

BUREAU FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Development & Disaster Risk Reduction

West Africa

Fiscal Year (FY) 2020



Many countries across West Africa face complex emergencies, frequent food security crises, and recurrent climate shocks, such as floods. In FY 2020, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supported programs to address the root causes of chronic food insecurity; improve emergency preparedness and response capacity at local, national, and regional levels; and support communities to build assets, livelihoods, and resilience to future disasters.

- USAID/BHA provided more than \$76 million in FY 2020 to support development efforts and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities across West Africa.
- In FY 2020, USAID/BHA partners in West Africa continued to implement multi-year resilience food security activities (RFSAs) and launched a new RFSa in Mali to address food security and resilience through FY 2025. RFSAs address chronic malnutrition and poverty through multi-sectoral interventions such as agriculture, early warning and disaster preparedness, health, natural resource management, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, as well as local capacity-building.
- During FY 2020, the onset of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic forced resilience partners to make major adjustments to programs, including the temporary suspension of some activities.
- USAID/BHA supported the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN World Food Program (WFP), and six non-governmental organizations with development and DRR funding, as well as other academic and governmental institutions, in FY 2020.

USAID/BHA DEVELOPMENT & DRR FUNDING FOR WEST AFRICA¹ IN FY 2020

Development	\$72,029,448
Standalone DRR	\$3,437,873
Integrated DRR	\$849,051

Total: \$76,316,372

In West Africa in FY 2020, USAID/BHA supported development and DRR activities in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

¹ These numbers reflect a combination of development food security activities funded through USAID’s Office of Food for Peace and DRR and integrated DRR with response programs funded through USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Resilience in the Sahel Initiative Enhanced II

Since 2012, USAID's Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced (RISE) project has worked with the governments of Burkina Faso and Niger to help their citizens build resilience to recurrent climate shocks and pursue sustainable pathways out of poverty. Building on the success of the RISE I program, which ended in 2018, USAID/BHA supports ACIDI/VOCA to implement activities under RISE II in Burkina Faso's Centre-Nord Region and CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and Save the Children Federation (SCF) to conduct activities in Niger's Maradi and Zinder provinces. In addition, USAID/BHA provides support to WFP for food assistance activities that increase short-term employment among vulnerable households and improve productive assets, resulting in enhanced community resilience.

RISE II is a joint project of USAID/BHA and 29 other implementing partners, government stakeholders, and civil society partners. The \$730 million project, which will last five years, aims to improve access to water and other natural resources, promote economic development, improve health outcomes, strengthen community and national health systems, foster more effective governance, and empower women and young people to be a force for positive change in their communities. USAID/BHA provided \$63 million in support for RISE II programs in FY 2020, and more than 355,000 individuals benefited from USAID/BHA resilience interventions in Burkina Faso and Niger during the year.

As part of RISE II, USAID/BHA provided \$8 million to ACIDI/VOCA in FY 2020 to implement its Victory Against Malnutrition Plus (ViMPlus) program in Centre-Nord, aiming to build resilience and improve food security conditions in areas affected by conflict and climate shocks. ACIDI/VOCA redefined the scope of the ViMPlus program in FY 2020 to address deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Centre-Nord caused by worsening insecurity, flooding, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Working in 217 villages in Centre-Nord's Barsalogo, Bouroum, Nagbingou, Namissiguima, Pissila, Rollo, Tougouri, and Yalgo communes, ACIDI/VOCA supported stabilization and recovery through multi-sector activities that addressed poverty and food insecurity.

USAID/BHA also provided \$15 million to CRS, nearly \$9 million to SCF, and more than \$4 million to CARE to improve food security and nutrition conditions in Maradi and Zinder. The organizations are working to promote the adoption of sustainable agriculture and husbandry practices; increase the availability of health, nutrition, and WASH services; and foster the creation and growth of inclusive development planning structures in local communities.

Combating Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in Mali

Communities in northern and central Mali are experiencing widespread food insecurity and vulnerability to extreme weather and other shocks due to ongoing intercommunal conflict and large-scale displacement. In response, USAID/BHA began a new RFSA in Mali's Gao, Mopti, and Timbuktu regions in FY 2020, scheduled to continue through September 2025. USAID/BHA supports SCF to implement the Albarka Project—meaning “human well-being” or “realized hope” in many Malian languages—with existing local organizations, providing food and nutrition assistance and other basic services to vulnerable populations, while also developing local response capacity by fostering leadership roles for women and young people in local organizations. The program aims to improve food and nutrition security conditions and resilience to reduce the impact of future shocks on conflict-affected populations. SCF plans to reach nearly 211,000 people across more than 300 villages through the Albarka Project.

Supporting Emergency Response Capacity in Nigeria

In FY 2020, USAID/BHA worked with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to host training, workshops, and exercises on emergency management and the Incident Command System for Nigeria's National Emergency Management

Agency (NEMA)—Nigeria’s lead national agency for managing disasters—and state-level emergency management agencies personnel. Through multiple training courses, participants become familiar with best practices in emergency management and are better prepared to support the implementation of robust incident management and other response systems throughout Nigeria. In total, 73 Nigerian emergency management personnel participated in training sessions in FY 2020. USAID/BHA contributed \$800,000 to the USFS program in FY 2020, for a total of more than \$2.2 million in funding since FY 2016.

Building Resilience in Senegal

With \$600,000 in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA supported Acción contra el Hambre (ACH) in Senegal to reduce malnutrition caused by climatic shocks in Matam Region, with the goal of reaching approximately 28,000 people with training and capacity-building activities. By strengthening the health care system in Matam and developing the capacity of local and regional health institutions, ACH—in cooperation with the Government of Senegal Ministry of Health—worked to build resilience and strengthen health outcomes in areas subject to recurrent crises.

Improving Regional Humanitarian Programming in West Africa

As part of its region-wide DRR programming in West Africa, USAID/BHA provided \$720,000 in FY 2020 funding to the AAH/USA-led Cash Learning Partnership in an effort to improve cash transfer programming by building capacity, promoting regional collaboration, and sharing information on best practices. The partnership provided training and resources on effective cash transfer programming to humanitarian staff and governmental, private-sector, and other stakeholders in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.

USAID/BHA also provided \$400,000 to IOM in FY 2020 to increase humanitarian actors’ ability to gather information about the cyclical movement of people and livestock across the Central Transhumance Corridor, which links the interior Sahel countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger with the coastal countries of Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Togo. Growing intercommunal conflict and scarcity of resources along the corridor have increased humanitarian needs among pastoralist communities and highlighted the need for more detailed information about migration in the region. IOM is working with national governments and humanitarian actors to study cross-border pastoralist movements in the region, allowing them to make more informed decisions about regulating and managing these movements.

USAID/BHA DEVELOPMENT AND DRR ASSISTANCE FOR WEST AFRICA IN FY 2020¹

LOCATION	ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	AMOUNT
Development			
Burkina Faso	Agriculture and Food Security, Disaster Readiness, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition, Private Sector Productivity, Social Assistance, WASH	ACDI/VOCA	\$8,000,000
	1,820 Metric Tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	WFP	\$2,991,570
Mali	Agriculture; Climate Adaptation; Gender, Youth, and Social Cohesion	SCF	\$9,000,000
	770 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	CARE	\$4,042,160
Niger	Agriculture, Civil Society, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition	CRS	\$15,000,000
	2,190 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	SCF	\$8,951,901
	14,080 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	WFP	\$24,043,817

TOTAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING			\$72,029,448
DRR			
Regional	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	AAH/USA	\$720,000
	Humanitarian Studies, Analysis, or Applications (HSAA)	SCF	\$1,100,000
Nigeria	Risk Management Policy and Practice	USFS	\$800,000
Senegal	Health, HSAA, Nutrition	Accion Contra el Hambre (ACH)	\$817,873
TOTAL DRR FUNDING			\$3,437,873
Integrated DRR With Response			
Regional	HCIM	IOM	\$450,000
Senegal	Agriculture and Food Security	Arizona State University	\$399,051
TOTAL INTEGRATED DRR WITH RESPONSE FUNDING			\$849,051
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT AND DRR FUNDING IN FY 2020			\$76,316,372

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020.

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.
- 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
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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)