

*In FY 2000, USAID/OFDA funded programs in Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea to respond to the needs of these pastoralists left destitute after several years of hardship. In each country, the USAID/OFDA assistance was programmed to reinforce existing coping strategies of the affected pastoralist populations. USAID/OFDA supported a pastoralist program in Kenya during FY 2000 and FY 2001 through a grant to the Organization for African Unity's International Bureau for Animal Research (OAU-IBAR) and Tufts University. The OAU-IBAR/Tufts program implemented market-based interventions in northeastern Kenya to promote the efficient use of local relief resources.*

*An OAU-IBAR/Tufts assessment had identified several interrelated conditions facing pastoral communities in northeast Kenya. First, herders were losing significant numbers of livestock to starvation, dehydration, and disease. Second, pastoralist women had few opportunities to earn money for purchasing food or basic supplies. Third, the lack of food and monetary resources was increasing malnutrition levels among needy pastoralist households. Finally, pastoralist communities were suffering from many of the basic health problems that often result from poor nutrition and inadequate water supplies, such as vitamin deficiency, measles, acute respiratory infections, and diarrheal diseases. The OAU-IBAR/Tufts program proposed to assist the*



*Pastoral women in northern Kenya bring their children to a health screening conducted by IMC with USAID/OFDA funding (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).*

*pastoralist communities through "destocking," the selling of excess or weak livestock. This sell-off provides herders with cash income, injects needed foodstuffs into the local market, and relieves some of the pressure on limited water and pasture resources. By complementing normal pastoralist coping strategies,*

*the program also reinforces the communities' relief efforts.*

*The USAID/OFDA-funded program purchased excess cattle from pastoralists, some of which were killed and their meat distributed to needy households. Funds were also given to women's groups to establish small transport businesses. These groups transported healthy cattle for sale in urban markets. The associations used the profits to purchase additional cattle for transport and sale. The program provided vaccinations to the remaining cattle to strengthen the herd against drought-related livestock diseases.*

*By June 2001, the OAU-IBAR/Tufts program had provided 667 MT of fresh meat by slaughtering more than 40,000 goats, cattle, and camels. The meat provided a low-cost and high-protein supplement to ongoing emergency food distribution activities. Income was generated for women's groups by subsidizing the transport of more than 25,000 goats and cattle to markets. In Wajir, the women's group used profits to repay loans, finance further livestock sales, and establish new cottage businesses. An independent assessment in June 2001 estimated that the countrywide livestock destocking effort yielded more than \$2 million through food commodities recycled into the community and enhanced income generation.*

*The OAU-IBAR/Tufts program coordinated closely with other international relief organizations doing similar interventions in the region. OAU-IBAR/Tufts participated in country-level coordination through the Kenya Food Security Steering Group. A total of 13 NGOs participated in livestock interventions throughout Kenya during FY 2001. Other relief agencies provided primary health care, food security promotion, and conflict prevention activities, several of which were also funded by USAID/OFDA.*

*The program has succeeded in increasing the food security of the pastoral communities, generating economic activity in support of long-term recovery, and establishing methods for better managing livestock herds. The strategy produced immediate benefits for drought-affected communities while decreasing their vulnerability to future droughts through more effective resource management. USAID/OFDA will continue to support sustainable, community-led approaches to drought relief in these vulnerable regions.*

**—Bradford Adams**

## MALAWI

### FLOODS

Although seasonal flooding in the Lower Shire River Valley is common, southern Malawi was beset by severe floodwaters in February 2001. Heavy rainfall throughout the region and back-flooding along the Zambezi River due to the opening of the Cahora Bassa Dam in Mozambique caused the overflow. According to the Government of Malawi's Department for Disaster Preparedness, Rehabilitation, and Relief, approximately 335,000 people were affected by the flooding—losing their homes, harvests, or livelihoods. On February 22, the President of Malawi declared the flood situation a national disaster and appealed to the international relief community to provide \$1.1 million in emergency humanitarian assistance and \$5.6 million for rehabilitation activities.

On March 6, U.S. Ambassador Roger A. Meece declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding in the towns of Chikwawa, Nsanje, and Phalombe and the surrounding areas of southern Malawi along the Shire River. USAID/OFDA provided \$25,000 in response through USAID/Malawi to the Malawian Red Cross for the purchase of relief supplies including blankets, plastic sheeting, buckets, and plates. USAID/OFDA also deployed two regional advisors to the affected area to assess the extent of the flooding. They determined that there was no need for additional USAID/OFDA assistance.

USAID/OFDA Assistance .....\$25,000

## MOZAMBIQUE

### FLOODS

The heavy rains that fell over central Mozambique and portions of Zambia and Malawi caused the Zambezi and Shire rivers to rise continuously from January through February 2001, flooding areas in Tete, Zambezia, Sofala, and Manica provinces. On February 21, the Government of Mozambique (GRM) declared a flood emergency and appealed to the international relief community for \$30 million in emergency humanitarian assistance. At the peak of the crisis, the GRM and U.N. agencies reported that nearly 500,000 people were affected by the flooding. Of the affected, approximately 210,000 residents were forced to seek emergency shelter and relief assistance in temporary accommoda-



*Mozambicans displaced by flooding collect potable water from the tapstands at a USAID/OFDA-supported temporary accommodation center (photo by Jack Myer, USAID/OFDA).*

tion centers (TACs). Many of the displaced remained in the TACs between four to six weeks as the floodwaters slowly receded during this period. Post-flood assessments indicated that as many as 71,000 hectares of crops were destroyed by the flooding.

On February 21, U.S. Ambassador Sharon P. Wilkinson declared a disaster in response to the effects of the flooding in Tete, Zambezi, Manica, and Sofala provinces. USAID/OFDA deployed a DART for seven weeks to coordinate the overall USG response to the flooding, including assessment, programming, information, and communication support to USAID/Mozambique.

USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.4 million for emergency logistics and relief activities. FHI received \$210,424 to provide TAC and transit camp management and essential health, water, and sanitation services for 50,000 IDPs in the Marroneu and Chinde districts. USAID/OFDA also provided \$277,000 to WVI to support the management of TAC/transit camps and provide essential health, water, and sanitation services to displaced families in the Caia, Mutarara, Mopeia, and Morrumbala districts. ACF/F received \$238,726 from

USAID/OFDA to address the immediate water and sanitation needs of an estimated 24,000 people living in TACs in the Caia District.

In response to a critical need for air assets to meet immediate logistical requirements, USAID/OFDA provided a total of \$400,000 to support helicopter, caravan, and cargo air capacities of the international relief effort. The USAID/OFDA-funded aircraft participated in vulnerability analyses, disaster assessments, and distribution of relief supplies. USAID/OFDA's contributions towards the logistical requirements were complemented by \$158,488 of additional support provided by USAID/Mozambique.

USAID/OFDA contracted Diplomatic Freight Services, Ltd., on March 22 to conduct aerial surveys of specified flood-affected areas at a cost of \$274,050. The assessments determined that there were no large populations stranded and in need of immediate evacuation by the international relief community. The assessment also provided information on the current status of infrastructure and crop damage for use by USAID/Mozambique and the GRM in planning reconstruction efforts.

USAID/OFDA Assistance .....	\$1,432,924
USAID/Mozambique Assistance .....	\$158,488
<b>Total USG Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$1,591,412</b>



*Local residents unload humanitarian supplies, including food, water bladders, tapstands, and plastic sheeting from a USAID/OFDA-funded airlift between Biera and Caia (photo by Kusey Channell, USAID/OFDA).*

## NIGERIA

### FLOODS

In late August 2001, extensive flooding caused by torrential rainfall and the overflowing of the Challawa and Tiga reservoirs inundated the northern Nigerian states of Kano and Jigawa. According to the Nigerian Red Cross, the flooding resulted in 20 deaths and 48,565 displaced persons in Kano State, and another 180 deaths and 35,500 displaced persons in Jigawa State. Kano and Jigawa states also suffered widespread crop damage, as fields remained flooded for several weeks, affecting an estimated 500,000 residents.

On September 9, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Timothy Andrews declared a disaster due to the effects of the flooding. USAID/OFDA responded by providing \$25,000 through IFRC to the Nigerian Red Cross for the local procurement of emergency non-food items to assist flood victims. USAID/OFDA also sent an EDRC to affected areas to assess the humanitarian impact of the flooding on the rural population. The assessment revealed that USAID/OFDA, other donors, and local authorities were meeting immediate relief needs and that no additional USAID/OFDA assistance was required.

USAID/OFDA Assistance .....	\$25,000
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## REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

### COMPLEX EMERGENCY

The Republic of the Congo (ROC) had experienced sporadic, violent civil conflict since December 1998, affecting approximately one-third of the country's 2.7 million people. Relative stability prevailed in early 2000 following a cease-fire agreement signed in December 1999. Nevertheless, the severity of the conflict in 1998-1999 contributed to widespread poverty, unemployment, and decreased economic capacity, from which the ROC continued to recover during FY 2001.

Armed conflict between government troops and militia soldiers in 1998-1999 resulted in the temporary displacement of an estimated 800,000 civilians, including 60,000 Congolese who fled to neighboring countries. The conflict resulted in the destruction of economic and social infrastructure and limited agricultural production. The movement of approximately 85,000 refugees into the