

# ETHIOPIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

JANUARY 21, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Up to  
**3.2**  
million

People Requiring Emergency Food Assistance

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – January 2015

**629,718**

Refugees in Ethiopia

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – September 2014

**15,500**

Suspected Measles Cases in Ethiopia in 2014

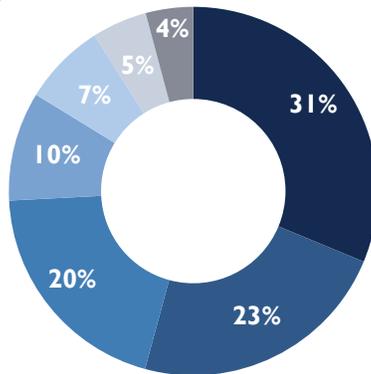
OCHA – January 2015

**125**

Priority One Hotspot Districts Requiring Nutritional Interventions

OCHA – January 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014 AND FY 2015



- Nutrition (31%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (23%)
- Economic Recovery and Market Systems (20%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (10%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (7%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (5%)
- Health (4%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Flooding in many areas of Ethiopia prompts multi-agency humanitarian response
- Food security mostly stable, some areas experience deterioration; malnutrition increases in areas of Somali and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO ETHIOPIA TO DATE IN FY 2014 & FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$22,664,721
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$194,119,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$75,899,711

**\$292,683,432**

TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports that an adequate October-to-January *meber* harvest created Minimal—IPC 1—food security conditions in most parts of Amhara, Oromiya, and SNNP regions.<sup>4</sup> However, areas in eastern Amhara, southern Tigray, east-central Oromiya, and central SNNP will either remain at Stressed—IPC 2—levels of food insecurity, or deteriorate into Crisis—IPC 3—due to below-average crop production and the resultant depletion of household stocks. Northeastern districts in Afar Region continue to experience Crisis-level food insecurity. USAID/FFP is currently responding to the emergency food needs of more than 774,000 acutely food-insecure beneficiaries through the Joint Emergency Operation (JEOP), a consortium emergency assistance program managed by Catholic Relief Services (CRS).
- Heavy rains and flooding from early September to late October generated humanitarian needs in parts of Afar, Gambella, Oromiya, and Somali regions, according to relief agencies. The humanitarian community and USAID/OFDA partners coordinated closely to meet flooding-related humanitarian needs through relief commodity distributions.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable cross countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## CURRENT SITUATION

- Heavy rains and flooding from early September to early November significantly increased humanitarian needs in parts of Afar, Gambella, Oromiya, and Somali regions, according to non-governmental organizations in Ethiopia. By early November, flooding in Afar and Somali—the worst-hit regions—affected nearly 48,750 people, according to the UN.
- Significant rainfall in mid-October caused flooding along the Awash River in five districts in Afar, according to relief agencies. The floods had displaced nearly 23,400 people and damaged approximately 11,000 hectares of agricultural land in the two worst-affected districts of Amibara and Dulecha by mid-October, according to an assessment conducted by Government of Ethiopia (GoE) experts. The assessment identified improved access to safe drinking water and provision of relief commodities—such as blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen utensils, and water containers—as priority needs in Afar. In late October, the GoE—with support from relief agencies—airdropped food, relief items, and water purification packets to inaccessible areas in Amibara and Delecha.
- Ongoing flooding in Somali during the same period resulted in the deaths of at least 15 people and affected nearly 41,800 households in 10 districts, according to an assessment jointly conducted by the Somali Regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau, relief organizations, and UN agencies during the week of October 20.
- According to OCHA, since October 2014 the GoE and humanitarian partners have delivered humanitarian aid to more than 47,700 flood-affected individuals, including more than 32,600 internally displaced persons in Afar, Oromiya, Somali, and SNNP.
- USAID/OFDA partners GOAL and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) distributed relief commodities—including blankets, kitchen supplies, mosquito nets, plastic sheeting, and water containers—to approximately 2,000 households in Afar and approximately 500 households in Somali in late October. In addition, IRC and GOAL distributed water treatment chemicals in both regions to ensure access to safe drinking water for affected populations. In Gambella, IRC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) distributed relief commodities to approximately 1,300 flood-affected Ethiopian households in Etang, Gambella, and Lare districts in October. The UN notes that flood-related infrastructure damage hindered access to Gambella’s Jikawo, Mekoy, and Wantowa districts, impeding assistance to South Sudanese refugee and Ethiopian host communities. In addition, IRC provided relief commodities to 645 Ethiopian households displaced by conflict in Gambella during September.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- The October-to-December *deyr/bageya* rains began on time in most southern and southeastern pastoral areas of Ethiopia, according to FEWS NET. However, in parts of Oromiya’s Borena Zone and Somali’s Dollo Zone, rainfall was delayed and below-average in volume. As a result, by mid-December 2014 livestock body conditions had not yet recovered from the September/October dry season and household access to milk was below-normal. Livestock prices in these areas had declined since October 2014, FEWS NET reports. Most pastoral areas in Borena, Afar and Somali regions, as well as SNNP’s South Omo Zone were experiencing Stressed—IPC 2—level food insecurity, while northeastern and southern Afar continued to experience Crisis—IPC 3—level food insecurity as of December. FEWS NET predicts that districts in East and West Hararge zones may also experience Crisis-level food insecurity in early 2015. USAID partner CRS identified urgent food needs in areas of East and West Hararghe that the GoE had omitted during its most recent allocation of food assistance. USAID and CRS successfully advocated to the GoE to include 177,875 individuals in the current food distribution.
- As a proactive response to inadequate rains and pasture, the USAID Mission in Addis Ababa’s flagship livestock program PRIME—Pastoralists’ Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion—activated its crisis modifier in July 2014, making \$500,000 in USAID/OFDA funding available to support the provision of feed and fodder to milking and lactating animals in parts of Borena zone. USAID/OFDA also provided approximately \$1 million of complementary funding for feed and fodder support for parts of Afar and Liben zones, Somali.
- As of mid-December, most parts of Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray regions, and surplus-producing areas in western Ethiopia, were experiencing Minimal—IPC 1—level food insecurity. FEWS NET attributes this to the ongoing *meber* harvest, which will likely be near-average in most *meber*-producing parts of the country.

- FEWS NET also reports the potential for below-average production of long-cycle maize and sorghum in parts of Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray to result in Stressed and Crisis levels of food insecurity in localized areas between December and March 2015. By early January, CRS began reporting deteriorating food security in approximately 15 districts in Amhara, Oromiya, and Tigray regions. According to CRS, some communities in affected districts have adopted negative coping strategies, including sale of household and productive assets. CRS attributed the increased food insecurity to irregular June-to-September *kiremt* rains. Given heightened needs, the GoE requested that CRS increase the number of beneficiaries for planned food distributions in Amhara's Meket, Sekota, and Ziqala districts.
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## NUTRITION

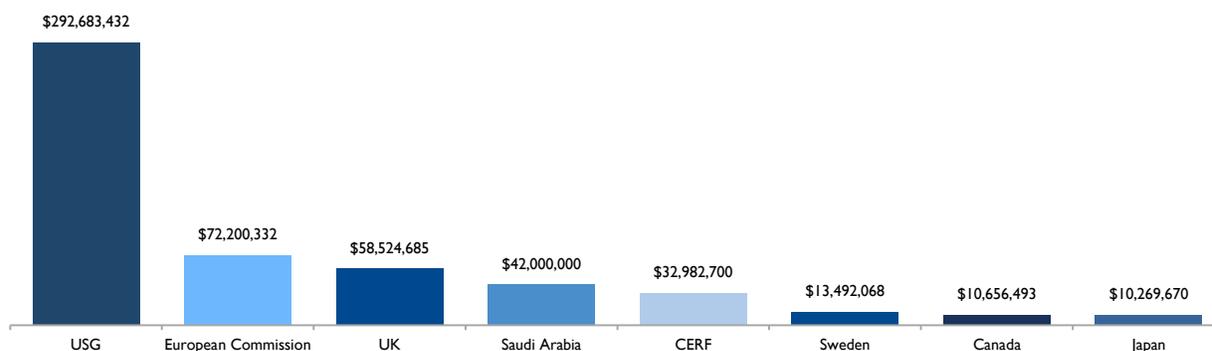
- Following a combination of drought and severe flooding in Somali Region in recent months, an early December nutrition survey conducted by Save the Children (SC) found that Somali Region's Dollo Ado District is currently experiencing a global acute malnutrition (GAM) level of nearly 29 percent—exceeding the UN World Health Organization emergency threshold of 15 percent. In addition, the survey identified 3 percent prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In response, the GoE and the UN World Food Program (WFP) are implementing a targeted supplementary feeding program in affected areas, while Médecins Sans Frontières and SC are supporting treatment of SAM. Late September and early October nutrition surveys conducted by SC in Barey and Gode districts of Somali Region's Afder and Shebelle zones revealed GAM rates of approximately 21 and 20 percent, respectively. SC received a sub-grant through USAID/OFDA partner GOAL in late December to address malnutrition in Shebelle zone.
  - After September-to-November flooding in parts of South Omo, a nutrition survey conducted by NGO Concern Worldwide in South Omo's Dasenech and Gngangatom districts identified GAM levels approaching 34 percent. A separate survey conducted by WFP in Danesch found SAM levels of more than 6 percent. In response to identified needs, in early December local government authorities requested emergency support from USAID/OFDA partner GOAL. GOAL initiated malnutrition activities in Dasenech and WFP started blanket supplementary feeding distributions of corn-soy blend in both Dasenech and Gngangatom.
  - In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$4.8 million to GOAL for its countrywide nutrition rapid response program. As of December 2014, GOAL was implementing nutrition programs—with USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP support—in parts of Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, and SNNP regions, and supporting the efforts of other partners—including Concern, International Medical Corps (IMC), Mothers and Children Multisectoral Development Organization, and SC—in Afar, Gambella, and Oromiya.
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## WASH

- Normal July-to-September *karma* rains had replenished water sources and improved water availability for human and livestock consumption in Afar Region by late October 2014, according to the regional water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) task force. As a result, the regional government in Afar stopped requesting water trucking support, which had been regularly occurring for various districts since May 2014.
- In recent months, water shortages continued in seven out of nine zones of Somali, prompting atypical human and livestock migration in search of water. However, the GoE's National Meteorological Agency predicted in late October that normal October-to-December *deyr* rains could improve water availability, food security, and nutrition conditions in affected communities in the coming months.
- As of December 2014, water trucking continued in three districts of East and West Hararghe with additional requests expected for other districts in early 2015.
- With nearly \$600,000 in support from USAID/OFDA, IRC began rehabilitating damaged water systems in Gewane and Amibara districts in November; IRC expects to complete rehabilitation by January 2015. IRC also continued rehabilitation operations in flood-affected parts of Gambella, as well as drought-affected areas of Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray. In addition, CRS and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) strengthened water infrastructure in areas of Tigray and

Somali Regions in collaboration with IRC. In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$4.25 million to IRC for rapid response WASH activities across Ethiopia.

## 2014 AND 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures for 2014 and 2015 are as of January 21, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year; FY 2015 began on October 1, 2014.

### CONTEXT

- Following consecutive seasons of unfavorable rainfall and harvests in 2010 and 2011, Ethiopia experienced localized below-average rainfall during the February-to-May *belg* rainy season in 2012 and 2013, which hindered recovery for populations that experienced significant food insecurity and malnutrition in 2011.
- Drought remains a major contributor to vulnerability in Ethiopia, as resulting crop and livestock losses have a profoundly negative impact on the lives and livelihoods of farmers and pastoralists. Populations also continue to confront other challenges—including seasonal flooding, localized inter-communal conflict, above-average food prices, disease outbreaks, and limited access to health and WASH services—that contribute to sustained humanitarian needs and an ongoing complex emergency in Ethiopia.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA PROVIDED IN FY 2014 and 2015<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$156,077
UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$425,000
GOAL	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$4,825,000
IRC	Relief Commodities and WASH	Countrywide	\$4,250,000
Mercy Corps	Agriculture and Food Security	Afar	\$1,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$700,000
UN Development Program	U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Somali	\$349,328
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,043,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,632,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000

USAID/Ethiopia	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$500,000
USAID/Ethiopia	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Countrywide	\$4,300,000
	Program Support Costs		\$984,316
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$22,664,721</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
CRS/JEOP	80,420 metric tons (MT) of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$82,037,200
WFP	97,160 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$112,081,800
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$194,119,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ACF	Nutrition and Psychosocial Support	Gambella	\$938,353
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychological Support	Tigray	\$1,000,000
Handicap International	Protection for Somali Refugees and People with Disabilities	Somali	\$222,467
Innovative Humanitarian Solutions	WASH	Tigray	\$25,000
IMC	Psychosocial Support and Protection	Somali	\$1,000,000
IMC	Prevention of, response to, gender-based violence - South Sudan emergency response	Gambella	\$1,800,000
IOM	Emergency post-arrival assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from Saudi Arabia	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
IOM	Refugee protection and multi-sector assistance - South Sudan emergency response	Gambella	\$2,300,000
IRC	Multi-sector assistance for Sudanese, Somali, and Eritrean Refugees	Benishangul Gumuz, Somali, and Tigray Regions	\$5,383,644
IRC	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funding for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care	Countrywide	\$1,302,083
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Psychosocial Support	Tigray	\$159,838
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Livelihood support for Eritrean Refugees	Tigray	\$599,452
SC	Education and Protection	Gambella and Somali	\$1,498,922
UNHCR	Refugee protection and multi-sector assistance	Countrywide	\$30,000,000
UNHCR	Refugee protection and multi-sector assistance – South Sudan emergency appeal	Countrywide	\$22,700,000
UNHCR	PEPFAR Funding for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care	Countrywide	\$1,104,960
UNICEF	Education and Protection	Tigray	\$600,000
UNICEF	Refugee protection and multi-sector assistance - South Sudan emergency response	Gambella	\$1,200,000
UNHAS	Logistics	Countrywide	\$1,100,000
Women And Health Alliance International (WAHA International)	Provision of reproductive health care to the population of Bokolmayo, Melkadida, and Buramino refugee camps	Somali	\$249,992
World Vision	Agricultural and Livelihood Support for Sudanese Refugees	Benishangul Gumuz	\$715,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$75,899,711</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2014 &amp; FY 2015</b>			<b>\$292,683,432</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents actual amounts as of January 21, 2015.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated value of food assistance

## **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](http://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:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at  
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>