OVERVIEW

• Many countries across the African continent face recurrent complex emergencies with rapid population displacements, frequent food insecurity, cyclical drought, and sudden-onset disasters, such as cyclones, earthquakes, and floods. In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA continued to respond to urgent needs resulting from disasters and support DRR programs that improve emergency preparedness and response capacity at local, national, and regional levels.

• USAID/OFDA FY 2019 DRR activities in Africa included instituting early warning systems for natural hazards, strengthening agricultural livelihoods to limit the effects of drought and food insecurity, and engaging communities and institutions to understand and implement acute malnutrition management and prevention practices. USAID/OFDA assistance also promoted efforts to build national capacity for disaster response and connect DRR actors within local, regional, and international civil society organizations operating throughout the region.

• USAID/OFDA-supported initiatives included programs that integrated DRR activities into ongoing emergency response efforts, bolstering the capacity of stakeholders to respond to continuing crises, such as complex emergencies and food insecurity.
STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS IN AFRICA

In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided more than $5.7 million for stand-alone DRR initiatives that improved preparedness and aimed to lessen the worst impacts of disasters. USAID/OFDA provided additional funding for regional and global stand-alone programs that strengthened disaster preparedness and response. At the regional and country levels, USAID/OFDA and implementing partners engaged communities, national and local governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop effective strategies—tailored to the needs of at-risk populations—to reduce the risk of disasters. These programs reflected USAID/OFDA’s commitment to supporting capacity development; strengthening linkages among risk identification, monitoring, early warning, and early action; and expanding partnerships and joint programming. Analysis of existing capacities and social, economic, and environmental trends guided programs. When possible, USAID/OFDA programs addressed underlying causes of recurrent disasters, including environmental and natural resource degradation, rapid urban growth, and weather-related shocks.

Regional Programs

East and Central Africa

• Disaster Coordination, Policy, and Readiness: With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) continued to support emergency preparedness and response capacity in East Africa. Through the program, OCHA convened a wide array of humanitarian actors in support of an effective, principled, and rapid response to emergencies, placing protection and gender sensitivity at the center of each response. Additionally, OCHA continued to support UN missions on humanitarian issues and facilitate regional coordination and information sharing between humanitarian partners operating in the region.

Southern Africa

• Building Capacity for Agriculture and Food Security Systems in Southern Africa: With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) continued to support capacity strengthening for information systems that monitor agriculture, food security, and nutritional outcomes. The organization supported the development of regional humanitarian action plans, trained stakeholders on livestock disease surveillance techniques, developed emergency pest preparedness and response guidelines, supported and coordinated regional data collection, and strengthened regional monitoring of transboundary pests in Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. The program ended in July 2019.

• Periperi U: To address increased demand for skilled professionals to manage disaster risks in Africa, USAID/OFDA continued to support the Partners Enhancing Resilience to People Exposed to Risks – Universities (Periperi U) program with previous year funding. The first program of its kind on the continent, Periperi U provided a platform for disaster-related training and research in DRR and humanitarian assistance through a network of Arabic-, English-, French-, Portuguese-, and Swahili-language African universities. Previously hosted at South Africa’s University of Cape Town since its inception in June 2006, the secretariat of Periperi U relocated to South Africa’s Stellenbosch University in 2011. The program ended in May 2019.

West Africa

• Increasing Community Case Management for SAM in Mali and Niger: With $600,000 in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, Acción contra el Hambre/Spain (ACH/Spain) commenced research on increasing the coverage, effectiveness, and cost-efficiency of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment in Mali and Niger through community case management. By evaluating the integration of community case management into health workers’ existing protocols, the NGO aims to identify best practices for increasing SAM treatment coverage, build local and national health service capacity to treat SAM, and treat nearly 6,000 children experiencing SAM.

• Optimizing Acute Malnutrition Treatment Protocols: To bolster SAM management, USAID/OFDA provided $600,000 in FY 2019 funding to the Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA). The organization plans to use
data collected through randomized control trials (RCT) conducted in the DRC, Mali, and Niger, as well as data from previous USAID/OFDA-supported programs, to determine whether ALIMA’s modified treatment protocol reduces morbidity and mortality rates, or produces results similar to the standard treatment at a reduced cost. Overall, ALIMA aims to reduce malnutrition-related mortality by streamlining current SAM treatment practices and reducing the proportion of children who develop wasting—a rapid loss of weight measured by low weight-for-height or low mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC).

**Improving Acute Food Insecurity Response in West Africa:** To improve regional coordination and national response to acute food insecurity in West Africa, USAID/OFDA provided $500,000 in FY 2019 funding to FAO’s Regional Resilience, Emergency, and Rehabilitation Office for West Africa/Sahel (REOWA). The program is contributing to the development of regional humanitarian strategies, strengthening national capacities for crisis prevention, and identifying humanitarian funding gaps. REOWA is also assisting communities through the provision of animal health activities, nutritional education, and water point rehabilitation.

**Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Food Security:** To strengthen food security early warning systems in the West Africa region, USAID/OFDA provided more than $1 million in FY 2019 funding to Save the Children Federation (SCF). The second phase of a previous USAID/OFDA-funded program, this initiative aims to continue strengthening national institutional capacities to improve food insecurity early warning and prevention systems in West Africa. Through this program, SCF plans to survey more than 31 million people—including more than 800,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs)—as part of the program’s household economic analysis; contribute to regional humanitarian strategies; and develop national capacities for crisis prevention in Chad, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Mauritania.

**Preventing and Treating Acute Malnutrition in the Sahel:** With $1.3 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA is supporting the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)’s multi-sectoral approach to increasing the coverage and quality of SAM early detection and treatment, as well as knowledge of SAM prevention measures, in Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal. With USAID/OFDA support, UNICEF plans to build health actors’ capacity to manage acute malnutrition, particularly among children; implement Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) surveys to collect district-level malnutrition data; improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conditions to support SAM treatment; analyze data on wasting prevention strategies; and support innovative and cost-effective approaches to SAM treatment.

**Improving SAM Management in Mauritania and Niger:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported community-level SAM management in Mauritania and Niger through ACH/Spain. ACH/Spain collaborated with the governments of Mauritania and Niger to develop a pilot study to expand SAM treatment services in remote areas. The study trained community health workers in SAM management and adapted existing tools for monitoring and treating acute malnutrition cases. The USAID/OFDA-funded initiative was part of a broader strategy to promote evidence-based programming for bolstering SAM treatment coverage. The program ended in April 2019.

**Improving Cash-Based Programming in West Africa:** Since FY 2012, USAID/OFDA has supported the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP)—an initiative to improve the quality of cash- and voucher-based humanitarian programs through capacity building, research, and information sharing—through assistance to Action Against Hunger/USA (ACH/USA). With funding from the previous fiscal year, USAID/OFDA continued supporting CaLP to improve information sharing and coordination for cash transfer programming in nine West African countries.

**Mapping and Managing Population Displacement in West Africa:** With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued to support improved analysis and mapping of national and regional population movement to minimize disruptions to basic services when conflict or natural disasters prompt displacement in West Africa. IOM also trained local NGOs and national authorities on international standards and
best practices for displacement management, emergency preparedness, and response in collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States. Overall, the program aimed to increase government understanding of the humanitarian needs of displaced populations to assist national actors in providing targeted response, recovery, and development interventions in the region. The program ended in January 2019.

- **Disaster Coordination, Policy, and Readiness:** OCHA continued to bolster emergency preparedness and response capacity in West Africa in FY 2019. With previous year USAID/OFDA assistance, the UN agency implemented efforts to strengthen emergency responses to crises in the region, provide timely analysis on the humanitarian situation in the region, support countries in preparedness and response, and enhance the capacity of UN country offices. The program ended in December 2018.

- **Bolstering Resilience in the Sahel:** With previous fiscal year assistance, USAID/OFDA continued to support FAO's REOWA to strengthen resilience against conflict-related or climatic shocks among vulnerable communities in West Africa. With FAO support, REOWA provided food security and nutrition analysis and facilitated improved information sharing to coordinate more effective regional responses to chronic food insecurity. While this program ended in March 2019, USAID/OFDA continues to support REOWA with FY 2019 funding.

- **Applying Economic Analysis to Enhance Early Warning and Response:** Through SCF, USAID/OFDA began a program to improve early warning systems for food insecurity in West Africa during FY 2014. The program aimed to strengthen data collection and analysis for existing national early warning systems and increase the capacity of key stakeholders to use Household Economy Approach assessments. By encouraging integration of these assessments into early warning systems, SCF helped national and regional stakeholders obtain a more comprehensive understanding of food insecurity at a local level. With prior year funding, SCF continued implementing activities in five countries in the region—Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Nigeria. The program ended in July 2019.

- **Social Network and Food Security Analysis:** With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, the UN World Food Program (WFP) compiled and reviewed existing market assessments in the Lake Chad Basin region—comprising Cameroon's Far North Region, Chad's Lac Region, Niger's Diffa Region, and northeastern Nigeria's Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe states—to assess whether social capital can explain differences in food security across households. The UN agency also developed a comprehensive database summarizing all analysis by country. The program ended in July 2019.

**Country-Specific Programs**

**Burkina Faso**

- **Using MUAC to Scale Up and Simplify Treatment for Acute Malnutrition:** With prior year assistance from USAID/OFDA, ALIMA continued conducting research to support the treatment of children experiencing acute malnutrition. Through a streamlined treatment protocol, which included a single MUAC measurement and a reduced dosage of ready-to-use therapeutic food based on MUAC results, ALIMA worked to simplify treatment and ensure a continuum of care for children experiencing wasting. Overall, ALIMA aimed to improve the quality and coverage of acute malnutrition treatment programs by using MUAC and nutrition treatment data to determine whether the treatment protocol reduced morbidity and mortality rates, or produced results similar to the standard treatment but at a reduced cost. This program concluded in December 2018.

- **Safety and Security Information Services for NGOs in Burkina Faso:** Previous year USAID/OFDA funding continued to support an implementing partner to provide NGOs in Burkina Faso with safety and security information services. USAID/OFDA contributions facilitated the production of flash reports, periodic analysis and briefings, regular security roundtable events, and crisis management and assistance training for humanitarian organizations in the country. These activities aimed to assist NGOs develop a better understanding of the operating environment and mitigate ongoing security risks in the region.
Burundi

- **Food Security and Nutrition Analysis System Support:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported FAO to collect, analyze, and communicate key information on food security and nutrition conditions and enhance resilience among vulnerable populations in Burundi. FAO also built local capacity to prepare for and respond to food security shocks and trained implementing partners to improve data collection techniques. The USAID/OFDA-funded program further aimed to strengthen information sharing and coordination efforts among humanitarian actors addressing acute needs in Burundi.

- **Strengthening Local Capacity to Respond to Emergencies:** The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) used prior year USAID/OFDA funding to bolster the capacity of the Burundi Red Cross Society to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises—especially needs associated with population displacement. Under the program, IFRC supported the pre-positioning of emergency shelter materials and relief commodities for up to 83,500 disaster-affected people, while providing training on disaster preparedness and logistics management, WASH infrastructure rehabilitation, temporary shelter materials, and non-food items.

- **Displacement and Emergency Tracking in Burundi:** Previous year USAID/OFDA funding continued to support IOM’s efforts to address humanitarian response gaps and strengthen the ability of humanitarian actors to respond to critical needs among vulnerable people in Burundi. The program aimed to expand current data collection capacity on IDPs using the Displacement Tracking Matrix and created an Emergency Event Tracking System for rapid assessment following natural disasters and other displacement events.

- **Strengthening OCHA Response Preparation Efforts in Burundi:** USAID/OFDA continued to support OCHA with previous year funding to strengthen humanitarian coordination and information management capabilities in Burundi. Program initiatives included coordinating humanitarian preparedness efforts, supporting needs assessments, and bolstering in-country capacity to respond to humanitarian needs. The program ended in December 2018.

DRC

- **Strengthening Preparedness and Rapid Response Capacity for EVD and MVD Outbreaks in the DRC:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported the UN World Health Organization (WHO) to strengthen sub-national and national preparedness, as well as readiness, timely detection, and outbreak control, for viral hemorrhagic fever outbreaks, such as Ebola virus disease (EVD) and Marburg virus disease (MVD), in the DRC. The program employed a participatory review process to engage communities and partners in the region to prepare effectively for potential outbreaks. Through this project, WHO is developing technical guidance for EVD outbreak preparedness and response, incorporating lessons learned from the DRC EVD Outbreak Response in 2018.

Ethiopia

- **Enhancing Disaster Management Systems:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting a technical assistance partnership between the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to improve the GoE’s disaster response capacity. Led by USAID/Ethiopia’s Office of Assets, Livelihoods, and Transition, USFS collaborated with the GoE National Disaster Risk Management Commission to establish a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which provides an organized, proactive approach to guide all levels of government—as well as NGOs and private sector stakeholders—working to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and reduce the impacts of disasters.

Kenya

- **Integrated Drought Recovery Program for Drought-Affected Populations in Marsabit County:** With an additional $50,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2019 funding, Concern continued supporting a drought recovery intervention in Kenya’s Marsabit County by providing animal health services to 3,000 households and veterinary support to livestock in their communities through an e-voucher system. With prior year funding, the project adopted an
integrated multi-sector approach to mitigate the impacts of below-average rainfall, targeting groups of beneficiaries with layered and sequenced interventions to create greater results. Overall, the program aimed to enhance infant and young child feeding practices, improve access to safe and adequate WASH services, increase early warning system information sharing for communities, and improve household production through greater access to animal health services. The program ended in August 2019.

- **Improved Emergency Nutrition Response and Mitigation Against Drought Impacts in ASAL Counties:** USAID/OFDA used previous year funding to support the delivery of high-impact nutrition interventions in Kenya’s arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) through UNICEF. UNICEF worked to improve women and children’s access to treatment for wasting, and strengthened DRR capacity in areas facing deteriorated nutrition conditions. UNICEF also provided technical assistance for nutrition surveys to guide future response activities in Kenya.

**Nigeria**

- **Strengthening Capacity for Disaster Management in Nigeria:** With an additional nearly $800,000 in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, USFS experts continued to provide technical assistance to bolster the disaster management capacity of the Government of Nigeria National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), which is responsible for coordinating disaster preparedness, risk reduction, and response activities across the country. The multi-year program supports the development of emergency operations center systems and procedures to strengthen coordination between national and state-level agencies, and facilitates NEMA staff trainings on relevant NIMS processes and procedures, including the Incident Command System.

**Senegal**

- **Building Nutrition Crisis Response Capacity in Senegal:** With nearly $900,000 in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supported ACH to strengthen the capacities of local and national health systems to respond to recurrent nutrition crises in northern Senegal’s Matam Region. The program aims to reduce SAM-related mother and child mortality and morbidity by improving health services and increasing awareness of preventative approaches. Program initiatives include assessing the effectiveness and coverage of SAM treatment; supporting the communication of infant and young child feeding practices to health facilities; and training community health workers in malnutrition management best practices, particularly for maternal, newborn, and child health.

- **RCT for Nutrition and WASH in Senegal:** ACH/Spain continued to evaluate the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of implementing a scalable WASH program together with SAM treatment in Senegal’s Louga and Saint-Louis regions. With previous year USAID/OFDA assistance, the NGO is conducting an RCT to assess SAM recovery rates and other nutritional outcomes to inform enhanced program design.

- **Soil Amendments for Locust Abatement in Senegal:** During FY 2019, USAID/OFDA continued to support Arizona State University’s initiative to increase scientific capacity at the individual and community level for strengthened locust monitoring and development of a locust early warning system in Senegal’s Kaffrine Region.

**PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE**

In addition to stand-alone DRR programs implemented to reduce the impacts of natural hazards in the region, USAID/OFDA integrated preparedness and risk reduction activities into disaster response, early recovery, and transition programs. These initiatives, which were in accordance with regional DRR strategies, incorporated risk reduction objectives into a broad range of sector interventions to increase vulnerable communities’ ability to prepare for and respond to future shocks. In Africa during FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided more than $3 million for programs that strengthened the capacity of national, regional, and international actors to respond to urgent humanitarian needs; supported partners to respond to acute food insecurity and malnutrition; and bolstered community resilience by promoting sustainable livestock and agricultural practices.
Regional Programs

East Africa

- Improving Livestock Vaccination Strategies in East Africa: With $545,000 in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) is quantifying the impact of recent Rift Valley Fever (RVF)—a deadly viral disease that affects livestock and people—outbreaks on child nutrition in East Africa and studying ways to improve RVF vaccination strategies. The ILRI project seeks to mitigate the adverse impact of RVF outbreaks on livestock and human health among pastoral populations of East Africa.

- Strengthening Community-Based Mechanisms to Respond to FAW Infestations: With previous year USAID/OFDA funding, FAO continued to support community-based efforts to monitor and respond to infestations of fall armyworm (FAW)—an invasive insect species that can cause significant damage to both cash and staple crops, such as maize, rice, and sorghum—in East Africa. Through the program, FAO helped establish community-based forecasting and warning mechanisms for FAW infestations, training community members to identify FAW and facilitating community-level actions to minimize or avoid FAW-related crop losses in the region.

Country-Specific Programs

Ethiopia

- Community Preparedness for Acute Malnutrition in Amhara: With $2 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, Concern is implementing a multi-sector program to prevent and reduce recurrent spikes in acute malnutrition in the Ethiopian Highlands. The program includes capacity-building for health workers, hygiene promotion activities, seed distributions, and emergency management and DRR training for local leadership. The program will also involve the construction and rehabilitation of water points, providing safe drinking water and improved water services for up to 11,000 people, as well as nutrition risk reduction interventions for up to 134,000 people.

Kenya

- Strengthening DRR and Emergency Response in Kenya’s ASALs: With more than $1.3 million in FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) supported activities to improve drought resilience among pastoralist populations of Kenya’s Baringo and Samburu counties. The KRCS program provides local communities with training on rangeland management and livestock management practices, as well as disaster preparedness training for local government officials and community leaders.

- Improved Socioeconomic and Nutrition Status for Drought-Affected Pastoralist Communities: To improve pastoralist communities’ nutrition outcomes and resilience across chronic drought cycles, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) used prior year USAID/OFDA funding to support food security, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH programming in Kenya’s Turkana County. The program provided integrated early recovery and rehabilitation interventions to vulnerable communities experiencing high and extreme levels of acute malnutrition, as well as poor livelihood outcomes impacting access to basic needs.

- Integrated Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition and WASH Intervention in Garissa County: With previous year funding, USAID/OFDA supported Mercy-USA to provide life-saving interventions and increase the capacity of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists to prepare for, cope with, and recover from recurrent drought in northeast Kenya. Through an integrated approach, the program implemented activities for more than 61,000 beneficiaries, improving the nutrition status of acutely malnourished children, building the capacity of agro-pastoralist communities to improve their livestock and agriculture-based livelihood systems, and improving communities’ access to safe drinking water. The program ended in May 2019.

Malawi

- Increasing Malawian Smallholder Farmers’ Access to Improved Storage Technology: With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported a Purdue University program aimed at improving food security, increasing household
income, and reducing post-harvest storage loss in Malawi. The program provided approximately 1,600 farmers with related training and Improved Crop Storage bags. The bags aim to reduce post-harvest loss from insects and rodents and enable farmers to store legumes and maize for more than one year after harvest. The program ended in September 2019.

**Mozambique**

- **Drought-Tolerant Crops Improve Food Security and Nutrition:** In coordination with USAID’s Bureau for Food Security, USAID/OFDA continued to support the International Potato Center (IPC) to improve communities’ access to drought-tolerant varieties of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes in FY 2019. With prior year USAID/OFDA funding, IPC worked to bolster nutritional knowledge and increase agricultural management capacity among drought-affected households. The project concluded in March 2019.

**Zimbabwe**

- **Improving Animal Health Service Delivery in Chiredzi District:** USAID/OFDA provided more than $100,000 in FY 2019 funding to support IRC’s research on animal health service provision and its impact on humanitarian programing. Through a voucher-based system that offers livestock farmers access to a full range of veterinary services, the initiative aims to safeguard and improve livestock health and primary asset production, and also demonstrate that sustainable animal health support can improve the quality and livelihoods impact of livestock-related projects.

### USAID/OFDA DRR Funding for Africa in FY 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Subtotal</th>
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**TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE** $3,989,765

**TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR AFRICA IN FY 2019** $9,736,385

1 Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2019. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2019; program descriptions in the fact sheet reflect USAID/OFDA-supported DRR programs active during the fiscal year, regardless of year of funding.

**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 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, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org).
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).