

ETHIOPIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

MARCH 24, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Up to
2.9
million

People Requiring Emergency Food Assistance

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

676,100

Refugees in Ethiopia

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – February 2015

16,000

Suspected Measles Cases in Ethiopia in 2014

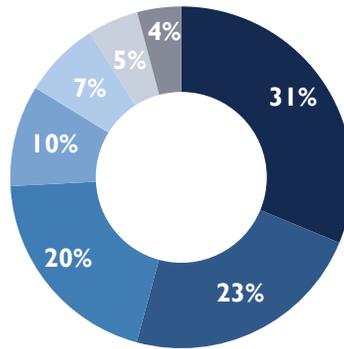
UN World Health Organization (WHO) – February 2015

49

Priority One Hotspot Districts Requiring Nutritional Interventions

OCHA – March 2015

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014 AND FY 2015



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

USAID/FFP FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



■ U.S. In-Kind Food Aid

HIGHLIGHTS

- February–May seasonal rainfall may be below average, causing households in Afar, Oromiya, and Somali regions to continue experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity through June*
- The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) 2015 appeals for \$344.9 million to fund relief operations during 2015

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

USAID/OFDA	\$22,664,721
USAID/FFP ²	\$241,920,600
State/PRM ³	\$91,994,884
\$356,580,205	TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The GoE released its annual humanitarian appeal on March 6. The HRD 2015 outlines more than \$386 million in sector-specific humanitarian needs for 2015, as determined by the GoE, UN, and non-governmental organizations. The assessment determined that up to 2.9 million people countrywide will require humanitarian assistance in 2015—a 7 percent increase from the HRD 2014 estimate due to failed *belg* rains during 2014. In addition, nearly 380,000 people may require assistance during the February–June *belg* rainy season, which to date has not started in most areas. The GoE has \$41 million available in carry-over funds from 2014, which brings the net funding request to \$345 million. Approximately \$277 million—nearly 80 percent of the funding request—is allocated for emergency food assistance, including targeted supplementary feeding rations.

* 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.

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

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

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

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- February–May seasonal rainfall—including the *belg*, *diraac*, *genna*, *gu*, and *sugum* rains—may be below average due to the early end of previous rains and subsequent prolonged dry season, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). As a result, households in northeastern Afar and the lowlands of Borena Zone, Oromiya, are likely to continue experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity through June. In addition, FEWS NET reported that the food security situation in southern Afar is expected to deteriorate from Stressed—IPC 2—to Crisis—IPC 3—level food insecurity from May to June.
- Average to slightly above-average October–January *meber* harvest yields resulted in improved household food security and nutrition in the majority of Ethiopia’s *meber*-producing areas, according to FEWS NET. Following the harvest, staple food supply in markets increased in Afar, Amhara, Tigray, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions, in addition to western Oromiya, stabilizing most food prices. However, cereal prices remain high in southern Somali’s agro-pastoral areas due to low local production, further constraining the livestock-to-cereal Terms of Trade ratio—the relative price of livestock in terms of kilograms of cereal—and reducing household incomes. In addition, hailstorms and wheat leaf rust—a fungal disease that is destructive to winter wheat—resulted in a below-average harvest in the Tekeze River catchment in Amhara’s North Gondar and Wag Hemra zones and in Oromiya’s East Hararghe, West Arsi, and West Hararghe zones.
- In SNNP, FEWS NET reported that *belg* rains, which typically begin in early February, have not yet started. Due to the dry conditions, water and pasture availability in SNNP has declined since December 2014. Livestock have been consuming crop residues, which are soon to be exhausted, as a main source of fodder, which has sustained livestock productivity in the region.
- In lowland areas of Somali’s Bale, Borena, Dollo, Nogob, and South Omo zones, water and pasture availability is below average, resulting in diminished livestock productivity. Similar conditions in northern Kenya caused approximately 60 Kenyan households to bring their livestock over the border to Moyale District, Oromiya. As a result of the increased strain on resources, the Oromiya Water Bureau has requested emergency water assistance for use in the region’s Dillo, Dire, Meyo, Moyale, Teltele, and Yabelo districts.
- Humanitarian agencies have expressed concerns over food assistance, as the GoE lacks sufficient resources for one round of food distribution through its Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)—in 2014, the GoE and partners completed six rounds of food distribution. The UN World Food Program (WFP) projects possible funding shortfalls and logistical delays in the coming months for its own distribution program.
- In February, USAID/FFP committed approximately \$24 million in FY 2015 funding to the Catholic Relief Services-managed Joint Emergency Operation (CRS/JEOP), to help meet critical food needs of more than 774,000 acutely food-insecure people. USAID/FFP’s contribution also provides CRS/JEOP with 38,900 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food aid. USAID/FFP also contributed approximately \$23 million to WFP’s new three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in mid-March, including 28,730 MT of sorghum, vegetable oil, and yellow split peas for food distributions. With the new PRRO, WFP plans to transition from relief operations to the expansion of development programs in Ethiopia. Over the duration of the operation, WFP aims to significantly reduce the unconditional relief component by transferring chronically food-insecure populations to the new phase of the PSNP while supporting the GoE’s expansion of the PSNP into Afar and Somali regions. To date in FY 2015, USAID/FFP has provided approximately \$106.5 million to CRS/JEOP and WFP’s drought relief and refugee operations.
- On February 13, the GoE’s Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA), UNHCR, and WFP met with donors to propose a biometric registration system within refugee camps. The total cost for the project—which will help improve accurate identification and distribution of food assistance to refugees—will be approximately \$6.6 million. Once funding is identified, the project is expected to begin implementation in Gambella and Dollo Ado camps.

NUTRITION

- In a February 18 nutritional hotspot classification, the GoE identified nearly 340 hotspot districts. As a result of the strong *meber* harvest, the number of priority one hotspot districts—characterized by high food insecurity, moderate-to-high levels of acute malnutrition, and increased therapeutic feeding program (TFP) admissions—declined nearly 61 percent, from 125 in January to 49 in February. The GoE and relief agencies are implementing nutrition interventions in 41 hotspot districts—including 11 priority one and 30 priority two hotspot districts—and have committed to expanding coverage to 29 additional hotspot districts this year depending on funding availability, the UN reported.
- February–June *belg* rains—nearly two months delayed, as of mid-March—may lead to reduced agricultural output, shortages in safe drinking water, and deteriorated food security and nutrition conditions for households countrywide. Below-average rains could also result in less pasture for livestock, negatively affecting milk production and thereby impacting nutritional status. Though the current nutrition situation is relatively stable, delayed *belg* rains may contribute to a rapid increase in TFP admissions in parts of the country, according to the UN.
- In SNNP, admissions of children experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) to TFPs declined from nearly 3,700 to 2,900 admissions between December and January. January admission totals were the lowest recorded in the month of January for the past five years. In Amhara, TFP admissions declined by nearly 19 percent from December to January and were approximately 16 percent lower than in January 2014; however, the nutrition situation remains of particular concern in districts in North Gondar and Wag Hemra that received below-average June–September *kiremt* rains.
- TFP admissions in Oromiya are higher than in previous years. USAID/OFDA nutrition partners reported that the region’s TFP admission totals in December 2014 were nearly 29 percent higher than in December 2013, with Arsi, Borena, East Hararghe, West Arsi, and West Hararghe zones as areas of concern. Oromiya’s January 2015 caseload of at least 8,400 reflected an increase of nearly 12 percent from January 2014, and was the highest admission total in the month of January for the past five years, according to the UN.
- In West Hararghe, USAID/OFDA partner GOAL is implementing emergency nutrition activities in five health centers in Darulebu District, where drought conditions in recent months have resulted in crop failures, limited access to pasture, and water shortages affecting both human and livestock consumption. GOAL expects that admissions to outpatient therapeutic programs (OTP) for children experiencing SAM will increase in line with typical seasonal trends during the upcoming June-to-August lean season. Health workers in GOAL-supported OTP facilities reported that regular house-to-house outreach improved active identification of, and early treatment for, children with moderate acute malnutrition and thereby reduced the incidence of SAM in targeted communities. In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$4.8 million to GOAL to support countrywide emergency nutrition interventions in Ethiopia; GOAL currently works in 15 districts in Oromiya, SNNP, and Somali regions.

HEALTH AND WASH

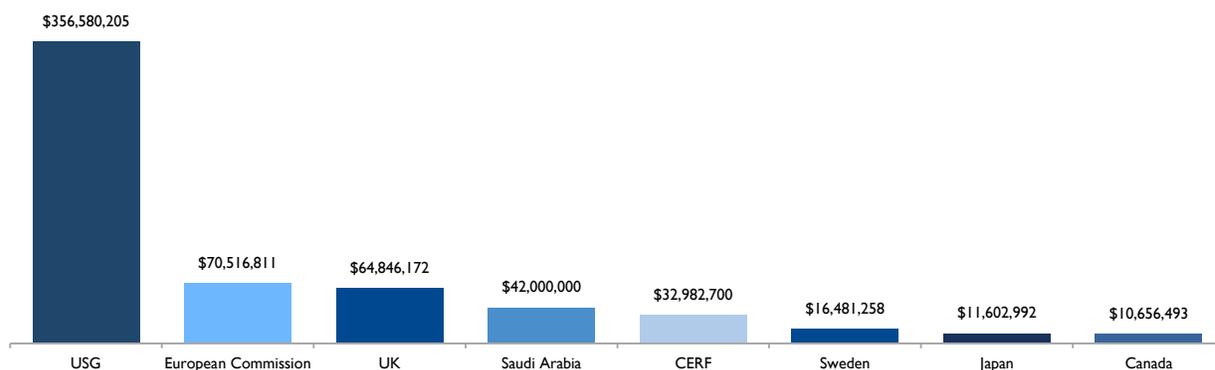
- WHO reported more than 16,000 suspected cases of measles countrywide in 2014, with children younger than five years of age accounting for approximately 33 percent of 13,300 confirmed cases. In response to more than 2,100 suspected measles cases to date in 2015, the GoE’s Ministry of Health plans to conduct a supplementary measles immunization campaign in October, targeting 40 million children younger than 14 years of age nationwide. The Ministry is currently mobilizing resources to fund this initiative.
- An estimated 23,500 people in Nogob’s drought-affected Legahida and Salahad districts required emergency water assistance in late February due to continued water shortages in Somali. The UN also reported acute water shortages in Deka Siftu District of Liben Zone.
- In Afar’s Zone 3, USAID/OFDA staff recently visited Amibara and Gewane districts—where October 2014 flash flooding from the Awash River damaged farmland, health facilities, schools, and water infrastructure—to monitor relief programs, including water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, implemented by partner organizations. The floods displaced at least 23,400 people and damaged more than 11,000 hectares of agricultural land, according to an assessment conducted by the GoE in mid-October. In response, the International Rescue Committee (IRC)—with

USAID/OFDA support—conducted hygiene promotion activities, rehabilitated damaged water systems, and temporarily provided water treatment chemicals to communities accessing unsafe water from the river. Community members and local authorities reported that the incidence of acute watery diarrhea decreased following IRC’s intervention, as the majority of community members are accessing safe drinking water as of March 7, according to USAID/OFDA staff. In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$4.25 million to IRC to support emergency WASH interventions across Ethiopia.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- Forest fires in Oromiya’s Bale Mountain National Park began on March 3 and threatened at least eight districts in Bale and West Arsi zones, according to the GoE. Initial reports indicated that the fires may have affected up to 1,200 hectares of forestland; damaged local structures, including houses; and resulted in livestock deaths. On March 13, the GoE’s Disaster Risk Mangement and Food Security Sector deployed a team to the affected areas to assess the situation. During the week of March 16, fires were contained and the GoE did not request outside assistance.

2014 AND 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures for 2014 and 2015 are as of March 24, 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 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/FFP³			
CRS/JEOP	67,230 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$44,077,100
WFP	82,010 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$62,433,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$106,510,100
STATE/PRM			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Nutrition	Gambella Region	\$997,223
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychosocial Support	Tigray	\$1,025,000
Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA International)	Reproductive Health	Somali	\$529,985
UNHCR	South Sudan Emergency Response	Gambella Region	\$16,200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$18,752,208
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2015			\$125,262,308

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$156,077
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$425,000
GOAL	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$4,825,000
IRC	Relief Commodities, 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	UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Somali	\$349,328
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	\$1,300,000
USAID/Ethiopia	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
	Program Support Costs		\$984,316
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$22,664,721
USAID/FFP³			
CRS/JEOP	80,420 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$61,960,100
WFP	97,160 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$73,450,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$135,410,500
STATE/PRM			

ACF	Nutrition, Psychosocial Support - South Sudan Emergency Response	Gambella Region	\$938,353
CVT	Psychosocial 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
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Psychosocial Support, Protection	Somali	\$1,000,000
IMC	Prevention & response to GBV - South Sudan emergency response	Gambella Region	\$1,800,000
International Organization for Migration (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 Region	\$2,300,000
IRC	Health, Protection, and WASH for Sudanese Refugees	Benishangul Gumuz Region	\$5,383,644
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Psychosocial Support	Tigray	\$159,838
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Livelihood Support for Eritrean Refugees	Tigray	\$599,452
Save the Children (SC)	Education, Protection	Gambella and Somali regions	\$1,498,922
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance	Countrywide	\$30,000,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Multi-Sectoral Assistance – South Sudan emergency appeal	Countrywide	\$22,700,000
UNICEF	Education, 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
World Vision	Agricultural and Livelihood Support for Sudanese Refugees	Benishangul Gumuz	\$715,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$73,242,676
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2014			\$231,317,897
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2014 & FY 2015			\$356,580,205

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

²USAID/OFDA funding represents actual amounts as of March 24, 2015.

³Estimated 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.
- 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 or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>