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# QUICK FACTS ON RESILIENCE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

2017





A trader loads livestock bought from pastoralists at Oldonyiro livestock market in Isiolo County, Kenya. The market was built with funding from the U.S. Government Feed the Future initiative and benefits 11,000 households. It is improving the livestock industry in Isiolo County, helping pastoralist communities better prepare for and cope with recurrent drought in the region. PHOTO CREDIT: ERIC ONYIEGO

## Progress on Building Resilience to Recurrent Crises in the Horn of Africa (and Beyond)

- USAID/USG has made significant investments to build resilience to recurrent crises in the wake of the large-scale drought in the Horn of Africa in 2011-12.
- USAID/USG investments are aligned with country-led efforts, including Kenya's Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) initiative and Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and complementary investments in agriculture and disaster risk management.
- As a result of these joint efforts, which include investments through the USG's Office of Food for Peace and the Feed the Future and Global Health initiatives, significant progress has been made in reducing hunger and poverty, strengthening resilience, and improving disaster risk management and early response when droughts inevitably do occur (see country details for Kenya and Ethiopia).
  - USAID/USG resilience investments and progress in Somalia and South Sudan have been constrained by weak state capacity, fragility, conflict, and violent extremism.
- A study by the UK in Kenya and Ethiopia estimates that, over a 20-year period, every \$1 invested in resilience will result in \$2.9 in reduced humanitarian spending, avoided losses and development benefits. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

COVER PHOTO: Camel herders work together to haul up water and pour into a trough, taking it in turn to water their respective herds. PHOTO CREDIT: Kelley Lynch

## **“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”**

- USAID is funding research to quantify the ‘averted impacts’ of the current drought in the Horn of Africa as a result of investments in resilience/drought cycle management.
- Severe and widespread drought in southern Africa and the Horn of Africa in 2016-17 underscores the need to sustain these investments to protect lives and livelihoods, mitigate the impact on national and regional economies, and reduce future humanitarian spending.
  - In the near-term a robust humanitarian response to the Horn of Africa drought is needed to protect lives and livelihoods, as well as resilience and development gains.
- Similar efforts to build resilience to recurrent crises are underway in chronically vulnerable areas of Uganda, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali and Nepal.
  - In 2016, USAID expanded these efforts to southern Africa (Malawi) in the wake of last year’s devastating El Niño drought, as well as to northeast Nigeria to help address the underlying causes that gave rise to protracted crisis there.
- Resilience investments in Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia, Kenya and Nigeria are helping to address ‘push’ factors that al-Qaeda/ISIS-affiliated groups have exploited for recruitment, such as the lack of economic opportunities for youth and associated grievances.
  - Interviews with Boko Haram/al-Shabab ex-combatants reveal a range of motivations, including people joining these movements as a form of employment.
  - Boko Haram has also used business loans as a recruitment tool in Nigeria.



Pastoralists gather at Merille livestock market in Marsabit County. PHOTO CREDIT: RANELLE SYKES





Women in the Fafan milk cooperative collect empty containers near a delivery truck. USAID conducted value chain assessments in Ethiopia's Somali Region to determine where milk cooperatives could prove viable, then set up 10 milk marketing cooperatives and linked them with milk producer groups for supply and with traders for sale. USAID trained all of these groups in milk hygiene, sanitation, financial management and literacy and numeracy. It also provided aluminum containers for proper milk storage, links to fodder traders to improve overall milk quality and seed money to start activities. PHOTO CREDIT: KELLEY LYNCH

## ETHIOPIA

### Progress on Building Resilience to Recurrent Crises

- With support from USAID's Office of Food for Peace, Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) has helped lift 1.5m people out of poverty, reduced the annual lean season for vulnerable households from over 3 months to less than 2 months, and reduced the proportion of households forced to engage in distress sales of assets from 50% to 25%.





- Feed the Future programs have accelerated this progress by helping 33,000 households increase their incomes by an average of \$370, enabling many to graduate from the PSNP. These programs have provided a model for graduation programming that is being scaled by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) in the current phase of the PSNP.
- Feed the Future investments have contributed to a remarkable ten-fold increase in the value of livestock sales from \$6 million in 2012 to \$67 million by 2015 by attracting over \$15 million in private sector investments and leveraging export market opportunities.
- Feed the Future and other USG investments are also strengthening household and community resilience. Evidence from USAID's resilience programming area in the Ethiopia lowlands shows that most households were able to maintain their food security status during moderate droughts in 2015. *Households in lowland communities that were reached by comprehensive resilience programs were also better able to maintain their food security status in the face of the severe drought in 2016, whereas households in other communities experienced a precipitous 30% decline [see page 8]*
- Households with access to markets, savings, credit, natural resources, and safety nets fared far better during both moderate and severe droughts. USAID/USG programs directly contribute to all of these 'sources of resilience.'
- Those benefitting directly from programs that improve access to financial services, animal health services and natural resource management had healthier herds, were more food secure and less likely to be impoverished than similar, non-beneficiary households.
- These investments, improved drought cycle management and an early and robust humanitarian response by the Government of Ethiopia (\$381m) and the USG (\$825m) helped contain the El Niño drought in 2016, despite that drought being more severe and farther reaching than the 1985 drought that led to widespread famine.
- The Productive Safety Net Programme's (PSNP) drought contingency and risk financing mechanism enabled an additional 2 million households to receive transfers during the drought at a cost far cheaper than stand-alone humanitarian response.
- The PSNP response to the 2011-12 drought crisis cost an estimated US\$53 per beneficiary compared with US\$169 when done through a stand-alone response.
- Contingency mechanisms (a.k.a. 'crisis modifiers') enabled USAID development programs to also respond to humanitarian needs, while at the same time adjusting their activities to further moderate the impact of the drought. For example:
  - Livestock value chain programs ramped up loans to livestock traders to facilitate commercial destocking, as well as to fodder providers.
  - Nutrition programs adjusted behavioral change messaging to advise households how to manage through the drought episode.





Members of the Aukot Self-Help Group in Ngaremare, Isiolo County, are growing nutritious vegetables in kitchen gardens and helping improve nutrition and end malnutrition among children in their families. PHOTO CREDIT: ERIC ONYIEGO

## KENYA

### Progress on Building Resilience to Recurrent Crises

- The Government of Kenya's Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) initiative provides a common investment and programming framework for government and donor investment. EDE is a model for country-led efforts to build resilience to recurrent crises. The Government of Kenya has committed \$1.6b against the EDE, complemented by \$1.5b from donors (including USAID).
- A survey in 2015 provides compelling evidence of the results achieved since 2012 through USAID's investment and the Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) initiative. This includes a 12% reduction in the depth of poverty, a 28% increase in women's dietary diversity and positive trends in children's dietary diversity, improved access to water and reduced household hunger.





- People's assessment of their resilience and control over their own future is also changing: 66% of households reported that they will now be able to cope with future droughts compared to 53 percent in 2012 and 42% of households believe they are in control of and responsible for their own success compared to 19 percent in 2012.
- USAID investments through Feed the Future have contributed to these results by helping to increase the value of livestock sales from \$94 million in 2013 to \$102 million in 2015 and enabling 350,000 farmers and pastoralists to adopt new technologies, 10,000 small- to medium-sized enterprises to access loans, and 225,000 people to access clean water.
  - Investments in natural resource management have also helped to put six million hectares under improved management practices (roughly the size of West Virginia)
  - Nutrition programs have reached nearly 900,000 people
- The Government of Kenya (GoK) has made significant progress on drought cycle management. This includes establishing county-level drought contingency plans/funds that cover 2 million people, purchasing an innovative insurance product through the African Union that provides financing for the GoK's drought response, and the scaling up of a weather-based livestock insurance program.
  - All are indicative of the GoK's new approach to managing droughts and all were supported and piloted by Feed the Future and USAID before being adopted and scaled by the GoK.
- Investments in drought cycle management and the early response enabled by them are paying dividends in the face of the current drought and the GoK is leading the drought response.
  - The Kenya Livestock Insurance Program (KLIP) that the government scaled up in 2016 initiated its first payout of \$2m to 12,000 pastoralist households (\$167 per household). This money will enable these households to better manage through the drought and replace livestock when drought conditions subside.
  - Since July 2016, Kenya's National Drought Management Authority has distributed Ksh 172 million (\$1.66m) of drought contingency finance to 12 drought affected counties. This money has allowed counties to provide support to households impacted by the drought in the form of cash and food.
  - The GoK's Hunger Safety Net Programme contingency has provided \$5m to 180,000 additional households who only receive support during emergency scale ups. This translates to nearly \$30 of critical support to households impacted by the drought.
  - GoK's total early response to the drought is estimated at \$200m to date. USAID's humanitarian response to date is \$180m.



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