Humanitarian Assistance in Review
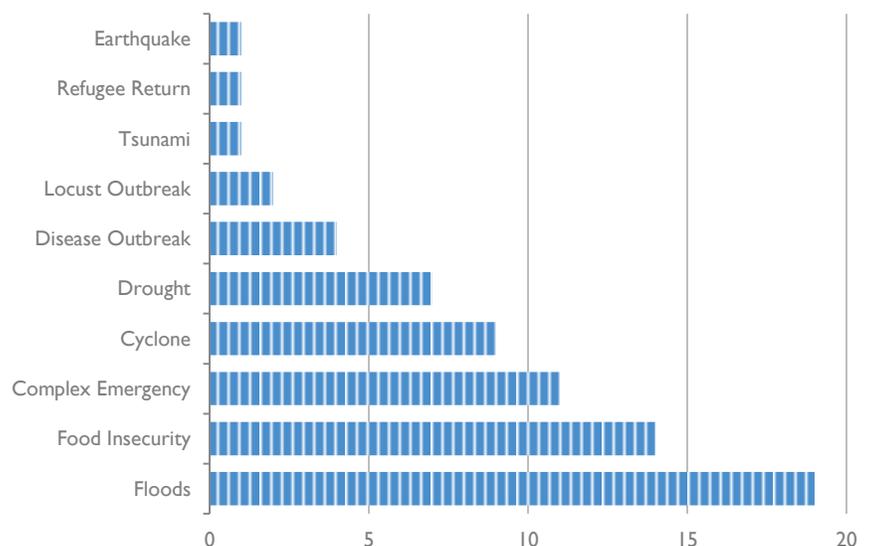
SOUTHERN AFRICA | FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2004 – 2013

The Southern Africa region encompasses Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
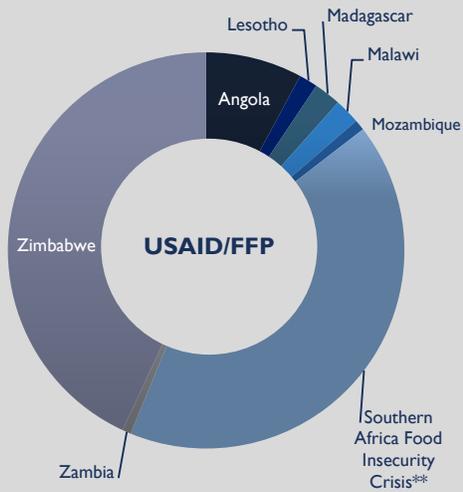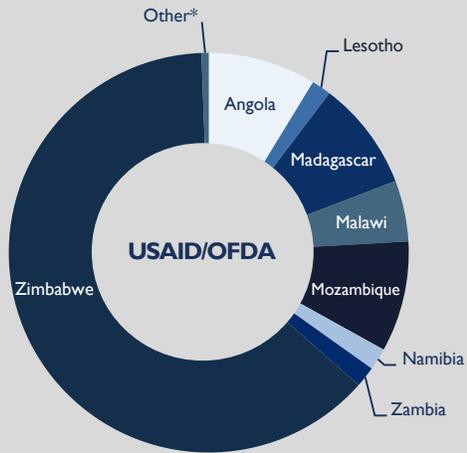
Cyclical drought, food insecurity, cyclones, floods, disease outbreaks, complex emergencies, environmental degradation, and limited government capacity present significant challenges to vulnerable populations throughout the Southern Africa region. Between Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 and FY 2013, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) and USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) provided humanitarian assistance in response to a diverse range of natural and manmade disasters, including floods, droughts, and food insecurity throughout Southern Africa; cyclones in Madagascar and Mozambique; complex emergencies in Angola, Comoros, Madagascar, and Zimbabwe; disease outbreaks in Angola, Botswana, and Zimbabwe; locust outbreaks in Madagascar; a tsunami in Seychelles; refugee returns in Angola; and an earthquake in Malawi.

Between FY 2004 and FY 2013, USAID provided nearly $1.4 billion in humanitarian assistance to Southern Africa, including more than $1.2 billion from USAID/FFP for emergency food assistance and nearly $143 million from USAID/OFDA for interventions in agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems, health, humanitarian coordination and information management, logistics and relief commodities, nutrition, protection, shelter and settlements, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).
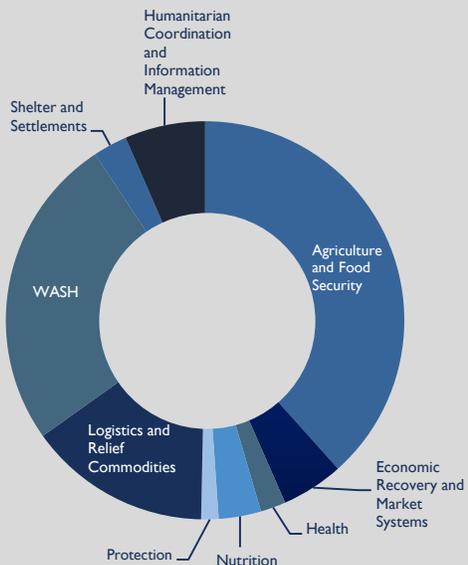
Number of Disasters Declared in Southern Africa
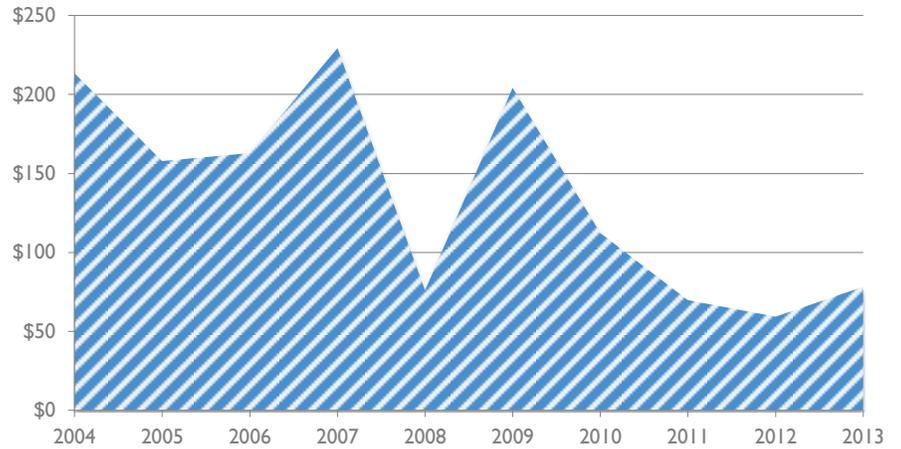By Type (FY 2004 – 2013)

USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Southern Africa
By Country (FY 2004 – 2013)

USAID/OFDA

Other*
Angola
Lesotho
Madagascar
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
Zambia
Zimbabwe

USAID/FFP

Lesotho
Madagascar
Malawi
Angola
Mozambique
Zimbabwe
Southern Africa Food Insecurity Crisis**
Zambia

USAID/OFDA Humanitarian Assistance to Southern Africa
By Sector (FY 2004 – 2013)[+]

USAID/OFDA

Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management
Shelter and Settlements
WASH
Logistics and Relief Commodities
Protection
Nutrition
Health
Economic Recovery and Market Systems
Agriculture and Food Security

USAID Disaster Response Funding to Southern Africa[1] (FY 2004 – 2013), in Millions

In the last decade, USAID deployed multiple humanitarian assessment and response teams to the region, including a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) for the 2008/2009 cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe.

In Southern Africa, USAID/OFDA disaster response activities frequently focus on providing emergency relief supplies, such as plastic sheeting and water containers; supporting agriculture and food security activities, such as distribution of seeds and other farming inputs; and implementing WASH interventions, including hygiene awareness campaigns.

USAID/OFDA has employed a regional disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategy since FY 2009 to promote activities that help reduce the vulnerability of at-risk populations to climate-induced disasters and increase their resilience to future shocks. USAID/OFDA-supported DRR activities include strengthening agricultural livelihoods, promoting holistic land management, addressing sanitation conditions and other environmental health concerns, and building capacity for disaster risk management in Southern Africa through trainings and support to early warning systems.

Through emergency and development food assistance programs, USAID/FFP works to save lives and reduce food insecurity in times of crisis and situations of chronic food insecurity. USAID/FFP emergency food assistance includes both in-kind food aid and cash-based assistance in the form of local and regional procurement of food commodities, cash transfers, and food vouchers, where market conditions allow.

[1] FY 2013 rounded figures represent committed or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2013. FY 2013 figures are subject to fluctuation due to end-of-fiscal-year financial review and reconciliation activities. Figures do not include USAID/OFDA disaster preparedness and mitigation assistance provided outside of declared disaster responses or USAID/FFP development assistance.

* Countries categorized as other have received less than $2 million cumulatively from USAID/OFDA over the past 10 years, and include Botswana, Comoros, Seychelles, South Africa, and Swaziland.

** Between 2003 and 2007, USAID/FFP provided in-kind food assistance to Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as part of the response to the Southern Africa Food Insecurity Crisis.

[+] Chart does not include disaster preparedness and mitigation assistance, administrative support costs, or funding that cannot be categorized by sector due to changes to the USAID/OFDA accounting system that occurred during the decade covered by this document.