

Africa



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Angola

Complex Emergency

The Government of the Republic of Angola (GRA) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) resumed fighting during April 1998 in the wake of the collapse of the peace process that the signing of the Lusaka Protocol launched in November 1994. In December 1998, UNITA forces began laying siege to a number of cities and towns, most notably the government-held cities of Huambo, Malanje, and Kuito.

Renewed fighting caused a sharp rise in the number of IDPs, as many of them fled to provincial cities to escape fighting in insecure rural areas. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), more than 500,000 of the estimated 2.6 million IDPs in Angola were displaced after January 1999. These IDP totals do not include the estimated three million people who remained inaccessible in UNITA-controlled territory. More than 281,000 people fled Angola to neighboring countries; of that number, 49,000 fled after fighting resumed in April 1998.

The laying of landmines intensified following the

resumption of hostilities, with estimates of the total number of mines ranging between seven and 20 million. Landmines and unexploded ordnance existed in large numbers around IDP camps and alongside major roads. More than 70,000 Angolans are estimated to have lost limbs as a result of landmine explosions.

The resurgence of war caused the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Angola. Epidemics



A community kitchen in Kuito, partially supported by an OFDA-funded NGO, provides supplemental wet meals to malnourished children and caretakers (photo by Helene Carlson, BHR/OFDA).

and shortages of food and potable water threatened the health of those affected by the renewed fighting. The isolation of large areas of Angola due to insecurity also exacerbated the plight of IDPs. Many of the roads into the larger towns and cities to which IDPs fled were cut off due to conflict, landmines, or banditry. As a result, food

prices rose significantly in provincial cities isolated by road closures, and more than 90% of relief commodities had to be airlifted to isolated areas. Increases in military activity, however, caused relief

commodity airlifts to be suspended periodically. In UNITA-controlled territory, the lack of access meant that relief agencies were limited in their ability to assess and provide for the needs of the vulnerable population.

In an escalating number of attacks, humanitarian aid workers were harassed, detained, wounded, and killed.



A government-run daycare center intended to care for and provide supplemental food to children expands to address malnutrition concerns in adult and elderly populations in Malanje (photo by Helene Carlson, BHR/OFDA).

Seven Angolan relief workers were killed between April and October 1999. Combatants forcibly conscripted local employees of international humanitarian relief organizations, confiscated communications equipment and vehicles, shot down humanitarian aircraft, and diverted relief commodities.

On February 18, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Sullivan declared a disaster due to the deteriorating humanitarian situation. BHR/OFDA responded by providing \$25,000 through USAID/Luanda to UNOCHA for a water and sanitation project administered by Development Workshop for IDPs newly arrived in the capital, Luanda. During FY 1999, BHR/OFDA deployed several assessment missions to Angola and funded eight grantees to conduct emergency relief activities. BHR/OFDA provided \$8 million in emergency relief through organizations such as Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Médecins Sans Frontières/Belgium (MSF/B), International Medical Corps (IMC), World Vision, Incorporated/United States (WVUS), and Africare. These funds supported a variety of emergency relief activities, including therapeutic and supplementary feeding centers, hospital emergency care and referrals, primary health care programs, mobile health clinics, water/sanitation initiatives, and seeds and tools distributions. BHR/OFDA also contributed to U.N. activities by providing funds to UNOCHA, the World Food Program (WFP), and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP). In addition, BHR/OFDA funded an information officer to provide USAID/Luanda and BHR/OFDA with regular field reporting on the changing humanitarian situation.

In FY 1999, BHR/FFP provided 42,447 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities, worth \$33.8 million, toward WFP's appeal for distribution to vulnerable groups. BHR/OTI provided \$339,771 for landmine awareness activities; Voice of America daily radio newscasts; and community revitalization projects that included rehabilitating schools, markets, roads, latrines, and irrigation canals. USAID's Bureau for Africa gave \$2.7 million to promote child survival, including polio prevention and treatment. It also provided \$8.5 million for agricultural recovery, democracy and governance, and economic growth programs. State/PRM contributed \$50 million to the International Com-

mittee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and \$44.1 million to UNHCR to assist refugees, including Angolans, in the region.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$8,056,595
Other USG Assistance \$45,415,571
Total USG Assistance \$53,472,166
STATE/PRM Assistance \$94,100,000*

**State/PRM funding to Angola is regional and, therefore, cannot be included in total United States Government (USG) assistance figures for Angola.*

————— **Burundi** —————

Complex Emergency

The conflict between Hutus and Tutsis that began with the assassination of Burundian President Melchior Ndadaye in October 1993 continued unabated in FY 1999. Despite several positive developments in the ongoing peace process, including the efforts to engage in all-party peace talks, the slow progress in both regional and international peace processes prevented a cease-fire and the signing of a peace agreement. However, due to some progress in the talks, economic sanctions imposed by regional leaders in 1996 were lifted in 1999 and resulted in a devaluation of the local currency and a slight fall in market prices. Despite the evaluation, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported that the decrease in prices did not benefit the average family, as basic food prices remained at twice pre-sanction levels.

The six-year conflict between Hutus and Tutsis has caused more than 850,000 Burundians to be displaced from their homes. In FY 1999, more than 300,000 people were forcibly moved to regroupment camps in Bujumbura Rural by the Government of Burundi. In addition, 300,000 Burundians remained as refugees in neighboring countries, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DROC), Tanzania, and Rwanda. In the absence of a cease-fire agreement, the security situation in Burundi remained volatile. Due to insecurity around Bujumbura, an additional 250,000 people were forc-



ibly removed from their homes.

In FY 1999, the fluid movement of IDPs within Burundi was mirrored by refugee movements throughout the region. Refugees from the conflict-stricken Great Lakes region fled to Burundi, bringing the total number of refugees in the country to 20,490 from DROC and 1,671 from Rwanda. The level of insecurity, combined with continual population movements, also adversely impacted overall humanitarian operations by preventing reliable, safe access to various regions of Burundi.

The continued violence and displacement of the Burundian population affected access to basic health services. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported that child mortality rates reached 210 deaths per 1,000 live births, while maternal mortality rates peaked at 800 deaths per 100,000 live births. FAO estimated that Burundi, which was a food exporter prior to the conflict, required 50,000 MT of food assistance in FY 1999. The health and agriculture sectors in Burundi during FY 1999 were also weakened by ongoing drought conditions.

On October 6, 1998, U.S. Ambassador Morris N. Hughes Jr. redeclared a disaster due to the continuing humanitarian crisis. BHR/OFDA provided approximately \$9.4 million in emergency assistance. BHR/OFDA grants to WVUS, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), MSF/H, UNICEF, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, MSF/B, and IMC totaled more than \$3.7 million and supported therapeutic feeding centers and basic health services throughout the country. Food security activities totaling nearly \$1.8 million were implemented by Solidarites, Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), Concern, WVUS, FAO, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). With BHR/OFDA assistance, International Rescue Committee (IRC) provided for water/sanitation and basic shelter needs for 222,000 IDPs. In addition, BHR/OFDA funded \$321,000 in reintegration and resettlement activities implemented by Action Aid and \$205,937 in support of women's associations through Children's Aid Direct. BHR/OFDA also continued to fund an Emergency Disaster Response Coordinator (EDRC) to monitor BHR/OFDA programs and report on humanitarian developments. In

addition, BHR/OFDA funded more than \$800,000 in support of U.N. coordination activities.

BHR/FFP provided 520 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to WFP, at a value of \$656,300. State/PRM provided \$3.6 million to assist returning Burundian refugees through a \$2.3 million contribution to UNHCR activities and \$1.3 million in support of the ICRC programs.

<i>BHR/OFDA Assistance</i>	<i>\$9,387,738</i>
<i>Other USG Assistance</i>	<i>\$4,256,300</i>
<i>Total USG Assistance</i>	<i>\$13,644,038</i>

Cameroon

Volcano

On March 27, 1999, Mount Cameroon, the only active volcano in West Africa, erupted. The slow-moving lava flows from the volcano caused minimal damage and did not threaten lives. The Government of Cameroon (GOC), however, was concerned that lava flows would sever the Limbe-Idenao road south of the town of Bakingili and reach the Gulf of Guinea. The GOC evacuated the 15,000 residents from coastal villages that lay in the path of the potential lava flows, and requested international assistance in providing relief goods to evacuees. The displaced villagers were temporarily housed at the Tiko Airstrip, east of Limbe in the Southwest Province.

On April 13, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Marc Boulware declared a disaster to assist those displaced by the lava flows. Relief goods required by evacuees included beds, mattresses, blankets, tents, water containers, portable latrines, medical supplies, and emergency food. BHR/OFDA responded by providing \$25,000 to the U.S. Embassy in Yaounde for the local purchase of emergency relief items. In addition, BHR/OFDA funded a USGS volcanologist to assess the damage and additional dangers posed by Mount Cameroon. The volcanologist conducted an assessment between April 21 - May 1 and concluded that the lava flows ceased on April 17, falling short of the Limbe-Idenao road. On May 5, the U.S. Embassy reported that BHR/OFDA's assistance was

