

On February 18, 1994, U.S. Ambassador William Christie Ramsay declared a disaster in response to civil strife in the Republic of the Congo. The USG's top priority in this region was to provide emergency health care for persons displaced due to civil strife. BHR/OFDA provided two grants, totalling \$39,000, to UNICEF to purchase WHO medical kits and distribute them to victims of civil unrest in Brazzaville.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$39,000

ERITREA—Food Shortage/Displaced Persons

In early 1994, Eritrea lost an estimated 80% of its crop due to the effects of a prolonged drought and pest infestation. Lack of rain during the growing period, in addition to infestations of tree locusts, grasshoppers, bush crickets, and army worms, led to extensive crop damage throughout Eritrea. Agricultural production for 1993 was approximately 86,000 MT or one-third of the 1992 harvest of 260,000 MT. As a result, an estimated 1.6 million people out of a population of 2.65 million were in need of food aid by 1994. Emergency food aid needs were determined to be 191,000 MT. On November 29, 1993, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Joseph O'Neill declared a disaster in Eritrea as a result of the poor 1993 harvest. In response, BHR/OFDA provided a grant to CRS to distribute P.L. 480 Title II food commodities. BHR/FFP provided 62,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food valued at \$23,528,100 for use in various NGO relief operations. USDA also provided WFP with 20,000 MT of Section 416(b) emergency food worth \$7,391,000.

Later in FY 1994, problems arose over the possible return of over 500,000 Eritrean refugees from neighboring Sudan. Local communities were unable to cope with the returnee influx since they were already suffering due to a shortfall of relief food needed earlier in the year. These circumstances led U.S. Charge d'Affaires Karl I. Danga, on August 24, 1994, to expand the disaster declaration for Eritrea to respond to the continuing food scarcity and the potentially devastating effects of the return of over 500,000 Eritrean refugees. BHR/OFDA provided grants to WVRD, CRS, and the Commission for Eritrean Refugee Affairs for emergency food distribution, resettlement, and reintegration programs in Eritrea, and funded a survey of malarial cases among the returnee population in Eritrea.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$2,775,745
Other USG Assistance \$30,919,100
Total USG Assistance \$33,694,845

ETHIOPIA—Food Shortage

In FY 1994, Ethiopia experienced food shortages due to a prolonged dry season, inadequate distribution of fertilizers, and insufficient pesticide applications. Poor rainfall distribution caused drought in the agricultural regions of southern and eastern Tigray, east Harerge, west Harerge, south Gondor, north Wello, south Wello, north Omo, south Omo, and Borena. Food insecurity was particularly acute in northern and eastern Ethiopia, as well as in southwestern Ethiopia. In 1994, there was an estimated shortfall of 1 million MT of food to meet the needs of 6.7 million affected people.

Due to the continuing food shortages, U.S. Ambassador Marc Allen Baas renewed the disaster declaration in Ethiopia on November 26, 1993. BHR/OFDA provided grants to CARE, CRS, MSF/F, and FHI for emergency food distribution, seed distribution, and an emergency medical program. BHR/OFDA also contributed \$45,000 to UNDP for strengthening local relief and rehabilitation capacity. BHR/FFP contributed 121,410 MT of P.L. 480 Title II food commodities worth \$43,340,800 for emergency distribution to vulnerable groups.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$886,917
Other USG Assistance \$43,340,800
Total USG Assistance \$44,227,717

GUINEA—Epidemic

From June 1994 to September 1994, the area surrounding Conakry and the southern coastal area near Sierra Leone were struck by a cholera epidemic. In this time period alone, over 24,000 cases of cholera were reported. Although there was a low fatality rate, the rapid spread of the disease and fears of a further deterioration in conditions due to the rainy season led to the declaration of a disaster by U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Wilbur G. Thomas on August 2, 1994.

BHR/OFDA provided \$25,000 to the USAID/Conakry Mission to purchase and transport emergency lab equipment for use by the Guinean Ministry of Health. The equipment was used in water quality control and in isolation of the cholera virus.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$25,000

GUINEA-BISSAU—Cyclone

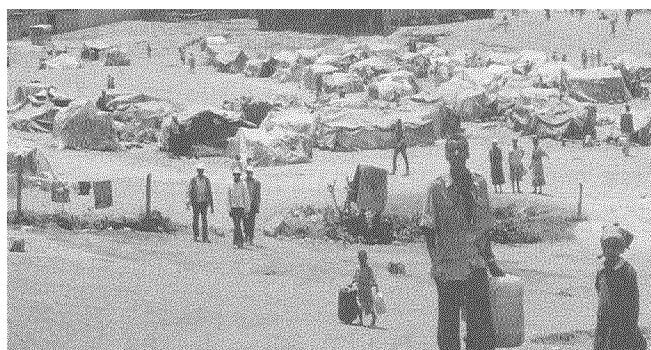
On the night of September 10, 1993, a major cyclone struck the Gabu Province in eastern Guinea-Bissau. Many houses in the village of Pitche in Gabu Province were either destroyed or left roofless. Over the course of the next three months, additional information on the extent of damage was received and several site visits were made. On January 3, 1994, U.S. Ambassador Roger A. McGuire determined that the damage to Pitche constituted a disaster and requested \$10,000 in emergency assistance funds from BHR/OFDA. The funds were used by Africare to purchase roofing material to reconstruct the homes of the estimated 387 persons who were the most severely affected by the cyclone.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$10,000

KENYA—Civil Strife

In late 1993, the frequency and intensity of the ethnic fighting which has plagued Kenya since 1991 increased, with renewed outbreaks of violence in the Rift Valley, as well as incidents in the coastal provinces. Three years of ethnic fighting, combined with weather conditions rivaling the 1985 drought, left hundreds of people dead and forced thousands to flee their homes and seek refuge in open fields, vacant buildings, and churches. In 1994, UNDP estimated that 166,000 Kenyans were displaced due to ethnic fighting.

On November 9, 1993, U.S. Ambassador Aurelia Erskine Brazeal declared a disaster in response to ethnic clashes in Kenya. The USG's top priority was to provide



Kenyans displaced by ethnic clashes hosted in Maela camp.

(Photo by Valerie Newsom, USAID/BHR/OFDA)

health, nutrition, sanitation, and other emergency assistance for persons displaced due to civil strife. BHR/OFDA released \$25,000 to CRS to purchase and distribute shelter materials and potable water to displaced persons. BHR/OFDA also provided \$1,123,859 in grants to MSF/E and CRWRC and \$1,333,959 to UNDP and UNICEF to provide humanitarian assistance to victims of ethnic fighting to assist displaced women and children, and to distribute shelter materials and agricultural inputs to displaced families.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$2,482,818

KENYA—Drought

In late 1993, Kenya experienced a short rainy season, exacerbating drought conditions which had persisted for three years. The drought, in combination with intensified tribal fighting, seriously affected Kenya's ability to feed itself. UNDHA estimated that 1.2 million people required relief assistance and that the food security of millions more was imperiled. Areas impacted most were the semi-arid and arid pastoral lands in the north, which constitute 80% of Kenya's land area and are home to 30% of its population.

Rain levels returned to normal in February 1994, finally bringing an end to drought conditions. Despite the increase in rainfall, the damage to the 1993-94 harvest was considerable, especially among farmers who had planted late crops. UNDHA reported that Kenya faced its most severe food crisis since independence. In some districts, well over 50% of the children under five were malnourished.

On March 3, 1994, U.S. Ambassador Aurelia Erskine Brazeal re-declared a disaster in response to the ongoing drought in Kenya and BHR/OFDA released \$25,000 to WCDO for emergency relief efforts. Other BHR/OFDA-funded activities included a grant to CRS to assist farmers in Kajiado district, a WCDO feeding program in Narok District, a CARE drought recovery project in the northeast and support for a Drought Relief Coordinator. BHR/FFP allocated 32,440 MT of Title II emergency food, valued at \$15,022,400, for use in relief operations implemented by UNICEF, WFP, and NGOs. WFP also negotiated with USDA to receive 35,000 MT of Section 416(b) emergency food, valued at \$12,086,200.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$1,189,532
Other USG Assistance \$27,108,600
Total USG Assistance \$28,298,132

KENYA—Epidemic

Due to prolonged rains which dramatically increased the mosquito population, a malaria epidemic raged throughout Kenya from August to October 1994. Twelve districts, encompassing a population of 6.5 million, were affected. While death statistics were incomplete, there were more than 1,000 confirmed deaths due to malaria. On August 11, 1994, Chargé d'Affaires Timberlake Foster declared a disaster in Kenya due to epidemic conditions. On September 15, BHR/OFDA provided a grant of \$25,000 to UNICEF for the purchase of anti-malarial drugs. UNICEF estimated that approximately 100,000 victims of chloroquine-resistant malaria were assisted by these funds.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$25,000

LIBERIA—Civil Strife

Despite the signing of the Cotonou Accord in July 1993, large zones of insecurity remained throughout Liberia in 1994 as the civil war marked its fourth anniversary. The emergence of new factions further complicated the political/military situation. The Krahn-dominated Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) made up of the remnants of the former government army, was thought to be instrumental in forming a new faction, the Liberian Peace Council (LPC) which appeared after the Cotonou Accord. The existence of yet another faction, the Lofa Defense Force (LDF) was announced soon afterwards. With the previous split of the United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO) along ethnic lines and a new split of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) between supporters and former supporters of NPFL leader Charles Taylor, the tally of competing rebel factions reached seven.

The Interim Government of National Unity (IGNU), the NPFL, and ULIMO met on February 15, 1994, to reconfirm their commitment to the Cotonou Accord. Though the meeting led to the belated seating of the new caretaker government, the Liberian National Transitional Government (LNTG), on March 7, it did not lead to the full implementation of the peace accord and the political/military situation deteriorated extensively.

Access to populations in need of humanitarian assistance was a major problem in 1994. By mid-year, continued factional skirmishes' harassment of personnel and disruption of relief operations—including the theft of relief vehicles and equipment by rebels—forced the

relief community to suspend all humanitarian operations outside the central and coastal regions of Liberia secured by the Economic Community of West African States' (ECOWAS) Military Observer Group (ECOMOG.) Approximately 90% of the country and several hundred thousand Liberians and Sierra Leonean refugees were cut off from emergency relief assistance.

Due to the fluid situation and accessibility problems in Liberia, there were no firm figures on the number of displaced but, out of a pre-war population of 2.5 million, it was estimated that upwards of 1 million were displaced. There were an estimated 701,000 Liberian refugees in other countries: 416,000 in Guinea; 245,000 in Cote d'Ivoire; 20,000 in Ghana; 16,000 in Sierra Leone; and 4,000 in Nigeria. The conflict in neighboring Sierra Leone led approximately 130,000 Sierra Leoneans to seek refuge in Liberia. It was estimated that more than 150,000 people had died as a result of the on-going civil war.



Displaced persons encamped at the former Ministry of Health building near Monrovia. (Photo by Rachel Lieber, USAID/BHR/OFDA)

On December 3, 1993, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires William P. Twaddell declared the continuation into FY 1994 of Liberia's civil strife disaster. BHR/OFDA responded with \$7,892,424 in grants to CRS, AICF/F, MSF/H, SCF/UK, Africare, and Opportunities Industrialization Centers International, Inc. for the distribution of food, seeds and agricultural tools, the provision of medical, health/nutrition and water/sanitation services and a training and resettlement program in Monrovia for demobilized soldiers. In addition, BHR/OFDA provided \$1,885,870 in grants to WFP, UNICEF and UNDP for food distribution activities, emergency water/sanitation and health projects and to support an emergency logistics program.

During FY 1994, BHR/OFDA also provided \$136,500 in shelter material for the growing displaced populations. In May 1994, a total of 1,272,960 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting and 496 tents were provided with air transport (\$370,000) furnished by DOD/HRA. An additional contri-

bution of 979,200 sq. ft. of plastic sheeting was sealifted to Monrovia by BHR/OFDA during August 1994.

BHR/FFP contributed 98,160 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at \$56,396,500 to WFP and CRS, including commodity and transport costs. USAID/Monrovia provided two grants to UNICEF for the rehabilitation of war victims in Liberia and for a war-affected youth support program.

DOS/PRM contributed \$2.5 million in FY 1994 to UNHCR's emergency appeal for Sierra Leonean refugees and Liberian displaced persons in Lofa county. Funding was also approved by DOS/PRM in FY 1994 for:

1) \$100,000 to the U.N. Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) for a joint UNIFEM/IRC project for Liberian refugee women in Cote d'Ivoire; and 2) \$218,873 to IRC for educational projects for Liberian refugees in Guinea. WFP also received \$2,470,000 from DOS/PRM for food assistance to Liberian refugees and displaced persons. DOS/PRM also contributed to UNHCR, ICRC, and IFRC Africa-wide appeals, a portion of which was used to assist Liberian refugees.

In addition to the DOS/PRM contributions, the State Department also obligated \$32,763,500 to support ECOMOG and overall peacekeeping activities in Liberia. Of this, \$12,251,000 was gathered from prior year accounts and was contributed to the U.N. Trust Fund for Liberia for use during FY 1994. The remaining \$20,512,500 came from Peace-Keeping Operations (PKO) funds and was disbursed to ECOWAS and the U.N. for the purchase and transportation of Humvees, trucks, and radios for ECOMOG and U.N. Observer Mission In Liberia (UNOMIL) personnel. [The value for Peace-Keeping Activities and Operations is not included in FY 1994 "Other USG Assistance" below.] *(For additional information the reader may request BHR/OFDA situation reports on Liberia).*

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$9,914,794
Other USG Assistance \$66,449,373
Total USG Assistance \$76,364,167

MADAGASCAR—Cyclone

Cyclone Geralda, characterized by 80 miles/hour winds and gusts of up to 140 miles/hour, struck the eastern coast of Madagascar on February 4, 1994, less than two weeks after another storm had devastated the same area. High winds and flooding caused extensive damage to the capital of Antananarivo, as well as numerous towns and villages, affecting infrastructure and crop lands along the eastern coast of the island. The two storms claimed 231 lives and made more than 356,000

people homeless. The damage was further compounded by cyclones Littane and Nadia, which both occurred in March.

U.S. Ambassador Dennis P. Barrett declared a disaster on February 4 due to the destruction caused by Cyclone Geralda. BHR/OFDA immediately allocated \$20,000 to CARE and \$5,000 to MSF/F to provide for the emergency medical needs of the cyclone victims. To meet the pressing demands for shelter and food, BHR/OFDA also gave CARE \$120,000 for shelter materials and \$150,000 for emergency food supplies, which were provided to 65,000 people in Brickaville, one of the hardest hit areas.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$295,000

MALAWI—Drought

The late start of rains in November delayed planting activities throughout Malawi and resulted in a below normal maize harvest in April 1994. Although maize and other food crop production was not as low as it was during the severe 1991-92 drought year, the Government of Malawi (GOM) appealed to the international community for 300,000 MT of maize for free distribution and 180,000 MT to replenish the strategic grain reserve, in addition to 200,000 MT imported through commercial channels. The GOM estimated that 3 million Malawians were affected by the drought. The districts of Mangochi, Nkhotakota, Ntcheu, and Salima were most affected. On May 20, U.S. Ambassador Michael T. F. Pistor declared a drought disaster in Malawi. BHR/OFDA provided \$25,000 to WFP to assist in the implementation of drought relief interventions. BHR/FFP contributed 25,000 MT of maize, valued at \$8,775,000, to WFP's International Emergency Food Reserve.

BHR/OFDA Assistance \$25,000
Other USG Assistance \$8,775,000
Total USG Assistance \$8,800,000

MOZAMBIQUE—Cyclone

Cyclone Nadia swept across Mozambique on March 24, 1994, lashing the northern province of Nampula and devastating the country's principal northern port city of Nacala. After severely damaging 13 of the 21 districts of Nampula, the storm hit Zambezia Province with wind gusts of over 90 miles/hour, causing destruction, particularly in the province's capital, Quelimane. As it moved