

SOUTHERN AFRICA – REGIONAL DISASTERS

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

MARCH 17, 2020

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

14.4
million

Estimated Severely Food-Insecure People in Southern Africa
UN – January 2020

5.8
million

Estimated Severely Food-Insecure People in Zimbabwe
UN – January 2020

2.2
million

Estimated Severely Food-Insecure People in Zambia
UN – January 2020

2
million

Estimated Severely Food-Insecure People in Mozambique
UN – January 2020

100,000

Estimated IDPs in Cabo Delgado
IOM – January 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 100,000 people have been displaced by ongoing OAG violence in Cabo Delgado
- Drought and floods continue to negatively affect agricultural activities and prompt population displacement throughout Southern Africa
- Heavy mid-January floods in Madagascar adversely affect approximately 126,000 people

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE
IN FYs 2019–2020

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$54,424,705
USAID/FFP ²	\$222,339,607
State/PRM ³	\$9,991,260
\$286,755,572	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Populations in the Southern Africa region—including Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—have experienced only one normal rainy season in the last five years due to extreme weather events. Perennial flooding, recurrent drought, and tropical cyclones have resulted in shortened growing seasons and large-scale crop and livestock losses, prompting increased rates of acute food insecurity in several countries.
- Heavy rains from January to February resulted in flooding in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, displacing tens of thousands of people, destroying crops and infrastructure, and exacerbating humanitarian needs among hundreds of thousands of people across the region.
- In Mozambique’s Cabo Delgado Province, an escalation in organized armed group (OAG) attacks since late 2019 has resulted in civilian deaths, generated massive population displacement, and disrupted access to basic services; the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that more than 100,000 people were displaced as of late January.
- An estimated 4.1 million people in Zimbabwe would likely experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity through April without sustained humanitarian assistance due to persistent drought and worsening macroeconomic conditions, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP).⁴
- Approximately 1.9 million people in Malawi are projected to experience Crisis levels of food insecurity through March due to poor harvests and increased food prices, according to a Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) analysis released in January.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

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

REGIONAL

- Perennial flooding, recurrent drought, and other climatic events have adversely impacted the growing season and resulted in large-scale livestock losses in the Southern Africa region, according to WFP. The October-to-April rainy season arrived late in many areas, and although recent rainfall has improved crop conditions in much of the region, torrential rains and associated flooding have destroyed crops in some areas, particularly in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia.
 - Humanitarian assistance is contributing to improved food security conditions in parts of Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET) reported in February. However, communities with limited access to food—particularly in Lesotho; Madagascar’s Atsimo-Andrefana Region; Malawi’s Southern Region; Mozambique’s Cabo Delgado and Tete provinces; and Zimbabwe’s Manicaland, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Masvingo, Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, and Midlands provinces—are experiencing Crisis levels of acute food insecurity.
-
-

LESOTHO

- In late January, USAID staff conducted a field assessment in Lesotho’s Leribe, Mafeteng, and Mophale Hoek districts, which were severely affected by drought in most of 2019. Although the onset of rains that began in December improved access to water in most areas of the three districts, the assessment found that consecutive years of reduced rainfall likely contributed to water shortages during the May-to-October dry season. USAID staff found that households in drought-affected districts were generally able to meet food needs through normal livelihoods. However, the assessment team reported that the delayed rainy season had prompted farmers to reduce crop planting, which is likely to result in a below-average harvest from May to June.
-
-

MADAGASCAR

- As of February 11, heavy mid-January floods had affected approximately 126,000 people in Madagascar’s Alaotra-Mangoro, Analamanga, Betsiboka, Boeny, Diana, Melaky, and Sofia regions, displacing approximately 17,000 people and destroying crops and infrastructure across northern Madagascar, the Government of Madagascar (GoM) reports. The GoM declared a national emergency and requested international assistance on January 24; in response, humanitarian actors operating in Madagascar have disbursed emergency funds and pre-positioned relief commodities. Agriculture, education, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance remain the most pressing humanitarian needs in flood-affected areas of Madagascar, according to the UN.
- Poor rainfall in parts of southern and southwestern Madagascar have resulted in Crisis levels of acute food insecurity among households in Atsimo-Andrefana Region’s Ampanihy District and Stressed—IPC 2—levels of acute food insecurity among some households in Ambo Region’s Beloha, Ambovombe, and Tsihombe districts, according to FEWS NET. Additionally, a persistent, widespread fall armyworm infestation in some drought-affected areas will likely result in significant crop losses and below-average maize production, particularly in Ambovombe, where up to 90 percent of farmland may be infested, FEWS NET reports. Across southern Madagascar, approximately 730,000 people may be in need of emergency food assistance during the ongoing November-to-March lean season, according to the most recent IPC analysis. In February, USAID/FFP partner WFP provided food distributions to more than 123,000 people as well as nutrition assistance to nearly 36,000 children and pregnant and lactating women in southern Madagascar.
- Recent assessments by USAID partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) indicate that a lack of rainfall in southern Madagascar has caused a water shortage—particularly in Androy and Atsimo-Andrefana regions—and will likely cause a failed March-to-June cereal and maize harvest. In addition, increased water prices due to the shortage have prompted households to limit the use of safe drinking water. With USAID/FFP support, CRS is providing food assistance to drought-affected communities in southern Madagascar.

MALAWI

- Nearly 1.9 million people in Malawi—approximately 13 percent of the population—are likely to experience Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity through March, according to a January MVAC analysis. High staple food prices countrywide and localized poor harvests are exacerbating acute food insecurity conditions, which would likely be worse without current levels of humanitarian assistance, the MVAC reports. However, favorable levels of rainfall will likely lead to above-average production of key cash and staple crops, improving food security outcomes, according to FEWS NET. USAID/FFP contributed \$4.5 million to address emergency food needs in Malawi during the November-to-March lean season.
 - Heavy rainfall in January caused flooding along several rivers in Malawi’s Chikwawa and Nsanje regions, adversely affecting approximately 41,000 people, relief actors report. An assessment by humanitarian actors identified significant food and shelter needs among flood-affected communities and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the two regions. The UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) anticipates that the floods will have long-term effects on livelihoods in Chikwawa and Nsanje, where populations were already experiencing widespread acute food insecurity prior to the flooding.
 - Since July 2019, USAID/OFDA has supported Project Concern International (PCI) to provide WASH assistance to flood-affected communities in Southern Province’s Machinga and Zomba districts, which were also impacted by Tropical Cyclone Idai in March 2019. As of late January, PCI had rehabilitated more than 200 water points serving nearly 31,000 households and installed latrine platforms that serve approximately 14,000 households. In addition, PCI has provided support and training for citizen committees responsible for managing each water point.
-
-

MOZAMBIQUE

- Escalating OAG violence since late 2019 in Cabo Delgado has affected at least 600,000 people and displaced more than 100,000 people as of late January, according to IOM. Humanitarian needs are reportedly high among IDPs, with most sheltering in host communities that have limited resources to support them; communities in Cabo Delgado are still recovering from the destruction caused by Tropical Cyclone Kenneth in April 2019. On February 12, U.S. Ambassador to Mozambique Dennis W. Hearne traveled to Cabo Delgado’s capital city of Pemba to meet with President of Mozambique Filipe Nyusi and local leaders to discuss the worsening humanitarian and security situation in the province.
 - In mid-February, heavy rainfall affected more than 71,000 people in central Mozambique’s Sofala Province, of whom nearly 16,000 were evacuated to temporary IDP sites in Sofala’s Buzi, Cheringosa, Gorongosa, Maringue, and Nhamatanda towns, according to IOM. Overall, more than 138,000 people contrywide were adversely affected by heavy rainfall and flooding between October and mid-January. IOM notes that some of the flood-affected areas were also severely impacted by Tropical Cyclone Idai, and that ongoing OAG activity and resultant displacement in Cabo Delgado have strained humanitarian resources in the country. In response, the Government of Mozambique is providing emergency food assistance and other relief commodities to affected households.
 - Populations in parts of Cabo Delgado, Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Maputo, Sofala, Tete, and Zambezia provinces were experiencing Stressed levels of acute food insecurity in February, according to FEWS NET. However, with humanitarian assistance in response to tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth expected to end in April in most areas, vulnerable households are projected to experience Crisis food insecurity levels beginning in May, and will likely worsen for many at the height of the dry season in July, according to FEWS NET.
-
-

ZAMBIA

- Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding have destroyed crops across Zambia since the beginning of January, mainly affecting Southern Province’s Gwembe and Mambwe districts, as well as areas heavily impacted by recent drought, according to the Government of Zambia’s Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit. Prior to the floods, more than 2.3

million people across the country were expected to be severely food insecure during the October-to-March lean season, with at least 412,000 people experiencing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity, according to the IPC. Relief actors note that the recent flooding could further deteriorate food security throughout the country. In FY 2020, USAID/FFP provided \$3.4 million to WFP to support the Government of Zambia-led lean season response. WFP is using its logistics capacity to deliver government-provided maize and USAID/FFP-funded peas to flood-affected populations.

ZIMBABWE

- An estimated 4.1 million people in rural Zimbabwe would likely experience Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity through April without humanitarian assistance due to persistent drought and worsening macroeconomic conditions, WFP reports. The UN agency estimates that food prices have increased by more than 700 percent since December 2018, undermining the purchasing power of vulnerable households and contributing to an increase in the number of households at risk of severe acute food insecurity. High unemployment and the low availability of grain in markets continue to reduce household access to food, according to WFP. In February, WFP provided food assistance to approximately 3.5 million acutely food insecure people in Zimbabwe.
- April-to-June harvests will likely be late and below-average across much of Zimbabwe, according to a January FEWS NET report. Most of central, southern, and western Zimbabwe received little to no rainfall in January, and as of late January a high proportion of farmers had yet to begin planting; the lack of rainfall has resulted in cattle deaths, crop loss, pasture degradation, and water shortages. A poor harvest will likely result in an increased number of people experiencing Crisis levels of acute food insecurity during the 2020/2021 consumption year, FEWS NET reports.

CONTEXT

- Beginning in FY 2019 and continuing into FY 2020, the Southern Africa region experienced several extreme weather events, generating increased humanitarian needs. In particular, Tropical Cyclones Idai and Kenneth caused widespread damage and, coupled with limited rainfall and subsequent drought, exacerbated acute food insecurity in many countries.
- U.S. Government assistance to countries across Southern Africa continues to support emergency relief to cyclone-, drought-, and flood-affected populations throughout the region. USAID/OFDA funding supports agriculture and food security, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH activities, while USAID/FFP funding supports recovery for acutely food-insecure populations through emergency food assistance and nutrition commodity provision. Through State/PRM funding, humanitarian agencies are providing multi-sector assistance and protection support to refugees.
- U.S. Ambassador to Zambia Daniel L. Foote and U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe Brian A. Nichols declared disasters due to drought on November 16, 2019, and November 12, 2019, respectively. Also on November 12, 2019, Ambassador Nichols reissued a disaster declaration due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from Tropical Cyclone Idai, which made landfall in Zimbabwe in March 2019.
- U.S. Ambassador to Mozambique Dennis W. Hearne declared a disaster due to the complex emergency in Cabo Delgado on March 13, 2020. Ambassador Hearne also redeclared two separate disasters on November 18, 2019, due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Idai and Tropical Cyclone Kenneth, which made landfall in Mozambique on March 14, 2019, and April 25, 2019, respectively.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
MOZAMBIQUE			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Macomia, Manica, Nampula, Quissanga, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$9,800,000
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Manica, Sofala	\$1,450,000
FHI 360	Health, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Dondo, Muanza, Nhamatanda, Sofala	\$2,499,955
Gorongosa Project	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Sofala	\$440,884
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Health	Manica, Sofala, Zambézia	\$500,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Inhambane, Manica, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$125,000
IOM	Health, HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete	\$4,800,000
Land O'Lakes	Agriculture and Food Security	Manica, Nhamatanda, Sofala	\$799,897
MENTOR Initiative	Health, WASH	Sofala	\$812,561
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIM	Cabo Delgado, Inhambane, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	WASH	Cabo Delgado, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,399,600
WFP	Logistics Support	Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$2,750,000
UN World Health Organization	Health	Cabo Delgado, Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$1,753,148
World Vision	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cabo Delgado, Inhambane, Manica, Niassa, Sofala, Tete, Zambézia	\$11,032,158
	Airlifted Relief Commodities	Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Sofala	\$5,615,384
	Program Support		\$262,809
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$45,041,396
ZIMBABWE			
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Mutare, Chipinge, Chimanimani	\$1,300,000
CRS	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Buhera	\$649,906
GOAL	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$100,000
IOM	HCIM	Buhera, Masvingo	\$200,000
International Rescue Committee	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Chimanimani, Chiredzi	\$500,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Chimanimani, Chipinge	\$928,881
OCHA	HCIM	Chimanimani, Chipinge, Harare, Mutare	\$250,000
World Vision	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Chimanimani, Chipinge	\$897,012

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$4,825,799
MALAWI				
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas		\$780,000
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas		\$470,000
Oxfam	Protection, WASH	Mchinga, Nsanje, Phalombe, Zomba		\$500,000
PCI	WASH	Mchinga, Zomba		\$999,975
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$2,749,975
COMOROS				
French Red Cross	Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas		\$100,000
UNICEF	WASH	Affected Areas		\$200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE COMOROS RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$300,000
NAMIBIA				
Namibian Red Cross	WASH	Affected Areas		\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE NAMIBIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$53,017,170
USAID/FFP³				
ANGOLA				
WFP	3,451 Metric Tons (MT) of Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP)	Lunda Norte		\$4,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ANGOLA RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$4,500,000
MADAGASCAR				
Adventist Development and Relief Agency	Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Atsimo-Andrefana		\$2,500,000
CRS	6,360 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, LRIP	Androy, Anosy, Atsimo-Andrefana		\$7,093,126
UNICEF	125 MT of LRIP, Complementary Services	Androy, Anosy, Atsimo-Andrefana		\$1,000,000
WFP	8,330 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, 140 MT of LRIP	Androy, Anosy, Atsimo-Andrefana		\$8,442,085
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MADAGASCAR RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$19,035,211
MALAWI				
UNICEF	393 MT of LRIP, Complementary Services	Central, Southern		\$2,800,911
WFP	230 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, 1,798 MT of LRIP, Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Services	Countrywide		\$21,072,284
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MALAWI RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$23,873,195
MOZAMBIQUE				
WFP	275 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, 19,623 MT of LRIP, Food Vouchers	Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Maputo, Nampula, Sofala, Tete, Zambezia		\$53,991,940
World Vision	Food Vouchers, Complementary Services	Gaza, Inhambane		\$11,271,878
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2019				\$65,263,818
NAMIBIA				

WFP	1,325 MT of LRIP	Kavango West, Kavango East	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE NAMIBIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$1,000,000
ZAMBIA			
WFP	465 MT of LRIP	Luapula	\$610,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ZAMBIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$610,000
ZIMBABWE			
WFP	23,240 MT of U.S. In-Kind, 5,845 MT of LRIP, Cash Transfers for Food	Countrywide	\$104,668,854
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$104,668,854
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$218,951,077
STATE/PRM⁵			
MOZAMBIQUE			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
WFP	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$851,253
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$2,351,253
REGIONAL			
UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Multi-Sector Assistance	Southern Africa Region	\$3,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$3,000,000
SOUTH AFRICA			
ALPS Resilience	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$346,445
Jesuit Refugee Service	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$493,565
Scalabrini Center	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$299,997
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$1,140,007
ZIMBABWE			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE ZIMBABWE RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$3,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$9,991,260
TOTAL FY 2019 USG FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE			\$281,959,507

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2020¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
MOZAMBIQUE			
International Potato Center	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$1,300,000
	Airlifted Relief Commodities	Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Sofala	\$935
	Program Support		\$6,600
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE MOZAMBIQUE RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$1,307,535
ZAMBIA			
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security	Western	\$100,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE ZAMBIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$100,000

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$1,407,535
USAID/FFP³			
ZAMBIA			
WFP	2,380 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Southern, Western	\$3,388,530
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE ZAMBIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$3,388,530
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$3,388,530
TOTAL FY 2020 USG FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICA RESPONSE			\$4,796,065

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March 17, 2020.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 17, 2020.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

⁴ USAID/FFP-supported complementary services—which include sector-specific activities such as agriculture, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH interventions—enhance food assistance programs by strengthening food availability and access.

⁵ State/PRM funding does not include \$7,600,00 supporting Congolese refugee assistance programs in Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia.

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.
- 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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>