

**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)  
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

**ETHIOPIA**

**USAID Humanitarian Assistance in Review, 2000 – Present**

Cyclical droughts, exacerbated by a growing population and limited government capacity, have led to chronic food insecurity and water shortages in Ethiopia. Major drought and famine episodes in 1984/1985, 1993 to 1999, 2002/2003, and 2005 have rendered several areas of Ethiopia increasingly vulnerable to emergencies as the cumulative effects of multiple crises have exhausted many household coping mechanisms. The repeated failure of the short rains has adversely affected crop production and resulted in significant livestock losses due to severe water and pasture shortages. In Somali Region, insurgent activity and security operations have disrupted trade networks and restrictions on the movement of people and livestock have exacerbated food insecurity.



Since the 2002/2003 emergency, USAID/OFDA has adopted a comprehensive approach to saving lives and alleviating human suffering in Ethiopia by focusing on livelihood interventions that complement emergency assistance, while promoting economic resilience and diverse strategies to break the cycle of famine and poverty. In a shift towards more sustainable solutions, USAID/OFDA supports vulnerable families in undertaking activities to improve food security by enhancing coping mechanisms at the household level. Current USAID/OFDA interventions, including cash-for-work programs, livestock health activities, and seed multiplication programs, meet immediate emergency needs while helping develop household and community assets for the long-term benefit of drought-affected regions. USAID/OFDA implementing partners also work with local governments and communities to improve early warning and response capacities.

**USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA (FISCAL YEARS 2000–2009), IN MILLIONS**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Totals
<b>OFDA</b>	\$14.7	\$3.9	\$1.3	\$31.9	\$21.2	\$32.9	\$17.0	\$12.4	\$35.2	\$61.3	<b>\$231.6</b>
<b>FFP<sup>1</sup></b>	\$140.7	\$106.9	\$63.9	\$485.9	\$286.9	\$478.6	\$144.5	\$180.2	\$561.5	\$267.7	<b>\$2,714.0</b>
<b>Other USG<sup>2</sup></b>	\$66.7	\$38.3	\$43.8	\$32.0	\$10.6	\$4.3	\$4.6	\$9.0	\$10.5	\$16.6	<b>\$236.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$222.1</b>	<b>\$149.1</b>	<b>\$108.9</b>	<b>\$548.9</b>	<b>\$317.7</b>	<b>\$515.8</b>	<b>\$165.1</b>	<b>\$201.6</b>	<b>\$607.2</b>	<b>\$345.6</b>	<b>\$3,181.9</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of Food For Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>2</sup> Includes humanitarian assistance from USAID's Bureau for Africa, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

However, communities in Ethiopia remain vulnerable due to endemic poverty, chronic malnutrition, high cereal prices, limited access to water and pasture, conflict, localized agricultural failure, and other shocks. Currently, approximately 7.5 million chronically food-insecure people receive support through cash and food transfers from the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (GFDRE)-managed Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP). In July 2009, the GFDRE revised the estimated number of people in need of emergency food assistance through the end of 2009 from 4.9 million to 6.2 million. USAID/FFP contributes approximately \$150 million in food aid resources each year to the PSNP.

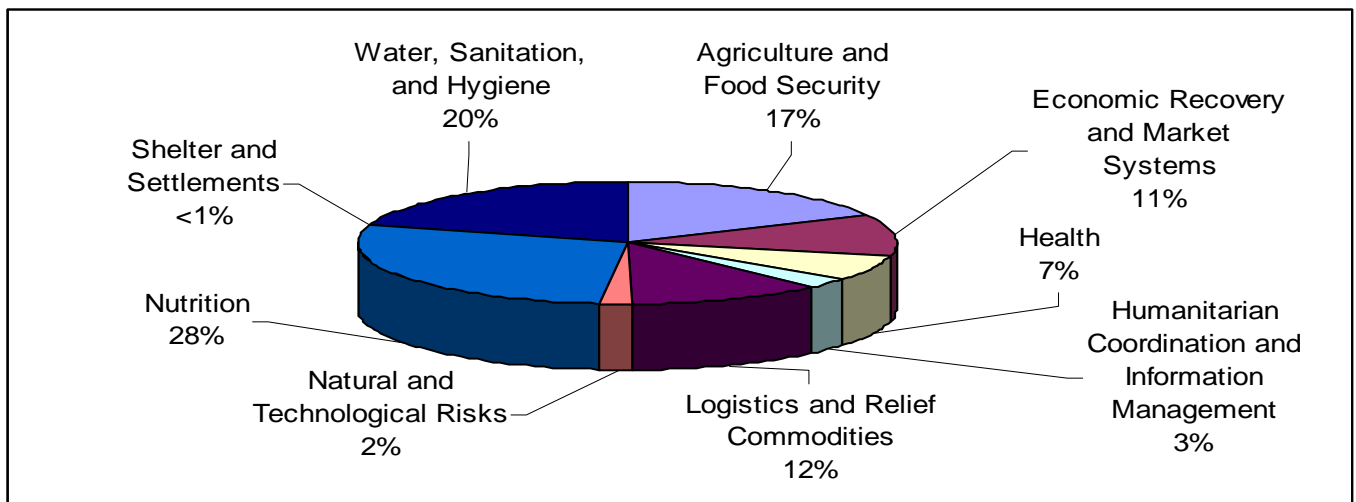
Since 2000, USAID has provided more than \$2.9 billion in humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia, including more than \$231.6 million in USAID/OFDA emergency interventions and nearly \$2.7 billion in food assistance through USAID/FFP. USAID/OFDA deployed humanitarian assessment teams, including Disaster Assistance Response Teams, to Ethiopia in 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, and 2007, in addition to activating a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team in 2008 in response to the regional food security crisis in the Horn of Africa, including in Ethiopia. USAID/OFDA also maintains a field office in Ethiopia.

The majority of USAID/OFDA activities in Ethiopia focus on agriculture and food security, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$61 million in humanitarian assistance, largely targeting drought-affected areas, including the conflict-affected Somali Region. The total includes initiatives funded through the 2009 USAID/OFDA Horn Food Price Crisis Response Strategy, designed to protect, build, and diversify productive household assets as a means of strengthening resilience to shocks that negatively affect food security.

In addition, the USG is the largest donor of food assistance to Ethiopia, consistently providing up to 50 percent of requested food aid per year. In FY 2009, USAID/FFP contributed 418,200 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at nearly \$268 million.

To address recurrent emergencies and promote sustainable solutions in Somali Region, USAID/OFDA and USAID/Ethiopia have developed a relief-to-development transition strategy. The USG transition strategy focuses on critical livelihoods rehabilitation and disaster risk reduction activities to secure current and rehabilitate disrupted livelihoods.

### USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA BY SECTOR (FISCAL YEARS 2005–2009)<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Approximate percentage of assistance by sector, excluding program support costs.