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

Southern Africa – Floods & Cyclones

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

March 14, 2008

BACKGROUND AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since December 2007, unusually heavy rainfall has caused widespread flooding across Southern Africa, with areas in Mozambique, Namibia, and Zambia sustaining serious damage. In late February 2008, Tropical Cyclone Ivan made landfall in eastern Madagascar, bringing heavy rains and winds. On March 5, Tropical Cyclone Jokwe hit northern Madagascar, before gaining strength and making landfall in northern Mozambique on March 8. As of March 14, Tropical Cyclone Jokwe remains in the Mozambique Channel and is weakening.
- According to relief organizations and government disaster management agencies, the flooding and cyclones in Southern Africa have killed at least 150 people, affected more than 500,000 others, and destroyed infrastructure and crops.
- The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization forecasts continued heavy rains in the region through the end of March, which is likely to exacerbate the effects of flooding in affected areas.
- USAID/OFDA partners have indicated that recovery needs, particularly in agriculture and food security, remain a concern in affected areas. Relief staff note that floods and cyclones damaged and destroyed crops during the region’s primary agricultural season. Governments and relief agencies plan to conduct crop and food supply assessments in the coming months to determine the extent of long-term damage to crops and food needs.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		
Country	Estimated Affected Population	Source
Madagascar	332,391	OCHA ¹ – March 13, 2008
Mozambique	115,535	GRM ² – March 10, 2008
Namibia	30,000 families	GRN ³ – March 6, 2008
Zambia	34,766	GRZ ⁴ – February 27, 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

Total USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Southern Africa in FY 2008.....\$571,275
Total USAID/FFP⁵ Emergency Assistance to Southern Africa in FY 2008.....\$3,043,700⁶

CURRENT SITUATION

Madagascar

- In late February, Cyclone Ivan made landfall in Madagascar, causing damage to Toamasina Province and the offshore island of Île Sainte Marie. According to OCHA and the Government of Madagascar (GOM), Cyclone Ivan killed 93 people and affected more than 300,000 others, including nearly 200,000 displaced persons. In addition, the cyclone flooded more than 50,000 hectares of rice fields, destroyed bridges and infrastructure, and rendered many roads inaccessible.
- On March 5, Tropical Storm Jokwe entered the bay of Ambodivahibe in northern Madagascar. According to OCHA, the storm destroyed 44 houses in the district of Nosy Be and affected 400 people.
- Between March 6 and 7, a USAID/OFDA regional advisor visited cyclone-affected areas in eastern Madagascar with implementing partners to assess damages from Cyclone Ivan. On Île Sainte Marie, where tourism is a main economic driver, the team reported significant damage to infrastructure, along with hotels and trees. In the district of Fenerive Est, the team noted that damage to bridges and roads is hampering access to some areas. The assessment team also reported damage to crops in one of Fenerive Est’s important rice-producing zones. Through funding from USAID/OFDA, CARE is providing seeds to assist with replanting of flood-damaged rice fields.

¹ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

² Government of Madagascar

³ Government of the Republic of Namibia

⁴ Government of the Republic of Zambia

⁵ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace

⁶ This total includes food assistance provided in response to food insecurity in Mozambique following the drought in 2007.

- USAID/OFDA is also supporting CARE to help re-establish access to cyclone-affected areas. Through a food-for-work program, communities are clearing branches, trees, and other debris from roads leading to affected districts. In addition, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is using USAID/OFDA funds to provide a cargo helicopter to deliver emergency supplies and humanitarian staff to isolated areas.
- On February 29, OCHA reported that emergency needs in eastern Madagascar include food items, tents, seeds, school tents, and water purification kits. As of March 11, the GOM has provided food and emergency relief commodities, including soap, tents, and nutritional kits to affected areas, according to OCHA.

Mozambique

- Unusually heavy rainfall starting in early January resulted in flooding along the Zambezi River Basin in central Mozambique. Among the most affected areas were Buzi, Beira, and Machanga, where flood waters covered towns and displaced residents. By January 16, the flooding had also affected Sofala, Zambezia, Manica, Inhambane, Nampula, and Cabo Delgado provinces. To date, the flooding has killed at least 20 people, affected more than 113,000 others. As of mid-March, more than 92,000 people are living in resettlement centers, according to OCHA.
- On February 29, OCHA reported that water levels along the Búzi, Licungo, and Save rivers remained below the flood alert level. However, localized flooding persisted in Mandimba, Montepeuz, Angoche, Macomia, and Muidumbe districts in Cabo Delgado Province. Road access continues to be problematic in Tete Province, particularly in the districts of Magoe, Mutarara, and Zumbo. On March 6, OCHA reported that despite a decrease in water levels, heavy mud has rendered many roads impassible.
- According to the GRM's Ministry of Agriculture, as of February 22, the flooding had destroyed more than 150,000 hectares of agricultural land in the affected regions. During a field visit to Manica and Sofala provinces in late February, USAID staff reported that above normal rainfall has resulted in extensive damage to crops, negatively impacting food security. USAID staff note that farmers will require humanitarian assistance, particularly in preparing for the next planting season.
- On March 8, Tropical Cyclone Jokwe hit northern Mozambique, killing at least 16 people and destroying more than 10,000 homes, according to the GRM's National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC). On March 12, the Mozambique Red Cross reported that Cyclone Jokwe caused the most damage in the Nampula District, destroying up to 5,000 houses and washing away several schools. As of March 13, the cyclone is in the Mozambique Channel and is weakening, according to the Joint Typhoon Warning System. The cyclone is not expected to impact flood-affected areas along the Zambezi River Basin in central Mozambique.

Namibia

- According to the GRN's Emergency Management Unit, flooding has displaced 4,500 people in the central and northern parts of the country, after rains in neighboring Angola flowed into Namibia's floodplains. On February 29, OCHA reported that in the Caprivi area, the towns of Muzii, Nankuntwe, and Lalkune remained inaccessible. The flooding has particularly affected the northern Osmati Region, damaging 45 schools and impeding access to 26 health clinics. On March 4, the GRN's Ministry of Agriculture, Water, and Forestry forecasted additional flooding in northern Namibia.
- On March 6, USAID/Namibia reported that the GRN's Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate has provided food and emergency housing to flood-affected populations. In addition, the GRN and the Namibia Red Cross (NRC) have received food and relief commodities from the private sector to supplement government relief efforts for displaced populations. USAID/OFDA is supporting the distribution of emergency relief supplies through the NRC.

Zambia

- As of March 4, the flooding has killed 10 people and displaced more than 34,000 others, in the most affected provinces of Lusaka, Eastern, Western, and Southern, according to the GRZ's Vulnerability Assessment Committee. In addition, the flooding destroyed roads, bridges, and crops.
- On January 25, USAID/Zambia staff participated in a two-day joint assessment with USAID's Famine Early Warning Systems Network and the U.K. Department for International Development. The team assessed conditions in the flood-affected districts of Mazabuka, Sinazongwe, and Kazungula in Southern Province. In Mazabuka District, the team assessed conditions in temporary settlements created to accommodate displaced families. At the time of the team's visit, 117 families were living in displacement settlements, with the number expected to increase. In Mazabuka and Sinazongwe, displaced families were living with relatives and friends. In Kazungula, there were no reports of displacement. In addition, the team found that the floods had damaged roads and bridges, making some areas inaccessible. The heavy rains have also damaged crops, potentially affecting yields during the 2007/2008 agricultural season.
- On March 12, the U.N. reported that the Zambia Red Cross (ZRC) has distributed emergency relief supplies at resettlement centers in the Monze district in Southern Zambia. The GRZ's Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit

(DMMU) is resettling displaced families and providing emergency relief supplies to flood-affected populations. USAID/OFDA is supporting the procurement of relief items through USAID/Zambia to be donated to the GRZ's DMMU.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Madagascar

- On February 19, U.S. Ambassador R. Niels Marquardt declared a disaster due to the impact of Cyclone Ivan. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$320,000 to support relief efforts in Madagascar. USAID/OFDA has contributed \$60,000 to CARE to re-establish access to affected areas and provide emergency relief supplies, as well as rice seeds to support replanting efforts. USAID/OFDA provided an additional \$50,000 to WFP to re-establish access and provide emergency relief supplies to cyclone-affected communities. USAID/OFDA also airlifted 315 rolls of plastic sheeting, valued at \$211,275 including transport, to assist with emergency shelter needs.
- To support cyclone-affected families, USAID/FFP provided 443 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance, valued at \$346,000, through Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). The food commodities, including oil, rice, and corn soya blend, will assist more than 28,000 individuals with emergency food needs in the Fenerive Est, Vavatenina, Soanierana Ivongo, Toamasina II, Vatomandry, Brickaville, Foulepointe, Sainte Marie, and Antananarivo districts.

Mozambique

- On February 6, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Todd Chapman declared a disaster in Mozambique due to the flooding. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 through USAID/Mozambique to International Relief and Development (IRD) for water, sanitation, and hygiene activities in Chinde and Morrumbala districts.

Namibia

- On March 6, U.S. Ambassador Gail D. Mathieu declared a disaster in Namibia due to the flooding. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 through USAID/Namibia to the Namibia Red Cross for the distribution of emergency supplies.

Zambia

- On March 4, U.S. Ambassador Carmen M. Martinez declared a disaster in Zambia due to the flooding. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 through USAID/Zambia for emergency relief supplies to be donated to the GRZ's DMMU to support ongoing relief efforts for flood-affected populations.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MADAGASCAR

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
CARE	Logistics, Emergency Relief Supplies	Fenerive Est, Soanierana, Ivongo, Toamasina II, Vavatenina districts	\$50,000
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security	Fenerive Est District	\$10,000
CARE	Rolls of plastic sheeting, including transport	Affected Areas	\$211,275
WFP	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics	Affected Areas	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$321,275
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
CRS	268 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$217,200
ADRA	175 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$128,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$346,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MADAGASCAR IN FY 2008			\$667,275

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 14, 2008

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
IRD	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Chinde and Morrumbala districts	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	3,100 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$2,697,700
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$2,697,700
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE IN FY 2008			\$2,797,700

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 14, 2008

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NAMIBIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Namibia Red Cross	Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$50,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NAMIBIA IN FY 2008			\$50,000

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 14, 2008

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ZAMBIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Zambia	Procurement of Emergency Relief Supplies	Affected Areas	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$100,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ZAMBIA IN FY 2008			\$100,000

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 14, 2008

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Southern Africa may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

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