

SOUTHERN AFRICA - DROUGHT

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

AUGUST 23, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

18.3 million

People in Southern Africa Requiring Emergency Assistance³
SADC – June 2016⁴

6.5 million

People in Malawi Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

4.1 million

People in Zimbabwe Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

1.5 million

People in Mozambique Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

665,000

People in Madagascar Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

491,000

People in Lesotho Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

350,000

People in Swaziland Requiring Emergency Assistance
SADC – June 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

- FAO regional study finds gaps in seed availability and access
- FAO launches regional appeal requesting \$108 million to support 19 million people in the region
- USAID partners continue to respond to drought-related humanitarian needs across the Southern Africa region

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2015–2016

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$40,310,055
USAID/FFP ²	\$267,941,981
\$308,252,036	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In early August, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported that increasing numbers of households across Southern Africa will face significant threats to their food security and livelihoods through September. FEWS NET noted that many households in drought-affected areas of Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe continue to experience Stressed—IPC 2—and Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity, with further deterioration likely as food prices increase and supplies diminish during the peak of the October-to-January lean season.⁵ FEWS NET also predicted that some areas currently facing Stressed conditions will reach Crisis levels of food insecurity by October, and acutely affected areas of southern Madagascar, Malawi, and Zimbabwe may reach Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity.
- The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) predicts that the La Niña climatic event may result in above-average rainfall in parts of Southern Africa from November 2016 to May 2017. Increased rainfall could hasten the regeneration of pasture land and lead to above-average harvests, potentially alleviating food insecurity in some areas beginning in February 2017. FAO notes that improved harvests will depend on access to agricultural inputs, including seed and fertilizer, prior to the onset of the October rainy season. FAO also cautions that excessive La Niña precipitation could result in localized flooding, potentially destroying crops, eroding topsoil, and increasing livestock morbidity and mortality.

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

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

³ Includes Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

⁴ Data represents SADC projections of populations requiring emergency assistance from June 2016–March 2017.

⁵ 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 across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

REGIONAL

- In August, FEWS NET reported that although the main harvest season in Southern Africa typically extends until July, most households in Southern Africa had completed harvests at the end of June due to diminished crop size or crop failure. The abridged harvest season has negatively affected producers and laborers who depend on agriculture-related livelihoods and further decreased many households' capacity to meet basic needs.
 - FEWS NET also forecast that high prices for staple goods and limited market supplies throughout the Southern Africa region will persist in the coming months. Most drought-affected countries in Southern Africa expect maize production deficits of more than 20 percent, including South Africa, which is typically the regional supplier. FEWS NET also highlighted that average maize prices across the region have continued to increase in 2016, including throughout the harvest and post-harvest period when declines typically occur in a non-emergency year.
 - With USAID support, FAO recently completed assessments in drought-affected countries in the region to determine the availability of seeds and other inputs, such as fertilizer, in the formal agricultural input system. The initial phase of the study, which assessed national-level supply and demand, found significant gaps between staple crop seed requirements—particularly maize—and stocks available in Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, and Mozambique. The seed availability gaps presented in the FAO report indicate gaps in the formal system and do not account for availability of seed in informal systems. Although Swaziland also identified a shortage, FAO estimated that stocks should meet approximately 75 percent of Swaziland's requirements. According to the assessment, Zambia and Zimbabwe reported maize seed surpluses. Zambia plans to export up to 50,000 metric tons (MT) of maize seed—sufficient to cover the maize deficit of approximately 36,700 MT identified in Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Swaziland. Despite Zambia's export capacity, humanitarian organizations remain concerned about the accessibility of seed stocks, as many vulnerable farmers cannot adapt to increased seed prices and do not purchase seeds on the formal market. Phase II of the FAO assessment will evaluate the capacity of drought-affected households and communities to access agricultural inputs prior to the planting season.
 - On August 10, FAO launched its 2016/2017 drought response plan, designed to complement the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Regional Humanitarian Appeal and the UN Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RIASCO) for Southern Africa Response Plan. Focused on restoring agricultural livelihoods, FAO's drought response plan requests \$108 million to support 19 million people—3.4 million vulnerable households—throughout Southern Africa. FAO's three primary objectives include reducing food-consumption gaps and improving short-term food production for 1.6 million households; protecting and enhancing livestock production for 1.8 million households; and strengthening coordination, information management, and data analysis for agricultural production.
 - In early August, the Government of Japan (GoJ) committed approximately \$5 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support food-security interventions in Southern Africa. The GoJ is supporting food and nutrition assistance for populations in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, and Swaziland.
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LESOTHO

- The results of WFP's June mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) survey in Lesotho found that low rainfall and high temperatures associated with the El Niño climatic event during the 2015/2016 growing season resulted in reduced yields and widespread crop failure. The report indicates that nationwide crop production contributed to less than 10 percent of national cereal requirements, with decreases in sorghum, maize, and wheat production by 88 percent, 61 percent, and 38 percent, respectively. Prices for staple goods in Lesotho, which imports a significant amount of food commodities from South Africa, have increased commensurate with price increases in South Africa. On June 1, the Government of Lesotho reported plans to subsidize maize meal and pulses by 30 percent through May 2017. Despite the subsidy, however, vulnerable households have limited access to maize meal due to persistent high prices and limited household purchasing power.
- USAID/FFP has provided \$7.5 million in FY 2016 funding to World Vision to support U.S. in-kind and locally and regionally procured food assistance for 50,000 people in Lesotho. USAID/FFP also supports the creation of

community assets, such as water harvesting and erosion control systems, that can reduce household vulnerability to future shocks.

MADAGASCAR

- In June, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and partner organizations conducted the fourth round of malnutrition screening for 300,000 children younger than five years of age in Madagascar, reaching approximately 95 percent of children younger than five years of age in eight acutely drought-affected districts. The screening identified 57,000 children with acute malnutrition, including 10,000 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Although global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence decreased in five of the eight districts since the February screening, three districts experienced an increase in GAM prevalence. Since 2015, UNICEF has supported SAM treatment for more than 16,500 children in Madagascar, including more than 8,000 children with SAM treated in 2016.
- UNICEF has increased access to safe drinking water for drought-affected populations by rehabilitating 550 water points, constructing more than 100 boreholes, and supporting regular water-trucking activities that benefit more than 9,300 people in Madagascar. To date in FY 2016, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.1 million to UNICEF to implement nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs in Madagascar.
- USAID/FFP has provided approximately \$13.5 million of U.S. in-kind and locally and regionally procured food assistance to WFP for drought response activities in the Androy, Anosy, and Atsimo-Andrefana regions of southern Madagascar. USAID/FFP is supporting general food distributions, food-for-assets activities, supplementary feeding for children and pregnant and lactating women, seasonal livelihoods programs, and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).

MALAWI

- In Malawi’s Southern Region, the WFP reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI)—a measurement of the extent to which limited access to food has caused households to employ negative coping strategies—found that district-level rCSI continues to increase, with families in the region reporting between three and five additional negative coping strategies in July. The results indicate that despite the ongoing harvest, which typically increases food availability and lowers food prices, access to food continues to deteriorate in some areas, particularly in southern districts.
- The price of maize increased in July compared to June in nearly all surveyed districts, according to WFP’s July mVAM survey in Malawi. Maize prices are 35–120 percent higher than in 2015 and approximately 60–170 percent higher than the three-year average. WFP reports that high prices are atypical during the harvest season and reflect diminished domestic production due to drought conditions during the 2015/2016 agricultural season.
- Admissions to WFP nutritional therapy programs in Malawi declined in May and June compared to April. Over the two-month period, new admissions of children younger than five years of age experiencing MAM decreased by nearly 25 percent, while admissions of children experiencing SAM remained steady. WFP notes, however, that new admissions in 2016 remain nearly two times higher than 2015. UNICEF also admitted more than 3,500 children with SAM to treatment programs in June—representing an increase of nearly 50 percent compared to June 2015.
- As of late June, UNICEF had admitted approximately 29,850 children younger than five years of age to outpatient therapeutic programs (OTPs) and nutrition rehabilitation units (NRUs) across 25 drought-affected districts of Malawi. UNICEF is pre-positioning nutrition commodities at approximately 600 OTP and 100 NRU sites and supporting the delivery of SAM treatment commodities across the country. In July, UNICEF completed the distribution of nearly 4,720 cartons of ready-to-use-therapeutic food (RUTF) to health facilities in all of Malawi’s 28 districts. At the district level, UNICEF nutrition field monitors and more than 9,000 community health workers are conducting community outreach activities, including acute malnutrition screening and referral and nutrition-related community mobilization programs for children younger than five years of age.
- Of its recent regional contribution of \$5 million, the GoJ plans to support WFP in Malawi with more than \$1.8 million to provide food and nutrition support to food-insecure and drought-affected households. WFP is currently targeting

4.5 million people in Malawi with food assistance and aims to reach 5.9 million people across 24 districts in January 2017. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP provided reduced rations in Malawi in July and August.

- USAID/FFP has provided more than \$92 million and 75,000 MT of commodities to WFP in FY 2016 to address emergency food needs in Malawi. The support includes nearly \$60 million in U.S. in-kind food assistance, \$16 million in locally and regionally procured food, and \$17 million for maize twinning. The most recent contribution of \$15 million of U.S. in-kind food assistance is expected to arrive prior to the start of the rainy season in November. USAID/FFP also provided locally purchased RUTF to prevent and treat SAM.
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MOZAMBIQUE

- In FY 2016, USAID/OFDA is supporting a consortium of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with more than \$3.9 million to address immediate humanitarian needs and assist vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change in Mozambique. The COSACA consortium—comprising NGOs Concern, Save the Children, Oxfam, and CARE—plans to provide emergency food assistance and safe drinking water to 500,000 drought-affected individuals in Nampula and Zambezia provinces, while building long-term resilience to drought and other natural disasters. COSACA aims to partner with Mozambique’s national disaster management agency and local disaster committees to improve early warning systems, provide drought-resistant seeds to protect livelihoods, and support community preparedness and disaster risk reduction initiatives. On August 1, the European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) and the Austrian Development Corporation jointly announced plans to support COSACA with approximately €1.6 million—approximately \$1.8 million. In April 2016, ECHO reported plans to contribute more than \$40 million in emergency support for humanitarian activities in El Niño-affected regions of Southern Africa, including Mozambique.
 - From August 15–19, representatives from USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, and USAID/Mozambique visited WFP and World Vision program sites in Tete Province’s Cahora Bassa, Changara, Mágoè, and Marara districts to assess USAID-supported activities and discuss ongoing challenges. With USAID/OFDA support, World Vision is rehabilitating nearly 60 boreholes in Tete to increase access to safe drinking water in drought-affected communities and providing seeds to farmers to facilitate planting prior to the upcoming October-to-April rainy season. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP and World Vision are providing general food distributions and implementing food-for-assets programs in Tete to build community resilience and address immediate food needs. Beneficiaries will receive monthly food transfers in exchange for the creation and rehabilitation of community assets that protect natural resources or enhance agricultural production, such the creation of drainage works to reduce the risk of flooding and the construction of small dams for water harvesting. The World Vision project will also train community volunteers to conduct nutrition screenings; provide nutrition education focused on maternal and infant and young child feeding practices; and provide district-level support for the distribution of nutrition supplies and therapeutic foods. USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP have provided more than \$29.2 million in FY 2016 funding to support drought-related humanitarian activities in Mozambique.
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SWAZILAND

- WFP assisted more than 77,000 acutely food-insecure people in Swaziland in July, distributing more than 1,000 MT of cereal, pulses, and oil. WFP also provided on-site meals to 52,000 orphans and vulnerable children younger than eight years of age who received early education and care services at neighborhood care points.
- USAID/FFP has provided \$4.5 million to World Vision in FY 2016 to reduce food insecurity and support recovery activities among drought-affected populations. Through USAID/FFP support, World Vision will provide U.S. in-kind and locally and regionally procured food assistance to vulnerable populations to address immediate needs; provide seeds to support the restoration of agricultural production; and support food-for-assets activities to build livelihoods and reduce vulnerabilities.

ZIMBABWE

- According to the first WFP mVAM survey in Zimbabwe conducted in June, the national rCSI indicated that households are practicing numerous negative coping strategies to manage low food availability. Areas with the highest levels of negative coping include Manicaland, Mashonaland East, and Masvingo provinces. In addition, female-headed households reported higher numbers of negative coping strategies than male-headed households. The most frequently reported strategies included decreasing portion sizes and limiting the number of meals consumed per day. According to the mVAM, approximately 80 percent of households surveyed perceived the food-security situation to be poor or difficult, while only 20 percent of households reported the food-security situation as fair or good.
- According to a UNICEF Child Protection Rapid Assessment conducted in Zimbabwe in July, child protection violations—including child labor, child migration, early and forced marriage, physical abuse, and separation from caregivers—are increasing due to the drought. UNICEF is working with the Government of Zimbabwe and humanitarian partners to strengthen the capacity of child protection systems throughout the country and protect vulnerable children, particularly girls, from abuse, exploitation, and violence. In June, UNICEF and its partners provided child protection services to nearly 550 children in 12 of Zimbabwe’s 20 drought-affected districts. The services focused on identifying unaccompanied and separated children, providing psychosocial support to affected children and their caregivers, and providing referrals to specialized services and district child welfare departments.
- In July, USAID/OFDA committed nearly \$1.2 million to support Oxfam/GB and its local implementing partners to continue emergency food-security and WASH interventions in Masvingo’s Gutu District and Matabeleland South Province’s Matobo District. Oxfam/GB and its partners aim to ensure that households can meet immediate food needs and protect livelihoods by distributing seed vouchers, training communities in conservation agriculture techniques, increasing access to veterinary care, and providing supplementary feed for livestock.
- USAID/FFP has provided more than \$70 million in emergency food assistance to drought-affected and food-insecure populations in Zimbabwe through Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA), WFP, and World Vision to address food needs through March 2017. In addition to existing development projects, CNFA and World Vision are implementing food-for-assets activities to support the construction of community assets, such as dams and irrigation sites, in exchange for food transfers. The partners also provide additional food rations to vulnerable populations to protect their nutritional status through the end of the lean season.

CONTEXT

- Below-average rainfall—exacerbated by the 2015/2016 El Niño climatic event—resulted in drought conditions throughout much of Southern Africa beginning in 2015, causing deteriorating agriculture, food security, livestock, nutrition, and WASH conditions.
- On February 29, 2016, U.S. Ambassador H. Dean Pittman declared a disaster due to the effects of drought in Mozambique. On March 9, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Susan M. Tuller declared a disaster due to the effects of drought and food insecurity in Swaziland. U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Robert K. Scott declared a disaster due to the effects of drought in Zimbabwe on March 16; on the same day, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Elizabeth A. Pelletreau declared a disaster due to the effects of drought and food insecurity in Lesotho. On April 21, U.S. Ambassador to Malawi Virginia E. Palmer declared a disaster due to the effects of drought and food insecurity in Malawi.
- Prolonged drought since late 2014 in southern Madagascar has resulted in poor harvests and food insecurity. On December 4, 2015, U.S. Ambassador Robert T. Yamate redeclared a disaster due to the effects of drought in southern regions of Madagascar.

USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2016¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
LESOTHO			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security	Mafeteng and Mochale's Hoek Districts	\$1,758,901
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Mafeteng and Mochale's Hoek Districts	\$370,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE LESOTHO RESPONSE			\$3,128,901
MADAGASCAR			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Nutrition, WASH	Atsimo-Andrefana Region	\$726,000
ADRA	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Androy Region	\$985,872
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), WASH	Countrywide	\$1,290,122
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$912,705
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$950,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,057,752
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MADAGASCAR RESPONSE			\$5,922,451
MALAWI			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$1,426,096
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Nsanje District	\$485,865
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$230,539
Oxfam/GB	Agriculture and Food Security	Balaka and Phalombe Districts	\$749,963
Project Concern International (PCI)	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Balaka and Machinga Districts	\$998,453
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Agriculture and Food Security	Zomba District	\$800,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE			\$4,690,916
MOZAMBIQUE			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,932,191
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Maputo Province	\$550,610
UNICEF	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$1,349,224
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security	Gaza and Tete Provinces	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE			\$6,832,025
SWAZILAND			
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Lubombo and Shiselweni Regions	\$959,279
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, WASH	Lubombo and Shiselweni	\$720,571
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Lubombo and Shiselweni	\$950,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SWAZILAND RESPONSE			\$2,629,850

ZIMBABWE			
ACF	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$703,269
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Countrywide	\$1,999,605
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$1,975,111
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Nutrition, WASH	Beitbridge Urban and Insiza Districts	\$1,000,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Chipinge and Chiredzi Districts	\$1,496,390
Oxfam/GB	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Masvingo and Matabeleland Provinces	\$1,188,000
SC/US	Nutrition, WASH	Binga and Kariba Districts	\$998,105
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Binga, Hwange, Kariba, and Mbire Districts	\$1,330,424
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE			\$13,190,904
REGIONAL			
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Regional	\$2,500,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Regional	\$1,100,000
WFP	Humanitarian Studies, Analysis, or Applications	Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe	\$160,500
	Program Support Costs		\$154,508
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$40,310,055
USAID/FFP ³			
LESOTHO			
World Vision	Local and Regional procurement, U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$7,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE LESOTHO RESPONSE			\$7,500,000
MADAGASCAR			
ADRA	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$754,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$1,106,300
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement	Countrywide	\$2,351,700
	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,148,300
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MADAGASCAR RESPONSE			\$15,360,300
MALAWI			
UNICEF	Local and Regional Procurement of RUTF	Countrywide	\$1,072,834
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement	Countrywide	\$32,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$59,582,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE			\$92,655,234

MOZAMBIQUE			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$643,695
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement, U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$11,797,600
World Vision	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE			\$22,441,295
SWAZILAND			
World Vision	Local and Regional Procurement, U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,500,000
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SWAZILAND RESPONSE			\$6,500,000
ZIMBABWE			
CNFA	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,900,000
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,388,800
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$2,111,800
	Local and Regional Procurement	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$35,933,400
World Vision	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$19,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE			\$70,334,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$214,790,829
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$255,100,884
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2015–FY 2016			\$308,252,036

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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 23, 2016.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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 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>.