte d'Ivoire	Complex Emergency	11/07/02	-	800,000	\$2,437,100	USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Yamoussoukro to ICRC for the provision of emergency non-food items to meet the immediate relief and critical emergency health needs of those affected by the conflict. USAID/OFDA also provided more than \$380,000 to Merlin in support of emergency health care to rural communities surrounding Daloa, Yamoussoukro, and Bouake through mobile health clinics and more than \$490,000 to SCF/UK to support primary health care for children. To respond to nutritional needs, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$249,000 to AAH/USA to support therapeutic feeding centers. USAID/OFDA also provided approximately \$840,000 to IRC to fund emergency water and sanitation programs for IDPs.
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Complex Emergency	11/04/02	-	3,789,000	\$31,888,855	USAID/OFDA provided more than \$31.8 million in emergency relief assistance to food security and nutrition sectors, emergency market infrastructure rehabilitation, and agricultural programs for vulnerable populations. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through grants to AAH/USA, Air Serv International, CARE, FHI, GAA, IMC, IRC, Merlin, Première Urgence, SCF/UK, Solidarités, UMCOR, FAO, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, and WVI.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Eritrea	Drought	12/02/02	-	2,300,000	\$3,296,633	USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$2.1 million to CRS, CONCERN, Mercy Corps, and UNICEF for emergency water distribution and water rehabilitation for nearly 156,000 beneficiaries in Debub, Anseba, and Northern Red Sea zones. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$700,000 to CARE to implement emergency food recovery programs for more than 12,600 vulnerable families and 700 female-headed households in Gash Barka and Debub zones. USAID/OFDA also provided nearly \$500,000 to CARE and CRS for agricultural and livestock recovery programs for approximately 8,625 drought-affected households in Gash Barka and Debub zones.
Ethiopia	Drought	10/29/02	-	12,600	\$31,799,195	In May 2003, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID/DART to assess humanitarian needs and enhance the response to the humanitarian crisis. USAID/OFDA also provided approximately \$31.8 million to support emergency health, nutrition, water and sanitation, and agricultural recovery activities in drought-affected areas. USAID/OFDA provided funds to support health and nutrition programs countrywide through UNICEF, WFP, ACF/F, ADRA, CONCERN, GOAL, IMC, SCF/US, and WVI to assist five million beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA and USAID/Ethiopia contributed funds in response to the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's estimated \$10 million seed shortfall. USAID/OFDA also provided funds to CARE, CISP, CRS, FHI, GAA, SCF/UK, Oxfam/GB, and WVI for emergency seed distributions. USAID/OFDA provided funds to support water and sanitation programs through AmRC, CARE, CISP, COOPI, GAA, IRC, Merlin, Oxfam/GB, SCF/US, and WVI. USAID/OFDA provided funds to CARE, SCF/UK, WVI, and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church for cash-programs to benefit 256,000 people in Amhara; Oromiya; and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions. USAID/OFDA also provided funds to UN OCHA and FAO for coordination of humanitarian assessments and to USAID/Ethiopia for administrative support.
Ethiopia	Floods	05/09/03	119	110,000	\$110,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through ICRC for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies including jerry cans, cooking pots, plastic sheeting, and blankets to an estimated 3,200 households in Gode Zone, Somali Region.
The Gambia	Food Security	02/19/03	-	360,000	\$682,392	USAID/OFDA provided funding to CRS for a seed fair and seed voucher program to benefit 25,000 farming households.
Kenya	Floods	05/12/03	55	44,000	\$182,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Kenya to the Kenya Red Cross Society for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies including plastic sheeting, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, and bar soap for an estimated 10,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA also provided funding to UNDP for the coordination of U.N. disaster prevention and management activities.
Lesotho	Complex Food Security Crisis	10/16/02	-	-	\$0	In the fourth quarter of FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided \$20,000 to the Peace Corps to support community garden programs for food insecure populations. This program extended into FY 2003.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Somalia	Complex Emergency	10/31/02	-	350,000	\$3,283,528	USAID/OFDA provided humanitarian assistance to Somalia through five international partners: AAH/USA, ADRA, IMC, FAO, and UNICEF. USAID/OFDA-funded activities included emergency water and community health services for 852,480 beneficiaries in the southern regions of Bakool, Gedo, and Bay, and support for U.N. water and sanitation, supplementary feeding, and immunization programs.
Sudan	Complex Emergency	10/01/02	-	-	\$40,846,538	USAID/OFDA funded programs in the health, nutrition, food security, and water and sanitation sectors. Projects linked to the peace process included expanding programs that cross GOS-SPLM/A front lines to reinforce local peace initiatives. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through 25 NGOs or IOs, including AAH/USA, ACF/F, ADRA, ARC, CARE, CONCERN, Christian Mission Aid (CMA), CRS, GOAL, International Aid Sweden, IRC, MEDAIR, NPA, Pact, Samaritan's Purse, SCF/UK, SCF/US, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, Vétérinaires sans Frontières/Belgium (VSF/B), VSF/Germany, WFP, and WVI.
Sudan	Floods	08/05/03	-	-	\$1,459,138	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum for GOAL and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society to distribute emergency relief commodities. USAID/OFDA-chartered aircraft landed in Kassala town from Dubai, United Arab Emirates with plastic sheeting, water bladders, hygiene kits, and blankets. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided funding to GOAL, IRC, and UNICEF for potable water, sanitation facilities, public health services, and emergency shelter for flood victims.
Uganda	Complex Emergency	12/23/03	-	1,200,000	\$3,990,215	USAID/OFDA provided funding for emergency relief assistance, focusing on health, nutrition, and water and sanitation projects in conflict-affected areas. In response to security and access concerns, USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 to UN OCHA to enhance coordination efforts among the humanitarian relief community and to establish a UN OCHA office in Kitgum.
Zambia	Complex Food Security Crisis	11/01/02	-	-	\$371,499	USAID/OFDA provided funding to support agriculture and food security activities through the Cooperative League of the United States of America.
Zimbabwe	Complex Food Security Crisis	11/06/02	-	5,800,000	\$6,527,705	USAID/OFDA provided funding for emergency humanitarian assistance to support food security, agriculture, nutrition, water and sanitation, and health programs. USAID/OFDA also provided funding to CRS to implement emergency agriculture interventions and supplementary feeding programs. USAID/OFDA provided funding to IOM, SCF/UK, and Development Associates, Inc. to conduct food security and agriculture activities. USAID/OFDA also provided funding for health programs through WVI and funding for water and sanitation activities through IFRC. USAID/OFDA provided funding to U.N. agencies, including UN OCHA and WFP, to support information dissemination, international response coordination, and monitoring needs of food insecure populations.
Subtotal					\$176,131,526	
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Australia	Fire	01/21/03	4	-	\$25,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided to the U.S. Embassy in Canberra to assist relief efforts for fire victims in affected areas.
China	Earthquake	02/28/03	268	-	\$100,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding to the Red Cross Society of China to provide emergency relief commodities for earthquake victims.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Liberia	Complex Emergency	10/28/02	-	-	\$5,679,543	USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID/DART comprised of USAID, U.S. Department of State, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services staff members. USAID/OFDA airlifted 26.5 MT of relief commodities to Monrovia including 300 rolls of plastic sheeting, 5,000 wool blankets, 5,000 10-liter jerry cans, and five 3,000-gallon water bladders. The relief items supported 15,000 beneficiaries and also included an emergency health kit with enough medicines and health supplies for 30,000 people for one month. USAID/OFDA funded ACF/F, CRS, IRC, Johns Hopkins University, Merlin, Oxfam, SCF/UK, and UN OCHA for emergency humanitarian assistance programs. USAID/OFDA also funded emergency response activities in health, food security, nutrition, water and sanitation, and non-food sectors, as well as to strengthen the capacity of early warning and crisis management structures to respond to and mitigate new crises.
Madagascar	Cyclone	05/16/03	68	110,000	\$508,650	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Madagascar to CARE and CRS for the provision of blankets, fuel, and personal hygiene supplies to the affected populations.
Malawi	Complex Food Security Crisis	12/04/02	-	400,000	\$1,942,999	USAID/OFDA provided funding to Africare for supplementary and therapeutic feeding programs.
Mauritania	Floods	08/20/03	9	-	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott for the procurement of plastic sheeting and tents for flood victims.
Morocco	Floods	11/27/02	35	10,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Morocco to the Moroccan Red Crescent Society for the distribution of food and basic hygiene items.
Namibia	Floods	05/12/03	-	10,000	\$24,940	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Windhoek to fund the provision of emergency food rations and family kits that included blankets, cooking utensils, and batteries.
Nigeria	Complex Emergency	04/17/03	-	9,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja to a U.S. NGO, the International Foundation for Education and Self Help (IFESH), for the provision of emergency bedding, clothing, food, and counseling for the displaced populations.
Republic of Congo	Food Security	12/17/02	-	150,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Republic of Congo to meet the most critical emergency relief needs of IDPs, including shelter, health care, personal hygiene items, and potable water.
Senegal	Drought	05/22/03	-	-	\$837,838	USAID/OFDA provided funding to CRS for a seed fair and seed voucher program for approximately 284,000 beneficiaries.
Sierra Leone	Complex Emergency	10/23/02	-	-	\$7,680,844	USAID/OFDA provided more than \$7.6 million in humanitarian assistance to support health, nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, and agricultural initiatives for affected populations. Of this total, USAID/OFDA supported more than \$3.7 million in emergency health and nutrition programs implemented by Africare, AAH/USA, CRS, IMC, IRC, Merlin, UNICEF, and WVI. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported more than \$2.6 million in water and sanitation programs through AAH/USA, CARE, CRS, IRC, Merlin, UNICEF, and WVI. USAID/OFDA also provided \$235,000 to U.N. agencies, including FAO and WFP, to support information, logistics, and relief coordination needs.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
China	Epidemic	05/03/03	181	3,799	\$500,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to the Red Cross Society of China to provide urgently needed medical supplies.
China	Floods	09/05/03	123	430,000	\$100,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to the Red Cross Society of China for the procurement of tents, bedding, and water purification supplies to meet the immediate needs of flood-affected populations in Shaanxi Province.
East Timor	Floods	06/27/03	2	5,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Dili to Development Associates, Inc. for the procurement of shelter materials, sleeping mats, jerry cans, and other basic household items for flood victims.
Fiji	Typhoon	01/21/03	14	45,000	\$25,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Suva to the Fiji Red Cross to provide water purification units, plastic sheeting, and other emergency relief commodities for those affected by the typhoon.
India	Drought	01/16/03	-	43,000,000	\$1,072,539	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to help meet the emergency needs of drought-affected families. USAID/OFDA also provided funding to CRS, LWR, and WVI for emergency food security, agriculture, and risk reduction programs in Rajasthan.
Indonesia	Complex Emergency	10/03/02	-	-	\$4,050,000	USAID/OFDA provided assistance to Indonesia through several NGOs. CARE received funding to manage the therapeutic feeding centers in West Timor. CWS received funding to support emergency relief programs in West Timor as well as funding for projects to help IDPs recover livelihoods in Central and Southeast Sulawesi. The International Rescue Committee/Consortium for Assistance to Refugees and the Displaced in Indonesia (IRC/CARDI) received funding for water and sanitation programs in North Maluku and Aceh. IMC received funding for IDPs in Maluku and West Kalimantan and to provide emergency medical supplies in Bali. Mercy Corps received funding to provide shelter, water and sanitation, and seeds in Central Sulawesi. WVI received funding for basic shelter projects in Madura Island and funding for community rehabilitation programs in conflict affected areas on North Maluku.
Indonesia	Floods	11/27/02	14	86,000	\$75,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Indonesia to the Indonesian Red Cross to meet the emergency relief needs of flood victims. USAID/OFDA also provided funding through USAID/Indonesia to CARE to support the provision of potable water for flood victims.
Nepal	Complex Emergency	11/26/02	-	-	\$653,413	USAID/OFDA provided funding for humanitarian assistance to the conflict-affected populations in Nepal.
Pakistan	Floods	08/01/03	124	750,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society for the procurement and distribution of plastic sheeting, blankets, lanterns, and other emergency relief items for flood victims.
Republic of Korea	Typhoon	09/15/03	87	25,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to the South Korean Red Cross for the procurement of potable water, blankets, and emergency shelter materials for the areas affected by the flooding.
Solomon Islands	Typhoon	01/07/03	-	500	\$25,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Port Moseby in Papua New Guinea to Oxfam/Australia for supplies of emergency food, potable water, and seeds and tools for typhoon victims.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Sri Lanka	Floods	05/19/03	387	250,000	\$297,851	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Sri Lanka to IFRC and the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society to supply bed sheets, cooking sets, sleeping mats, lanterns, buckets, soap and bottled water for nearly 10,000 people. A USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor traveled to the affected region to assess humanitarian needs and assist USAID/Sri Lanka's disaster response efforts. Additionally, USAID/OFDA provided funding to WVI to clean and repair 4,000 wells that provided potable water for 100,000 beneficiaries.
Vietnam	Epidemic	03/25/03	3	58	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to the French Hospital to support emergency medical care for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) patients.
Vietnam	Floods	10/04/02	250	430,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to CARE, CRS, and WVI for the provision of emergency shelter materials, personal hygiene items, and potable water for distribution to the affected populations.
Subtotal					\$7,173,803	
EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND CENTRAL ASIA						
Afghanistan	Complex Emergency	10/15/02	-	-	\$24,536,631	USAID/OFDA provided \$24.5 million through grants and in-kind contributions to NGOs to support basic needs of IDPs and other vulnerable Afghans with emergency provisions of food, potable water, shelter, and emergency relief supplies. USAID/OFDA funded infrastructure rehabilitation, shelter, and winterization projects for vulnerable Afghan communities through the provision of emergency shelter, fuel supplies, road maintenance, and snow removal through the following implementing partners: ACTED, Cooperative Housing Federation, SNI, CONCERN, UNDP, WVI, IMC, ACF/F, CRS, FAO, GOAL and Air Serv International.
Azerbaijan	Floods	05/08/03	-	-	\$25,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Azerbaijan to support IFRC's assistance to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society's Emergency Assistance Operation.
Iraq	Complex Emergency	-	-	-	\$81,397,040	The U.S. Government deployed a multi-agency 60-member USAID/DART to the region in March 2003 to assist in coordinating the Coalition forces' emergency relief effort, and to assess and respond to existing post-conflict humanitarian needs. USAID/OFDA responded through the USAID/DART to humanitarian needs and the extensive breakdown in emergency services with grants, cooperative agreements, and in-kind contributions to U.N. agencies and NGOs. USAID/OFDA funding provided support to programs in food security, health, logistics, infrastructure rehabilitation, nutrition, shelter, and water and sanitation sectors. USAID/OFDA supported contingency planning, logistics, and coordination programs for the humanitarian response effort.
Kyrgyzstan	Landslides	04/24/03	38	46	\$49,264	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Kazakhstan to Mercy Corps and Agricultural Cooperative Development International and Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (ACDI/VOCA) to support the purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies, including tents, cooking fuel, clothing, and bedding.
Lebanon	Floods	03/25/03	-	17,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Lebanon to the Lebanese Red Cross for the local purchase of emergency relief supplies including blankets, mattresses, and personal hygiene items for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Portugal	Fire	08/06/03	14	150,000	\$100,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon to support local firefighting operations. A team consisting of a USAID/OFDA team leader, Los Angeles County firefighters, and a U.S. Forest Service fire specialist assisted local firefighting teams with training and technical assistance. The team initiated fire mitigation programs including soil erosion prevention projects and fire management training. USAID/OFDA obligated funds for the transport and activities of the assessment team in FY 2004.
Subtotal					\$106,157,935	
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Argentina	Floods	04/30/03	22	160,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires to Movimiento Los Sin Techo, a local NGO, for the purchase of health and sanitation supplies and other emergency relief items for affected populations in Santa Fe Province.
Bolivia	Landslide	04/03/03	24	690	\$78,650	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Bolivia to SCF/Bolivia for the procurement and transport of emergency relief supplies such as tents, blankets, and plastic sheeting, and the transport of P.L. 480 Title II food in country from Patacamaya to Chima. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed two disaster relief specialists to conduct a damage assessment. Based on priority needs determined by the assessment team, USAID/OFDA airlifted 122,400 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting and three water bladders to the affected population.
Brazil	Floods	02/03/03	45	16,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Brazil to Serviço Voluntario de Asistencia Social (SERVAS) for the local purchase of emergency food, blankets, and other relief supplies for the affected populations.
Costa Rica	Floods	12/03/03	4	5,224	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in San José to the Costa Rican National Emergency Commission for the local purchase of emergency food, potable water, fuel, and other relief supplies for flood victims.
Ecuador	Volcano	11/13/03	-	8,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Ecuador to the Ecuadorian Red Cross, PAHO, and a local NGO, Fundación Antisana, for the purchase of food, potable water, and other emergency relief supplies.
Haiti	Drought	02/13/03	-	35,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Haiti to WVI for the purchase of seeds and tools to be used as part of food-for-work activities in the most impacted communities.
Haiti	Floods	09/04/03	31	4,500	\$25,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Haiti to CRS for the procurement, transport, and distribution of plastic sheeting and emergency household supplies to flood victims in Saint Marc.
Mexico	Earthquake	01/24/03	29	177,530	\$100,000	USAID/OFDA provided funding to the AmRC for the local procurement of emergency shelter supplies, food, blankets, hygiene items, and other relief commodities.
Mexico	Hurricane	10/10/02	13	500,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City to AmRC for the local purchase of emergency food, blankets, hygiene items, and other relief supplies for distribution to the affected populations in the Yucatán Peninsula.

USAID/OFDA Funding Summary

Country	Disaster	Declaration Date	Dead ²	Affected	Obligation	Type of Assistance
Paraguay	Drought	11/08/02	12	40,000	\$50,000	Disaster Assistance Authority provided through USAID/Paraguay to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the local purchase of emergency food for distribution to the affected populations.
Peru	Floods	01/28/03	18	60,000	\$250,219	USAID/OFDA provided funding through USAID/Peru for the local procurement of blankets, shelter materials, and transport of relief supplies to the affected areas. USAID/Peru's Mission Director and three USAID/OFDA consultants based in Peru conducted an assessment in the departments of Puno and Madre de Dios. Based on the assessment, USAID/OFDA airlifted 1,224,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 2,000 blankets, and 2,000 water jugs to Lima and then transported these commodities to Arequipa Province, benefiting approximately 2,000 families in the affected areas.
Subtotal					\$803,869	
TOTAL					\$290,267,133	
<p>Notes: (1) The Disaster Assistance Authority is a discretionary fund of up to \$50,000 available to U.S. Ambassadors or Chiefs of Mission from USAID/OFDA upon the declaration of a foreign disaster to meet immediate relief needs. On April 1, 2002, the Disaster Assistance Authority was increased to \$50,000 from \$25,000.</p> <p>(2) A hyphen (-) in the dead and/or affected columns indicates that reliable information was not available.</p>						

USAID/OFDA TOTAL BUDGET FOR FY 2003

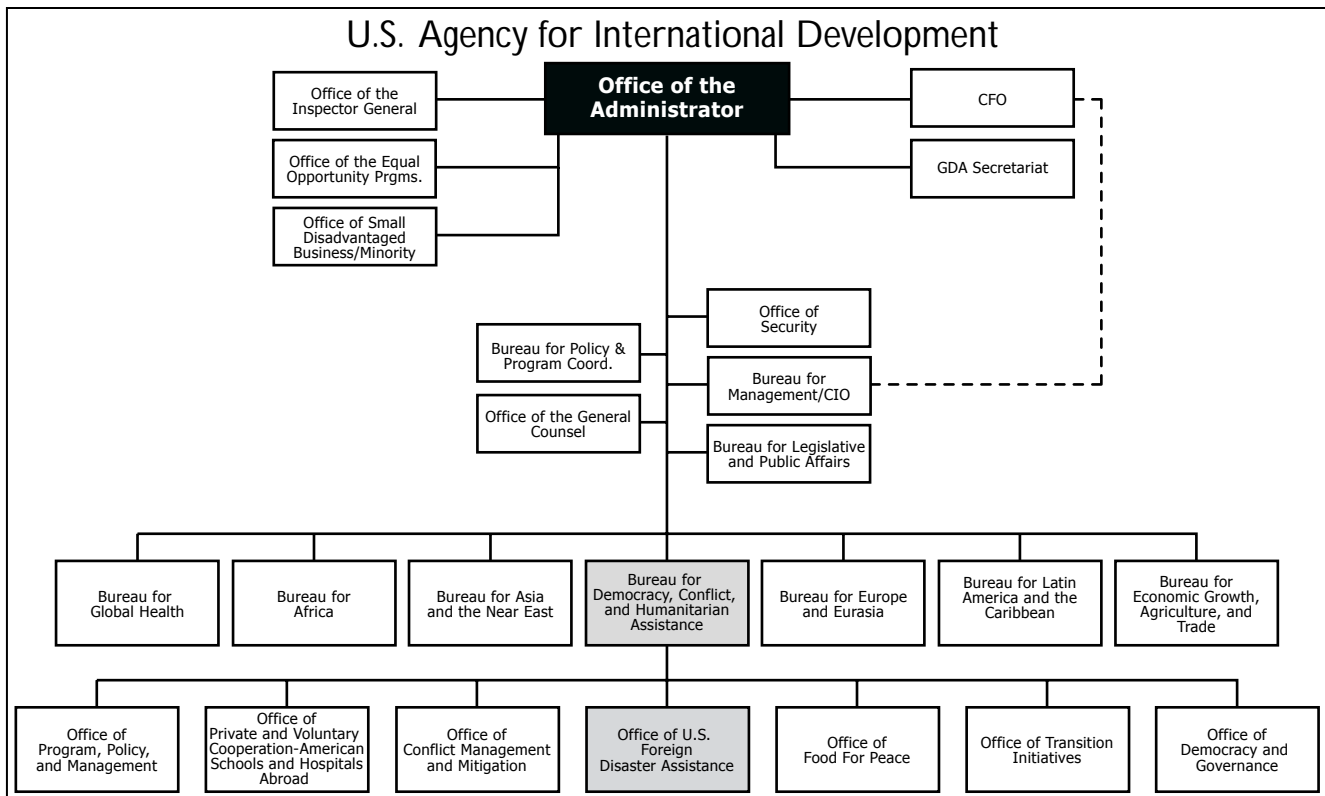
FY 2003 Obligated Funding for FY 2003 Disasters	\$290,267,133
FY 2003 Obligated Funding for FY 2002 Disasters¹	\$637,927
SUBTOTAL – FY 2003 Funding for Disaster Response	\$290,905,060
Disaster Mitigation and Coordination	\$25,867,475
Program Support and Operations	\$34,501,643
TOTAL – FY 2003 Obligated Funding	\$351,274,178
Budget Carryover to FY 2004	\$41,481,103
TOTAL USAID/OFDA Budget for FY 2003	\$392,755,280
<p>Note: (1) This figure represents USAID/OFDA FY 2003 funding obligated for disasters that were declared during FY 2002. USAID provided \$221,927 for floods in Albania, \$400,000 for floods in the Czech Republic, and \$16,000 for food insecurity in the Sahel. Please refer to the USAID/OFDA Annual Report FY 2002 for more information on these disasters.</p>	

How the U.S. Government Provides Humanitarian Aid

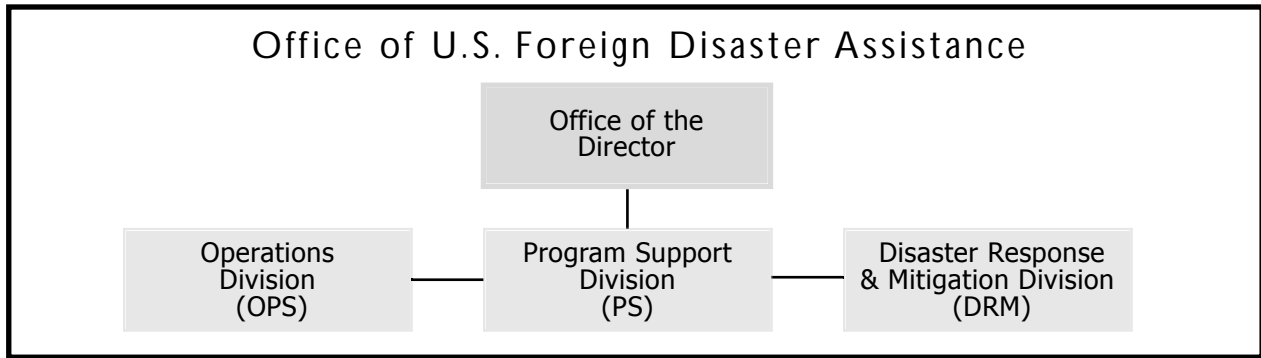
The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) is responsible for providing humanitarian assistance in response to international crises and disasters. The USAID Administrator is designated as the President’s Special Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance and USAID/OFDA assists in the coordination of this assistance. USAID/OFDA is part of the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, along with the Office of Food For Peace (FFP), the Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), the Office of Private Voluntary Cooperation - American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (PVC-ASHA), the Office of Democracy and Governance (USAID/DG), the Office of Program, Policy, and Management (PPM), and the Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM).

USAID/OFDA is organized into three divisions, under the management of the Office of the Director. The Disaster Response and Mitigation (DRM) division is responsible for coordinating with other organizations for the provision of relief supplies and humanitarian assistance. DRM also devises, coordinates, and implements program strategies for the application of science and technology to prevention, mitigation, and national and international preparedness initiatives for a variety of natural and human-caused disaster situations. The Operations (OPS) division develops and manages logistical, operational, and technical support for disaster responses. OPS maintains readiness to respond to emergencies through several mechanisms, including managing Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Teams, Disaster Assistance Response Teams (USAID/DART), and Washington-based Response Management Teams (RMT). The Program Support (PS) division provides programmatic and administrative support, including budget and financial services, procurement planning, contracts and grants administration, general administrative support, and communication support for both USAID/OFDA and its field offices.



Overview



USAID/OFDA provides humanitarian assistance in response to a declaration of a foreign disaster made by the U.S. Ambassador or the U.S. Department of State. Once an event or situation is determined to require USG assistance, USAID/OFDA can immediately provide up to \$50,000 to the U.S. Embassy or USAID Mission to purchase relief supplies locally or to give a contribution to a relief organization in the affected country. USAID/OFDA can also send relief commodities, such as plastic sheeting, tents, blankets, and water purification units, from its five stockpiles in Guam, Honduras, Italy, Maryland, and the United Arab Emirates, as well as from a smaller cache in Florida. Increasingly, USAID/OFDA deploys short- or long-term field personnel to countries where disasters are occurring or threaten to occur, and in some cases, dispatches a USAID/DART.

A large percentage of USAID/OFDA's assistance goes to disaster relief and rehabilitation projects managed by NGOs—including U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs) registered with USAID—U.N. organizations, and IOs. (See pie chart below.) Relief projects include airlifting supplies to affected populations in remote locations, managing primary health care and supplementary feeding centers, and providing shelter materials to disaster evacuees and displaced persons. A rehabilitation project might immunize dislocated populations against disease, provide seeds and tools to farmers who have been adversely affected by disasters, drill water wells, or rehabilitate water systems in drought-stricken countries. USAID/OFDA carefully monitors the organizations implementing

USAID/OFDA Funding for Disaster Response by Agency Type — FY 2003

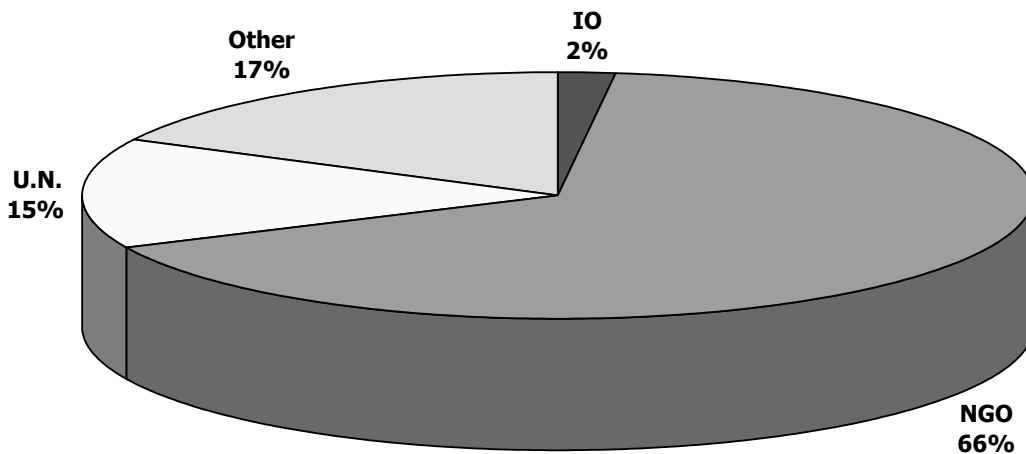


Chart is based on the total USAID/OFDA funding for Disaster Response in FY 2003 of \$290,905,060. (See page 14 for more budget information.)

these projects to ensure that resources are used wisely and to determine if the project needs to be adapted to changing conditions. The goal of each project is to meet the humanitarian needs of the affected population, with the aim of returning the beneficiaries to self-sufficiency.

Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, provides flexible authority that permits USAID/OFDA to respond to the needs of disaster victims in a timely manner. USAID/OFDA follows the standard USAID procedures for routine procurements, but utilizes expedited or modified procedures when necessary to achieve disaster response objectives. The first principle in disaster response accountability is to ensure that appropriate assistance gets to the neediest victims in time to minimize death and alleviate human suffering. Procurement and accounting procedures may be expedited, but must include effective systems of internal control.

USAID/OFDA also oversees a portfolio of mitigation projects designed to reduce the impact of disasters on victims and economic assets in disaster-prone countries. USAID/OFDA has invested in a number of programs in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, the World Environment Center, and other offices within USAID. These programs not only enhance a country's capacity to manage its own disasters and hazards, but also promote the transfer of technology, goods, and services between the United States and the host country. USAID/OFDA mitigation-related programs range from investing in drought early warning systems that can possibly head off a famine to training local relief workers to manage the response to a disaster more effectively. USAID/OFDA is increasingly investing in programs designed to prevent, mitigate, prepare, and plan for complex emergencies, which are more the result of human actions than of acts of nature.

Other U.S. Government Offices that Provide Foreign Humanitarian Assistance

USAID/OFDA is not the only USAID office that provides humanitarian aid to foreign countries. USAID/FFP, through funding provided by Public Law 480, Title II, provides food aid donations to cooperating sponsors (NGOs, cooperatives, WFP, and other IOs) to address both emergency food needs (targeting vulnerable, food-insecure populations affected by natural disasters, civil conflict, and other crises) and food security development activities. USAID/OTI is the office responsible for providing assistance to countries that are in a stage of transition from crisis to recovery. Its assistance is designed to facilitate the transition to peace and democracy by aiding in the demobilization of combatants or developing democratic governance and media structures within the affected country. Other parts of USAID, such as the regional bureaus, provide development aid, which often complements humanitarian relief programs or can be regarded as disaster rehabilitation or reconstruction assistance. Countries that have achieved sustainable development are less likely to require massive USG humanitarian assistance.

Other major providers of USG foreign humanitarian assistance include the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) and the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of Stability Operations (DOD/SO). Food aid provided under Section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 that

Overview

is administered by USDA has often been used for emergency feeding programs in countries experiencing food shortages due to drought and civil strife. USDA also provides international food assistance through the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program and the Food for Progress program. State/PRM provides multilateral grants to international relief organizations in response to refugee emergency appeals and contributes to the regular program budgets of organizations such as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). DOD/SO, in collaboration with USAID/OFDA, coordinates with other DOD offices to direct the utilization of DOD assets for humanitarian assistance overseas. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency also provide technical assistance, in coordination with USAID/OFDA, in response to disasters and potential hazards overseas.

The Legacy of Paul Bell: Doing the Right Thing

—By Richard S. Olson, Florida International University

Paul C. Bell Jr., USAID/OFDA's Senior Regional Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), passed away from heart complications in San José, Costa Rica on May 16, 2003. When some people die, they are mourned and missed by family and friends. Known as *Don Paul* by literally thousands of people, Paul Bell was mourned, and is now missed, by an entire hemisphere.

Joining USAID/OFDA in 1983, Paul became the key figure in coordinating U.S. Government responses to disasters throughout the region. Saying little in public and shunning the limelight, especially the media, he was a model of commitment, integrity, and courage. Inherently modest, he led by example, often working 50-60 hour weeks—even during “normal” times. Many of us still strive to live up to his daily standards, which is not easy. That commitment is probably the most daunting aspect of the Paul Bell legacy.



Paul once said that “OFDA’s job is to do the right thing,” and by that he meant in two important ways: Do right by the victims of a disaster, and do right by the United States taxpayer. He felt an intense empathy for disaster victims, especially those who were suddenly homeless, shattered, and disoriented. He went out of his way to not only deliver the best assistance possible but also show that the U.S. cared at the deeper, human, level. He understood that disaster recovery began with victim communities regaining self-confidence and self-respect. He said more than once, “Without that, they can’t rebuild.”

At the same time, he resisted the temptation to offer excessive assistance or make unrealistic promises. While Paul never let the United States fail disaster victims, he sometimes had to battle host country and U.S. officials to make certain that the appropriate assistance (not always the most photogenic) was in the pipeline and arrived at the right time. This was not always easy because trauma and a desire to help meant that some officials misunderstood that victim needs evolve and that the timing of assistance was often more important than mere “tonnage.” As one ambassador said during a very complicated disaster in the mid-1980s, “It’s hard to argue with Paul, he’s right too damn often.” Of course, that did not keep many ambassadors, deputy chiefs of mission, and USAID country directors from trying.

The Legacy of Paul Bell

Paul also insisted that the disaster-stricken countries step up to the plate themselves and take as much control—and therefore as much responsibility—as possible. He had little patience with governments that expected the United States Government and the international community to “do it all.” His perspective was always that USAID/OFDA and USAID were there to fill the gaps, to supplement host country efforts—not replace them. Indeed, *Don Paul* always respected the sovereignty of the host country, but for him that was a double-edged sword: He also expected them to take the lead or at least share the load in a disaster. There were a few battles on that front as well over the years. His combination of compassion and combativeness forms part of his legacy.

Equally respecting the countries of the region and demanding their participation in risk and disaster management was nowhere better illustrated than with the creation and development of what came to be known as the USAID/OFDA/LAC Risk Management Training Program, which has its origins in a devastating 18-month period in the mid-1980s.



Between March 1985 and October 1986, Chile, Mexico, and El Salvador all suffered major earthquakes, and Colombia saw the city of Armero literally wiped off the map by a volcano-induced lahar. At least 40,000 people were killed and a million left homeless in these disasters. Paul Bell had only been with USAID/OFDA a couple of years at this time, but he saw clearly that without leadership from USAID/OFDA and without significant host country participation and self-reliance in prevention, mitigation, and preparedness, the LAC region would see exponentially increasing human and property losses. The future was grim, or as he phrased it, “We’re going to see more people in worse places, and you know what that means.”

The solution, admittedly modest, was to create a training program conceptually led by LAC nationals from a variety of countries. USAID/OFDA/LAC would provide resources and management, but a cadre from Latin America and the Caribbean would determine needs and help design the appropriate courses. The result was a classic of the *Don Paul* style: The training program came substantively from the LAC region to USAID/OFDA, not from USAID/OFDA to the LAC region. Since 1987, 34,000 individuals have had at least one USAID/OFDA/LAC course. Many have had multiple courses and were inspired to become professionals in the field—another part of the Paul Bell legacy.

The Legacy of Paul Bell

The 1985-1986 period was a crucial time for USAID/OFDA/Washington as well, in part because of what they saw from Paul Bell and his team (Ricardo Bermúdez, Rene Carrillo, and Alejandro James): Objective damage evaluations and needs assessments. Until Paul and his team began to take charge of disaster field evaluations, USAID/OFDA/Washington was “hostage” (in the words of one 20-year OFDA veteran) to reports and requests from inexperienced and often traumatized ambassadors, deputy chiefs of mission, and USAID/OFDA personnel. With Paul in the region (and often literally flying at that moment to a disaster site), USAID/OFDA/Washington could say, “We’ll wait on that until Paul has a chance to report.” OFDA tailoring its response to professionally determined needs is yet another part of the Paul Bell legacy.

Despite all the disasters, catastrophes, and bureaucratic paperwork, Paul kept everything in perspective. His rock was always his family, his wife Carolyn for many years and his children and their families. Except in an emergency, our conversations always began with how our respective



families were doing, and he was happiest when his children and then grandchildren were visiting or about to visit. Family as the core value allowed Paul Bell to be permanently centered.

At the same time, he had a wicked sense of humor that also helped to deflect daily frustrations. Most of these stories are carefully guarded and only told privately, but one can probably be shared. In one event Paul Bell indicated after a field visit that only a modest amount of assistance was objectively needed to help victims reestablish viable communities. In one of the rare instances when his assessment was overruled for larger political reasons, however, a notably generous amount of assistance was granted. His comment was, “With apologies to Churchill, never has so much been given to so few for so little.” He then shrugged and went to his next task.

Looking back over our 20-year friendship, I was reminded at his Washington memorial service that Paul was the son of missionaries, that he began his career in Latin America as a missionary. Moving away from that to administration in the Peace Corps and then to the Inter-American Foundation, he found his real calling with USAID/OFDA, where, as one of his friends said, “His flock became the entire hemisphere, millions of people.” That is his true legacy.



Africa



Opposite: Children collecting water at a USAID/OFDA-funded water pump in Ethiopia (photo by Ron Libby, USAID/OFDA).

Algeria Earthquake

On May 21, 2003, at 5:44 p.m. local time, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck northern Algeria. According to the USGS, the epicenter of the earthquake was approximately 72 km east of Algiers, at a depth of approximately 9 km, near the town of Thenia. The cities of Algiers, Bourmedes, and Rouiba sustained the most damage from the earthquake. A hospital collapsed in Bourmedes, approximately 48 km east of Algiers, and telecommunication networks in the region were severely disrupted. At least ten aftershocks occurred in heavily populated areas, including three with magnitudes greater than 5.0.

This was the most severe earthquake to hit Algeria since 1980. On May 22, the Government of Algeria (GOA) requested international assistance for 52 communes in three wilayas with a total affected population of 2 million. The GOA reported initially that 800 people were killed, 5,600 others were injured, and approximately 10,000 residents were left homeless. Final casualty figures reported by the IFRC indicated that 3,000 people were killed, 10,000 others injured, and 19,000 left homeless as a result of the devastating earthquake.

On May 22, 2003, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Marc J. Sievers declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the earthquake. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to the Algerian

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Red Crescent Society for the local procurement of emergency relief supplies. In addition, on May 23, USAID/OFDA airlifted 6,000 blankets, three medical supply kits (each kit provides for 10,000 beneficiaries for three months), and 600 tents to be used for temporary shelter. The total value of these commodities was more than \$325,000, including transport.

From May 29 to June 2, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor conducted an assessment of the humanitarian situation in the affected areas. On May 31, USAID/OFDA airlifted a second tranche of relief supplies, including three water purification units, 10,000 blankets, 500 body bags, and 5 medical kits, valued at approximately \$215,000, including transport. On June 2, USAID/OFDA airlifted 1,000 tents to assist those left homeless by the earthquake at a cost of nearly \$240,000, including transport.

DOD also responded to the needs of those affected by the earthquake. On May 29, DOD's Defense Security Cooperation Agency airlifted 160 tents, valued at \$424,000, including transport. On May 30, EUCOM airlifted medical supply kits, blankets, and tents, valued at \$90,000, including transport. On June 5, EUCOM airlifted additional emergency relief supplies, including large kitchen tents, field stoves, kitchen sets, generators, one water pump, 500 blankets, 200 cots, and 360 sleeping bags, valued at \$278,000, including transport.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$873,047
Other USG Assistance.....\$792,000
Total USG Assistance.....\$1,665,047

Angola Complex Emergency

On April 4, 2002, representatives of the Government of the Republic of Angola (GRA) and the National Union for the Independence of Angola (UNITA) signed a

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ending the country's 27-year civil war. The decades of conflict caused massive internal displacement and refugee outflows, estimated by the GRA to be more than 4 million people (one third of the total population) in 2001. Accompanying these population movements were the collapse or destruction of key agricultural, health, education, and transportation infrastructure, limiting the GRA's ability to provide basic public services.

The 2002 MOU fundamentally changed the humanitarian situation in Angola, creating a new set of opportunities and challenges for the provision of humanitarian assistance. Although the end of the war enabled increased access to vulnerable populations, other factors including the demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, the return and resettlement of displaced populations and refugees, the lack of basic health access and food security, and landmine incidents were reminders of the continued need for relief assistance.

Large-scale internal population movements resulted from the increased access provided by the peace. The majority of IDPs returned home spontaneously, often before adequate humanitarian services were provided. Angola's chronic problems compounded the precarious humanitarian situation. According to a USAID-funded survey by UNICEF in 2002, Angola has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. More than 25 percent of Angolan children die before the age of five, and overall life expectancy is 45 years. In addition, 60 percent of all households in Angola lived below the poverty line in 2002.

On November 7, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Donald J. Gatto redeclared a disaster in response to the ongoing humanitarian situation. USAID/OFDA provided emergency relief supplies, including blankets, water containers, kitchen sets, and soap, valued at more than

\$2 million. USAID/OFDA also supported more than \$6.7 million in emergency health and nutrition initiatives in Angola, including maternal and child health programs, public health initiatives, and immunization programs implemented by AAH/USA, Africare, CRS, Christian Children's Fund, GOAL, and IMC. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$3.2 million to Development Workshop and Oxfam to improve the provision of water and sanitation for returnees. USAID/OFDA also supported programs to increase food security through the provision of seeds and tools and agricultural programs with grants totaling more than \$4.7 million to FAO and WVI. USAID/OFDA contributed more than \$2 million to UN OCHA and WFP for logistics and relief coordination activities.

USAID/FFP provided 164,760 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$103 million. USAID/OTI provided \$3.2 million to implement programs that promote key transition issues, such as strengthening independent media and nurturing broad participatory processes. State/PRM provided \$12.5 million through UNHCR and other NGOs and IOs to support refugee programs. The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political Military Affairs (State/PM) contributed \$3.5 million for mine action activities implemented through demining operators HALO Trust, Menschen gegen Minen (MgM), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and NPA. Mine risk education was implemented by Handicap International.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$19,516,211
Other USG Assistance.....\$122,953,620
Total USG Assistance\$142,469,831



Beneficiaries of the TFC for severely malnourished children in Burundi's central Gitega Region receiving enriched porridge for treatment (photo by Denise Gordon, USAID/OFDA).

Burundi

Complex Emergency

Since 1993, ethnic violence has persisted between Hutu opposition forces, Forces for National Liberation (FNL) and Forces for the Defense of Democracy (FDD), and Government of Burundi (GOB) forces. The conflict has displaced more than 1.3 million Burundians and claimed the lives of more than 300,000 people. During FY 2003, peace negotiations continued but failed to produce results. In January 2003, the GOB, the FDD, and factions of the FNL agreed to establish a Joint Cease-fire Commission, prompting the African Union (AU) to deploy a Military Observer Mission to monitor the cease-fire. In April 2003, President Pierre Buyoya relinquished the presidency to Vice-President Domitien Ndayizeye, in compliance with the Arusha Peace Accords. Implementation of the cease-fire agreement eventually faltered, as the FNL remained outside of the negotiations.

Opposition groups and GOB forces clashed periodically around the capital, Bujumbura,

Africa

and sporadically across the country, prompting temporary population displacements of as many as 100,000 per month, according to UN OCHA. An estimated 281,000 Burundians were internally displaced during FY 2003, approximately 100,000 less than in FY 2002. During FY 2003, an estimated 840,000 Burundians continued to live as refugees in neighboring countries, with most in Tanzania, and others in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Zambia. UNHCR helped an estimated 55,000 Burundian refugees to repatriate.

Insecurity in Burundi limited the delivery of food assistance throughout FY 2003. WFP cancelled more than a third of planned food distributions and assessment missions. Population displacements hindered access to emergency nutrition feeding programs. In July 2003, intense fighting around Bujumbura led numerous international NGOs to temporarily evacuate staff, further frustrating relief efforts.

On October 16, 2002, U.S. Ambassador James H. Yellin redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing conflict and subsequent humanitarian situation. During FY 2003, USAID/OFDA's funding focused on the emergency health, food security, nutrition, and water and sanitation sectors, while strengthening the capacity of early warning and crisis management structures to respond to and mitigate new crises. In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$11.9 million in humanitarian assistance to Burundi, through awards to Africare, CRS, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, IMC, IRC, Solidarités, Tearfund, UN OCHA, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, and WVI.

USAID/FFP supported WFP's Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation in the Great Lakes Region during FY 2003, which targeted more than 1.1 million vulnerable Burundians. During FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided 41,660 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at nearly \$24 million, consisting of corn, pulses, and corn-soya blend.

In FY 2003, USAID/OTI contributed \$2.2 million to programs that encourage popular support for the Arusha Peace Accords and enhance the Burundian legislature's role in promoting peace and reconciliation. State/PRM contributed \$921,000, mostly to UNHCR's refugee programs within Burundi.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$11,942,656
Other USG Assistance.....\$26,958,800
Total USG Assistance\$38,901,456

Central African Republic Complex Emergency

Following an attempted coup d'état on October 25, 2002, armed conflict between opposition forces and military troops of the Government of the Central African Republic (GCAR) resulted in widespread looting, rape, and destruction of property in the northern and central regions of the country. According to U.N. agencies, the violence displaced more than 10,000 residents inside CAR and isolated an estimated two-thirds of the country from the capital of Bangui. An additional 21,000 refugees fled north into neighboring Chad.

On March 13, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Mattie R. Sharpless declared a disaster due to the increasing health, IDP, and refugee crises resulting from the civil conflict. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to CRS to reduce mortality rates by providing emergency medical supplies and health care to affected populations through a local NGO, the Association des Oeuvres Médicales pour la Santé en Centrafrique. State/PRM contributed \$1.3 million to UNHCR and ICRC to support refugee and returnee populations in CAR.

On August 1, following several months of continued fighting and insecurity, a joint security operation by GCAR forces and peacekeepers from the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States declared northern

CAR safe, and IDPs and refugees began to return to their homes.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000
Other USG Assistance.....\$1,300,000
Total USG Assistance\$1,350,000

Côte d'Ivoire

Complex Emergency

Côte d'Ivoire has experienced continued violence and chronic instability since an attempted coup d'état by opposition forces in September 2002. The country is divided between the mainly Christian and animist, government-controlled south and the predominately Islamic, opposition-held north. In October 2002, French peacekeepers agreed to monitor the cease-fire line. The main opposition group, New Forces, joined the coalition government in April 2003 under a French-brokered peace settlement, but walked out in September 2003, delaying the start of a national disarmament program.

During FY 2003, fighting displaced more than 800,000 people in Côte d'Ivoire. Approximately 400,000 refugees and third country nationals fled Côte d'Ivoire and tens of thousands more were in need of protection and emergency humanitarian assistance. In addition to causing large-scale internal displacement and limiting access to relief assistance, the violence and instability in Côte d'Ivoire also threatened to destabilize the neighboring countries of Guinea and Liberia.

On November 7, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Arlene Render declared a disaster in Côte d'Ivoire due to the adverse effect of the violence and displacement of vulnerable populations. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Yamoussoukro to ICRC for the provision of emergency relief supplies to meet the immediate relief needs, specifically emergency health needs, of those affected by the conflict.

USAID/OFDA also provided approximately \$383,000 to Merlin in support of emergency health care through mobile health clinics for rural communities surrounding Daloa, Yamoussoukro, and Bouake, and more than \$490,000 to SCF/UK to support primary health care for children. To respond to nutritional needs, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$250,000 to AAH/USA to support TFCs. USAID/OFDA also provided more than \$840,000 to IRC to fund emergency water and sanitation programs for IDPs.

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided 9,280 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$6.3 million, to WFP's West Africa Coastal Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, a portion of which is dedicated to feeding Liberian refugees in Côte d'Ivoire, and Ivorian refugees in Liberia and Guinea. State/PRM provided more than \$5.3 million to assist refugees, displaced third country nationals, and conflict victims in Côte d'Ivoire.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$2,437,100
Other USG Assistance.....\$11,657,170
Total USG Assistance\$14,094,270

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Complex Emergency

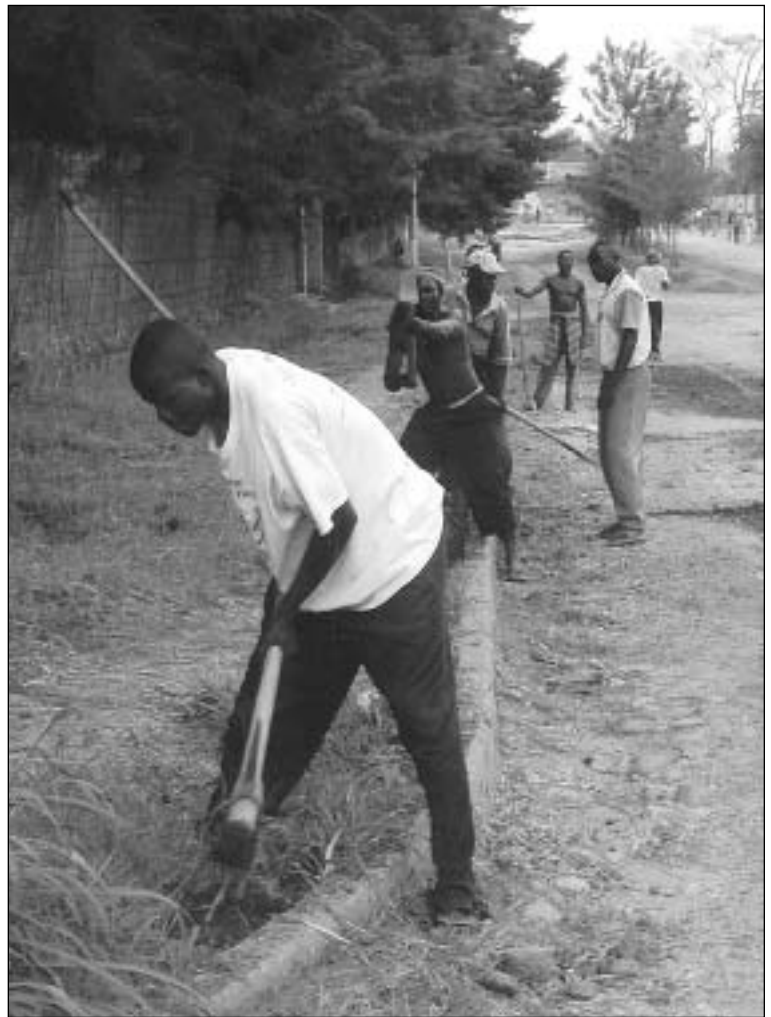
During FY 2003, significant progress was made in the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, established in 1999 as part of the Lusaka Peace Accords. In December 2002, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (GDRC) and the primary political opposition groups and civil society representatives signed a power-sharing deal to establish a government of national unity. Between April and July 2003, President Joseph Kabila promulgated a transitional constitution, dialogue participants agreed on the DRC's military structure, and vice-presidents and ministers were inducted into office.

Africa

Insecurity, the lack of viable infrastructure, and restricted access to vulnerable populations, however, continued to hinder the distribution of emergency relief assistance during FY 2003. Civil strife in urban and rural areas limited access to agricultural land and traditional markets, exacerbating food insecurity. The health care system further eroded due to a lack of resources and continuous looting by different parties in the conflict. Since 1998, a combination of regional war and civil strife has claimed an estimated 3.3 million lives. In 2003, UN OCHA reported that there were 3.4 million IDPs within the GDRC, while UNHCR estimated that there were 389,000 Congolese refugees in neighboring countries.

The peace process stalled in eastern DRC as armed opposition groups took advantage of the power vacuum left by departing Rwandan and Ugandan troops. Throughout North and South Kivu provinces and Ituri District, clashes between Mai-Mai forces, the Congolese Rally for Democracy-Goma (RCD-G), and the RCD-Kisangani Liberation Movement (RCD-KLM) led to increased insecurity and population displacement to nearby villages and neighboring Uganda and Burundi. Violence began in October 2002, and culminated in the May 2003 killings of at least 429 residents in Bunia, Ituri District. Insecurity frequently hindered relief efforts, as convoys were ambushed and relief workers in Ituri District were temporarily evacuated.

On May 30, 2003, the U.N. Security Council (UNSC) approved the deployment of a French-led Interim Emergency Multinational Force (MNF) to secure Bunia and reinforce the presence of the U.N. Mission in the Congo (MONUC). Established in 1999 as a multinational peacekeeping force to oversee the implementation of the Lusaka Peace Accords, MONUC lacked sufficient troop



Residents of Bunia, Ituri District, participate in a GAA cash-for-work road rehabilitation project (photo by Kate Stone, USAID/OFDA).

strength to enforce the peace. On July 28, the UNSC adopted a resolution giving MONUC a stronger mandate and increased its authorized troop size from 8,700 to 10,800. On September 1, 2003, a 4,000-member MONUC Ituri Brigade officially replaced the MNF and began a campaign to extend MONUC's authority beyond Bunia, further into Ituri District.

On November 4, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Aubrey J. Hooks redeclared a disaster as a result of the continued fighting and insecurity. During FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$31.8 million in emergency relief assistance to the DRC. USAID/OFDA supported programs in food security and nutrition, as well as emergency health care interventions,

including reconstructive surgery for victims of sexual violence. USAID/OFDA also supported agricultural programs for vulnerable populations and contributed to emergency market infrastructure rehabilitation. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through grants to AAH/USA, AirServ International, CARE, FHI, GAA, IMC, IRC, Merlin, Première Urgence, SCF/UK, Solidarités, UMCOR, FAO, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, and WVI.

During FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided 53,870 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$43.5 million. Following a Joint Inter-Agency Assessment Mission, WFP launched a \$38.2 million Emergency Operation (EMOP) scheduled to continue until March 2004. The EMOP targeted 483,000 conflict-affected people in northern and eastern DRC.

USAID/OTI provided \$4.4 million in FY 2003 for a national, multi-faceted program to support the transition to peace in the DRC. Through Fondation Hironnelle and Search for Common Ground, USAID/OTI supported MONUC's Radio Okapi to increase availability and access to balanced information on humanitarian assistance, the peace process, and demobilization and reintegration. Through a sub-grants program with CARE, USAID/OTI provided assistance to local and national groups, and encouraged support of the Lusaka Peace Accords and the Ituri Interim Administration.

During FY 2003, State/PRM provided nearly \$4.6 million to assist refugees in the DRC. Of that total, State/PRM provided nearly \$3.8 million to UNHCR programs. State/PRM also provided \$200,000 to WFP for refugee feeding programs and more than \$641,000 to the IRC for assistance to Angolan refugees in the DRC.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$31,888,855
Other USG Assistance.....\$52,520,905
Total USG Assistance.....\$84,409,760

Eritrea

Drought

Three years of below average rainfall, successive poor harvests, significant livestock losses, and a main crop failure in FY 2003 created widespread food insecurity in Eritrea. In August 2002, the Government of the State of Eritrea's (GSE) Eritrean Relief and Refugee Commission (ERREC) reported food production deficits of nearly 300,000 MT. In addition, a significant decrease in the water table caused acute potable water shortages for people and livestock countrywide. The border conflict with Ethiopia and political tensions with Sudan disrupted cross-border trading activities, further exacerbating Eritrea's precarious economic situation. As a result of declines in trade and local food production, market grain prices were two to three times higher in FY 2003 than in FY 2002, and were thus unaffordable for most rural households. According to the U.N. 2003 CAP, an estimated 2.3 million Eritreans, representing more than two-thirds of the total population, required humanitarian assistance in 2003.

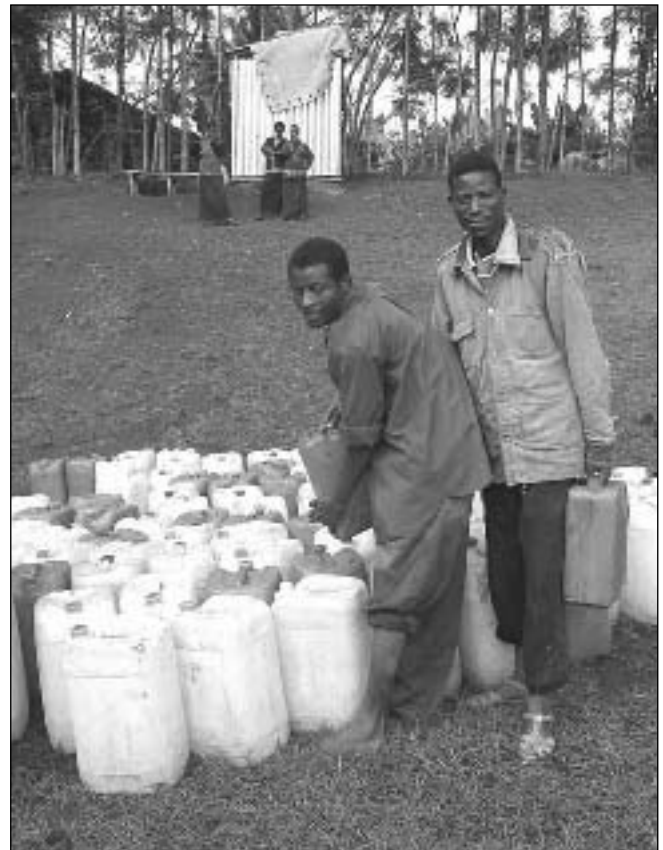
On December 2, 2002, U.S. Ambassador to Eritrea Donald J. McConnell declared a disaster due to the effects of the drought. In response, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$2.1 million to CRS, CONCERN, Mercy Corps, and UNICEF for emergency water distribution and water supply rehabilitation for nearly 156,000 beneficiaries in Debub, Anseba, and Northern Red Sea zones. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$700,000 to support CARE with emergency food recovery programs for more than 12,600 vulnerable families and 700 female-headed households in Gash Barka and Debub zones. USAID/OFDA also provided nearly \$500,000 to CARE and CRS for agricultural and livestock recovery programs for approximately 8,625 drought-affected households in Gash Barka and Debub zones.

Africa

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided approximately 151,970 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance commodities, valued at more than \$63.2 million, through WFP, Mercy Corps, and CRS. This contribution represented more than half of the U.N.'s estimated total food assistance requirements for drought-affected populations in Eritrea.

In FY 2003, State/PRM made earmarked contributions of nearly \$4.3 million to UNHCR, IMC, and CARE for refugee programs in Eritrea. State/PRM-funded activities included primary health care for Eritrean refugees repatriating from Sudan and a program to prevent gender-based violence among returned refugees in Gash Barka Zone, western Eritrea.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$3,296,633
Other USG Assistance.....\$67,569,874
Total USG Assistance\$70,866,507



Villagers in SNNP Region, Ethiopia, receive USAID/OFDA relief assistance (photo by Mia Beers, USAID/OFDA).

Ethiopia

Drought

Drought conditions continued to adversely affect both pastoral and agricultural areas, particularly the lowlands and midlands of Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP); Tigray; Oromiya; Amhara; Somali; and Afar regions during FY 2003. A September 2002 Joint Appeal by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's (GFDRE) Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), and the U.N.'s Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (EUE) estimated that 12.6 million people required more than 1.5 million MT of food assistance during 2003.

On July 16, 2003, the Tufts University Feinstein International Famine Center (FIFC) released a study of the drought situation in Ethiopia. Commissioned by USAID/OFDA and USAID/Ethiopia, researchers characterized the 2002/2003 crisis as one of the most widespread

and severe emergencies in Ethiopia's history. According to the FIFC report, although the rains returned quickly to normal levels, affected populations remained vulnerable due to debt burdens, poor health, decreased seed stocks, and fewer livestock.

On August 12, the DPPC issued an updated appeal based on July assessments of pastoral areas following the *belg* or secondary (March through May) rains. The revised appeal estimated that 13.2 million Ethiopians faced ongoing food insecurity and required 1.8 million MT of emergency food commodities during the remainder of 2003—an increase of 600,000 beneficiaries and nearly 300,000 MT since September 2002. In addition, the DPPC appealed to donors for 200,000 MT of cereals and 50,000 MT of pulses that could be used as contingency supplies during 2004, if not used in 2003.

In addition to the severe drought situation during FY 2003, Ethiopia faced malnutrition, malaria, and measles health crises. Crop production failures, inconsistent distribution of food rations, high rates of diarrheal and infectious diseases, and lack of dietary diversity resulted in widespread malnutrition in affected areas. According to the July 2003 FIFC Report, an estimated 11 percent of rural inhabitants suffered from severe malnutrition.

As a result of malnutrition, affected populations were increasingly vulnerable to diseases. Under normal circumstances, approximately 75 percent of Ethiopians are at risk annually for malaria. The malaria threat increased significantly during FY 2003 as Ethiopia faced an epidemic year in the malaria transmission cycle. In addition, a measles outbreak posed a serious health risk for unvaccinated children under the age of five despite an accelerated nationwide immunization campaign.

On October 29, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas N. Hull, III redeclared a disaster in response to the continuing drought situation and increased public health concerns. As the humanitarian situation deteriorated throughout FY 2003, USAID/OFDA deployed a USAID/DART on May 9 to Addis Ababa to enhance the non-food response to the emerging crisis. USAID/DART conducted field visits in all six drought-affected regions, monitored the humanitarian situation throughout the country, and recommended areas requiring USAID/OFDA programs. In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$31.8 million to support emergency health, nutrition, water and sanitation, and agricultural recovery activities in drought-affected areas.

USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$8.5 million to support health and nutrition

programs nationwide through implementing partners UNICEF, WFP, ACF/F, ADRA, CONCERN, GOAL, IMC, SCF/US, and WVI to assist more than 5 million beneficiaries.

USAID/OFDA contributed approximately \$6.2 million in response to the GFDRE's estimated \$10 million seed shortfall to implementing partners CARE, CISP, CRS, FHI, GAA, SCF/UK, Oxfam, and WVI for emergency seed distributions. USAID/OFDA's intervention assisted approximately 347,790 drought-affected households in Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Somali regions.

USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6.8 million to support water and sanitation programs through AmRC, CARE, CISP, COOPI, GAA, IRC, Merlin, Oxfam/GB, SCF/US, and WVI for approximately



USG officials visit USAID/OFDA-funded water tankering project by Merlin in Arsi Zone, Oromiya Region (photo by Ron Libby, USAID/OFDA).

756,000 beneficiaries in the Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray regions.

USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$3.15 million to CARE, SCF/UK, WVI, and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church for cash for relief activities for more than 256,000 beneficiaries in Amhara, Oromiya, and SNNP regions.



Ethiopian villagers line up for coupons at a USAID/OFDA-funded seed fair (photo by Ron Libby, USAID/OFDA).

support to the DPPC and the Ministry of Health.

The USG was the largest donor of food assistance to Ethiopia in FY 2003, providing more than 50 percent of the total contributions in response to the emergency. In FY 2003, USAID/FFP programmed 1,014,000 MT of commodities valued at approximately \$457 million through ICRC, WFP, and NGOs. In addition, USAID/FFP deployed personnel to augment USAID/Ethiopia's Food and Humanitarian Assistance Unit.

USAID/OFDA also provided \$575,000 to UN OCHA and FAO for coordination of humanitarian assistance activities nationwide, nearly \$470,000 to Tufts University for animal health projects in Somali Region, \$1.7 million to SCF/US and the DPPC for nationwide rapid response projects and distribution of humanitarian assistance commodities, approximately \$780,000 to the International Resources Group (IRG) for humanitarian assessments, and an estimated \$567,000 for administrative support.

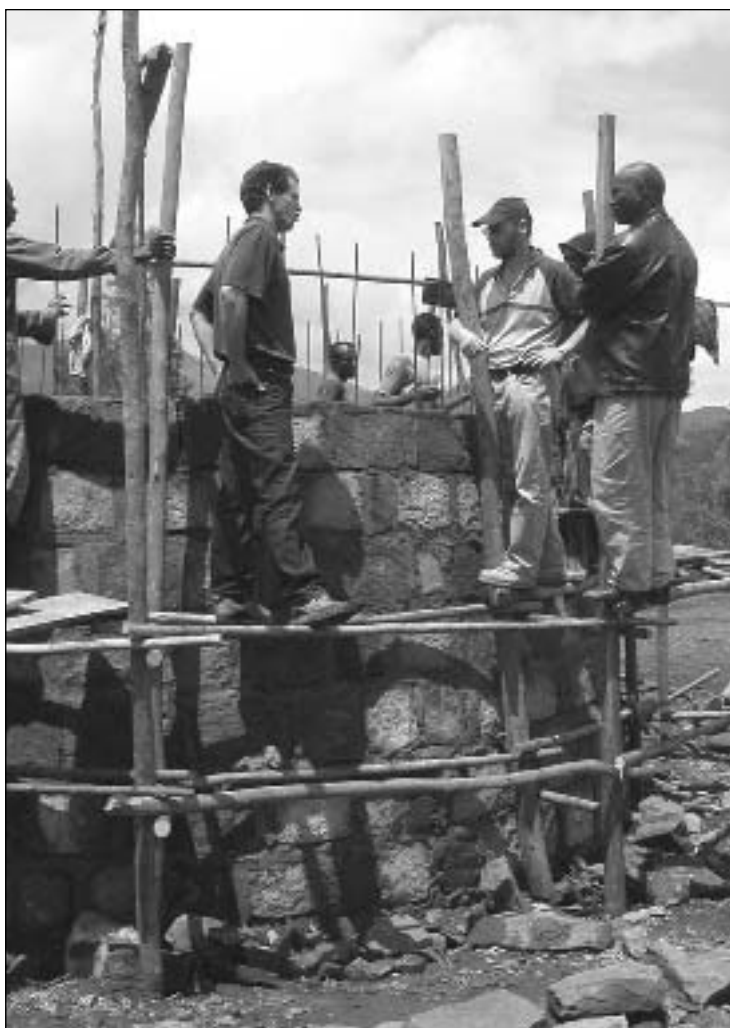
In FY 2003, USAID/Ethiopia channeled \$21 million in Development Assistance (DA) funds for emergency-related health, nutrition, and agricultural assistance programs through the Carter Center, GOAL, World Learning and other NGOs, as well as UNICEF, WFP, and WHO. USAID/Ethiopia's programs at the national and regional levels focused on building organizational capacity, as well as supporting food security initiatives, rapid response, food assistance, nutritional surveillance, therapeutic feeding, and the nationwide measles campaign. USAID/Ethiopia also provided ongoing technical

State/PRM provided more than \$6.8 million in FY 2003 to support refugee assistance and protection, feeding, and literacy programs for an estimated 129,000 refugees in Ethiopia, primarily from Sudan, Somalia, and Eritrea. The funds were provided through the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa, IRC, UNHCR, and WFP.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$31,799,195
Other USG Assistance.....\$484,706,739
Total USG Assistance\$516,505,934

Ethiopia Floods

Despite ongoing drought conditions throughout most of Ethiopia during FY 2003, concentrated rainfall in late April and early May 2003 caused heavy flooding in areas of Somali, Oromiya, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions. On April 22, the Wabe Shebelle River overflowed its banks, flooding lowland areas of Somali Region and forcing thousands of people from their homes. According to UNICEF, the flooding killed



USAID/DART/Ethiopia consults with OXFAM and local partner Acts of Compassion regarding the construction of a reservoir in Gamo Walana, Boloso Sore Woreda, Wolayita Zone, SNNPR. (photo by Sara Westrick, USAID/OFDA).

119 people, displaced an estimated 110,000 residents, and damaged 879 homes, three schools, and five health clinics. With limited resources already being used to respond to the ongoing drought and humanitarian crisis, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia requested international emergency assistance for the flooding from international donors, the U.N., and ICRC.

On May 9, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Aurelia E. Brazeal declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$110,000 through ICRC for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies including jerry cans,

cooking pots, plastic sheeting, and blankets to an estimated 3,200 households in Gode Zone, Somali Region.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$110,000

The Gambia

Food Security

Below average cumulative rainfall during the 2002 growing season led to the failure of a majority of The Gambia's food and cash crop production. Insufficient rainfall in May 2002 delayed planting by two to three weeks, after which a five to seven week dry spell (from July into August 2002), damaged the remaining crops. The resumption of rainfall in mid-September was not adequate to save the crops and guarantee a minimum level of food security during the dry season.

According to FAO, the erratic rainfall affected more than 360,000 people, mostly in rural areas. In addition, the higher prices for staple foods, due to the poor harvest, exacerbated food insecurity. On August 5, 2002, the Government of The Gambia (GOG) declared a crop failure and food shortage crisis. In January 2003, the GOG appealed for international emergency relief assistance to help the drought-affected populations.

On February 19, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Jackson C. McDonald declared a disaster due to the food security crisis caused by the insufficient rains and drought conditions. USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$682,000 to CRS for a seed fair and voucher program to benefit 25,000 farming households. USAID/FFP also provided 2,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$1.1 million, through WFP to assist those most affected.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$682,392
 Other USG Assistance.....\$1,096,700
 Total USG Assistance\$1,779,092

Kenya Floods

Three weeks of heavy rainfall in May 2003 caused severe flooding in the Eastern, Western and Coast provinces of Kenya. According to UN OCHA, the flooding killed at least 55 people throughout the affected areas and displaced an estimated 44,000 people in Western and Nyanza provinces, including approximately 3,000 refugees living in the Dadaab refugee camp. Flooding in Eastern and Coast provinces displaced an additional 20,000 residents as dams on the Tana River exceeded their capacity.

On May 12, U.S. Ambassador Johnnie Carson issued a disaster declaration due to the damage and displacement caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$82,000 through USAID/Kenya to the Kenya Red Cross for the local purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies including plastic sheeting, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, and bar soap for an estimated 10,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA also provided \$100,000 to UNDP for the coordination of U.N. disaster prevention and management activities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$182,000



Men thatching roof of new IDP shelter, Maimu III (photo by Fiona Shanks, USAID/OFDA).

Liberia Complex Emergency

Between June and August 2003, increased conflict between Government of Liberia (GOL) military forces and two major opposition groups, Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) and the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL), led to large-scale population displacements. Under considerable international pressure to relinquish his presidency, Charles Taylor resigned on August 11, 2003, and went into exile in Nigeria. On August 17, GOL, LURD, and MODEL representatives signed a peace agreement in Accra, Ghana, allowing for a transitional government to assume power on October 14, 2003. The National Transitional Government of Liberia (NTGL) led by interim president Gyude Bryant is expected to remain in office until the election of a new government in October 2005.

As a result of the escalation in fighting during the summer of 2003, tens of thousands of IDPs fled camps west of Monrovia in advance of attacking LURD forces. Other IDPs fled from areas in the southeast around Buchanan, moving ahead of advancing MODEL troops. The IDPs, joined by newly displaced from within Monrovia, found shelter in abandoned ministry buildings, the sports stadium, schools, clinics, and empty houses throughout the capital. Increasing IDP numbers presented a major challenge to the small international humanitarian community that remained in Liberia during this crisis.

At the height of the fighting, an estimated 70 percent of the population of Liberia qualified as displaced. In addition, approximately 152,000 IDPs were living in more than 160

USAID/OFDA Uses Cash Grants to Alleviate Chronic Food Insecurity in Ethiopia

—By Ngoc Clark and Sara Westrick

Seyfu Gebreselassie, a subsistence farmer living in Debdebo village in the northern region of Tigray, faced a grave situation in June 2003. The vital *azmera* rains that usually occur between February and May had failed, leaving crops stunted and wilted. The chronically food insecure area was suffering from severe drought conditions and extreme seed shortages for the upcoming planting season. With no assets to sell, no labor opportunities, and no means to buy seeds, Seyfu had few remaining options. He could leave his field fallow, send his children to live with relatives and migrate to another area to look for work, or obtain a high interest seed loan that may have cost more than his expected harvest yield.



Ethiopian subsistence farmer Seyfu Gebreselassie answers USAID/OFDA team questions about cash-for-seed intervention program (photo by Paolo Dieci, CISP).

At that time, Seyfu's fellow villagers selected him to be a beneficiary of an innovative program in Tigray, a USAID/OFDA-funded grant to Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli and the Relief Society of Tigray (CISP/REST) to provide small cash allowances to needy farmers. In July 2003, Seyfu signed an agreement with CISP/REST and the local district agriculture officials acknowledging that the cash must only be used to buy seeds. He then received the Ethiopian equivalent of \$17.40, and later reported to CISP/REST that he bought teff (a cereal grass) and barley seeds. Unlike distributing seeds purchased by an outside organization, providing small cash grants stimulates the regional economy and allows farmers to choose the seed varieties they prefer, usually local seeds that are consistent with the particular characteristics of the area's soil and climate. Because of the USAID/OFDA and CISP/REST cash-for-seed intervention, Seyfu was able to prepare and plant his field in time for the main rainy season. By November 2003, the land had yielded a good harvest and possibly even provided enough seeds for planting during 2004. Seyfu was able to keep his family together and produce sufficient food to last for the next several months without additional food assistance.

During 2003, successive and cumulative climatic shocks, combined with the collapse of the agricultural and livestock markets eroded the asset base and coping strategies of millions of Ethiopians like Seyfu. Although many households were able

to cope with the effects of a single poor rainy season, the impact of consecutive below-average rainy seasons depleted assets and exhausted traditional coping mechanisms, such as selling livestock or other material possessions. As a result of these compounding factors, household vulnerability increased to crisis levels. In response to the widespread food insecurity, USAID/OFDA committed more than \$4.4 million to fund four pilot cash-for-relief initiatives implemented by SCF/UK in Amhara Region, WVI and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in SNNP Region, and CARE in Oromiya Region, plus the cash-for-seed project by CISP/REST in Tigray Region. In all, USAID/OFDA's cash grant programs reached an estimated 433,920 beneficiaries in FY 2003, targeting the most affected

communities through a consultative and collaborative selection process that involved regional authorities, village leaders, and community-based NGO staff. Tailored to the particular needs of the region, USAID/OFDA's cash grant programs provided beneficiaries with an immediate source of income to stimulate purchasing power and promote market access. The projects were designed to reduce malnutrition and excess mortality by meeting emergency household needs through one-time grants, usually distributed in three installments.

"Compared to traditional cash-for-work programs, cash grant programs are more likely to benefit the most vulnerable populations," said WVI Relief Manager Dr. Mesfin Loha. "Cash grants empower families by providing the flexibility and resources to obtain healthcare, pay school fees, purchase agricultural inputs, restock animals, create small businesses, and pay off outstanding debts. Cash grants also provide direct benefits to recipients as well as indirect assistance to local trading and business communities through the flow of cash into the local economy," added Dr. Mesfin.



USAID/OFDA team and CISP/REST interview seed beneficiaries in Debdebo village, Tigray Region, Ethiopia (photo by Paolo Dieci, CISP).

As a staunch supporter of USG humanitarian and development assistance to Ethiopia, USAID's Administrator has been a longtime advocate of finding solutions to address the underlying causes of food insecurity in order to break the cycle of famine that exists in the Horn of Africa. USAID/OFDA's cash grant program arrived at a critical time in Ethiopia's humanitarian crisis and presented a flexible assistance alternative that contributed to the rehabilitation of livelihoods. Cash grants also proved to be an important component in promoting linkages between relief and development, as a majority of beneficiaries invested a portion of their money in productive assets. In addition, the distribution of cash allowed individuals and communities to begin making a series of decisions, giving them the power to prioritize needs for their families and presenting them with a creative way to receive relief assistance with dignity.

unofficial shelters in Monrovia, with at least as many IDPs sharing domiciles with town residents. In September 2003, despite the August signing of the Accra peace accord and the deployment of the Economic Community of West African States' Mission in Liberia (ECOMIL), LURD attacks in Totota forced an additional 50,000 people out of IDP camps in Bong County to Salala.

On October 28, 2002, U.S. Ambassador John W. Blaney redeclared a disaster due to the humanitarian consequences of the continued conflict and displacement. On August 6, 2003, a USAID/DART deployed to assess humanitarian

needs and coordinate the provision of USG-funded assistance to vulnerable populations in accessible affected areas of Liberia. The USAID/DART was comprised of staff from USAID, the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and was based in Monrovia until its departure at the end of October 2003. On August 15, USAID/OFDA airlifted 26.5 MT of relief commodities to Monrovia in support of emergency water, shelter, and health needs. The commodities included 300 rolls of plastic sheeting, 5,000 wool blankets, 5,000 10-liter jerry cans, and five 3,000-gallon water bladders. The relief items supported approximately

15,000 beneficiaries. In addition, the USAID/OFDA airlift included a WHO emergency health kit with medicine and health supplies for 30,000 people. The total value of the commodities including transport was more than \$224,000.

In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$5.6 million in total emergency humanitarian assistance to Liberia, through grants to ACF/F, CRS, IRC, Johns Hopkins University, Merlin, Oxfam, SCF/UK, UN OCHA, and WFP. Through these implementing partners, USAID/OFDA's funding focused on emergency responses in the emergency health, food security, nutrition, and water and sanitation sectors, while strengthening the capacity of early warning and crisis management structures to respond to and mitigate new crises.

USAID/FFP provided 24,480 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, valued at \$17 million, consisting of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, and corn-soya blend for TFCs and SFPs. State/PRM contributed more than \$12.4 million through ICRC, IRC, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNSECOORD, WFP, and WHO to support refugees and conflict victims in Liberia.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$5,679,543
 Other USG Assistance.....\$29,439,696
 Total USG Assistance\$35,119,239

Madagascar

Cyclone

On May 8, 2003, Cyclone Manou struck the central east coast of Madagascar, bringing heavy rains and winds of up to 200 km per hour to the districts of Vatomandry and Vohibinan. According to Madagascar's National Relief Council, the cyclone caused 68 deaths, displaced more than 110,000 people, and



USAID/OFDA-airlifted relief commodities being offloaded in Liberia (photo by Fiona Shanks, USAID/OFDA).

destroyed an estimated 24,500 homes. The cyclone also damaged telecommunications networks, transportation infrastructure, and cash crop harvests.

On May 16, U.S. Ambassador Wanda L. Nesbitt declared a disaster due to the damage caused by Cyclone Manou. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Madagascar to CARE and CRS for the provision of blankets, fuel, and personal hygiene supplies to the affected populations. USAID/OFDA also contributed more than \$290,000 to CARE and nearly \$168,000 to CRS to implement recovery programs designed to repair damaged agriculture infrastructure and provide seeds to farmers.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$508,650

Mauritania

Floods

During the month of August 2003, unusually heavy rains inundated towns and villages throughout Mauritania, compounding an existing food shortage caused by three years of drought. The flooding

Africa

killed nine people, displaced 1,500 families, and destroyed bridges and roads. The southern areas of Mauritania, which typically received 300 mm of rain per year, reported more than 200 mm of rainfall over a 24-hour period. In the northern province of Tiris Zemmour, 240 homes were destroyed when three times the normal annual rainfall fell during a 48-hour period, totaling 150 mm of rain in two days.

On August 20, U.S. Ambassador Joseph E. LeBaron declared a disaster to address the immediate needs of the flood-affected populations. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Nouakchott for the procurement of plastic sheeting and tents for the flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Morocco

Floods

Between November 17 and 27, 2003, following a four-year drought, unusually heavy rains caused severe flooding in the Chaouia and Gharb regions. In Chaouia Region, 35 people were killed by flooding from the Bengueribi River in the city of Settatt following a rainfall of nearly 76 mm in three hours. The cities of Settatt, Berrechid, and Mohammedia in Chaouia Region and Kenitra in the Gharb Region were the most adversely impacted by the flooding, which affected more than 10,000 residents. In Mohammedia, flash flooding from the El Maleh River triggered a fire that damaged Morocco's largest oil refinery.

On November 27, U.S. Ambassador Margaret D. Tutwiler declared a disaster due to the damage and destruction caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Morocco to the Moroccan Red Crescent Society for the distribution of food and basic hygiene items to impacted families in the affected cities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Namibia

Floods

In early May 2003, the East Caprivi Region of Namibia was inundated by floods caused by several consecutive weeks of heavy rainfall. High water levels in the Zambezi River resulted in flooding in 22 villages located between the towns of Katima Mulilo and Ngoma, affecting approximately 10,000 residents. Flooding also threatened the lives of nearly 80,000 heads of cattle and damaged access roads, further complicating the ongoing distribution of emergency food rations and other relief supplies to the already food insecure region.

On May 12, U.S. Ambassador Kevin J. McGuire declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding in East Caprivi Region. USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Windhoek to fund the provision of emergency food rations and family kits that included blankets, cooking utensils, and batteries to the affected populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$24,940

Nigeria

Complex Emergency

During March 2003, existing hostilities between the local Itsekiri and Ijaw ethnic groups in the Warri Southwest Local Government Area (LGA) escalated due to Ijaw grievances over electoral re-districting. Additional clashes between the Ijaw and the Government of Nigeria (GON) over oil siphoning contributed to the increasing regional tension. On March 13, violence erupted when Ijaw attacks on 28 Itsekiri villages prompted the GON military to fire on Ijaw villages. The conflict displaced an estimated 9,000 residents and prompted major oil production companies to close wells and flow stations. The resulting oil production loss reduced Nigerian oil flows to the world market by 40 percent and threatened Nigeria's economic stability.

On April 17, U.S. Ambassador Howard F. Jeter declared a disaster due to the displacement and economic instability caused by the conflict. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja to a U.S. NGO, International Foundation for Education and Self Help (IFESH), for the provision of emergency bedding, clothing, food, and counseling for the displaced populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Republic of Congo Food Security

In late March 2002, fighting between the Government of the Republic of Congo (GROC) military and Ninja opposition forces in the Pool Region jeopardized the 1999 peace agreement between the GROC and Ninja opposition that ended seven years of intermittent civil strife. The insecurity caused by the renewed conflict displaced 150,000 people. The unstable security situation and restricted access to the affected populations hampered the distribution of emergency humanitarian assistance.

On December 17, U.S. Ambassador David H. Kaeuper declared a disaster due to the food insecurity resulting from the continued conflict. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to USAID/Republic of Congo (ROC) to meet the most critical emergency relief needs of IDPs, including shelter, health care, personal hygiene items, and potable water.

During FY 2003, USAID/FFP also provided 1,150 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$655,000 through WFP. State/PRM contributed more than \$1.9 million to refugee programs throughout the ROC. State/PRM assistance was provided through UNHCR, IRC, and the Observatory for Congolese Human Rights for refugee populations from the Democratic Republic of

the Congo and Rwanda, as well as ROC returnee populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000
Other USG Assistance.....\$2,582,311
Total USG Assistance\$2,632,311

Senegal Drought

Severe drought conditions during the 2002 summer growing season resulted in a below-average cereal harvest and a reduced peanut crop for export. Peanuts are an important source of revenue for rural households. The combination of insufficient food and cash crops, high cereal prices, and depleted seed stocks resulted in food insecurity, particularly in rural areas. On April 23, 2003, the Government of Senegal (GOS) appealed for international emergency relief assistance to help the drought-affected population.

On May 22, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Richard A. Roth declared a disaster due to the food insecurity caused by insufficient rains and drought conditions. USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$838,000 to CRS for a seed fair and seed voucher program for approximately 284,000 beneficiaries. USAID/FFP provided 3,580 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$2.1 million through WFP to assist the most vulnerable.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$837,838
Other USG Assistance.....\$2,146,000
Total USG Assistance\$2,983,838

Sierra Leone Complex Emergency

At the peak of the conflict in Sierra Leone, violence displaced approximately 50 percent of the country's 4.5 million residents. A 1999 peace agreement between the

Government of Sierra Leone and the opposition Revolutionary United Front (RUF) was followed by a disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration campaign that officially ended during 2002. In May 2002, President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah was reelected and no significant security incidents occurred to undermine Sierra Leone's movement towards a peaceful, democratic transition.

Although nearly 250,000 displaced Sierra Leoneans returned home by the end of 2002, the areas of return were marked by widespread destruction. The decade of civil conflict in Sierra Leone damaged or destroyed significant portions of the country's health, water and sanitation, transportation, and social service

infrastructures. Populations in the northern and eastern regions, frontlines during the conflict, remained particularly vulnerable as most of the basic infrastructure, including homes, primary health care centers, and water wells were damaged or destroyed.

On October 23, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Peter X. Chaveas redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian needs of IDPs and returning and resettling populations. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$7.6 million in humanitarian assistance to support health, nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, and agricultural initiatives for affected populations. Of this total, USAID/OFDA supported more than \$3.7 million in emergency health and nutrition programs implemented

USAID/DART Tackles Abuse Prevention in Liberia

—By Fiona Shanks

As a result of 14 years of intermittent civil war, the citizens of Liberia suffered from large-scale human rights violations. At the time the USAID/DART deployed on August 6, 2003, Liberian combatants on all sides were engaged in violence against civilians, including killings, beatings, rapes, involuntary conscriptions, deliberate destruction of personal property, and forced population displacements. Recognizing the centrality of abuse prevention and protection to a humanitarian response in a complex emergency, USAID/OFDA coordinated with USAID/OTI to include an Abuse Prevention Officer (APO) on the USAID/DART.

In Liberia, the USAID/DART confronted the most fundamental concept of protection work: do no harm. Because armed insurgents continued to inflict abuses on the affected populations and much of the country still remained inaccessible to relief workers, the USAID/DART and other humanitarian actors had to carefully consider the possibility that aid deliveries to some locations could actually place the local population in greater danger by attracting attacks by combatants. Similarly, the USAID/DART had to examine security conditions in existing IDP camps before assisting with the transfer of additional displaced persons from overcrowded, informal shelters. In some cases, the USAID/DART had to curtail, discourage, or delay relief activities in order to minimize risks to beneficiaries.

The provision of emergency relief assistance, or the decision to delay such provision, is closely linked to protection issues. The existence of food or non-food commodity relief distribution in IDP camps can act as a significant pull factor encouraging population movement. The lure of humanitarian assistance, food distributions in particular, also endangered some Liberians who were prevented from migrating to camps by armed combatants in the expectation that the presence of IDPs in non-camp sites would attract international disaster assistance.

Rape and other gender-based violence were perpetrated by armed combatants against civilians as well as by some IDP camp leaders, who made access by women and girls to relief items contingent on sexual favors. There were numerous reports of sexual crimes at overcrowded, informal IDP camps during the USAID/DART's presence in Liberia. In response to USAID/DART recommendations and reports, USAID/OFDA provided funds for critical IDP camp expansion to facilitate the transfer of displaced populations from the Samuel K. Doe Stadium, one of the most frequently reported locations for the perpetration of sexual violence.

Abuse protection efforts in Liberia were complicated by the fact that local human rights groups were extremely under-funded and insufficiently trained after six years under President Charles Taylor's exploitative rule and months of violence in the capital. In order to gain primary information and verify reports of widespread human rights abuses, the USAID/DART conducted extensive interviews with newly displaced persons in the Montserrado and Totota IDP camps in September and October 2003. Many of the interviewees in the Totota camps displayed gruesome wounds suffered at the hands of combatants as punishment for failing to hand over food or personal property. Several IDPs also reported that combatants from both the Liberians United for Reconciliation Democracy (LURD) and Government of Liberia (GOL) attacked their villages at different times.

Through these protection-oriented interviews, the USAID/DART was able to better anticipate future IDP flows and inform USAID/OFDA humanitarian decisions and strategies. As soon as U.N. Mission to Liberia (UNMIL), the international peacekeeping force, arrived in Monrovia, the USAID/DART sought to provide information to inform peacekeeping decisions. One of the USAID/DART's most significant achievements was to identify Bong County as the most dangerous flashpoint in Liberia at the time, with potentially enormous humanitarian repercussions, and to help persuade UNMIL to deploy additional peacekeeping troops to that area. An independent inter-agency assessment of the Totota-area IDP camps in late September 2003 similarly



Liberian IDPs at Maimu III IDP Camp, Totota, Bay County (photo by Fiona Shanks, USAID/OFDA).

concluded that GOL combatants were committing abuses against local populations in Bong County, while LURD combatants were perpetrating abuses in both Bong and Grand Bassa counties.

Although the majority of USAID/DART-supported programs in Liberia during FY 2003 were designed to assist IDPs through sector-specific initiatives in the areas of relief coordination, health, shelter, food, and water and sanitation, USAID/OFDA also obligated funding specifically for protection-related

program activities. Through grants to Oxfam and SCF/UK, USAID/OFDA supported activities to enhance the protection of civilians, assist the humanitarian community to better address protection issues, train humanitarian workers to be aware of and report on potential abuses during food distributions, and build the capacity of local NGO partners to address protection concerns. In addition to the \$320,000 provided to UN OCHA for IDP coordination, USAID/OFDA provided \$120,000 to fund a UN OCHA Senior Protection Advisor to lead the effort to improve collaboration and dialogue among all actors on protection issues in Liberia. The addition of an APO on the USAID/DART signaled to partner organizations that USAID/OFDA was prioritizing abuse protection issues in Liberia and willing to incorporate protection strategies into planning, program design, and implementation.

by Africare, ACF/F, CRS, IMC, IRC, Merlin, UNICEF, and WVI. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported more than \$2.6 million in water and sanitation programs through ACF/F, CARE, CRS, IRC, Merlin, UNICEF, and WVI. USAID/OFDA also provided \$235,000 to U.N. agencies, including FAO and WFP, to support information, logistics, and relief coordination needs.

USAID/FFP provided 24,270 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at \$18.6 million. State/PRM provided more than \$13 million to assist refugees and returnees within Sierra Leone.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$7,680,844
Other USG Assistance.....\$31,673,206
Total USG Assistance\$39,354,050

Somalia Complex Emergency

Since the collapse of Major General Muhammad Siad Barre's regime in January 1991, Somalia has existed without an internationally recognized national government and suffered from sporadic outbreaks of armed conflict between rival clan groups. In FY 2003, civil strife in the south, central, and northeast regions of the country displaced thousands of Somalis, disrupted agricultural and market activity, strained coping mechanisms, and limited

humanitarian access. Many areas of the country were considered hazardous for international relief workers, and humanitarian agencies reported numerous attacks against locally hired personnel and expatriate staff.

Twelve years of widespread internecine violence in Somalia, combined with extreme poverty, have resulted in extensive population displacement and migration of refugees to neighboring Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. Approximately 350,000 IDPs, including nearly 170,000 residing in camps near Mogadishu, required humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs in FY 2003.

Although climactic and agricultural conditions improved, the nutritional status of vulnerable groups remained fragile during FY 2003. The U.N. estimated that 700,000 to 750,000 Somalis were at risk for food insecurity and malnutrition. In southern Somalia, landmines and localized conflict blocked essential trade routes, limiting food availability and inflating local cereal prices. Many poor households were unable to purchase food due to the scarcity of viable income generating activities. In the north, delayed onset of rains and insufficient precipitation exacerbated the lingering effects of the previous three years of drought conditions. The food security crisis, limited access to potable water, and poor sanitary conditions throughout Somalia increased the threat of deadly diseases; WHO confirmed an

outbreak of cholera in Mogadishu in March and April 2003.

In addition to exacerbating poor health among the population, drought conditions diminished available grazing lands and drinking water, causing livestock health and productivity to deteriorate, particularly in pastoralist areas. The poor performance of the livestock sector was further affected by reduced remittances from overseas, unchecked inflation, cross-border trade restrictions from Ethiopia, and livestock export bans imposed on Somalia by several Persian Gulf countries.

On October 31, 2002, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Johnnie Carson redeclared a disaster for the complex emergency in Somalia. In response, USAID/OFDA provided humanitarian assistance to Somalia through five international partners: AAH/USA, ADRA, IMC, FAO, and UNICEF. USAID/OFDA funded activities included emergency water and community health services for 852,480 beneficiaries in the southern regions of Bakool, Gedo, and Bay, and support for U.N. water and sanitation, supplementary feeding, and immunization programs.

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided approximately 27,900 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance commodities, valued at approximately \$19.2 million, to WFP and CARE for affected populations in Somalia.

State/PRM provided more than \$2.9 million to UNHCR, SCF/US, CARE, and IRC for refugee assistance activities in Somalia in FY 2003. Projects included education and protection for women and children, vocational training, micro-credit schemes, and rural food security activities to reintegrate refugee returnees in northern Somalia.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$3,283,528
Other USG Assistance.....\$22,136,739
Total USG Assistance\$25,419,267



Grain being distributed to IDPs in Somalia (photo by Mia Beers, USAID/OFDA).

Southern Africa

Complex Food Security Crisis

During FY 2003, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe continued to experience food crises due to adverse climate conditions. Drought extended into the 2002/2003 agricultural growing season resulting in continued regional food insecurity. The majority of the USG's humanitarian response was emergency food assistance provided by USAID/FFP through P.L. 480 Title II food assistance and emergency food commodities through the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust.

Lesotho

In FY 2003, Lesotho continued to experience food insecurity due to drought conditions

Africa

exacerbated by the effects of HIV/AIDS, poor land management practices, hailstorms, frost, and a shortage of seeds and farm inputs. Although rains in November 2002 did assist in the recovery of summer crops in the lowlands, most of the country remained dry through February 2003, leading to lower 2002/2003 harvest yields than achieved during the previous growing season. The lower yields reduced rural purchasing power due to smaller incomes and the highest corn prices in the region. Many of the seeds that were set aside for the next growing season were consumed by rural residents.

On October 16, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Robert G. Loftis redeclared a disaster as a result of the continued drought and food security crisis. During FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided \$20,000 to the Peace Corps to support community garden programs for food insecure populations. This program was extended into FY 2003 without additional USAID/OFDA funding. USAID/FFP contributed 14,200 MT of emergency food commodities, valued at approximately \$8.9 million, to assist the needs of those affected in ten rural districts.

Other USG Assistance.....\$8,915,771
Total USG Assistance\$8,915,771

Malawi

In FY 2003, food insecurity in Malawi continued due to low domestic production levels during the 2001/2002 agricultural season, difficulties in transporting food commodities from the Nacala port area in Mozambique, lack of Government of Malawi (GOM) funds to pay for maize milling costs, high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, and a cholera epidemic. Many rural residents lacked the purchasing power to buy food on the market, even at the subsidized prices being offered by GOM outlets. From October 3 to 6, 2003, a USAID/OFDA team visited Malawi to assess the GOM's response to the food security crisis. USAID/Malawi encouraged crop diversification into higher-value

crops to boost rural incomes and improve food security, an approach funded by USAID/OFDA agricultural recovery programs.

During early January 2003, tropical depression Delfina adversely affected the provinces of Salima, Balaka, Dedza, Machinga, Ntcheu, Dowa, and Phalombe. The flooding destroyed nearly 3,500 homes and damaged the crops of as many as 50,000 households. Despite the localized effects of flooding from the heavy rains in southern and central area of Malawi, the rains helped produce a favorable harvest. However, despite the improved agricultural situation, the number of Malawians in need of food assistance rose to nearly 3.6 million out of a total population of approximately 11 million. Many poor households were unable to afford the purchase of food from local markets or did not reach the WFP emergency food distributions.

On December 4, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Roger A. Meece redeclared a disaster due to the continued food security crisis in Malawi. USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$2 million to Africare to support supplementary and therapeutic feeding programs. In addition, USAID/FFP provided 64,630 MT of emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$40.5 million, to WFP and the



Countries affected by the complex food security crisis in southern Africa.

Consortium for Southern Africa Food Security Emergency (C-SAFE), an emergency food assistance program comprised of WVI, CARE, and CRS.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$1,942,999
Other USG Assistance.....\$40,579,314
Total USG Assistance\$42,522,313

Zambia

The second year of drought conditions in the Southern, Western, and Eastern provinces, combined with the adverse impact of HIV/AIDS, inconsistent government policies, and limited government capacity to respond to the crisis, resulted in continued food insecurity during FY 2003. On October 29, 2003, the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) announced the decision to refuse biotech food commodities, especially grain and maize, which were being imported to provide food assistance to 2.9 million residents in need. WFP removed and reallocated biotech stocks that were already in country after the GRZ requested their removal in August 2003.

During October 2003, WFP emergency food distributions only reached approximately half of the total number of beneficiaries. Severe shortages of vegetable oil, beans, and corn-soya blend also occurred, but the GRZ attempted to make up shortfalls by supporting informal cross-border food commodity flows of grain and maize. After the agricultural harvest in April 2003, food supplies improved, and Zambia produced approximately 1.2 million MT of maize, representing a 100 percent increase from the 2002 harvest. However, the overall food security situation in affected areas remained unstable throughout FY 2003.

On November 1, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Martin G. Brennan redeclared a disaster due to the continued

food security crisis in Zambia. USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$371,000 to support agriculture and food security activities through the Cooperative League of the United States of America. USAID/FFP also provided 48,120 MT of emergency food assistance valued at approximately \$30.2 million, to WFP and the Consortium for Southern Africa Food Security Emergency (C-SAFE).

State/PRM provided more than \$3.9 million for programs supporting Angolan and Congolese



Food distribution in Zimbabwe (photo by Vangai Makamure, WVI/Zimbabwe).

refugees in Zambia. State/PRM's funding was provided through UNHCR, WFP, IOM, CARE, IFRC, Right to Play, and the U.S. Embassy in Lusaka.

USAID/OFDA Assistance \$371,499
Other USG Assistance \$34,135,342
Total USG Assistance \$34,506,841

Zimbabwe

The effects of a continued drought, a collapsing economy, the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS, and restrictive government policies prevented economic and agricultural recovery during FY 2003. The economic crisis was also partially

Africa

due to the Government of Zimbabwe's (GOZ) fast-track land reform program. This program disrupted Zimbabwe's previously productive commercial agricultural sector and resulted in increased food insecurity in both urban and rural areas. Access to food was made more difficult as prices of staple items, such as maize, wheat, and rice, rose beyond the purchasing power of the majority of the population.

According to a June 2003 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) report, nearly 50 percent of Zimbabwe's total population of 11.6 million would require emergency food assistance until January 2004. Both the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment (ZIMVAC) of April 2003 and the FAO/WFP CFSAM projected severe shortfalls in requirements for the staple crops of maize, millet, sorghum, wheat, and rice for production during the 2003/2004 agricultural season. In addition, cattle deaths in Matebeleland South Province and the outbreak of armyworms in cereal producing areas and grazing lands further exacerbated economic conditions.

During the week of January 22, 2003, staff from USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, USAID's Bureau for Africa, USAID's Bureau for Global Health, and USAID/Zimbabwe participated in an exercise in Harare to develop a contingency plan to address the humanitarian and recovery needs in Zimbabwe. In addition, USAID/OFDA staff met with NGO partners and determined that nutrition, water, and health were the most significant non-food humanitarian needs.

On November 6, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Joseph G. Sullivan redeclared a disaster due to the continued food security crisis in Zimbabwe. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6.5 million in emergency humanitarian assistance to support food security, agriculture, nutrition, water and sanitation, and health programs. USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.4 million to CRS to implement emergency agriculture interventions and SFPs and contributed approximately \$3.3 million to IOM, SCF/UK, and Development Associates, Inc. to conduct food

security and agriculture activities. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported more than \$1 million in health intervention programs through WVI and more than \$23,000 in water and sanitation activities through IFRC. USAID/OFDA also provided \$350,000 to U.N. agencies, including UN OCHA and WFP, to support information dissemination, international response coordination, and monitoring needs of food insecure populations.

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided 197,510 MT of emergency food assistance valued at approximately \$124 million through WFP and the Consortium for Southern Africa Food Security Emergency (C-SAFE).

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$6,527,705
Other USG Assistance.....\$124,010,835
Total USG Assistance\$130,538,540

Total Assistance to Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$8,842,203
Other USG Assistance.....\$207,641,262
Total USG Assistance\$216,483,465

Other Regional Support for Southern Africa
 As part of USAID/OFDA's \$6.5 million in assistance provided to Zimbabwe, \$300,000 was contributed to UN OCHA to support regional disaster response capacity through the Southern Africa Humanitarian Information System (SAHIMS). USAID/FFP's regional emergency food assistance also benefited Mozambique and Swaziland, where disasters were not declared in FY 2003. In Mozambique, USAID/FFP provided 15,530 MT of emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$9.7 million, through WFP. In Swaziland, USAID/FFP provided 6,160 MT of emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$3.8 million, through WFP. In addition, USDA provided 450 MT of Section 416 (b) surplus food commodities valued at more than \$890,000.

Sudan

Complex Emergency

Since 1983, civil war between the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Southern Peoples Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) has had devastating humanitarian consequences. More than 2 million Sudanese have died from conflict-related causes, including fighting, malnutrition, and disease. Approximately 4.6 million people in Sudan are internally displaced, representing the largest IDP population in the world.

Through President George W. Bush's appointments of USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios as Special Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan and former U.S. Senator John Danforth as Special Envoy for Peace to Sudan in 2001, the USG has been at the forefront of serious and sustained international engagement with the GOS and SPLM/A to increase humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas and to support ongoing peace negotiations between the parties.

On October 15, 2002, following a USAID-led international effort to pressure the GOS to improve humanitarian access, the GOS and SPLM/A signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that called for a cessation of hostilities between the parties and unimpeded humanitarian access to all of Sudan. With USG involvement, the parties renewed the cease-fire agreement three times in FY 2003, creating a favorable environment for continued peace talks under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). In addition, the USG continued to support the cease-fire agreement in the Nuba Mountains through the Joint Monitoring Committee/Joint Military Mission, comprised of international delegates and representatives of the GOS and SPLM/A.

Throughout FY 2003, USAID representatives visited Sudan and met members of both parties to support the peace process. On July 8 and 9,

2003, GOS and SPLM/A representatives met in Washington, D.C., for the first meeting of the Joint Planning Mechanism, a forum to bring both parties together to negotiate and agree to immediate steps to prepare for international assistance after peace. On September 25, 2003, the GOS and SPLM/A signed a security agreement during peace talks in Naivasha, Kenya. Peace negotiations continued through FY 2003.

As the prospects for a long-term peace settlement in southern Sudan improved in FY 2003, the humanitarian situation in the Darfur Region, western Sudan, deteriorated. Fighting between opposition forces and forces loyal to the GOS began in February 2003 and intensified throughout the year. The conflict displaced approximately 600,000 people and limited humanitarian access to Darfur.

On October 1, 2002, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Jeffrey V. Millington renewed the disaster declaration for Sudan. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has declared a disaster due to the complex emergency every year since 1987. In response, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$41 million for humanitarian activities to assist victims of the complex emergency in FY 2003. USAID/OFDA continued programming in the health, nutrition, food security, and water and sanitation sectors. New projects linked to the peace process included expanding programs that cross GOS-SPLM/A front lines to reinforce local peace initiatives. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through 25 NGOs or IOs, including AAH/USA, ACF, ADRA, ARC, CARE, CONCERN, Christian Mission Aid, CRS, GOAL, International Aid Sweden, IRC, MEDAIR, NPA, Pact, Samaritan's Purse, SCF/UK, SCF/US, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF)/B, VSF/G, WFP, and WVI.

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP contributed 124,180 MT of Title II emergency food assistance valued at more than \$117.3 million. USAID/FFP food commodities were provided through WFP, ADRA, CARE, CRS, NPA, and Samaritan's Purse to IDPs and other conflict-affected populations in

Africa

southern and northern Sudan. In addition, USDA provided 30 MT of Section 416(b) surplus dried milk, valued at \$53,000.

USAID/OTI began activities in southern Sudan in FY 2003. USAID/OTI provided more than \$4.2 million to Christian Aid, the Education Development Center, and Pact to implement governance and judicial sector activities, a small-grants program to improve peace-building, and to establish a local short wave radio service for southern Sudan.

State/PRM funded humanitarian assistance to Sudanese refugees in Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. Additionally, State/PRM provided nearly \$2.5 million to UNHCR and WFP to support programs assisting refugees from other countries who live in Sudan.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$40,846,538
Other USG Assistance.....\$124,076,050
Total USG Assistance\$164,922,588

Sudan Floods

Following a week of heavy rains in six states in northeastern Sudan—including Kassala, White Nile, Northern, Sennar, Gezira, and River Nile—the Gash river overflowed its banks on July 29, 2003, and broke through flood barriers built in 1988 to protect Kassala town.

The most significant damage in the region was in Kassala town, where the water level reached 2.7 meters, representing the highest level recorded in the last 70 years. According to a joint assessment team composed of international and local NGOs, U.N. agencies, and local Sudanese officials, more than 13,500 houses in Kassala town were partially or completely destroyed, adversely affecting more than 15,000 families. Rising water also damaged the water supply system, inundated the central city area, and submerged a strategically located bridge.

Many residents fled their homes to higher ground and slept in the open or took refuge with friends and relatives.

On August 5, 2003, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Jeffrey V. Millington declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, to the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum for GOAL and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society to distribute emergency relief commodities.

On August 9, 10, and 24, three USAID/OFDA-chartered aircraft landed in Kassala town from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, with plastic sheeting, water bladders, hygiene kits, and blankets. The total cost of the commodities and air transport was approximately \$560,000. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$850,000 to GOAL, IRC, and UNICEF for potable water, sanitation facilities, public health services, and emergency shelter for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$1,459,138

Uganda Complex Emergency

Since 1986, the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) has launched periodic attacks on Government of Uganda (GOU) troops in northern and eastern Uganda. After the collapse of a limited cease-fire in March 2003, attacks by the LRA increased in both intensity and geographical range. Renewed LRA attacks, coupled with violent looting and cattle raids by Karamojong pastoralists, threatened food security, overwhelmed the health care system, and undermined the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

The internal displacement of civilians reached unprecedented levels during FY 2003. In October 2002, in response to increased LRA attacks, the GOU directed the remaining civilians in northern Acholi Region to relocate to IDP camps for their protection. According to UN OCHA, more than

80 percent of the Acholi population lived in GOU-organized IDP camps by the end of FY 2003. In June 2003, the LRA expanded its attacks on villages and IDP camps, displacing nearly 300,000 residents in the northeastern Langi and Teso regions. According to WFP, the number of IDPs in Uganda increased from 660,000 in July 2002 to 1.2 million in September 2003.

Child abductions increased during FY 2003, reaching the highest rate during the entire span of the 17-year war. According to U.N. estimates, the LRA abducted more than 8,000 children between June 2002 and June 2003. Abductees were subjected to extreme violence, including forced conscription and sexual exploitation. The rise in child abductions created an increase in “night commuters,” mostly children, who commuted to sleep within the security provided by cities and towns. By May 2003, an estimated 20,000 IDPs fled each night into Gulu and Kitgum towns.

Food security in northern Uganda deteriorated during FY 2003. Until early 2002, many residents maintained access to their agricultural plots, but the resurgence of LRA violence limited the planting and harvesting of crops. The LRA attacked IDP camps, ambushed road traffic, and looted or burned crops. In addition, insecurity limited emergency relief food distributions throughout FY 2003.

The increased number of IDPs overwhelmed the capacity of local relief organizations to respond and triggered a health crisis in northern Uganda. Inadequate water and sanitation led to poor IDP health, while drug shortages limited the ability of doctors to cure preventable diseases.

In FY 2003, the conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continued to adversely affect Uganda. In January 2003, refugees from neighboring DRC entered western Uganda. From late January to April, more than 20,000 Congolese fled fighting in Ituri District and North Kivu Province to relocate in Nebbi and Bundibugyo districts along the Uganda border.

On December 23, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Jimmy Kolker redeclared a disaster in response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency occurring in northern Uganda. During FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$4 million in emergency relief assistance, focusing on health, nutrition, and water and sanitation projects in conflict-affected areas. In response to security and access concerns, USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 to UN OCHA to enhance coordination efforts among the humanitarian relief community and to establish a UN OCHA office in Kitgum.

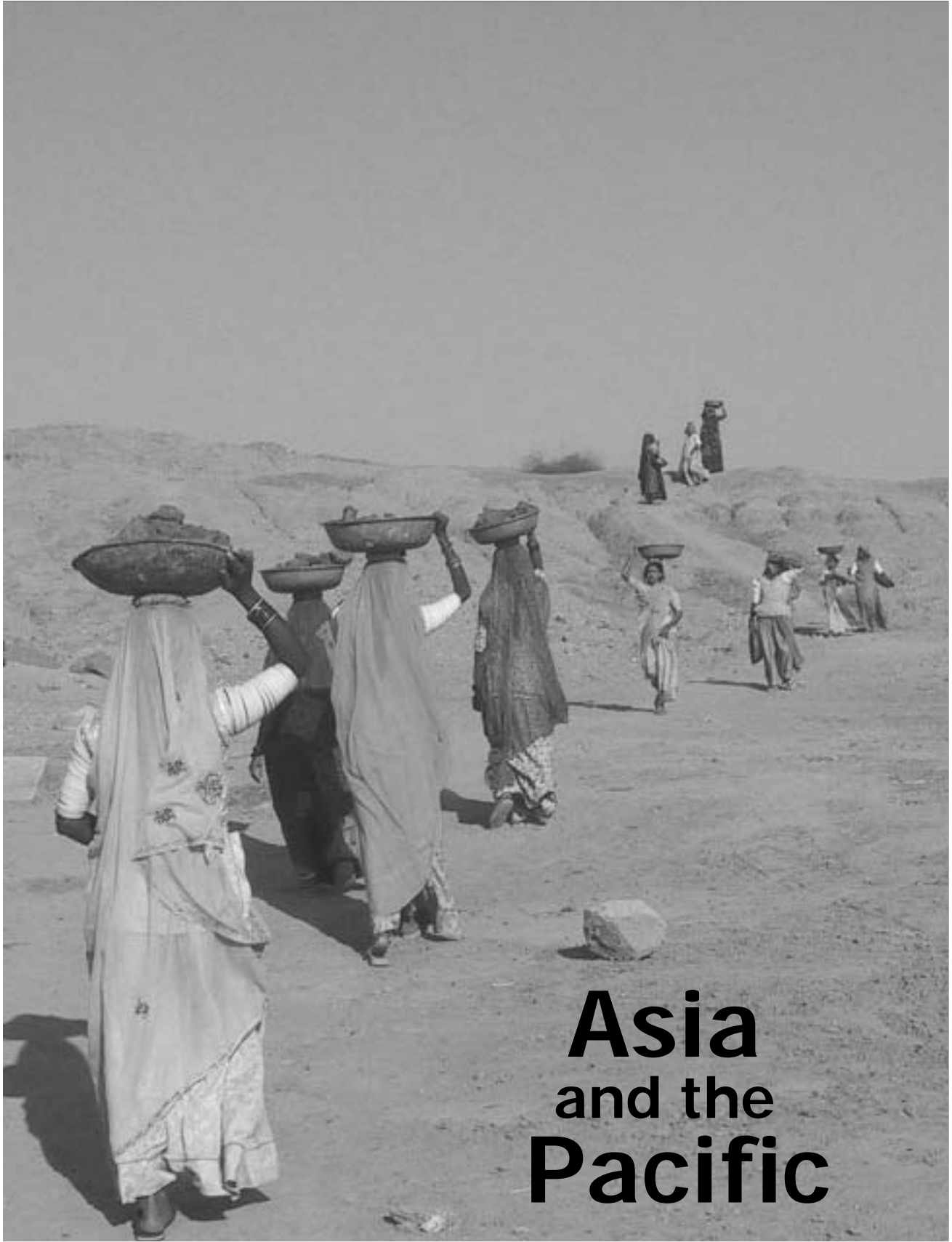
Throughout FY 2003, USAID/Uganda’s interventions in the northern and western districts of Uganda sought to mitigate the impact of conflict and increase community resilience through humanitarian and relief-to-development assistance.

USAID/Uganda’s \$16 million five-year Community Resilience and Dialogue activity, which began in September 2002, is assisting conflict victims, including communities living under the threat of attack, families that have moved to IDP camps, current and former abductees, and ex-combatants who have received amnesty.

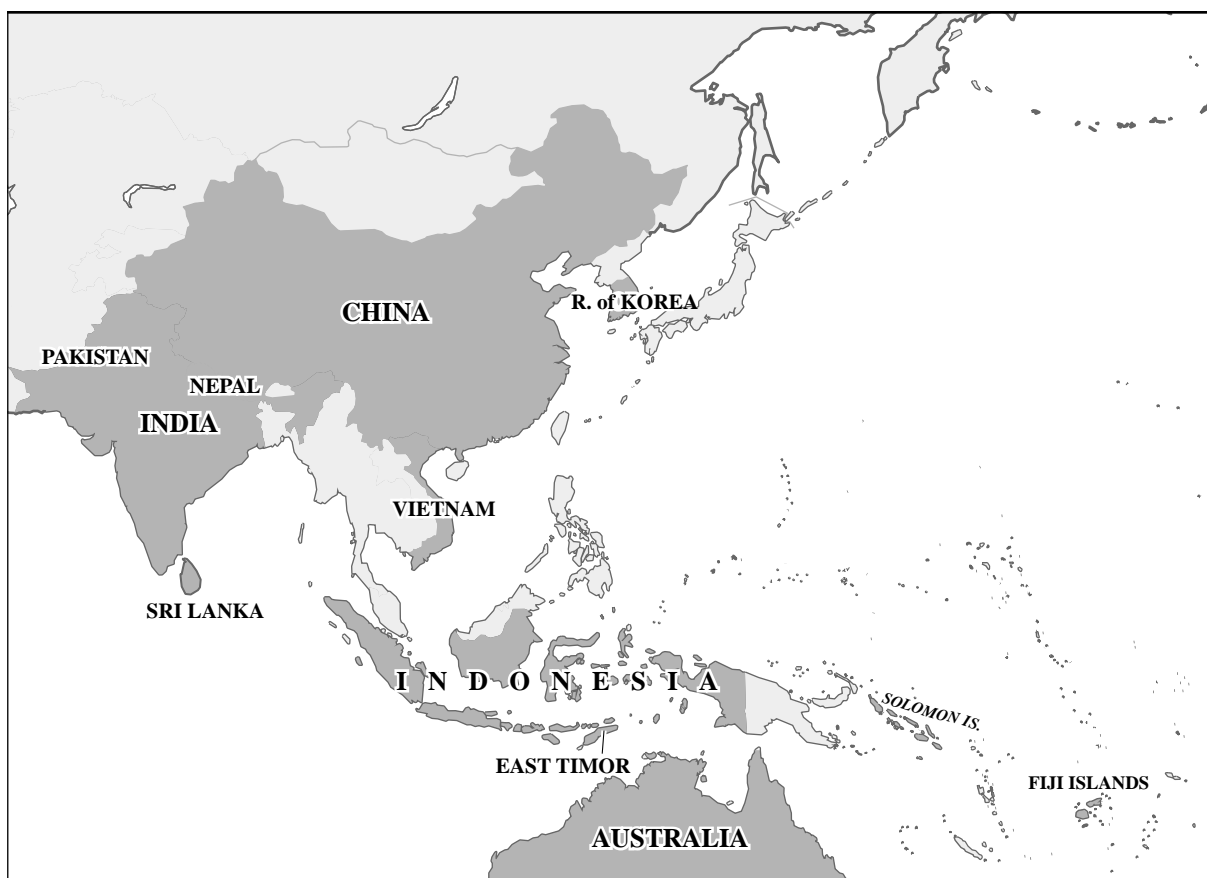
USAID/FFP provided 102,420 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$58 million. These commodities included maize, corn-soya blend, vegetable oil, and pulses. State/PRM continued to support the humanitarian needs of refugees in the region with more than \$7.3 million in funding to UNHCR, WFP, IFRC, and NGOs.

USAID/OFDA Assistance	\$3,990,215
Other USG Assistance.....	\$65,166,951
Total USG Assistance	\$69,157,166

NOTE — State/PRM’s contributions to the preceding disasters are in addition to State/PRM’s unearmarked contributions of \$54.6 million to UNHCR and \$52.6 million to ICRC for programs in Africa.



Asia and the Pacific



Opposite: Indian women carry dirt away from the site of a USAID/OFDA-funded irrigation project in Rajasthan, India (photo by Bill Berger, USAID/OFDA).

Australia

Fire

On January 18, 2003, forest fires, fanned by strong winds, moved into the suburbs of Canberra, causing the most severe damage in the history of Australia's capital city. According to the U.S. Embassy in Canberra, the fires resulted in four deaths and the destruction of more than 400 houses and other buildings, including schools and medical facilities.

On January 21, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Michael P. Owens declared a disaster in response to the damage caused by the fires. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Canberra to assist relief efforts for fire victims in the affected areas.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000

China

Earthquake

On February 24, 2003, a magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck Jiashi and Bachu counties in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, approximately 100 km east of Kashgar City. The U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported that the earthquake killed 268 people, injured more than 4,000 people, and displaced 26,000 families. According to the Government of China's Seismological Bureau, the earthquake destroyed approximately 20,000 houses, 591 schools, and 384 mosques in the predominantly Muslim region. In addition, the earthquake cut water and power supplies, damaged 47 health facilities, and caused an estimated \$157 million worth of damage.

On February 28, U.S. Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. declared a disaster due to the damage caused

by the earthquake. Based on the recommendations of IFRC officials in Beijing, USAID/OFDA contributed \$100,000 to the Red Cross Society of China to provide emergency relief commodities for earthquake victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$100,000

China

Epidemic

On March 12, 2003, WHO issued a global alert concerning the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), a severe form of pneumonia. According to WHO, SARS originated in southern China at the end of 2002. In mid-February 2003, following reports of cases in Vietnam and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Government of China (GOC) first confirmed 305 cases of SARS, with five deaths, in Guangdong Province in southern China. From mid-February to early May, WHO medical specialists working with Chinese counterparts in Beijing indicated that the situation was overwhelming the health care system, as hospital patients increased and numerous medical workers fell victim to the disease.

As of May 2, the GOC Ministry of Health reported 3,799 probable cases of SARS, with another 2,459 suspected cases and 181 deaths. On May 3, U.S. Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. declared a disaster due to the continuing spread of SARS in China. USAID/OFDA provided \$500,000 through the U.S. Embassy to the Red Cross Society of China to provide urgently needed medical supplies.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$500,000

China

Floods

During late August and early September 2003, unusually heavy rains caused floods and landslides throughout Shaanxi Province in central China. The Wei River, the largest tributary of the Huang (Yellow) River

overflowed its banks in five places, affecting nearly 4.9 million people. The Shaanxi Civil Affairs Bureau reported 123 people dead or missing, more than 730,000 homes damaged or destroyed, more than 430,000 displaced persons, and approximately 318,000 hectares of agricultural land inundated by floodwaters, causing an estimated \$363 million in economic losses.

On September 5, U.S. Ambassador Clark T. Randt, Jr. declared a disaster due to the effects of the floods. USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to the Red Cross Society of China for the procurement of tents, bedding, and water purification supplies to meet the immediate needs of flood-affected populations in Shaanxi Province.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$100,000

East Timor

Floods

Between June 16 and June 27, 2003, sudden and persistent rains caused severe flooding in the southwestern districts of Cova Lima, Manufahi, and Viqueque. The Government of East Timor and the U.N.'s Mission in Support of East Timor estimated that 5,000 people were adversely impacted by the floods, which resulted in two deaths and displaced an estimated 600 residents.

The floods damaged key roads, bridges, commercial buildings, houses, and livestock throughout the region, and also resulted in extensive contamination of local potable water supplies. Damage to all primary access roads and bridges in the Viqueque District increased the risk of food shortages to the local population, many of whom were displaced after landslides destroyed their homes.

On June 27, U.S. Ambassador Grover J. Rees declared a disaster due to the damage caused

by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Dili to Development Alternatives, Inc. for the procurement of shelter materials, sleeping mats, jerry cans, and other basic household items for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Fiji Typhoon

On January 13 and 14, 2003, Typhoon Ami passed over the northern and eastern districts of Fiji, adversely impacting several islands with strong winds and heavy rains. UN OCHA reported that the typhoon killed 14 people and displaced an estimated 45,000 residents throughout Vanua Levu, Cikombia, Taveuni, and smaller islands in the Lau Group. Contaminated potable water supplies; damage to electrical, agricultural, and sanitation infrastructures; and disruptions to telecommunications networks were among the most immediate concerns in addressing the needs of typhoon victims.

On January 21, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Hugh M. Neighbor declared a disaster due to the damage



Fiji Red Cross volunteers distribute aid to residents affected by Typhoon Ami (photo courtesy of IFRC).

caused by Typhoon Ami. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Suva to the Fiji Red Cross to provide water purification units, plastic sheeting, and other emergency relief commodities for those affected by the typhoon.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000

India Drought

Insufficient and erratic monsoon rains during 2002 caused drought conditions throughout northern India. According to USAID/India, overall rainfall was 20 percent below normal in 14 states. Rajasthan, one of India's poorest states, was the most severely affected following four consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall. The drought affected 40,689 villages and all 32 districts, adversely impacting more than 43 million of Rajasthan's 53 million residents. As a result of the drought, agricultural work in Rajasthan was severely disrupted, and the livestock market collapsed. USAID/India reported a fodder shortage of 780 MT affecting 46 million animals and resulting in widespread livestock deaths. Increasing destitution triggered large-scale migration, as people left their homes and villages in search of income. In addition, depleted groundwater and surface water resources forced villagers to walk long distances to obtain potable water.

Between August and December 2002, USAID/India and a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor completed three assessments of emergency humanitarian needs in drought-affected areas. Based on these assessments, on January 16, 2003, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Albert A. Thibault declared a disaster due to the effects of the drought. USAID/OFDA immediately contributed \$50,000

(Continued on Page 56)

From Relief and Recovery to Development: Drought-Affected Villages in Rajasthan, India

—By Sara Westrick

The primary mission of USAID/OFDA during a disaster is to save lives and reduce suffering. USAID/OFDA also encourages relief interventions to mitigate communities' vulnerability to future disasters and further the longer-term development process.

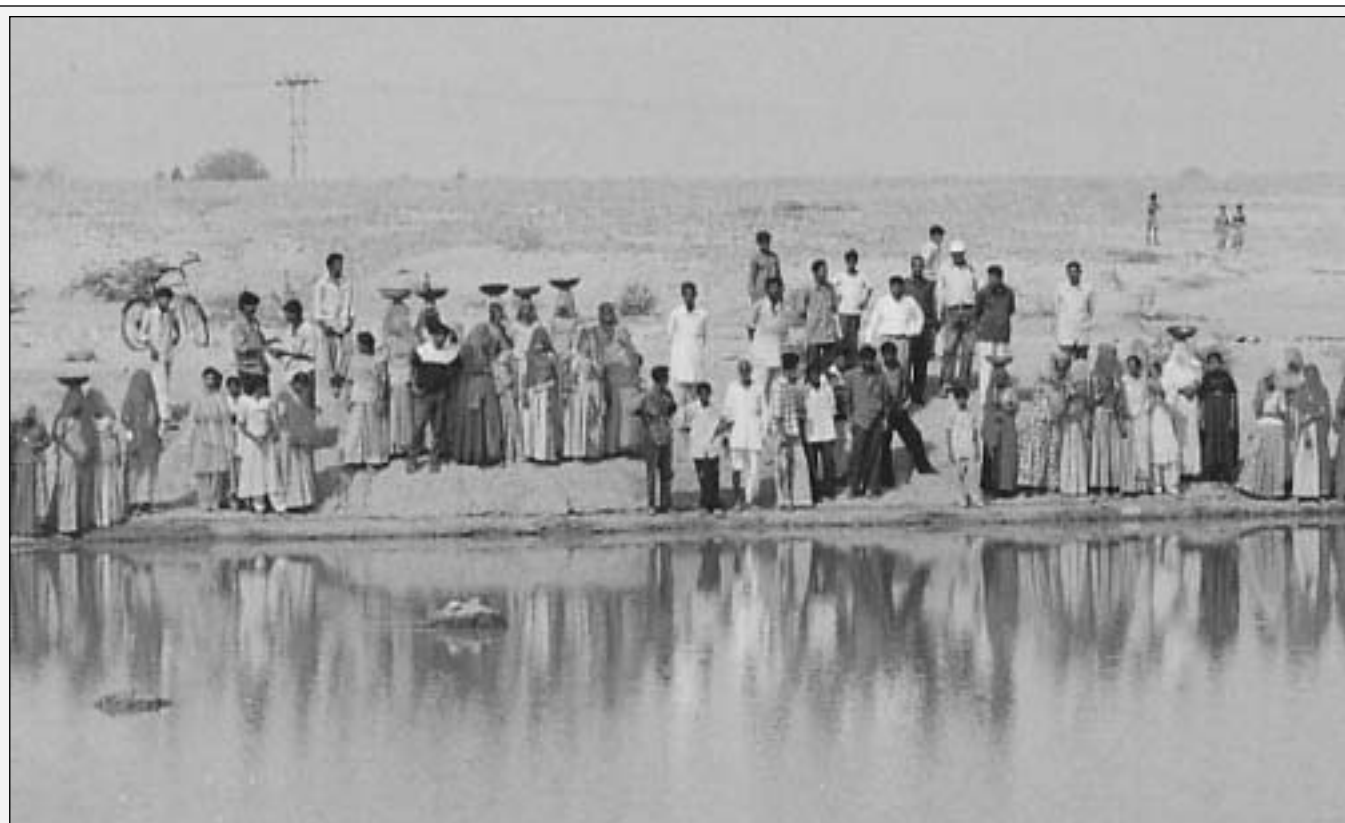
For example, during the 2002 monsoon season, insufficient and erratic rains caused drought conditions in 14 Indian states. Rajasthan was the most severely afflicted state, already in its fourth consecutive year of drought. More than 43 million people in 40,689 villages were affected by massive agricultural and livestock losses that triggered widespread food insecurity and large-scale migration. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to a national relief fund and funded more than \$1 million in grants, including more than \$500,000 to CRS, \$250,000 to LWR, and \$260,000 to WVI to implement drought relief and recovery initiatives.

USAID/OFDA partners designed and implemented programs that addressed specific emergency needs in Rajasthan as well as incorporated strategies to make lasting improvements in the communities. While partners used a portion of the grants to provide immediate access to potable water, CRS, LWR, and World Vision also used the grants to implement cash-for-work (CFW) projects, creating local purchasing power

and giving vulnerable households the means to buy food, health services, and other basic family requirements with the money earned. The CFW projects also allowed USAID/OFDA's assistance to indirectly employ more people than just the immediate recipients, such as artisans and trades people, building livelihoods and strengthening the local economy. In addition, entire villages benefited from the water-harvesting projects, repairs to hand pumps, improvement of pasture lands, and development of watershed management practices, such as the construction of earthen embankments and pond deepening. These measures combined to increase the supply of water, as well as water for irrigation, sanitation, and livestock.



Women working on cash-for-work drought relief project in Rajasthan, India (photo by Bill Berger, USAID/OFDA).



Villagers gather at a catchment pond created as part of LWR/CASA's project in Rajasthan, India (photo courtesy of Sushil Sharma, CASA).

CRS, LWR, and WVI reported that the projects have made positive differences, especially since village committees participated in deciding which activities to undertake and where. The villagers anticipate better crop yields due to agricultural water management methods that have helped to keep moisture in the soil. Water tanks and newly deepened ponds have also amassed considerable amounts of water during the first rainfalls. LWR's local partner Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) reported that time spent on fetching water was substantially reduced. In addition, some communities combined wages earned from work on water tanks and ponds to purchase bulk food supplies at wholesale prices, saving money for other family needs. After two months, the overall level of food security of the beneficiary families had markedly improved.

Drawing on past success with seed fairs in Africa, USAID/OFDA and CRS explored implementing seed fairs in Rajasthan to address drought relief and recovery. CRS and local partners organized four successful seed fairs, for which CRS gave farmers coupons worth approximately 35 percent of their overall seed requirements and provided transportation for the seed vendors. The farmers responded positively and appreciated the large variety of seeds available. One farmer reported planting 2 kg of groundnuts and harvesting 20 kg in return.

USAID/OFDA's drought assistance projects in Rajasthan also resulted in a secondary benefit by empowering the women of the villages. As the women of Rajasthan were most burdened

by the drought, often walking several miles to obtain water, their participation in decision making regarding the water harvesting projects was extremely important. The communities were open to change in order to improve their situation, allowing partners to restore traditional water thrift, water retention, and water conservation practices, as well as to increase employment opportunities for women. USAID/OFDA partners reported that the women were receptive and enthusiastic about the water harvesting catchment areas and the reduction of time spent in pursuit of water. Women were also encouraged to form self-help groups and develop village strategies for continuing improvements after the emergency assistance had stopped. Building the social capital of Rajasthan's women will ultimately contribute to longer-term development and reduce the villagers' vulnerability to drought.

As in Rajasthan, USAID/OFDA responds to disasters worldwide and will continue to search for and implement innovative ways of linking emergency interventions to recovery and mitigation measures that can result in longer-term development.

through the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to help meet the emergency needs of drought-affected families. In addition, USAID/OFDA contributed more than \$1 million to CRS, LWR, and WVI for emergency food security, agriculture, and risk reduction programs in Rajasthan.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$1,072,539

Indonesia Complex Emergency

During FY 2003, conflict and population displacement continued in the regions of Aceh, the Maluku, Sulawesi, Papua, and West Timor. The conflicts were exacerbated by Indonesia's recent economic and political crises, including slow economic growth, high

inflation rates, and currency instability. In FY 2003, the USG provided more than \$28.6 million in emergency assistance to those affected by the complex emergency in Indonesia, channeled through USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, USAID/OTI, and USAID/Indonesia's Office of Conflict Prevention and Response (USAID/Indonesia/OCPR).

Insecurity was the greatest impediment to IDP returns or permanent resettlement. Many IDPs were living in temporary accommodations, and most were dependent on host communities, government support, or humanitarian organizations. Humanitarian assistance focused on food security, health, shelter, water and sanitation, and the restoration of basic livelihoods.



Elderly villagers unable to travel long distances in search of water and food are particularly vulnerable in drought-affected northern India (photo by Bill Berger, USAID/OFDA).

Aceh

On December 9, 2002, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia (GORI) and the separatist opposition group, the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), signed a “Cessation of Hostilities Framework Agreement” (CoHA) and established a Joint Security Committee (JSC) to monitor the security situation in Aceh. However, an attack on the JSC offices in Takengon, central Aceh on March 3, 2003, caused the JSC to withdraw the international peace monitoring teams.

On May 19, 2003, five months after the signing of the CoHA, the GORI and GAM could not agree on the terms of the peace talks, and President Megawati Sukarnoputri declared martial law in Aceh Province. A military offensive against the GAM began immediately.

According to UN OCHA, as of June 2003, approximately 14,603 IDPs remained in camps in Aceh, and the military operation had displaced approximately 118,000 others with humanitarian needs in the areas of health, education, food, and agriculture.

Maluku

Following the signing of the February 2002 peace accord in Maluku, limited returns and inter-community reconciliation began, especially on Seram, Buru, and the outer islands. According to UN OCHA, the number of IDPs decreased from 300,091 in May 2002 to 202,783 in June 2003.

North Maluku

Despite periodic violent incidents, the overall security situation in North Maluku continued to stabilize, increasing the number of IDPs who

resettled or returned. As of June 2003, UN OCHA reported that 34,166 IDPs remained in North Maluku.

Central Sulawesi

According to UN OCHA, as of June 2003, the number of IDPs in Central Sulawesi remained at 90,350. Humanitarian assistance centered on facilitating IDP returns by providing livelihood opportunities to the returnees.

North Sulawesi

In North Sulawesi the number of IDPs decreased from 46,103 IDPs in May 2002 to 13,000 IDPs in June 2003 as reported by UN OCHA.



USAID/OFDA partner CARE established TFCs in West Timor to assist children and their mothers affected by food insecurity (photo by Mariza Rogers, USAID/OFDA).

Papua

On January 27, 2003, President Megawati issued a decree dividing Papua into three separate provinces. The GORI's initiative was in response to Papua's continuing separatist movements spearheaded by the Free Papua Movement (OPM). While violent incidents continued, UN OCHA reported that the number of IDPs in Papua remained at 16,870.

West Timor

Since November 2002, West Timor was under a U.N. Phase 5 security restriction, which required the withdrawal of all U.N. staff. According to UN OCHA, the number of IDPs remained at 28,097 in June 2003. Serious food insecurity and a nutritional crisis continued to affect much of the population due to sparse rainfall and subsequent crop losses in 2002.



USAID Jakarta staff visit the house of a mother receiving treatment from a TFC (photo by Mariza Rogers, USAID/OFDA).

Ongoing drought conditions resulted in another poor harvest in 2003. USAID/OFDA responded to this emergency situation through support to TFCs and agricultural recovery activities in the hardest hit areas.

On December 30, 2002, UNHCR stated that following the independence of East Timor in September 2002, more than 220,000 of the approximately 250,000 people who had fled to West Timor due to the 1999 violence had returned home. By UNHCR definition, the remaining 30,000 people are no longer considered refugees.

On October 3, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Ralph L. Boyce redeclared a disaster for the ongoing complex emergency in Indonesia. In renewing the disaster declaration that was originally issued in May 1999, U.S. Ambassador Boyce cited the continuing political and economic crises, as well as the widespread population displacement and urgent humanitarian needs.

In response, USAID/OFDA monitored developments in the affected provinces, conducted needs assessments, and provided emergency relief assistance where required and appropriate. In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided assistance to Indonesia through several grants. CARE received more than \$1.4 million to manage TFCs in West Timor. CWS received nearly \$260,000 to support emergency relief programs in West Timor as well as \$350,000 for projects to help IDPs recover livelihoods in Central and Southeast Sulawesi.

In addition, the IRC/Consortium for Assistance to Refugees and the Displaced in Indonesia received more than \$380,000 for water and sanitation programs in North Maluku and Aceh. IMC also received more than \$590,000 to provide primary health care for IDPs in Maluku and West Kalimantan and \$50,000 to provide emergency medical supplies in Bali. Mercy Corps received \$400,000 to provide shelter, water and sanitation, and seeds in Central Sulawesi. WVI received \$330,000 for basic shelter projects in Madura Island and \$250,000 for community rehabilitation programs in conflict-affected areas of North Maluku.

In FY 2003, USAID/OTI funded \$2 million in assistance to Indonesia through USAID/Indonesia. USAID/OTI's program areas included civil society, civil/military relations, community stabilization, and democracy and governance. USAID/Indonesia/OCPR continued many of USAID/OTI's program areas and contributed \$12 million toward the projects.

In FY 2003, USAID/FFP contributed approximately \$15.2 million to the WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, providing 33,090 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities to populations in need.

USAID/OFDA Assistance	\$4,050,000
Other USG Assistance.....	\$29,182,780
Total USG Assistance	\$33,232,780

Indonesia

Floods

Between November 19 and 24, 2002, heavy rains caused flooding in the provinces of Aceh and North Sumatra. The most adversely affected districts in Aceh were South Aceh, Southwest Aceh, Nagan Raya, and Aceh Singkil. In Southwest Aceh, the flooding killed 12 people, displaced 56,000 residents, and damaged nearly 300 homes. Floods in Nagan Raya killed two people, inundated 37 villages, and displaced 26,000 people. In the North Sumatra districts of Central Tapunali and Nias Island, the flooding displaced more than 4,000 residents. The floodwaters also caused three bridges to

collapse, temporarily cutting transportation links between affected districts and major cities.

On November 27, U.S. Ambassador Ralph L. Boyce declared a disaster due to the damage and displacement caused by the flooding in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Indonesia to the Indonesian Red Cross to meet the emergency relief needs of flood victims.

From March 31 to April 2, 2003, a tropical storm and heavy rains resulted in flash floods and landslides in the Ende, Sikka, and East Flores districts on Flores Island, in the province of East Nusa Tenggara (NTT). The flooding killed at least 56 people, damaged or destroyed an estimated 500 homes, and caused extensive crop damage.

USAID/OFDA responded under the November 27, 2002 disaster declaration to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides in NTT Province during early April. In response,



Flooding outside a temple in Indonesia (photo by Mariza Rogers, USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Indonesia to CRS for the purchase of relief commodities, and \$25,000 through USAID/Indonesia to CARE to support the provision of potable water for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$75,000

Nepalese throughout the country were severely affected by the renewed conflict as vital telecommunication, transport, and electrical infrastructure was destroyed. Moreover, a severe decline in tourism and exports reduced employment and income. In addition, widespread destruction of local and central

government offices, health clinics, agricultural centers, and the dislocation of civil servants impeded basic health and government services.

Restrictions on the movement of people and goods, imposed by the GON and the Maoists, prevented residents from attending schools and maintaining economic activities. Reliable assessments of the humanitarian situation of vulnerable populations were hindered by the lack of access. Furthermore, the Maoists threatened local and international humanitarian organizations receiving USG assistance.



CARE/Nepal staff sorting materials to send to District Health Offices assisting residents in Bajura and Bajhang districts affected by the conflict (photo by Parmeshore Oli, CARE/Nepal).

Nepal Complex Emergency

Since early 1996, the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) has waged an increasingly violent insurgency aimed at toppling the Government of Nepal (GON) and the Nepalese monarchy. Although initially centered in impoverished, underdeveloped districts in the mid-western and western regions of Nepal, the conflict spread to affect all of Nepal's 75 districts, resulting in the deaths of more than 8,000 people. Although a mutual truce was declared in January 2003, violence escalated after the truce ended in August 2003.

On November 26, U.S. Ambassador Michael E. Malinowski redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing conflict and resulting emergency humanitarian needs throughout Nepal. During FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$650,000 for emergency assistance to the conflict-affected populations including programs supporting assessments, emergency public health needs, and improved coordination of response activities. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$390,000 for natural disaster preparedness activities in Nepal.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$653,413

Pakistan

Floods

During the month of July 2003, abnormally heavy monsoon rains caused severe flooding in the southern region of Pakistan. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) reported that the most severe damage occurred in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan. In Sindh Province, the flooding caused 109 deaths, displaced 93,647 people to temporary relief camps, and affected more than 740,000 residents. An estimated 30,000 people required treatment for diarrhea and malaria in Sindh's Badin District. According to UN OCHA, flooding in Balochistan resulted in 15 deaths, affected an estimated 10,000 people, and destroyed more than 40 villages. PRCS officials reported that the floods damaged or destroyed nearly 112,000 homes, submerged more than 100,000 hectares of cropland, and killed 9,215 heads of cattle throughout the affected region.

On August 1, U.S. Ambassador Nancy J. Powell declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the floods. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad to the PRCS for the procurement and distribution of plastic sheeting, blankets, lanterns, and other emergency relief items for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Republic of Korea

Typhoon

On September 12, 2003, Typhoon Maemi, reportedly the strongest storm to affect the Korean peninsula since 1904, struck the southeast coast of the Republic of Korea (ROK) with 218 km per hour winds and nearly 45 cm of rain. South Gyeongsang Province and the provinces of Cheolla, North Gyeongsang, and South Gangwon were most adversely affected by the typhoon. The storm

left 87 dead, displaced an estimated 25,000 residents, and caused nearly \$1 billion in property damages, including the loss of 85,000 hectares of farmland and extensive destruction to the ROK's main port of Pusan.

On September 15, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Mark C. Minton declared a disaster to meet the emergency needs of those most affected by the typhoon. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to the South Korean Red Cross for the procurement of potable water, blankets, and emergency shelter materials for the areas affected by the flooding.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Solomon Islands

Typhoon

On December 28, 2002, Typhoon Zoe struck the southeastern region of the Solomon Islands, adversely impacting the islands of Tikopia and Anuta with heavy rains and winds of more than 300 km per hour. The typhoon injured 10 and displaced nearly 500 residents. Rough seas and lack of local funding initially hampered relief efforts to address the effects of the typhoon, which included the contamination of potable water sources, damage to croplands, and the destruction of local buildings including 70 houses, 3 churches, and 2 schools.

On January 7, 2003, U.S. Ambassador Susan S. Jacobs declared a disaster due to the displacement and damage caused by Typhoon Zoe. USDA/OFDA provided \$25,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Port Moseby in Papua New Guinea to Oxfam/Australia for supplies of emergency food, potable water, and seeds and tools for typhoon victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000

Sri Lanka

Floods

On May 17, 2003, seasonal monsoon rains exacerbated by cyclones in the Bay of Bengal caused severe flash floods and landslides in southwestern Sri Lanka. According to the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka's Crisis Management Center, the floods and landslides killed 250 people, destroyed 24,365 houses, partially damaged an additional 22,073 houses, and affected 151,141 families in Kaluarta, Ratnapura, Galle, Matara, and Hambantota districts. Floodwaters damaged the water delivery system and inundated wells, significantly damaging the supply of potable water. According to WHO, Matara and Ratnapura were the most adversely affected districts, with more than 55,000 flood-affected families in Matara, and 137 deaths due to landslides in Ratnapura.

On May 19, U.S. Ambassador E. Ashley Wills declared a disaster due to the effects of the floods and landslides. USAID/OFDA immediately provided \$50,000 through USAID/Sri Lanka to IFRC and the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society to supply bed sheets, cooking sets, sleeping mats, lanterns, buckets, soap, and bottled water for nearly 10,000 flood-affected people. From May 21 to May 25, a USAID/OFDA Regional Advisor traveled to the affected region to assess humanitarian needs and assist USAID/Sri Lanka's disaster response efforts. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$250,000 to WVI to clean and repair 4,000 wells that provided potable water for 100,000 beneficiaries.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$297,851



USAID/OFDA partner WVI assisting victims of flooding in Sri Lanka (photo courtesy of Chrisantha Jayakody, WVI).



Landslides destroyed this house in Sri Lanka during the May flooding (photo courtesy of Chrisantha Jayakody, WVI).

Vietnam

Epidemic

In March 2003, an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in Hanoi resulted in three deaths and left 58 infected victims in urgent need of medical treatment. The

only local hospital facility equipped to address the needs of SARS patients was the French Hospital in Hanoi. The hospital appealed for international assistance to continue providing emergency medical services to the SARS-infected patients in the hospital, many of whom required life-support treatment.

On March 25, U.S. Ambassador Raymond F. Burghardt declared a disaster due to the SARS health emergency in Hanoi. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to the French Hospital to support emergency medical care for the SARS patients.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

Vietnam

Floods

FFrom July to September 2002, a succession of tropical storms caused heavy rainfall and flooding within 16 provinces of the northern, central, and Mekong Delta regions of Vietnam. The Vietnam Red Cross Society (VRCS) reported 250 deaths and 430,000 residents displaced throughout the affected areas. An estimated 70,000 homes were submerged, with total damages to housing and agriculture exceeding \$90 million.

On October 4, U.S. Ambassador Raymond F. Burghardt declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to CARE, CRS, and WVI for the provision of emergency shelter materials, personal hygiene items, and potable water for distribution to the affected populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000



**Europe, the
Middle East,
and
Central Asia**



Opposite: Iraqi children in Umm Qasar (photo by Donald Tighe).

Afghanistan Complex Emergency

The deterioration in security throughout Afghanistan during FY 2003 was due largely to factional fighting and an intensified campaign of attacks by al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters against Coalition and Afghan government forces. Sporadic attacks on civilians, local Afghan officials, and humanitarian workers also reflected a shift away from solely military and political targets to more vulnerable populations. Incremental progress was noted in rehabilitating infrastructure, resettling refugees, restoring agriculture, and promoting political reforms. However, escalating violence undermined the national reform process, impeded reconstruction efforts, threatened election processes, and hindered the delivery of relief assistance to many areas of the country. Nearly 20 percent of the total population continued to rely on emergency food assistance in FY 2003.

On August 11, 2003, NATO formally assumed command of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), a U.N.-mandated multinational military operation that has provided security in Kabul since December 2001. Deployments of Provisional Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) were also used to strengthen the presence of the central Afghan government by improving security beyond Kabul and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian and reconstruction assistance throughout the country. Despite these efforts, some humanitarian assistance groups, including UNHCR, withdrew from insecure regions of Afghanistan. Subsequent constraints on emergency relief operations adversely affected vulnerable Afghan populations, particularly in the southern regions of Kandahar, Helmand, and Nimruz.

Continued and widespread insecurity also hampered accurate monitoring of the

Europe, Middle East, and Central Asia

movement and resettlement of IDPs and refugees. UNHCR estimated in June 2003 that the total Afghan IDP population ranged between 200,000 and 600,000, compared to approximately one million in 2002. UNHCR also assisted in the voluntary repatriation of an estimated 500,000 Afghan refugees, the majority of whom

had been living in Pakistan or Iran, bringing the total number of returnees to more than 2.3 million since the organized repatriation effort began in March 2002.

After three consecutive years of drought in Afghanistan, food security improved in FY 2003. A record-breaking bumper harvest stabilized food prices, increased economic activity, and helped to restore livelihoods throughout much of the country, though IDPs, refugees, and pastoralists in the southern region remained vulnerable to food insecurity. Kuchi pastoral groups were among the most at risk, having lost a majority of livestock to drought. While favorable rains in FY 2003 had a beneficial effect on pastures and herd recovery, livestock disease was widespread due to a general lack of veterinary services. FAO indicated in a March 2003 livestock census that herd numbers were not sufficient to assure sustainable livelihoods among pastoralists, who comprise nearly 10 percent of the national population.

On October 15, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Robert P. Finn redeclared a disaster due to the continuing humanitarian crisis. During FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided \$24.5 million through grants and in-kind contributions to U.N. agencies, IOs, and NGOs to support the basic needs of IDPs and other vulnerable Afghans with provisions of food, potable water, shelter, and emergency relief supplies.

USAID/OFDA funded infrastructure rehabilitation, shelter, and



Photo top: USAID/OFDA implementing partner ACTED conducted emergency rehabilitation of the Shibar Pass in June and July of 2003 (photo courtesy of ACTED).

Photo bottom: Women bringing their quilts to Maimana Women's Center. USAID/OFDA implementing partner ACTED provided material, cash, and supervisory assistance for income generating programs in five provinces (photo courtesy of ACTED).

winterization projects for vulnerable Afghan communities through the provision of emergency shelter, fuel supplies, road maintenance, and snow removal. Funding to implementing partners included the following: \$2 million to ACTED for infrastructure development, including rehabilitation of roads and bridges in the north; \$2.1 million to Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) for emergency urban shelter in Kabul; \$2.3 million to Shelter For Life (SFL) for the provision of fuel and winterized shelter in western, northeastern, and southern regions; \$2.1 million to CONCERN for food security, potable water distribution, and rehabilitation of economic livelihoods in northern Afghanistan; \$1 million to UNDP for nationwide assistance; and \$400,000 to WVI for the provision of emergency winterization shelter kits in the western region.

USAID/OFDA also supported the following health and nutrition programs: \$6.8 million to IMC for women's health programs and clinics, supplemental feeding centers, and mobile health teams, as well as training and education services for nutrition and health in the central and eastern regions; and \$1.3 million to ACF for primary health care and nutrition programs in the central and northern regions.

USAID/OFDA supported the agricultural sector and other infrastructure rehabilitation projects, including: \$2.5 million to CRS for a cash-for-work and quick-impact agricultural livelihoods program; \$470,000 to FAO for nationwide emergency livestock vaccination campaigns, food security surveillance, locust



Afghan villagers receiving emergency food assistance (photo by J. Weaver).

control, and cereal distribution; and \$2 million to GOAL to improve economic livelihoods and an emergency food security program that provided seeds and tools in the northern region. USAID/OFDA also provided \$1.5 million to AirServ International for humanitarian air services.

USAID/FFP provided 72,400 MT of P.L. 480 Title II wheat, vegetable oil, and emergency food assistance valued at approximately \$47.4 million through WFP. USAID/OTI provided approximately \$14.4 million to IOM for transition initiatives, \$2.5 million to Ronco Consulting Corporation for small grants programs, \$1.1 million to Internews for community radio programs, \$500,000 to UNDP in support of the Human Rights Commission, and \$129,600 to Voice of America to expand programming coverage.

State/PRM provided \$52.9 million to UNHCR to support voluntary return, reintegration, and protection for Afghan refugees in Pakistan, Iran, and several countries in Central Asia; \$11.6 million to

Livelihoods Improved Through Successful Shelter Intervention Project in Afghanistan

—By Sonia Biswas

A crescent-shaped seismic zone extends across much of northern and eastern Afghanistan and Tajikistan. The zone is situated in the remote Hindu Kush Region, which includes the Himalayas. Between 1945 and 1999, 15 major earthquakes struck Afghanistan, causing an average of 224 deaths and 14,400 injuries annually.

On March 25, 2002, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake struck Baghlan Province in northeastern Afghanistan, adversely impacting Nahrin District. The initial earthquake was followed on March 26 and 27 by a series of aftershocks ranging between 4.5 and 5.8 in magnitude. The tremors killed nearly 2,000 people and displaced 138,000 residents in 40 affected villages.

In response to the damage caused by the earthquakes, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6.8 million in FY 2002 and FY 2003 to Shelter for Life (SFL) to initiate a 5,000-unit reconstruction project in May 2002. The objective of the shelter intervention was to reduce seismic hazard vulnerability by providing sustainable shelter solutions for poor and vulnerable people in disaster-prone areas, while contributing to local economic reconstruction.

Residents in SFL's project areas participated in the shelter design and construction, thereby creating a sense of ownership among those affected. Local participation ensured that the shelters rehabilitated were cost effective, adapted to local architectural methods, utilized traditional building methods and materials, and able to withstand future earthquakes. The exchange of knowledge between SFL staff and local officials greatly facilitated the construction of earthquake-resistant housing for local

beneficiaries. In addition, SFL provided earthquake mitigation training and seismic awareness preparedness to beneficiaries and local builders involved in the USAID/OFDA-funded project. Seismic risk assessments, conducted as part of the project, resulted in the relocation of three vulnerable villages consisting of 362 households.

Local economic growth was another important result of the SFL shelter project. SFL's use of local building materials and labor resulted in the expenditure of 75 to 80 percent of project funds in the local



SFL's newly constructed temporary emergency shelter on the right, designed with earthquake mitigation measures, is a striking contrast to an existing shelter on the left in Baghlan Province (photo courtesy of SFL).

economy, which generated considerable direct and indirect livelihood opportunities. Moreover, the newly reconstructed homes became a platform for home-based enterprises with 54 percent of 3,668 households utilizing their homes for income-generating activities during the life of the project. By the end of the project in November 2002, SFL constructed 5,000 two-room houses and assisted in building permanent homes for 30,522 people.

As a result of the USAID/OFDA-funded shelter project's outstanding accomplishments, SFL was nominated for the 2002-2004 Aga Khan Award for Architecture, presented every three years to projects that enhance the understanding and appreciation of Islamic culture as expressed through architecture.



Local residents unload wooden beams for construction of temporary shelters in Baghlan Province (photo courtesy of SFL).

ICRC supporting emergency response for conflict victims; \$2.4 million to UNICEF for emergency response and sanitation and mine risk education projects; and \$1 million to UNDP in support of cash-for-work environmental rehabilitation activities for returning refugees, IDPs, and demobilized fighters.

State/PRM also provided \$22.1 million to NGOs and other humanitarian agencies to fund emergency assistance for refugees and IDPs, repatriation assistance for returnees through shelter and winterization projects, skills training, basic health services, water and sanitation projects, and education services.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$24,536,631
Other USG Assistance.....\$155,986,919
Total USG Assistance.....\$180,523,550

Azerbaijan Floods

During May 2003, heavy rains and melting snow caused considerable flooding along the Kura and Araz rivers, resulting in high ground water throughout the region. Floodwaters increased the volume of the Kura River to nearly four times the normal level. An estimated 6,000 homes were flooded and 300 were destroyed, leaving 500 families homeless.

On May 8, U.S. Ambassador Ross L. Wilson declared a disaster in response to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Azerbaijan to support the IFRC's assistance to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society's Emergency Assistance Operation.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$25,000

Iraq

Complex Emergency

The U.S.-led operation in Iraq, which commenced on March 20, 2003, deposed the regime of Saddam Hussein. However, in the immediate aftermath of the fall of Baghdad on April 9, looting, burning of government buildings, and destruction of hospitals and health clinics in many cities and towns caused the further breakdown of public infrastructure already weakened from years of neglect. The continued insecurity, after major combat operations were declared over on May 1, posed additional challenges for the restoration of essential public and emergency services.

The U.S. Government deployed a multi-agency 60-member USAID/DART to the region in March 2003. The USAID/DART initially deployed staff to countries surrounding Iraq, including Kuwait, Qatar, Turkey, Jordan, and Cyprus, working with U.N. agencies and NGOs and coordinating with U.S. military Civil Affairs personnel. Once security was determined to be adequate by Coalition forces and UNSECOORD, the USAID/DART in Turkey moved to Arbil to monitor the humanitarian situation in northern Iraq, the USAID/DART in Jordan established a base in Al Hillah, and a portion of the USAID/DART in Kuwait City set up a presence in Al Basrah and Baghdad. The purpose of the USAID/DART was to assist in coordinating the Coalition forces' emergency relief effort and to assess and respond to existing post-conflict humanitarian needs.

The Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) became the lawful temporary governing body as designated by the U.N. On May 2, the U.N. Security Council lifted civilian sanctions, facilitating the resumption of oil exports. Beginning in June the Iraqi Ministry of Trade, in coordination with WFP, resumed nationwide



USAID/DART Abuse Protection Officer Sloan Mann (center) coordinates humanitarian assistance with Marines in An Nasariyah (photo by Gregg Nakano, USAID/OFDA).



Primary school students try out hand basins at their rehabilitated school. USAID/OFDA implementing partner WVI rehabilitated school water and sanitation systems in western Iraq (photo courtesy of WVI).

USAID/OFDA's Iraq Response: At Home and Abroad

—By Kate Stone

The Iraq USAID/DART was the largest ever USG inter-agency response team deployed by USAID/OFDA that did not include an urban search and rescue unit. From March to July 2003, a total of 119 personnel over the course of several rotations deployed to the

Persian Gulf Region. The USAID/DART provided general and sector-specific technical assessments; coordinated the movement and consignment of USG relief commodities; coordinated USG humanitarian efforts with Iraqi officials, other donor countries, NGOs, and Coalition forces; and monitored and evaluated USG-funded relief activities.

In March 2003, the USAID/DART consisted of a core team based in Kuwait and three field teams pre-positioned to enter Iraq: Team South (Kuwait), Team West (Jordan), and Team North (Turkey). As access improved, and in close coordination with Coalition forces, the USAID/DART entered Iraq to conduct

humanitarian assessments and coordinate the USG humanitarian response. USAID/DART members were the first non-military USG personnel to reach Baghdad, arriving three days after Coalition forces entered the city. The USAID/DART comprised humanitarian response personnel



Fiona Shanks, USAID/DART Information Officer, consults with young Iraqis in An Nasiriyah (photo by George Havens, USAID/OFDA).



Nate Smith, USAID/DART Field Officer, delivers an emergency medical health kit to a primary health care center in Baghdad, Iraq (photo by Thomas Hartwell).

from USAID, State/PRM, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Public Health Service (DHHS/PHS). From each of these agencies, the USAID/DART drew technical experts in areas such as health, food, water, logistics, and shelter, as well as management, administrative, information, security, and program personnel.

In order to provide the necessary support to the USAID/DART, a Response Management Team (RMT) was activated at the USAID headquarters in Washington, DC. In

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addition, the RMT managed the Washington-based response activities and facilitated interagency cooperation of the USG humanitarian response. Activation of the RMT allowed USAID/OFDA and other participating offices and bureaus to dedicate a full-time Washington-based team committed to the Iraq response.

Like the USAID/DART, the RMT was an interagency operation that was supported by technical specialists as well as administrative, program, information, and press personnel. Seventy-five USAID, U.S. Department of State, DHHS/PHS, and U.S. Department of Agriculture personnel served



on the Iraq RMT from March through July. The RMT responded to requests from Congress, businesses, and private citizens, and produced public fact sheets on the humanitarian and reconstruction situation.

USAID/OFDA and implementing partners continue to conduct programs in the priority sectors of IDP assistance, health, and water and sanitation throughout the country.

USAID/DART Communications Officer Juan Piniella (left) and USAID/DART Military Liaison Officer Steve Catlin (right) plot GPS coordinates at the Umm Qasr Port (photo by Gregg Nakano, USAID/DART).

food distribution through the public distribution system (PDS) to 27 million Iraqis. USAID/OFDA responded, through the USAID/DART, to identified humanitarian needs and the extensive breakdown in emergency services with grants, cooperative agreements, and in-kind contributions to U.N. agencies and NGOs.

USAID/OFDA funding provided support to programs in food security, health, logistics, infrastructure rehabilitation, nutrition, shelter, and water and sanitation sectors.

USAID/OFDA supported contingency planning, logistics, and coordination programs for the humanitarian response effort, including \$5 million to IOM for contingency stockpiles of emergency relief commodities; \$4 million to UNICEF for pre-positioning of food, water, hygiene, and

shelter supplies as part of the Crisis Appeal for Iraq's Children; \$1.2 million to UN OCHA for the establishment of the U.N. regional hub in Larnaca, Cyprus, and support for joint U.N. logistical services, including telecommunications and information management; \$530,000 to ARC to launch operational bases in Kuwait and conduct assessments in partnership with the Iraqi Refugee Aid Council; \$5 million to WFP for the enhancement of its regional logistics capacity, including the pre-positioning of emergency food stockpiles in the surrounding countries; and \$5.3 million to AirServ International for transportation and delivery of humanitarian commodities and personnel.

USAID/OFDA funded programs for NGO coordination and management, including

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\$93,000 to InterAction for placement of an NGO observer in the Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) in Kuwait City to channel communications among military, U.N., government, and other participants; and \$880,000 to SCF/US to create the joint NGO Emergency Preparedness Initiative for Iraq (JNEPI), an NGO consortium designed to improve coordination among participating NGOs.

USAID/OFDA also supported individual and joint NGO programs in agriculture, food security, health, water and sanitation, and education, including \$8.2 million to IMC for training of incident responders to weapons of mass destruction, refurbishment of medical clinics and hospitals, restoration of drug supplies, and rehabilitation of water and sanitation infrastructure in central and southeast Iraq.

USAID/OFDA provided \$5.9 million to SCF/US for the emergency transportation of primary health care teams and auxiliary staff, pediatric drug distribution programs in Mosul, and for a joint effort with UNICEF

to resume SFPs in 69 health facilities. SCF/US completed water and sanitation projects for schools in northern Iraq, conducted vulnerability assessments, and identified nutritional deficits in central and southern Iraq.

USAID/OFDA provided \$5 million to Mercy Corps to implement water and sanitation, health, and shelter programs. Projects included the rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in schools and remote villages hosting Kurdish and Arab IDP returnees; repairs and upgrades to the water supply and sanitary facilities for Al Kut General Hospital; repair and improvements to water distribution and purification systems serving 250,000 Iraqis; and the rehabilitation of sewage systems to affected urban and rural communities throughout Iraq.

USAID/OFDA provided \$4.9 million to IRC for health and sanitation projects in northern and central Iraq including: solid waste removal collection, sewage network cleaning, the repair of school sanitation systems, and upgrades for new and existing water treatment facilities. IRC also distributed hygiene kits and medical supplies and trained health professionals and teachers.



Local residents working on a school rebuilding project in Fallujah, Iraq (photo by USAID/OFDA).

USAID/OFDA provided \$4.9 million to WVI for commodity distribution as well as water and health sector upgrades in Mosul and Ar Rutbah. WVI provided blankets, hygiene kits, and cooking utensils to urban families; restored water supply systems and latrines in schools and urban communities; and restocked and rehabilitated regional hospitals.

USAID/OFDA contributed more than \$1.5 million to GOAL for nutrition, health, and

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USAID/DART Food for Peace Officer Susan Bradley (right) monitors a WFP food distribution site where Iraqis received emergency food commodities (photo by Thomas Hartwell).

capacity building for civil society and national governance. Program support to implementing partners, including Development Alternatives, Inc. and IOM, encouraged the process of post-conflict community recovery, stabilization, and abuse protection.

State/PRM provided more than \$55 million for refugee assistance programs, including \$44 million to UNHCR, ICRC, and IFRC for contingency planning and emergency response initiatives; \$6.6 million to IOM for transportation and other assistance to third country nationals, \$3.1 million to WFP for the support of the U.N. Joint Logistics Center, and \$1.3 million to the International Catholic Migration Commission to provide health and education programs to Iraqi refugees residing in Lebanon and Jordan.

water and sanitation activities in southern Iraq. USAID/OFDA also provided \$1.2 million to the International Dispensary Association for the in-kind provision of health and medical commodities to sustain one million Iraqis for a three-month period.

USAID/OFDA also provided \$8 million for the transport and distribution of emergency commodities to local hospitals, repair and upgrades to water and sanitation networks serving 1.9 million Iraqis, implementation of hygiene awareness campaigns, support to 22 schools for the deaf throughout the country, and replenishment of supplies to Baghdad's Central Public Health Laboratory, which was looted during the conflict.

During FY 2003, USAID/FFP provided approximately 575,300 MT of P.L. 480 Title II wheat, vegetable oil, and complementary emergency food assistance valued at \$425.5 million through WFP and the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust. USAID/OTI provided \$57 million to support the Iraq Transition Initiative, abuse prevention, and

USAID's Bureau for Asia and the Near East (USAID/ANE) provided more than \$1.5 billion during FY 2003 in Iraq for programs in health, logistics, education, economic governance, transportation management, monitoring and evaluation, local governance, telecommunications planning, and agriculture. USAID/ANE helped to organize neighborhood advisory councils and community associations to prioritize and deliver essential services to communities, provided basic healthcare to Iraqis, organized immunization campaigns, rehabilitated schools, and distributed textbooks. USAID/ANE also restored power plants, water and sanitation facilities and transportation infrastructure, including bridges, railroads, the Umm Qasr seaport, and airports in Baghdad and Al Basrah.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$81,397,040
Other USG Assistance.....\$2,076,709,930
Total USG Assistance\$2,158,106,970

Kyrgyzstan Landslides

On April 20, 2003, prolonged periods of rain and snow resulted in flash flooding and a landslide in the village of Sogot in the Uzgen District of southern Kyrgyzstan, killing 38 people and leaving 46 displaced. The Government of Kyrgyzstan’s Ministry of Emergency Situations also reported additional landslides in the districts of Bazar Korgan and Suzak. The landslides destroyed farmland and livestock, crippling the main economic activities of the region.

On April 24, U.S. Ambassador John O’Keefe declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the landslides. USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$50,000 through USAID/Kazakhstan to Mercy Corps and Agricultural Cooperative Development International and Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (ACDI/VOCA) to support the purchase and transport of emergency relief supplies, including tents, cooking fuel, clothing, and bedding for landslide victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$49,264

Lebanon Floods

During February and March 2003, unusually heavy winter storms resulted in severe flooding throughout Lebanon. Persistent rains and snowmelt caused rivers to swell to record levels in the areas of Akkar, North Bekaa, and West Bekaa, impacting approximately 17,000 residents in 22 villages. Floodwaters submerged 230 hectares of crops and damaged an estimated 80 houses as well as five regional access roads. The flooding also killed livestock, including 300 sheep and 200 cattle, and

destroyed nearly 100 cafés and restaurants, thus affecting the primary income sources of many flood victims.

On March 25, U.S. Ambassador Vincent M. Battle declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the floods. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Lebanon to the Lebanese Red Cross for the local purchase of emergency relief supplies including blankets, mattresses, and personal hygiene items for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$50,000

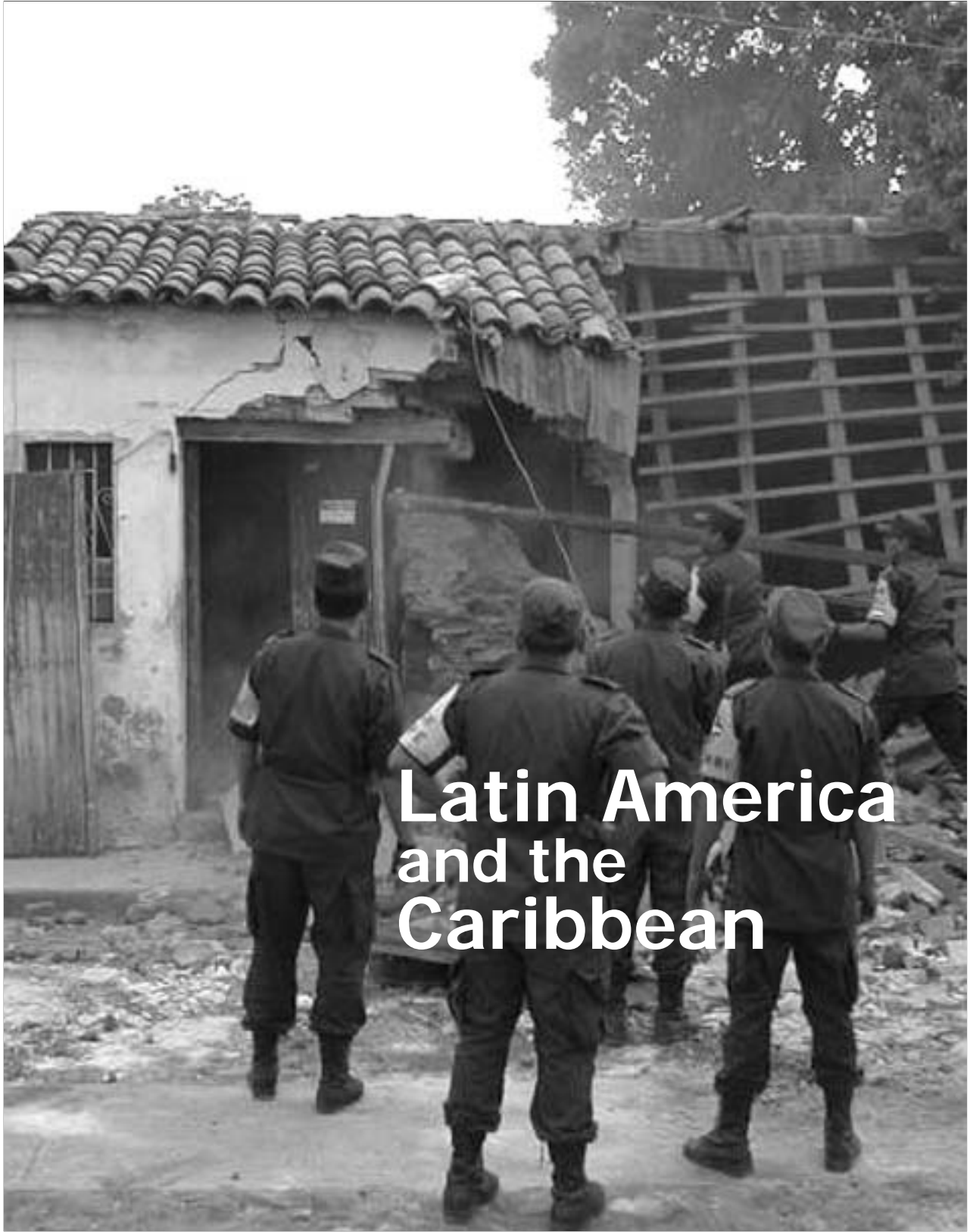
Portugal Fires

Forest fires caused extensive damage to central Portugal during July 2003. The fires killed 14 people, affected 150,000 residents, and destroyed more than 54,000 hectares of forest.

On August 6, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires William J. McGlynn declared a disaster due to the extensive damage caused by the forest fires. USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon to support local firefighting operations.

At the U.S. Embassy’s request, USAID/OFDA also deployed an assessment team on August 10. The USAID/OFDA team leader, Los Angeles County firefighters, and U.S. Forest Service fire specialists assisted local firefighting teams with training and technical assistance. The team initiated fire mitigation programs including soil erosion prevention projects and fire management training. USAID/OFDA provided \$55,000 of FY 2004 funds for the team’s transportation and activities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$100,000



Latin America and the Caribbean



Opposite: Mexican officials remove debris and search for survivors of an earthquake that struck Colima in 2003 (photo by Tim Callaghan, USAID/OFDA).

Argentina Floods

During the months of March and April 2003, persistent, heavy rains caused the Salado River to overflow, resulting in severe flooding throughout the northeastern province of Santa Fe. The floods killed 22 people, displaced more than 160,000 residents, damaged or destroyed thousands of houses and municipal buildings, and disrupted highway routes. According to UN OCHA, approximately 75 percent of Santa Fe city was submerged by floodwaters. Local agricultural authorities

also reported nearly two million hectares of inundated croplands resulting in losses estimated at \$250 million.

On April 30, U.S. Ambassador James D. Walsh declared a disaster due to the damage and destruction caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires to Movimiento Los Sin Techo, a local NGO, for the purchase of health and sanitation supplies and other emergency relief items for the affected populations in Santa Fe Province.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000

Bolivia **Landslide**

On March 31, 2003, after three weeks of substantial rains, a large landslide occurred in the town of Chima, in the municipality of Tipuani. According to the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia, the landslide buried approximately 50 percent of the town under 2 to 30 meters of wet earth. According to UN OCHA, the landslide caused 24 deaths, injured 11 people, damaged or destroyed at least 150 homes, and affected approximately 690 residents.

On April 3, U.S. Ambassador David N. Greenlee declared a disaster due to the effects of the landslide. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Bolivia to SCF/Bolivia for the procurement and transport of emergency relief supplies such as tents, blankets, and plastic sheeting, and the transport of P.L. 480 Title II food in country from Patacamaya to

Chima. In addition, on April 3, USAID/OFDA deployed two disaster relief specialists to conduct a damage assessment. Based on priority needs determined by the assessment team, on April 12, USAID/OFDA airlifted 122,400 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting and three water bladders to the affected population. The total value of these commodities was nearly \$29,000, including transport.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$78,650

Brazil **Floods**

In January 2003, heavy rains resulted in severe flooding throughout Brazil's southeastern states including Rio de Janeiro, Espirito Santo, São Paulo, and Minas Gerais. Minas Gerais was the most adversely impacted, with local officials declaring a "state of public calamity" for 33 municipalities. The flooding and resulting landslides caused 45 deaths, displaced more than

16,000 residents, and damaged or destroyed 8,500 homes. During the week of January 27, two USAID/OFDA/LAC consultants based in the region and a representative from USAID/Brazil conducted a damage assessment in the affected area.

On February 3, U.S. Ambassador Donna J. Hrinak declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding and landslides. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Brazil to Serviço Voluntario de Assistencia Social (SERVAS) for the local purchase of emergency food, blankets, and other relief supplies for the affected populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000



Temporary shelters were constructed in Chima, Bolivia, following a landslide that destroyed at least 150 homes (photo courtesy USAID/Bolivia).

Costa Rica

Floods

From November 29 to December 3, 2002, heavy rains caused rivers to overflow and resulted in severe flooding, primarily in the Atlantic coastal areas from the cities of Siquirres and Limón south to the Panamanian border. According to the Costa Rican Red Cross, the flooding resulted in four deaths and displaced 5,224 people. The flooding also damaged more than 25,000 houses and caused extensive destruction to infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

On December 3, U.S. Ambassador John J. Danilovich declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in San Jose to the Costa Rican National Emergency Commission for the local purchase of emergency food, potable water, fuel, and other relief supplies for flood victims.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000

Ecuador

Volcano

On November 3 and 4, 2002, the Reventador volcano erupted, causing extensive damage throughout the northern and western provinces of Pichincha, Napo, and Sucumbios. According to Ecuadorian Civil Defense officials, the eruption left approximately 380 families without adequate shelter, damaged more than 3,000 houses, and generated economic losses for approximately 8,000 residents.

Volcanic ash caused respiratory illnesses, damaged and destroyed agricultural lands and crops, and contaminated surface water. Lava flows killed livestock, blocked roads and bridges, and downed transformers and power lines, suspending electricity and telecommunications in many areas.

On November 13, U.S. Ambassador Kristie A. Kenney declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the volcanic eruption. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Ecuador to the Ecuadorian Red Cross, PAHO, and a local NGO, Fundación Antisana, for the purchase of food, potable water, and other emergency relief supplies.

In addition, the USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) provided two telemetered seismic-monitoring stations and repeaters, radios, tools, and software to the Instituto Geofísico (IG) in Quito. VDAP also sent four scientists to support the IG and provide technical assistance during the Reventador response.

USAID/OFDA Assistance \$50,000
 Other USG Assistance.....\$54,200
 Total USG Assistance\$104,200

Haiti

Drought

Irregular and insufficient rainfall during 2001 and 2002 resulted in failed harvests and low household food reserves in Haiti's Central Plateau during FY 2003. An estimated 35,000 people were adversely affected by the drought conditions and the reduced capacity to rely on traditional livelihood coping mechanisms. In January 2003, a USAID/OFDA/LAC Regional Advisor and the USAID/Haiti MDRO participated in a UN OCHA mission assessment to verify conditions in the affected region.

On February 13, U.S. Ambassador Brian D. Curran declared a disaster due to the effects of the prolonged drought. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Haiti to WVI for the purchase of seeds and tools to be used as part of food-for-work activities in the most impacted communities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000

USAID/OFDA Risk Management Training Increases Earthquake Preparedness in Mexico

—by Anne Speca

For more than a decade, USAID/OFDA has developed a strong and collaborative relationship with Mexican disaster management professionals and institutions. The success of this cooperation was evident in the response to the tremendous earthquake that occurred on January 21, 2003, in Colima, a small state in west-central Mexico. While the damage caused by the earthquake was significant, the training and knowledge of Mexican first responders and the preparation of Mexican disaster management organizations mitigated the effects of the earthquake, reduced damage to property and the environment, and minimized human suffering.

With a magnitude of 7.8 and a depth of 10 km, the earthquake caused considerable damage. According to the Mexican Red Cross, the earthquake caused 29 deaths, injured 1,073 people, destroyed or damaged 43,300 homes, and affected approximately 177,530 residents. The earthquake was also felt in the states of Jalisco, Puebla, and Tlaxcala, and Mexico City, although the most severe damage occurred in Colima.

In response to Mexico's vulnerability to a wide variety of natural disasters, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and floods, USAID/OFDA has been conducting disaster preparedness training in the country since 1991 through the USAID/OFDA Risk

Management Training Program (RMTP). The training is aimed at increasing the capacity of professional first responders and citizens alike to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. Training courses include Advanced First Responders, Basic Course for Professional Firefighters, Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue, Prevention and Control of Forest Fires, Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis, and Hazmat First Responder Course.



Structure that collapsed following the January 21, 2003 earthquake in Colima, Mexico (photo by Tim Callaghan, USAID/OFDA).

Immediately following the Colima earthquake, the Government of Mexico sent a USAID/OFDA-trained Mexican urban search and rescue team from Guadalajara to Colima. (A three-person USAID/OFDA team also conducted damage assessments and coordinated with the U.S. Embassy, USAID/Mexico, and the local disaster office.) Using skills gained through the RMTP, the Mexican first responders were able to manage the disaster response with their own resources and skills, thereby reducing the need for external assistance.

Since 2000, USAID/OFDA has also provided facilitation and technical assistance to the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) and the Mexican Red Cross. IMSS has worked on developing community-level emergency plans and training (based upon USAID/OFDA models) for 17 states throughout Mexico to increase local disaster preparedness capacity. Both of these institutions played a crucial role in the response to the Colima earthquake, by having established community preparedness plans and trained citizens, and by assisting in the response effort.

The success of the Mexican national and local first responders and disaster management organizations demonstrates the value of programs such as the RMTP. By preparing at the local level for disasters before they occur, countries are able to mitigate the effects of resulting damage.

Haiti Floods

From late August through early September 2003, heavy rains and flash floods devastated the town of Saint Marc in the western region of Artibonite. The floodwaters killed 31 people, injured 70, and displaced an estimated 4,500 residents. In addition, the flooding destroyed more than 300 houses and caused significant damage to local potable water infrastructure.

On September 4, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Luis G. Moreno declared a disaster due to the damage and destruction caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 through USAID/Haiti to CRS for the procurement, transport, and distribution of plastic sheeting and emergency household supplies to flood victims in Saint Marc.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$25,000

Mexico Earthquake

On January 21, 2003, at 8:07 p.m. local time, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 occurred in the west-central state of Colima. At least 15 tremors ranging in magnitude from 3.9 to 5.8 followed the earthquake. The earthquake caused the most severe damage in Colima State, particularly the capital city of Colima, and also affected Mexico City and the states of Jalisco, Puebla, and Tlaxcala. According to the Mexican Red Cross, the earthquake caused 29 deaths, injured 1,073 people, damaged or destroyed 43,300 homes, and affected approximately 177,530 residents.

On January 22, USAID/OFDA deployed a three-person assessment team that coordinated with the U.S. Embassy, USAID/Mexico, and Mexico’s National Center for the Prevention of Disasters (CENAPRED). A USAID/OFDA-trained

Latin America and the Caribbean

Mexican urban search and rescue (USAR) team from Guadalajara was also sent to Colima on January 22.

On January 24, U.S. Ambassador Tony O. Garza declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the earthquake. USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 to the AmRC for the local procurement of emergency shelter supplies, food, blankets, hygiene items, and other relief commodities.

USAID/OFDA Assistance\$100,000

Mexico Hurricane

On September 22, 2002, Hurricane Isidore entered the Gulf of Mexico and remained over the Yucatán Peninsula for more than 36 hours, with maximum sustained winds of 75 miles per hour for nearly 24 hours. The southeastern states of Quintana Roo and Yucatán were the most adversely impacted by the hurricane, which caused

13 deaths, displaced 500,000 residents, and destroyed or damaged approximately 150,000 homes in the region. Heavy rains and flooding destroyed nearly 100,000 hectares of sown corn and killed an estimated 8.2 million chickens and turkeys.

On October 10, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires John S. Dickson declared a disaster due to the damage caused by Hurricane Isidore. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City to AmRC for the local purchase of emergency food, blankets, hygiene items, and other relief supplies for distribution to the affected populations in the Yucatán Peninsula.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000

Paraguay Drought

During November 2002, a prolonged drought in western Paraguay adversely impacted the rural areas of central Chaco, including the departments of Presidente

Hayes, Alto Paraguay, and Boquerón. The drought culminated in severe crop damage and diminished potable water supplies, causing 12 deaths and adversely affecting an estimated 40,000 people. An eight-month lack of rain compounded by extreme temperatures burned farmland and family gardens. The result was a loss of 70 percent of total cultivated crops and destruction of entire harvests within some local communities already suffering from the effects of the drought.



Roof blown off building damaged by Hurricane Isidore in September 2002 (photo by USAID/OFDA).



Relief commodities were transported to Arequipa Province in Peru following severe flooding that affected more than 60,000 residents (photo by Carlos Cordova, USAID/OFDA).

On November 8, U.S. Ambassador David N. Greenlee issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the severe drought conditions on agriculture. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Paraguay to the Paraguayan Red Cross for the local purchase of emergency food for distribution to the affected populations.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$50,000

Peru Floods

In late January 2003, heavy rains combined with melting snow caused at least 16 rivers to overflow, leading to severe flooding in the southern departments of Apurimac, Arequipa, Ayacucho, Cusco, Madre de Dios, Puno, and Ucayali, and the highlands of Huancavelica and Ica. According to the Peruvian National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI), the floods caused at least 18 deaths, displaced approximately 3,500 families in the most affected departments of Puno and Madre de Dios, damaged or destroyed

30,000 hectares of cultivable land, and affected more than 60,000 people.

On January 28, U.S. Ambassador John R. Dawson declared a disaster due to the damage caused by the flooding. USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to USAID/Peru for the local procurement of blankets, material to erect shelters, and transport of relief supplies to the affected areas.

On January 28 and 29, USAID/Peru's MDRO and three USAID/OFDA consultants based in Peru conducted an assessment in the departments of Puno and Madre de Dios. Based on the assessment, on February 2, USAID/OFDA airlifted 1,224,000 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting, 2,000 blankets, and 2,000 five-gallon water containers to Lima. USAID/OFDA transported these commodities to Arequipa Province on February 5 to benefit approximately 2,000 families in the affected areas. The total value of these commodities was nearly \$210,000, including transport.

USAID/OFDA Assistance.....\$250,219

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

AAH/USA	Action Against Hunger/United States
ACF	Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)
ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AmRC	American Red Cross
ARC	American Refugee Committee
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance & Relief Everywhere
CISP	Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (International Committee for the Development of Peoples)
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale (International Cooperation)
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CWS	Church World Services
FHI	Food for the Hungry International
GAA	German Agro Action
IMC	International Medical Corps
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LWR	Lutheran World Relief
Merlin	Medical Emergency Relief International
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders)
NPA	Norwegian People's Aid
PCI	Project Concern International
SCF	Save the Children Fund
UMCOR	United Methodist Committee on Relief
WVI	World Vision International

International Organizations (IOs) and United Nations (U.N.) Agencies

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (U.N.)
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IOM	International Organization for Migration
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization (WHO)
UNDP	U.N. Development Program
UNHCR	U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	U.N. Children's Fund
UN OCHA	U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNSECOORD	Office of the U.N. Security Coordinator
WFP	World Food Program (U.N.)
WHO	World Health Organization (U.N.)

U.S. Government Organizations/Programs

CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DART	Disaster Assistance Response Team
DCHA	Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EDRC	Emergency Disaster Response Coordinator
EUCOM	U.S. European Command
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Office of Food for Peace
MDRO	Mission Disaster Relief Officer
OFDA	Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
OTI	Office of Transition Initiatives
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
SOUTHCOM	U.S. Southern Command
State	U.S. Department of State
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USG	U.S. Government
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

Country of Origin

/B	Belgium	/GB	Great Britain
/F	France	/UK	United Kingdom
/G	Germany	/US	United States

Miscellaneous

cm	centimeter
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
FY	fiscal year
IDP	internally displaced person
km	kilometer
mm	millimeter
MT	metric ton
P.L.	Public Law
SFP	supplementary feeding program
sq. ft.	square feet
TFC	therapeutic feeding center

Measurement Conversion

1 hectare	= 2.471 acres
1 meter	= 39.37 inches
1 millimeter	= 0.039 inch
1 kilometer	= 0.62 miles

PUBLICATION CREDITS

The FY 2003 Annual Report of the U.S. Agency for International Development/Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) was researched, written, and produced by Sonia Biswas, Ngoc Clark, Sarah McNiece, Wesley Mossburg, Joe Ponte, Alexandra Riboul, Fiona Shanks, Meredith Sisa, Anne Specca, Marian Spivey, Katherine Stone, Colin Thomas-Jensen, Sara Westrick, and Beverly Youmans of Macfadden & Associates, Inc./Labat-Anderson, Inc. in Washington, D.C., under contract number AOT-C-00-00-00224-00.

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USAID/OFDA PUBLICATIONS

In addition to its annual report, USAID/OFDA produces several other publications that are available on the Internet and by request. One of the most useful publications is the Field Operations Guide (FOG), a pocket-sized manual that contains methodology for conducting disaster assessments, as well as information on USAID/OFDA response procedures. In order to fulfill its mandate, USAID/OFDA has developed guidelines for proposals and reporting to assist in the preparation of proposals for new grants and grant modifications for submission to USAID/OFDA. This guidelines publication provides information relevant to this grant proposal review and award process, outlines the main components of a grant proposal, and presents reporting guidelines. USAID/OFDA also produces current situation reports and fact sheets on selected international disasters and crises, which describe the humanitarian situation and the corresponding U.S. Government response.

Current situation reports, fact sheets, and the Guidelines for Proposals and Reporting are available on the Internet at:

USAID/OFDA Home Page
http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/

UN OCHA ReliefWeb Home Page
<http://www.reliefweb.int/>

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Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance
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