

Kenya

USAID Humanitarian Assistance in Review, 1999 – Present

Recurrent seasons of failed or poor rains, sustained high food prices, environmental degradation, and flooding have exacerbated existing chronic poverty in Kenya and resulted in deteriorated livestock conditions, significantly disrupting pastoralist livelihoods and contributing to increased food insecurity and malnutrition. In addition, limited health care system capacity and highly mobile populations have contributed to disease outbreaks throughout Kenya, including cholera and the re-emergence of polio following 25 years of polio-free status, negatively affecting populations already vulnerable due to high food insecurity.



Food insecurity has also occurred in the context of ongoing civil and political unrest, including violence associated with the December 2007 presidential election that displaced more than 663,000 people. While the majority of displaced individuals have subsequently returned to areas of origin, vulnerabilities among the remaining displaced individuals and disruptions to agricultural production in affected areas have contributed to increased food insecurity. In addition, resource-related conflict due to drought has exacerbated inter-ethnic tensions, hampering relief activities and resulting in death and displacement. An estimated 3.8 million drought-affected individuals throughout Kenya require emergency food assistance, according to the joint Government of Kenya, U.N., and non-governmental organization Kenya Food Security Steering Group.

Between fiscal year (FY) 1999 and FY 2009, USAID provided more than \$568 million in humanitarian assistance to Kenya, including nearly \$60 million in USAID/OFDA funding and nearly \$509 million in food assistance from USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) to assist drought- and flood-affected pastoralists and marginal farmers, as well as more than 270,000 refugees residing in camps in Kenya.

USG¹ HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO KENYA (FISCAL YEARS 1999–2009), IN MILLIONS

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
OFDA	\$1.1	\$5.7	\$6.0	\$1.5	\$0.2	\$0.3	\$2.2	\$5.6	\$1.4	\$11.3	\$24.2
FFP ²	\$4.6	\$22.8	\$38.7	\$4.7	\$12.1	\$30.1	\$34.9	\$82.4	\$80.1	\$64.6	\$133.7
Other USG ³		\$70.7	\$56.4	\$21.1				\$11.5	\$2.4	\$24.0	\$32.1
TOTAL	\$5.7	\$99.2	\$100.1	\$27.2	\$12.3	\$30.4	\$37.1	\$99.5	\$83.9	\$99.9	\$190.0

¹ U.S. Government (USG)

² FY 1999-2009 figures from USAID/FFP Information System. USAID/FFP funding only includes emergency food assistance.

Between FY 1999 and FY 2008, USAID/FFP allocated additional food commodities and funds for development activities in Kenya.

³ Other USG assistance can include humanitarian assistance from USAID’s Bureau for Africa, USAID’s Office of Transition Initiatives, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.



Local residents construct a water storage tank as part of a USAID/OFDA-funded disaster risk reduction program designed to increase access to safe drinking water in Kenya (Courtesy of Welthungerhilfe).

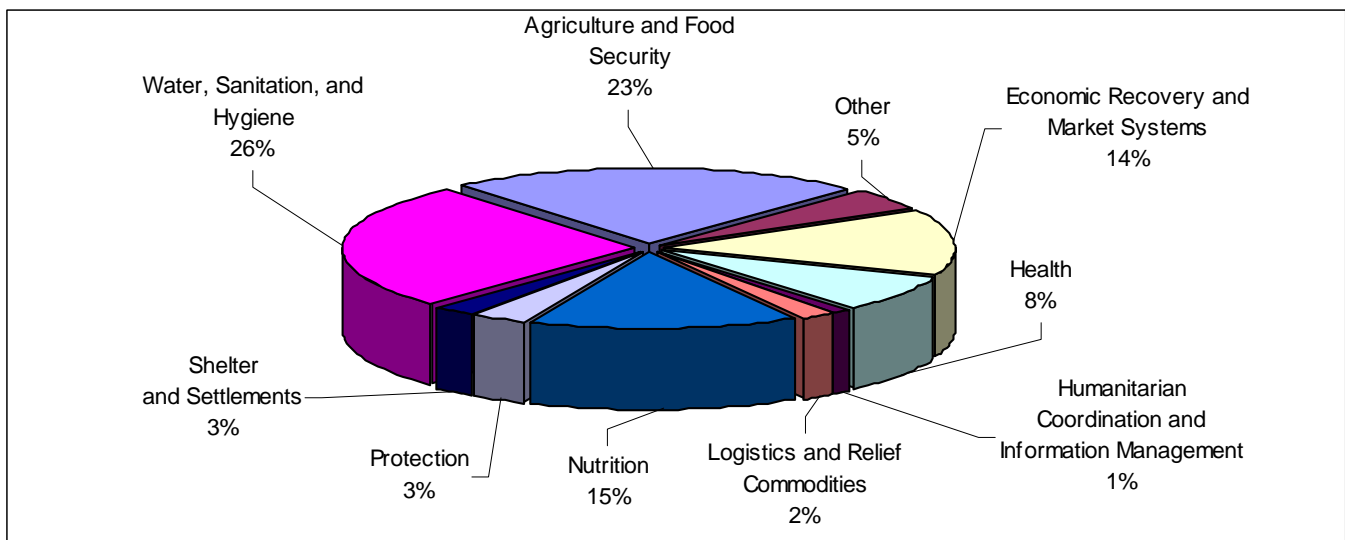
In response to the post-election violence in late 2007, USAID/OFDA deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to Kenya, followed by the activation of a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team in June 2008. In addition, USAID/OFDA deployed a second DART in September 2008 as part of a regional response to increased food insecurity in the Horn of Africa.

More than half of the USAID/OFDA's assistance in Kenya has focused on emergency water, sanitation, and hygiene activities and agriculture and food security needs. In response to recurrent droughts and floods, USAID/OFDA implementing partners have rehabilitated water and sanitation facilities, provided oral rehydration therapy and cholera medicines, implemented cash-for-work programs and other livelihoods activities,

and supported the local procurement and distribution of food assistance.

Due to the recurring and chronic nature of many disasters in Kenya, USAID/OFDA has developed a disaster risk reduction strategy to complement emergency assistance interventions and address underlying causes of food insecurity and other vulnerabilities. As part of the strategy, USAID/OFDA supports and promotes activities to help build local capacity, strengthen the resilience of pastoral communities to market and environmental shocks, and ensure adequate water supply during periodic dry spells.

USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO KENYA BY SECTOR (FISCAL YEARS 2001–2009)⁴



⁴ Approximate percentage of assistance by sector, as of December 30, 2009.