

## BUREAU FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

# Development & Disaster Risk Reduction

### East Africa

Fiscal Year (FY) 2020



The East Africa region faces a range of complex emergencies and natural disasters, such as conflict-induced rapid population displacement, food insecurity, recurrent drought, pest infestations, and sudden-onset disasters, including floods. In FY 2020, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supported efforts to bolster the capacity of households to respond to sudden- and slow-onset crises in East Africa, improving response activities and building resilience at local, national, and regional levels across East Africa.

- USAID/BHA provided approximately \$187 million in FY 2020 to support development efforts and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities in East Africa; the support included approximately \$160 million for multi-year development food security activities (DFSAs) led by four non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Ethiopia and two NGOs in Kenya.
- In Ethiopia, USAID/BHA-funded development programs in support of the Government of Ethiopia-led Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) expanded the availability of safe, diverse, and nutritious foods; increased income, productive assets, and equitable access to food for vulnerable populations; promoted gender equity and women’s and youth empowerment; and strengthened the ability of communities to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses.
- In northern Kenya’s arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), USAID/BHA partners Mercy Corps and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) commenced a five-year project to collaboratively design, test, and implement context-sensitive multi-sector activities to sustainably reduce acute malnutrition.
- With \$24 million in FY 2020 funding, USAID/BHA supported the UN World Food Program (WFP) to conduct food assistance transfers and capacity-building activities in Kenya, including training community organizers and local government officials on strategic ways to prepare for and respond to food insecurity.

**USAID/BHA DEVELOPMENT & DRR FUNDING FOR EAST AFRICA<sup>1</sup> IN FY 2020**

Development	\$186,400,615
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Integrated DRR	\$1,272,944
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**Total: \$187,673,559**

*In East Africa in FY 2020, USAID/BHA provided development and DRR support in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan.*

<sup>1</sup> These numbers reflect a combination of DFSAs funded through USAID’s Office of Food for Peace and integrated DRR and response programs funded through USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### *Supporting the PSNP in Ethiopia*

Since FY 2005, USAID/BHA partners in Ethiopia have supported the Government of Ethiopia-led PSNP, which seeks to address the basic food needs of approximately 8 million chronically food-insecure Ethiopians. Through partnerships with CRS, Food for the Hungry (FH), the Relief Society of Tigray, and World Vision, USAID/BHA support to the PSNP helps respond to the basic needs of vulnerable Ethiopians through regular transfers of in-kind food and cash resources, while supporting the creation of productive assets—such as beehives and water catchments—that generate economic benefits for participating communities. PSNP IV, which ran from 2015 to 2020, sought to transition from food security activities to an integrated social protection system, promoting gender equity and women’s empowerment, livelihoods support, and improved child and maternal nutrition, as well as assisting communities in becoming more resilient to climatic shocks. USAID/BHA provided an additional \$135 million to PSNP IV through DFSAs during FY 2020.



A child enjoys a meal prepared through a USAID-supported nutrition training activity in Ethiopia’s Amhara Region.  
Photo Credit: USAID

### *Enhancing Resilience in Kenya*

With more than \$1 million in FY 2020 USAID/BHA support, the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) worked to improve the capacities of communities and county governments across Kenya to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters. KRCS engaged with communities adversely affected by drought, floods, and the East Africa desert locust infestation to enhance agricultural production systems and develop resilient livelihoods, as well as strengthen community- and county-level disaster preparation and response capacity.

### *Complementing Food Assistance With Capacity-Strengthening in Kenya*

With more than \$24 million in FY 2020 USAID/BHA funding, WFP provided agricultural and livelihoods capacity-building support to community groups, county-level government officials, and individuals in Kenya. WFP’s activities in the country emphasize that capacity enhancement must accompany food assistance transfers to ensure the sustainability of agricultural interventions and support livelihoods transformations. From April to September, for example, WFP supported efforts to promote beekeeping as a secure livelihood among pastoralists in Kenya’s Garissa County, where individuals and communities experience adverse effects of unpredictable weather patterns and changing climatic conditions. The UN agency also trained Kenyans on modern beekeeping practices, to transfer skills, technologies, and best practices across Garissa, enabling pastoralists to adopt sustainable livelihoods and prepare for and respond to food insecurity.

### *Sustainably Addressing Acute Malnutrition in Kenya*

During FY 2020, USAID/BHA began supporting a five-year project led by CRS and Mercy Corps to investigate and sustainably respond to the drivers of persistent acute malnutrition, a recurring issue in northern Kenya’s ASALs despite progress in overall food security. Some population groups in the ASALs tend to be more susceptible to acute malnutrition, due to either unique nutritional needs—including exclusive breastfeeding for infants younger than six months of age—or systemic issues that can lead to or exacerbate acute malnutrition, including lack of access to basic health services. USAID/BHA partners probed the drivers of persistent acute malnutrition in FY 2020 to inform the design of effective and evidence-based interventions for achieving and sustaining nutritional outcomes that are viable for local stakeholders. USAID/BHA partners will utilize learning and evidence gathered to work directly with county governments to prepare local systems and institutions to assume financial and technical responsibility for the long-term implementation of nutrition programming.

## USAID/BHA DEVELOPMENT AND DRR ASSISTANCE FOR EAST AFRICA IN FY 2020<sup>1</sup>

LOCATION	ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	AMOUNT
<b>Development</b>			
Ethiopia	DFSAs	CRS	\$18,561,035
	DFSAs	FH	\$25,684,872
	DFSAs	Relief Society of Tigray	\$46,960,866
	DFSAs	World Vision	\$43,812,220
Kenya	DFSAs	CRS	\$10,466,768
	DFSAs	Mercy Corps	\$15,122,518
	Cash Transfers, Coordination and Capacity-Building Support	WFP	\$24,292,336
	22,650 MT in U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance		
	Coordination and Capacity-Building Support	Agricultural Cooperative Development International / Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance	\$1,500,000
<b>TOTAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING</b>			<b>\$186,400,615</b>
<b>Integrated DRR With Response</b>			
Kenya	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Management Policy and Practice	KRCS	\$1,172,944
Sudan	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Implementing Partner	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL INTERGRATED DRR WITH RESPONSE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,272,944</b>
<b>TOTAL DEVELOPMENT AND DRR FUNDING IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$187,673,559</b>

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

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)