

# ETHIOPIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**4.5 million**

People Requiring Emergency Food Assistance  
GoE – August 2015

**219,617**

Individuals Receiving Treatment for SAM Between January and August  
GoE – September 2015

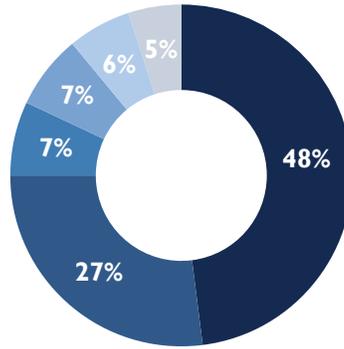
**142**

Priority One Hotspot Districts Requiring Nutrition Interventions  
GoE – August 2015

**733,312**

Refugees in Ethiopia  
UNHCR – September 2015

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



- Nutrition (48%)
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (27%)
- Health (7%)
- Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (7%)
- Agriculture and Food Security (6%)
- Logistics Support and Relief Commodities (5%)

## USAID/FFP FUNDING<sup>2</sup> BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

- GoE estimates that 4.5 million people require emergency food assistance as of mid-August
- Consecutive below-average rainy seasons exacerbate drought in parts of southern, northern, and eastern Ethiopia
- In FY 2015, the USG provides more than \$250 million in humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations in Ethiopia

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO ETHIOPIA TO DATE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$19,255,631
USAID/FFP	\$149,410,348
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$81,784,119
<b>\$250,450,098</b>	
TOTAL USG ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Below-average *belg* and *sugum* rains from February to June, combined with the late onset of July-to-September *karma* and *kiremt* rains and below-normal rainfall in previous seasons, has exacerbated drought conditions and food insecurity in areas of Afar, Oromiya, Somali, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) regions, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)—comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other humanitarian stakeholders—in Ethiopia projects that food security and nutrition conditions will worsen through mid-2016, requiring an additional \$237 million in humanitarian assistance.
- USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$12 million to support humanitarian response efforts in Ethiopia, bringing total USAID/OFDA assistance to Ethiopia to more than \$19 million in FY 2015. USAID/OFDA programs deliver relief commodities, improve access to safe drinking water, and provide nutrition support to malnourished children. In addition, USAID/FFP provided nearly \$150 million in emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations across the country, while State/PRM provided nearly \$82 million to support refugee populations and other vulnerable communities.

<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)

## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- As of August 18, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) estimated that approximately 4.5 million Ethiopians required emergency assistance—a 55 percent increase from the 2.9 million people identified in early 2015. Most people in need of humanitarian assistance are expected to experience Stressed or Crisis—IPC 2 or 3—levels of food insecurity through December, according to FEWS NET.<sup>4</sup> Vulnerable populations in parts of Afar and Somali regions currently experiencing Crisis-level food insecurity may deteriorate to Emergency-level—IPC 4—food insecurity in the absence of sufficient humanitarian assistance.
  - The El Niño climatic event delayed the onset of June-to-September *kiremt* rains and resulted in below-average rainfall in parts of northern, central, and eastern Ethiopia, further reducing harvests, pasture, livestock productivity, and milk production, FEWS NET reports. Early warning indicators—such as admissions for malnutrition treatment, atypical livestock deaths, population migration, market price increases, and decreased crop production—suggest that widespread food insecurity and deteriorating nutrition conditions may persist in 2016 without increased humanitarian funding and response efforts.
  - According to the HCT, consecutive drier-than-average rainy seasons will likely result in increased humanitarian needs through 2016 and the population requiring emergency humanitarian food assistance may increase to approximately 15 million people. The UN is requesting an additional \$237 million to procure and pre-position relief items to address the acute needs of vulnerable populations through early 2016.
  - From September 15–19, USAID/OFDA staff visited areas of Afar, Oromiya, and Somali affected by livestock deaths and critical pasture and water shortages, where some communities reported livestock losses of more than 50 percent. In Somali's Sitti Zone, local authorities reported that nearly 6,700 pastoralist households have experienced total loss of livestock holdings, prompting affected households to migrate to other areas to seek humanitarian assistance.
  - In FY 2015, USAID/Ethiopia supported the Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME) project in Afar, Somali, and Oromiya, which seeks to increase household incomes and enhance resilience to climate change. Through the PRIME Crisis Modifier Mechanism, which allows USAID/OFDA to provide rapid funding for emergency relief operations, partners Mercy Corps and CARE are providing fodder vouchers in Afar and Somali to prevent additional declines in livestock productivity for approximately 8,200 pastoral households due to drought-induced deteriorations in pasture conditions.
  - USAID/FFP continued to address the food security and livelihood needs of displaced and other vulnerable populations in Ethiopia in FY 2015, including by facilitating food transfers, developing early warning systems, and increasing access to financial services. In July and August, USAID/FFP provided more than 28,000 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance—worth more than \$28 million—to the Catholic Relief Services-led Joint Emergency Operation Program (CRS/JEOP) in Ethiopia.
  - Given the anticipated increase in the number of food-insecure people and a projected below-average *meher* harvest, USAID/FFP also continued to partner with the UN World Food Program (WFP) in FY 2015 to provide nearly \$83 million in life-saving emergency food assistance and improve the resilience of vulnerable populations against future shocks to food security and livelihood activities.
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## NUTRITION

- Overall, nutrition actors reported treating nearly 220,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) across Ethiopia between January and August—a more than 27 percent increase compared to the number of SAM cases recorded during the same period in 2014, according to the GoE. Relief actors recorded treating more SAM cases in Ethiopia between January and August 2015 than during the same reporting periods in 2012, 2013, and 2014, respectively.
- In July and August, the nutrition situation deteriorated in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia and the national monthly SAM caseload increased by more than 32 percent, from approximately 32,300 cases in July to more than 42,800 cases in August, the GoE reports. In particular, the situation has significantly worsened in Oromiya, especially in Arsi, East

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

Hararge, and West Hararge zones, with the monthly SAM caseload increasing by more than 67 percent—from nearly 16,700 cases in July to more than 27,900 cases in August. USAID/OFDA staff noted that SAM admissions in August were more than any monthly caseload in Ethiopia during the 2011–2012 Horn of Africa drought.

- As of August 31, the GoE had identified 415 districts requiring urgent nutrition interventions, representing the largest number of hotspot districts since 2009. Among the affected districts, the GoE considers more than 140 as Priority One districts and in need of the most urgent interventions—a 14 percent increase from the more than 120 districts similarly classified in August 2014. In addition, the number of people requiring targeted supplementary feeding is expected to increase from approximately 850,000 people in 2015 to up to 1.2 million people in 2016, with the projected annual SAM caseload increasing from 264,000 children to approximately 350,000 children younger than five years of age.
- Poor seasonal rains and related heightened food insecurity have also resulted in increased global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence among children younger than five years of age. An August rapid assessment by USAID/OFDA partner GOAL in Oda Bultum District in Oromiya’s West Hararghe Zone found GAM levels at more than 23 percent—exceeding the UN World Health Organization 15 percent emergency threshold. Following the assessment, GOAL—already implementing outpatient therapeutic programs and managing stabilization centers in the district—began targeted supplementary feeding programs to reduce GAM prevalence in the area. In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided \$4.5 million to GOAL to reduce acute malnutrition among vulnerable groups across Ethiopia, targeting up to 2.1 million people with emergency nutrition interventions.
- USAID continues to assess needs, monitor the humanitarian situation, and evaluate response measures to meet the changing context in Ethiopia. In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided \$5.4 million to the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to support countrywide health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions for affected populations.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- As of June, health workers had recorded more than 15,100 suspected measles cases, of which more than 7,200 were confirmed positive, according to the UN. Given increased morbidity and mortality among children experiencing malnutrition, the GoE Ministry of Health has requested that UNICEF procure sufficient vaccines to inoculate up to 5.3 million children younger than five years of age against measles in districts requiring urgent nutrition interventions.
- Continued drought conditions across Ethiopia prompted the GoE to identify more than 100 districts requiring emergency WASH assistance, including nearly 60 districts categorized as Priority One. The GoE projects that the number of Priority One districts will increase to nearly 80 by March 2016 as a result of continued below-average rainfall.
- In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$4.8 million to support emergency WASH activities in Ethiopia—such as improving access to safe drinking water and providing emergency relief commodities—while contributing an additional \$1.8 million to support live-saving health services for vulnerable populations.

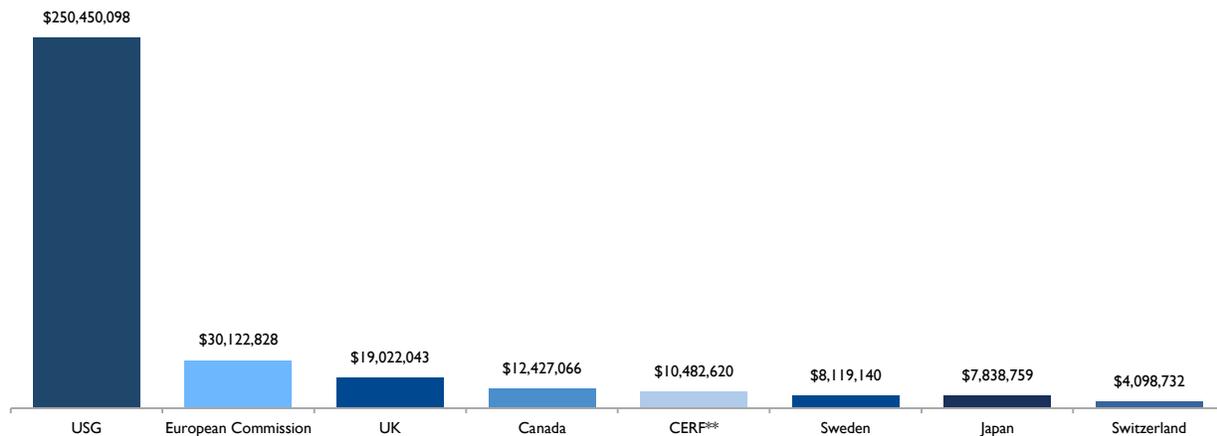
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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- As of September 30, international donors had provided more than \$314 million to support relief efforts in Ethiopia in 2015, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). With nearly \$234 million in humanitarian assistance during FY 2015, the U.S. Government (USG) is the largest donor to the complex emergency in Ethiopia.

## 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures for 2015 are as of September 30, 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 USG commitments based on the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2014.

\*\* Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies.

### 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. Continued insufficient rainfall in parts of the country in 2014 and 2015 contributed to ongoing food security needs.
- 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 intercommunal 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.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA PROVIDED IN FY 2015**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
GOAL	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$4,500,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,985,763
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$650,000
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Nutrition	Somali Region	\$1,507,353
UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Oromiya, Somali	\$304,506
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, Tigray	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,400,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
USAID/Ethiopia	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Afar, Somali, SNNP	\$1,138,921
U.S. Forest Service (USFS)	Disaster Assistance Support Program	Countrywide	\$100,000
	Program Support Costs		\$869,088
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$19,255,631</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
CRS/JEOP	95,500 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$66,470,848
WFP	100,080 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$82,939,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$149,410,348</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Nutrition	Gambella	\$997,223
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychological Support	Tigray	\$1,025,000
GOAL	Nutrition	Gambella	\$1,000,000
Handicap International	Health, Protection	Gambella	\$200,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Livelihoods	Gambella	\$1,000,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Transportation	Gambella	\$200,000
	Multi-sector	Tigray, Somali	\$1,730,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Protection	Somali	\$1,000,000
	Health, Protection, WASH	Beneshangul Gumuz	\$1,250,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Health, Livelihoods	Tigray	\$200,000
	Household Energy	Beneshangul Gumuz	\$349,911
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods	Somali	\$650,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Livelihoods	Gambella	\$600,000
SC/US	Protection	Gambella, Somali	\$2,000,000

Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA International)	Provision of Reproductive Health Care to Populations in Bokolmayo, Buramino, and Melkadida Refugee Camps	Somali	\$529,985
World Vision	ERMS	Beneshangul Gumuz	\$602,000
	Education, Livelihoods	Somali	\$750,000
UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Service	Somali	\$1,200,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	2015 Global Appeal	Countrywide	\$39,500,000
	South Sudan Emergency Response	Gambella	\$27,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$81,784,119</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 2015</b>			<b>\$250,450,098</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 and committed amounts as of September 30, 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:
  - USAID 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>