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PART I SPECIAL TOPICS

1.1. The Top 10 humanitarian crises in terms of funding



1. Sudan

The Darfur region (Sudan) is considered the worst humanitarian situation in the world and consequently the international humanitarian aid effort is enormous. The lives of millions of people depend on external aid. In 2008, €167 millions were allocated to cover humanitarian and food aid needs.

2. Palestinian territories, including refugees in Lebanon

The serious humanitarian situation did not show any improvement throughout 2008, in spite of the resumption of the structural assistance to the Palestinian Authority in December 2007. In addition to the political situation, the most vulnerable segments of the Palestinian population in the West Bank of Gaza were affected by two climate elements, frost and drought. A funding of €2.8 million was allocated, to help cover the needs

3. Democratic Republic of Congo

The country has posed a significant challenge to humanitarian organisations over a number of years with recurrent outbreaks of fighting in the Eastern causing hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes. The funding allocated in 2008 reached a total amount of €45.5 million to cover humanitarian and food needs.

4. Burma/Myanmar (Nargis)

In early May 2008, Cyclone Nargis passed over Burma (Myanmar) hitting the Irrawaddy delta, after forming in the Bay of Bengal, causing the death or disappearance of more than 100 000 people and 2.5 millions of victims out of 50 millions of inhabitants. DG ECHO responded with a series of decisions for a total of €39 million.

5. Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran

€6.3 million was addressed to vulnerable people affected by crises and natural disasters in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. .

6. Somalia

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia has further deteriorated since the beginning of the year, affecting 43% of the entire population of the country¹. Given the scope of the crisis, almost half of the aid (€46 million) has been allocated to food assistance programmes, which includes general distribution of food rations in the most critical areas.

7. Chad

The operations funded in 2008 covered two areas: the East where Sudanese refugees and Chadian IDPs are located and the South which hosts refugees from the Central African Republic. The aid totalling €30 million is multi-sectoral, covering among other sectors water and sanitation, health, nutrition, food aid and food security, primary education, shelter and the humanitarian air service.

8. Drought preparedness programme

Giving the deterioration in terms of chronic and structural drought related emergencies, DG ECHO has embarked on a new approach which intends to address the drought related needs within a short-medium term perspective with focus on water, human/animal health and livelihood support in the huge arid and semi-arid areas inhabited by pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities. A total funding of €30 million was allocated to respond to these needs.

9. Iraq (crisis)

Assistance to the victims of the Iraqi crisis, whether inside or outside Iraq, has been stepped up in 2008. DG ECHO allocated €30 million to respond to the needs of refugees, mainly in Syria and Jordan and to a lesser extent in Lebanon and Turkey, and to the needs of the displaced and local population inside Iraq

10. Zimbabwe

The general objective in 2008 was to mitigate the effects of the socio-economic breakdown on the deteriorating situation of vulnerable groups. Humanitarian operations (for €25 million) were funded in the areas of emergency household food security and agriculture, water and sanitation and integrated assistance to the most vulnerable population.

¹ According the Food Security Analysis Unit Somalia

1.2. Two case Studies on the launching of humanitarian aid

1. Myanmar – Cyclone Nargis

Context

Myanmar is the largest country in mainland South-East Asia with a population of 51.5 million of people. Floods occur regularly and the country is prone to cyclones, landslides, earthquakes and drought. On 2nd-3rd May 2008, Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar, sweeping through the Ayeyarwady delta region and the country's main city, Yangon. 2.4 million people were affected and many lost their livelihoods (fishing, farming, casual labouring). 140,000 people were killed. Cyclone Nargis is the worst natural disaster in the history of Myanmar.

(map)

Chronology of Events

3rd May - ECHO Yangon Head of Office reports that Yangon is severely affected by the cyclone with fallen trees and roofs destroyed. Electricity and water supply is interrupted. There is no news from other areas in the country, presumably worse affected than Yangon.

4th May - *The Ministry of Social Welfare announces 10.000 deaths and thousands of wounded. Due to travel restrictions for foreigners, aid agencies start deploying national staff to assess the situation in affected areas. The ECHO field expert contacts partners with presence in the Ayeyarwady delta, but they have not yet received any updates from their teams in the field.*

5th May - *As the ECHO expert does not yet have a travel permit, the local ECHO Programme Assistant travels to South Dagon Township (Yangon Division) to assess damages and needs. A Primary Emergency Decision is launched. DG ECHO meets with 10 partners who started to assess the situation and to distribute relief items. Only organisations having a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the authorities are able to work in the affected areas. Since travel authorisations for international staff are necessary to leave the capital (and they are not being granted), the organisation of relief becomes very difficult.*

8th May - *Ten clusters are activated by the United Nations. The Disaster Coordination Centre is established at the UNDP² compound to centralise information. However, only a few agencies have supplied the system with the necessary input. DG ECHO's staff from neighbouring countries arrived to assist the ECHO expert in Yangon: the Health and Water Sanitation & Health (WASH) experts and the Regional Information Officer from ECHO's Regional Support Office in Bangkok, the Rapid Response Coordinator from ECHO's New Delhi Office and the Food Security Expert from the EC Delegation in Bangladesh. All experts have been granted a visa for 3 days. A 5-day extension is given but restricted to Yangon. ECHO experts are blocked in Yangon. The local ECHO Programme Assistant goes to Labutta Township to assess the situation in the delta. As the Government is still not issuing visas for aid workers, a parallel cluster system is being set up in Bangkok.*

9th May - *A United Nations Flash appeal of \$110 million for 6 months is launched. The number of people affected by the cyclone is now estimated at 1.2-1.9 million, with 63.000-100.000 people dead or missing. Limited humanitarian aid is arriving. The main obstacles are visa and travel restrictions and insufficient levels of relief authorised by the Government of Myanmar to enter the country. The first official donor meeting is organised and an UNDAC team arrives. DG ECHO is part of the team through its' Regional Disaster Response Coordinator.*

13th May - *An extraordinary General Affairs and External Relations Council (GAERC) is convened by the French Presidency to discuss the situation in Burma/Myanmar. EU Member States approve Commissioner Michel's trip into the country.*

15th May - *European Commissioner Louis Michel arrives in Yangon and meets the Ministers of Planning, Social Welfare and Health. Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) is deployed to Yangon. They use DG ECHO facilities and joint Sit Reps are prepared. MIC and DG ECHO start working together to identify the destinations for the water treatment plants*

² United Nations Development Programme

made available by the EU Member States through MIC. This equipment will be used to support the operation of ECHO partners. At a meeting with its partners in Yangon ECHO announces a new Emergency and Food Aid Decision.

17th May - The ECHO Head of Office is finally able to visit the most affected area by helicopter in a 1-day visit organised by the Government for the representatives of the international community. ECHO experts continue to assess some of the townships of Yangon Division, where it is possible to travel.

21st May - MIC team leaves Myanmar.

24th May - Access to the affected areas for international staff, as well as importation of relief goods is expected to be granted in the next few days. ECHO Rapid Response Programme Assistant from Bangkok joins the ECHO team in Yangon. Yangon is a seething mass of humanitarian workers blocked in the town without access to the affected areas.

25th May – An ASEAN³ UN Pledging conference is convened into Yangon. Donors remain cautious with their commitments. Main condition for further assistance remains unhindered humanitarian access to the affected area.

27th May - ECHO is granted authorisation for 3 teams of experts to travel to the field. Each team are deployed to a different area of the delta during 3 days.

1st week of June - The ECHO teams deployed from Bangkok and New Delhi are replaced by the Emergency Response team from Bangkok. Under international pressure, access to the delta finally becomes possible for all humanitarian organisations. In June, the Tripartite Core Group (ASEAN, Myanmar Government and the UN) launches the idea of the Post Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA).

DG ECHO response to Cyclone Nargis

The Post Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA) conducted in July 2008 revealed overall losses and damages estimated at \$4 billion. The UN revised its' Flash Appeal⁴ on 10th July 2008 of €481.8 million. Four Decisions amounting to a total of €39 million were adopted by the European Commission between May and December 2008: Primary Emergency Decision: €2 million, Emergency Decision: €10 million, Food Aid: €5 million, Ad Hoc Decision: €22 million (including €5 million for food aid/security). The Commission funding for the initial emergency phase benefitted 1.4 million people in seven sectors: shelter, food, water, sanitation, health, nutrition, protection and logistics. The Ad Hoc decision of €22 million will provide early recovery and livelihood support for up to 850,000 persons and food aid and short-term food security support for up to 500,000 persons. The principal focus is on shelter, water/sanitation, and health/nutrition.

Other EC funding in Myanmar

DG ECHO has financed activities for the conflict affected population inside Myanmar since 1992, and the Burmese refugee camps in Thailand since 1995. A new €18.5 million Global Plan for 2009 has been adopted providing protection, water/ sanitation, health, nutrition and

³ The Association of Southeast Asian Nations or ASEAN

⁴ Myanmar Tropical Cyclone Nargis Revised Appeal, 10 July 2008

food. In 2007, DG RELEX and DG AIDCO produced the first Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Myanmar for the period 2007-2010 (€32 million). Funds have been allocated to the Three Diseases Fund for tuberculosis, malaria and HIV-Aids (and to a primary education programme. In addition, several EC thematic budget lines such as Aid to Uprooted People, Non-state actors address mid-term needs. DG RELEX/AIDCO 2008 support of €6 million through the Food Security Thematic Funding, mainly targeting the Ayeyarwady delta, will complement DG ECHO's operation. This amount together with an additional €24.4 million under the Food facility will be spent through a Livelihood and Food Security Trust Fund which is planned to extend to other parts of the country. There is therefore a good opportunity for 'Linking Relief Rehabilitation and Development' (LRRD) activities.

Aid provided by other donors

The revised UN Flash Appeal of \$477,077,946 had been financed at 65% as of 27th January 2009. According to the 14-points system, the EU Member States provided €102,671,793 to Myanmar in 2008.

Follow up/recommendations

- A meeting with all ECHO partners should be organised a couple of months after the disaster to share information on the humanitarian situation, project experience and questions related to implementation. Material for a "lessons learned" exercise could be generated, using for instance a questionnaire.
- The absence of DRR measures in the disaster area significantly increased the damage and loss of life. However, it was difficult to integrate DRR measures into the majority of projects, since they addressed mainly emergency needs. In the cases where emergency repair of houses, health centres, schools and water and sanitation systems were at stake, partners were advised to include DRR components. Further examination on how to mainstream DRR into emergency response is needed.
- Due to travel restrictions, the first ECHO technical assistants' assessment mission took place 26 days after the cyclone. The crucial role of national staff in this type of situation has to be stressed.
- Financing the WFP-EMOP has allowed WFP to expand its presence in the delta where it played a fundamental umbrella role and where an active dialogue was set up with local authorities. The WFP also acted as aid recipient for the arrival of cargo from abroad and destined to, at the time, unregistered organisations. The other WFP "Special operation" co-financed by ECHO - logistical support to agencies active in the Delta - provided fundamental support in a complicated political/ logistical context.
- Coordination with Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) at field level was good. MIC had to work through ECHO partners due to lack of access to the affected area. They were based at the ECHO office. MIC sent a team which could be very much complementary to ECHO but working procedures, mandates, objectives and limits were not clearly spelled out. Joint Situation Reports (Sit Reps) were achieved.

Other Issues

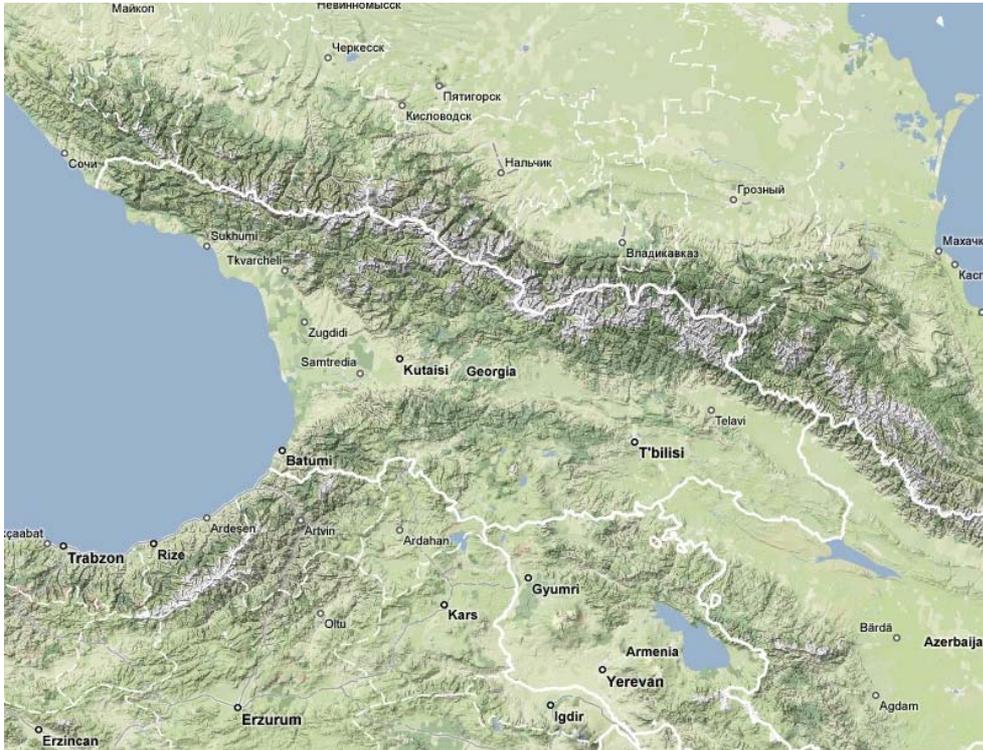
Given the fact that cyclone Nargis has highlighted Myanmar's extreme vulnerability to natural disasters and the need need better and more organised disaster preparedness, DRR measures have been integrated in all relevant actions in the latest DG ECHO funding decision. The comparative example of Bangladesh, hit by the even more severe cyclone SIDR in 2007, shows that where DRR activities were in place, the death toll was 50 times less than in the area hit by cyclone Nargis, with a similar geographical setting. The post cyclone period is the best time to begin raising awareness and integrating disaster risk reduction into early recovery actions.

As a consequence of the efforts of Commissioner Louis Michel, Sir John Holmes and UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon and other prominent figures in late May, the humanitarian space was finally opened up, which shows that the international community can indeed achieve a break-through by strictly adhering to the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality even in such a complex disaster response such as the one in Myanmar. This became however only possible with involving ASEAN into the main coordination structure, the Tripartite Core Group (TCG).

2. Georgia crisis

Context

The start of the short (7th to 12th August) but violent conflict in South Ossetia between Georgia and Russia took the world by surprise, in the middle of the Olympic Summer Games, although tensions about the breakaway region between the two countries were already rising from some months beforehand.



DG ECHO's response

Despite this, ECHO's deployment was swift, with one Technical Assistant on site two days after the start of the war and in fact before several implementing partners. The deployment proved also adequate in size in view of the needs and the limited access to conflict areas, with three Technical Assistants on site during the emergency phase of the international response. The profile of the team also corresponded well to the needs required during the first phase (protection, shelter, Non-Food items) and the rotation between the experts took place smoothly.

In Brussels, the permanence system worked efficiently and allowed the adoption of a € million Primary Emergency Decision on Sunday 10th August, i.e. three days after the conflict began. Here again, the size and profile of the team in charge of the response was adequate, given the fact that the crisis was the only major one which took place during the summer.

DG ECHO's financial response to this highly politicized crisis which attracted a lot of donors' attention, including EU Member States, proved appropriate in volume and pertinent in the timeline: after the Primary Emergency Decision of 10th August, two other decisions were adopted by the Commission in the course of 2008. An emergency decision of € million was

adopted afterwards (on 22nd August) in order to cope with the immediate needs of the 133,500 people displaced by the conflict as well as the most vulnerable population staying in South Ossetia and in needs of protection, unexploded ordnance (UXO) removal, food, household kitchen and hygiene kits and psychosocial support. Finally a third (ad hoc) decision worth €2 million was approved on 4th December in order to respond to the needs in food and firewood for the returnees as well as to ensure the winterization of the collective centres hosting the long-term IDPs.

The Commission's response to the crisis was a well coordinated exercise in which DG ECHO played a prominent role. On the ground the EC Delegation in Georgia provided effective support to ECHO experts. The cooperation between the services on site was excellent. After the arrival of the DG Environment (DG ENV) Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) on 16th August, DG ECHO and the MIC teams worked in a complementary and synchronized way, notably through joint situation reports.

Before the MIC team's arrival, DG ECHO's experts had started to send detailed situation reports which were dispatched to the Commission's services, as well as the Member States, the Council and the Parliament. DG ECHO situation reports and the joint situation reports helped to provide Brussels Headquarters and Member States with consolidated information on needs and on the activities of Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection services and the Delegation. The reports were also useful in passing messages to Member States regarding the needs, the coordination of in-kind assistance, the concerns about human rights violations in South Ossetia and the relatively slow deployment of United Nations agencies in the buffer zone.

In Brussels, the coordination was equally good during the first phase of the response with Commission's coordination meetings chaired by DG Relex with the participation of the Secretariat General. There was also a good exchange of information between DG ENV and DG ECHO on the principle of deployment of the MIC team, the working methods as well as the sectors of intervention to avoid, such as war surgery and medicines. DG ECHO actively participated in Councils' meetings where the swift and effective EC humanitarian assistance was recognized.

Finally in terms of visibility for the Commission, DG ECHO's swift reaction attracted a noticeable interest from the international media, both on site and in Brussels. In Georgia, DG ECHO deployed its Regional Information Officer (RIO) to Georgia as well as one APTN (Associated Press Television News) personnel. This provided good visibility to the commission in general through the distribution by APTN as well as Europe-by-satellite (EbS) of three news reports about the Commission's humanitarian activities to more than 400 main news channels around the world and dozens of interviews of the RIO with international mass media.

1.3. The European consensus and its related action plan

In recent years, humanitarian aid has changed significantly, reflecting, among other things, the changing character of conflicts. Nowadays, these are more often fought inside countries by irregular forces. The number of internally displaced people continues to increase, international humanitarian law is often neglected by warring parties and there are more attacks on relief workers. Natural disasters also tend to occur more frequently and are more devastating in their effects - partly as a result of climate change. In parallel to this, there are more and new actors engaged in providing humanitarian assistance, with different agendas and modus operandi, further increasing the need for coordination.

Against this background of a more complex and difficult humanitarian environment, an international reform effort, led by the United Nations, is underway to make the global humanitarian aid effort more effective. The European Union - taking the Member States and the European Commission together - as the world's largest international humanitarian aid donor has a particular responsibility in spearheading this international endeavour. There should be a fresh impetus given to a collective EU approach in dealing with contemporary challenges in humanitarian aid.

Opinion polling highlights the solidarity of EU citizens with the world's most vulnerable communities - and also shows that they favour a common European approach in humanitarian aid.

Following these considerations and a wide-ranging consultation of Member States and humanitarian organisations, the signing of the **European Consensus⁵ on Humanitarian Aid** by the Presidents of the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission in December 2007 is a considerable step forward for the European Union which has finally given itself a common set of values, principles and objectives intended to strengthen the coherence of its overall humanitarian action. Significantly, the Consensus stresses the importance of the principle of diversity of the implementing partners and, as such, recognises that each of these bodies has comparative advantages in the response to specific situations or circumstances.

The European Consensus underlines the European Union's commitment to upholding and promoting the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence and to advocating strongly for the respect of International Law, including International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights Law and Refugee Law. The objective of EU humanitarian aid is to provide a needs-based emergency response aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering and maintaining human dignity wherever the need arises if governments and local actors are overwhelmed, unable or unwilling to act.

The Consensus was followed by the adoption of an **action plan** in May 2008⁶. The purpose of this Action Plan is to set out a series of practical actions for the European Union's humanitarian donors that taken together form the EU's substantive agenda for implementing a more closely co-ordinated approach. The overall aim is to ensure that the European Union

⁵ OJ C 25 – 30/1/2008

⁶ SEC(2008)1991

maximises the effectiveness of its contribution to the collective international humanitarian response.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the action plan, related actions have been grouped together into six 'action areas':

- area one: advocacy, promotion of humanitarian principles and international law,
- area two: implementing quality aid approaches;
- area three: reinforcing capacities to respond;
- area four: strengthening partnership;
- area five: enhancing coherence and coordination and
- area six: the aid continuum.

More detail on the European consensus and the related action plan is available at the following address: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/consensus_en.htm

PART II GENERAL PROGRAMMING PRINCIPLES

DG ECHO provides assistance to populations with the greatest humanitarian needs, irrespective of origin, religion or political creed.

For a number of years, DG ECHO has been using a two-pronged approach to identify the population with high priority humanitarian needs. The first approach is the evaluation of the needs undertaken in the field by experts and geographical units. In addition to the immediate reports about crisis areas, analyses are carried out to provide information on specific needs. At the same time, a comparative analysis is conducted to identify those countries which may require humanitarian assistance. This global analysis has two dimensions:

- the Global Needs Assessment (GNA)⁷ based on national indicators, classes more than 140 countries according to the existence of a recent crisis (natural disaster or conflict, including the weight of displaced people or refugees on the population) and the degree of vulnerability of the population, incorporating various indicators (e.g. human development index, mortality of children under 5).
- the Forgotten Crisis Assessment (FCA) attempts to identify serious humanitarian crises in which populations affected do not receive sufficient international aid.

The GNA and FCA are important tools for ensuring coherence in the allocation of resources among the various countries according to their respective needs and independent of any type of pressure.

As a result of the GNA exercise, 15 countries or territories have been identified for the 2008 exercise as being particularly vulnerable to existing crises, of which 11 in sub-Saharan Africa (Angola, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo R.D., Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe), the others being Afghanistan, East Timor, Chechnya and Yemen.

These high vulnerable areas received a total of €322 million or 84% of the initial budget allocated to geographical decisions, under the humanitarian aid budget line.

As a result of the 2008 FCA exercise, the following crises were classified as "forgotten crises":

- Sahrawi refugees in Algeria;
- Chechnya and the neighbouring republics affected;
- Populations affected by conflicts in India;
- Bhutanese refugees as well as continuing instability and security concerns in a post-conflict situation in Nepal;

⁷ The methodology used and the results for 2008 are available at the following internet address http://ec.europa.eu/echo/information/strategy/index_en.htm

- Crisis caused by the conflict in Burma/Myanmar: population internally displaced or refugees in neighbouring countries,
- Populations affected by the conflict in Colombia;
- Populations affected by the conflict in Abkhazia (Georgia);
- Populations affected by food insecurity in the Nusa Tenggara Timur in Indonesia; and
- Populations affected by the crisis in Haiti.

These forgotten crises received 11%⁸ of the budget covering the geographical decisions. Except for Abkhazia, these crises had already been identified as "forgotten crises" in previous years.

⁸ €1.5 million on €386 million of geographic decisions

PART III COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY OVERVIEW

This synopsis of EC funded humanitarian operations is presented on a geographical basis, organised around the six regions of the world where DG ECHO funds humanitarian actions.

Each of these geographical sections has the same structure to permit parallel reading:

- (1) Each section starts with an overview of the funding per country (region) and/or per humanitarian crisis in which DG ECHO has intervened. For all types of interventions, humanitarian aid is implemented through Commission funding decisions and grant agreements with partners, who implement the specific humanitarian operations in the field. The overview tables provide the amount of funding decisions taken for that year.
- (2) For each of the countries (regions) a description is given of the humanitarian needs that were identified, the main objectives and achievements and, where applicable, the transition between emergency and development "LRRD"⁹.

This country-by-country overview includes all countries/crises for which funding decisions were adopted in 2008 and also those for which funding was made available in previous years but the implementation was still on-going in 2008.

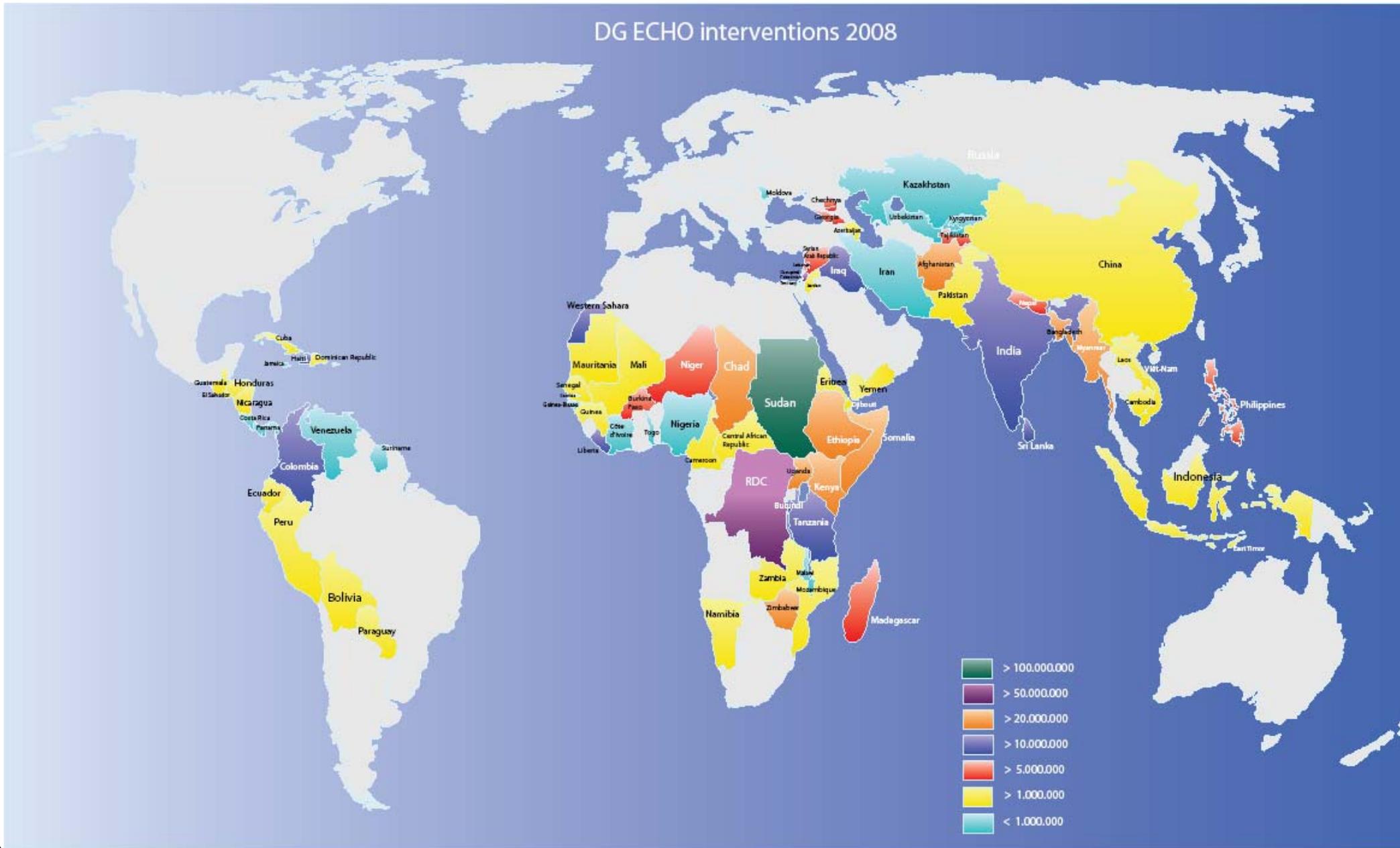
In sections III.6 and VI.3 further information is provided on two types of horizontal funding: disaster preparedness activities undertaken in 2008 in order to reduce both vulnerability and exposure of people to risks and disasters as well as to reduce the economic costs of such disasters and, capacity building actions financed in 2008 with a view to improving the institutional capacities of partner humanitarian organisations in some specific areas, so that these organisations are better able to respond quickly and efficiently to emergencies.

The figures in this chapter are given to provide general overview and/or to illustrate the content of the chapter. Exhaustive financial information will be found in Chapter VIII.

The map on the next page resumes the geographical areas of DG ECHO's humanitarian interventions in 2008¹⁰.

⁹ Linking relief, rehabilitation and development
¹⁰ At the level of contracts signed in 2008

DG ECHO interventions 2008



1. ACP Countries

In 2008, humanitarian and food aid interventions were funded in 38 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), through the adoption of 34 funding decisions for a total of €47 million, which represents 59% of the total budget committed by DG ECHO and 435 grant agreements for a total amount of €14¹¹ million.

1.1. AFRICA

The first ten countries/areas in terms of humanitarian and food aid provided were in order in 2008: Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Horn of Africa, Somalia, Chad, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Uganda, Burundi and Liberia.

In addition to continued assistance provided to vulnerable populations in countries affected by ongoing humanitarian crises, funding was provided in response to natural disasters: cyclone Ivan in Madagascar, flooding in Namibia, recurrent epidemics in West Africa including cholera in Guinea Bissau, hurricanes Hanna, Gustav and Ike and tropical storm Fay in the Caribbean region.

Furthermore, DG ECHO supported drought preparedness activities in the Greater Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda), and funded an ECHO Flight service for humanitarian operators in DRC and for emergency interventions in other areas.

In 2008 as in previous years, Africa was by far the region which received most of EC humanitarian aid funding, around 59% of the final budget (€36.6 million). The main areas/countries of intervention are listed below (*):

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
SUDAN & CHAD	98 000 000	99 000 000	197 000 000
Sudan	81 000 000	86 000 000	167 000 000
Chad	17 000 000	13 000 000	30 000 000
HORN of AFRICA	78 297 000	89 600 000	167 897 000
Djibouti *		1 400 000	1 400 000
Eritrea	4 000 000		4 000 000
Ethiopia *	4 000 000	35 700 000	39 700 000
Kenya *	5 500 000	18 000 000	23 500 000
Somalia *	20 797 000	23 000 000	43 797 000
Uganda *	14 000 000	11 500 000	25 500 000
Regional Drought Preparedness Programme	30 000 000		30 000 000

¹¹ Humanitarian aid budget line €53 million; Food aid budget line €44 million, Dipecho € million and EDF €12 million

* including the country allocation from the Horn of Africa regional decision (food aid - €40.6M).

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
CENTRAL & SOUTHERN AFRICA, INDIAN OCEAN	79 650 000	41 550 000	121 200 000
Burundi	11 136 775	5 500 000	16 636 775
Cameroon	2 000 000		2 000 000
Central African Republic	7 800 000		7 800 000
Democratic Republic of Congo	30 000 000	15 550 000	45 550 000
Echo-Flight	8 000 000		8 000 000
Madagascar	1 500 000		1 500 000
Namibia	350 000		350 000
Tanzania	8 863 225	2 000 000	10 863 225
Zimbabwe	10 000 000	15 000 000	25 000 000
Regional South East Africa		3 500 000	3 500 000
WEST AFRICA	26 100 000	13 000 000	39 100 000
Guinea (Conakry)		1 300 000	1 300 000
Guinea Bissau	500 000		500 000
Liberia	15 600 000	1 000 000	16 600 000
Mauritania/Senegal	2 000 000		2 000 000
Sahel	5 000 000	10 700 000	15 700 000
Regional West Africa	3 000 000		3 000 000
Total (1)	282 047 000	243 150 000	525 197 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6.

1.1.1. Sudan and Chad

Sudan remained the main crisis for DG ECHO. The humanitarian situation in Darfur remained dramatic with 4,500,000 people affected, including around 250,000 newly displaced in 2008. Maintaining an adequate humanitarian response was a challenge also because of lack of protection for civilians and humanitarians, with access at its lowest point in the last 5 years because of insecurity and administrative impediments. In the South and transitional areas, the political and security equilibrium remained precarious. DG ECHO funded actions aimed at reducing excess mortality and morbidity among highly vulnerable populations, IDPs¹² in particular, through integrated assistance in the sectors of food assistance, health, nutrition, water and environmental sanitation, emergency preparedness and response, household food security, as well as by providing financial support to common services including humanitarian aid transportation.

In Chad, assistance focussed on IDP and refugee camps in the East (Sudanese) and the South (Central African), as well as on vulnerable local populations. A multidimensional

¹² Internally Displaced Persons

international presence was deployed with the objective to secure the camps and protect the civilians. A general mass return of IDPs has not happened in 2008 and the overall context remains volatile and unstable.

a) Sudan

Humanitarian needs

The conflict continued in Darfur with widespread armed confrontations, clashes between rebel factions and inter-tribal fighting, causing large displacements and forcing humanitarian organizations to limit or suspend operations. After more than five years of protracted crisis, the humanitarian situation remained dramatic with 4,500,000 affected people. Of these, more than 2,500,000 were living in overcrowded camps and settlements, 50,000 were Chadians refugees and the rest were nomads and those from rural communities, all of them depending on international assistance in terms of food aid, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, and emergency support. Maintaining an adequate humanitarian response represented a challenge because of the magnitude of the crisis, ongoing displacements (around 250,000 newly displaced in 2008), but also because of the lack of protection for civilians and the humanitarian community in this region where International Humanitarian Law is constantly violated. Access to people in need was at its lowest point since 2003 because of insecurity and administrative obstacles.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in January 2005, putting an end to the 20-years civil war between the North and the South, was positive. However the political and security equilibrium remains precarious in Southern Sudan and the transitional areas, leading to regular fighting's and insecurity. Since the CPA an estimated 2,00,000 of refugees and IDPs started returning to areas where nutrition, health, water and sanitation and public health and hygiene continue to be source of major concern, thus generating further humanitarian needs. Sudan is also regularly affected by severe natural disasters such as floods and droughts, as well as by a series of disease outbreaks.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO's engagement in Sudan has increased since the eruption of the Darfur crisis in 2003 that remains one of the biggest and most worrying humanitarian situations in the world. In parallel, with the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), DG ECHO's support to Southern Sudan and the transitional areas started focusing on the return and reinstallation of hundreds of thousands of people in areas totally lacking basic services, whereas steadily phasing out from the IDP camps around Khartoum. DG ECHO has engaged in strengthening the preparedness and response to outbreaks of diseases such as yellow fever, meningitis, cholera and hemorrhagic fever, as well as to the floods and droughts, regularly affecting most of the regions of Sudan. Since 2007, DG ECHO sharply increased its support to food aid, emergency food security and livelihood assistance in Sudan and particularly in Darfur where food assistance represents two third of the international aid. In the last 5 years, large parts of Sudan required a continued substantial level of engagement to assist the most vulnerable populations.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The main objective was to reduce excess mortality and morbidity among highly vulnerable populations in Sudan through integrated assistance. In addition, DG ECHO support aimed at

improving humanitarian and operational environments through support to special mandates, as well as common services including the humanitarian air service. The main sectors of intervention were food aid, health and nutrition, water and environmental sanitation, emergency preparedness and response, household food security and operational support. The approach has been flexible enough to allow an immediate response to every new emergency. DG ECHO continued covering the whole territory with a neutral approach and according to needs in strict respect of internationally recognised humanitarian principles. Sudan benefited from €70 million programmed for general assistance, alongside with €72 million from two separate global food aid decisions to address food aid and emergency food security needs. Two additional ad hoc decisions, of respectively €14 million for food assistance in Darfur and €1 million for common services, have been mobilised in December 2008 to be able to respond to increasing needs mostly in 2009.

LRRD¹³ – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

DG ECHO continued to assist Sudanese population in need, affected by conflict and natural disasters, whenever alarming humanitarian indicators appeared. Thanks to the stabilisation of the situation in the North and in certain parts of Southern Sudan and transitional areas, rehabilitation and sustainable development assistance are gradually taking over and building upon the relief work provided for decades. DG ECHO has been able to decrease its support to operations while identifying bridging operations. If LRRD possibilities have increased, mostly in the food security sector, needs for basic services are so overwhelming that both humanitarian and development assistance will have to go hand in hand for the long term in Southern Sudan and the transitional areas. However, in the coming year, efforts to link humanitarian aid with development actions of the Commission will be hampered by the suspension of the 10th EDF, because the revised Cotonou Agreement will likely not be ratified if it refers to the International Criminal Court.

b) Chad

Humanitarian needs

From April 2003 to end 2008, some 265,000¹⁴ Sudanese refugees from Darfur poured into the Eastern Chadian frontier, an area that has suffered from decades of civil conflict. This politically and economically marginalised region suffers from chronic food insecurity and lack of necessary resources and capacity to accommodate large numbers of displaced people, and the Sudanese refugees are completely dependent on international aid. Furthermore, since 2006, about 180,000 people have been internally displaced in South-east of Chad at the border with Darfur most of which have been displaced in 2007, and more than 36,300¹⁵ Chadians have found refuge in Darfur. These displacements are the result of an armed conflict between the government and rebel groups, including the attack on N'Djamena in February 2008, incursions by neighbouring Sudanese militia, growing violence between different communities and increased level of banditry. In addition, the Southern provinces are hosting some 18,000 refugees from the Central African Republic since 2003, a number that rose to 56,000¹⁶ in 2008. The deployment of a multidimensional international presence, composed of

¹³ Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development

¹⁴ UNHCR, September 2008

¹⁵ UNHCR, June 2007

¹⁶ UNHCR, September 2008

the European peace keeping operation in Chad and Central African Republic (EUFOR) and the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MiaNURCAT I) was authorised by the UNSC¹⁷ resolution 1778, with a mandate ending mid-March 2009. These deployments should contribute to the securitisation of the camps and to the protection of civilians. However, a general mass return of IDPs has not happened in 2008 and the overall context remains volatile and unstable. During the first ten months of 2008, UNOCHA¹⁸ reported 124 security incidents against humanitarian organisations in the East.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO is supporting relief operations in Eastern Chad since September 2003 when an emergency decision was taken to assist the first refugees coming from Darfur. With the rising number of refugees, IDPs, and host communities affected by the Darfur conflict, the Chadian conflict and insecurity, DG ECHO remained and increased its support to Eastern Chad. In parallel, in 2005, DG ECHO started assisting refugees coming to Southern Chad, fleeing insecurity in Central African Republic. Projects aimed at promoting economic security and maintaining nutritional levels have been carried out in and outside camps and where vulnerability of local populations is very high.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

Through its operational partners, DG ECHO maintained multi-sector assistance to refugees and IDPs in camps of Eastern and Southern Chad, supporting food aid, food security, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and protection operations, as well as shelter and non food items distributions. Although most needs of the local Chadian population are not linked to the presence of refugees and IDPs, the increased pressure on natural resources in regions structurally weak and under developed made food security, health, nutrition, water and sanitation projects necessary to mitigate tension between refugees, IDPs and local population, as well as addressing most critical needs.

A Global Plan of €7 million and €13 million from the food aid decision were adopted in 2008 to address needs in health, nutrition, food aid, food security, protection, education, water and sanitation through programmes delivered by UN agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross Movement.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

With a view to facilitating the link between relief, rehabilitation and development, pre-rehabilitation operations have been carried out in the South of Chad where partner's organisations are putting an exit strategy in place. Discussions with other relevant Commission's services have intensified with a view to further promote LRRD through the various complementary initiatives and instruments available in Southern Chad. However any attempt to develop sustainability of the operations and LRRD is at stake if conflict and related insecurity in the sub-region last.

¹⁷ United Nations Security Council

¹⁸ UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

1.1.2. Horn of Africa

A total amount of €167.9 million was allocated to the countries/areas of the Horn of Africa.

In Kenya, DG ECHO responded to the humanitarian emergency caused by the post-election turmoil and consequent displacement of more than 500,000 people. As early as 10th January 2008, emergency assistance was provided to displaced people in the form of shelter, protection, food, water, sanitation and non-food items. Following this emergency, DG ECHO continued providing support to population affected by the post-election violence by allocating funds for provision of vouchers and cash to respond to immediate needs and to support the rapid rebuilding of livelihoods. Distribution of vouchers and cash has facilitated the quick recovery of over 20,000 households or 120,000 people who make a living from agriculture or other sectors. A continuous response to the high level of chronic malnutrition rates in the North-East - mainly through health/nutrition and water/sanitation interventions - had been provided throughout 2008. In arid and semi-arid lands, DG ECHO had supported the World Food Programme Emergency Operation benefiting severely drought affected populations with targeted food aid. DG ECHO assisted as well Somali refugees with food aid in Dadaab camps, which faced a drastically growing refugee influx in the second half of 2008.

Food security situation seriously deteriorated in large areas of Ethiopia, with 6.4 million people in need of emergency food assistance estimated by the Government towards the end of 2008. DG ECHO responded in a substantial way, considerably increasing its initial food assistance allocation. DG ECHO's funded interventions aimed at protecting and restoring livelihoods, as well as at contributing to sustain nutrition, health, water and sanitation, agricultural recovery and drought preparedness.

Eritrea continued to face the challenge of years of chronic drought, desertification, lack of access to safe water and poor infrastructure. Despite the lack of reliable data, malnutrition rates remain far above the commonly accepted emergency thresholds. DG ECHO intervened in health/nutrition and water/sanitation sectors. Despite an overall difficult environment due to administrative constraints and difficulties to access some areas of the country, the few partners still operating in Eritrea have maintained an acceptable, though far from ideal, implementing capacity. Regular monitoring remained difficult.

Humanitarian needs remained overwhelming in Somalia, a country afflicted by 18 years of open ended conflict and instability, where the overall situation is aggravated and compounded by worsening cyclical droughts, floods, and epidemic outbreaks. In 2008 the country faced its worst insecurity situation since the early 1990s. This resulted in some 1,300,000 IDPs, the vast majority of whom were newly displaced due to the conflict in Mogadishu. Besides IDPs, 1,900,000 people remained affected by the crisis, in need of humanitarian assistance. Therefore, combined IDPs and other affected population, some 45% - a 77% increase in the course of 2008 - of the total estimated population of Somalia depended on international humanitarian aid at the end of 2008. DG ECHO responded by continuing to focus on the sectors of health, including support to war wounded people, water and sanitation, food security, and distribution of non food items, showing a good capacity to respond to real time increases in need for intervention/

In Uganda, albeit cautious, process of IDPs' return continued in the North-central region. 450,000 people, however, continued to live in camps in the Acholi region. The Karamoja region was faced with the third consecutive year of erratic rainfall, a situation exacerbated by

insecurity in particular. This has resulted in malnutrition rates close or above the emergency threshold and it is expected further deteriorate. DG ECHO supported 5 major hospitals and several health centres in the Acholi region, as well as operation and maintenance of water systems in camps. DG ECHO also assisted IDPs to increase self-reliance through livelihood security programmes and income generation activities. Food aid was also distributed in the north-central region, as well as in flood and drought affected parts of the country. Protection and psychosocial/reintegration assistance was also provided.

A number of humanitarian interventions were supported by DG ECHO under the Regional Drought initiative assisting up to 12 million pastoralists and/or agro-pastoralists leaving in arid and semi-arid lands of Horn of Africa. These operations focused in particular on drought preparedness including support to water, animal health, better management of natural resources and early warning systems.

Eritrea

Humanitarian needs

The situation of no peace – no war with its neighbour, Ethiopia, has continuously led to decline in many sectors: livelihoods, health, food security, engendering greater levels of poverty. Eritrea has faced challenges posed by years of chronic drought, desertification and poor infrastructure. Economic decline has led to worrying humanitarian indicators. Although these have not been accurately measured for three years, malnutrition rates remain far above the commonly accepted emergency thresholds and admissions in specialised feeding programmes is high. The lack of access to safe water, consequences of successive years of drought, insufficient rains, lack of water points and weak maintenance, are directly responsible for the worrying water-borne disease morbidity rates commonly found in rural areas. Losses of livestock have commonly been reported over the past years, leading to asset depletion and reduced resilience on the part of the rural communities to cope with harsh periods. An estimated 40% of the Eritrean population relies on livestock as its main source of income.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

A total amount of €1.6 million has been allocated to Eritrea from 2004 to 2008. Following the 1998-2000 war with Ethiopia, the country has been affected by several droughts and a continuous decline in livelihoods due to the economic crisis. DG ECHO interventions have progressively shifted from a water and sanitation support to a more comprehensive strategy including health, nutrition and protection, with an increasing focus on nutrition. At the same time, the implementing capacity has continued to decrease due to logistical and administrative constraints affecting all partners, accompanied by the progressive reduction of NGOs.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

A funding decision adopted in 2008 of €4 million from the humanitarian aid budget aid budget, running for 15 months, has been implemented. Despite an overall difficult environment due to administrative constraints and Government policies, partners have been able to maintain an acceptable implementing capacity. DG ECHO's strategy was to provide support to civilian population trying to overcome the humanitarian consequences in a protracted deep crisis context. DG ECHO interventions targeted two main sectors, health - including nutrition - and water and sanitation. Approximately 50,000 children under the age

of 5 and pregnant and lactating women received nutritional cares, including 3,000 severely malnourished children that have recovered or are in the process of recovering. More than 200,000 persons have had the opportunity to receive primary and/or secondary health care in remote rural areas of the country. More than 130,000 people benefited from livelihood support, mainly in the agricultural sector. The access to water and sanitation of 40,000 people has been improved.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In the current context a comprehensive LRRD is difficult to apply. However DG ECHO's funded projects are financed on the EDF, especially in the nutrition and water and sanitation sectors.

Ethiopia

Humanitarian needs

The food security situation seriously deteriorated in 2008 in large areas of the country despite an earlier estimation of increase in food production in the Meher¹⁹ season of 2007 compared to 2006. The major causes of food insecurity were: (1) less production in the Meher of 2008 than expected; (2) failure of rains implying crop production loss. Moreover, in pastoralist areas, problem of pasture, water availability and animal disease outbreak caused massive livestock deaths, migration, and consumption of wild foods as well as closure of schools; (3) high food price raises and a general inflation limited access to food and (4) inter-ethnic conflicts over resources were reported in many parts of the country particularly related to water and pasture. Conflict in the Ogaden, in Somali Regional State, continued to constrain humanitarian access and military operations resulted in movement restrictions and trade embargo. Serious shortages of food and basic survival and goods were also reported.

The synergy of the factors listed above intensified rapidly deteriorating the humanitarian situation in the country. The food shortages also caused unprecedented low levels of the national grain reserve in the country. The consequences were manifested by severe increase in child malnutrition. High prevalence of kwashiorkor and the case of severely acutely malnourished adults was also reported, which was not seen since 2003. A country wide Humanitarian Requirements document was issued by the Government of Ethiopia in April and revised twice (June and October). Initially the number of people in need of emergency food assistance was estimated to be 2.2 million in April and grew to 6.4 million in October. Including the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) beneficiaries, this number is believed was between 12 and 13 million. The crises affected both pastoralist lowland and agricultural highland areas of the country. The eastern half of the country including Somali, eastern and south-eastern Oromia, most parts of SNNPR, eastern Amhara, pocket areas of Tigray, Benishangul Gumuz, Afar, Gambella and Harari regions were affected. Successively through the year, DG ECHO enlarged its support with the aim to provide humanitarian aid in favour of the most vulnerable population affected by climatic hazards and local conflicts, mainly in food aid, nutrition, food security, health, water and sanitation and protection sectors.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

¹⁹ *Meher* is the long rainy season (i.e., mid June to mid September) in most highlands of Ethiopia where 90 to 95% of overall annual production comes from.

From 2004 to 2008, DG ECHO has allocated €76.2 million to Ethiopia out of which €39.7 million in 2008. The allocation was stepwise, made in response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the country.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

DG ECHO carried out five financial decisions in 2008 for a budget of €4 million for humanitarian aid and €35.7 million from the food aid budget. Another €5.9 million was funded through the Drought Preparedness decision in the Horn of Africa. The aim of the decisions was to alleviate the suffering of vulnerable people victimized by food shortages, malnutrition, epidemics and water born diseases as a result of natural hazards. The support assisted people to sustain themselves and protect their livelihood assets. It also provided support to people who needed input to reconstitute themselves through agricultural recovery initiatives. Spatially, the major beneficiary regions were Southern Nations nationalities and Peoples Region, Somali Regional State (SRS), Oromya, Amhara and Tigray.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The smooth linkage between Relief, Rehabilitation and Development has been ensured in all DG ECHO supported projects. Activities implemented by DG ECHO partners are closely linked with lasting agencies that will takeover when the short duration humanitarian actors leave the area. Local capacity is built particularly on the management of emergency situations. DG ECHO is closely working with the Rural Development and Food Security Section of the EC Delegation where development funds should be used also to cover chronic requirements.

Kenya

Humanitarian needs

The humanitarian situation deteriorated significantly in 2008 due to the post election violence, a drought and a Somali refugee influx. Following the announcement of the election results in December 2007, violence erupted resulting in the death of an estimated 1,300 persons and displacement of at least half a million people. Following a political settlement and the creation of a coalition Government, the situation stabilised. Most IDPs returned in their places of origin, although several thousands remained in transit sites or have resettled. The weather conditions in most of the arid and semi-arid lands have not been favourable. The food security and water situation in most of Northern Kenya deteriorated with more than one million people severely affected. More than 66,000 newly arrived Somali refugees were registered in Dadaab camps in 2008. Existing refugee camps are operating far above their capacity, increasing stress on refugees and agencies providing assistance.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

From 2004 to 2008, DG ECHO has allocated €47.4 million to Kenya but the needs for humanitarian aid have never been as high as in 2008, with several crises simultaneously affecting large numbers of people. In 2008, DG ECHO allocated €2.3 million, excluding ECHO flight operations, to assist the post election violence IDPs and to help with the rapid recovery of those who have returned, to nutrition projects in North Eastern Province and to World Food Programme Emergency Operation in the arid and semi-arid lands. In addition

DG ECHO contributed to the WFP refugee operation in support of Somali refugees in Dadaab camps.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

Efficient and rapid multi-sectoral assistance was provided to the 500,000 IDPs at the beginning of the year. The humanitarian situation in IDP sites was rapidly stabilised and the impact of a major humanitarian crisis was quickly mitigated. More than 100,000 former IDPs are benefiting from an early recovery intervention and are assisted in rebuilding their livelihood through a voucher based programme. Nutrition projects have contributed to stabilise the nutritional situation in North Eastern Province and progress have been registered in the treatment and the prevention of acute malnutrition.

The nutritional situation in many districts remains however unsatisfactory with malnutrition rates far above commonly accepted humanitarian thresholds. The World Food Programme (WFP) emergency operation addressed the urgent needs of 1.4 million people, mainly in the arid and semi arid lands affected by drought and poor rains. More than 230,000 refugees in the three camps near Dadaab received a full food aid ration through out 2008.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Following the return of the majority of post election violence related IDPs, DG ECHO contributed to the early recovery of 20,000 households with voucher based interventions. Several longer term interventions have now been initiated by various actors and DG ECHO is not considering allocating more resources to the post election violence affected population. The 2008 short rains have performed below average in many parts of the country and the food security and water situation is deteriorating. Several contributing factors to the currently deteriorating food availability and accessibility situation are noted. While development interventions aiming at mitigating the impact of droughts and high food prices are on-going, the relief needs are unfortunately growing, especially in the arid and semi-arid lands. The influx of refugees from Somalia is sadly not expected to stop and refugee related humanitarian needs are increasing.

Somalia

Humanitarian needs

For the past 18 years Somalia has remained a country of open ended conflict and instability with overwhelming humanitarian needs that are aggravated and compounded by worsening cyclical droughts, floods and various epidemic outbreaks. Somalia has just faced its worst insecurity situation since the early 1990s as a result of increased conflict and fighting between the Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF)/Somali Transitional Federal Parliament and Government (TFG) and the Armed Opposition Groups; political tension over the current Djibouti Agreement and increased criminality the targeting of humanitarian aid workers and increased sea piracy which had the affect of compromising the delivery of aid shipments by sea. This has resulted in over 1,300,000 IDPs in Somalia today representing 18% of the population. 900,000 of these are newly displaced due to the conflict in Mogadishu which has been ongoing since mid 2007. Impacts of these displacements are particularly felt over Lower Shabelle and the central regions where host communities have been already severely stressed by successive poor rain failures. IDP populations fleeing Mogadishu have only served to

increase the pressure on these vulnerable host communities, exhausting water sources, food, fuel, health infrastructure and accommodation.

Besides the 1,300,000 IDPs, there are also 1,900,000 people affected by the crisis and who are in a humanitarian emergency or acute food and livelihood crisis, representing 27% of the population, living in both urban and rural areas. Combined the IDPs and affected local population totalling 3,200,000 people represent 45% of the Somalia total population and an increase of 77% since January 2008.

In addition to the massive consequence of the conflict, the overall situation of Somalia is deteriorating at an accelerated pace due to dramatic food prices inflation; a continuing currency devaluation²⁰; and persistent drought stricken regions of Central, Hiran as a result of largely poor and failed rains for several consecutive seasons preventing communities for achieving any recovery. These factors still severely undermine economic activity contributing to the overall deterioration in the humanitarian situation. Repeated security incidents against humanitarian community such as kidnapping threats, harassment, roadside bombs and administrative interference and hindrances placed a burden on humanitarians and restricted their ability to operate. The main humanitarian needs identified were shelter and non food relief items, health and nutrition, emergency food assistance, water and sanitation, and coordination.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Each year, from 2004 to 2008, the Commission has increased its humanitarian support for Somalia aid for a total amount of €3.3 million²¹. In 2008 alone, following the escalation of the conflict and IDP displacement from Mogadishu as well as the overall intensification of the humanitarian crisis, the Commission has progressively adjusted its aid by adopting several humanitarian aid decisions, for a total of €43.8 million. The principal objective of aid remained the same throughout all the period: "*to assist the victims of insecurity and climatic hazards in Somalia*". The main sectors of intervention in response to the needs were in health, water and sanitation, food security and non food items.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

As indicated above, in 2008 a total of €45.8 million was allocated. These funds focused support on health care, nutrition, water and sanitation, food security, food aid, multi-sector support in favour of the new IDP caseloads, co-ordination and drought preparedness. These have, over the past year, been able to impact the lives of approx. 3 million Somalis. The year

²⁰ Markets in southern Somalia have been in disarray due to the prolonged conflict, rising global food and fuel prices, political instability, and uncontrolled and excessive printing of the Somali Shilling for most of the past year. While the shilling lost value by 55% from Jan '08 to Oct '08 in the main Bakara market of Mogadishu, it has remained relatively stable compared to the USD over the last few months devaluing by only 4% from September 2008 (SoSh34,000) to October 2008 (SoSh35,225). However the shilling value is still about half its value compared to the five year average. Similar trends are observed in all other southern Somalia markets. The Somaliland Shilling has remained relatively stable, although it lost value slightly from S1Sh 6,000 per dollar in January 2008 to S1Sh 6,250 in October 2008, representing a depreciation of 4%. While prices of imported commodities such as rice, sugar, cooking oil and petrol have increased significantly in all markets from January 2008 to October 2008, prices generally remained stable over the last few months and have in many cases even declined. However imported commodity prices remain high, even if at lower levels compared to last year

²¹ Regional decisions not included

started with an estimated population in need of 1,800,000 people which was increased by 77% to 3,200,000.

The above number reflects DG ECHO's ability to have responded to real time increases in need for intervention. Beneficiary figures are very hard to calculate accurately and some of the beneficiaries benefited from one and several of the same sectors; however, what can be clearly accounted for is that access to health care was ensured for approx. 973,500 Somalis focusing on primary health care, including both in patient and out patient, specialised mother-and-child health care, paediatrics and emergency war surgery²² as well as curative nutrition interventions. In terms of food security, supported interventions were able to reach hundreds of people through a number of different components including support to reinforcing emergency veterinary services in response to outbreaks of livestock diseases threatening the loss of pastoralist livestock herds across the central and south of Somalia as well as close to the border regions of Kenya in order to ensure that morbidity rate of critical livestock diseases would not exceed 20% and mortality rates kept below the normal 20% thus contributing significantly to ensuring the protecting people's livestock herds and livelihoods.

In food aid, 597,562 IDPs and host communities have been supported with food aid purchased through Somali traders in 2008 focused on central Somali and in Mogadishu, as well as the Afgoye corridor complimenting the other activities mentioned above. One key programme is also the wet feeding programme in Mogadishu providing roughly 75,000 cooked meals a day. Water and sanitation, a sector of vital importance in Somalia, have directly assisted 822,926 beneficiaries with improved access to water (i.e. through rehabilitation of water points and ground surface dams) and hygiene. A major drought affected the central regions in 2008, however, through the ICRC and other agencies, DG ECHO supported the delivery of in excess of 2,300,000 litres of water a day for a 4 months period.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

LRRD is currently a major challenge for the EC as a whole, not least because of the different geographic coverage of EC Delegation and DG ECHO in programming but also because of the high levels of insecurity that characterise Somalia. Nevertheless, the EC Delegation remains firmly committed to Somalia and especially in the Rural Development and Social Services sectors.

Uganda

Humanitarian needs

Since 1986 a protracted violent conflict between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has continued in the north-central region of the country. The majority of the population in this area had been forced to abandon their homes, many as early as 1996, resulting in some 1.5 million internally displaced persons residing in camps throughout the regions of Acholi, Teso, and Lango in 2002. The cessation of hostilities agreement in 2006 and the promising Juba peace process resulted in the commencement of the return process for displaced communities. By the end of 2008 displacement was considered to have ended in Lango, and to be very close to ending in Teso (some camps remain due to fear of Karimojong raiding).

²² ICRC alone has treated 2,612 war wounded in Mogadishu

In the Acholi region however, where the displacement has been more prolonged and suffering more intense, some 450,000 persons continued to live in camps. It is to be seen if the delays in the signing the final peace agreement and the UPDF (Ugandan armed forces) attack on LRA bases in DR Congo in December 2008, followed by massacres of the local Congolese populations, spell the end of the peace process and the resumption of hostilities within Uganda's borders.

The return process remains very cautious in Acholi, particularly amongst those communities living close to the borders of Sudan and DR Congo. The Karamoja region has been faced with the third consecutive year of erratic rainfall in 2008, and the situation is exacerbated by insecurity due to a gun culture that produces violent cattle raiding, and GoU's forceful disarmament programme. Ongoing livestock disease including outbreaks of goats plague (PPR) for shoats and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) for cattle further undermine the coping capacities of the local population. The last round of nutrition surveys for Karamoja from September 2008 show an overall average GAM²³ rate of 9.5%, while the districts of Moroto and Kotido register above the emergency threshold of 10%. Given the negligible harvest of 2008, most humanitarian actors assume that the nutritional situation will only degrade further during 2009 and WFP will be targeting some 950,000 persons in Karamoja through their emergency operations.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2004, DG ECHO has greatly contributed to the provision of a continuous and effective relief response in the conflict-affected areas of the north-central region; the response to basic needs such as water and sanitation, health, non food items, and food security as well as protection and coordination, have been scaled-up significantly over the years and extended to the region of Karamoja also. Humanitarian access, due to insecurity, had been an important constraint until 2006. The assistance provided by DG ECHO has evolved from camp services and psychosocial and re-integration assistance, to include assistance for the return process. In response to the worsening of the humanitarian crisis, DG ECHO funded €101.1 million for the 5-year period (2004-2008).

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

DG ECHO's strategy for 2008 included three specific objectives:

- (1) in the framework of the current Internally Displaced People return and transitional phase, provide adequate support and assistance to returnees, while continuing to assist the most vulnerable population in Internally Displaced People camps;
- (2) strengthen the management and coordination of humanitarian response among multilateral and bilateral agencies and non governmental agencies in Uganda; and
- (3) maintain a technical capacity in the field to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of operations.

The following sectors were focused on:

²³ Global Acute Nutrition

a) Health: Support to hospitals and Health Centres, including support to Village Health Teams for health education and disease surveillance; HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention components were integrated into all health care programs and mainstreamed into food security and water and sanitation programs; condom distribution in return areas through Village Health Teams and Response to Hepatitis E epidemic was supported, including deployment of medical staff in targeted HCs;

b) Water and Sanitation: Continued operation and maintenance of water systems in camps and increased focus on rehabilitation and construction of water systems in return areas; construction of family based and institutional latrines have been supported as well as integration of hygiene promotion across all water and sanitation programs;

c) Food security: DG ECHO has continued to reduce dependence on food aid by increasing self-reliance of IDPs through livelihood security programmes and income generating activities;

d) Food Aid: IDPs, flood-affected and drought-affected people were assisted with food aid in 2008. Mother and Child Health and Nutrition programmes continued in 2008 and over 330,000 beneficiaries (newborns, pregnant and lactating mothers) have been assisted with supplementary food rations and

e) Protection and psychosocial/reintegration assistance: extremely vulnerable children and women received assistance and adolescents were provided with psychosocial support through Interpersonal Therapy for Groups (IPTG).

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Achievements included operations under the 9th EDF Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Programme (NUREP); two projects specifically targeting conflict-affected districts in northern Uganda under the EC Water Facility; a €4 million project on 'vouchers for work' under the food security budget line, gradually moving northwards from Lango region in 2007 to south Gulu and Pader districts in 2008/09 to replace DG ECHO financed free hand-out of vouchers.

The next steps will be carried out under the 10th EDF programmes, €20 million Northern Uganda - Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery Programme (ALRP) and the €15 million Karamoja Livelihoods Programme (KALIP).

Regional Drought Preparedness

Humanitarian needs

Approximately 15 million pastoralists are at risk of morbidity and mortality in the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA). Because of the specific nature of nomadic pastoralists and its linkages with natural resource and land management, the needs arise as a result of environmental and institutional policy failures. One of the most important traditional coping mechanisms for nomadic communities, the opportunistic use of natural resources, or the ability to move with herds to areas with better pasture and water during periods of stress, has been progressively eroded.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

The €15 million decision adopted in 2006 was the first one adopted by the Commission to mitigate the effects of the recurrent drought in the Horn of Africa. Evaluation of impact of this kind of preventive approach was very successful and DG ECHO decided to continue and reinforce the regional drought initiative with a new allocation in 2008. The on-going humanitarian interventions, funded under this drought decision, focus on better management of natural resources, early warning systems and support to water and livestock.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

An 18-month funding decision was adopted in January 2008 for an amount of €30 million had been entirely committed. 2008 saw the drought preparedness and drought response projects being implemented in 4 countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and cross-border interventions to Somalia). Projects were not implemented in Eritrea due to restricted access and Djibouti did not benefit from funding as previous activities have been continued by development partners. Up to 12,000,000 pastoralists and/or agro-pastoralists have been targeted, directly and indirectly, by operations funded through this Decision. DG ECHO has embarked on a new approach as far as addressing drought issues in the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) is concerned, given the continuing deterioration in terms of chronic and structural drought related emergencies.

This approach intends to address the drought related needs within a short-medium term perspective developed in the framework of a Regional Drought Decision (RDD) for the countries of the Horn of Africa, with focus on water, animal health, human health, livelihood support; preparedness and coordination. In line with the decision's objectives, the emphasis was put on the Drought Cycle Management (DCM) approach as well as on close monitoring. As drought cycles are now much more frequent (shorter cycles of 2-3 years are now commonplace), there is little time for recovery in order to rebuild resilience and capital (in terms of animal numbers).

The Drought Cycle Management (DCM) uses this phenomenon and promotes community based knowledge in drought preparedness, local resilience and Early Warning Systems (EWS) in order to deliver the right response at the right phase of the drought cycle. Activities funded under the previous drought decision of 2006 had a substantial positive impact on reducing the negative effects of the 2008 drought.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

LRRD was intensified with EC Delegations on the 9th and 10th EDF. Concrete examples are the Delegation Kenya Drought Management Initiative (DMI) designed jointly with ECHO Regional Support Offices (RSO) expertise. This initiative is taking over previous DG ECHO funded activities in North Western Kenya, while also attempting to strengthen the Government of Kenya/World Bank supported Drought Contingency Fund. In Uganda, the EC Delegation is preparing a €15 million longer term intervention that will link up with DG ECHO interventions under previous and current Regional Drought initiatives. The DGs DEV/AIDCO-led Horn of Africa Initiative (EC-HoAI), which began its preliminary work during 2007 and continued it through 2008, is seeking complementarities between projects financed in the Horn of Africa through their different instruments (10th EDF, EC-HoAI, ECHO RDP).

1.1.3. Central Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean

The insecurity and complex crisis in Burundi as a result of 10 years of civil war, population displacements, and an ever precarious security situation has now given way to a criminality linked to a lack of opportunity for the population and to the disarmament process which has yet to produce the expected results. Furthermore, the country hosted three camps of Congolese refugees. ECHO provided assistance to IDPs, returnees, refugees and vulnerable host communities, covering the health/nutrition sector, delivering food aid, promoting sanitation and funding protection activities, with focus on children, adolescents and women, and within a LRRD perspective as much as possible.

In the Central African Republic, ECHO continued to support 200,000 people who had been displaced as a consequence of the action of domestic and foreign rebel groups and banditry in the North. ECHO assisted IDPs, refugees, returnees and vulnerable host communities with an integrated package including water and sanitation, food security, education, health and protection activities. In order to better assess needs and monitor interventions, ECHO opened an office in Bangui in July 2008.

Contrasting needs in the Democratic Republic of Congo where, on one hand, some one million IDPs were assisted to return home and regain self-sufficiency, whilst on the other hand renewed conflict in North Kivu uprooted an estimated 250,000 people who were thrown in urgent need of medical care, water, food and shelter. Violence against women and children remained a major problem, particularly in the East. DG ECHO contributed to contain mortality and morbidity rates and to support the resettlement and stabilization process.

ECHO Flight was maintained in order to serve humanitarian operators in DRC essentially. It was also used for emergency operations elsewhere (e.g. in Kenya).

Tanzania continued to host the largest refugee population on the African continent, almost entirely dependent on international aid. However, in the course of the year the repatriation of Burundian and Congolese accelerated, leaving some 150,000 refugees whose return will largely, though not exclusively, depend on developments in their countries of origin. The Government of Tanzania maintains its objective to close all camps. Whilst maintaining a certain degree of assistance for camps care and maintenance, DG ECHO focused more on interventions aimed at facilitating the repatriation process.

The socio-economic collapse in Zimbabwe was further compounded by problems common to Southern Africa, like high rates of HIV/AIDS, declining soil productivity and erratic rainfall. Whilst pre- and post-electoral violence, including a Government suspension of NGO field operations, marked the first half of the year, the last quarter was characterized by a massive cholera epidemic, still not under control as the year ended, which is the most obvious symptom of the collapse of the public health structures. The epidemic also spread to South Africa, where part of the Limpopo province was declared a disaster area, with more limited cases recorded in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia. Against this background, DG ECHO's main focus was on public health interventions, including water and sanitation, essential medicines, and cholera treatment and control, as well as on food aid and food security, with a particular emphasis on the link between both.

Emergency decisions were adopted in response to floods and/or cyclones affecting Madagascar and Namibia, whilst an ongoing decision was adapted to take account of flooding in Mozambique. An emergency decision was also adopted after heavy fighting in Chad and the Central African Republic led to an influx of 15,000 refugees into Cameroon.

The return of some 20,000 Congolese to DRC was assisted from two camps in Zambia.

Finally, the first disaster preparedness (DIPECHO) programme in sub-Saharan Africa was launched, covering Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and the Comoros. DIPECHO projects aim to prepare, and reinforce the capacities of, vulnerable local populations affected by natural disasters.

Burundi and Tanzania

Humanitarian needs

In view of the close links between the two countries in terms of humanitarian needs, ECHO took the decision in 2008 to combine Burundi and Tanzania in one Global Plan, and to run field operations in both countries from Bujumbura. At the same time, ECHO's office in Dar-el-Salaam was closed, leaving a small field office in Kigoma. Tanzania continues to host the largest refugee population on the African continent. The refugees are almost entirely dependent on humanitarian aid for survival.

At the beginning of 2008, an estimated 205,000 refugees remained in Tanzania, of whom are Burundians, Congolese and people of mixed origins. Whilst repatriation to their countries of origin is underway, their humanitarian needs whilst in Tanzania include food, water, shelter, protection and health care.

The insecurity and complex crisis in Burundi as a result of 10 years of civil war, population displacements, and an ever precarious security situation has now given way to a criminality linked to a lack of opportunity for the population and to the disarmament process which has yet to produce the expected results.

Though a major repatriation exercise has been undertaken, living conditions for populations remain difficult. Burundi also hosts three camps for more than 17,000 Congolese refugees, with an additional 13,000 registered refugees living in urban areas. This group needs care and maintenance support. The country is also vulnerable to effects of regional pressures and instability. In Tanzania, the vast majority of the registered Burundian refugees from 1993 have been repatriated, leaving 45,000 in Mtabila camp to be repatriated by the end of 2009. The refugees from 1972 are for the majority of them in the process of naturalisation, leaving 27,000 to be repatriated by end 2009.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

As Burundi has emerged from conflict, the assistance required has evolved in a corresponding manner from life saving emergency humanitarian aid to rehabilitation and development. Chronic poverty independent of the conflict has left, and will for the foreseeable future leave, many Burundians in a very vulnerable position. The return of refugees, though positive, has added to this vulnerability and implied a continuing need for Humanitarian assistance despite growing development aid support.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The principal objective is to contain mortality and morbidity rates among the targeted population groups emergency thresholds and to support the resettlement and stabilisation process where possible through appropriate integrated activities. DG ECHO's intervention

strategy for 2008 was focused in the sectors of: water, sanitation, health, nutrition, housing, protection and transport and improving conditions for the repatriation of refugees. Vulnerable groups in Burundi have also been targeted (unaccompanied minors, the disabled and the elderly) and above all repatriation programmes have been financed in Tanzania, which have achieved the desired objectives - namely, voluntary return in safety and in dignity.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In 2008, some water and sanitation activities previously financed by DG ECHO have been taken over by the Delegation's "Water Facility" programme and the Belgium cooperation.

The constructive, ongoing and wide-ranging dialogue between DG ECHO, the Head of Delegation and representatives of DG DEV²⁴ and DG AIDCO²⁵, which has resulted in several new multi-sector programmes in the health, post-conflict rural development and food security sectors.

Cameroon

Humanitarian needs

At the beginning of 2008, a coalition of three Chadian rebel groups tried to overthrow the Chadian government. Heavy combat took place in N'djamena, causing flight of around 15,000 people towards the country. In addition, the number of Central African refugees (mostly Mbororos pastoralists) fleeing the attacks of armed bandits ("coupeurs de route") in the Central African Republic had been increasing over the last months of 2007. With the joint arrival of the Chadians and the increase of Central African refugees, the Government of Cameroon and humanitarian agencies already present in the country, were no longer in a position to provide sufficient assistance to refugees. The most urgent needs were identified in the sectors of water and sanitation, food aid, non-food items, health and shelter. In the light of these events, DG ECHO mobilised €2 million in an emergency decision.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

The objective of DG ECHO strategy was to provide emergency relief assistance to refugees and vulnerable host communities. Chadian refugees benefitted from water and sanitation activities, health services, distribution of non-food items and protection activities. Most of these refugees went back to Chad once the situation had calmed down and order had been restored. Central African refugees received food aid rations, non-food items kits and had access to preventive and curative primary health care, to potable water and protection activities. The host population also benefitted from humanitarian assistance, notably in the sectors of health and water and sanitation.

²⁴ Directorate-General for Development – DG DEV

²⁵ EuropeAid Cooperation – DG AIDCO

Central African Republic

Humanitarian needs

At the end of 2006, the northwest and northeast of the country were severely affected by the increasing fighting between government forces and rebels. This violent activity, together with the increase in the number of bandits ("coupeurs de route") attacks, led to the displacement of more than 200,000 people, provoking a humanitarian crisis. The most urgent needs were identified in the sectors of health, water and sanitation, food security, non-food items, education and protection.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO intervened in the country in 2003 and 2004 through the adoption of two decisions targeting needs in the health sector. DG ECHO resumed its presence in Central African Republic in mid-2007 by funding operations for a total amount €8 million providing multisectoral humanitarian assistance. In the light of the increasingly fragile situation in the country, DG ECHO decided to remain involved in Central African Republic, mobilising a further €7.8 million to cover the period September 2008 until December 2009 and opening an office in Bangui in July 2008. Humanitarian assistance continues to address the most pressing humanitarian needs but in the meantime, and where possible, tries to link with the incoming development programmes.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The objective of DG ECHO's strategy was to provide assistance to displaced people, refugees, returnees and vulnerable host communities affected by the conflict in order to reduce excess mortality and to promote stabilisation and resettlement. Gradual improvements can be observed. DG ECHO contributed to the provision of access to basic health services, water of good quality, education and improved quality seeds. These activities and the increased presence of humanitarian organisations enhanced the protection of conflict-affected communities. Thus, and after nearly two years of displacement, many IDPs were able to return to their villages on a more permanent basis: at the beginning of 2008 197,000 people were still displaced, whilst in October 2008, the number of IDPs was estimated at 108,000.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

DG ECHO has, to the extent possible, focused its intervention in areas and sectors identified by DG Development's strategy. In 2008, it proved possible to hand over some operations to longer-term funding. The LRRD strategy in food security sector is being smoothly implemented. In 2008, the EC Delegation committed a first tranche of €5 million from the FSTP (Food Security Thematic Programme). In addition €3 million from the "Programme d'Accompagnement et de Stabilisation" was allocated to a north east region and allowed the transfer of a water and sanitation operation initially financed by DG ECHO.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Humanitarian needs

Despite successful elections the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has not returned to complete peace and stability. Some areas, such as Katanga and South Kivu enjoyed calmer times to the extent of allowing the return of refugees and internally displaced people, but in North Kivu renewed conflict has caused suffering and more displacement of populations. There have also been a series of epidemic outbreaks; most notably of cholera. There have been contrasting differences in the needs to be met. On the one hand, some one million displaced people have been assisted to return home and regain their self-sufficiency. Essentially this has required the re-establishment of basic social services and food security. On the other hand, some 250,000 people were uprooted by the relapse into conflict in North Kivu since August 2008 and were in urgent need of medical care, water, food and shelter. The Haut Uélé district has also been the scene of displacements of vulnerable populations following the attacks by the Uganda-based Lord's Resistance Army. Violence against women and children has remained a particular problem in DRC, particularly emphasized in conflict zones. The legal aspects aside, victims have required urgent medical and psychological assistance. DG ECHO will continue to target the most vulnerable, particularly women and children in whatever sector of intervention.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Humanitarian needs have been in direct correlation with the conflict. At the height of fighting (1996-2003), development aid was suspended and DG ECHO had a significant programme covering the whole country. With the various peace accords the major fighting subsided, alleviating humanitarian needs and allowing development aid to resume. This has enabled DG ECHO to reduce its level of assistance, but not entirely as intermittent conflict persisted in the East, perpetuating the need for emergency assistance.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The principal objective of DG ECHO's strategy was to contain the mortality and morbidity rates among targeted population groups within emergency thresholds and to support the resettlement and stabilization process where possible. In order to achieve this, DG ECHO developed a Global Plan for €30 million and attributed €15.55 million for food aid.

In terms of impact, an increasing number of partners have shown by local surveys that malnutrition levels and mortality rates have decreased. In most areas, these rates are now below emergency levels. They remain directly linked to the security environment and poverty levels.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

DG ECHO has continued to hand over health programmes to development partners in those areas that have stabilised. However, in North Kivu the process was reversed with several health districts having to turn temporarily back to DG ECHO for extra support to face the increased needs. Despite the elections, Government services have been slow to return, but development funds are now visible, even in the east, where they now exceed emergency funds.

ECHO Flight

Humanitarian needs

The humanitarian needs in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as well as the logistic difficulties of operating there, are highlighted in the section above. In DRC, there is no safe and reliable linkage between the supply and personnel entry points and the main humanitarian destinations. Overland travel is dangerous and time consuming, or even impossible due to security constraints or absence of infrastructure. Following the improvement in the security situation in DRC, DG ECHO has, also in geographic terms, expanded its commitment in the country. This has created an additional need for air transport. The use of ECHO Flight services enables humanitarian NGOs to reduce inventory stockpiles at field locations which often run the risk of confiscation or theft by armed bandits or local militia. It also increases the quality of humanitarian operations as supervisory visits can be conducted more frequently. In addition, an airborne stand-by evacuation capacity remains for many agencies a *sine qua non* for continuing project implementation.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The principal objective of the funding was to facilitate the implementation of humanitarian and post-emergency development projects in difficult or inaccessible areas. The specific objectives were: (1) to provide safe, reliable, efficient and cost-effective humanitarian air transport capacity and (2) to create a technical assistance capacity in the field, to assess needs, appraise operational proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of operations.

After a tender process, DG ECHO entered into a service agreement with DAC Aviation, a commercial operator, to provide suitable aircraft and operate a safe and reliable hub and spoke service to meet the objectives. This was achieved using three aircraft operating a mixture of a fixed and a flexible schedule.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

There are no current plans to hand over this operation to DG DEV/delegation but this may become a possibility.

Madagascar

Humanitarian needs

Madagascar is a country with an extremely high level of chronic vulnerability affecting a large proportion of the population. This vulnerability is compounded by the effects of the various climatic phenomena such as erratic rainfall patterns, cyclones, floods and drought. Floods and cyclones were a major problem in the first part of 2008.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

A €1.5 million emergency funding decision, adopted in March 2008 provided support to vulnerable populations affected by cyclone Ivan and resultant flooding in the north-east of the country. DG ECHO-funded interventions were followed up by food security interventions funded from the food aid budget line later in the year, to offset the loss of harvests.

Namibia

Humanitarian needs

Namibia has the highest GINI co-efficient – a measure of income inequality – in the world. In March/April 2008, the northern provinces of Namibia were affected by the most severe flooding in 50 years, which caused the displacement of 60,000 people.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

A €350,000 emergency funding decision was adopted in April 2008 to support to emergency relief, water and sanitation, and health interventions. In view of the loss of harvests during the flooding, DG ECHO mobilised funding from the food aid budget line later in the year to support food security interventions for flood-affected populations.

Zimbabwe

Humanitarian needs

In 2008, Zimbabwe continued to be immersed in a profound crisis affecting all economic and social sectors. Whilst pre- and post-electoral violence, including a Government suspension of NGO field operations, marked the first half of the year, the last quarter was characterized by a massive cholera epidemic, still not under control as the year ended, which is the most obvious symptom of the collapse of the public health structures. The epidemic also spread to South Africa, where part of the Limpopo province was declared a disaster area, with more limited cases recorded in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia. Against this background, DG ECHO's main focus was on public health interventions, including water and sanitation, essential medicines, and cholera treatment and control, as well as on food aid and food security. The socio-economic collapse is further compounded by problems common to the Southern African sub-region – high rates of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, declining soil productivity and erratic rainfall. UN World Food Programme was providing food assistance to almost 3 million people.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

The levels of humanitarian funding have remained fairly steady over the last five years, from €15 million in 2004 and 2005, to €12 million in 2006 and €30.2 million in 2007. Though efforts have been made to try to gradually reduce assistance in 2006 and 2007, when an initial allocation of €8 million was made as a result of the deterioration in the humanitarian situation in Zimbabwe, levels of funding have had to be increased. The initial allocation for 2007 was increased by €7.2 million, with the objective of changing the focus of DG ECHO's strategy to support for the health/public health sector. Additionally, €15 millions were added on the food aid budget line. Finally, €25 million were allocated in for 2008, including €15 million from the food aid budget line.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The principal objective of 2008 humanitarian interventions was to mitigate the impact of socio-economic breakdown in Zimbabwe by reinforcing the access of vulnerable populations to basic essential services. The Global Plan adopted in July 2008 consolidated the change in DG ECHO's strategy, and reinforced the focus on health and public health interventions. A

much stronger emphasis was placed on the link between food aid and food security interventions with a view to breaking the cycle of dependence on the former. The humanitarian situation, particularly in the health and public health sector, continues to deteriorate, with no indication of prospects for improvement in 2009 in absence of a political solution. It seems, however, highly probable that needs will increase in the course of 2009.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Though the 10th EDF provides an allocation of funding for Zimbabwe, it seems unlikely that the Country Strategy Paper will be signed, as development cooperation remains suspended by the Council Decision of 18th February 2002. EC financial support is re-oriented to programmes in direct benefit of the Zimbabwean population, social sectors, democratisation, respect for human rights and the rule of law. It is therefore not possible at this stage to engage in a comprehensive LRRD process in Zimbabwe in absence of an improvement and stabilization of the political situation.

1.1.4. West Africa

In Liberia, DG ECHO focussed its support on access to basic services, to provide support to restart farming activities, and to foster re-integration. Good progress was registered in terms of LRRD in the food security sector.

DG ECHO's engagement was substantial in Sahel, where interventions aimed at addressing the causes of acute malnutrition ranged from therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes to measures aimed at improve access to primary healthcare and clean water and activities to strengthen coping mechanisms and protect livelihoods. Particular attention was devoted to promoting LRRD and achieving integration of the nutritional care into the national health systems.

Besides the programme of fight against malnutrition, DG ECHO financed in Mauritania a repatriation operation of over 20,000 former refugees.

Activities were also funded in Guinea, Togo and Côte d'Ivoire aiming at treating acute malnutrition.

Emergency response was provided to the cholera epidemic in Guinea Bissau, whereas vaccination campaigns were funded in Liberia, Nigeria and Niger.

Liberia

Humanitarian needs

Since the end of the conflict in Liberia, humanitarian needs in the country have evolved greatly. Important efforts have been made to improve access to basic services, to provide support to restart farming activities and to foster re-integration. However, challenges were important and the situation in the country is still very difficult: full substitution remains the main characteristic of the health sector despite all the efforts of a committed MoH²⁶, the situation in water and sanitation sector has improved in areas of return but a lot remains to be done in numerous rural communities as well as in urban areas especially Monrovia, where

²⁶ Ministry of Health

regular cholera outbreaks occur and finally, food insecurity is still prevalent in numerous counties though efforts have been made to improve the situation.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Humanitarian aid has evolved from direct support to repatriation of both IDPs and refugees and the attempt to resume access to basic services, to activities more focused on reintegration and restoration of livelihoods.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

In 2008, the focus has been on initiating the resuming of livelihoods at community level through food assistance and water and sanitation interventions. In health sector, the objective was to continue the provision of support and to attempt to secure the basis for a proper hand over of DG ECHO's support. More than €16 million, including €1 million for food aid, was allocated in support of vulnerable Liberian populations.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The main features of DG ECHO's funding in 2008 were support for mainly ongoing partners to consolidate previous interventions and to mainstream the targeting of the 'forgotten' most vulnerable into the development agenda within the maximum potential contract duration of 18 months. Despite the difficulties encountered in the field some improvement can be noted:

- (1) in the health sector, ongoing discussions are taking place to secure a link between DG ECHO supported interventions and the EDF;
- (2) the LRRD strategy in the Food security sector has been completed and DG ECHO should be able to phase out from this sector; and
- (3) in the water and sanitation sector, DG ECHO contributed to a consortium of five NGOs which defined a 5 years strategy supported by various donors. This intervention enabled the mainstreaming of remaining humanitarian needs into a five years plan whose global objective is geared towards development.

Mauritania

Humanitarian needs

Following his election to the Presidency of Mauritania in 2007, Sidi Ould Cheikh Abdallahi gave a speech on the Refugee day aimed at putting an end to the “refugee problem and turn the page on this episode of internal conflicts”. He referred to the expulsion of approximately 60,000 Mauritians who, as a result of the border conflict and subsequent ethnic tensions between Mauritania and Senegal in April 1989, sought refuge in Senegal and Mali. The President's speech opened the door for repatriation and thousands of evacuees expressed their will to go back to their country. The return of an expected 20,000 former refugees raised the issue of assisting the repatriation process. There were manifest needs in terms of protection as well as basic humanitarian assistance. DG ECHO launched a €2 million ad-hoc decision. The fund's bulk was granted to UNCHR who, after signing a tripartite agreement with the Government of Mauritania and the refugees' representatives, launched the repatriation.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

Throughout the year, DG ECHO supported a €1.5 million UNCHR-run operation which managed to repatriate over 5,000 former refugees. They were provided with integrated assistance: not only broad humanitarian assistance (food and non food items, shelter and sanitation) but also transport and protection assistance. Furthermore, it was envisaged to facilitate reintegration through the promotion of income generating activities. Provisions had anticipated a far higher number of returnees but the military coup of summer 2008 changed the political scene and had a negative impact on the refugees and their trust in the new government's alleged engagement of respecting the Tripartite Agreement.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Following the military putsch and the consequent coming into force of Art 96 of the Agreement, the majority of Official Development Assistance between the EC and the Government of Mauritania was suspended excepted ongoing contracts, humanitarian aid and direct support to populations. As a consequence, the EC Delegation in Nouakchott approved a project of direct assistance to the repatriates and the host communities. Lengthy negotiations between DG ECHO and the Delegation and other Commission's services allowed avoiding any overlapping between DG ECHO and Delegation-funded projects. The Delegation will therefore support an operation focused on strengthening food security, generating sources of revenues and carrying out an advocacy and information campaign.

The Sahel region

Humanitarian needs

Lessons learned from the nutritional crisis in 2005 in Niger and Mali and profound concern over the continued very high Global Acute Malnutrition rates throughout Sahel led to the reinforcement of the 2007 Sahel Global Plan with an extra €5.7 million (€10.7 million from the food aid budget and €5 million from the humanitarian aid budget). The principal objective remains a sustainable reduction in acute malnutrition and infant and maternal mortality rates in 5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger), as well as in the Sahelian zones of neighbouring countries which have also been affected by malnutrition rates well beyond the emergency threshold of 10%, with peaks of over 20% in some areas. UNICEF estimate that 4 million children until the age of 5 years suffer from chronic under nutrition with under nutrition being held responsible for over 50% of all child deaths. This translates into the harsh calculation that half (300,000) of the 600,000 children that die before reaching 5 years of age in the Sahel do so from malnutrition or related causes. Infant and maternal mortality rates in the Sahel are amongst the worst in the world. Unless the Sahel countries are provided with massive and sustained support in their fight against malnutrition there is no chance that they will achieve progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

The root causes of acute malnutrition are multi-sector and therefore action to deal with it needed also to be multi-sector. DG ECHO responded to this enormous "silent" emergency by different types of interventions: screening and treatment of malnourished children, assistance to promote food security, livelihoods protection, access to clean water, as well as advocacy and awareness raising activities to mainstream nutrition into development policies (LRRD). An integrated approach involving both humanitarian and development aid instruments has been actively encouraged.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Experience with activities to respond to the 2005 nutritional crisis in Niger and Mali provided DG ECHO with good indicators for a road map to deal with the similar problems in the other countries of the Western Sahel region in 2008. In Niger, hundreds of thousands of children have been treated in more than 800 feeding centres. Modern nutritional protocols, approaches and products especially the new RUTF (ready to use therapeutic foods) were introduced and become nationally adopted. To facilitate access to basic health services, the Government decreed a waiver of healthcare user fees for the under-fives and pregnant and lactating women.

Efforts to integrate the humanitarian response to the 2005 crisis into local structures and systems were emphasised from 2007. Humanitarian agencies worked to reinforce capacity of local health structures to take charge of the caseload of mal-nourished children.

This will take time as decades of inadequate investment in health infrastructure, a massive shortage of trained personnel and scarce stocks of essential medicines and equipment necessitate a dedicated and sustained level of development assistance before humanitarian agencies can withdraw. The delivery of this development assistance is taking longer than had been hoped for. Much work has also gone into trying to improve the functioning of early warning analysis and response systems. The failure of these systems into which much aid had been invested over the past years to provide adequate data on the extent of the 2005 crisis was a particular disappointment.

A particular effort is now being made to co-relate early warning information from the health system with the food security data. The fact that national protocols on the identification and treatment of nutrition have now been agreed in all Sahel states is a major step forward.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

- In Niger:

DG ECHO has supported operations providing nutritional treatment and access to health care for children under five, benefiting over 900,000 children and mothers mostly in the southern regions. DG ECHO partners are working closely with government services to facilitate the integration of these essential services into the healthcare system. DG ECHO supported action/research initiatives into the use of "ready-to-use" therapeutic foods and encouraged new strategic thinking to improve action in the combat against acute malnutrition. Activities to protect the livelihoods of nearly 1 million people to enable them to cope better with the hungry season and with the rise in world food prices were supported.

- In Burkina Faso

DG ECHO supported operations providing nutritional treatment and access to health care for children under five benefiting 60,000 children and over 15,000 pregnant women. 10,000 families have been helped with livelihood protection.

- In Mali

DG ECHO supported operations providing nutritional treatment and access to health care for children under five benefitting over 30,000 people. Complementary actions to promote food security and access to drinking water have also been carried out in areas with high rates of acute malnutrition.

- In Mauritania.

DG ECHO supported operations providing nutritional treatment and access to health care for children under five and women suffering from malnutrition. In 2008, a nutritional survey supported by DG ECHO confirmed the incidence of acute malnutrition in the south of the country had reached alert levels. Efforts were concentrated on the integration of the treatment of malnutrition in national structures in the south of the country. At the same time, complementary interventions to improve access to drinking water were carried out.

- At regional level,

DG ECHO supported UNICEF in updating the protocols for treating malnutrition and provided training for medical staff in Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso and Mauritania. DG ECHO is also supporting cross-border initiatives to raise awareness and educate people about nutrition-related matters using local languages.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Malnutrition can only be dealt with in a sustainable way through an integrated and articulated aid strategy involving all aid instruments. DG ECHO's Sahel strategy was therefore designed from the onset as an LRRD strategy involving all the Commission's humanitarian and development aid instruments. To promote close integration with other Commission aid services DG ECHO opened antennae within the EC Delegations in Niamey, Niger and in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. A considerable effort was made to ensure the inclusion of humanitarian concerns such as malnutrition and high infant and maternal mortality rates in the

10th EDF Country Strategy Papers (CSP) and National Indicative Programmes (NIP) for the Sahel. While the main focus of the 10th EDF programmes is on general budget support which makes it difficult to specify particular issues, there is reference to the need for EDF funding to improve nutritional security and help reduce the unacceptably high levels of infant and maternal mortality caused by malnutrition. DG ECHO is working with other Commission services to see to what extent the performance indicators in budget support can be fine-tuned to monitor progress towards a reduction in malnutrition. DG ECHO has also had contacts with World Bank offices in the Sahel on the same issues.

Epidemics (regional)

Humanitarian Needs

West African countries are highly vulnerable to communicable diseases because their structural weakness, poverty, lack of basic sanitation facilities, low hygiene standards and malnutrition. Some of these countries are still struggling with the aftermath of conflict situation. They are particularly prone to epidemics of Cholera, Meningitis, Lassa and Yellow Fever and Hepatitis E. The region is also seeing an increased risk of avian influenza epidemic with confirmed animal cases in Niger, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Benin, Ghana and Nigeria where the first human case was confirmed in January 2007.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In March 2008, following a series of associated Measles and Meningitis epidemics in Niger and Nigeria along with a Yellow fever outbreak in Liberia, DG ECHO launched a €1 million emergency humanitarian aid decision to respond to various epidemics.

In August 2008, DG ECHO responded to the Cholera emergency in Guinea Bissau with a €500,000 Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Most African countries still need external support to respond in a timely manner and/or to prevent recurrent epidemics. Outbreak detection and control intervention have been improved in certain countries mainly due to better epidemic surveillance and Early Warning Systems but, the availability of donor support has been reduced and Governments contingency plans are rare or not sufficiently funded. Health systems still have neither the capacity to absorb the increased number of patients, nor the resources to respond to the epidemics using public health measures. Certain epidemics require a high level of expertise which is not available at the country level. As such, the recurrent health emergencies in most of the African countries need considerable and sustainable efforts in terms of coordination, including information management, of technical support and of resource mobilization.

1.2. CARIBBEAN

Rapid response was provided during the hurricane season to about 250,000 people affected in Haiti, Cuba, the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, and Jamaica, through the provision of food, non-food items, water, sanitation, health, shelter, as well as emergency rehabilitation and livelihoods.

By 2008, humanitarian needs were so great in Haiti that DG ECHO's response was substantial and it included food aid, nutritional assistance, as well as interventions in the health, water and sanitation sectors. In addition to the rapid response mentioned above for the Caribbean region, Haiti benefited from a dedicated emergency response with assistance included food, non-food items, water, sanitation, shelter, health, and emergency communication.

Following severe floods which affected Suriname mid-2008, DG ECHO provided assistance to the victims in the sectors of food aid and food security.

Funding covered the following issues / countries:

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
CARIBBEAN	10 250 000	11 400 000	21 650 000
Haiti	5 000 000	11 000 000	16 000 000
Suriname		400 000	400 000
Regional Caribbean	5 250 000		5 250 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6.

Caribbean Region

Humanitarian needs

The Caribbean region is prone to frequent natural disasters, especially hurricanes and floods. The region's vulnerability is accentuated by high population density, fast demographic growth and great poverty. This results in communities with few coping capacities in the event of disaster. In 2008, DG ECHO continued to provide community-based Disaster Preparedness, through its DIPECHO programme, as well as Emergency Relief, Food Aid and Multi-sectoral Humanitarian Aid.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2004, DG ECHO has provided all types of humanitarian aid, as described above. In 2008, the new features were a large amount of Emergency Relief, due to the severity of the hurricane season, and a large amount of Food Aid, due to increased malnutrition in Haiti and Suriname.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The objective of providing a rapid response to disasters was met, via a regional funding decision. During the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season, the Caribbean was affected by Tropical Storm Fay, Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna and Ike, all of which emerged within one month, aggravating the damage caused by each previous hurricane and resulting in considerable loss of life and enormous suffering. Thousands of people lost their homes and livelihoods, and damage to crops was great. Numerous roads and bridges were destroyed, whilst extensive flooding prevented access to many regions. An Emergency decision for €5 million was adopted on 14th October 2008 for the Caribbean region, responding to Hurricane Gustav and subsequent storms: €2.7 million allocated to Haiti, €2 million to Cuba and €300,000 to the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Jamaica. Emergency relief and recovery assistance

were provided for 250,000 hurricane victims in the sectors of food, non-food items, water and sanitation, health, shelter, emergency rehabilitation and livelihoods. Another regional decision was adopted in 2008 (€250,000) in order to provide technical assistance for all humanitarian aid operations in the Caribbean region.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

After the above mentioned hurricanes, some European Development Funds were allocated to rehabilitation in the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Haiti and Jamaica.

Haiti

Humanitarian needs

Haiti was a "Forgotten crisis" for DG ECHO in 2008 and a Pilot country for the new multi-service, inter-institutional "Fragile situation" initiative. In 2007, a DG ECHO-funded evaluation had already revealed under-5 mortality of 86/1,000 and National acute malnutrition of over 9%, with entire Departments at 12-18%. Most people do not have access to clean water, sanitation or health services. In April 2008 there were riots due to the problem of sharply rising food and fuel prices, known as "La vie chère". Haiti imports over 50% of its food (over 80% of its rice) and sharp price rises meant that people could not afford to feed themselves and their families. The Prime Minister was forced to resign and the government was in disarray for 5 months. Finally, an impetus was created by the emergency needs brought by the hurricanes, described above, leading to inauguration of a new government on 5th September 2008. Vast needs remained to be faced by the new government.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

For several years DG ECHO responded to catastrophes and crises in Haiti, but was not proactive. By 2008 humanitarian needs were so great that this changed and DG ECHO implemented three Food Aid decisions and an ad-hoc decision in Haiti, as well as emergency response and disaster preparedness. Moreover, the Commission decided to re-open an ECHO office in Haiti²⁷ and to schedule Global Plan funding for 2009.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

DG ECHO's strategy in Haiti is to reduce malnutrition and mortality through Multi-sectoral humanitarian aid, as well as responding to Disasters and undertaking Disaster preparedness operations. €1 million is allocated to Haiti under 6th DIPECHO Action Plan in the Caribbean (€4 million, 2007-9). Food assistance is part of the multi-sectoral strategy, including Food Security (agricultural inputs and livelihoods), Community Therapeutic Care and Malnutrition programmes, as well as basic Food Aid.

In 2008, €8 million was allocated to Haiti via Ad hoc funding decisions (€3 million for Health, Water and Sanitation and €5 million from 2 Food Aid decisions). During the hurricane season, Haiti was severely affected by Tropical Storm Fay, Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna and Ike. In addition to the regional Emergency decision mentioned above, a primary emergency decision (€2 million) was adopted in response to Hurricane Hanna. Eight out of ten departments were severely affected and approximately one million people required

²⁷ There had been one between 1993 and 1998

assistance, which was provided in the sectors of food, non-food items, water and sanitation, health, shelter and emergency communications. Finally, an emergency food aid decision (€6 million) was adopted to provide nutritional assistance for recovery in Haiti.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In above-mentioned operations, there were LRRD components such as rehabilitation of sewage systems and donation of water equipment. DG ECHO worked closely with other Commission services, undertaking Disaster prevention and Risk reduction programmes in the region. DG ECHO also collaborated closely with DG Environment's Monitoring Information Centre, which sent an expert mission to Haiti through the Community Civil Protection Mechanism. Its main focus was assessment of the most urgent technical assistance needed in order to repair bridges damaged or destroyed by hurricane Hanna.

Suriname

Humanitarian needs

At the end of May 2008 heavy rains caused serious flooding in the southern provinces of Suriname, destroying crops, homes and livelihoods and a DG ECHO assessment mission showed the need for urgent assistance to flood victims, in the sectors of Food Aid and Food Security.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO had not been involved in Suriname since 2006 when there was an Emergency decision for flood response.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

DG ECHO provided urgent relief for approximately 3,000 families, with an allocation of €400,000 on food aid.

LRRD

In the above operation, sustainability should be achieved via capacity-building of the Suriname Red Cross, but classic LRRD was not present.

1.3 PACIFIC

In the Pacific, 2008 was for the most part a relatively calm year and no assistance from DG ECHO was required.

Humanitarian needs

Pacific is notorious for its earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and floods. However, 2008 was for the most part a relatively calm year and no country requested international assistance from DG ECHO. In December 2008 a series of tidal waves and floods affected Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands and the Fiji. This prompted an evaluation mission of DG ECHO Rapid Response Coordinator, whose recommendations were consequently followed up by DG ECHO in the early days of 2009.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

The last DG ECHO intervention dates back to 2007 when emergency humanitarian operations were funded to respond to an earthquake and the following tsunami in the Solomon Islands. DG ECHO provided a rapid response leading to an Emergency decision (€50,000) to assist 5,000 people in the sectors of shelter, health, water, sanitation, education and relief items.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

DG ECHO continued to monitor the humanitarian situation in the Pacific region primarily through the active presence in the region of the Rapid Response Coordinator from the Regional Support Office in Bangkok who supervises the Pacific countries through missions and ensures continuous coordination with EC Delegations, DG ECHO partners (International Organizations and NGOs), as well as with other major stakeholders and donors like the Australian and New Zealand Governments.

LRRD - possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Coordination with development actors is ensured both at field and Headquarters level, where the situation in the Pacific was subject of regular meetings and exchanges of information amongst several Commission services, in particular DG Development and EuropeAid Cooperation Office together with the Monitoring Information Centre.

2. Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Southern Caucasus, Central Asia, including Mongolia

The situation in this geographical region is characterised by an overall positive evolution of the protracted crises that required a Commission humanitarian intervention in the past years, allowing for an exit strategy expressed in: a reduction of the size of the humanitarian aid programme (phasing down –for example in the Caucasus), an end of humanitarian aid (phasing out –like in Tajikistan) as well as a process of hand-over to development-oriented instruments (LRRD- in Georgia and Tajikistan).

At the same time, the region remains vulnerable to hazards to which national structures do not always have a sufficient response capacity and which the more vulnerable segments of the population don't have the coping mechanisms to overcome. In those cases, DG ECHO stands ready to intervene on the basis of humanitarian needs assessments (as was the case in the Republic of Moldova in 2007).

Funding in this geographical region was to provide humanitarian assistance in the following countries / areas (*):

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
EUROPE, CAUCASUS & CENTRAL ASIA	20 450 000		20 450 000
Caucasus (Chechnya crisis)	11 000 000		11 000 000
Georgia	8 000 000		8 000 000
Moldova, Republic of	700 000		700 000
Tajikistan	750 000		750 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6.

Northern Caucasus

Humanitarian needs

Reconstruction in Chechnya, once a Republic entirely destroyed by two devastating conflicts, continues in full swing. However, its benefits are not yet perceived by the majority of the population which has not yet recovered the assets lost during the two wars and are kept destitute due to the lack of job opportunities.

While food insecurity is currently only affecting the most vulnerable groups of the population, high levels of poverty and unemployment persist and have largely shifted to rural areas. 90% of the population in Chechnya and 61% in Ingushetia live under subsistence level (as compared to 17.8% Russian Federation average). Unemployment in Chechnya affects over 60% of the population.

Basic shelter needs still require support in order to promote the return of the Internally Displaced People (IDP) and refugee populations. Around 20,000 private houses are still to be reconstructed according to recent estimates.

And, last but not least, the need for Protection is paramount due to the poor observance of Rule of Law and Human Rights in the region. Though the security situation in Chechnya has significantly improved for the civilian population, the conditions in the rest of the region have steadily deteriorated in the last few years, notably in Ingushetia, but with no noticeable humanitarian impact yet. The entire region remains highly unstable. Human rights organisations continue to report severe violations of human rights, notably abductions, torture and fabricated judiciary cases.

The situation for the Chechen refugees hosted in Azerbaijan did not change in 2008 and they remain a forgotten and under-assisted caseload with significant protection problems and no durable solutions are in sight, which has justified a continued support from DG ECHO.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

The Commission has been supporting victims in the Northern Caucasus since the beginning of the Chechen conflict. Five years ago, the humanitarian assistance provided by DG ECHO was covering most humanitarian sectors including food aid, non food items, water and sanitation and medical activities. From 2004, funding has reached €12 million.

In 2008, DG ECHO adopted a phasing-out strategy for its assistance to the victims of the Chechen conflict as a result of the socio-economic improvements and the successful implementation of reconstruction and rehabilitation projects. This phasing out is concretely translated into a reduction of funding and a focus on sectors and areas where needs remain.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

With a total budget of €1 million, the European Commission still remains the main donor in the region. In 2008, DG ECHO has refocused its efforts on four main sectors, i.e. protection (including for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ingushetia and Dagestan and for the refugees from Chechnya hosted in Azerbaijan who represent forgotten caseloads), shelter for those still displaced within Chechnya, livelihood support activities and health notably healthcare for mother and child and handicapped people.

Difficulties to enter Chechnya continues to remain a concern for several DG ECHO partners, less for security reasons than because of the Russian Authorities' administrative procedures (e.g. stricter rules on visa).

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The 2009 funding decision is foreseen in the perspective of a continued phasing out strategy. Over the last two years, the local authorities have started investing in reconstruction and rehabilitation of basic infrastructures and social services. However, the benefits of these investments do not always reach the most vulnerable groups of the population. The federal government opposes foreign external development aid.

In addition, under the Special Programme for Northern Caucasus (Tacis) a €20 million reconstruction programme for social services and private sector development has been financed and is implemented by the Delegation of the European Commission to Russia since

2006. Since then the health systems of the three republics in the North Caucasus have received considerable help from the European Commission through contribution agreements with UNICEF and WHO and in 2008 this programme was completed by the conclusion of an agreement with the EBRD for job creation through private sector development and SME support through the banking sector.

Southern Caucasus (Georgia)

Humanitarian needs

DG ECHO's original strategy of gradually handing over of its activities in the region had to be modified accordingly to new needs which arose as a result of the armed conflict between Georgia and the Russian Federation in August 2008.

Tens of thousands of civilians fled the fighting. Some 102,800 of the estimated 133,500 persons displaced in Georgia have now been able to return home according to official figures provided by the Georgian government. However, the humanitarian needs of the IDPs, returnees and affected population in areas of shelter, protection, food and non food items distribution and psychosocial support remain persistent.

Even if not directly involved in the armed conflict mentioned above, humanitarian needs remained in Abkhazia due to the unresolved conflict with Georgia and the international isolation of this de-facto independent republic.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

Before the armed conflict erupted last summer, DG ECHO's assistance was focusing on the remaining needs of the frozen conflict in Abkhazia. The main activities implemented refer to livelihood support activities and shelter.

Following the conflict, DG ECHO adjusted its intervention and strategy to address the new acute needs that emerged

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

To address the most urgent humanitarian needs of IDPs, returnees and affected local population, DG ECHO has provided a total of €8 million in 2008, aiming to achieve protection and provide assistance to the most vulnerable ones.

The main needs addressed have been: shelter, protection, non food items distribution and psychosocial support. Three different financial decisions were adopted in this context: Primary Emergency (€1 million), Emergency (€5 million) and Ad Hoc decision (€2 million).

Under the Ad Hoc decision, DG ECHO also continues funding activities aimed at improving living conditions for the most vulnerable segments of the population in Abkhazia and help them regain a minimum of self-sufficiency: food security/income generation projects and the improvement of shelter conditions, especially for returnees.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

New instruments will be put in place. Once implementation is underway, this should allow DG ECHO to phase out from Abkhazia for instance, provided the situation does not deteriorate.

- EC Instrument for Stability. EC has allocated €15M to respond to the needs under the UN Flash Appeal. The main projects funded are: winterisation/housing support and early recovery of IDPs livelihoods.
- Under the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument (ENPI), the EC (EuropeAid) continues to fund an ongoing rehabilitation programme for the conflict areas with €6 million for 2008, the focus for that year's contribution being on the Georgian-Ossetian conflict zone, supporting IDPs and confidence building measures. Following the 2008 conflict, it was decided that priority should be given to the needs of the new IDPs. The contents of this programme are currently under preparation.
- The major ENPI contribution however consists of two targeted budget support programmes adopted in 2008, one of €10 million already disbursed in 2008, and a complement of €1,5 million, to support Georgia's IDPs Action Plan. The aim is to assist the Government of Georgia via the Municipal Development Fund, to improve the living conditions of IDPs by providing durable housing solutions (construction of new houses in new settlements).

Republic of Moldova

Humanitarian needs

In 2007, the Republic of Moldova was hit by a severe drought, which affected 80% of the country. The drought inflicted serious damage to the agricultural sector and in particular was a harsh blow for the most vulnerable small farmers who depend on livestock and home gardens.

An assessment undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and DG ECHO after the DG ECHO intervention in 2007 concluded that another intervention would be needed in 2008 to tackle the effect of the drought for the most vulnerable small-scale households. The conclusions were that, as the estimated 2007 wheat harvest would reach only 44% of that of the previous year and a mere 28% for sunflower and 27% for corn, the returns on land leased by the majority of small holders would be dramatically reduced, thus compromising the next sowing season.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

A decision of €3 million was taken in 2007 which consisted of distribution of fodder, feedstuff for cows, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry. 15,000 rural vulnerable households benefited from this assistance.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The objective of DG ECHO funding in the Republic of Moldova in 2008 (€700,000) has been to address the remaining humanitarian needs resulting from the 2007 drought by covering the basic food needs of the most vulnerable rural households affected through the provision of agricultural inputs. Through the project, approximately 87,600 vulnerable small-scale households in the most affected sectors of Central, Southern, Northern, Gagauzia and Transnistria regions have been able to plant 0.5 ha of maize on time, with good quality seed, thereby improving their food security situation.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The provision of humanitarian aid was needed due to the particular acuteness of the 2007 drought. DG ECHO's mandate ended after the second decision. Efforts should now focus on supporting Moldovan coping mechanisms towards climatic hazard by adequate structural reforms of agricultural techniques.

Tajikistan

Humanitarian needs

The Commission has provided humanitarian aid to Tajikistan since 1994 to answer the humanitarian needs resulting from the civil war. In 2003, a three-year phasing down strategy was defined, which led to the ending of the programming in September 2007. Today, the humanitarian needs still requiring response are those resulting from the frequent natural disasters affecting the country.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

The Commission has been providing humanitarian aid to Tajikistan for total funding of €20.1 million since 2004.

In 2003 a three-year phasing out strategy was decided and effectively put in place resulting in completing DG ECHO humanitarian aid while support in disaster preparedness continued through the DIPECHO Action Plans.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

At the beginning of 2008, Tajikistan experienced a cold wave reportedly the coldest in 25 years, which affected about 2 million people. In addition to suffering from the cold, a large part of the population did not have anymore access to drinkable water and electricity supply. Moreover, large quantities of seeds and agricultural assets have been destroyed by the frost. To support the most affected population, DG ECHO mobilised €750,000 to provide humanitarian assistance to over 60,000 vulnerable people.

In addition, DG ECHO continues to remain active in Tajikistan through its DIPECHO Action Plan for Central Asia, monitoring closely the natural disasters continuing to affect the country.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

With the end of DG ECHO funding, some of these interventions, in particular in the health and food sectors were accepted for financing by other European Commission cooperation instruments.

3. Mediterranean and Middle East

In 2008, DG ECHO continued its large-scale intervention in response to the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian populations affected by the crisis, both in the occupied Palestinian territories as well as in neighbouring countries.

In addition, increased humanitarian needs linked to the crisis in Iraq prompted a humanitarian response inside Iraq as well as in neighbouring countries, host to a large refugee caseload.

The response to man-made disasters continued in the region with the provision of assistance to the Sahrawi refugees in Algeria, and with a small-scale response to Yemen affected by crisis and storm.

Funding in these regions aimed at providing humanitarian assistance in respect of the following crises (*):

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST	62 100 000	62 760 000	124 860 000
Palestinian Territories	25 500 000	47 760 000	73 260 000
Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon	9 500 000		9 500 000
Iraq Crisis (including Syria)	20 000 000	10 000 000	30 000 000
Yemen	2 100 000		2 100 000
Western Sahara	5 000 000	5 000 000	10 000 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6.

Occupied Palestinian Territories (West Bank and Gaza Strip), Lebanon, Jordan and Syria (Palestinian crisis)

Humanitarian needs

After eight years of conflict following the start of the second intifada, the humanitarian crisis in the occupied Palestinian territories continued in 2008, within the context of unceasing fragmentation and isolation of the West Bank and the continued blockade of the Gaza Strip. The most recent round of negotiations initiated at the Annapolis conference of November 2007 has so far failed to provide solutions to long-disputed issues between the State of Israel and the Palestinian Authority. In the meantime, daily violence continued, both between Palestinians and Israeli Defence Forces as well as between Palestinian factions. In addition, the Gaza blockade progressively suffocated the Strip, up to the outbreak of the Israeli strikes on 27th December; further to protracted launches of mortars from Gaza based Hamas linked factions. Furthermore, the growing dependency on international aid and the unremitting deterioration of the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian population both contribute substantially to the complexity of this protracted crisis.

The context in Lebanon is largely influenced by the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, with a sense of despair and resentment also largely widespread amongst the

Palestinian refugee population. As for the Nahr el Bared Camp (NBC) crisis that started in April 2007, the degree of destitution for the vast majority of refugee families displaced from NBC remained very high in 2008. Families still found themselves in overcrowded and substandard housing with limited access to basic services and livelihoods opportunities.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

The Commission has been providing humanitarian aid to the Palestinian population in and outside the occupied Palestinian territories since the outbreak of the second Intifada. A total amount of €366 million has been made available since 2004.

As reflected in the table, the aid provided has kept up with developments on the ground, such as the steady aggravation of the crisis, the contributions of other donors to cover different types of needs, upsurges of humanitarian needs (e. g. increased humanitarian needs due to the suspension of other forms of assistance following the Hamas' victory in the Palestinian Legislative Council elections in January 2006, the Nahr el Bared crisis in Lebanon Palestinian Refugee camps) and DG ECHO's own assessment of the needs and that of other organisations as well as implementing conditions on the ground.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

The European Commission made €2.7 available million for humanitarian operations benefiting Palestinians in the Palestinian territory, and Palestine refugees in Lebanon including the victims of the conflict in and around the Nahr el Bared refugee camp.

The bulk of the funds, €73.3 million, went to operations in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the following sectors: food assistance; health; water and sanitation; cash-for-work; protection; psycho-social support, and co-ordination. Various projects were aimed at coping with the humanitarian consequences of the economic, fiscal and social crisis of 2008. A substantial part of the funds went to operations targeting beneficiaries affected by the construction of the barrier on Palestinian land in the West Bank. As opposed to previous years' programmes, operations in the Gaza Strip represented the majority of funding with 56% of the budget for the whole occupied Palestinian territory.

For Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (€9.5 million), DG ECHO helped to improve the quality of secondary health services provided by the hospitals managed by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society to the most vulnerable Palestinian refugees and by improving access to the basic humanitarian right of clean water supply resources (Southern Lebanon). As for the situation in the Nahr el Bared camp, relief efforts have mitigated some of the worst impacts of the 2007 crisis, ensuring access to shelter, food, water and sanitation, basic infrastructures, health needs (including psycho-social support) and other services for the affected families.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In view of the overall political context, LRRD was only a partial option in some limited sectors for the Palestinian territory in 2008. For this purpose, full co-ordination was ensured with more development-oriented Community instruments and funding, particularly in the food, water and sanitation as well as health sectors. Consistency and complementarity with operations in favour of Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria funded under other budget lines were also ensured.

Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon (Iraqi crisis)

Humanitarian needs

Since the 2003 war and the fall of the Hussein regime, the Republic of Iraq has been faced with a dire security situation characterized by sectarian violence and an ongoing asymmetric warfare. In particular, Iraq suffered from significant instability, where clashes between Sunni and Shi'a communities as well as among the Shi'ites continue unabated. Violent deaths are a daily occurrence, and although attacks on the Multi-National Force Iraq (MNF-I) and bomb explosions have been reduced since the second half of 2007, there are several violent deaths per day. This unremitting violence inside Iraq has led to continued mass internal and external displacement affecting much of the surrounding region. A significant proportion of the internally displaced and of the refugees (306,000 have been registered by UNHCR at the end of 2008) has run out of resources, leaving them and their host communities increasingly vulnerable, and the arrival of refugees in neighbouring countries, notably Syria and Jordan, has put a significant strain on the infrastructure of host countries and on the provision of basic services such as water, sanitation, health, and education. However the reduction in violence witnessed in Iraq in 2008 led to the return of their areas of origin of 25,000 refugees and 190,000 internally displaced people.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

In response to a growing protection crisis and increasing humanitarian needs inside Iraq, and a major refugee crisis in neighbouring countries, DG ECHO allocated since 2007 €47.8 million for the Iraqi crisis.

This is the first re-engagement of the Commissions' humanitarian aid department with Iraq since the phase out of its operations in Iraq following the 2003 Iraq war (for which more than €100 million were allocated).

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

To address the most urgent humanitarian needs of Iraqi refugees in the Iraq neighbouring countries, notably Jordan and Syria, the Commission has provided a total of €14 million in 2008, aiming to achieve protection and provide assistance to the most vulnerable refugees.

These funds have contributed to finance the provision of basic health and psychosocial support, as well as social and education services, including the distribution of food (in Syria) and basic household items.

The population of Iraq and notably Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have been assisted through a support worth €1 million, implemented notably by the International Committee of the Red Crescent (ICRC), to cover protection and water and sanitation activities.

In addition, the ICRC received a €5 million allocation for food and seeds to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable rural populations affected by the severe drought of the 2007/2008 winter and IDPs displaced within governorates.

It has to be noted that, while there are significant humanitarian needs, there are also significant impediments to the delivery of humanitarian aid inside Iraq, i.e. severe security

concerns and problems of access, that prevent the Commission from allocating funds commensurate to the level of needs.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Given the overall volatile situation in Iraq, and the lack of perspective on the refugee situation in neighbouring countries, LRRD was not an option for the Iraqi crisis in 2008. However, full co-ordination and consistency was ensured with more development-oriented Community instruments and funding, and should the security conditions continue to improve, LRRD could become a reality in the coming two years.

Algeria – Sahrawi refugees

Humanitarian needs

The living conditions of the Sahrawi refugees, who have lived for the past 30 years in camps in the desert in the South-Western Algerian region of Tindouf, remain difficult and the caseload continues to substantially depend on international humanitarian assistance to cover basic needs in all sectors (food, health, water and sanitation, shelter, hygiene, education). The main issue of concern is the nutritional status of the refugees, notably under-fives and pregnant and lactating women, with high levels of anaemia and chronic malnutrition. Few institutional donors provide humanitarian aid in this context which, according to DG ECHO's classification, still amounts to a forgotten crisis. In contrast to this limited institutional donor interest, there is a large support from European civil society organisations and regional authorities (mostly from Spain and Italy), which increases the volume of assistance received by the refugees but also raises coordination challenges.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

The Commission has been providing humanitarian aid to the Sahrawi refugees since the early 1990s. Between 2004 and 2008, a total funding of €48 millions was allocated.

The funding levels reflect both the relative stability of the crisis, and the contribution of other donors to cover different types of needs, upsurges of humanitarian needs (such as the February 2006 floods). In addition, the conditions particular to this crisis (hostile natural environment, prolonged dependency on assistance, difficulty to retain qualified local staff in the basic public services, limited number of donors, lack of LRRD perspective) have led to a significant emphasis on improving the quality of aid interventions in key sectors, such as water and sanitation, food/nutrition and health, through the involvement of sectoral experts from the Regional Support office.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, humanitarian assistance allocations remained at the same level of 2007 and was provided from two sources: €5 million were allocated under the second food aid decision of 2008 to provide for basic food assistance (through the World Food programme) and for fresh food to complement and diversify the food intake of refugees especially on micro-nutrients and vitamins. Another €5 million of humanitarian aid were approved in October 2008 to cover other basic needs of refugees such as water, sanitation, health, nutrition hygiene and shelter.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Although LRRD is not applicable in the circumstances prevailing in the refugee camps, there are successful attempts to link DG ECHO-funding to that from other instruments and other donors. Within the Commission, EuropeAid Cooperation Office is funding a project under the “NGO co-financing” programme which provides for veterinary services in the camps, thus supporting the main local coping mechanism for the refugees, and complementing existing food assistance. There is also a good LRRD dynamic between DG ECHO and the support provided by the Spanish Cooperation, in a 3-year framework, in the health sector.

Yemen

Humanitarian needs

Yemen is a country with a great degree of vulnerability due to the widespread poverty, low human development indicators, and a history of humanitarian crises, both man-made and resulting from natural disasters. Armed clashes between government forces and followers of the Believing Youth movement continued during all the year 2008 in the North of the country. Mid 2008, about 100,000 civilians were forced to flee the Saada region. Yemen is also hosting a sizeable refugee population from the Horn of Africa (notably from Somalia and Ethiopia with 50,000 new refugees in 2008). Finally, Yemen was hit by a tropical storm in October.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

The assistance in the last five years amounts to €8.62 million. An independent evaluation conducted in 2005 recommended that a gradual phase-out from Yemen takes place, as the humanitarian aid interventions were reaching the limit of addressing more long-term development needs. This was completed in 2007 and since that time, DG ECHO interventions address only needs resulting from specific crises and natural disasters.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

For the year 2008, although no funds were initially budgeted, DG ECHO had to prepare financial decisions totalising €2.1 million.

The first decision concerns provision of humanitarian aid to the internally displaced people affected by the conflict in the North of the country. €1 million was mobilised to provide basic items, food and surgical services. The second decision of €600,000 provided immediate relief assistance to the affected population by the tropical storm in the Eastern part of the country. The third decision of €500,000 was taken at the end of the year aiming at reinforcing the shelter capacity of the refugee camp in Kharaz and in Ahwar, as the number of new Somalis and Ethiopian (Oromos) arrivals increased all along 2008 (over 50,000 persons).

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The assistance provided in the past years was very much an LRRD intervention and linkages were sought with the authorities as well as other donors including other services of the Commission. The phasing-out from Yemen can be considered as having been completed in 2007, although new relatively short term operations were still necessary for specific crises in 2008.

4. Asia

In 2008, humanitarian and food aid interventions were funded in 20 countries in Asia, through the adoption of 32 funding decisions for a total amount of €158.3 million²⁸ which represented 17% of the total budget committed by DG ECHO.

EC humanitarian assistance was provided and/or implemented in the following countries (*)

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
SOUTH ASIA	64 850 000	29 407 000	94 257 000
Afghanistan/Pakistan /Iran	26 500 000	9 800 000	36 300 000
Bangladesh	10 500 000	10 001 000	20 501 000
India	2 850 000	3 140 000	5 990 000
Nepal	4 500 000	3 466 000	7 966 000
Inde/Nepal	4 500 000		4 500 000
Sri Lanka	16 000 000	3 000 000	19 000 000
SOUTH EAST & EAST ASIA	44 000 000	10 000 000	54 000 000
Burma/Myanmar (Nargis)	29 000 000	10 000 000	39 000 000
China	2 000 000		2 000 000
East Timor	2 000 000		2 000 000
Indonesia	2 000 000		2 000 000
Philippines	6 500 000		6 500 000
Vietnam/Laos	2 500 000		2 500 000
Total (1)	108 850 000	39 407 000	148 257 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6;

4.1. SOUTH AND SOUTH WESTERN ASIA

The region is characterised by instability and open conflicts (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka) and the year 2008 saw an accentuation of tensions and violence. Consequently the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased, particularly in Sri Lanka, where over 350,000 people were displaced by the escalation of the conflict in the Vanni and a further 300,000 people in the north remain extremely vulnerable.

In Afghanistan the intensification of the conflict is hampering efforts to promote the return of refugees and increasing the numbers of the internally displaced in need of humanitarian assistance. A further consequence of increased violence is lack of humanitarian access to some of the most vulnerable people, a common source of problems during 2008 in the two above countries.

²⁸ Of which €108.9M was on the humanitarian aid budget line; €39.4M on food aid budget line and €10M on Dipecho budget line - see section on Dipecho activities.

In Pakistan humanitarian access has also been severely constrained due to the violence, notably in North West Frontier Province.

And in the three countries humanitarian actors have too often been the direct targets and victims of this violence.

In August a breach in the embankment of the Koshi river, when the river was flowing at its highest due to the monsoon, caused massive flooding in South East Nepal and in the Indian State of Bihar, affecting over 33 million people. At the height of the crisis, an estimated over 4 million people were displaced. While most have now returned to their villages, the destruction in terms of housing, social infrastructure and agricultural land, will take years to recover.

Afghanistan (including Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran)

Humanitarian needs

The main groups with substantial humanitarian needs in 2008 were the over 350,000 refugees who returned from Pakistan and Iran, the deported illegal Afghans from Iran, the battle affected Internally Displaced People (IDPs) within Afghanistan, the host communities receiving these returnees and the high food insecure populations affected by many years of drought, the last one being in 2008, and by the global rise in food prices. The needs of the returnees and IDPs included transport and resettlement support, as well as food, shelter and water and sanitation for the most vulnerable such as female headed households. With over 5 million refugees and displaced people having returned since 2002, many of these and their host communities have required continuing support to avoid a major humanitarian crisis, particularly in the sector of water and sanitation where Afghanistan has some of the worst global indicators. A further significant area for humanitarian support was protection, especially in the south of Afghanistan and food assistance for the highly food insecure population.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO has funded projects addressing the needs of vulnerable people affected by the consequences of the Afghan conflict and natural hazards since 1992. Between 2003 and 2008, DG ECHO has spent €197 million including €15.8 million from the food aid budget line.

The main intervention targeted the needs of the over 5 million returnees, IDPs and the most vulnerable host communities. Assistance to the victims of natural disasters, notably of the severe drought that affected Afghanistan in 2008, was also provided. Water and sanitation, food, shelter, protection, basic livelihood, security advice and humanitarian flights were the main sectors of activity. Activities in the health sector were taken over by the EC Delegation in a successful LRRD exercise in 2004.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

DG ECHO's strategy for 2008 was focused on assisting the return of refugees and IDPs and ensuring basic livelihood support for the most vulnerable and for their host communities. In parallel, DG ECHO worked with DG RELEX and UNHCR to attain durable solutions for the Afghan populations remaining in Pakistan and Iran, preparing for the time when they would cease to be considered as refugees.

DG ECHO under its Global Plan funded €25 million of humanitarian aid for victims of the Afghan crisis, covering the registration and transportation of refugees from Pakistan and Iran to Afghanistan, as well as continuing support for the most vulnerable of the remaining refugees. Shelter together with water and sanitation were the main sectors of intervention within Afghanistan. Responses to localised disasters were made with an increasing emphasis on building up local capacity. All projects were implemented with full respect to the key issue of gender. Protection assistance was provided, notably through continued support to both UNHCR and ICRC in their respective protection mandate roles. Given the constraints of security and geography, support to security advisory services for aid agencies in Afghanistan, and to a subsidised humanitarian flight service was maintained.

€9.8 million from the global food aid decision was allocated to Afghanistan in order to respond to the consequences of the 2008 drought that was coming after almost three years of recurrent drought. Access to food and clean water supplies, as well as food security were improved for the most vulnerable populations, with a particular focus on disabled persons and female headed households. Food assistance to battle affected IDPs in the South of the country was also provided.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Close coordination is taking place on LRRD matters between DG ECHO and DG RELEX and EuropeAid Cooperation Office, with a view to ensuring the mutual compatibility of their programmes and a handover wherever possible as it has been the case for health programmes in 2004. Regarding assistance to refugees in Pakistan and Iran, DG ECHO closely coordinated with the EC Delegation (through the Uprooted People budget line) so that a clear distinction of funding between strict humanitarian and more developmental actions was respected, while in Afghanistan assistance has remained focused on the pockets of greatest need.

In the food sector, a comprehensive LRRD strategy between DG ECHO's food assistance and the EuropeAid's Food Security Thematic Programming was designed and implemented in 2008.

Pakistan

Humanitarian needs

Pakistan is subject to frequent natural disasters, notably in 2008 these were flooding in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) and an earthquake in Balouchistan. The main humanitarian needs in 2008 were, however, in favour of displaced population due to conflict. This was notably in NWFP and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) with estimated numbers of displaced fluctuating between 100,000 and 400,000 people.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

While initially involved mainly in relation to the Afghan refugee crisis (assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistani soil), humanitarian aid had become increasingly engaged in responding to natural disasters, although local capacity for such response has also been increasing significantly since the 2005 earthquake. Now humanitarian aid actors are increasingly concerned with the consequences of conflict within Pakistan.

Humanitarian Objectives and Achievements

To assist those displaced by conflict during the latter half of the year, €1.5 million was allocated to ICRC to assist 60,000 displaced. This included an initial food ration, shelter, and domestic items as well as medical and water and sanitation support for displaced and host communities.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

With little prospect for an early end to the conflicts in Pakistan, and major constraints such as security and access, LRRD efforts are focused more on coordinating responses to the ongoing needs.

Bangladesh

Humanitarian needs

Bangladesh, the world's most densely populated country, is highly vulnerable to natural disasters, in particular earthquakes, floods and cyclones. This vulnerability is being exacerbated by climate change factors. In 2008, four humanitarian crises have been dealt by DG ECHO.

The total amount of 2008 funding decisions for Bangladesh was €20.5 million broken down below in needs covered.

After completion in 2007 of the immediate emergency relief programmes in response to the SIDR cyclone that severely hit the country in November 2007 affecting close to 9 million people and destroying more than 500,000 houses, food stocks, livelihoods and basic infrastructures, DG ECHO funded additional emergency programs in 2008 to address continuing basic shelter needs (€ million) and food aid/short term early recovery programs (€ million).

In addition, an estimated 10,000 Rohingya (Muslim minority from Burma/Myanmar's Arakan State) undocumented refugees who used to live in overcrowded and appalling conditions in a makeshift camp in Teknaf, without access to drinkable water or adequate sanitation were moved to a new site with DG ECHO support. Humanitarian assistance through a €351,000 emergency food aid distribution/Cash for Work program (under food aid budget line) was released to respond to a food crisis caused by cholera outbreak and heavy monsoon during the transfer of Rohingya refugees to the new location.

Bamboo flowering in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region led to the multiplication of rodents and consequent crop destruction. In an area where food insecurity is already very high, this led to a food crisis which DG ECHO addressed through emergency food aid programs totalling €1,6 million (under the food aid budget line).

Heavy monsoon downpour end of September combined with heavy water flow coming from upstream India rivers, resulted in waterlog flooding in Jessore and Shatkhira Districts in the South-West region of Bangladesh. It is estimated that the floods have affected over 196,000 people and around 80,000 had been displaced and were living in appalling conditions in makeshift shelters or under the open sky. DG ECHO provided €1.5 million to address urgent needs in the areas of food security, emergency water and sanitation activities, livelihood

restoration and shelter. Some disaster preparedness measures had also been included in the operations, as much as was possible in the context of an emergency intervention.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

In 2004, ECHO also provided humanitarian assistance to the people of Chittagong Hill Tracts, who were victims of communal violence.

DG ECHO intervened in Bangladesh whenever a natural disaster exceeding the local coping capacity struck the country. In 2004 and 2006, the country was hit by severe floods where DG ECHO provided food rations, safe drinking water and emergency items. 2007 was a particular harsh year with two spells of monsoon floods in August and September displacing millions of people. Then, cyclone SIDR hit the country on 15th November 2007 where DG ECHO responded through a primary emergency decision and two emergency decisions totalling €8.4 million.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

With the latest €5 million allocation in favour of SIDR cyclone victims, DG ECHO responded as much as possible to the large outstanding humanitarian needs in the shelter sector.

DG ECHO has also quickly addressed the emergency humanitarian needs arising from floods as well as the food security crisis.

Finally, DG ECHO succeeded to move the 10,000 Rohingya undocumented refugees to a decent site where they can live with some dignity and basic services.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In Bangladesh LRRD in sectors of food security and disaster preparedness/disaster risk reduction are particularly important, as structural issues in these sectors contribute directly to the humanitarian crises caused by sudden onset disasters.

Close coordination is ensured with the DG for External Relations Stability Instrument and EC Delegation, so as to link the emergency interventions of DG ECHO with the longer term interventions of the European Commission. For example, the Stability Instrument has allocated €13 million to cyclone affected areas thus ensuring effective LRRD with DG ECHO interventions.

Active collaboration with EC Delegation has facilitated the granting of a site for the relocation of Rohingya refugees, and close coordination is maintained between DG ECHO and the EC Delegation/EuropeAid/DG RELEX who are supporting two official camps for documented Rohingya refugees.

India

Humanitarian needs

After a relative lull in 2007, violence in Jammu and Kashmir flared up again in the summer 2008. Access to some of the victims was impossible at times and remains restricted.

In the Southern part of Chhattisgarh State, Naxalite (Maoist)-related violence remains significant and the population (mainly tribal people and scheduled castes) are caught in the conflict. Some areas are totally inaccessible and in general the region is acutely lacking in basic social services, as it is practically impossible to hire doctors or teachers to work in such a risky environment. Tens of thousands are displaced as a consequence of the fighting.

Bamboo flowering in Mizoram caused a massive increase in the numbers of rodents who proceeded to eat the standing crops and stocked seeds. Villagers turned to other alternatives to feed their families, but over time these became depleted. Like in Bangladesh, a silent crisis followed because of the rat infestation.

In August the Koshi River broke through an embankment (in Nepal), destroying crops, houses, livestock and social infrastructure. As the river flows south into the Ganges, soon the Indian State of Bihar was flooded. Over 33 million people in Bihar were affected.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2004 DG ECHO has funded projects addressing the needs of conflict-affected populations in Jammu and Kashmir to the tune of €8 million. 2007 was the first year of DG ECHO intervention in Chhattisgarh and so far this assistance has added up to €1.5 million.

India is prone to natural disasters and DG ECHO provided humanitarian assistance to the victims of a series of these in the past 5 years, including the 2004 South Asia Tsunami, the 2005 Kashmir earthquake, and monsoon flooding in 2004, 2006 and 2007. In 2008 assistance was provided to the victims of the Mizoram rat plague and the victims of the Koshi River flooding.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, DG ECHO allocated a total amount of €6 million to India of which €2.9 million in humanitarian aid and €3.1 million in food aid. An emergency decision has also been adopted to respond to the floods in the State of Bihar affecting India and Nepal (€4.5 million)

In the context of the conflict in Kashmir, approximately 40,000 people received psychosocial support and protection, including children in orphanages. In Chhattisgarh, 20,000 people benefited from curative and preventive basic healthcare services and 7,500 internally displaced families benefited from improved water and sanitation.

DG ECHO continued also to finance projects in shelter and the provision of water and sanitation to the Sri Lankan refugees living in camps in Tamil Nadu.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In Jammu and Kashmir, past DG ECHO support for non-formal education and child protection are is being continued by EuropeAid and the EC Delegation.

In Chhattisgarh a State Partnership Programme has been signed between the EC Delegation and the State authorities, aiming at the equitable delivery of and access to quality health and education services, as well as improved forest-based tribal livelihoods, through governance, institutional reform and capacity development at state and at decentralized levels. It is expected that this programme will be a valuable vehicle for linking relief and rehabilitation, and will ultimately allow DG ECHO to exit from this crisis.

Nepal

Humanitarian needs

Nepal is one of the world's poorest countries and remains the scene of two forgotten humanitarian crises.

The violent conflict initiated by Maoist rebels in 1996 cost over 13,000 lives and although it was formally brought to an end with the signature of the Peace Agreement in November 2006, the country is still suffering from its consequences, marked by high volatility and frequent spates of violence.

Against this poor socio-economic background and political instability, the toll of the 10-year conflict is still heavy. The conflict isolated populations in the worst affected areas and disrupted trade and agricultural activities; it destroyed water supply systems and communications infrastructure. Most of the community drinking water systems constructed during the 1980s and 1990s are not working effectively. Health posts are not functioning properly and still suffer from a lack of trained personnel, hygiene, medicines and waste treatment equipment and systems. The Nepalese authorities have not been able to give support to communities due to budget cuts and security concerns.

A second forgotten crisis has trapped over 103,000 refugees, including 22,000 children, who were expelled from Bhutan between 1990 and 1992. Since then they have been stuck in seven camps in the south-east of Nepal, accepted by neither Nepal nor Bhutan and are totally dependent on external aid. In the absence of a political solution, the United States and other countries have offered a resettlement options and 7,000 refugees could leave in 2008.

The 2008 monsoon season caused severe flooding in the Terai plains, destroying crops, houses, livestock and infrastructure. Main region affected have been the Kailali district and the Saptari and Sunsari district that were flooded after the brake in the embankment of the Koshi River. Over 200,000 people were affected.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2004, DG ECHO has provided close to €32 million of humanitarian and food aid for the refugees and for victims of the armed conflict.

Nepal is prone to natural disasters and DG ECHO provided humanitarian assistance to the victims of monsoon flooding in 2007 and 2008, as well as to victims of drought in 2006.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008 populations living in the most affected areas by the conflict continued to benefit from protection activities, with particular emphasis on support to internally displaced people.

Primary and reproductive healthcare was provided to over 300,000 people in the mid- and far-west regions. Also, 18,250 people benefited from the construction of drinking water systems and latrines.

Food aid was distributed to 103,000 Bhutanese refugees, representing a third of their annual requirements. DG ECHO also supported a supplementary food ration programme for vulnerable refugees (malnourished children under five, pregnant women and nursing mothers, tuberculosis patients and elderly sick people).

DG ECHO approved €2.4 million in humanitarian aid for the flood victims, including provisions for emergency shelter, food rations and clothing. In addition to this, the Commission also financed disaster preparedness projects.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The contribution to the Bhutanese refugees' food needs is complemented by support from EuropeAid Co-operation Office for UNHCR's management activities in the camps. 2008 brought fresh hopes in terms of a possible solution to this crisis through resettlement in third countries, from which the refugees can continue to lobby to return to Bhutan. It is foreseen that a majority will opt for the resettlement option, thus significantly reducing the number of those requiring continuing assistance. However, given the size of the caseload, it will take at least 5 years to complete the process. During that time political efforts will be maintained to lobby for a solution for those not able or willing to relocate, including for a return to Bhutan and the possibility for others to settle legally in Nepal.

DG ECHO is also carefully monitoring the evolution of the socio-political situation. It is hoped that socio-economic development will be made possible through progressive political stability, enabling the development partners to occupy their natural space and, consequently, allowing DG ECHO to close down its operations linked to the conflict.

Sri Lanka

Humanitarian needs

In January 2008 the Government of Sri Lanka abrogated the 2002 ceasefire agreement with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and launched a major assault on Tamil held territory in the north of the country. By the end of the year, the army made significant gains and over 300,000 civilians had been forced to flee from shelling and aerial bombardment and move eastwards into a LTTE controlled district. Due to repeated displacement, access restrictions and disruption to livelihood caused by the fighting, almost all of the displaced are dependent on humanitarian aid.

Relief assistance was being provided to the displaced by ECHO funded partners and other humanitarian agencies, but in September 2008 the government ordered all INGOs and UN agencies working in the Vanni to relocate their humanitarian and development operations outside the conflict area for security reasons. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was the only organization allowed to remain present and continued limited relief

assistance and protection activities. After pressure from international agencies, the government also agreed to the establishment of WFP humanitarian convoys but due to security and other restrictions these convoys have only been able to supply around 50% of food needs. At the end of the year, heavy monsoon rains exacerbated the problem and in addition to food, there were also urgent needs for shelter materials, medical supplies and other essential items.

While focus on humanitarian needs in 2008 has been in the Vanni, a further 500,000 IDPs and locally vulnerable population in Jaffna and other districts of the north and east were still in need of humanitarian assistance following earlier stages of the conflict.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2003 the Commission has provided over €64 million of humanitarian assistance and over €43 million in response to the tsunami. Related tsunami projects ended mid 2007 and focus has now returned to the escalating conflict in the north.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008 DG ECHO provided €19 million in emergency relief assistance to over 800,000 IDPs and conflict affected population in Sri Lanka and 30,000 Sri Lankan refugees living in camps in Tamil Nadu, India. This included an emergency decision for €2 million specifically for IDPs in the Vanni.

Main sectors of intervention were protection, food aid and food security, shelter and non food relief items, water and sanitation, coordination and security. In Tamil Nadu the focus was on water and sanitation.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In terms of LRRD, DG ECHO works closely with other Commission services to link with programmes which complement and go beyond DG ECHO emergency interventions by concentrating on the medium term needs of returnee IDPs and host communities in Sri Lanka.

4.2. SOUTH EAST AND EAST ASIA

The region is extremely exposed to natural disasters but 2008 was a particularly bad year: in May cyclone Nargis struck the Ayeyarwady delta region and Yangon city in Burma/Myanmar, affecting up to 2.4 million people, and in Sichuan province in China, a devastating earthquake affected 45 million people. In addition to these two major events, Vietnam and Lao People's Democratic Republic saw the landfall of tropical storm Kammuri and subsequent flooding.

The political scene was dominated by the turmoil in Thailand and massive demonstrations, which eventually resulted in a change of Government. Given the political stalemate in Burma/Myanmar, refugees living in Thailand continued to be a priority for DG ECHO. The year 2008 saw the freezing of relations between the two Koreas and South Korea did not send its usual food and fertiliser aid into the North. However, as a long-term food security approach better addresses the problem, DG ECHO did not intervene.

The Philippines saw an escalation in the conflict between the Government and the armed opposition groups, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), leaving numerous people displaced. In East Nusa Tenggara/Eastern Indonesia (NTT) the nutritional status of vulnerable groups continued to deteriorate causing ECHO to intervene, and in Timor Leste support to the return and integration process of IDPs continued.

In 2008, the Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan for South East Asia was adopted benefitting up to 1,675,000 people.

Burma/Myanmar

Humanitarian needs

The **protracted crisis** in Burma/Myanmar, ruled by a military regime since 1962, is characterised by ongoing low-intensity conflict between the Army and non-ceasefire ethnic groups. This is however not the only reason causing internal displacement which is also due to land confiscation for natural resources, teak rubber and bio-fuel plantations and livelihood vulnerability-induced displacement (migration). The ethnic conflict resulted in 150,000 Burmese refugees in refugee camps in Thailand and 28,000 mainly Rohingyas in Bangladesh. Many thousands of Rohingyas and other ethnic minorities are looking for jobs as illegal migrants in Southern Thailand, Malaysia or as far as the Gulf countries.

Although about 236,000 Muslim Rohingyas returned into Northern Rakhine State (NRS) from Bangladesh, they live in a precarious situation and require humanitarian assistance. According to the Thailand-Burma Border Consortium (TBBC) in 2007 there were 503,000 IDPs in Eastern Burma/Myanmar. Out of these, 99,000 were hiding, 109,000 in relocation sites and 295,000 in ceasefire areas. Access to these groups is very difficult for the international humanitarian community, while many IDPs have already integrated into their new villages.

These vulnerable groups live in extreme poverty, where basic services such as health and education are absent. Infectious diseases, like malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, make them even more vulnerable. Soaring fuel and rice prices early 2008 had a negative impact on the general humanitarian situation in Burma/Myanmar. The rodent crisis also affecting

Bangladesh and Mizoram, India has spelt over into Chin state by destroying paddy fields and grain stocks. The overall impact of this latter crisis is still unknown due to the absence of any comprehensive food security assessment.

On 2nd -3rd May 2008, **cyclone Nargis** struck Burma/Myanmar, sweeping through the Irrawaddy (Ayeyarwady) delta region and the country's main city, Yangon. Strong winds compounded by a high tidal surge flattened many villages and several townships were 95% destroyed. An estimated 2.4 million people have been affected and many have lost their livelihoods (fishing, rice production etc.). Almost 140,000 people have been killed or remain missing.

The Irrawaddy delta is a heavily populated area of 7,35 million people – the most populous of Myanmar's states and divisions, with an average population density of 466 persons per square mile. It is the main rice producing area of the country. Before the devastating cyclone, international humanitarian community did not have access to this part of the country.

Because of the political situation, under the EU Common Position only humanitarian assistance can be implemented.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since 2004, DG ECHO allocated €70.9 million to provide assistance for vulnerable populations in Burma/Myanmar affected by the protracted crisis.

To respond to the immense humanitarian needs after cyclone Nargis in 2008, DG ECHO allocated €39 million. Relief activities in the cyclone-affected Irrawaddy delta will continue until early 2010.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, DG ECHO's activities in Burma/Myanmar continued to be based on the following sectors: protection, health, water and sanitation, nutrition and food aid. Due to the worsening humanitarian situation it became necessary to increase DG ECHO's contribution to nutrition and become involved again in food assistance in NRS. DG ECHO gave priority to the highly vulnerable border groups, notably to those living in remote rural areas on the borders with Bangladesh, India, China and Thailand, those lacking access to basic social services or those suffering discrimination on ethnic (Mon and Karen minorities) or religious grounds (the Muslim Rohingyas in NRS).

After cyclone Nargis hit the Irrawaddy delta, DG ECHO deployed its humanitarian experts quickly to reinforce its field office in Yangon. €2 million was made available without delay to respond to the immediate needs under a primary emergency decision. An additional €15 million was allocated still in May 2008 to meet urgent relief and food needs. The proper use of the funding could only be guaranteed after humanitarian access was granted to the international community by the Government of the Union of Myanmar. In December 2008, the Commission approved further €22 million to cover still unmet relief needs in remote parts of the Delta. Sectors of intervention are: shelter, water and sanitation, primary health care, food assistance and nutrition, early recovery and disaster risk reduction.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Given the current EU Common Position, LRRD cannot be fully applied in Burma/Myanmar, but good coordination exists with the Aid to Uprooted People action managed by EuropeAid to complement humanitarian activities and avoid duplication. For example a nutrition programme in Northern Rakhine State is complemented by a food security programme funded through this budget line. In 2007, EuropeAid launched a Food Security Thematic Programme of €8 million for four years – providing further opportunities for LRRD. Funds are also allocated to the "Three Diseases Fund" for tuberculosis, malaria and HIV-AIDS through the first ever approved Multi-Indicative Programme (MIP) for Burma/Myanmar (€18 million over four years). Given the large scale of needs in the health sector, DG ECHO still needs to provide complementary funding.

In November 2008 a dialogue has started between the European Commission and the Government of the Union of Myanmar on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). A political and financial commitment from the government on improving health indicators could facilitate DG ECHO's exit from this sector.

With the last financing decision which will end on 31/05/2010, there is a good potential for LRRD in the cyclone-affected Irrawaddy delta with DG ECHO addressing the most urgent early recovery needs, while long-term instruments can facilitate the setting up of a livelihood and food security trust fund.

Thailand

Humanitarian needs

The number of Burmese refugees along the Thailand-Burma border has increased from 10,000 in 1984 to 153,000 in 2006. In 2006 the resettlement of Burmese refugees into third countries started resulting in the most skilled ones leaving first the camps. Due to the resettlement process the number of registered refugees by UNHCR has decreased to 116,997, while TBBC feeding figures report about 135,623 refugees. Unfortunately, the number of camp populations does not follow the same decreasing trend as new "entries" occupy the "vacant" shelters of those left. As camp populations are not allowed to leave the camps officially and look for job outside the camp, these are entirely dependent on external assistance. It is important to highlight that there are about 1.5-2 million illegal migrants from Burma/Myanmar alone living in Thailand.

Resettlement options are, not the most popular among refugees who would prefer returning to Burma/Myanmar one day or integrating into Thai society. The majority of these refugees have now been living in the camps for over 20 years, where they are subject to a number of significant restrictions and abuses and their quality of life is very precarious. On top of basic humanitarian needs (shelter, food, health care, water and sanitation), social and psychological problems are increasing, as well as violence within the camps and trafficking outside.

The international community has a double task in this context: provision of humanitarian assistance for the Burmese refugees in camps in Thailand, while through a reinforced donor coordination and enhanced strategic dialogue it needs to continue advocating to the Royal Thai Government (RTG) for durable solutions, opening up the camps and facilitating the integration of refugees into Thai society. The European Commission plays an active role in this regard. Involving the RTG is not only the task of the donor community but also the UN

and the INGOs providing services there. The political turmoil in Thailand in 2008 did, however, not favour this process.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Given the political stalemate in Burma/Myanmar, refugees living in Thailand received extensive support from DG ECHO in the form of food, health and water and sanitation. In 2009 DG ECHO will start with the gradual downscaling of its contribution for the Burmese refugee camps in Thailand.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, DG ECHO continued the provision of essential food items and cooking fuel, health care and water and sanitation through its partner organisations. Assistance reached camp populations in six camps out of nine.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Given the circumstances, LRRD cannot be fully applied to refugee camps in Thailand. However good coordination exists with the EC instrument for Aid to Uprooted People to complement humanitarian aid and avoid duplication particularly in health and water and sanitation. Both in Brussels and Bangkok, DG ECHO has been advocating to other donors to urge the RTG to find durable solutions for one of the world's oldest refugee caseloads, while also calling for better burden-sharing among donors. The European Commission is the largest donor for Burmese refugees in Thailand.

China

Humanitarian needs

The devastating earthquake of 8.0 magnitude of the Richter scale on 12th May 2008 affected some 45 million people, killing an estimated 90,000 and leaving five million homeless in Sichuan province. This tremor was followed by several hundreds of aftershocks, some of them being stronger than 5.6 on the Richter scale. The Chinese authorities organised very quickly the immediate emergency efforts, while also allowing the deployment of foreign search and rescue teams. 84,000 people were rescued, 1.5 million evacuated and 4.3 million injured treated. International aid was also authorized.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

In recent years DG ECHO did not intervene in China taking into account the country's response capacities.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

Given the enormous extent of the disaster and the huge number of people affected, DG ECHO decided to allocate €2 million to provide immediate assistance through the Netherlands Red Cross. 8,511 tents were purchased and distributed within 2 months.

Timor-Leste

Humanitarian needs

The main humanitarian issue the country has been facing since 2006 is civil unrest. At the beginning of 2008 there were an estimated 100 000 registered displaced people: 30,000 people in IDPs camps and 70,000 persons with host families in Dili. In spring 2006, riots and fierce demonstrations took place in Dili after a large dismissal of soldiers from the army. In a country which has experienced instability since its 1999 referendum for independence, tensions increased quickly, leading to an outbreak of violence forcing around 150,000 people to leave their homes.

To address the IDPs issues and more broadly early recovery challenges in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, the recently elected Government of Timor Leste adopted the National Recovery Strategy (NRS) in January 2008. The NRS allocates \$35 million for IDPs' return package for a maximum amount of \$4500 per family. This return package is to be spent on building materials depending on the IDPs vulnerability. 2008 can be characterised by the massive return of IDPs (70,000 from host families and 20,000 from IDP camps). By end of 2008, only 10,000 remained in camps. This process can be interpreted as a success but the situation remains complex.

Disputes over land ownership, perceived fear from further violence on return and limited economic opportunities prevent those who are still remaining in the camps at the end of 2008 from return. The value of the NRS incentives will most likely compel most of the displaced to seek alternative arrangements in the coming months. Overall the volatility of the security situation remains of concern and 2009 will be an indicator of success for the reintegration in the medium term.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Since the country became independent in 2002, DG ECHO has provided €14 million in emergency assistance to the most vulnerable victims of violence and in response to alarming levels of malnutrition. The food aid and supplementary feeding programmes were phased out in 2006 when long term programs tackling the causes of malnutrition have been put in place by the Commission. Since June 2006, following the outbreak of violence, the Commission has provided relief assistance to the IDPs for a total amount of €8 million. DG ECHO interventions have progressively shifted in 2008 from relief assistance in the IDPs camps to a more comprehensive strategy to focus on the return of IDPs.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, DG ECHO mainly targeted IDPs. DG ECHO adopted a €2 million ad-hoc decision on 22 May 2008, focusing its intervention on the support to return and integration of estimated 30,000 IDPs in the camps at the end of 2007. DG ECHO strategy is to provide multi-sector assistance to the population affected by the crisis, with access to water and sanitation in the camps and transitional shelters, camp management, protection and transport of IDPs, return monitoring, food aid rations for the returnees, health and child protection. The five projects funded under the last decision will be completed between February and July 2009. If there is no further outbreak of violence, this last decision is foreseen to be the phase-out decision for DG ECHO, by filling the gap during this transitional period for the return of IDPs.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

DG ECHO's interventions are coordinated with the newly established EC delegation in Dili and with other stakeholders present in the country, such as Member States and other donors.

With the significant return of IDPs in the last six months of 2008, DG ECHO has reinforced its LRRD strategy with other services of the Commission. The phase-out planned after mid-2009 will coincide with the implementation of the actions supported by the Instrument for Stability (IfS) which started at the end of 2008. One component of the IfS programme will aim at improving social and economic conditions within communities for the reintegration of IDPs. This will complement the DG ECHO funded projects.

The EC delegation is focusing its attention on IDP return and food insecurity. It is contributing to this process through various funding instruments/programs (IfS, Food Security thematic programme, Water Facility, Rural Development Programme in 9th and 10th EDF etc).

Indonesia

Humanitarian needs

Large humanitarian needs are regularly caused by recurrent natural disasters, Indonesia being located in one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world - the so-called 'ring of fire' - where there is a particularly high vulnerability to earthquakes, floods and landslides.

In June 2008, East Nusa Tenggara/Eastern Indonesia (NTT) provincial government reported 23 deaths of children under five due to malnutrition since January 2008, which was also confirmed by DG ECHO partners. After consecutive droughts from 2002 to 2007, the food security situation in NTT has been on the edge of emergency thresholds. This downward trend was verified by a nutritional survey undertaken by Care/Church World Service/HKI at the end of 2007. Household food insecurity, environmental conditions, inadequate care and feeding practices, poor access to safe drinking water and insufficient maternal and child health services have been identified as major underlying causes of malnutrition among young children.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

This period was marked by the earthquake and tsunami which devastated Aceh and Northern Sumatran coasts on 26th December 2004. For this crisis only, DG ECHO disbursed an amount of close to €60 million with projects running from 26th December 2004 to 30th June 2007.

Other smaller crises were addressed by DG ECHO during the years 2003-2008: displacement due to ethnic violence, drought and malnutrition, epidemics, earthquakes, smaller tsunamis, and in May 2006, the destructive earthquake that hit the city of Yogyakarta and the surrounding areas. The total contribution of DG ECHO to Indonesia excluding the tsunami response was €21.9 million.

DG ECHO intervened already in 2005 with €2 million to help vulnerable population affected by natural disasters and malnutrition in Papua and Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT).

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In October 2008, DG ECHO adopted a €2 million ad-hoc decision, to improve household and community resilience in order to cope with the disaster-prone environment and prevent degradation of the nutritional status of vulnerable groups in NTT.

The present intervention aims at supporting very vulnerable families undergoing acute food and livelihood crisis, restoring their coping capacities while trying to introducing positive and sustainable behaviour changes. This should avoid the total exhaustion of these people's capacities to face the recurrent, small-scale natural disasters - such as floods, landslides, earthquakes, pest infestation and drought - that affect them.

Projects are mainly focusing on the reinforcement of livelihoods through seeds distribution and capacity-building, access to clean water and irrigation, promotion of good care practices for infants and mainstreaming of disaster preparedness.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

In Aceh and Nias, as well as in Yogyakarta rehabilitation and recovery programmes funded under a Multi Donor Trust co-chaired by the EC are ongoing.

For the food insecurity in NTT a comprehensive LRRD is difficult to be implemented under the 2007-2013 CSP as food security has not been foreseen as a sector of intervention. However, DG ECHO funded projects are being coordinated with the interventions supported by Aid to Uprooted people for West Timor and by the Multi donor support facility funded also by the Dutch and Danish Government. Nevertheless, DG ECHO will continue advocating to longer term instrument and other donors on the serious food insecurity situation NTT has been facing. Indonesia was not selected as a beneficiary under the Food facility.

North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea - DPRK)

Humanitarian needs

The protracted humanitarian crisis in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is caused by a combination of the continuing decline of the economy and the inability of the Government to effectively address the situation with appropriate development measures. There remain still considerable needs, particularly in food production, health and sanitation, in the various parts of the country which are of a structural nature and therefore can be addressed best by longer term instruments in a sustainable way.

2008 saw the deadlock of the 6-Party Talks (6PT) and freezing relations between the two Koreas. Although energy aid for DPRK continued being delivered under the 6PT, South Korea did not send its usual annual food and fertiliser aid into the North.

In mid-May DPRK requested food aid from WFP due to the destructions caused by the August 2007 floods, soaring food and fuel prices in the international markets to be able to feed its most vulnerable populations. Four US-based organisations and WFP were provided an unusually good access to undertake rapid food security assessments in the country. European NGOs constituting the so-called EUPS structure were not invited to join this exercise despite their long years of experience and knowledge.

The findings of the assessment were not new to the Commission and also confirmed that the current long-term food security approach addresses better the country's needs. EU Member States also share this view, although the food security situation remains fragile.

The United States pledged 500,000 MT of food aid to be distributed by four United States' NGOs and WFP. In September WFP also launched a \$503 million EMOP for 18 months to tackle DPRK's chronic food insecurity and prevent that the situation would turn really severe.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Between 2004 and 2007, €40.6 million²⁹ have been provided for humanitarian assistance by DG ECHO. This assistance has been allocated to cover the immediate needs of flood-affected populations, to address food/nutritional problems, improve access to water as well as health care.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In the first half of 2008 DG ECHO partners completed their health and water and sanitation as well as flood emergency projects in DPRK. The very specific structure of EU resident NGOs, the European Union Programme Support (EUPS), continues to function well. All parties (DG ECHO, NGOs and the North Korean authorities) concerned adhered to the modus operandi of this arrangement. The co-ordination of this structure was handed over to EuropeAid when DG ECHO closed its field office on 14th May 2008 and exited from the country.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Due to the nuclear standoff triggered in the autumn of 2002 and aggravated by the DPRK's nuclear test in October 2006, the international community has been reluctant to finance development programmes. In line with UN Security Council - Resolution 1718, the EU also introduced restrictive measures against DPRK. This framework also limits the possibilities of co-operation with DPRK which is restricted only to humanitarian assistance.

DG ECHO's advocacy activities proved to be successful: in addition to food security projects financed under the Food Security LRRD Thematic Programme, DG EuropeAid could also launch a financing decision under DCI Special Measures: "Foster the Dialogue Process with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) through support to Health, Water and Sanitation and Institutional Strengthening for 2008". This latter instrument complemented by the possibilities provided under food security will enable that the vast knowledge and lessons learnt accumulated in health and in water and sanitation over the years will be taken on board by other services, also ensuring institutional memory. DG ECHO shared the external evaluation on its approach in DPRK in 2004-2007 with DG EuropeAid as well as other relevant external evaluations.

²⁹ €16.7 million (2004), €13.7 million (2005), €8 million (2006) and €2 million (2007)

Philippines

Humanitarian needs

With the armed upheaval of the conflict between the Government of the Philippines (GoP) and the main armed opposition groups, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), DG ECHO had to intervene to provide assistance for displaced populations living in evacuation centres, makeshift shelters and with host families in Mindanao. About 375,000 people became displaced. Living conditions in evacuation centres and displacement sites do not meet SPHERE standards and basic services were not provided either.

The humanitarian situation of the conflict-affected people was from time to time aggravated by recurrent flooding. The security situation in the conflict zone has also deteriorated.

The recent conflict in Mindanao became quickly a forgotten crisis as it did not attract any international media attention, while the Government aimed at downplaying the severity of the situation. Humanitarian agencies also face difficulties in raising funds to respond.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO's interventions in Philippines over the last 5 years focused on the response to displacement due to the internal conflict affecting Mindanao and to response to natural disasters. DG ECHO supported conflict-affected populations between 1997 and 2005 for €7 million with the last contribution of €500,000 in 2005 for conflict-affected populations.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

To respond to the increasing humanitarian needs, DG ECHO in 2008 allocated a total of €6.5 million through two financing decisions to help conflict-affected populations. Sectors of intervention were food aid, distribution of non-food items, emergency water and sanitation, primary health care and improvement of evacuation centres.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

There is a close co-operation with the EC Delegation in Manila which has conflict-prevention projects in Mindanao.

Vietnam and Laos

Humanitarian needs

While the prevalence of general hazards and major disasters in Lao PDR is considered medium to low as compared to other Asian countries, it is the acute vulnerability that causes relatively high risks for communities when disasters occur. As far as Vietnam is concerned, this country has over the years developed good coping mechanisms to counter the impact of natural disasters. Even so, however, local capacity can be exhausted when disasters such as heavy rains and typhoons exceed their normal intensity. This was again the case in 2008, a year marked by repeated episodes of extensive flooding, which overstretched local resources for relief and rehabilitation.

On 8th August 2008 tropical storm Kammuri hit the coastal areas of Vietnam and subsequently weakened into a tropical depression that produced extremely heavy rains and flooding in the northern and north-central provinces of Lai Chau, Dien Bien, Yen Bai, Thai Nguyen, Phu Tho, Quang Ninh, Ha Giang, Bac Can, Tuyen Quang and Lang Son. In the same event Lao PDR also experienced heavy rainfall, causing the Mekong River and many of its tributaries to flood their banks. Worst affected were the northern and central provinces of Bokeo, Luang Prabang, Khammuan, Luang Namtha, Bolikamxay and the capital of Vientiane.

In Vietnam the floods and landslides cut major highway and rail links to the region bordering southern China and destroyed telephone and electricity lines, killing more than 150 people and affecting more than 93,000 persons, mainly belonging to poor ethnic minorities who depended on agriculture and aquaculture for their livelihood. In Lao PDR landslides killed six people and affected more than 204,000 people. Flood water inundated large areas of agricultural land, destroyed crops, and damaged homes and infrastructure, leading the Government of Lao PDR to appeal for international assistance.

Against this background, the most urgent needs were food assistance, water and sanitation, health, basic school materials and livelihood support.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

DG ECHO's response to natural disasters in Vietnam and Laos has been traditionally commensurate to the circumstances. While its contribution was limited to €1.4 million for flooding and typhoons in Vietnam over the period 2002-2006, the increase in climate-related hazards over the past two years has led DG ECHO to intervene three times: twice in response to typhoon Lekima (October 2007) for a total amount of €3 million and once in response to storm Kammuri (August 2008), for an amount of €1.5 million.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The €1.5 million emergency decision adopted by DG ECHO to address the consequences of storm Kammuri and subsequent floods had the objective to provide immediate assistance to the victims to quickly restore livelihoods and coping capacities and assist families and children to go back to normal life. Three emergency operations were conducted in Vietnam under this financing decision and two in Laos.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Recovery is supported by the central and local governments of Vietnam and Laos. The continued presence of the DIPECHO programme in the affected regions intends to contribute to the dissemination of typhoon/floods preparedness best practices and consolidate their adoption by national authorities and incorporation into the relevant legislation.

5. Latin America and Cuba

Many of the countries in Latin America and Cuba are recurrently affected by natural hazards such as floods, hurricanes, droughts, cold waves, landslides, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes. DG ECHO was called on to respond to an array of disaster events in 2008 – floods in Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras, three subsequent hurricanes in Cuba, cold waves in Peru and Bolivia, drought in Paraguay and Honduras. In addition, emergency actions in response to

natural disasters which affected Latin America in 2007 continued notably the Peru earthquake and hurricane Felix in Nicaragua.

Given the frequency of natural disasters in the region and the fact that they often concern only a relatively small number of people but create serious humanitarian emergency needs among them, a funding decision was launched to respond to small-scale disasters in the region. In the same vein, an epidemics decision was prepared potentially benefitting ten countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, selected on the basis of their vulnerability and frequency of outbreaks, to better prepare them for epidemics and respond to outbreaks.

Apart from the response to natural disasters, DG ECHO's humanitarian assistance to the victims of Colombia's prolonged internal conflict continued in 2008, including support for IDPs, rural population facing restriction of movement and access to basic goods and services, and Colombians in need of protection who fled to neighbouring countries. In the framework of the Global Plan Colombia 2008, a response to the floods was provided, which affected a large part of Colombia in the last trimester of the year.

In Latin America, DG ECHO continued to work closely with other programmes and donors to ensure the transition to longer-term development.

The EC Humanitarian Assistance in this part of the world was, in 2008, mainly used to cover humanitarian needs created by the internal conflict in Colombia and to respond to natural disasters throughout the region (*).

Country/Region	Funding Decisions adopted in 2008		
	HUM.AID	FOOD AID	TOTAL
LATIN AMERICA	20 070 000	4 000 000	24 070 000
Bolivia	2 000 000	1 000 000	3 000 000
Colombia	12 000 000	500 000	12 500 000
Ecuador	1 500 000	500 000	2 000 000
Honduras		1 000 000	1 000 000
Honduras/Guatemala	1 170 000		1 170 000
Peru		1 000 000	1 000 000
Paraguay	1 400 000		1 400 000
Regional Latin America	2 000 000		2 000 000

(*) Dipecho programmes excluded from these tables– refer to part III.6.

5.1. CENTRAL AMERICA (GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA)

Humanitarian needs

Central America is one of the most disaster-prone regions of the world. More than 80% of the area is at high risk of earthquakes, volcanoes, flooding, landslides and hurricanes. Every year, Central America is badly affected by tropical storms, heavy rains and floods, particularly during the hurricane season (July to November).

In 2008, a tropical depression caused heavy floods, affecting all Central American countries but particularly Honduras and Guatemala. Previously, a drought had affected the south of Honduras.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

From 2004 to 2007, a total of €16.8 million was allocated to Central America. This amount included notably the response to hurricane Stan in Guatemala and El Salvador and to hurricane Felix in Nicaragua. In 2008, total allocation to Central America was €2.2 million.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

In 2008, DG ECHO action in Central America focused on responding to the emergency needs caused by Tropical Depression No. 16 in Honduras and Guatemala and by the drought in Honduras. An emergency decision of €1.17 million was adopted to assist the most vulnerable population in Honduras and Guatemala affected by the floods and landslides caused by the Tropical Depression. A total of 35,000 people benefitted from DG ECHO-funded operations. Five projects were financed, covering water and sanitation, basic health services, food assistance and disaster preparedness activities.

In response to the drought in southern Honduras, €1 million was allocated from the food aid budget line to improve the nutritional situation of the most vulnerable population and enhance small-scale farmer households' resilience in the drought-affected southern part of the country.

DG ECHO also continued its monitoring of actions in response to hurricane Felix in Nicaragua.

LRRD – possibly exit strategy of the sector and/or country

The strong links with the EC Delegation and other Commission services were reinforced in Nicaragua after hurricane Felix. With the aim of bridging the gap between emergency relief and reconstruction, DG ECHO actively contributed to preparing a proposal under the Instrument for Stability (€7.5 million). Activities build upon ECHO operations and focus on the water and sanitation and early recovery. LRRD has also been incorporated in the planning for the financial instruments in the new Country Strategy Paper 2007-2013. In the case of Honduras, a close dialogue between DG ECHO, the EC Delegation and EuropeAid was maintained to explore avenues for LRRD through the Food Facility/Food Security Thematic Budget Line.

5.2. CUBA

Humanitarian needs

Cuba is prone to disasters, particularly to hurricanes. The hurricane season 2008 was especially difficult for the country, with three hurricanes making landfall in less than three months. In addition, in August 2008, two tropical storms had already caused flooding on the island. Loss of life was largely avoided thanks to the renowned preparedness capacity of Cuba. Ahead of the three hurricanes, more than 4.2 million people were evacuated. In addition, measures were taken to protect agriculture, livestock and fishing sectors. However, despite all preparedness efforts undertaken, the three hurricanes caused major damage to houses, agriculture, infrastructure, education and health care institutions. Hurricanes damaged more than 500,000 houses, thus affecting some 18 per cent of the total population. More than 169,000 hectares of crop land were damaged by the two first hurricanes alone, affecting over 700,000 tons of food and, thus, severely impacting food production and food security. This is the more significant because Cuba typically has already to import some 80 per cent of the required foodstuffs. In addition, hurricanes caused severe damage to education and health care institutions.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

From 2004 to 2007, €1 million was allocated to hurricane response.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

In response to hurricanes Gustav and Ike, which made landfall at the end of August and in early September 2008, €2 million were allocated from a regional funding decision to Cuba. The offer of EC humanitarian assistance was accepted once EC-Cuba cooperation was officially resumed in October 2008. Five actions were funded in the most affected provinces, focusing on emergency rehabilitation of shelter and health care institutions as well as on basic agricultural recovery and the distribution of non-food items.

LRRD – possibly exit strategy of the sector and/or country

During an inter-service mission in November 2008, the foundations were laid for LRRD with the Instrument for Stability and the Food Facility/Food Security Thematic Programme, taking over basic agricultural recovery activities from DG ECHO.

5.3. SOUTH AMERICA (EXCEPT COLOMBIA)

Humanitarian needs

South America is among the most disaster-prone regions of the world, exposed to panoply of natural hazards due to its geography, geology and climate. The phenomena of "El Niño" and "La Niña", attributed to warming/cooling in the eastern and central Pacific, are causing regular floods and droughts. The Andean region is particularly vulnerable to earthquakes - the last major one, causing significant loss of human life and physical damage, occurred in Peru in August 2007 - and many volcanoes are still active. The vulnerability of the people most at risk of natural disasters continued to increase over the past decades, and climate change has further aggravated the situation. The year 2008 was representative in this regard with an

increasing number of hazards occurring throughout the year, often affecting isolated vulnerable communities with little institutional or donor presence.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

From 2004 to 2007, more than €15 million was allocated to South America, mainly in response to floods. In 2008, the allocation to South America in response to disasters (excluding Colombia) totalled €7.4 million.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

DG ECHO responded to the humanitarian needs arising from the floods in Bolivia in early 2008, which generated damage to crops, houses and infrastructure. DG ECHO adopted an emergency decision of €2 million to meet the most urgent needs of the victims, in terms of food assistance, short term food security and livelihood support, Provision of temporary shelters and emergency rehabilitation of schools, water, and sanitation and hygiene promotion. As those affected are highly vulnerable to such events, DG ECHO's response included building the communities capacity to respond to disaster. Approximately 206,375 people were assisted through the Commission's humanitarian aid.

In Ecuador, the annual rainy season was seriously worsened by the "La Niña" phenomenon, and the country experienced heavy and continuous rainfall in the first few months of 2008.

Floods affected 14 provinces, which represents more than 50% of the territory. DG ECHO adopted an emergency decision of €1.5 million to assist the most affected populations, focusing on food assistance, short term food security and livelihood support, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, emergency rehabilitation of schools, and health. Disaster preparedness was integrated into the response, focusing on activities such as community preparedness, capacity building and public awareness. Approximately 103,590 people were assisted. Moreover, €500,000 were allocated under the food aid budget line.

A particularly cold spell of weather in 2008 badly affected subsistence and alpaca farmers living over 3,500 metres in the Peruvian and Bolivian Andes. Erratic climatic patterns at the beginning of the year, combined with crop and animal diseases, and increased food prices seriously affected the livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations, resulted in what could be described as "a silent disaster" which was unfolding as seeds became scarce, natural pastures were affected, and animals were dying from malnutrition and respiratory complications as a result of the cold wave.

DG ECHO's intervention (€1 million for each country, funded under the food aid budget line) aimed to improve overall food availability through the production of local food crops from improved planting materials and reducing alpaca mortality.

In Paraguay, a particularly severe and prolonged drought in the Chaco region, placing vulnerable populations at risk because of the lack of a secure supply and storage of clean water, and causing subsistence crops to fail and chronic malnutrition. DG ECHO adopted an emergency decision of €1.4 million to respond to the humanitarian needs, focusing on restoring basic access to water, sanitation and hygiene and strengthening resilience to future climatic shocks.

LRRD – possibly exit strategy of the sector and/or country

DG ECHO continued to actively explore avenues for LRRD with the EC delegations in the region and DG RELEX, seeking ways to undertake activities in the framework of the corresponding country strategy papers or thematic budget lines.

5.4. COLOMBIA (INCLUDING COLOMBIANS IN NEED OF PROTECTION IN ECUADOR, VENEZUELA AND PANAMA)

Humanitarian needs

For more than 40 years Colombia has suffered from an internal conflict, involving different actors (government, guerrilla, former paramilitary groups who have formed new splinter groups). As a result, more than 300,000 people have been displaced in 2008 alone. In cumulative terms (and depending on the source), between 2.5 and 4.1 million people have been displaced since 1985. In addition, UNHCR estimates that more than 500,000 Colombians are refugees or in a refugee-like situation. Most of them have fled the conflict to neighbouring countries (Ecuador, Venezuela and Panama). Due to the conflict, rural communities often have to face restricted access to basic goods and services. This has a direct negative impact on their livelihood as they are for instance prevented from cultivating their fields or going to markets. Furthermore, their access to public health services is very limited.

Most Colombians newly arriving in the neighbouring countries need emergency assistance such as food, water and sanitation immediately after arrival. Subsequently, they require assistance to know their rights and the steps to take in the refugee registration process, and to foster their integration. Colombia is also vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last five years

From 2004 to 2007, ECHO allocated a total of €44 million to improve the humanitarian situation of victims of the Colombian conflict both in Colombia itself and in neighbouring countries (Ecuador, Venezuela, Panama). Further €1.5 million was allocated for flood emergency response.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

€12.5 million was allocated to support the Colombian population affected by the armed conflict, of which €500,000 under the food aid budget line. Some 70,000 people received assistance (food and not-food items) via the ICRC during their first three months of displacement. In addition, more than 40,000 new IDPs (less than 12 months of displacement), confined or blocked populations and, to some extent, host communities received humanitarian post-emergency assistance including improved shelter, distribution of non-food items, access to basic services (primary health care, water and sanitation) and psychosocial assistance. DG ECHO continued to concentrate on the more remote rural areas, where state institutions are generally not present or government assistance is not sufficient. Protection of children continued to be a priority for DG ECHO in Colombia. More than 7,500 IDP children benefitted from specific protection measures. In addition, humanitarian assistance was provided to vulnerable conflict-affected people who were seriously affected by floods in the last quarter of the year.

DG ECHO also financed projects in Ecuador, Venezuela and Panama to assist the victims of the Colombian conflict who have fled to those neighbouring countries. With DG ECHO funding, UNHCR continued to improve the protection framework for asylum seekers by strengthening the national institutions involved in the reception, registration, documentation, assistance and integration of refugees. Protection and support services were provided for more than 45,000 Colombians to cover basic food, nutrition, shelter, health, water and sanitation and educational needs and helping the refugees in the reception, registration, documentation, assistance and integration process.

LRRD – possibly exit strategy of the sector and/or country

Close regular contact is maintained with the EC Delegation to seek LRRD. Linking was sought via the budget line Uprooted Peoples, which started implementation of its last projects, and other thematic budget lines, via the institutional support the Commission provided to state assistance mechanisms in order to improve the quality of the government's assistance and via the Instrument for Stability. Furthermore, DG ECHO partners were asked to involve state sectoral institutions to the largest extent possible with a view to handing over operations to them in the future.

6. Disaster preparedness activities (including Dipecho)

Humanitarian needs

There has been a considerable rise in the number and intensity of disasters over the last few decades partly due to climate change. In many developing countries, population growth, poor governance, increasing impoverishment, poor management of natural resources and consequently depletion and degradation of soil are factors that have contributed to increased risks and vulnerabilities. Disasters such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, drought, wildfires, tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, tsunami and volcanic eruptions claim a heavy toll in terms of the loss of human lives, destruction of economic and social infrastructure, not to mention a negative impact on already fragile ecosystems.

Furthermore, in some parts of the world, natural disasters are a recurrent phenomenon that can have severe impacts on fragile livelihoods. In some regions disasters seem to be more frequent and vulnerable people tend to face more risks and have less time to recuperate their livelihoods in between disasters. This draws attention to the value of preparedness in any disaster management policy and strategy. DG ECHO's existing programme to support community-based disaster preparedness projects, DIPECHO, covers seven regions worldwide, specifically South-East Africa (including South-West Indian Ocean), Central America, South America, the Caribbean, Central Asia, South Asia, and South-East Asia.

All seven regions are highly prone to hazards that have devastating consequences for the lives and livelihoods of thousands of people. South East Africa is a region exposed to a wide range of natural disasters such as floods, cyclones and volcanic eruptions; in Central and South America the main disasters are recurrent floods, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, storms, hurricanes and droughts; in the Caribbean the recurrence of tropical storms, floods and volcano eruptions cause regular humanitarian crises; and in Central, South and South-East Asia floods, typhoons/cyclones, landslides, droughts, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and forest fires undermine already fragile livelihoods.

DIPECHO targets the most vulnerable groups in these regions and in localities where the coping mechanisms are particularly weak both in terms of local resources and the capabilities of national disaster response mechanisms. In all of these regions, initiatives on disaster preparedness and prevention are emerging at national and regional levels, but they tend to suffer from a lack of resources and the capacity to reach out to the populations and communities most at risk. Coordination between national governments is often not very advanced or is limited to exchanges of views and knowledge or establishment of early-warning systems that are not always adapted to disaster prone areas with limited infrastructure.

Humanitarian objectives and achievements

The global objective of DG ECHO's disaster preparedness activities is to strengthen the preparedness capacities of the most vulnerable communities so that they can better face future disasters. This contributes to reducing the impact of disasters and hence the need for humanitarian aid in the aftermath of future disaster. Disaster preparedness projects and preparedness components integrated in relief interventions are mostly implemented in countries with prevalent core humanitarian needs but in some countries, DG ECHO's sole

presence is DIPECHO interventions. However, when a disaster strikes, DIPECHO has proven to be a crucial first response instrument as it has allowed communities to be better prepared and to respond by themselves providing basic relief and first aid in the critical first hours and/or days following a disaster when national or external aid were not yet available. Due to DIPECHO funding, the vulnerable communities can directly benefit from early warning systems, tested evacuation plans, on-the-spot training in first aid and search and rescue etc. that increase the local coping capacities.

DIPECHO Action Plans are implemented at three levels:

- (1) the main focus is put at community level, where they enhance the capacities of local communities at risk and of local authorities, through activities such as training, awareness-raising, setting up early warning systems and risk mapping;
- (2) at national level, where activities strengthen the capacity of national disaster management services and help to produce and disseminate maps/contingency plans; and
- (3) at regional level, where cooperation and coordination of disaster preparedness activities is encouraged, in particular through the exchange and dissemination of data, knowledge and good practices.

LRRD – possible exit strategy of the sector and/or country

It is internationally recognised that efficient Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) requires a longer term engagement by development stakeholders and national authorities. DG ECHO's contribution to global DRR efforts - consisting mainly of fostering a preparedness culture and investing in community-based preparedness measures - is one contribution among several required. Hence, DG ECHO's programming work is combined with continuous advocacy efforts at headquarters level and in the seven regions targeted by DIPECHO to encourage development stakeholders to invest in DRR. DG ECHO continues to encourage other Commission services, such as DG for External Relations, DG Development and EuropeAid Co-operation Office, EU Member States, other donors, local authorities and NGOs to build on DIPECHO lessons and best practices.

DG ECHO has been improving the coordination of its DRR interventions with the other services of the Commission and has achieved good results in certain regions. Nonetheless DG ECHO will continue its advocacy to encourage the integration of DRR and notably relevant preparedness aspects in longer term sector programmes such as education, health, environment, and food security.

As a general observation, high levels of complementarity between DIPECHO action plans and development projects can be seen as a challenge in terms of the difference in approaches by different actors: DG ECHO's short-term community-based approach versus macro-level approach applied by most donors. Even in those countries where DRR is recognised as a national development priority, interventions that benefit the most vulnerable groups do not always receive attention. This is an important challenge for the DIPECHO programme in the years to come, but a necessary condition for substantial contributions by the EC to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015.

The funding provided by DG ECHO for DIPECHO Disaster Preparedness projects in seven disaster prone regions is shown in the table below. The table below provides the cumulative funding from 1998 until 2007 as well as the funding decisions adopted in 2008.

It has to be borne in mind when looking at this table that each "DIPECHO" region only benefits from a budgetary allocation every two years, given the fact that the duration of these types of actions are typically 12-15 months.

Disaster Preparedness Funding 1998-2008			
	Funding 1998-2007	Funding 2008	Funding 1998-2008
Southern Africa/Indian Ocean		5.000.000	5.000.000
Caribbean	16.975.000		16.975.000
Central America	22.480.000	10.000.000	32.480.000
South America	23.740.000		23.740.000
Central Asia	15.050.000	7.325.000	22.375.000
South Asia	19.200.000		19.200.000
South East Asia	21.680.000	10.000.000	31.680.000
TOTAL DIPECHO	119.125.000	32.325.000	151.450.000
Drought preparedness (1)	10.000.000	30.000.000	40.000.000
TOTAL Disaster preparedness activities	129.125.000	62.325.000	191.450.000

(1) the Drought preparedness programme is mentioned under 6.8 and further described under ACP countries

6.1. SOUTHERN AFRICA AND INDIAN OCEAN (MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE, COMOROS)

Humanitarian needs

The south-east African and south-west Indian Ocean region is exposed to a wide range of natural disasters, such as floods, cyclones, and volcanic eruptions. The exposure to natural hazards, combined with socioeconomic factors such as high population density, extreme poverty and, in much of southern Africa, a high incidence of HIV and AIDS, increases the potential impact of disasters. Due to their extreme poverty, these vulnerable population groups have a very low capacity to recover from losses. Furthermore, the current capacity in the south-east African and south-west Indian Ocean region to cope with disasters is limited, and support from the international community is needed, to promote preparedness activities, mitigation projects and early warning systems.

Evolution of humanitarian aid in the last 5 years

Not applicable, first DIPECHO action plan in this region

Humanitarian objectives and achievements in 2008

A decision for €5 million was adopted in July 2008 – the first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa - followed by a call for expressions of interest to conduct disaster preparedness actions in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and the Comoros, the countries of the region most susceptible to natural disasters. The principal objective is to reduce the impact of future disasters in the south-east African and south-west Indian Ocean region, by preparing vulnerable populations in the areas most affected by recurrent natural hazards, with the specific objective of supporting strategies that enable local communities and institutions to better prepare for, mitigate and respond adequately to natural disasters, by enhancing their capacities to respond, thereby increasing resilience and decreasing vulnerability. As a result of the evaluation of the call for expressions of interest, funding was provided to 17 actions in the region starting on 1st October 2008.

6.2. CARIBBEAN

Over the period 1997-2007, six DIPECHO action plans were implemented in the Caribbean region, which represents a DG ECHO investment of €16.9 million in disaster preparedness. The last action plan was launched in September and runs until February 2009. Whilst over the years thematic and geographic considerations have slightly changed, the Caribbean DIPECHO programme remained mostly focused on natural events of hydro-meteorological origin. However, other phenomena such as drought and earthquakes are also going to be taken into consideration. The decision of expanding thematic priorities came as the result of an analysis based on the following criteria: recurrence of the natural event; level of exposition to the most recurrent hazard in terms of population and economic value at risk; institutional response capacity; governments' priorities.

The focus of the last action plan was kept on the most vulnerable communities facing risks deriving from natural disasters. The main sector of interventions included the following activities: awareness raising among communities on disaster related issues; organization of Community Emergency and Disaster Response Committees; creation of functional teams responsible for the preparation and the implementation of immediate responsive action in case of disaster; training of community members and staff of public institutions; elaboration of community emergency plans and evacuation route maps; installation of community early warning systems.

The hurricane season of 2008 demonstrated tragically the Caribbean region's exposure and vulnerability to disasters. Hurricanes and tropical storms devastated parts of Haiti and Cuba (three hurricanes made landfall on Cuba in less than three months) and also caused important damage in Jamaica, the Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos. Hurricanes, floods and mudslides claimed more than 800 lives in the region with Haiti particularly affected. Moreover, some 114 people perished in floods caused by Tropical Storm Noel in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica in November 2007. In Suriname in June 2008, severe flooding occurred, causing tremendous damage to inland communities. Earthquakes and droughts are also frequent in certain areas of the region, especially in Cuba and Haiti.

DIPECHO funded projects tend to focus on local communities and leave more ambitious efforts of institutional strengthening at national level to development donors. The impact of the top-bottom approach, mainly based on institutional strengthening will take a long time to affect community needs and also faces unpredictable political risks. Therefore, programmes that directly support communities and their basic organizations, i.e. bottom-up approach, have proven to be the better way for immediate reinforcement of coping and resilience capacities. However, strengthening synergies between DG ECHO and programmes funded by development donors remains a priority, as highlighted by the last evaluation of DIPECHO programme in 2004.

6.3. CENTRAL AMERICA

Central America is particularly exposed to natural disasters such as volcanoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, tropical storms, and landslides. The losses and destruction that result from these disasters are significant from a social and economic point of view and reduce the development potential of the region. Furthermore, Central America experiences frequent small-scale disasters affecting relatively few communities, where donors are unlikely to intervene due to the limited scale of the event, but which have a considerable negative impact on the livelihoods of those affected. These events, as well as large-scale disasters such as hurricane Mitch in 1998, Stan in 2005 and Felix in 2007, highlight the increasing need for disaster preparedness activities in the region, and the significance of community-based disaster risk reduction efforts. Such efforts enable the communities at risk to lessen the impact of the disasters and prepare themselves for when natural disasters occur.

A Fifth DIPECHO Action Plan for Central America was implemented in 2007 and 2008. An amount of €7,5 million was allocated to improve the capacities of communities at risk to better prepare for and protect themselves against natural disasters in six countries in the region: El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, the latter two countries being covered only by regional projects.

The strategy for the Sixth Action Plan was defined in collaboration with the main stakeholders in each country through four national consultative meetings and one regional consultative meeting, an analysis of existing legislation, donor activities in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the current/planned national DRR strategies and the recommendations from the external evaluation carried out in 2007. The funding decision for the Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan, for an amount of €10 million, was adopted in March 2008 and will be implemented until February 2010. It will support strategies that enable local communities and institutions to better prepare for, mitigate and respond to natural disasters by enhancing their capacities to cope and respond, thereby increasing resilience and reducing vulnerability in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama.

6.4. SOUTH AMERICA

South America is among the most disaster-prone regions of the world, exposed to a panoply of natural hazards due to its geography, geology and climate. Capacity to cope varies greatly across the region and even within-country. Since 1999, five DIPECHO Action Plans have been implemented, with the main focus being on the Andean Community. The lessons learnt from the implementation of these five DIPECHO Action Plans and from the repeated and recurrent disasters in the region, whether large or small-scale, have confirmed the need to put into place efficient early warning systems, enforce building codes, prepare communities to react in the first hours of a disaster, train people, organise awareness campaigns, mitigate the impact of disasters and carry out advocacy towards all relevant stakeholders. These types of activities are carried out in the framework of the projects financed under, DIPECHO.

The Fifth Action Plan for South America was launched in the last quarter of 2007 and implementation continued throughout 2008. An amount of €6,5 million was allocated, and twenty projects were funded: in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela; two cross-border projects (Bolivia-Peru and Argentina; Bolivia-Paraguay) and two regional projects. A specific emphasis was put on regional cooperation, exchange of information, capacity building and training and advocacy at national and regional level. Very good coordination mechanisms and joint initiatives have emerged at national level, often at the initiative of the DIPECHO partners. Such efforts will be further encouraged and supported in the framework of the Sixth Action Plan as they are perceived as being very good practices notably in the field of advocacy towards the authorities and the donor community.

To take stock of the lessons learned from the Fifth Action Plan and prepare the ground for the Sixth Action Plan, an extensive consultation process was organised in the last quarter of 2008: national workshops took place in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay, Venezuela and a regional consultative meeting in Peru. This process involved over 440 Disaster Risk Reduction experts representing more than 250 different institutions (national, regional, local authorities, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), UN agencies, Red Cross family, regional organisations, academia etc.). The conclusions of the consultative process will provide the basis for the implementation of the Sixth Action Plan. The funding decision, for an amount of €10 million, was adopted in December.

6.5. CENTRAL ASIA

Central Asia is particularly exposed to natural disasters such as landslides, avalanches, floods, earthquakes and drought. The losses and destruction that result from these disasters are considerably high from a social and economic point of view, reducing the development potential of the poorer countries and specific provinces of the region where large proportions of the population live in remote areas. This situation highlights the appropriateness to invest in community-based disaster preparedness and response capacity.

In 2008, the Commission adopted and launched its 5th DIPECHO (Disaster Preparedness ECHO) for Central Asia for an amount of €7.325 million which covers the five Central Asia countries (Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan).

Experience has once more demonstrated that during natural disasters (for instance, last years' earthquakes in Tajikistan and in Kyrgyzstan), casualties and damages can considerably be reduced thanks to good disaster preparedness activities.

6.6. SOUTH ASIA

In 2008, the implementation of the fourth Action Plan launched on the 2007 budget did continue. Beneficiary countries of these Disaster Preparedness activities were Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and for the regional component Bhutan as well. This represents a total of €7.5 million and 25 projects, most of them in favor of India, Nepal and Bangladesh, reaching over 3 million most vulnerable beneficiaries exposed to reoccurring natural disasters. Due to the nature of the natural disasters that regularly hit South Asia, multi-hazard approach has been widely used although many activities focused on the preparedness to floods, amongst others, setting up of community based early warning systems - increasing their capacities in better preparedness for response. Earthquake disaster preparedness was also addressed by majority of partners in the region. This decision also aimed to improve advocacy for Disaster Risk Reduction measures. Regional co-operation was also encouraged with ECHO's support to two regional initiatives seeking more coordination and synergies among the regional stakeholders in Disaster Risk Reduction. Moreover a new hazard has been identified in the framework of this Action Plan: with the global warming the GLOF³⁰ phenomena needs to be addressed and the Action Plan contributed to exchange experiences in order to find solutions. In 2009 it is planned to launch the fifth Action Plan for a total amount of €10 million.

6.7. SOUTH EAST ASIA

South East Asia is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world, particularly exposed to natural disasters such as floods, flash floods, cyclones, typhoons, landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, droughts, forest fires and volcano eruptions. The capacities of South East Asian countries to cope with disasters are insufficient considering the great impact of disaster events on the population. In many instances, the losses could be largely mitigated or avoided by simple preventive measures. In 2008 the Sixth DIPECHO Action Plan for South East Asia was adopted for an amount of €10 million. The programme targets Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Timor Leste, Vietnam, as well as Burma/Myanmar and Thailand through regional initiatives. By December 2008, 30 projects had been approved, including 4 Regional initiatives, benefitting an estimated 1,675,000 people. The DIPECHO programme in South East Asia will continue to address both the risks of large scale disasters, as well as the expected impact of the accumulation of recurrent, small and medium-scale natural events through enhancing better emergency preparedness, while encouraging innovative actions and joint initiatives

³⁰ Glacier Lake Outburst Floods

6.8. DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMME IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

The decision of €10 million adopted in 2006 was the first one adopted by the Commission to mitigate the effects of the recurrent drought in the Horn of Africa. The evaluation of the impact of this kind of preventive approach was very successful and DG ECHO has decided to continue and reinforce the regional drought initiative with €30 million allocated in 2008 for 18 months. The on-going humanitarian interventions, funded under this drought decision, focus on better management of natural resources, early warning systems and support to water and livestock.

For more information on the drought preparedness programme in the Horn of Africa, see the Horn of Africa section.

PART IV. POLICY ISSUES

Throughout 2008, DG ECHO's policy agenda was largely driven by the **European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid**³¹ of December 2007. In order to implement the commitments made by the EU in the Consensus, the Commission developed a **Consensus Action Plan**³² for the years 2008-2013. This action plan was adopted in May and endorsed by the Council in July.

As part of the implementation of the action plan, a conference on **International Humanitarian Law** (IHL) was held at the European Parliament in September 2008. The objective of this conference was to raise awareness of IHL violations and explore, in the framework of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, ways to better promote respect of IHL at the level of the European Union. The conference provided a major impetus for a further implementation of the IHL guidelines of 2005, work that is ongoing.

The Consensus is firmly based on the "**Good Humanitarian Donorship**" (GHD) **initiative** of 2003 and with the signature of the Consensus the number of countries adhering to GHD was considerably enlarged and now includes all EU member states. The Initiative is based on a catalogue of 23 principles that provide agreed guidance to international humanitarian donors and state actors such as the military and civil protection forces. In 2008, DG ECHO agreed to **co-chair the GHD initiative** together with the Netherlands based on a streamlined programme of activities that addresses major international policy issues such as the assessment of needs by various humanitarian actors.

In order to improve the quality of its assistance, the Consensus Action Plan foresees policy work in a number of areas. Therefore, DG ECHO is working with relevant partners on a range of policy issues including food assistance, protection, gender, HIV-AIDS and disaster preparedness.

In 2008, a number of these initiatives came to fruition and others were initiated. For instance, a staff working paper on **children in humanitarian crises** was approved by the college as part of a package entitled "A Special Place for Children in External Action". The ensuing Council conclusions contain specific reference to humanitarian action. Implementation sheets that will guide the implementation of the policy are being developed. DG ECHO also finalised **guidelines on tackling the HIV/AIDS pandemic in emergency situations**, after consultation of a wide range of partners. Checklists are currently being developed to facilitate implementation of these guidelines. A third set of funding guidelines concerns the **use of cash and vouchers in emergencies**. They will allow DG ECHO to consider more systematically cash and vouchers as delivery options for the assistance projects it finances.

2008 also saw advances in the formulation of **protection guidelines** that should be finalised soon. Policy work on **gender issues** was also initiated, starting with a review of best policies and practices among donors and various humanitarian agencies. In reaction to the increasing number of **hydro-meteorological disasters**, DG ECHO has also commenced analytical work about this issue.

³¹ OJ C 25 – 30/1/2008

³² SEC(2008)1991 – May 2008

Finally, in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its capacity building activities for NGOs and international humanitarian organisations, DG ECHO created a working group to develop a coherent **capacity building policy**. First elements of a more needs-driven approach to capacity building were already used in the consultation and design process leading to substantive programmes for NGOs (€1.8 million) and a large number of international organisations (€27 million).

DG ECHO continued to provide political and financial *support for the cluster approach* that has been established through the UN-instigated humanitarian reform. The cluster approach aims at clarifying the division of labour among organisations, and better defining their roles and responsibilities in order to identify and plug response gaps in the overall humanitarian effort. DG ECHO has used its bilateral dialogues with humanitarian organisations, international meetings and its Delegations in Geneva and New York to advocate for increased accountability of UN-agencies and other organisations.

At the level of the Commission, the College adopted in March 2008 a communication on "Reinforcing the Union's **Disaster Response Capacity**" to which several Commission services, including DG ECHO, contributed. The Communication's purpose is to respond to the increasing number of disaster response challenges, whether they arise from natural disasters or man-made crises. The activities foreseen should reinforce the Union's capacity to provide a coherent response to disasters in its own territory and in third countries. In this context and in the framework of the implementation of the Consensus Action Plan, DG ECHO launched a **study on international humanitarian logistics response capacities** that will be finalised in 2009.

PART V. RELATIONS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

1. EU Institutions and Member States

As in previous years, DG ECHO pursued an active relationship with other Institutions, Member States and International Organisations and continued to promote the respect for international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles (humanity, impartiality, non-discrimination and neutrality), particularly in relation to developments under the Common Foreign and Security Policy. It ensured also that the necessity to respect the humanitarian space during emergencies has duly been taken into account in the European and international debate.

In 2008, the work and consultations leading to the Consensus Action Plan represented a key process for DG ECHO's active interaction with the European Parliament and the Council on humanitarian issues. In this context, DG ECHO contributed to the Hearing organised on 29th January 2008 by the European Parliament Committee on Development as a follow-up to the Consensus.

At the **Community institutional level**, DG ECHO continued to be active throughout 2008. It participated actively in discussions on the extension of the mandate of the Council Working Group on Food Aid, which has been renamed the **Working Group on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)**. The Council decided that this extension of the mandate should come into effect as of January 2009.

DG ECHO also maintained close contacts with other **Commission services** in particular with DG Environment – civil protection and DG External Relations as far crisis response is concerned. Good coordination between these services ensured an effective Commission response to a number of disasters, in particular to the devastating effects of cyclone Nargis in Burma/Myanmar. Close contacts with other Commission services were also maintained or developed on the various policy issues DG ECHO was working on.

With regard to **Member States**, six regular monthly meetings of the **Humanitarian Aid Committee (HAC)** were organised as well as two informal meetings that took place in Brdo/Slovenia and Marseilles/France. In addition, DG ECHO organised consultations with Member States on the Consensus Action Plan and was actively involved in the discussions leading to the establishment of COHAFA.

In relation to the **European Parliament**, DG ECHO continued to monitor, in particular, the work of the DEVE Committee and to further consolidate the relations with the Humanitarian "Rapporteur". In 2008, the EP Development Committee was requested to exercise the right of scrutiny using the urgency procedure on 6 occasions to allow the Commission to respond swiftly to the pressing humanitarian needs arising in particular from the food aid crisis and cyclone Nargis. The EP Development Committee replied favourably to all the 6 requests.

2. International organisations and non-EU major donors

On the **international front** and in order to ensure a strategic and trustworthy dialogue between DG ECHO and UN-agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross Movement (ICRC and IFRC), yearly high-level **Strategic Partnership Dialogues** (SPDs) are organised with each organisation. The SPDs represent an opportunity for DG ECHO to exchange views on key issues and developments with its main partners.

DG ECHO participates actively in the OCHA and ICRC Donor Support Groups through which main donors provide strategic advice to the organisations. Activities include regular meetings in Geneva and New York, as well as participation in yearly high-level international conferences and field missions. A high level meeting between P. Zangl, DG ECHO's Director General, and Sir John Holmes, the UN's Emergency Response Coordinator and Head of OCHA, took place in July 2008. This meeting was followed up by technical level meetings between DG ECHO and OCHA in Brussels, which were, in particular, related to an exchange of expertise on programming and needs assessments.

In 2008, an evaluation of DG ECHO support to international organisations to strengthen their response capacities (thematic funding programmes) was carried out. This led to some changes in the approach and the launch of a new funding decision for what is now called capacity building programmes for international organisations.

In the framework of its relations with **non-EU major donors**, DG ECHO maintained contacts with the US Administration (USAID³³ and PRM³⁴) in particular through regular videoconferences, addressing general policy issues and humanitarian operations in specific countries with a view to ensuring a coherent and complementary response. A strategic programming dialogue with the US Administration took place in April.

DG ECHO also contributed to negotiations with Brazil concerning the inclusion of humanitarian elements in the Joint Action Plan with that country which was finalised in December.

³³ United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

³⁴ Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration - US (PRM)

PART VI. OTHER ISSUES

1. Experts in the field

In order to meet the target of 150 experts defined in the post-tsunami action plan of January 2005, DG ECHO pursued its consolidation in the recruitment of field experts, aiming at organising multi-sectoral rapid response teams assisted by about 50 locally employed programme assistants. This allows DG ECHO to rapidly dispatch its field experts and programme assistants to new crisis situations to carry out humanitarian needs assessments and participate in the coordination of humanitarian activities in the field.

In 2008, experts were recruited in the context of the reinforcement of Regional Support Offices, to work in new country offices or to reinforce existing ones. At the end of the year, 98 experts were under contracts and 5 recruitment procedures were ongoing. This number fluctuates slightly with the closure or downsizing of certain offices and the reinforcement of others according to needs.

2. Security issues

The security of humanitarian personnel in the field is a growing concern for all humanitarian bodies. During the past year, there were a significant number of violent acts directly committed against humanitarian aid workers. In particular, the number of incidents involving national/local NGO staff increased compared to those involving international staff. These security incidents continued to undermine the operational efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian partners. In this context, DG ECHO pursued its efforts aiming at improving the overall **security of humanitarian assistance personnel** - be it DG ECHO personnel or staff from implementing partners - in order to take account of increasingly volatile and insecure environments in which most humanitarian personnel are working.

DG ECHO has established its own comprehensive security policy, taking into account the specificity of humanitarian aid delivery.

The **security coordinator** in place provided advice and support on a wide range of security-related issues (e.g. protective security measures for existing and new ECHO facilities and residences, security plans for ECHO field offices in high risk areas, etc.) and a permanence ensured continual 24/7/365 support during security/crisis situations. DG ECHO also promoted and disseminated the ECHO security reviews among its FPA partners and continued to advocate for greater cooperation on security-related issues.

Finally, to respond to the growing security threats directly involving humanitarian aid workers, DG ECHO set up a **Security Cell** in the last quarter of 2008 which will need to be consolidated in 2009.

3. Capacity building³⁵

Capacity building is covered by article 4 of the Council Regulation (EC) n° 1257/96 on humanitarian aid. While remaining crisis-oriented and answering primarily to the needs of populations that are victims of humanitarian disasters and conflicts, DG ECHO also finances, to a limited extent, the reinforcement of the core capacities of its partners.

The Commission's commitment to working closely with international institutions in improving the global humanitarian response capacity when providing humanitarian assistance is demonstrated through its capacity building programme. Funding allocations have helped aid organisations such as the UN agencies and the Red Cross/Crescent movement to strengthen their response capacity in humanitarian crises

A new approach has been developed for the period 2007/2008, centring thematic funding around a common theme which is the support to the humanitarian reform, in particular the cluster approach and coordination.

As regards NGOs, the equivalent of thematic funding is the **Grant Facility**. Based on article 4 of Council Regulation n° 1257/1996, the Grant Facility was established by DG ECHO during the Nineties in order to finance capacity building of non governmental partner organisations on the most relevant humanitarian aid issues.

In 2008, an evaluation took place of DG ECHO's Thematic Funding and Grant Facility. The purpose of this evaluation was to look into the relevance of both Thematic Funding and Grant Facility, their achievements and lessons-learned, which will feed into DG ECHO's reflexion as to how to develop a possible future capacity building approach.

The evaluation concluded that Thematic Funding is a highly relevant tool for strengthening the capacities of DG ECHO's UN/Red Cross partners to respond to emergencies in a timely, effective and predictable way. It has enabled DG ECHO to play a more strategic role and build stronger relations with its partners.

Even though more modest in scope, the Grant Facility has also been highly relevant for DG ECHO's NGOs partners and the projects examined have achieved results and impact.

Thematic Funding is a unique capacity building instrument. No other donor has an approach which establishes a coherence and synergy between global, institutional and operational levels. Thematic Funding should be seen as high quality earmarked funding for building the capacity of DG ECHO's partners. This represents a comparative advantage over those donors whose capacity building is rooted in the provision of un-earmarked funding. There are strong expectations among partners that DG ECHO as the largest EU humanitarian aid donor will continue distributing to developing the capacities of its partners.

The main recommendations for both tools are the following:

- DG ECHO should continue providing capacity building support to its partners,

³⁵ Previously called Thematic funding and Grant Facility

- DG ECHO should open access to Thematic Funding to all of its partners and integrate both tools through a phased approach, which would enable DG ECHO to prepare the management of the consolidated mechanism and for a consultation with NGOs to take place,
- DG ECHO should develop a five-year strategy whilst respecting the current 18/24 months implementation period and offer its partners the possibility of receiving follow-up funding within the five-year period and
- DG ECHO should take advantage of the proposed EU Council's Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid to facilitate the discussion on how DG ECHO's capacity building instrument can add value to the other EU donors' funding modalities, discuss capacity building priorities, and identify Member States interested in supporting multi-donor projects.

The challenge for a third generation of Thematic Funding and Grant Facility, over the period 2009-2014 is to develop, adopt and implement a more systematic capacity building strategy in respect of its partners. This would not only strengthen the capacity of its partners and the political credibility of DG ECHO with the international donor community, but also facilitate a more effective utilisation of internal DG ECHO human resource capacity.

Detail of this evaluation can be found on DG ECHO's Internet page http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/evaluation/thematic_en.htm.

4. Finance and Audit

DG ECHO has formal systems for regularly monitoring financial information and providing adequate management information. Specific financial indicators have been incorporated into an overall scoreboard. Detailed financial information and on the systems in place to coordinate humanitarian aid with other key players and on the control of the use of funds can be found in the financial report published at: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/funding/key_figures/echo_en.htm

5. Communication and information

Regarding its communication strategy, DG ECHO undertook a range of actions in pursuit of its broad objective **to boost understanding in Europe and developing countries of the concrete contribution made by humanitarian aid** to the EU commitment of solidarity with developing countries. The EU is collectively the world's largest humanitarian donor. As the leading relief funder in the Union, the Commission has a leadership role in communicating the values that underlie European aid.

Within the EU, there is a high level of support for humanitarian action at European level. While public awareness of the Commission's work in this area has increased, many Europeans still have only a limited knowledge of the subject. The delivery of relief strikes a chord with most people and therefore presents an opportunity for the Commission to 'connect' positively with citizens.

With regard to printed publications, leaflets on the Humanitarian Aid Consensus, on the Horn of Africa, Food Aid, Disaster Preparedness, youth brochure reprint with new design on solidarity dedicated to the young people, photo-books, postcards and calendar were printed.

Audiovisual items were produced such as reports/images featuring DG ECHO in crisis zones.

Other communication products included press releases, witness accounts published on the DG ECHO website, new country-specific web sections, editorial features in four airlines in-flight magazines, an Annual Review and a range of other publications.

Joint communications with major institutional partners were carried out such as (1) WHO: operational contract for the Palestinian territories; (2) EMDH: Monitoring of exhibition on humanitarian action in Lebanon in Berlaymont and Charlemagne; (3) ACF: Emergency food aid simulation in Paris on World Food Day; (4) Handicap International: Joint stand on demining at humanitarian village linked to the Cinéma des Vérités in Paris.

Other events were also organised, such as (1) Integrated awareness-raising campaigns in Austria, Cyprus, Denmark and UK, Youth action in Slovakia implemented in the first quarter of the year; (2) Participation in EuropeAid Cooperation Office "May 9th" schools campaign in Romania, Germany and Sweden; (3) talks on EC Humanitarian aid (visiting groups or in the context of the Communication Plan of Action with ICRC) and (4) Increased participation in major humanitarian events, fairs and exhibition in European cities (Salon des Solidarités-Paris, Development Days, Stand at Annual Partners conference).

6. Training initiative

DG ECHO continued to support the Network on Humanitarian Assistance (NOHA), which offers a one-year multi-disciplinary post-graduate diploma with seven universities participating across Europe³⁶ with the backing of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), inter-governmental organisations (IGOs) and other actors of the humanitarian relief community.

This European Master's Degree was created in 1993 as result of concerted efforts on the part of the Network on Humanitarian Assistance (NOHA) Universities, working in close collaboration with two Directorates-General of the European Commission: DG for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) and DG for Education and Culture. The initiative was a response to a growing need for higher educational qualifications specifically suited to addressing complex humanitarian emergencies.

The objectives followed by this training are:

- To pool academic resources and cultural traditions in order to accommodate a diversity of individual, academic and employment needs in the field of humanitarian action,
- To provide the academic and professional profiles and competencies for high personnel working in the field of international humanitarian action,
- To train a team of professionals in the field of humanitarian action who are able to share their experiences world-wide and to foster European potential of innovation and social and economic development,
- To contribute to the quality and visibility of European higher education through the implementation of a well-defined joint masters programme offered by and in seven universities which responds to an academic and professional profile in a common framework of comparable and compatible qualifications which describes qualifications in terms of profile, learning outcomes, competences, workload and level (comparable level of intellectual academic endeavour) and
- To become a world quality reference education and training system in the field of humanitarian action offering a programme opened to the participation of third-country graduate students and scholars which involves mobility between the institutions of the NOHA Network and leads to the award of Joint Degree Master in Humanitarian Action.
- More information on this programme is available at <http://www.nohanet.org>

³⁶ Université Catholique de Louvain - Belgium, Université Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III (UPCAM) - France, Ruhr-Universität Bochum - Germany, University College of Dublin - Ireland, Universidad de Deusto - Spain, University of Uppsala - Sweden and University of Groningen - The Netherlands

PART VII. EVALUATIONS AND OUTSIDE ASSESSMENTS

1. Evaluations

In terms of **evaluations**, DG ECHO has an evaluation programme that covers the evaluation of operations, partnership and thematic issues. The function focuses on ex-post, ex-ante and real time evaluations of operations (usually where more than €50 million of funds had been committed or which had not been evaluated for three years or more as far as the ex-post evaluations are concerned, and depending on operational priorities for the others) and on reviews/studies on sectoral issues. The staffing involved in the management of these evaluation activities is of 4 staff members. The budget allocated to evaluations was of €1.8 million.

In 2008, 15 evaluations and reviews were finalised and/or launched:

- Thematic issues: DIPECHO interventions in Central America, South Asia, Caribbean; thematic funding, disaster risk reduction mainstreaming, food aid, regional drought decisions, monitoring, gender and unit cost approach;
- Country operations: Real time in Sahel (West Africa), North Korea (DPRK), Zimbabwe and Colombia and
- Partners: UNRWA (joint evaluation with German Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

These evaluations globally confirm the appropriateness and relevance of DG ECHO funded projects and of the methodology for needs assessment.

The evaluation reports are widely distributed and discussed in depth with the stakeholders as they provide an important contribution to DG ECHO's operational strategy.

More details on these evaluations are on DG ECHO's internet site http://ec.europa.eu/comm/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm.

2. Outside assessments

In recent years, there were 2 outside assessments which touched upon the performance of DG ECHO as a humanitarian donor:

- The DAC Peer Review³⁷, conducted in 2007, was overall very positive in respect of the added value of the humanitarian assistance provided by the Community in relation to its member states and of the overall donor performance of DG ECHO. Its main recommendations related to the need to increase DG ECHO's influence on humanitarian international policies and to address the significant under-funding of the DG ECHO's base budget.

³⁷ The Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD-DAC) within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

The DAC Peer Review report is available in the OECD website "Review of the Development Co-operation Policies and Programmes of the European Community"³⁸.

- DARA, an independent organisation committed to improving the quality of development and humanitarian organisations through evaluation, made a comparative assessment in 2007 and in 2008 on the adherence of humanitarian donors to the indicators of "good humanitarian Donorship". In this comparative analysis, the European Commission was ranked in the 5th place overall amongst the 23 main governmental donors, in both years.

The results are available on DARA's website http://www.daraint.org/web_en/dara1.html

³⁸ http://www.oecd.org/document/48/0,3343,en_2649_201185_39758640_1_1_1_1,00.html

PART VIII. FINANCIAL TABLES

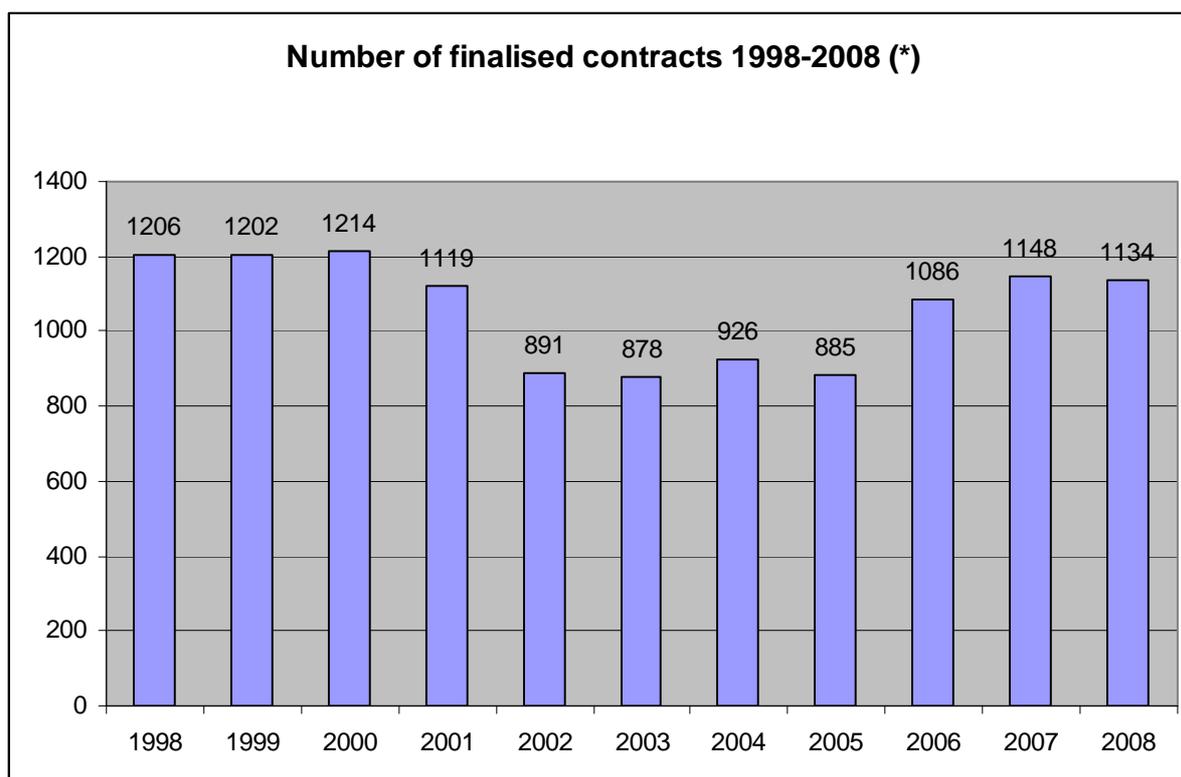
1. DG ECHO budget and decisions for Humanitarian aid 1993 - 2008 (in '000)

YEAR	BUDGET COMMISSION (1)				Total	LOME (EDF)	TOTAL BUDGET (Com Appr.)	COMMITTED FUNDS	Implementation rate
	Humanitarian Aid	Food Aid	Em. Aid Res.	Reinforcements Other					
1993	171.400		209.000	136.010	516.410	90.180	606.590	604.800	99,7%
1994	266.000		212.000	21.200	499.200	263.770	762.970	764.100	100,1%
1995	256.000		254.500	132.000	642.500	46.455	688.955	694.100	100,7%
1996	321.500		324.000	13.970	659.470	10.380	669.850	656.700	98,0%
1997	315.100		0	122.720	437.820	7.420	445.240	441.600	99,2%
1998	325.100		150.000	5.113	480.213	37.387	517.600	517.642	100,0%
1999	330.850		346.000	50.000	726.850	83.432	810.282	812.910	100,3%
2000	471.050		(2) 0	21.410	492.460	2.850	495.310	491.715	99,3%
2001	473.000		40.000	10.000	523.000	20.750	543.750	543.704	100,0%
2002	441.845		80.000	0	521.845	17.475	539.320	537.790	99,7%
2003	441.690		100.000	44.910	586.600	14.105	600.705	600.349	99,9%
2004	490.000		0	28.184	518.184	52.228	570.412	570.342	100,0%
2005	495.500		130.000	5.156	630.656	23.170	653.826	652.499	99,8%
2006	495.729		140.000	7.561	643.290	28.060	671.350	671.007	99,9%
2007	514.400	217.760	0	8.854	741.014	28.200	769.214	768.530	99,9%
2008	528.020	223.251	177.000	10.477	938.748	0	938.748	936.642	99,8%
TOTAL 1993-2008	6.337.184	441.011	2.162.500	617.565	9.558.260	725.862	10.284.122	10.264.430	99,8%
AVERAGE YEARS 1993-2008	396.074	220.506	135.156	38.598	597.391	45.366	642.758	641.527	99,8%
AVERAGE LAST 5 YEARS	504.730	220.506	89.400	12.046	694.378	26.332	720.710	719.804	99,9%

(1) Total of chapter B7-21 (lines 210A,210,214,217,219) - As of 01.01.2004 (23.0104 & 23.0201 & 23.0202)

(2) Part of the emergency reserve was transferred to the budget line B7-210. The emergency reserve (line B7-910) was reduced from 346 MEUR in 1999 to 203 MEUR in 2000 and the budget in chapter B7-21 was increased by 140 MEUR. It is important to note that the budget was not increased - it was only an increase of the chapter B7-21 (humanitarian aid) with a corresponding decrease in the chapter B7-91 (emergency aid reserve)

2. DG ECHO's finalised contracts 1998-2008*



* Includes grant agreements for humanitarian aid and contracts for support expenditure (audits, evaluations, information) and for technical assistance.

** Includes contracts from financial year N and any contract from previous financial years but signed in financial year N.

3. Geographical breakdown of funding decisions 2002-2008 – Global overview

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Africa, Caribbean, Pacific	199.450.000	227.785.000	301.555.000	247.716.500	322.060.000	422.760.000	551.847.000
All Africa						2.000.000	
SUDAN & CHAD	18.175.000	24.000.000	103.000.000	59.000.000	111.500.000	140.950.000	197.000.000
Chad	175.000	2.000.000	12.000.000	14.000.000	14.500.000	30.500.000	30.000.000
Sudan	18.000.000	22.000.000	91.000.000	45.000.000	97.000.000	110.450.000	167.000.000
HORN of AFRICA	26.520.000	28.200.000	48.088.000	40.120.000	64.050.000	77.000.000	167.897.000
Djibouti ⁽¹⁾							1.400.000
Eritrea	1.750.000	1.300.000	1.000.000	4.620.000	6.000.000	6.000.000	4.000.000
Ethiopia ⁽¹⁾	7.750.000	2.000.000	6.998.000	4.500.000	5.000.000	20.000.000	39.700.000
Kenya ⁽¹⁾	2.500.000		3.850.000	2.000.000	9.050.000	9.000.000	23.500.000
Somalia ⁽¹⁾	4.500.000	9.000.000	9.150.000	9.000.000	10.000.000	18.000.000	43.797.000
Uganda ⁽¹⁾	2.120.000	8.000.000	18.620.000	14.000.000	19.000.000	24.000.000	25.500.000
Regional Drought Decision					15.000.000		30.000.000
Echo-Flight ⁽²⁾	7.900.000	7.900.000	8.470.000	6.000.000			

(1) Amounts in 2008 include the country allocation from the Horn of Africa regional decision (food aid - €40.6M)

(2) Echo-flight was used mostly for Air Operations in the Horn of Africa but as of 2001 also for Air Operations in Central Africa. From 2006, it is only used in Central Africa. For the years 2001-2003 a detailed breakdown by region was not available in the funding decision and the breakdown for these years is therefore indicative

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, INDIAN OCEAN	132.900.000	140.500.000	107.690.000	98.750.000	103.250.000	139.900.000	126.200.000
Angola	12.000.000	8.900.000	8.800.000	2.000.000	3.000.000		
Cameroon							2.000.000
Central African Republic		1.000.000	470.000			8.000.000	7.800.000
Congo-Brazzaville		4.000.000	2.000.000	2.000.000			
Congo (Dem. Rep.)	38.100.000	44.000.000	40.000.000	38.000.000	43.000.000	42.500.000	45.550.000
Gabon	300.000	24.000.000					
Madagascar	1.000.000		2.000.000	500.000		5.380.833	1.500.000
Malawi	1.500.000			5.000.000			
Mozambique / Botswana					2.000.000	7.000.000	
Namibia		100.000	1.000.000				350.000
Zambia	3.000.000	5.000.000	2.000.000	3.500.000	2.200.000	2.000.000	
Zimbabwe	2.000.000	13.000.000	15.000.000	15.000.000	12.000.000	30.200.000	25.000.000
Regional Burundi / Tanzanie	44.500.000	15.000.000	33.890.000	30.500.000	33.050.000	31.500.000	27.500.000
Reg.Southern Africa (Lesotho/Swaziland)	30.000.000	25.000.000	2.000.000	1.750.000		5.819.167	
Regional South East Africa							3.500.000
Regional Great Lakes					1.000.000		
DIPECHO South East Africa							5.000.000
Echo-Flight (1)	500.000	500.000	530.000	500.000	7.000.000	7.500.000	8.000.000

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
WEST AFRICA	21.250.000	31.185.000	25.300.000	38.550.000	41.650.000	46.600.000	39.100.000
Benin				1.050.000			
Burkina Faso		600.000					
Guinea							1.300.000
Guinea Bissau					1.000.000		500.000
Liberia / Ivory Coast / Nigeria	20.500.000	29.740.000	25.300.000	29.200.000	26.500.000	19.100.000	16.600.000
Mali / Niger / Mauritania		845.000		8.300.000	12.000.000		2.000.000
Senegal	750.000						
Regional Sahel						25.500.000	15.700.000
Regional West Africa (incl Epidemics)					2.150.000	2.000.000	3.000.000
CARIBBEAN	605.000	3.900.000	17.477.000	11.296.500	1.610.000	15.760.000	21.650.000
Bahamas			480.000				
Comoros				1.100.000			
Dominican Republic	205.000		1.600.000		250.000		250.000
Grenada			2.250.000				
Haiti	400.000		11.197.000		160.000	4.500.000	16.000.000
Jamaica			1.200.000				
Papua New Guinea				200.000			
St Vincent & Grenadines			750.000				
Suriname					700.000		400.000
Regional Caribbean		1.400.000		6.496.500	500.000	7.260.000	5.000.000
DIPECHO Caribbean		2.500.000		3.500.000		4.000.000	
PACIFIC						550.000	
Solomon Island						550.000	

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Eastern Europe, NIS, Mediterranean, Middle East	147.430.000	194.141.261	93.205.000	87.587.000	183.950.000	124.897.118	152.635.000
MEDITERRANEAN & MIDDLE EAST	63.930.000	144.281.261	48.855.000	48.887.000	144.900.000	99.090.000	124.860.000
Algeria		2.000.000					
Iraq crisis	13.000.000	97.138.761				17.800.000	30.000.000
Morocco			975.000				
Palestinian Territories	35.000.000	38.000.000	37.350.000	34.000.000	84.000.000	60.000.000	73.260.000
Palestinian refugees (Lebanon, Jordan, Syria)				2.576.000	50.000.000	10.300.000	9.500.000
Yemen	1.590.000	2.000.000	2.530.000	3.000.000		990.000	2.100.000
Western Sahara (Sahrawi)	14.340.000	5.142.500	8.000.000	9.311.000	10.900.000	10.000.000	10.000.000
EUROPE, CAUCASUS & CENTRAL ASIA	40.500.000	42.200.000	44.350.000	38.700.000	39.050.000	25.807.118	27.775.000
Caucasus (Chechnya crisis)	28.000.000	26.000.000	28.500.000	26.300.000	26.000.000	20.807.118	11.000.000
Georgia	1.800.000	2.200.000	4.000.000	2.000.000	2.000.000	2.000.000	8.000.000
Moldova, Republic of						3.000.000	700.000
Mongolia	700.000	1.000.000	1.000.000	900.000			
Tajikistan	10.000.000	10.000.000	8.350.000	6.000.000	5.000.000		750.000
DIPECHO Central Asia		3.000.000	2.500.000	3.500.000	6.050.000		7.325.000
WESTERN BALKANS	43.000.000	7.660.000					
FRY - Serbie	37.000.000	7.660.000					
FRY - Kosovo	2.000.000						
fyROM	3.000.000						
Regional	1.000.000						

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Asia, Latin America	165.615.000	133.560.000	134.523.630	267.445.370	118.491.305	157.365.678	192.327.000
Tsunami			169.630	122.830.370			
SOUTH ASIA	90.229.000	73.889.000	67.284.000	84.000.000	56.300.000	87.555.000	94.257.000
Afghanistan / Iran / Pakistan	73.254.000	55.839.000	42.821.000	68.000.000	23.500.000	27.000.000	36.300.000
Bangladesh			5.763.000			9.925.000	20.501.000
India	5.000.000	2.650.000	3.000.000		6.000.000	2.630.000	5.990.000
Nepal / Bhutan	3.675.000	4.000.000	4.000.000	6.000.000	7.800.000	6.000.000	7.966.000
Sri Lanka	8.300.000	8.100.000	6.500.000	4.000.000	12.000.000	15.000.000	19.000.000
Regional (India, Nepal, Bangladesh)		800.000				19.500.000	4.500.000
DIPECHO South Asia		2.500.000	5.200.000	6.000.000	7.000.000	7.500.000	
SOUTH EAST & EAST ASIA	47.740.000	45.560.000	48.870.000	38.415.000	37.591.305	29.745.695	64.000.000
Burma / Myanmar / Thailand	8.965.000	11.560.000	19.720.000	16.500.000	15.700.000	19.000.000	39.000.000
Cambodia	5.500.000	4.000.000	3.500.000	2.000.000			
China	4.450.000	4.800.000	2.000.000				2.000.000
East Timor	1.935.000	2.000.000	250.000	2.500.000	3.000.000	3.000.000	2.000.000
Indonesia	3.540.000	3.500.000	3.500.000	2.000.000	9.867.000	1.600.000	2.000.000
Laos	1.130.000	1.700.000	1.500.000	1.200.000			
North Korea	21.025.000	17.000.000	16.750.000	13.715.000	8.000.000	2.000.000	
Philippines		1.000.000	1.650.000	500.000	564.305	2.145.695	6.500.000
Vietnam	1.195.000				460.000	2.000.000	
Vietnam / Laos							2.500.000
DIPECHO South East Asia							10.000.000

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
LATIN AMERICA	27.646.000	14.111.000	18.200.000	22.200.000	24.600.000	40.064.983	34.070.000
Bolivia					1.000.000	1.000.000	3.000.000
Colombia	9.200.000	8.000.000	8.500.000	12.000.000	12.000.000	13.000.000	12.500.000
Cuba	600.000		1.000.000				
Ecuador					1.000.000		2.000.000
Guatemala					2.600.000		
Honduras						500.000	1.000.000
Honduras/Guatemala							1.170.000
Nicaragua						6.000.000	
Paraguay						1.500.000	1.400.000
Peru						10.064.983	1.000.000
Regional Central America	6.028.000	520.000		5.700.000	2.000.000		
Regional South America	3.818.000	1.591.000	2.700.000				2.000.000
DIPECHO - Andean Communities	1.640.000	4.000.000		4.500.000		6.500.000	
DIPECHO - South East and Central America	6.360.000		6.000.000		6.000.000	1.500.000	10.000.000

Country/Region	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
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CAPACITY BUILDING	11.700.000	23.196.000	19.430.000	20.500.000	19.500.000	27.500.000	2.534.000
Protection of refugees (UNHCR)	11.700.000	11.000.000		5.000.000	4.000.000		
Humanitarian Information systems (OCHA)		1.200.000	4.000.000	4.000.000	3.000.000	3.500.000	
Protection of victims of armed conflicts (ICRC)		10.000.000		4.000.000	3.000.000		
Protection of children and women (UNICEF)		996.000	2.000.000		1.800.000	1.500.000	
Preparedness and response capacity to hum.crisis (UNICEF)			5.430.000		4.200.000	4.500.000	
Humanitarian logistic capacities - Response Depot Network (WFP)						4.300.000	
Emergency Shelter Cluster (UNHCR)						900.000	
Response to Natural Disasters (IFRC)				3.500.000		4.000.000	
Support Health Emergencies (WHO)			3.500.000	4.000.000		4.300.000	
Assessing Emergency Needs in food security (WFP)			4.500.000		3.500.000	4.500.000	2.534.000
DREF DECISION							2.000.000
GRANTS AND SERVICES					1.000.000	1.400.000	2.300.000
OTHER EXPENDITURE	13.595.000	21.666.000	21.628.000	29.250.000	26.005.667	34.607.038	32.998.941
Experts	8.000.000	12.037.000	13.500.000	18.750.000	14.350.000	20.500.000	19.670.000
Regional Imprest Accounts / Regional offices	1.025.000	4.880.000	1.800.000	4.000.000	4.650.000	4.900.000	5.330.000
Support Expenditure (audit, evaluation, information,...)	4.570.000	4.749.000	6.328.000	6.500.000	6.188.894	8.900.262	7.812.327
Use of re-assigned revenue					816.773	306.776	186.614
BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION 2002-2008	537.790.000	600.348.261	570.341.630	652.498.870	671.006.972	768.529.834	936.641.941

4. Funding decisions for humanitarian aid in 2008 (by country/area in decision)

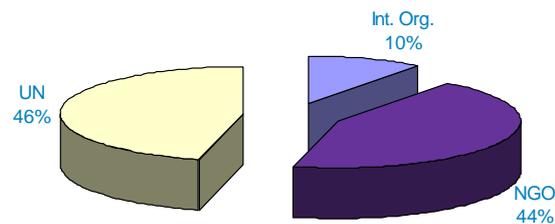
Country/sub-region	Decisions in €	Country/sub-region	Decisions in €
AFRICA, CARIBBEAN, PACIFIC	546.847.000	ASIA	148.257.000
Burundi	16.636.775	Afghanistan/Pakistan/Iran	36.300.000
Chad	30.000.000	Bangladesh	20.501.000
Cameroun	2.000.000	China	2.000.000
Central African Republic	7.800.000	East Timor	2.000.000
Congo (Democratic Republic)	53.550.000	India	5.990.000
Djibouti	1.400.000	India/Nepal	4.500.000
Eritrea	4.000.000	Indonesia	2.000.000
Ethiopia	39.700.000	Myanmar/Burma	39.000.000
Guinea	1.300.000	Nepal	7.966.000
Guinea Bissau	500.000	Philippines	6.500.000
Haiti	16.000.000	Sri Lanka	19.000.000
Kenya	23.500.000	Vietnam/Laos	2.500.000
Liberia	16.600.000		
Madagascar	1.500.000	LATIN AMERICA	24.070.000
Mauritania/Senegal	2.000.000	Bolivia	3.000.000
Namibia	350.000	Colombia	12.500.000
Sahel	15.700.000	Ecuador	2.000.000
Somalia	43.797.000	Honduras	1.000.000
Sudan	167.000.000	Honduras/Guatemala	1.170.000
Suriname	400.000	Paraguay	1.400.000
Tanzania	10.863.225	Peru	1.000.000
Uganda	25.500.000	Regional Latin America	2.000.000
Zimbabwe	25.000.000		
Regional West Africa	3.000.000	DIPECHO	32.325.000
Regional Caribbean	5.250.000	Central America	10.000.000
Regional South East Africa	3.500.000	Central Asia	7.325.000
Regional Drought Preparedness	30.000.000	South East Asia	10.000.000
		South East Africa	5.000.000
EASTERN EUROPE / NIS	20.450.000	Capacity Building	2.534.000
Georgia	8.000.000	Assessment & analysis of hum. Needs	2.534.000
Moldova, Republic of	700.000		
Northern Caucasus (Chechnya crisis)	11.000.000		
Tajikistan	750.000	Other funding	29.300.000
		Technical assistance	25.000.000
		DREF Decision	2.000.000
MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA	124.860.000	Grants and Services	2.300.000
Western Sahara (Sahrawi)	10.000.000		
Iraq crisis	30.000.000		
Middle East (Palestinian population)	73.260.000		
Middle East (Lebanon)	9.500.000		
Yemen	2.100.000		
		Total ECHO funding 2008	928.643.000

5. Partners in DG ECHO's humanitarian assistance

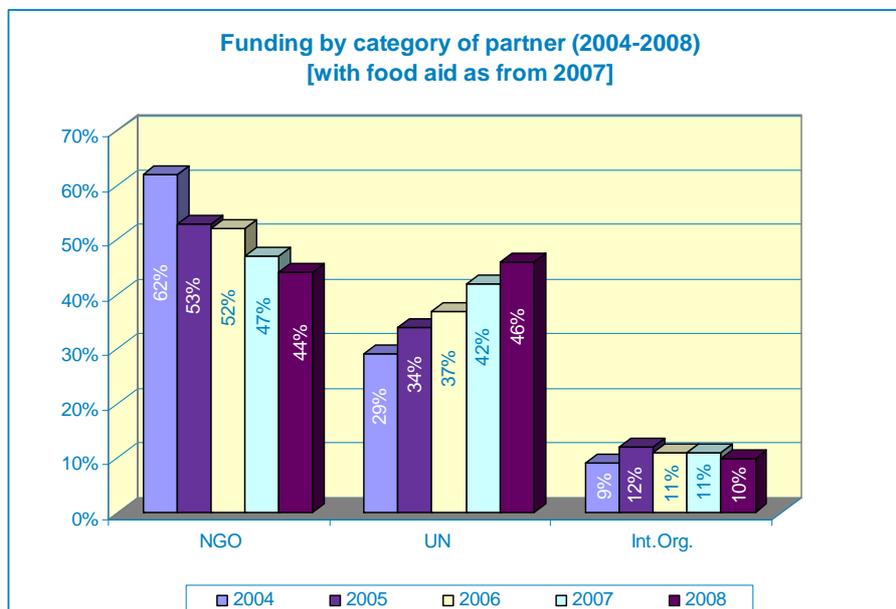
5.1. Partners categories

DG ECHO does not implement assistance programmes itself. It is a donor who implements its mission by funding Community humanitarian actions through **partners** which have signed either the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) such as European NGOs and International Organisations (Red Cross family) or the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) for the UN agencies.

The relative share of these 3 categories of partners is illustrated below:



Over the last five years there has been a decrease in NGO funding against an increase of UN funding as shown in the picture below.



The figures given from 2007 are, however, not entirely comparable with previous years; given the integration of the food aid budget line. Food aid is largely implemented by a small number of UN and International Organisations and less by NGOs.

5.2. Contracts by Category and Nationality of Partners 2008

Contracts signed with NGOs are summarised below, ranked by nationality of partner in the table below. The two next tables show a repartition of contracts signed with UN agencies and International Organisations.

Nationality of partner	Total	% ALL	% NGO
United Kingdom	103.069.857	11,77%	27,01%
France	78.531.287	8,97%	20,58%
Germany	39.769.525	4,54%	10,42%
The Netherlands	26.399.004	3,01%	6,92%
Spain	26.020.543	2,97%	6,82%
Denmark	22.851.704	2,61%	5,99%
Italy	20.579.441	2,35%	5,39%
Ireland	12.216.555	1,39%	3,20%
Belgium	9.094.770	1,04%	2,38%
Austria	7.405.619	0,85%	1,94%
Other countries	35.594.088	4,06%	9,33%
SUBTOTAL NGOS*	381.532.391	43,57%	100,00%
International (IO, UN)	494.218.772	56,43%	
GRAND TOTAL	875.751.163	100,00%	

UN Agency	Amount Contract	%
FAO	26.355.614	3,01%
OCHA	7.335.000	0,84%
PAHO	1.890.000	0,22%
UNCHS - HABITAT	349.783	0,04%
UNDP-PNUD	5.743.316	0,66%
UNFPA	330.000	0,04%
UNHCR	53.545.034	6,11%
UNICEF	32.572.031	3,72%
UNRWA	38.000.000	4,34%
WFP-PAM	228.034.945	26,04%
WHO	10.239.849	1,17%
TOTAL	404.395.572	46,19%

International Organisations	Amount Contract	%
Red Cross (ICRC)	78.865.000	9,01%
Red Cross (IFRC)	3.827.000	0,44%
International Organization for Migration	6.777.927	0,77%
Mekong River Commission	353.273	0,04%
TOTAL	89.823.200	10,26%

5.3. List of contracts for humanitarian aid operations by partner

CONTRACTS FOR HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS IN 2008					
Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
ACF - FRA	6000054039	NGO	ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR)	21.105.663	2,41%
ACH- ESP	6000056743	NGO	ACCION CONTRA EL HAMBRE, (ESP)	8.964.874	1,02%
ACP	6000055731	NGO	ASAMBLEA DE COOPERACION POR LA PAZ, (E)	830.771	0,09%
ACSUR - MADRID	6000055754	NGO	Asociación para la Cooperación con el Sur ¿LAS SEGOVIAS¿	375.000	0,04%
ACTED	6000055547	NGO	AGENCE D'AIDE A LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE ET AU DEVELOPPEMENT, (FR)	7.924.869	0,90%
ACTIONAID	6000055953	NGO	ACTIONAID	5.179.056	0,59%
ADRA - DEU	6000053698	NGO	Adventistische Entwicklungs- und Katastrophenhilfe e.V.	3.588.000	0,41%
ADRA - DK	6000057779	NGO	ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY - DENMARK	957.000	0,11%
AGA KHAN	6000055954	NGO	AGA KHAN FOUNDATION (United Kingdom)	958.036	0,11%
AMI - FRA	6000055590	NGO	AIDE MEDICALE INTERNATIONALE, (FR)	3.825.249	0,44%
ASB - DEU	6000053398	NGO	ARBEITER-SAMARITER-BUND DEUTSCHLAND e.V.	1.200.288	0,14%
ASF-BELGIUM	6000074230	NGO	Aviation sans Frontières Belgique/Piloten zonder Grenzen België	653.334	0,07%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
AVSI	6000056014	NGO	ASSOCIAZIONE VOLONTARI PER IL SERVIZIO INTERNAZIONALE (ITA)	4.161.930	0,48%
AYUDA EN ACCIÓN	6000084697	NGO	AYUDA EN ACCIÓN, (E)	200.000	0,02%
BBC-TRUST	6000074339	NGO	BBC World Service Trust	530.254	0,06%
CAFOD	6000059489	NGO	CATHOLIC AGENCY FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT (GBR)	1.040.025	0,12%
CAM	6000068308	NGO	COMITE D'AIDE MEDICALE	810.000	0,09%
CARE - AUT	6000054941	NGO	CARE ÖSTERREICH - VEREIN FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSZUSAMMENARBEIT UND HUMANITÄRE HILFE	5.805.619	0,66%
CARE - DEU	6000054038	NGO	CARE INTERNATIONAL DEUTSCHLAND E.V. (DEU)	1.480.724	0,17%
CARE - FR	6000054722	NGO	CARE FRANCE, (FR)	5.635.575	0,64%
CARE NEDERLAND (FORMER DRA)	6000055823	NGO	Stichting CARE Nederland	1.399.298	0,16%
CARE - UK	6000055956	NGO	CARE INTERNATIONAL UK	7.275.451	0,83%
CARITAS - BEL	6000055022	NGO	CARITAS INTERNATIONAL	749.275	0,09%
CARITAS - CZE	6000119111	NGO	CHARITA CESKA REPUBLIKA	320.000	0,04%
CARITAS - DEU	6000055305	NGO	DEUTSCHER CARITASVERBAND e.V, (DEU)	5.120.187	0,58%
CARITAS - FRA	6000055573	NGO	CARITAS FRANCE - SECOURS CATHOLIQUE, (FR)	300.000	0,03%
CARITAS - LUX	6000056898	NGO	FONDATION CARITAS LUXEMBOURG	350.000	0,04%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	6000059497	NGO	CHRISTIAN AID (GBR)	2.527.268	0,29%
CHURCH OF SWEDEN AID	6000060233	NGO	LUTHERHJÄLPEN(SWE)	198.000	0,02%
CISP	6000055971	NGO	COMITATO INTERNAZIONALE PER LO SVILUPPO DEI POPOLI (ITA)	1.965.000	0,22%
CONCERN UNIVERSAL	6000055957	NGO	CONCERN UNIVERSAL (GBR)	141.145	0,02%
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	6000057507	NGO	CONCERN WORLDWIDE, (IRL)	6.794.998	0,78%
COOPI	6000055976	NGO	COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE (ITA)	9.797.382	1,12%
CORDAID	6000055816	NGO	CATHOLIC ORGANISATION FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT AID (NLD)	6.331.402	0,72%
COSV - MILAN	6000055963	NGO	COMITATO DI COORDINAMENTO DELLE ORGANIZZAZIONI PER IL SERVIZIO VOLONTARIO (ITA)	920.846	0,11%
CRIC	6000055955	NGO	CENTRO REGIONALE D INTERVENTO PER LA COOPERAZIONE (ITA)	1.230.000	0,14%
CROIX-ROUGE - AUT	6000058971	NGO	OESTERREICHISCHES ROTES KREUZ (CROIX ROUGE), (AUT)	700.000	0,08%
CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	6000055102	NGO	DEUTSCHES ROTES KREUZ, (DEU)	2.055.269	0,23%
CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	6000058807	NGO	DANSK RODE KORS, (DNK)	2.796.683	0,32%
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	6000056766	NGO	CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E)	5.218.435	0,60%
CROIX-ROUGE - FIN	6000056709	NGO	SUOMEN PUNAINEN RISTI (CROIX ROUGE FINLANDAISE)	2.232.000	0,25%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	6000000646	NGO	CROIX-ROUGE FRANCAISE	4.864.707	0,56%
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	6000055722	NGO	HET NEDERLANDSE RODE KRUIS (NLD)	4.825.926	0,55%
CROIX-ROUGE - NOR	6000057646	NGO	NORGES RODE KORS (NORWEGIAN RED CROSS)	500.000	0,06%
CROIX-ROUGE - SWE	6000060228	NGO	SVENSKA RÖDA KORSET	977.966	0,11%
DAC AVIATION INTL	6000176094	SUP	DAC Aviation International Limited	8.000.000	0,91%
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	6000058809	NGO	FOLKEKIRKENS NODHJAELP, (FKN)	7.900.850	0,90%
DIAKONIE	6000055019	NGO	DIAKONISCHES WERK der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland (DEU)	1.150.000	0,13%
DIE JOHANNITER, (DEU)	6000055229	NGO	JOHANNITER-UNFALL-HILFE e.V. (DEU)	155.000	0,02%
DRC	6000058798	NGO	DANSK FLYGTNINGEHJAELP	9.541.588	1,09%
DWF	6000068952	NGO	Development Workshop France	520.000	0,06%
EMDH	6000055538	NGO	ENFANTS DU MONDE - DROITS DE L'HOMME	506.525	0,06%
FAO	6000055556	UN	UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION	26.355.614	3,01%
FSD__573	6000062750	NGO	Fondation Suisse de Déminage (FSD)	400.000	0,05%
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	6000055234	NGO	DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE e.V.	11.999.394	1,37%
GOAL	6000057512	NGO	GOAL, (IRL)	5.181.557	0,59%
GTZ	6000057485	GOV	DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR TECHNISCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT	350.000	0,04%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
HALO TRUST	6000055959	NGO	THE HALO TRUST (GBR)	500.000	0,06%
HAMMER FORUM	6000055011	NGO	HAMMER FORUM e.V.	300.000	0,03%
HANDICAP (FR)	6000055532	NGO	HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (FR)	2.698.589	0,31%
HEALTH NET TPO	6000055825	NGO	HEALTHNET INTERNATIONAL TRANSCULTURAL PSYCHOSOCIAL ORGANIZATION (NLD)	260.545	0,03%
HELP	6000055223	NGO	HELP- HILFE ZUR SELBSTHILFE E.V. (DEU)	4.749.297	0,54%
ICCO	6000055831	NGO	Interkerkelijke Organisatie voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking	297.508	0,03%
ICMC	6000062768	NGO	THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MIGRATION COMMISSION (CHE)	855.000	0,10%
ICRC-CICR	6000055654	IO	COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (CICR)	78.865.000	9,01%
IFRC-FICR	6000055660	IO	FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE	3.827.000	0,44%
IMC UK	6000099796	NGO	International Medical Corps UK	1.898.912	0,22%
INTERMON	6000056746	NGO	INTERMON OXFAM, (E)	3.584.000	0,41%
IOCC - GR	6000057875	NGO	INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES	250.000	0,03%
IOM	6000055563	IO	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT)	6.777.927	0,77%
IRC - UK	6000055964	NGO	International Rescue Committee UK	11.670.139	1,33%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
IRD	6000264239	NGO	Islamic Relief Humanitäre Organisation in Deutschland e.V.	329.550	0,04%
ISLAMIC RELIEF	6000055965	NGO	ISLAMIC RELIEF WORLDWIDE	4.324.599	0,49%
MADERA-FR	6000055608	NGO	MISSION D'AIDE AU DEVELOPPEMENT DES ECONOMIES RURALES	1.594.466	0,18%
MALTESER HILFSDIENST	6000054029	NGO	MALTESER HILFSDIENST e.V., (DEU)	3.392.008	0,39%
MAPACT	6000250301	NGO	MapAction	10.500	0,00%
MC	6000255607	NGO	Malaria Consortium	203.903	0,02%
MDM - ESP	6000056756	NGO	MEDICOS DEL MUNDO ESPAÑA	124.333	0,01%
MDM - FRA	6000055581	NGO	MEDECINS DU MONDE	6.120.100	0,70%
MEDAIR CH	6000067397	NGO	Medair	3.386.946	0,39%
MEDAIR UK	6000055972	NGO	MEDAIR UK (GBR)	750.000	0,09%
MEDICO INTERNATIONAL	6000055225	NGO	MEDICO INTERNATIONAL, (DEU)	349.808	0,04%
MEKONG RIVER COMMISSION	6000100128	IO	Mekong River Commission	353.273	0,04%
MERCY CORPS SCOTLAND	6000055399	NGO	MERCY CORPS SCOTLAND (GBR)	2.357.639	0,27%
MERLIN	6000071402	NGO	MEDICAL EMERGENCY RELIEF INTERNATIONAL (GBR)	10.898.689	1,24%
MISSION OST - DNK	6000057764	NGO	MISSION OST	1.268.960	0,14%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
MPDL	6000055749	NGO	MOVIMIENTO POR LA PAZ, EL DESARME Y LA LIBERTAD, (E)	739.352	0,08%
MSF - BEL	6000002431	NGO	MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES BELGIQUE/ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN BELGIE(BEL)	3.300.000	0,38%
MSF - CHE	6000057526	NGO	MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES - SUISSE (CH)	4.897.163	0,56%
MSF - ESP	6000056751	NGO	MEDICOS SIN FRONTERAS, (E)	2.782.480	0,32%
MSF - FRA	6000055577	NGO	MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (F)	1.400.000	0,16%
MSF - LUX	6000056908	NGO	MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (LUX)	240.000	0,03%
MSF - NLD	6000054030	NGO	ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN (NLD)	5.449.000	0,62%
MUSLIMAID	6000238558	NGO	Muslim Aid	1.764.986	0,20%
NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID	6000057635	NGO	NORSK FOLKEHJELP (NOR)	949.900	0,11%
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	6000057638	NGO	NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL (NOR)	6.331.015	0,72%
NOVIB	6000055196	NGO	Nederlandse Organisatie voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking	279.459	0,03%
OCHA	6000067546	UN	UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS	7.335.000	0,84%
OIKOS	6000100137	NGO	OIKOS - COOPERAÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO	1.714.331	0,20%
OXFAM - BEL	6000062792	NGO	OXFAM-Solidarite(it), (BEL)	2.487.400	0,28%
OXFAM - UK	6000055981	NGO	OXFAM (GB)	24.923.401	2,85%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
PAHO	6000067529	UN	UNITED NATIONS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION	1.890.000	0,22%
PEOPLE IN NEED	6000056658	NGO	Clovek v tísní, o.p.s.	579.698	0,07%
PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	6000057475	NGO	PLAN INTERNATIONAL (UK)	1.573.576	0,18%
PMU INTERLIFE	6000060221	NGO	PMU INTERLIFE/PINGST FFS	1.050.000	0,12%
POLISH HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION	6000056007	NGO	Polska Akcja Humanitarna	290.000	0,03%
PREMIERE URGENCE	6000055612	NGO	PREMIERE URGENCE, (FR)	4.879.178	0,56%
PSF - FRA/CLERMONT-FERRAND	6000053712	NGO	PHARMACIENS SANS FRONTIERES COMITE INTERNATIONAL	2.252.642	0,26%
PTM	6000055727	NGO	PTM-mundubat, (E)	1.750.000	0,20%
PUNTO SUD	6000142912	NGO	punto.sud	100.000	0,01%
REDR	6000063967	NGO	RedR - Engineers for Disaster Relief	336.757	0,04%
RI-UK	6000198146	NGO	Relief International-UK	349.999	0,04%
SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD	6000055914	NGO	SAVE THE CHILDREN (NLD)	4.106.669	0,47%
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	6000057469	NGO	THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (GBR)	15.565.966	1,78%
SCD-RB	6000061869	NGO	Red Barnet	386.623	0,04%
SI	6000056745	NGO	SOLIDARIDAD INTERNACIONAL, (E)	550.000	0,06%
SOLIDARITES	6000055549	NGO	SOLIDARITES, (FR)	10.743.479	1,23%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
SOS KINDERDORF INT.	6000055201	NGO	SOS-KINDERDORF INTERNATIONAL (AUT)	900.000	0,10%
STCH	6000196970	NGO	Fundación Save The Children	901.298	0,10%
TEARFUND - UK	6000057468	NGO	TEARFUND (GBR)	3.421.633	0,39%
TERRE DES HOMMES - CHE	6000057524	NGO	TERRE DES HOMMES-CHE	2.072.069	0,24%
TERRE DES HOMMES (TDH) - ITA	6000057918	NGO	FONDAZIONE TERRE DES HOMMES ITALIA ONLUS	1.654.286	0,19%
TRIANGLE	6000055141	NGO	TRIANGLE Génération Humanitaire, (FR)	3.251.975	0,37%
TROCAIRE	6000057559	NGO	Trocaire, (IRL)	240.000	0,03%
TSF, FRANCE	6000055567	NGO	TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES	98.270	0,01%
UCODEP__298	6000060459	NGO	Unity and Cooperation for Development of Peoples	749.997	0,09%
UNCHS - HABITAT	6000068998	UN	United Nations Human Settlements Programme	349.783	0,04%
UNDP-PNUD	6000055554	UN	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	5.743.316	0,66%
UNFPA	6000055534	UN	UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND	330.000	0,04%
UNHCR	6000055529	UN	UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES - BELGIUM	53.545.034	6,11%
UNICEF	6000055643	UN	UNICEF	32.572.031	3,72%
UNRWA	6000067513	UN	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN NEAR EAST	38.000.000	4,34%

Partner's short name	ABAC key	Partner's category code	Partner's long name	Amount Contract	%
VOICE ASBL	6000108161	NGO	VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN COOPERATION IN EMERGENCIES	185.774	0,02%
VSF - BE	6000055036	NGO	Vétérinaires Sans Frontières- Belgique - Dierenartsen Zonder Grenzen - Belgie um	1.718.987	0,20%
VSF G	6000118639	NGO	Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V.	1.700.000	0,19%
WA-UK	6000073643	NGO	Welfare Association	300.000	0,03%
WFP-PAM	6000067587	UN	WORLD FOOD PROGRAM	228.034.945	26,04%
WHO	6000053109	UN	WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION - ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE	10.239.849	1,17%
WORLD VISION DEU	6000053871	NGO	WORLD VISION, (DEU)	1.850.000	0,21%
WORLD VISION - UK	6000055982	NGO	WORLD VISION - UK	4.567.922	0,52%
ZOA	6000054025	NGO	ZOA-Vluchtelingen zorg	3.449.197	0,39%
TOTAL				875.751.163	100,00%

5.4. List of contracts for humanitarian aid operations – Top 25 partners

CONTRACTS FOR HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS IN 2008 - TOP 25 PARTNERS						
HOPE SHORT NAME	LE KEY	PARTNERS LONG NAME	FPA Cat.	Amount	%	Cumul %
WFP-PAM	6000067587	WORLD FOOD PROGRAM	UN	228.034.945	26,04%	26,04%
ICRC-CICR	6000055654	COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE CICR)	IO	78.865.000	9,01%	35,04%
UNHCR	6000055529	UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES – BELGIUM	UN	53.545.034	6,11%	41,16%
UNRWA	6000067513	UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN NEAR EAST	UN	38.000.000	4,34%	45,50%
UNICEF	6000055643	UNICEF	UN	32.572.031	3,72%	49,22%
FAO	6000055556	UNITED NATIONS – FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION	UN	26.355.614	3,01%	52,23%
OXFAM - UK	6000055981	OXFAM (GB)	NGO	24.923.401	2,85%	55,07%
ACF - FRA	6000054039	ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM (FR)	NGO	21.105.663	2,41%	57,48%
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	6000057469	THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (GBR)	NGO	15.565.966	1,78%	59,26%
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	6000055234	DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE E. V.	NGO	11.999.394	1,37%	60,63%
IRC - UK	6000055964	INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE UK	NGO	11.670.139	1,33%	61,96%
MERLIN	6000071402	MEDIAL EMERGENCY RELIEF INTERNATIONAL (GBR)	NGO	10.898.689	1,24%	63,21%
SOLIDARITES	6000055549	SOLIDARITES, (FR)	NGO	10.743.479	1,23%	64,43%
WHO	6000053109	WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION – ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE	UN	10.239.849	1,17%	65,60%
COOPI	6000055976	COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE (ITA)	NGO	9.797.382	1,12%	66,72%

HOPE SHORT NAME	LE KEY	PARTNERS LONG NAME	FPA Cat.	Amount	%	Cumul %
DRC	6000058798	DANSK FLYGTNINGEHJAELP	NGO	9.541.588	1,09%	67,81%
ACH- ESP	6000056743	ACCION CONTRA EL HAMBRE (ESP)	NGO	8.964.874	1,02%	68,83%
DAC AVIATION INTL	6000176094	DAC AVIATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED	SUP	8.000.000	0,91%	69,75%
ACTED	6000055547	AGENCE D'AIDE A LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE ET AU DEVELOPPEMENT, (FR)	NGO	7.924.869	0,90%	70,65%
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	6000058809	FOLKEKIRKENS NODHJAELP, (FKN)	NGO	7.900.850	0,90%	71,56%
OCHA	6000067546	UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS	UN	7.335.000	0,84%	72,39%
CARE - UK	6000055956	CARE INTERNATIONAL, UK	NGO	7.275.451	0,83%	73,22%
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	6000057507	CONCERN WORLDWIDE, (IRL)	NGO	6.794.998	0,78%	74,00%
IOM	6000055563	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT)	IO	6.777.927	0,77%	74,77%
CORDAID	6000055816	CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT AID (NLD)	NGO	6.331.402	0,72%	75,50%

5.5. List of contracts for humanitarian aid operations in 2008 - by country and partners

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008		PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
AFGHANISTAN	32.508.702	BOLIVIA	3.150.000
UNHCR	6.700.000	FAO	1.000.000
ICRC-CICR	6.100.000	STCH	660.000
DRC	2.484.958	OXFAM - UK	640.000
ACF - FRA	1.764.774	WFP-PAM	270.000
MADERA-FR	1.594.466	PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	250.000
ZOA	1.449.197	ACH- ESP	180.000
CARE - UK	1.355.460	COOPI	150.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	1.200.000	BURKINA FASO	6.100.621
ACTIONAID	1.130.731	ACF - FRA	1.630.627
SOLIDARITES	1.096.979	FAO	1.500.000
IRC - UK	1.000.000	WFP-PAM	1.000.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	860.000	MSF - FRA	850.000
MEDAIR CH	810.372	SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	719.994
ACTED	750.842	INTERMON	400.000
PEOPLE IN NEED	579.698	BURUNDI	16.679.275
AGA KHAN	508.036	UNHCR	4.500.000
MISSION OST - DNK	468.960	WFP-PAM	4.000.000
FAO	355.769	CARITAS - DEU	1.750.000
CARITAS - DEU	350.000	AVSI	1.400.000
RI-UK	349.999	CORDAID	1.000.000
UNDP-PNUD	349.458	FAO	1.000.000
IMC UK	348.912	ICRC-CICR	800.000
TEARFUND - UK	290.632	SOLIDARITES	780.000
NOVIB	279.459	IMC UK	500.000
OXFAM - UK	200.000	UNICEF	500.000
BBC-TRUST	130.000	CARITAS - BEL	249.275
ALGERIA	12.196.685	CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	200.000
WFP-PAM	5.600.000	CAMBODIA	2.729.929
PTM	1.750.000	DANCHURCHAID - DNK	500.000
OXFAM - BEL	1.330.000	ZOA	450.000
TRIANGLE	1.250.000	WHO	395.920
UNHCR	1.100.000	MEKONG RIVER COMMISSION	353.273
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	430.000	CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	349.594
WHO	300.000	UNDP-PNUD	346.361
MPDL	212.352	ACTIONAID	334.781
MDM - ESP	124.333	CAMEROON	2.000.000
UNICEF	100.000	UNHCR	1.000.000
AZERBAIJAN	1.170.000	WFP-PAM	500.000
UNHCR	670.000	CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	455.000
DRC	500.000	MDM - FRA	45.000
BANGLADESH	25.057.815	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	4.791.000
WFP-PAM	7.150.000	WFP-PAM	1.000.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	3.537.005	SOLIDARITES	791.000
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	2.450.000	ACTED	720.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	2.360.000	ACF - FRA	700.000
ISLAMIC RELIEF	2.199.119	UNICEF	500.000
MUSLIM AID	1.764.986	IRC - UK	450.000
CARE - UK	1.047.071	AMI - FRA	430.000
ACF - FRA	1.009.937	OCHA	200.000
WORLD VISION - UK	940.000	CENTRAL AMERICA	1.420.000
SOLIDARITES	800.000	UNICEF	545.000
MSF - NLD	500.000	PAHO	440.000
ACTIONAID	450.857	IFRC-FICR	435.000
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	358.840		
CARITAS - DEU	340.000		
HANDICAP (FR)	150.000		

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
CHAD	31.373.851
UNHCR	8.915.034
WFP-PAM	8.500.000
ICRC-CICR	3.300.000
COOPI	1.682.831
ACF - FRA	1.304.890
IRC - UK	1.164.301
INTERMON	1.120.000
HELP	729.847
PREMIERE URGENGE	628.700
ACTED	601.583
CARE - FR	587.447
SOLIDARITES	510.000
OCHA	500.000
UNICEF	500.000
WHO	500.000
OXFAM - UK	494.521
ASF-BELGIUM	334.697
CHINA	2.000.000
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	2.000.000
COLOMBIA	10.327.670
ICRC-CICR	3.500.000
UNHCR	900.000
WFP-PAM	750.000
DIAKONIE	650.000
SI	550.000
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	500.000
ACH- ESP	400.000
MDM - FRA	400.000
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	350.000
OXFAM - UK	350.000
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	300.000
OCHA	300.000
MPDL	250.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	250.000
MERCY CORPS SCOTLAND	249.670
PAHO	230.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	200.000
CHURCH OF SWEDEN AID	198.000
COMOROS	346.397
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	346.397
CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF	53.974.756
DAC AVIATION INTL	8.000.000
ICRC-CICR	3.065.000
AMI - FRA	2.000.000
ACTED	1.780.000
ACH- ESP	1.250.000
FAO	946.498
COOPI	799.876
AVSI	782.195
CARITAS - BEL	500.000
DIAKONIE	500.000
ASF-BELGIUM	318.637
CARITAS - FRA	300.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
WFP-PAM	11.947.000
UNHCR	3.500.000
UNICEF	2.500.000
SOLIDARITES	2.285.000
MALTESER HILFSDIENST	2.218.990
IOM	1.856.924
PREMIERE URGENGE	1.633.513
MERLIN	1.457.660
OCHA	1.250.000
IRC - UK	736.073
MSF - BEL	700.000
PMU INTERLIFE	640.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	616.053
TEARFUND - UK	585.000
OXFAM - BEL	438.000
MDM - FRA	383.400
MSF - ESP	330.000
MEDAIR CH	328.936
MSF - NLD	326.000
COSTA RICA	495.000
OCHA	495.000
COTE D'IVOIRE	580.000
ACF - FRA	580.000
CUBA	2.000.000
OIKOS	510.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	500.000
IFRC-FICR	410.000
PAHO	400.000
CISP	180.000
DJIBOUTI	4.071.596
FAO	2.671.596
WFP-PAM	1.000.000
MSF - CHE	400.000
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1.064.206
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	583.435
INTERMON	400.000
ACP	80.771
EAST TIMOR	2.407.546
IOM	863.709
PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	373.000
TRIANGLE	350.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	300.837
UNDP-PNUD	300.000
WFP-PAM	220.000
ECUADOR	2.850.000
UNHCR	850.000
WFP-PAM	500.000
CARITAS - DEU	300.000
COOPI	300.000
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	300.000
CRIC	250.000
INTERMON	250.000
PAHO	100.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
EL SALVADOR	1.955.000
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	450.000
CARE - FR	425.000
OXFAM - BEL	390.000
OIKOS	345.000
PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	345.000
ERITREA	4.650.130
ICRC-CICR	1.700.000
UNICEF	900.000
WHO	900.000
OXFAM - UK	650.130
MDM - FRA	500.000
ETHIOPIA	48.576.919
WFP-PAM	20.000.000
ACF - FRA	3.343.115
UNICEF	3.000.000
FAO	2.275.200
CROIX-ROUGE - FIN	2.000.000
MSF - BEL	2.000.000
OXFAM - UK	2.000.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	1.813.604
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	1.620.000
GOAL	1.250.000
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	1.200.000
MDM - FRA	1.140.000
ICRC-CICR	1.000.000
MERLIN	1.000.000
MSF - ESP	1.000.000
CARITAS - DEU	725.000
CROIX-ROUGE - AUT	700.000
IRC - UK	660.000
ADRA - DEU	650.000
WORLD VISION - UK	600.000
COOPI	400.000
OCHA	200.000
GEORGIA	7.500.000
WFP-PAM	3.000.000
ICRC-CICR	1.000.000
DRC	700.000
UNHCR	600.000
CARE - AUT	500.000
HALO TRUST	500.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	400.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD	300.000
WORLD VISION DEU	300.000
PREMIERE URGENCE	200.000
GUATEMALA	2.265.000
ACH- ESP	550.000
COOPI	420.000
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	405.000
OXFAM - UK	350.000
WFP-PAM	300.000
TROCAIRE	240.000
GUINEA	1.300.000
UNICEF	750.000
WFP-PAM	550.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
GUINEA BISSAU	400.000
MSF - ESP	400.000
HAITI	15.119.332
OXFAM - UK	3.347.610
WFP-PAM	2.650.000
ACTED	1.080.241
MSF - NLD	1.000.000
PSF - FRA/CLERMONT-FERRAND	998.550
FAO	939.895
ACF - FRA	832.973
TERRE DES HOMMES - CHE	672.069
CARE - FR	669.940
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	600.000
PAHO	500.000
MDM - FRA	370.000
AVSI	316.693
MSF - FRA	300.000
UNICEF	300.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	284.361
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	214.000
TSF, FRANCE	43.000
HONDURAS	3.585.000
WFP-PAM	1.000.000
GOAL	820.000
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	415.000
ASB - DEU	385.000
UNDP-PNUD	345.000
PAHO	220.000
AYUDA EN ACCIÓN	200.000
OIKOS	200.000
INDIA	15.706.166
ACTIONAID	2.349.021
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	2.147.201
ADRA - DEU	1.808.000
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	1.285.868
OXFAM - UK	1.250.577
CARE - UK	1.045.268
ICRC-CICR	1.000.000
CARITAS - DEU	955.187
UNICEF	913.580
ACTED	782.604
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	550.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	543.428
MSF - NLD	268.000
HANDICAP (FR)	249.289
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	204.313
MSF - ESP	178.830
MALTESER HILFSDIENST	175.000
INDONESIA	3.964.614
OXFAM - UK	625.359
WFP-PAM	600.000
FAO	548.500
ACF - FRA	520.268
CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	505.622
CARE NEDERLAND (FORMER DRA)	350.000
CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	302.182
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	297.395
ASB - DEU	215.288

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
IRAN	750.000
UNHCR	750.000
IRAQ	19.150.000
ICRC-CICR	13.000.000
UNHCR	5.300.000
OCHA	600.000
PREMIERE URGENCE	250.000
JAMAICA	300.000
IFRC-FICR	300.000
JORDAN	1.545.000
CARE - AUT	1.000.000
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	545.000
KAZAKHSTAN	390.000
OCHA	390.000
KENYA	36.776.212
WFP-PAM	11.500.000
CORDAID	3.574.541
COOPI	2.800.000
CARE - UK	2.642.093
OXFAM - UK	2.021.623
ACH- ESP	1.900.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	1.761.950
VSF - BE	1.718.987
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	1.514.207
ICRC-CICR	1.500.000
UNICEF	1.500.000
CAFOD	1.040.025
MERLIN	752.786
WORLD VISION - UK	750.000
ISLAMIC RELIEF	700.000
CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	450.000
WORLD VISION DEU	350.000
PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	300.000
KYRGYSTAN	600.000
IOM	300.000
UNDP-PNUD	300.000
LAOS	1.084.050
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	515.050
IFRC-FICR	369.000
WFP-PAM	200.000
LATIN AMERICA	300.000
IFRC-FICR	300.000
LEBANON	9.402.104
UNDP-PNUD	2.309.497
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	2.054.962
PREMIERE URGENCE	1.466.965
MERCY CORPS SCOTLAND	807.969
ACTED	732.829
SCD-RB	386.623
IRD	329.550
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	288.804
MPDL	277.000
OXFAM - UK	222.838

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
HANDICAP (FR)	214.300
ACH- ESP	210.783
ISLAMIC RELIEF	99.984
LIBERIA	18.144.951
OXFAM - UK	3.300.000
MERLIN	1.660.655
ICRC-CICR	1.500.000
WFP-PAM	1.500.000
ACF - FRA	1.348.500
DRC	1.250.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	1.000.000
IRC - UK	1.000.000
UNICEF	990.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	790.000
SOLIDARITES	670.000
MDM - FRA	600.000
UNHCR	550.000
ADRA - DK	500.000
TEARFUND - UK	500.000
MSF - CHE	450.796
PMU INTERLIFE	410.000
WHO	125.000
MADAGASCAR	5.177.795
CARE - FR	2.378.188
WFP-PAM	500.000
UNICEF	475.000
MEDAIR CH	450.000
MDM - FRA	417.000
FAO	360.139
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	299.960
ICCO	297.508
MALAWI	630.009
GOAL	275.728
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	177.606
COOPI	176.675
MALI	1.500.000
UNICEF	1.000.000
WFP-PAM	500.000
MAURITANIA	1.849.800
UNHCR	1.500.000
UNICEF	349.800
MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF	700.000
UNDP-PNUD	700.000
MOZAMBIQUE	3.139.134
OIKOS	659.331
UNHCR	500.000
INTERMON	350.000
UNCHS - HABITAT	349.783
UNDP-PNUD	348.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	343.357
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	308.356
OXFAM - UK	280.307

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
MYANMAR	25.275.756
WFP-PAM	11.942.630
MSF - CHE	1.500.000
ACF - FRA	1.492.370
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	1.304.310
MERLIN	1.290.310
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	1.200.000
IFRC-FICR	800.000
WORLD VISION - UK	800.000
TERRE DES HOMMES (TDH) - ITA	769.286
AMI - FRA	645.249
MALTESER HILFSDIENST	545.000
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	540.000
CARE - DEU	535.000
ICRC-CICR	500.000
ACTIONAID	414.576
ADRA - DEU	380.000
EMDH	356.525
MDM - FRA	250.000
MAPACT	10.500
NAMIBIA	1.249.966
CROIX-ROUGE - SWE	977.966
UNICEF	272.000
NEPAL	9.355.359
WFP-PAM	4.227.195
CARE - AUT	810.019
ICRC-CICR	700.000
MERLIN	550.000
MSF - NLD	500.000
MISSION OST - DNK	450.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	410.000
IRC - UK	350.000
UNFPA	330.000
OXFAM - UK	328.145
HANDICAP (FR)	320.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	200.000
UNICEF	180.000
NICARAGUA	2.400.000
CARE - FR	590.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	410.000
ACSUR - MADRID	375.000
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	375.000
CRIC	330.000
OXFAM - UK	320.000
NIGER	8.109.389
BBC-TRUST	400.254
HELP	1.960.332
MSF - CHE	1.740.000
FAO	1.500.000
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	973.300
MSF - BEL	600.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	499.733
MSF - ESP	380.500
TSF, FRANCE	55.270
NIGERIA	490.000
MSF - FRA	250.000
MSF - NLD	240.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
PAKISTAN	2.250.000
ICRC-CICR	1.500.000
UNHCR	750.000
PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, OCCUPIED	75.165.505
UNRWA	37.500.000
WFP-PAM	9.100.000
CARE - AUT	3.495.600
WHO	3.000.000
ICRC-CICR	2.900.000
ACH- ESP	2.315.188
CISP	1.785.000
OXFAM - UK	1.520.000
MERCY CORPS SCOTLAND	1.300.000
MDM - FRA	1.013.000
COOPI	1.000.000
CARE - FR	985.000
CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	900.000
TERRE DES HOMMES (TDH) - ITA	885.000
ACP	750.000
UCODEP_298	749.997
PREMIERE URGENCE	700.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD	700.000
CRIC	650.000
ACTED	550.000
UNICEF	430.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	378.982
MEDICO INTERNATIONAL	349.808
HANDICAP (FR)	335.000
OXFAM - BEL	329.400
WA-UK	300.000
MERLIN	298.530
POLISH HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION	290.000
IOCC - GR	250.000
TERRE DES HOMMES - CHE	250.000
DIE JOHANNITER, (DEU)	155.000
PANAMA	210.000
UNHCR	120.000
UNDP-PNUD	90.000
PARAGUAY	1.400.000
INTERMON	564.000
COOPI	418.000
CROIX-ROUGE - FIN	232.000
STCH	141.000
UNDP-PNUD	45.000
PERU	1.000.000
FAO	1.000.000
PHILIPPINES	8.274.835
WFP-PAM	3.900.000
ICRC-CICR	1.500.000
IOM	600.000
ACH- ESP	471.743
CARE NEDERLAND (FORMER DRA)	420.000
OXFAM - UK	352.577
GTZ	350.000
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	290.954
CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	289.263
STCH	100.298

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
RUSSIA	9.325.648
DRC	2.135.648
IRC - UK	1.400.000
UNHCR	1.400.000
FAO	700.000
ACF - FRA	550.000
HELP	500.000
IMC UK	500.000
WFP-PAM	400.000
CARITAS - CZE	320.000
HANDICAP (FR)	320.000
HAMMER FORUM	300.000
UNICEF	300.000
MDM - FRA	250.000
UNDP-PNUD	250.000
SENEGAL	1.086.050
WHO	1.086.050
SOMALIA	36.375.409
ICRC-CICR	14.000.000
WFP-PAM	7.000.000
ACF - FRA	2.564.020
UNICEF	2.000.000
DRC	1.220.980
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	1.201.300
SOLIDARITES	1.060.500
ISLAMIC RELIEF	925.496
SOS KINDERDORF INT.	900.000
VSF G	900.000
COOPI	850.000
ADRA - DEU	750.000
FAO	700.000
IRC - UK	637.416
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	636.399
CARE NEDERLAND (FORMER DRA)	629.298
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	400.000
SRI LANKA	14.800.002
ICRC-CICR	3.500.000
WFP-PAM	2.000.000
ZOA	1.550.000
DRC	1.250.002
UNHCR	1.000.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	800.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	700.000
ASB - DEU	600.000
OXFAM - UK	500.000
CARE - DEU	400.000
FSD__573	400.000
HANDICAP (FR)	400.000
IOM	400.000
OCHA	400.000
ACTED	300.000
CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	300.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	300.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
SUDAN	161.290.857
WFP-PAM	78.400.120
ICRC-CICR	13.000.000
UNICEF	7.965.926
UNHCR	4.200.000
MERLIN	3.888.748
OXFAM - UK	3.842.063
FAO	3.500.000
WHO	3.058.929
ACF - FRA	2.918.453
SOLIDARITES	2.750.000
OCHA	2.550.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD	2.506.669
IRC - UK	2.300.000
TEARFUND - UK	2.046.001
CORDAID	1.756.861
TRIANGLE	1.651.975
IOM	1.500.000
PSF - FRA/CLERMONT-FERRAND	1.254.092
CARE - UK	1.185.559
GOAL	1.180.000
MSF - NLD	1.000.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	1.000.000
MEDAIR CH	997.637
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	990.000
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	985.850
CROIX-ROUGE - DEU	963.824
NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID	949.900
COSV - MILAN	920.846
CAM	810.000
MSF - CHE	806.367
COOPI	800.000
VSF G	800.000
AMI - FRA	750.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	749.611
ACH- ESP	687.160
AVSI	663.042
WORLD VISION DEU	600.000
IMC UK	550.000
CROIX-ROUGE - NOR	500.000
HANDICAP (FR)	500.000
INTERMON	500.000
MDM - FRA	500.000
ADRA - DK	457.000
MALTESER HILFSDIENST	453.018
ISLAMIC RELIEF	400.000
TERRE DES HOMMES - CHE	400.000
REDR	336.757
IFRC-FICR	300.000
HEALTH NET TPO	260.545
MC	203.903

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
SURINAME	400.000
IFRC-FICR	400.000
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	7.705.000
WFP-PAM	5.000.000
ICMC	855.000
TERRE DES HOMMES - CHE	750.000
ICRC-CICR	600.000
UNRWA	500.000
TAJKISTAN	6.244.987
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	1.349.987
UNICEF	995.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	600.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD	600.000
AGA KHAN	450.000
UNDP-PNUD	360.000
CARITAS - LUX	350.000
MISSION OST - DNK	350.000
OXFAM - UK	330.000
ACTED	280.000
CHRISTIAN AID - UK	200.000
WHO	200.000
FAO	180.000
TANZANIA	10.755.725
UNHCR	5.900.000
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	2.000.000
WFP-PAM	2.000.000
UNICEF	855.725
TOGO	650.000
UNICEF	650.000
UGANDA	29.263.950
WFP-PAM	11.185.000
UNHCR	2.000.000
DANCHURCHAID - DNK	1.800.000
IRC - UK	1.772.349
ICRC-CICR	1.500.000
OXFAM - UK	1.317.651
ACH- ESP	1.000.000
AVSI	1.000.000
FAO	1.000.000
GOAL	1.000.000
UNICEF	1.000.000
MEDAIR CH	800.000
MEDAIR UK	750.000
CARITAS - DEU	700.000
WHO	673.950
WORLD VISION DEU	600.000
OCHA	450.000
CONCERN WORLDWIDE	400.000
MSF - NLD	315.000
UZBEKISTAN	210.000
HANDICAP (FR)	210.000

PARTNERS BY COUNTRY in 2008	
VENEZUELA	500.000
NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL	250.000
UNHCR	250.000
VIET NAM	4.127.264
CROIX-ROUGE - FRA	840.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	613.545
CARE - DEU	545.724
DWF	520.000
ACTIONAID	499.090
ACTED	346.770
CROIX-ROUGE - NLD	282.135
CROIX-ROUGE - ESP	180.000
EMDH	150.000
OXFAM - UK	150.000
YEMEN	1.600.000
ICRC-CICR	1.000.000
OXFAM - UK	350.000
UNHCR	250.000
ZAMBIA	1.597.294
IOM	1.257.294
UNHCR	340.000
ZIMBABWE	25.160.980
WFP-PAM	7.000.000
FAO	4.687.017
UNICEF	3.100.000
GERMAN AGRO ACTION	1.740.465
HELP	1.559.118
WORLD VISION - UK	1.477.922
MSF - NLD	1.300.000
ICRC-CICR	700.000
GOAL	655.829
CROIX-ROUGE - DNK	591.467
ACF - FRA	545.736
IFRC-FICR	513.000
MSF - ESP	493.150
PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK	305.576
MDM - FRA	251.700
MSF - LUX	240.000
GRANT FACILITY	986.918
IRC - UK	200.000
VOICE ASBL	185.774
OXFAM - UK	180.000
SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK	180.000
CONCERN UNIVERSAL	141.145
PUNTO SUD	100.000
THEMATIC FUNDING	2.534.000
FAO	1.491.000
WFP-PAM	1.043.000
UNSPECIFIED	200.004
TOTAL CONTRACTS 2008	875.751.163

PART IX. LIST OF ACRONYMS

<i>ACTED</i>	<i>AGENCE D'AIDE A LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE ET AU DEVELOPPEMENT</i>
<i>CSP</i>	<i>COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPER (EDF)</i>
<i>DIPECHO/DPP</i>	<i>DG ECHO'S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME</i>
<i>DRC</i>	<i>DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO</i>
<i>DRR</i>	<i>DISASTER RISK REDUCTION</i>
<i>DG ECHO</i>	<i>HUMANITARIAN AID DIRECTORATE-GENERAL</i>
<i>EDF</i>	<i>EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND</i>
<i>ESDP</i>	<i>EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY</i>
<i>EU</i>	<i>EUROPEAN UNION</i>
<i>EUMS</i>	<i>MILITARY STAFF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION</i>
<i>FAFA</i>	<i>THE EC/UN FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT</i>
<i>FPA</i>	<i>FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (BETWEEN DG ECHO AND ITS OPERATIONAL PARTNERS)</i>
<i>GAM</i>	<i>GLOBAL ACUTE MALNUTRITION</i>
<i>GHD</i>	<i>GOOD HUMANITARIAN DONORSHIP</i>
<i>HOLIS</i>	<i>HUMANITARIAN OFFICE LOCAL INFORMATION SYSTEM</i>
<i>ICRC</i>	<i>INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS</i>
<i>IDP</i>	<i>INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS</i>
<i>IFRC</i>	<i>INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES</i>
<i>IHL</i>	<i>INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW</i>
<i>INGO</i>	<i>INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION</i>
<i>IOM</i>	<i>INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION</i>

<i>LRRD</i>	<i>LINKING RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT</i>
<i>MCDA</i>	<i>MILITARY AND CIVIL DEFENCE ASSETS</i>
<i>MIC</i>	<i>MONITORING AND INFORMATION CENTRE</i>
<i>MSF</i>	<i>MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES</i>
<i>NOHA</i>	<i>NETWORK ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE</i>
<i>NGO</i>	<i>NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION</i>
<i>OFDA</i>	<i>OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE</i>
<i>SITREP</i>	<i>SITUATION REPORT</i>
<i>SPD</i>	<i>STRATEGIC PLANNING DIALOGUE</i>
<i>SPP</i>	<i>STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING</i>
<i>TCG</i>	<i>TRIPARTITE CORE GROUP</i>
<i>UN-CHS-HABITAT</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS - HABITAT (UNCHS)</i>
<i>UNDP</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</i>
<i>UNESCAP</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</i>
<i>UN-FAO</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION</i>
<i>UNFPA</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND</i>
<i>UNHCR</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES</i>
<i>UNICEF</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND</i>
<i>UNOCHA</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS - OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS</i>
<i>UN-PAHO</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION</i>
<i>UNRWA</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS - RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST</i>
<i>UN-WFP</i>	<i>UNITED NATIONS - WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME</i>

UN-WHO

UNITED NATIONS -WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

UXO

UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE

WASH

WATER, SANITATION AND HEALTH