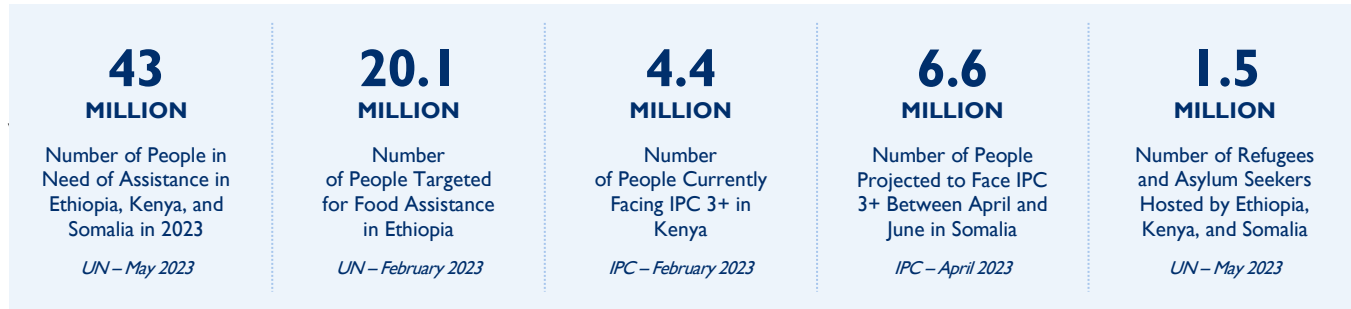


Horn of Africa – Complex Emergency

MAY 26, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- On May 24, the USG announced \$524 million in humanitarian aid to Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia.
- Drought conditions and seasonal flooding contributed to escalated GBV risks in drought-affected southern and southeastern Ethiopia during 2022.
- Despite increased rainfall that began in March, drought needs—particularly acute malnutrition treatment—persist among communities in 21 of Kenya’s 23 ASALs.
- An estimated 6.6 million people across Somalia are projected to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between April and June, while May floods in Hiran Region’s Beledweyne District resulted in 22 deaths and the displacement of 220,000 individuals.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA ¹	\$1,314,432,682
	For the Horn of Africa Response in FY 2023	State/PRM ²
Total		\$1,416,647,659

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The USG Announces \$524 Million in Humanitarian Funding for the Horn of Africa

The U.S. Government (USG) announced \$524 million—including an estimated \$416 million from USAID/BHA and nearly \$108 million from State/PRM—for Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia at a high-level pledging event at the UN headquarters in New York City, New York on May 24 to provide food, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, among other support. The event—hosted by the Governments of Italy, Qatar, the UK, and the United States in collaboration with the Governments of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia—raised an \$2.4 billion in pledges from participating countries to address humanitarian needs across the region. Below-average rainfall and related drought in the region since 2020, as well as seasonal flash flooding, has reduced livelihood access and caused widespread food insecurity. Moreover, humanitarian needs are exacerbated by conflict and displacement across the Horn of Africa, contributing to ongoing humanitarian emergencies. The pledges will help fund the humanitarian response plans of the three countries, which total \$7 billion, and ensure a region-wide scale-up of resources to implement life-saving assistance across all sectors. The USG has provided more than \$1.4 billion in funding to the Horn of Africa so far in FY 2023.

GBV Prevalence Reaches Catastrophic Levels in Drought-Affected Ethiopia

Climatic shocks, including drought conditions and seasonal flooding, contributed to escalated gender-based violence (GBV) risks in drought-affected southern and southeastern Ethiopia during 2022, according to a recent joint iMMAP–Protection Cluster report.³ The drought has resulted in increased travel distances to both livestock pastures and water sources—which spurs longer separation from household members and decreases protection for vulnerable individuals—likely driving the increased GBV risks in drought-affected areas, iMMAP reports. Furthermore, in severely drought-affected areas, early marriage prevalence more than doubled between 2021 and 2022, according to the report. Areas of Oromia Region’s Borena and Guji zones; Somali Region’s Liben and Shabelle zones; and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) Region’s South Omo Zone reached catastrophic levels of GBV prevalence—the report’s most severe classification—by the end of 2022.

The Protection Cluster advocates for the establishment of new, relief actor-operated protection One-Stop Centers (OSCs), which provide holistic health, law enforcement, legal, and psychosocial support services to GBV survivors free of charge. While the total number of functional OSCs in Ethiopia increased from more than 50 in July 2022 to approximately 60 in February 2023, no OSCs were operational in the drought-affected areas facing catastrophic levels of GBV and only two OSCs were operational in the entirety of Somali Region as of February.

Drought Needs Remain in Kenya Despite Heavy Rains and Flooding

Drought conditions remained critical in 21 of Kenya’s 23 arid and semi-arid land (ASAL) counties during March—the first month of the March-to-May long rains season—despite most ASALs receiving moderate-to-heavy rainfall in late March, according to the Government of Kenya’s National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). Additionally, more than 970,000 children ages 6–59 months and more than 142,000 pregnant and lactating women currently require treatment for acute malnutrition across Kenya’s drought-affected counties, the NDMA reports. Dairy production remained below long-term averages in 20 ASALs, and populations’ travel distances to access sources of safe drinking water

³ The Protection Cluster is the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

remained above long-term averages in 15 counties in March, according to the NDMA. Meanwhile, Crisis!—IPC 3!—or worse levels of acute food insecurity are expected through May in Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, and Wajir counties, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).⁴

Heavy rainfall and subsequent floods between March and May resulted in at least 29 fatalities and 4,700 livestock deaths. Overall, the floods adversely affected more than 73,200 people, including the displacement of more than 7,500 households, and damaged critical infrastructure—including WASH facilities—since early March, according to USAID/BHA partner the Kenya Red Cross Society. Since the onset of the March-to-May rainy period, communities across 11 counties—including the severely drought-affected counties of Marsabit and Wajir—experienced small improvements in distances to their main water sources, the NDMA reports. While the walking distance to water sources remained above the long-term average, walking distances decreased overall due to increased rainfall, which expanded access to safe drinking water in many areas. However, Mandera and Tana River counties continue to face extreme vegetation deficits, the NDMA's most acute vegetation condition classification. Additionally, pasture conditions remained poor in 65 percent of the ASALs and browse conditions remained poor in 30 percent of the ASALs during March, the NDMA reports.

GoK Ministry of Health Records Nearly 70 New Cholera Cases in 24 Hours

While the number of reported cholera cases in Kenya decreased during April, health actors reported nearly 70 new cholera cases in Garissa, Kiambu, Marsabit, Siaya, Tana River, and Wajir counties between April 23 and 24, representing the most significant increase in recorded cholera cases in the country in a single 24-hour period, the Government of Kenya (GoK) Ministry of Health (MoH) reports. The cholera outbreak, which began in early October 2022, had resulted in 161 related deaths and more than 10,000 suspected cases and countrywide as of May 5, according to the MoH. As of late May, health actors recorded a case fatality rate of 1.6 percent across more than 20 affected counties in the country, according to the MoH.

Relief actors warn that increased flooding in the country due to the March-to-May rainy season may exacerbate the spread of cholera and other waterborne diseases, as households with limited access to safe drinking water consume water from untreated sources. The MoH continues to raise awareness of waterborne diseases through messages on radio stations in hotspot areas while also scaling up health programming in affected areas. The MoH currently has limited cholera prevention supplies and medical equipment for health care facilities to implement an adequate cholera response in the country.

Approximately 6.6 Million People in Need of Food Assistance in Somalia

An estimated 6.6 million people across Somalia are projected to experience Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity, and 1.8 million children ages five years and younger are likely to face acute malnutrition between April and June due to ongoing drought conditions in Somalia, according to an April report by the IPC Technical Working Group. The updated food security and malnutrition projections for April-to-June integrate high levels of humanitarian assistance, decreased staple food prices in recent months, and the better-than-expected rainfall totals during the April-to-June *gu* rains in much of Somalia. Despite a favorable start to the *gu* rains, relief actors caution the latter half of the rainy season will likely

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity. A Famine—IPC 5—classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term classification of Catastrophe—also IPC 5—refers to a household. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 persons per day. An “!” indicates that the phase classification would likely be worse without current or planned humanitarian assistance.

bring near-average to below-average rainfall, which would not facilitate a robust drought recovery that would improve livelihoods. Notably, FEWS NET predicts more than 200,000 people will remain at risk of Famine—IPC 5—in internally displaced person (IDP) sites in Bay Region’s Baidoa town and Somalia’s capital city of Mogadishu, as well as among agropastoral communities. Currently, the scale of need is expected to outpace assistance deliveries during the April-to-June period, according to FEWS NET.

Heavy Floods Result in 22 Deaths and Displace Nearly 220,000 People in Somalia

Heavy rainfall during early May in the Ethiopian highlands caused extreme water flow down to Somalia’s Hiran Region in Hirshabelle State, resulting in widespread flooding. Heavy rainwater flow also caused the Shabelle River to flood the surrounding Hiran’s Beledweyne District, resulting in 22 deaths and displacing nearly 220,000 people as of May 14, according to the UN. The floods also damaged nearly 18,600 buildings—including farms, health centers, houses, and roads—as well as an estimated 90 percent of the district’s total area as of mid-May, relief actors report. Furthermore, IDPs are adopting negative coping mechanisms, such as begging, requesting loans in shops, or skipping meals, in order to access food according to a USAID/BHA partner. In response, humanitarian actors activated a national Flood Preparedness and Response Plan and are providing cash assistance to at least 111,000 people countrywide, according to the UN. Local authorities in Hiran have also created a Flood Response Committee—which includes representatives from the Hirshabelle state government, international and local NGOs, the Government of Somalia’s Somali Disaster Management Agency, and UN agency representatives—to respond to the needs of Beledweyne residents affected by the floods. Moreover, flood-related displacement in Beledweyne occurs amid already elevated levels of displacement during 2023. Between January 1 and May 10, more than 1 million people in Somalia have fled their areas of origin due to conflict, drought, and floods, according to the UN. Of that number, floods have displaced more than 408,000 people and drought has displaced approximately 312,000 people.

KEY FIGURES



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USAID/BHA partners providing food assistance across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia



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USAID/BHA partners providing health services to vulnerable communities in Ethiopia and Somalia

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

To address acute food insecurity in the Horn of Africa, USAID/BHA supports 10 NGOs, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Food Program (WFP) across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia to provide emergency food assistance—including U.S.-sourced pulses, vegetable oil, and wheat or sorghum—to populations in greatest need, including refugee households. USAID/BHA partners in the region also provide cash transfers to food-insecure households, enabling them to purchase food from local markets, where available.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA supports 10 NGOs and three UN agencies to improve access to health care services across Ethiopia and Somalia. USAID/BHA partners provide medical supplies, support mobile health units, and train community health workers to address urgent health needs, often integrated with nutrition and WASH programming. In addition, State/PRM partners support essential health interventions for asylum-seekers, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. In April, a

USAID/BHA partner supported 33 health facilities across four regions in Somalia and provided hygiene kits to 4,000 IDPs.



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USAID/BHA partners providing nutrition assistance across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA partners are leading efforts to prevent and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. Working through 11 NGOs and four UN agencies, USAID/BHA supports community-centered and evidence-based programs aimed at decreasing malnutrition-related illnesses and mortality by strengthening prevention efforts, as well as identification and treatment of wasting, particularly among children and pregnant and lactating women. USAID/BHA nutrition partners in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia implement life-saving nutrition services as part of the national health systems and integrate nutrition assistance with food security, health, livelihood, and WASH interventions to prevent excess mortality and improve resilience among drought-affected households.



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USAID/BHA partners providing protection services to drought-affected communities in the Horn of Africa

PROTECTION

While partners integrate protection concerns into all USAID/BHA-supported activities, USAID/BHA is also supporting 12 implementing partners responding to conflict- and drought-generated protection needs across the Horn of Africa. Partners are expanding GBV case management support, training social workers and community-based case workers, and providing dignity kits—which contain items to address the specific needs of women and girls—to GBV survivors. Implementing partners are also providing mental health and psychosocial support services to conflict-affected communities in the region. In addition, State/PRM supports implementing partners in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia to provide protection services to crisis-affected refugees and IDPs. A USAID/BHA partner assisted nearly 20 individuals affected by the recent flooding in Beledweyne with protection support, including medical treatment and psychosocial support.



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USAID/BHA partners providing WASH support to vulnerable populations

WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support WASH programming throughout the Horn of Africa to prevent communicable disease outbreaks, including cholera, and acute malnutrition in children and mothers. State/PRM continues to reach IDPs and refugees with critical WASH activities, such as supporting Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with the rehabilitation of boreholes in Ethiopia's Somali and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions. In addition, through partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, and 15 NGO partners, USAID/BHA supports partners in conducting critical WASH activities, including conducting hygiene awareness sessions, providing safe drinking water to people in need, and rehabilitating water systems destroyed by conflict. USAID/BHA partners are also training local health workers to prevent and treat suspected cholera cases in their own communities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Populations across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia struggle with a confluence of recurring climatic shocks, widespread food insecurity, and reduced access to livelihoods. These ongoing challenges, exacerbated by persistent conflict and resultant displacement, contribute to sustained humanitarian needs and ongoing complex emergencies. USG humanitarian assistance is designed to remain flexible and respond to needs as they arise, providing support to crisis-affected populations across the Horn of Africa.
- USAID/BHA continues to respond to acute needs resulting from persistent dry weather in parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia, with five consecutive seasons of poor rainfall between 2020 and 2022 leading to the most severe drought on record in the Horn of Africa in the last 70 years. Critical water shortages in drought-affected areas have significantly undermined livestock conditions, livelihoods, and food security. The legacy USAID Office of Food for Peace and legacy USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance responded to heightened food and nutrition needs resulting from drought in Ethiopia between 2015 and 2018, as well as drought in Kenya and Somalia between 2016 and 2018.
- Intercommunal conflicts in Ethiopia have generated displacement, exacerbated humanitarian needs, and impeded humanitarian access since 2018. In Somalia, ongoing conflict—related to al-Shabaab attacks and resultant military operations, as well as intercommunal violence—continues to contribute to displacement and food insecurity, while restricting access to livelihoods. Sustained life-saving assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at building resilience, is critical to help conflict-affected households meet their basic needs and rebuild assets.
- On October 28, 2022, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Tracey Ann Jacobson renewed the declaration of humanitarian need (DHN) for Ethiopia for FY 2023 to assist vulnerable populations adversely affected by armed conflict and climatic shocks, including the ongoing drought. On October 19, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Margaret Whitman renewed the DHN for Kenya for FY 2023 due to the drought-driven complex emergency. On October 11, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Larry E. André renewed the DHN for Somalia for FY 2023 in response to the ongoing complex emergency, including climatic shocks and protracted conflict.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2023^{1,2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN ETHIOPIA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
Action Against Hunger/USA (AAH/USA)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$2,500,000
CARE	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$4,000,000
Concern	Nutrition, WASH	Somali	\$2,230,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$87,491,685
	Agriculture, Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food	Oromia; SNNP	\$13,352,413

Ethiopia Red Cross Society	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Oromia	\$2,111,463
Fayyaa Integrated Development Organization (FIDO)	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Benishangul Gumuz	\$1,000,000
Food for the Hungry (FH)	Agriculture, WASH	Benishangul Gumuz	\$1,000,000
GOAL	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, SNNP, Somali	\$5,000,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia	\$3,000,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications	Countrywide	\$500,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Health, HCIMA, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$18,000,000
Initiative for Pastoralists Communication (IPC)	Agriculture	Amhara, Oromia, SNNP	\$2,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Somali, SNNP, Oromia	\$6,000,000
Mercy Corps	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, SNNP, Somali	\$2,000,000
Organization for Welfare and Development in Action (OWDA)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Somali	\$499,160
People in Need (PIN)	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Oromia, SNNP	\$1,500,000
Plan USA	MPCA, Protection	Oromia	\$999,9999
Save the Children (SCF)	Agriculture, Health, MCPA, Nutrition, WASH	Oromia, Somali	\$5,000,000
Swiss Church Aid (HEKS)	Agriculture, WASH	Oromia	\$700,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Afar, Amhara, Beneshangul Gumuz, Oromia, SNNP, Somali, Tigray	\$2,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers for Food; Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, Somali, Tigray	\$63,561,612
	Food Assistance–U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; Nutrition	Afar, Amhara, Beneshangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, Sidama, SNNP, Somali, Tigray	\$109,994,219
World Vision	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Oromia, SNNP	\$3,150,000
	Program Support		\$82,866
TOTAL USAID/BHA DROUGHT FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023			\$353,173,416
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023			\$353,173,416
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$43,800,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,350,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023			\$45,150,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023			\$398,323,416
FUNDING IN KENYA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			

AAH	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Isiolo, Mandera	\$7,000,000
Concern	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana,	\$9,000,000
IRC	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Samburu, Turkana	\$5,000,000
Kenya Red Cross Society	Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Baringo, Turkana, West Pokot	\$7,000,000
Rural Community Development Agency (RACIDA)	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Mandera	\$9,000,000
SCF	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Garissa, Wajir	\$9,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food; Nutrition	Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo, Kitui, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir	\$110,600,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Garissa, Isiolo, Kitui, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir	\$38,656,013
Wajir South Development Association (WASDA)	Agriculture, MCPA, WASH	Wajir	\$3,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Nutrition, WASH	Kitui, Tana River	\$7,000,000
	Program Support		\$63,310
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR KENYA IN FY 2023			\$205,819,323
STATE/PRM			
Windle International	Education	Garissa, Turkana	\$1,499,977
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$18,100,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$865,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR KENYA IN FY 2023			\$20,464,977
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE IN KENYA IN FY 2023			\$226,284,300
FUNDING IN SOMALIA FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
IPs	Food Assistance, Health, HCIMA, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$282,281,336
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$388,675,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$68,317,558
	Program Support		\$166,049
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2023			\$755,439,943
STATE/PRM			
IP	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$16,000,000
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$20,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2023			\$36,600,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA IN SOMALIA IN FY 2023			\$792,039,943

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of May 26, 2023 and reflect estimated values of assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, which are subject to change.

² USAID/BHA emergency funding for the Horn of Africa includes funding in both drought and non-drought areas of Ethiopia, as well as emergency funding in drought-affected areas of Kenya and Somalia. Funding specific to the Northern Ethiopia Crisis response can be found in [Northern Ethiopia Crisis Fact Sheets](#). In drought-affected areas across the Horn of Africa, USAID/BHA funding is responding to emergency needs related to drought as well as conflict and other emergency shocks.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)