

# ETHIOPIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

NOVEMBER 23, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**8.2 million**

People Requiring  
Emergency Food  
Assistance  
GoE – October 2015

**15 million**

People Expected to  
Require Emergency Food  
Assistance by Early 2016  
UN – October 2015

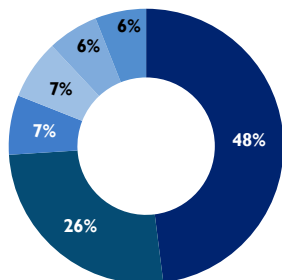
**53,400**

People Displaced by  
Drought Between July and  
October 2015  
IOM – November 2015

**142**

Priority One Hotspot  
Districts Requiring  
Nutrition Interventions  
GoE – August 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015 & FY 2016



- Nutrition (48%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (26%)
- Health (7%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (7%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (6%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (6%)

## USAID/FFP FUNDING<sup>2</sup> BY MODALITY IN FY 2015 & FY 2016



## HIGHLIGHTS

- GoE estimates that 8.2 million people require emergency food assistance
- SAM admissions in September are higher than in any previously recorded year
- USAID/FFP commits \$97 million in new humanitarian assistance

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR ETHIOPIA IN FY 2015 & FY 2016

USAID/OFDA	\$19,255,631
USAID/FFP	\$245,930,400
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$81,784,119
<b>\$346,970,150</b>	
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Multiple consecutive seasons of below-normal rainfall—exacerbated by the effects of El Niño—have resulted in deteriorating agricultural, livestock, food security, and nutrition conditions in northeastern and central Ethiopia. By early 2016, the UN anticipates that 15 million people will require emergency food assistance and 350,000 children will need treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM); critical needs in drought-affected areas will also require humanitarian agricultural, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions.
- USAID staff in Ethiopia are coordinating with stakeholders and participating in assessments to determine needs. USAID partners continue to implement life-saving humanitarian response activities, including nutrition interventions, the provision of emergency food assistance, and the distribution of agricultural and livestock supplies. In addition, USAID-funded resilience programs have activated crisis modifier mechanisms that protect development gains by addressing urgent needs in drought-affected areas.

<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)

## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- During 2015, the population in Ethiopia requiring humanitarian assistance has continued to increase—from 2.9 million people in early 2015 to 4.5 million people in August, according to the Government of Ethiopia (GoE). By October, the population requiring emergency food assistance in Ethiopia had further increased to approximately 8.2 million people. Water and pasture shortages have decreased livestock production and caused livestock deaths in pastoralist and agropastoralist communities, further deteriorating the food security and nutrition situation in drought-affected regions. The UN has identified affected populations in parts of Afar, Amhara, Oromiya, Somali, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP), and Tigray regions, and projects that up to 15 million people in Ethiopia will likely require emergency food assistance by early 2016.
- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported that vulnerable households in southern Afar and in Somali Region's Sitti Zone were at Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity in October and would likely remain at Emergency levels through March 2016.<sup>4</sup> Populations in northern and central Afar, as well as parts of Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray, were at Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food security in October and anticipated to remain there through the coming months. Other parts of Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray were at Stressed—IPC 2—levels of food security in October, with FEWS NET predicting a deterioration to Crisis levels by March 2016.
- The nation-wide *meher* seasonal assessment occurred one month earlier than previously planned, in order to inform needs and target populations for the 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD), produced by the GoE in coordination with humanitarian stakeholders and planned for release in December. Between October 24 and November 6, staff from USAID/Ethiopia's Office of Asset Livelihood and Transition (USAID/ALT)—together with GoE officials and donor and non-governmental organization (NGO) staff—participated in a *meher* assessment in Oromiya and SNNP. Based upon preliminary reports, it is expected that food assistance needs from January–September 2016 will significantly increase, most notably in Ethiopia's highlands.
- Drought-affected populations are relocating in an effort to improve access to food, water, and livelihood opportunities; the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports that drought conditions contributed to the displacement of 53,400 people between July and October.
- In response to the deteriorating food security situation, the GoE has committed more than \$200 million to address emergency food and other humanitarian needs. In addition, the GoE had provided 6,800 metric tons (MT) of maize—of a total 50,000 MT planned for distribution—to populations in affected areas as of November 2, according to the UN. GoE distributions of 50,000 MT of wheat and 300 MT of oil were ongoing in early November.
- In October, USAID/FFP provided approximately 105,700 MT of emergency food assistance—valued at approximately \$58 million—to the Catholic Relief Services-led Joint Emergency Operation Program (CRS/JEOP). USAID/FFP anticipates making additional contributions as soon as funds become available.
- USAID/FFP also contributed nearly 26,000 MT of emergency food commodities—valued at nearly \$19 million—to the UN World Food Program (WFP) relief pipeline in Ethiopia. In addition, USAID/FFP recently provided approximately 22,700 MT of emergency food commodities—valued at \$20 million—to WFP to address urgent food needs of refugees. As of October, USAID/FFP assistance was enabling WFP and other partners to reach 3.5 million people with emergency food assistance; USAID/FFP continues to assess response gaps and plan assistance accordingly.
- Since 2005, USAID/FFP has also supported the GoE's Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)—the first line of response for any food security crisis in Ethiopia. In July 2015, the GoE increased the PSNP caseload to reach 7.9 million people. In addition to planned food distributions, the PSNP maintains a contingency budget that can respond to urgent acute needs. In response to the current conditions, the GoE has authorized the use of more than 50 percent of the 2016 PSNP contingency budget—normally used to cover expanded needs during the June-September 2016 lean season.
- In addition to emergency response activities, the USAID-funded Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) program continues to implement livelihood promotion and diversification activities for 65,000

<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.

vulnerable households in Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP, and Tigray. GRAD maintains a crisis modifier—supported with USAID/OFDA funding—designed to protect development gains during shocks. GRAD has activated the crisis modifier in SNNP and to date has assisted an estimated 1,150 drought-affected households with emergency seed and livestock feed supplies.

- A separate USAID resilience initiative, the Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion (PRIME) program, has similarly activated a crisis modifier. With USAID/OFDA support, PRIME—through implementing partner Mercy Corps—has provided supplementary feed and fodder to more than 15,200 households in Afar’s Zone 3 and in Sitti, complementing commercial destocking and veterinary activities in affected areas.

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## NUTRITION

- The GoE reported 142 priority one hotspot districts requiring urgent nutrition interventions as of August. The UN notes that a multi-agency team reviews hotspot districts quarterly; the release of the next hotspot classification is anticipated for early December and will likely result in an increased number of priority one hotspot districts.
- The GoE reported that nutrition actors had treated more than 37,200 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Ethiopia during September. While September SAM admissions represented a 14 percent reduction compared to the 43,400 cases treated in August, the UN notes a typical seasonal decline in SAM admissions from August to September; the September caseload is at least 20 percent higher than the number of SAM admissions recorded during September in any other documented year.
- In FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided \$8.7 million to partners—including the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), GOAL, and Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)—responding to malnutrition throughout Ethiopia. USAID/OFDA-supported nutrition interventions remain ongoing in FY 2016.
- USAID/FFP has provided approximately 3,600 MT of corn soy blend plus (CSB+)—valued at \$2.1 million—to support GOAL’s ongoing nutrition interventions in FY 2015 and to date in FY 2016.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- Health actors confirmed more than 14,500 measles cases, affecting more than 200 locations in Ethiopia, between January and September 2015. In October, the GoE Ministry of Health—in coordination with other health actors—began measles vaccinations in priority one and two hotspot districts, targeting 5.3 million children under five years of age.
- Drought conditions are limiting access to water for vulnerable populations; in September, the UN reported that approximately 1.8 million people in Ethiopia would likely lack access to safe drinking water by early 2016.
- Through the WASH Rapid Response Fund, managed by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), USAID/OFDA is supporting CRS to implement emergency WASH interventions in Sitti’s Afdem and Miesso districts. With \$250,000 in USAID/OFDA assistance, CRS is rehabilitating existing water infrastructure and promoting improved hygiene practices, including water purification. Through the same Rapid Respond Fund, USAID/OFDA is also supporting emergency WASH activities in three districts of East Hararghe, with \$250,000 to the International Medical Corps (IMC); in five districts of West Hararghe, with \$250,000 to the International Committee for the Development of People; and in two districts of Afar’s Zone 2, with \$227,000 to Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI).

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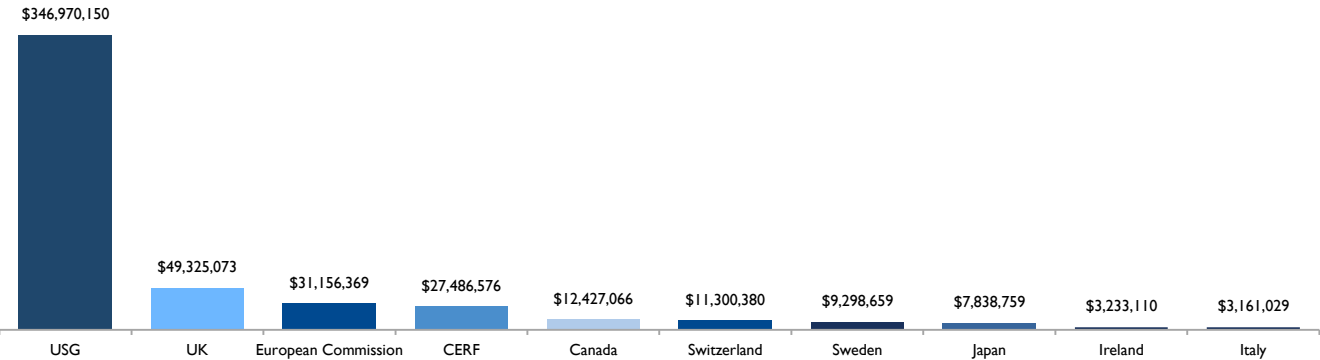
## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator Stephen O’Brien announced on November 12 a new commitment of \$17 million for WFP’s operations in Ethiopia. The funds, from the Central Emergency Response Fund

(CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies—will support WFP to target nearly 1.4 million people with emergency food assistance and 164,000 women and children with nutritional supplements.

- The CERF contribution, along with commitments from Canada, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States, prevented funding shortfalls that might have resulted in WFP suspending food assistance in November. However, WFP reported that as of November 18 donors had provided only 7 percent of the \$228 million required for urgent food and nutrition interventions through June 2016.
- Between September 30 and November 16, donors committed more than \$120 million to support humanitarian response activities, according to the UN, which continues to appeal for additional international support to address urgent needs.

**2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\***  
PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of November 23, 2015. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 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 for both FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014, and FY 2016, which began on October 1, 2015.

**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 is contributing 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.
- On October 7, 2015, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Peter H. Vrooman re-declared a disaster for Ethiopia in response to the ongoing complex emergency.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA PROVIDED IN FY 2015 & FY 2016<sup>1</sup>**

<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
IRC	Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,985,763
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$650,000
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, and Tigray	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,400,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
USAID/Ethiopia	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	Afar	\$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	201,260 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$124,248,600
WFP	148,730 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$121,681,800
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$245,930,400</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Nutrition	Gambella Region	\$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
IMC	Livelihoods	Gambella	\$1,000,000
IOM	Transportation	Gambella	\$200,000
	Health, Protection, WASH	Beneshangul Gumuz Region	\$1,250,000
IRC	Multisectoral Assistance, Protection	Somali	\$1,800,000
	Multisectoral Assistance	Tigray	\$930,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Health, Livelihoods	Tigray	\$200,000
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Household Energy	Beneshangul Gumuz	\$349,911
	Livelihoods	Somali	\$650,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Livelihoods	Gambella	\$600,000
Save the Children	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
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics	Somali	\$1,200,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	2015 Global Appeal	Countrywide	\$39,500,000
UNHCR	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 THE ETHIOPIA RESPONSE IN FY 2015 &amp; FY 2016</b>			<b>\$346,970,150</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 anticipated or actual obligated amounts as November 23, 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>