

urban and rural areas restricted access to agricultural land in FY 2002, limiting harvest yields and contributing to the food security crisis. Lack of access to traditional markets discouraged farming. Poverty was widespread and the health care system eroded due to a lack of resources and continuous looting by different parties in the conflict. Insecurity resulted in limited private sector activities and displacement of vulnerable populations.

The Inter-Congolese Dialogue, hosted in Sun City, South Africa, ended in May 2002 but did not result in an all-party agreement. The South Africa meeting of recognized parties attempted to develop a constitution, create an integrated military, and determine security measures for political leaders of a future transitional government. However, President Joseph Kabila and the Ugandan-backed opposition group Movement for the Liberation of the Congo

#### "Food Security," continued

*routinely forced to flee clashes between government forces and armed opposition groups. Therefore, a number of USAID/OFDA-supported NGOs have had to develop mobile health clinics and temporary supplementary feeding sites, in addition to rehabilitating health facilities in more secure areas.*

*One aspect of USAID/OFDA's approach to food insecurity in Burundi has been to provide emergency humanitarian relief to victims of malnutrition and disease through targeted feeding. USAID/OFDA also recognizes the need to build food security among populations to decrease dependence on external and temporary resources to meet basic food needs, and focuses on "crisis management" by supporting medium-term activities. For example, coordinating early warning systems with effective humanitarian relief efforts can reduce the impact of quick-onset crises, such as the dramatic increase in malnutrition rates and the concurrent malaria outbreak that occurred in Burundi during 2000-2001. Early warning and strong coordination can prompt timely, informed responses to population needs as they occur and before such situations can escalate into large-scale crises, requiring a broader response. ♦*

—By Pia Wanek

(MLC) signed a partial agreement that designated President Kabila as interim President and the MLC's Jean-Pierre Bemba as interim Prime Minister.

On July 30, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda and President Kabila signed a peace agreement in Pretoria, South Africa. The Government of Rwanda pledged the withdrawal of all Rwandan forces from DRC territory, and the Government of the DRC (GDRC) agreed to assist in disarming and dismantling ex-Rwandan Armed Forces (ex-FAR) and Hutu militia Interahamwe forces in the DRC. On September 6, the Government of Uganda (GOU) and the GDRC signed an agreement on the withdrawal of GOU forces and the establishment of the Ituri Pacification Commission to focus on resolving conflict in the Ituri Region of Orientale Province. The U.N. Observer Mission in the DRC (MONUC) continued to monitor disarmament, demobilization, and resettlement activities for ex-combatants during FY 2002.

Nearly all foreign troops (from Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) withdrew from the DRC during FY 2002. Due in part to the troop withdrawals, maintaining security continued to be difficult throughout much of the country. The Rwanda-backed Congolese Democratic Assembly (RCD-G) based in Goma, North Kivu Province controlled much of North and South Kivu, Maniema,



*Residents of Kinshasa gather to inspect newly reinforced embankments of a neighboring river as part of a USAID/OFDA-funded flood mitigation project (photo by Marion Pratt, USAID/OFDA).*

Oriental, and Katanga provinces. In the eastern part of the country (northern Katanga, Maniema, and North and South Kivu provinces), fighting intensified involving ex-FAR/Interahamwe and Mai Mai forces against the RCD-G.

On November 5, 2001, U.S. Ambassador Aubrey J. Hooks redeclared a disaster as a result of the continued fighting and insecurity. During FY 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$26 million in emergency relief assistance to the DRC, including assistance provided in response to the January 2002 volcano eruption. (*For additional information, please see "Democratic Republic of the Congo - Volcano" case report.*)

USAID/OFDA provided emergency assistance to support food security and nutritional needs, contributed to emergency market infrastructure rehabilitation, and supported agricultural programs for war-affected and vulnerable populations as well as IDPs. USAID/OFDA assistance was implemented through grants to AAH/USA, AirServ International, CRS, FHI, German Agro Action, IMC, IRC, Merlin, Premiere Urgence, UNICEF, UN OCHA, WFP, WHO, and WVI.

In FY 2002, USAID/OTI provided \$3.3 million in funding to Fondation Hirondelle, CARE, and Search for Common Ground to support the Radio Okapi program and to increase the availability of and access to balanced information. Radio Okapi's local language radio programs disseminate information about humanitarian assistance, the peace process, and demobilization and reintegration, while engaging Congolese countrywide in debates of national importance. Through a sub-grants program with CARE, USAID/OTI provided support to both national and local groups in the form of material and/or technical assistance to encourage compliance with the Lusaka Peace Accords and the advances made within the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

USAID/FFP provided WFP with more than 19,510 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance during FY 2002, valued at \$16.6 million. During FY 2002, WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in the DRC assisted more than 800,000 IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations.

In FY 2002, USDA provided 18,400 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities to assist in emergency food needs through WFP's PRRO. The more than \$15 million worth of surplus food commodities included 16,900 MT of cornmeal and 1,500 MT of vegetable oil.

State/PRM provided more than \$5.5 million within the DRC in FY 2002.\* State/PRM funded more than \$4.7 million for UNHCR to assist refugees in the DRC, and approximately \$700,000 to the IRC for camp management, health, water and sanitation, and agriculture assistance to Angolan refugees in Bas Congo Province in western DRC. State/PRM also provided approximately \$100,000 in assistance to WFP, and \$7,000 to the Ambassador's Fund for health assistance to refugees and vulnerable populations in Kinshasa.

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$22,014,253</b>
<b>Other USG Assistance.....</b>	<b>\$40,457,805</b>
<b>Total USG Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$62,472,058</b>

*\* These contributions are in addition to State/PRM's unearmarked contribution to UNHCR for Africa, totaling \$31.4 million in FY 2002. State/PRM also contributed \$42.4 million to ICRC for its Africa-wide programs, a portion of which was used to support ICRC programs in the DRC.*

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Volcano

On January 17, 2002, the 11,381-foot Mount Nyiragongo volcano erupted in eastern DRC producing three major lava flows. One of the flows threatened the town of Goma, located 18 km to the south. Lava covered 13 percent of the city, or approximately 46 square km. Of the estimated 450,000 residents of Goma, approximately 100,000 fled west towards Sake, Bukavu, and other locations within DRC, while 300,000 more victims of the eruption evacuated into Rwanda. (*For additional information on USG assistance for residents of Goma who fled into Rwanda, see the "Rwanda - Refugees" case report.*) The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo, which last erupted in 1977, reportedly killing 147 people, destroying 12,000 homes, and 10 km of roads.



Goma residents displaced by the Mount Nyiragongo volcano eruption collect potable water from a USAID/OFDA-funded water supply station (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).

On January 18, U.S. Ambassador Aubrey J. Hooks declared a disaster due to the destruction and displacement caused by the Mount Nyiragongo eruption. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 to respond to emergency relief needs in the Goma region caused by the eruption. Between January and August 2002, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$4.7 million for emergency humanitarian assistance activities to CONCERN, IRC, SCF/UK, Solidarities, and UN OCHA. These activities included emergency shelter assistance, water and sanitation projects, and the distribution of non-food relief commodities.

On January 21, USAID/FFP approved a loan of 1,714 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$1.1 million, to WFP from ongoing programs in the region.\* Through several NGO implementing partners, WFP delivered approximately 7,000 MT of food assistance to an estimated 460,000 vulnerable people in the Goma region from the beginning of the emergency response until June 2002.

USDA approved a loan of 3,450 MT of Section 416(b) surplus food commodities, valued at nearly \$2.3 million, from existing programs in the region to assist people affected by the eruption.

USAID/OFDA Assistance .....	\$4,790,117
Other USG Assistance.....	\$2,255,000
<b>Total USG Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$7,045,117</b>

*\*Note: USAID/FFP emergency food assistance was in the form of a loan from otherwise reported programs and is therefore not counted toward the DRC - Volcano total USG assistance response.*

## Ethiopia

### Drought

During FY 2002, below-average *belg*, or secondary rains (March through May), coupled with delayed and sporadic *meher*, or primary rains (July through September), led to widespread food insecurity. The lack of sufficient precipitation during the *belg* season failed to replenish water sources in the pastoral areas of Afar, northeastern Oromiya, and northern Somali regions. In addition, given the poor *meher* rains, food insecurity continued to spread to agro-pastoral and agricultural areas, particularly in the lowlands and midlands of Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP), Tigray, and Amhara regions.

On July 12, 2002, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's (GFDRE) Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) issued a special alert to the international relief community on the food security situation. The DPPC alert warned that the number of people vulnerable to food insecurity would likely be significantly higher than anticipated in its original March 2002 appeal, with the potential of more than 11 million people in need of assistance by the end of 2002. Subsequent appeals by the DPPC and U.N. revised the number of Ethiopians vulnerable to food insecurity in FY 2002 to approximately 6.3 million people with the expectation that, under a worst-case scenario, the number of affected could reach 14.3 million people by early 2003.

On March 6, 2002, U.S. Ambassador Tibor B. Nagy, Jr. declared a disaster due to the continued drought situation in Somali Region. USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 to SCF/UK to establish an early warning information system based on a food economy analysis in Somali Region. USAID/OFDA also provided \$99,969 to IRC for a water and sanitation project in Somali Region, benefiting more than 60,000 residents.