

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

**UGANDA**

**USAID Humanitarian Assistance in Review, 1997 – Present**

Following nearly two decades of conflict between the Lord’s Resistance Army and the Government of Uganda (GOU) beginning in 1986, humanitarian conditions in northern Uganda have improved. Since 2006, stabilization of humanitarian indicators, significant returns, and improved security in areas of origin have advanced the transition from relief to recovery in northern Uganda. To date, approximately two thirds of the estimated 1.8 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the height of the conflict have relocated closer or returned to home communities. The GOU, with international humanitarian support, is working to restore livelihoods, improve agricultural productivity, and support economic recovery to facilitate sustainability and long-term growth in areas of origin.



For more than a decade, USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP-funded programs assisted vulnerable populations in northern Uganda. Since 1997, USAID provided nearly \$440 million in humanitarian assistance to Uganda, including nearly \$70 million in health, protection, nutrition, food security and agriculture, humanitarian coordination and information management, infrastructure rehabilitation, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs and nearly \$370 million in emergency food assistance to date. In addition to providing assistance to vulnerable populations affected by Uganda's protracted humanitarian emergency, USAID/OFDA responded to Ebola outbreaks in 2001 and 2008, severe flooding in Uganda's Teso Region in 2007, and food insecurity in the sub-region of Karamoja in 2009.

Increased stability in northern Uganda has led to improved humanitarian conditions and signs of recovery as returning and conflict-affected populations begin to rebuild and reestablish livelihoods. While continuing to address emergency needs, USAID/OFDA facilitated the transition from emergency relief programs towards longer-term development programming by

**USAID/OFDA AND USAID/FFP<sup>1</sup> HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO UGANDA  
(FISCAL YEARS 1997-2009), IN MILLIONS**

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	TOTALS
<b>OFDA</b>	<\$1.0	\$2.0	\$1.3	\$2.0	<\$1.0	\$1.6	\$4.0	\$9.0	\$11.8	\$12.1	\$12.8	\$6.9	\$5.0	<b>\$69.8</b>
<b>FFP</b>	\$2.5	\$6.3	\$9.4	\$8.8	\$14.4	\$15.5	\$58.0	\$55.3	\$47.6	\$41.2	\$44.4	\$44.7	\$18.5	<b>\$366.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3.5</b>	<b>\$8.3</b>	<b>\$10.7</b>	<b>\$10.8</b>	<b>\$15.4</b>	<b>\$17.1</b>	<b>\$62.0</b>	<b>\$64.3</b>	<b>\$59.4</b>	<b>\$53.3</b>	<b>\$57.2</b>	<b>\$51.6</b>	<b>\$23.5</b>	<b>\$436.3</b>

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



*OFDA programs provide potable water to displaced families in northern Uganda. Photo by Al Dwyer, USAID.*

prioritizing projects that supported the returns process and assisted conflict-affected populations to re-establish livelihoods in home communities. From 2006 to 2008, USAID/OFDA-supported transition initiatives included seed distribution programs to improve food security, rehabilitating water points in areas of return, and repairing roads to provide access to markets and support local economies. In addition, USAID/OFDA worked closely with USAID offices devoted to conflict mitigation, transition initiatives, and long-term development to create an integrated early recovery strategy for

Uganda. In 2007, USAID established a sub-office in Gulu to monitor ongoing activities and coordinate USAID efforts in the region.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA transitioned programs in northern Uganda to USAID/Uganda and other partners. However, USAID/OFDA continues to work with partners to address the impact of rising global food price prices and climatic shocks on vulnerable populations in the sub-region of Karamoja. As part of a regional response, USAID/OFDA developed the Horn Food Price Crisis Response (HFPCR) strategy in FY 2009 to increase household and community resiliency to shocks that impact household food security. The HFPCR strategy combines humanitarian activities with longer-term recovery interventions to create and diversify household assets, as well as improve economic opportunities for vulnerable populations.

In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided \$5 million to implementing partner Mercy Corps for a three-year program targeting more than 300,000 beneficiaries in the sub-region of Karamoja. The programs, focused on improved agriculture, food security, and economic productivity, include the distribution of fast maturing and drought-resistant seeds, work programs to improve market access, and improved animal health services.



*Women's groups play an integral role in managing USAID/OFDA water programs. Photo by Mary Beth Brennan, USAID.*