

Somalia

The Development Challenge: Somalia has been without a central government since 1991, and there have been numerous failed attempts at reconciliation. Ongoing peace talks in Kenya, led by a regional organization, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), repeatedly stalled during 2003. Civil unrest is the primary obstacle to economic growth and development in Somalia. Somalia's dynamic trade and transportation sectors have helped to keep the nation's economy afloat during years of crisis and civil war. However, the absence of effective regulation or systematic oversight, either by Somalia or the countries with which it trades, has generated diverse opportunities for trafficking in arms and contraband.

Export earnings continue to drop following a livestock ban imposed in September 2000 by countries in the Arabian Peninsula because of inadequate animal health control and certification procedures in Somalia. Remittances make up a substantial segment of the economy, but in the absence of a banking system, Somalis working outside the country have a difficult time sending money home, especially following the closure of Al Barakat in 2002, formerly Somalia's largest remittance company. Severe environmental degradation resulting from the combined effects of poverty and post-war breakdown of natural resource management continues to dramatically undermine food security. While there are many incidences of environmental degradation (e.g., fishing exploitation, water contamination, etc.), charcoal production (especially for export) is of particular concern due to the widespread deforestation of the main livestock fodder tree. In addition, insecurity and reduced assets over time have made communities more vulnerable to seasonal climate cycles that result in reduced food production.

Infant and child mortality rates are among the highest in the world. Diarrhoeal disease-related dehydration, respiratory infections, and malaria account for more than half of all child deaths. Malnutrition is chronic and appears in acute forms in areas of drought, flooding and localized conflict. Somalia also reports one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world caused by poor antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care and limited obstetric facilities. Female genital cutting, affecting up to 95% of girls, is an underlying cause of maternal death and is a serious violation of child rights. Cholera is endemic and occurs on a seasonal basis. Water availability and access is a critical problem and a cause for both conflict and internal migration.

U.S. national interests are clear: Stability and security will not be achieved in the greater Horn of Africa region without an end to conflict and Somali support for terrorism. U.S. policy is to encourage the return of Somalia to the international community. The United States and its allies combat extremism in Somalia by taking an active role in the peace process and with humanitarian assistance and support for long-term economic, social and democratic development.

The USAID Program: USAID assistance to Somalia works for a more secure, less vulnerable Somalia. The three main objectives of the program are: to strengthen local governance and conflict mitigation, to provide for more productive livelihoods, and to respond to critical needs for vulnerable groups. The first two objectives, funded through Development Assistance and Economic Support Funds, focus on strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations, enhancing the institutional foundation for the rule of law, and promoting economic opportunities by improving basic education, rehabilitating infrastructure and supporting small economic initiatives that enhance alternative energy use. The third objective is supported primarily by humanitarian assistance, including P.L. 480 food aid.

Other Program Elements: USAID uses Development Assistance, Economic Support Funds, International Disaster Assistance, and food assistance to implement an Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP). USAID's humanitarian assistance and P.L. 480 food aid are targeted at meeting the critical needs of vulnerable groups. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) support is devoted to supplementary nutrition programs, re-establishment of infant growth monitoring, rehabilitation of health facilities, provision of essential medicines, immunization programs, rehabilitation of water resources, and logistical support throughout vulnerable areas of Somalia. P.L. 480 food aid helps vulnerable populations in northern and

southern Somalia, through support to food-for-work activities, school feeding, and direct emergency distributions.

Other Donors: Donor coordination in Somalia is facilitated by a unique and effective mechanism known as the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) that was founded following the departure of the UN peacekeeping force in 1994 and has evolved into a network of technical advisory committees. USAID is a key participant in the SACB and provides funding to its Secretariat through the United Nations Development Program. The coordination group is made up of donors, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations and provides a framework for a common approach to the allocation of aid resources in Somalia. It recommends how aid should be distributed in Somalia and focuses on key areas for rehabilitation.

Somalia receives aid from several multilateral and bilateral sources. In recent years the European Union has been the largest donor to Somalia. The European Union provides assistance in primary health care, rural development, livestock production and marketing, and irrigation infrastructure. The United States has generally been the largest bilateral donor. Other major donors include Italy, Japan, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Britain, and Denmark. Minor donors include Canada, Finland, Germany and Egypt. Several UN agencies, particularly the United Nations Development Program and United Nations Children's Fund, provide assistance as well.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Somalia
Program Title:	Local Governance and Conflict Mitigation
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	649-004
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$0
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$781,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID's program to strengthen the capacity for local governance and conflict mitigation is aimed at local communities. It includes training and technical assistance to help civil society groups and local authorities work together; support of local mechanisms for dialogue and collective problem solving among conflicting parties; assistance to the judiciary to enhance the rule of law; assistance to human rights groups to monitor, assess, report, and advocate independently; and small grants to local non-governmental groups (NGOs) to implement community-based projects.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Using funds obligated in previous years, USAID will continue to strengthen the capacity for improved local governance and conflict mitigation through civil society expansion efforts. Principal contractors and grantees: CARE and the U.N. Development Program's War Torn Societies Project.

FY 2005 Program:

Strengthen civil society (\$781,000 DA): Activities within this objective will be supported under an extended Integrated Strategic Objective for Somalia that will be approved in FY 2004. Funds will be utilized to build upon past efforts to strengthen civil society. Emphasis will be placed on increasing the involvement of civil authorities in the coordination of development initiatives undertaken by civil society. The fact that Somalia remains without a central government makes it all the more imperative that USAID focus its efforts on strengthening the capacity for improved local governance and conflict mitigation. Principal contractor and/or grantee: to be determined.

Performance and Results: USAID's capacity building activities achieved three important results in 2003 which will contribute to stronger capacity for improved local governance and conflict mitigation. A higher level of confidence in the legitimacy of Somali NGOs by local authorities, the general public, and the international community was achieved. This was particularly evident when three predominant Somali NGOs took on a significant role in monitoring the Somaliland local and presidential elections. Civil society organizations increased their advocacy role in supporting and providing a conducive environment for both political and economic development, targeting policy formation and change at the national level. Issues addressed in FY 2003 ranged from initiatives to end conflict over water points and vehicle routes in farming areas, advocacy for policy formation over training of nurses, health issues such as female genital cutting, meat inspection and formation of coordination/umbrella bodies at the regional level. USAID funding contributed to the passage of an enabling act establishing the Somaliland Lawyers Association and the establishment of the first public legal clinic, based at the Hargeisa Faculty of Law, which offers free and low cost legal representation to economically deprived individuals.

USAID expects that by the end of 2005 a solid basis for the development of a strong civil society will have been established. Thirty-five civil society organizations will be self-sustainable and will contribute to good governance and peace building with cooperative, productive linkages with civil authorities. This includes three well-established Somali think tanks with a strong capacity to conduct participatory research and

dialogue, and foster the development of sound local governance policy and mechanisms. The capacity of civil society organizations in the northern regions of Somalia (Somaliland and Puntland) has steadily increased over the past three years. As a result, several organizations in each region will be better able to mitigate and resolve conflicts when USAID's objective is attained.

Funding from the Africa Bureau's Conflict and Peace Building Fund and USAID/REDSO will directly contribute to a Somali public more aware of and engaged with issues concerning national reconciliation and state formation; Somali leaders and international actors with more exposure to Somali public opinion on key issues relating to reconciliation and peace building; a 'national conversation' initiated and experienced by Somalis inside and outside of the country that can continue under its own momentum beyond the Dialogue project; conferences and dissemination of results to national and international partners engaged in the peace process.

Additionally, the justice system will be more independent, and its members will have developed greater expertise and administrative capabilities. Fifty-five judges will have been extensively trained and a complete translation of the Somali legal code will be accomplished.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Somalia
Program Title:	Productive Livelihoods
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	649-005
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$799,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$105,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID provides technical assistance, training, and small grants to improve services to productive enterprises, allowing them to exploit economic targets of opportunity. USAID also supports basic education with a focus on teacher training and development; the rehabilitation of urban water systems and other infrastructure; and training to increase the human resource capacity to market, design, install and maintain currently available alternative energy sources.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Improve basic education (\$799,000 DA). USAID will support a basic education program that focuses on teacher development, supporting pre-service and in-service teacher development with an emphasis on women. USAID will work closely with the European Union and other development partners to improve teacher-training colleges in Somaliland and Puntland. The program will enhance English language training for teachers and include activities for community support to teachers, such as social mobilization programs, strengthening school management committees, developing incentive schemes like scholarships, adult literacy programs, and other community-based support systems. The initial focus will be on the Hargeisa Teacher Training College. Principal contractor: Creative Associates.

FY 2005 Program:

Improve basic education (\$105,000 DA). Funds will be used to expand support to basic education initiatives with emphases on increasing the number of female teachers, encouraging girls to be more involved and developing strategies to reduce drop out rates. Principal contractor: Creative Associates.

Performance and Results: USAID's education program increased enrollment rates by nearly 3,000 students at 13 secular schools through the construction of 47 new classrooms and the provision of latrines for girls and water tanks at each of the schools. The capacity of school administrators, teachers, and community education committees was enhanced through training. The learning environment was improved through the provision of school furniture, textbooks for lower primary classes, and essential learning materials.

Fifty-eight businesses in Puntland and Somaliland increased their capacity to trade, install, and maintain conventional and alternative energy systems, and 50 trained technicians have made installations since their training. USAID has rehabilitated a major urban water facility providing access to clean water to 120,000 beneficiaries. The capacity of local construction companies was enhanced, and employment opportunities were created, both in the construction of water systems and the long-term maintenance operations. Regulations have been established that have opened the path for private sector management of the public water supply.

In 2003 P.L. 480 food-for-work activities undertook extensive rehabilitation of canals and roads. Over 850 kilometers of farm to market roads and 410 kilometers of irrigation canals were constructed or

rehabilitated. Road rehabilitation led to improved linkages between communities and markets, while canal rehabilitation led to more land being available for irrigated food production.

By 2005 there will be more and better trained female teachers in Somaliland and Puntland, and communities will be more supportive of girls' education and contribute to developing methods and means to reduce drop out rates. Through its support to FEWSNET, information highlighting the current food security situation and stressing potential threats to livelihoods will be collected, analyzed and disseminated to the Somali population, donors and other agencies operating in Somalia. This information will highlight the current food security situation and stress potential threats to livelihoods. Through its food-for-work program, USAID will rehabilitate farm to market roads, thereby facilitating the transportation of crops to a central market for sale, and will repair irrigation canals that allow for expanded food cultivation.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Somalia
Program Title:	Humanitarian Assistance
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	649-006
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$100,000 CSH; \$100,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$100,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID meets the critical needs of vulnerable groups by improving the quality and availability of health care services, increasing access to safe water and sanitation, effectively targeting and delivering food aid to the most vulnerable groups, rehabilitating infrastructure for critical livelihood security, and improving capacity for disaster preparedness and response.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Improve aid coordination (\$100,000 DA). USAID will provide funding for the operating costs of the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) to facilitate the development of policy and operational coordination for rehabilitation and development activities, particularly at the sectoral level. The aim is to improve aid coordination and develop common approaches. Support will be provided to the recently established SACB secretariat office in the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation in Somaliland. It is a multi-donor funded project. Principal grantee: the United Nations Development Program.

Support child and maternal health (\$100,000 CSH). USAID will provide funding to support the strengthening of health care delivery systems with the aim of reducing the disease burden by providing a high quality minimum package of care. Principle grantee: United Nations Children's Fund.

Provide relief assistance. Through the Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance and the Office of Food for Peace, USAID will continue to provide humanitarian food aid to the poorest people in conflict-prone and drought-affected areas. Along with food aid, non-food assistance for health, nutrition, water and sanitation will be provided to the most vulnerable communities. International and local organizations and, where feasible, local authorities, will deliver the aid. Training for civil society groups will improve the effectiveness of aid delivery. Food aid interventions will shift from emergency distributions to activities with more sustainable impact, such as food-for-work wherever possible and appropriate. The prime implementing partners are: CARE, World Food Program, United Nations Children's Fund, Food and Agriculture Organization, Aktion Afrika Hilfe, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, International Medical Corps and Norwegian Peoples Aid.

FY 2005 Program:

Support aid coordination (\$100,000 DA). USAID will continue funding for the operating costs of the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) to facilitate the development of policy and operational coordination for rehabilitation and development activities. It is a multi-donor project. Principal grantee: same as above.

USAID plans to continue providing food aid and humanitarian assistance in the conflict-prone southern areas of Somalia.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003 USAID food aid distribution in southern Somalia helped avert starvation. USAID's Food for Peace (FFP) program provided 27,900 metric tons of food assistance

valued at approximately \$18.8 million. In addition to the 2.8 million beneficiaries targeted through the WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), the CARE program provided food to some 611,448 beneficiaries through free food distributions and food-for-work activities. Over 40,000 children under five years of age were immunized against preventable diseases in drought-affected areas of central and southern Somalia. A total of 41,000 insecticide-treated bed nets were provided to pregnant women and to children at subsidized prices to combat malaria. Cholera reduction activities included the provision of supplies, chlorinating wells, and educating people about how the disease is transmitted. Some 100,000 sachets of re-hydration salts were distributed through health centers. Every month 11,000 malnourished children were provided with fortified supplementary food. Following the repair of one major urban water facility and 116 rural bore-hole wells and hand dug wells, 293,300 people were provided with access to clean water.

Data analysis, including remote sensing and market analysis and comprehensive reporting, has resulted in improved decision-making and response planning. USAID supported the timely and accurate dissemination of early warning information that led to a tailored UN aid assistance program for the drought affected Sool Plateau region. The program assisted 1,200 households and aided the development of a water rehabilitation program for the region by Norwegian Peoples Aid. Improved vulnerability analysis in the conflict-ridden Buale region led to an effective humanitarian response by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

This objective is largely supported by humanitarian assistance, with development assistance supporting aid coordination in the absence of a functioning government. By 2005, USAID hopes to have helped lower the number of vulnerable people requiring food aid, although this is challenged by the limited purchasing power of the Somali population due to the lack of economic opportunity.

Somalia PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Current	FY 2005 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	500	250	100	0
Development Assistance	2,267	3,122	899	986
Economic Support Fund	1,750	0	0	0
PL 480 Title II	19,729	19,128	1,375	0
Total Program Funds	24,246	22,500	2,374	986

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY				
649-004 Local Governance and Conflict Mitigation				
DA	1,600	1,474	0	781
ESF	450	0	0	0
649-005 Productive Livelihoods				
CSH	500	250	0	0
DA	567	1,548	799	105
ESF	1,300	0	0	0
649-006 Humanitarian Assistance				
CSH	0	0	100	0
DA	100	100	100	100

Mission Director,
Andrew Sisson