

# SOUTHERN AFRICA – DISASTER RESPONSE

FACT SHEET #9, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

AUGUST 7, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**10.6**  
**million**

People Reached with Food Assistance from January–April Southern Africa Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO) – June 2017

**1.6**  
**million**

Drought-Affected Households Provided with Agriculture Support RIASCO – June 2017

**1.5**  
**million**

People Provided with Safe Drinking Water RIASCO – June 2017

**360,000**

Children Under Five Years of Age Admitted for Acute Malnutrition Treatment RIASCO – June 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Due to improved harvests, FEWS NET projects Minimal levels of food insecurity in Southern Africa through January 2018, with pockets of Stressed or Crisis levels in some countries
- Relief actors provide targeted assistance to vulnerable populations to facilitate continued recovery
- USAID/OFDA provides approximately \$26 million in new funding to support cyclone- and drought-affected populations in the region

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA<sup>1</sup> IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA <sup>2</sup>	\$34,815,897
USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup>	\$49,529,142

**\$84,345,039**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Following the 2015/2016 El Niño-induced drought, food security conditions in Southern Africa have improved due to favorable crop conditions, decreased food prices, and strong harvest yields that have enabled populations to rely on household food stocks, the UN reports. As a result, households in most areas of the region are experiencing Minimal—IPC 1—levels of food insecurity, expected to persist through January 2018, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warnings System Network (FEWS NET).<sup>4</sup> However, vulnerable populations in some countries, including Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, may experience Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity between June and September and Crisis—IPC 3—levels between October 2017 and January 2018 due to limited livelihood options, slow recovery from the drought, as well as cyclones that struck Madagascar and Mozambique in early 2017, FEWS NET reports.
- Humanitarian actors continue to provide agriculture, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to vulnerable communities, including cyclone-affected populations in Madagascar and Mozambique.
- To date in FY 2017, the U.S. Government has provided more than \$84 million—including nearly \$50 million from USAID/FFP and nearly \$35 million from USAID/OFDA—in humanitarian assistance to meet the emergency food, nutrition, shelter, and WASH needs of disaster-affected populations across Southern Africa.

<sup>1</sup> USAID is responding to disasters in Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe.

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>3</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## LESOTHO

- Decreasing food prices, improved income levels, and increased availability of household food stores have substantially improved food security conditions in Lesotho. FEWS NET projects Minimal levels of food insecurity across Lesotho through September due to high crop production resulting in decreasing food prices and higher income levels. The conclusion of Lesotho's primary May-to-July harvesting period has enabled households to rely on food supplies from the harvest rather than humanitarian assistance. However, as household food stocks begin to deplete in October in advance of the December-to-March lean season and staple prices increase, some areas of the country may experience Stressed levels of food insecurity. FEWS NET predicts that nearly 225,000 people will likely experience food insecurity during the December–February peak lean season, but notes that this figure is significantly lower than average.
  - The summer cereal crop harvest is expected to yield above-average production of approximately 238,000 metric tons (MT), indicating a substantial increase from the drought-reduced level of 31,000 MT in 2016, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The FAO report cites favorable weather conditions as a main contributor to increased production.
  - In FY 2017, USAID/OFDA has provided \$1 million to FAO to increase the resilience of livestock-dependent households in Lesotho. Specifically, the FAO program aims to vaccinate animals against diseases and provide safe drinking water for both livestock and humans in drought-affected areas throughout the country.
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## MADAGASCAR

- The majority of households in Madagascar have recovered from the effects of Cyclone Enawo and drought and will experience Minimal levels of food insecurity through September, according to FEWS NET. Despite the overall improvement in food security conditions, below-average staple food production and depleted agricultural assets have resulted in continued needs in parts of southern Madagascar. Many households in southern and southeastern Madagascar will likely experience Stressed levels of food insecurity from July–September and Crisis levels between October 2017 and January 2018, FEWS NET reports.
  - USAID/OFDA partners Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Land O'Lakes, Medair, and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) continue to provide life-saving assistance—including agriculture, livelihoods, nutrition, shelter, and WASH support—to cyclone- and drought-affected populations in Madagascar. As of late June, USAID/OFDA partner CARE had distributed approximately 1,700 plastic sheets to reinforce houses damaged during Cyclone Enawo and supported the reconstruction of approximately 300 destroyed houses. In southern Madagascar, USAID/OFDA supported CARE to restore the livelihoods and productive assets of an estimated 3,500 vulnerable households through livestock recapitalization and production.
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## MALAWI

- FEWS NET expects Minimal levels of food insecurity in Malawi through January 2018 as a result of above-average crop production and resultant increases in household food stocks. However, FEWS NET predicts Stressed levels of food insecurity in areas severely affected by drought and fall armyworm—particularly in Malawi's extreme north and south—until September and Crisis levels of food insecurity between October 2017 and January 2018.
- In May, USAID/FFP partner UNICEF, in collaboration with the Government of Malawi Ministry of Health, screened nearly 1.2 million children for malnutrition in 14 of Malawi's 28 districts. Health workers referred approximately 7,300 malnourished children—more than 1,000 of whom were experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM)—to health facilities for further care. Overall, the nutrition situation in Malawi had improved since 2016, as the prevalence of global acute malnutrition decreased from approximately 4.1 percent in December 2016 to approximately 2.2 percent in May 2017, according to the July 2017 post-harvest Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions survey.
- Between February and June, USAID/OFDA partner Concern Worldwide distributed orange-fleshed sweet potato planting materials to more than 1,200 farmers in southern Malawi's Nsanje District in preparation for the

May-to-August planting season. The NGO also distributed more than 15,000 crop storage bags to approximately 5,100 people in two southern districts to facilitate efficient storage of surplus food stocks.

- USAID/OFDA continues to support CARE, CRS, and Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) to provide agriculture and food security assistance in drought-affected districts of Malawi.

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## MOZAMBIQUE

- As of late June 2017, the majority of poor households in Mozambique were experiencing Minimal levels of food insecurity due to above-average national crop production during the 2016/2017 agricultural season, according to FEWS NET. The majority of households in Mozambique will likely experience Minimal levels through September, as households regularly consume their own food stores or purchase food in markets. However, FEWS NET notes that vulnerable households in central semi-arid regions will likely face Stressed or Crisis levels of food insecurity through January 2018, necessitating targeted humanitarian assistance, as a result of slow recovery from the drought and irregular 2016/2017 rainfall. In addition, an unprecedented rodent infestation in areas of central Mozambique is damaging July-to-August crop harvests, which may exacerbate food insecurity in affected areas.
- More than 300,000 Mozambicans—approximately 1 percent of the population—required emergency assistance as of April, compared to nearly 2 million people in 2016, highlighting increased food security throughout the country, according to the July 2017 Southern African Development Community Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Synthesis Report. FAO projects that national production of maize, rice, and sorghum in 2017 will exceed 2016 levels; however, some areas of central and southern Mozambique will likely experience decreased yields due to abnormally dry conditions, as well as flooding caused by Cyclone Dineo in February.
- In mid-July, the Government of Mozambique approved the establishment of a disaster management fund, managed by the National Institute of Disaster Management, to strengthen national emergency response capabilities, particularly related to natural disasters, international media report.
- With USAID/OFDA support, NGO partners continue to provide multi-sector assistance to cyclone- and drought-affected populations throughout Mozambique. Through nearly \$3 million in FY 2017 assistance, USAID/OFDA supports CARE to distribute seeds in Massinga and Morrumbene provinces and planting materials in Gaza, Inhambane, and Maputo provinces; rehabilitate six health clinics in Inhambane; and provide roofing kits in affected districts of Inhambane.

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## SWAZILAND

- FAO reports that food security conditions in Swaziland will likely improve during the 2017/2018 agricultural season, as improved weather conditions are expected to result in increased maize and livestock production and lower food prices. However, nearly 140,000 people in Swaziland, primarily in Lubombo and Shiselweni regions, will likely continue to experience Crisis and Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity through September and are expected to require continued humanitarian assistance.
  - With USAID/OFDA support, UNICEF is strengthening health systems and nutrition surveillance mechanisms to bolster SAM treatment and establishing and rehabilitating drought-resilient water sources in Lubombo and Shiselweni regions. In addition, USAID/OFDA partner World Vision is conducting community trainings on livestock management, distributing seeds, and training farmers on best practices in cowpea and sorghum cultivation and storage to bolster agricultural and livestock production among drought-affected households in the two regions.
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## ZIMBABWE

- Due to increased planting and favorable rains in Zimbabwe, FAO projected an above-average maize harvest in 2017, with a significant increase in maize yields from 2016. These favorable conditions will likely contribute to Minimal levels of food insecurity for many populations through September, FEWS NET reports; however, households in southern Zimbabwe face declining water supplies, which will limit agricultural production and livestock pasture. Some households in Zimbabwe will have exhausted food stocks by September and will experience constrained livelihood options, which may lead to Crisis levels of food insecurity for these populations between October and January 2018.
- Food insecurity during the 2018 lean season will likely be less severe than in 2017, according to the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC). The ZimVAC projects that nearly 1.1 million people in rural Zimbabwe—approximately 11 percent of rural households—will be food-insecure during the peak of the lean season from January–March 2018, compared to nearly 4.1 million food-insecure people during the same period in 2017.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting multiple partners, including International Medical Corps (IMC), SC/US, and UNICEF, to provide agricultural production, health, nutrition, and WASH assistance in Zimbabwe. Among these interventions, USAID/OFDA partner the International Rescue Committee (IRC) is supporting approximately 6,000 drought-affected households to purchase agricultural inputs to produce harvests for consumption in 2018. In addition, FAO and World Vision are improving access to safe drinking water through the rehabilitation of water points and other agriculture-related infrastructure. Other USAID/OFDA partners, including CARE, CRS, and Oxfam, continue to provide life-saving agriculture and food security assistance in drought-affected areas of Zimbabwe.

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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- USAID/FFP is supporting UN World Food Program (WFP) emergency food response efforts in Southern Africa through \$4.7 million in humanitarian assistance for local and regional procurement of cereals, fortified flour, and pulses to meet the urgent needs of refugees who have recently fled into northern Angola from neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo.

### CONTEXT

- Below-average rainfall—exacerbated by the 2015/2016 El Niño climatic event—resulted in drought conditions throughout much of Southern Africa beginning in 2015, causing deteriorating agriculture, food security, livestock, nutrition, and WASH conditions throughout 2016.
- On October 13, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Robert T. Yamate redeclared a disaster for the third consecutive year due to the effects of drought in southern regions of Madagascar. On October 14, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Lisa J. Peterson renewed the drought disaster declaration for Swaziland, followed on October 21 by U.S. Ambassadors Matthew T. Harrington and H. Dean Pittman, who redeclared drought disasters for Lesotho and Mozambique, respectively. U.S. Ambassador Virginia E. Palmer redeclared a drought disaster in Malawi on October 28, 2016, and U.S. Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr., redeclared a disaster due to the effects of drought in Zimbabwe on November 7, 2016.
- In late 2016 and early 2017, increased rainfall across Southern Africa improved crop growth and restored water catchments, alleviating drought conditions. Above-average rainfall, however, also caused flooding in some areas, resulting in displacement, crop damage, and additional humanitarian needs.
- On February 17, 2017, U.S. Ambassador H. Dean Pittman issued a disaster declaration for Mozambique due to the effects of Tropical Cyclone Dineo, while U.S. Ambassador Robert T. Yamate declared a disaster in Madagascar due to the effects of Tropical Cyclone Enawo on March 13. Both storms resulted in deaths, population displacement, and damage to houses, crops, and infrastructure.

**USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2017<sup>5</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>6</sup></b>			
<b>LESOTHO</b>			
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Leribe, Mophale's Hoek, Quthing Districts	\$1,890,997
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR LESOTHO</b>			<b>\$2,890,997</b>
<b>MADAGASCAR</b>			
ADRA	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Androy Region	\$1,335,572
CARE	Shelter and Settlements	Sava Region	\$99,937
	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Androy, Anosy Regions	\$1,374,069
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Androy Region	\$896,018
Land O'Lakes	Agriculture and Food Security	Androy Region	\$1,115,205
Medair	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Analanjirifo Region	\$500,000
UNICEF	WASH	Alaotra Mangoro, Analanjirifo, Atsinanana, and Sofia Regions	\$500,783
	Nutrition, WASH	Southern Madagascar	\$1,591,539
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR MADAGASCAR</b>			<b>\$7,413,123</b>
<b>MALAWI</b>			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security	Mulanje, Nsanje, and Phalombe Districts	\$1,512,519
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Nsanje District	\$489,906
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Mwanza, Neno Districts	\$300,000
SC/US	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Chiradzulu, Zomba Districts	\$1,206,314
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR MALAWI</b>			<b>\$3,508,739</b>
<b>MOZAMBIQUE</b>			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Protection	Inhambane, Tete, and Zambezia Provinces	\$1,896,986
	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, WASH	Funhalouro, Homoine, Massinga, Morrumbene Districts	\$1,034,799
	WASH	Inhambane Province	\$50,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$295,500
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Inhambane Province	\$450,000
International Potato Center (IPC)	Agriculture and Food Security	Gaza, Inhambane, Maputo Provinces	\$1,071,710
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR MOZAMBIQUE</b>			<b>\$4,798,995</b>
<b>SWAZILAND</b>			
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, Shiselweni Regions	\$579,312
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security	Lubombo, Shiselweni Regions	\$1,169,680
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR SWAZILAND</b>			<b>\$1,748,992</b>
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>			

CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Bikita, Chivi, Zaka Districts	\$1,440,026
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Bulilima, Gwanda, Insiza, Umzingwane Districts	\$1,745,770
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Bulilima, Chivi, Gwanda, Insiza, Mberengwa, Mwenezi, Umzingwane, Zvishavane Districts	\$2,191,288
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Nutrition, WASH	Beitbridge, Bubi, Insiza Districts	\$1,427,287
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Agriculture and Food Security	Chipinge, Chiredzi Districts	\$984,778
Oxfam/Great Britain	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Gutu, Matobo Districts	\$1,140,620
SC/US	Nutrition, WASH	Binga, Kariba, Mbire	\$998,654
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Binga, Hwanga, Kariba, Nkayi, Umzingwane Districts	\$1,219,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Binga, Kariba, Hwange, Mbire	\$1,056,977
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR ZIMBABWE</b>			<b>\$12,204,400</b>
<b>REGIONAL</b>			
FAO	Agriculture & Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management	Regional Support	\$1,650,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Regional Support	\$500,000
	Program Support Costs		\$100,651
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$34,815,897</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>7</sup></b>			
<b>MADAGASCAR</b>			
WFP	3,300 MT of Locally and Regionally Procured Food	Southern Madagascar and Cyclone-Affected Areas	\$2,747,000
	3,100 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Southern Madagascar and Cyclone-Affected Areas	\$5,334,200
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR MADAGASCAR</b>			<b>\$8,081,200</b>
<b>MALAWI</b>			
UNICEF	Local and Regional Procurement of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food	Countrywide	\$89,614
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$20,500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR MALAWI</b>			<b>\$20,589,614</b>
<b>MOZAMBIQUE</b>			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$89,614
WFP	5,810 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,979,100
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR MOZAMBIQUE</b>			<b>\$6,068,714</b>
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$89,614
WFP	12,057 MT of Regionally Purchased Food	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR ZIMBABWE</b>			<b>\$10,089,614</b>
<b>REGIONAL</b>			

WFP	3,500 MT of Locally and Regionally Procured Food for Refugee Support	Angola	\$4,700,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$49,529,142</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$84,345,039</b>

<sup>5</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>6</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 7, 2017.

<sup>7</sup> USAID/FFP funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 7, 2017. Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>.