

Food for the Hungry Relief Unit (FHRU)
2008 Year End Report
Prepared January 2009



Peru Earthquake
August 2007
(project completed in August 2008)

In August 2007, a powerful earthquake hit Southern Peru. The official death toll was just over 500 and more than 1,000 people were injured. FH, with help from the GRA*, was able to respond immediately by setting up three communal kitchens which served three meals a day for 2000 people and provided 100 tents as temporary shelter. FH also provided assistance to damaged churches and hospitals so that they could resume their operations. FH completed its response one year after the earthquake by providing assistance to affected communities through activities such as rubble removal, health education, psychosocial care and home reconstruction.



* The Global Relief Alliance (GRA) is a partnership between relief organizations to more effectively meet the needs of those affected by disasters worldwide. This partnership is made up of six organizations: Food for the Hungry, Medical Assistance Programs (MAP) International, Medical Teams International, World Concern Development Organization, World Relief and Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. Many relief efforts listed have been possible due to the collaboration of resources within this partnership.



In partnership with Project Concern International (PCI) and SENCICO (a local government agency that specializes in construction training), FH provided training in reinforced adobe construction to 57 masons and construction workers. Through the training process, 20 model homes were built in three beneficiary communities. In addition to the adobe construction training, FH trained 46 community volunteers in basic hygiene and health prevention, as well as provided psychosocial care to more than 400 children affected by the earthquake through educational, sports and art activities.

Kenya Post-Election Violence December 2007 to January 2008

Post-election violence sparked riots in Nairobi, Kisumu and other parts of Kenya. Over the course of two months, some 1,000 people were killed and over 500,000 were displaced. In response, FH collaborated with the National Alliance of Churches and other organizations to distribute food and non-food items in the slums of Nairobi. Collectively, 16,955 people were served through the distribution of 5.132 metric tons of maize meal, 363 liters of vegetable oil, 1,100 cooking kits, and 6.334 metric tons of charcoal. In a continued effort to serve families affected by the civil unrest, on April 28th FH/Kenya signed a grant agreement for 106,645 Kenyan Shillings (app \$1,600USD) with the Jamii Bora Trust. The Trust operates a disaster insurance scheme for its members who are largely low income small-scale business persons.



Mozambique Floods January 2008



Several districts of Mozambique where FH operates were affected by torrential rainfall which poured into the Zambezi, causing the River to rise above alert levels and water-log the Zambezi Basin. As a result, some 95,000 people were displaced and at least 89,500 hectares of crops were damaged.

FH responded by using the structure of existing community programs related to child survival, food security, HIV/AIDS prevention and care to identify the most vulnerable members and link them with nutritional support provided by the government, the UN and other NGOs. FH also worked with local farmers to prepare for replanting of crops. FH received a \$71K grant from UNICEF, which was mostly used to support the Ministry of Health in the surveillance, assessment and treatment of malnourished children.

Bolivia Floods and Landslides March 2008

Several months of heavy rains in Bolivia caused rivers to overflow their banks, destroying crops, livestock and wiping out roads. The downpours resulted in the death of some 50 people, as well as more than \$30 million in financial losses, damaging 10,000 hectares of crops, and affecting more than 41,500 families. Flooding was particularly severe in Santa Cruz, Beni, La Paz and Cochabamba. In response, FH, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Medical Assistance Programs (MAP) International, imported and distributed medicines to public service organizations.



Uganda Displacement of Benet People March 2008



After the killing of a Belgian tourist hiking in Mt. Elgon National Park, the Uganda Wildlife Authority determined to evict all persons living within the park, including the Benet people, (a small sub-group of the Sabinys indigenous to the slopes of Mt. Elgon), who were forced to vacate their homes on February 16. Homes, food stores, livestock and most of the personal possessions of the Benet people were destroyed or lost in the process. With no place to go, the community was forced to live with local relatives, in temporary shelters in IDP camps or in caves.

Partnering with Samaritans Purse and Action Aid, FH provided 400 families with blankets, tarps for temporary shelters, Jerry Cans, water purification tablets and food.

Ethnic Clashes in Ethiopia May 2008



On May 17, 2008, ethnic clashes erupted in Ethiopia between the neighboring Gumuz and Oromo. The clash resulted in the death of hundreds and the displacement of thousands who live at the borders of Benishangul Gumez and Oromia Regional States.

FH staff members were evacuated from the project areas of Sasiga and Belo Jeganfoy soon after the clashes erupted. Families in both project areas reported the death of three to seven members of their family. One FH staff member lost three of his family members in the conflict, including both parents. In response, FH provided assistance to meet some of the most urgent needs of the displaced people, including the distribution of cooking utensils, water containers and blankets.

Myanmar Cyclone Nargis and Chin State Famine May 2008 to present

FH is working through existing networks of local partners to aid in Myanmar's recovery from Cyclone Nargis, which struck the country on May 2, and was followed by a tidal wave. Officials estimate the death toll in Myanmar (also known as Burma) exceeds 134,000. More than 5.5 million people were impacted with loss of homes, livelihoods and loved ones.

Immediately following the cyclone, FH provided food, water, clothing and medicine to vulnerable children and families in some of the hardest hit areas through its GRA partner World Concern and other local groups.



FH is working for longer term reconstruction with partners including the Myanmar Christian Coalition for Cyclone Relief (MCCCR), made up of local churches and Christian organizations. FH staff from other fields experienced in disaster response provided capacity building for Burmese community leaders through the MCCCR to improve their disaster assessment skills and project management ability, in order that they may serve as leaders in reconstruction. Ongoing reconstruction activities that FH is funding include: materials for home reconstruction, household supplies, equipment for decontaminating water, tools/ seeds for agricultural recovery and income generating activities.

Since July 2008, Chin State in Western Myanmar has been plagued by severe food shortages caused by the fruit of bamboo that flowers every 50 years on the Indo-Myanmar border which led to the multiplication of rats in the region. The rats gradually invaded the farmlands and destroyed crops such as paddy and maize – the main staple food of Chin state. As a result, more than 100,000 people heavily dependant on cultivation are facing a food shortage, and in August 44 children died after they were afflicted by malnutrition and diarrhea. Faced with starvation, more than 2,000 people have fled to India. FH responded to the crisis through the distribution of rice to nearly 2,000 families.



China Earthquake May 2008 to present



On May 12, 2008, a 7.9 magnitude earthquake hit Wenchuan, a county in China's Sichuan province located about 50 miles north of the province's capital, Chengdu. The quake caused widespread devastation and was followed by many aftershocks. Official reports put the death toll at more than 67,000, with another 20,000 reported missing and more than five million homeless.

FH's initial relief response was conducted in collaboration with a local Christian partner and in the initial months was focused on distributing supplies in order to meet basic needs such as food, water, clothing (including a winter clothing distribution in October), medicine and temporary shelter, in addition to educational and recreational materials for children. In the rehabilitation phase, FH and local partners are now in the process of working with a community in Jiangyou, re-constructing a registered church, as well as a building a community center and health clinic.



Philippines Typhoon Fengshen June 2008



Typhoon Fengshen (Frank) hit the Philippines on June 21st, killing several hundred people and leaving thousands homeless. The community of Tibag, where FH works to improve the lives of children, was especially hard hit. Massive flooding as well as high winds caused extensive damage to the community and 150 families were forced to evacuate their homes and seek refuge in nearby shelters.

In response, FH conducted an immediate assessment in Tibag and partnered together with local community leaders, a Filipino non-profit of professional architects and families to rebuild and fortify 16 homes of families who participate in FH's Child Development Program against further storms and flooding. FH also assisted to repair the community water pump and reconstruct toilet facilities, as well as facilitated risk management trainings with the Tibag Disaster Council to help the community be better prepared for future storms.

Hurricanes in the Caribbean and Southeastern Coast of the USA August-October 2008

From August through October, a series of severe storms struck the Caribbean and Southeastern Coast of the United States. The countries most seriously affected by the storms included Haiti, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. Parts of the United States, including Louisiana and Texas, also felt the impact of the storms.

In Haiti, FH provided assistance through its GRA partner World Concern who responded immediately to the crisis through the provision of food/hygiene kits to affected families. On October 3, in cooperation with several international NGOs, FH reinstated its registration and officially launched a program office in Haiti, which will make any future relief responses in Haiti more effective.



In addition, the First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, TX, collected a special offering on Christmas Eve to provide funds for relief efforts in Haiti. The support will bring most needed relief to 118 students (67 boys and 51 girls) at Ecole Rama de Deplan II of Mission Evangelique Internationale. The relief effort will also help strengthen the capacities of the 27 Community Health Agents serving a population of over 118,000 inhabitants through home visits, health posts to provide care and support to orphans and vulnerable children as well as their caregivers.

Bangladesh Floods September 2008



This year's monsoon season was particularly damaging for certain parts of Bangladesh with torrential rains extending from the end of July through September. The prolonged rains resulted in destroying paddy fields, as well as many tube wells, latrines and homes.

FH responded by providing assistance to more than 600 families in ten communities within Haimchar through the rehabilitation and repair of tube wells, latrines and homes. All ten communities are located near the Meghna River and are prone to regular flooding and river erosion. Among the 600 families, only 141 had access to

clean drinking water, and many members of the remaining families suffered from water-borne diseases and other health problems as a result of drinking from the river.

FH worked together with community members to determine where to establish new tube-wells and to develop a plan for maintaining them. Staff and local participants worked together to raise the ground for the new wells to ensure they remain above the usual flood level. A total of 30 tube-wells were constructed, each new well benefiting 20 families, and tools and equipment was also provided to ensure that the community will be able to continue to maintain the new wells.



Sudan Floods October 2008



A State of Emergency was declared in Maban County of Upper Nile due to widespread flooding caused by heavy rain falls in Ethiopia and Sudan. Much of Maban was submerged by the floods and the main bridge connecting the County to other areas of Upper Nile was washed away, making the area inaccessible to relief assistance for days. More than 30 people died as a result of the floods, tens of thousands were displaced and the majority of crops were destroyed. In coordination with UN agencies and other NGOs operating along the Sobat Corridor, FH responded through the provision of short variety maize seeds for 1,300 displaced families.

Pakistan Earthquake October 2008

On October 29, a series of earthquakes shook Pakistan's south-western province. The strongest earthquake hit 6.4 on the Richter scale, and according to Pakistani Government officials, more than 300 people were killed, and some 10,000 homes were destroyed, displacing 25,000 to 30,000 people. FH responded through a local partner, Interfaith-League Against Poverty (I-LAP), who provided assistance to families through the distribution of winterized fleece jackets.



Persecution of Christians in Orissa India October 2008

At the end of August 2008, in response to the assassination of Hindu leader Swami Laxmanand Saraswati, violence erupted in the Kandhamal District of Orissa State, as fundamentalist Hindu groups launched a month long attack on hundreds of churches and thousands of homes of Christians, killing more than 45 people. More than 20,000 people fled for safety and shelter in the 14 relief camps set up by the Orissa State Government, and more than 50,000 others fled to the forests.



FH responded through a local partner, the Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief (EFICOR), which was the only Christian organization granted permission by the Indian Government to provide assistance in the relief camps. In collaboration with the Red Cross and the Kandhamal District Administration, EFICOR provided some 4,000 families with non-food materials, including blankets, bed sheets, hygiene kits, buckets, utensils, flashlights and mats. In addition, as a longer-term initiative, EFICOR is developing a 'peace and harmony' program with other Christian and secular NGOs

Photo taken from: <http://www.eficor.org>

Conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo Ongoing



The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a country that has been ravaged by war for years – with a loss of life reaching an excess of five million people. The country has experienced a fragile peace since 2003, but that ended abruptly with fighting that broke out between government troops and rebels in North Kivu Province in November of 2008. This province is north of FH's main offices in Bukavu.

Minova is positioned on the border of North and South Kivu, where the ongoing conflict in the DRC is concentrated. FH is providing assistance to an IDP camp in Minova where more than 1,500 families have fled to for refuge. These families make their homes out of banana leaves, grass and rock, and are left to cope with meager food supplies, disease and sheer exhaustion in their strenuous attempts to survive.



In efforts to provide assistance to the people of Minova, FH is implementing a road rehabilitation project which will transform a 28km stretch of destroyed road, increasing access to food (through rapidly multiplying and disseminating disease resistant cassava seeds), and establishing water and sanitation facilities. (*A Forgotten Crisis, DRC, FH-DRC*) With the recent resurgence of war, the program was temporarily suspended, but FH has restarted their program and is looking into opportunities for further funding to continue assistance to Minova.

The RU, in coordination with FH offices in the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda, sent an assessment team into North Kivu, as well as to neighboring countries of Rwanda and Uganda where Congolese are fleeing to escape the conflict. These international assessment teams, made up of a Canadian, Americans, Congolese, Ethiopians and Rwandans, focused on determining the critical needs of the area and submitted several requests for funding to USAID's Office of Foreign Assistance (OFDA) as well as for the Canadian International Development Office (CIDA). CIDA funding was not received, and FH staff are currently waiting to hear if OFDA will approve of the proposal submitted. FH's plan in the region, if funded, is to work with local church groups and aid organizations to assist the war displaced communities with: food, household items and seeds to plant their next crops; securing short term jobs and loans to provide for their families; and increasing access to health, nutrition and protection services for women and children.



Darfur, Sudan Ongoing



The Darfur region continues to cope with the effects of conflict, displacement and insecurity. Continued banditry and hijacking of relief vehicles coupled with increased violence and food insecurity has exacerbated the deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

Amid these challenges, the GRA* continues its operation in West Darfur. Led by World Relief, the GRA response focuses on improving the nutritional health of families, increasing access to safe drinking water sources, preventing diseases through improved sanitation and hygiene education and supporting the health sector through provision of primary health care services. (*World Relief, October 2008 Report*)

Eastern Chad Ongoing

The conflict between ethnic groups in Western Darfur has spilled over into Eastern Chad, where local rebel groups are also fighting the Chadian government, leading to the displacement of hundreds of people. Villages have been burned with their inhabitants either perishing in the attacks or fleeing to surrounding camps. This, in conjunction with drought, has left many vulnerable.

World Concern is leading a GRA response, and FH has supplied a water engineer who is responsible for all the rain water harvesting activities. This program provides resources for people to obtain much needed supplies in exchange for working on dams to catch rainwater and improve the water supply.



REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

South Sudan – Food Security and Education

For the past four years, FH/Sudan (FH/S) has been implementing food security programs in high refugee and IDP return areas of Upper Nile and Jonglei States through funding received from USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). FH/S has provided returnee farmers with seeds, fishing equipment, agricultural tools and other supplies, as well as training in improved agricultural practices in order to increase crop yields and production. In 2008, some 64,000 people benefited from FH/S' food security program.



Since 2005, through funding received from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM), FH/S has expanded educational opportunities for high returnee areas through the establishment of educational facilities, construction of latrines and water purification systems in schools, training of teachers, provision of education materials and creation of PTAs. Key successes and achievements of the education program over the last three years include:



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- 111 teachers successfully trained and linked to the South Sudan Ministry of Education
- Roughly 3,500 students enrolled in school
- 33% of total student enrollment are girls
- Seven Rubb Halls constructed for schools and fully equipped with books, benches and blackboards
- A permanent school structure constructed using local materials

Northern Uganda – Water, Food Security, Economy and Marketing

Since 2006, FH-Uganda has received funding through OFDA for food security, water and sanitation and economic recovery programs targeting more than 150,000 internally-displaced and formerly displaced people. Included among the many achievements of the program are:

- Construction of 6 non-motorized hand pumps, one production well and two shallow wells
- Construction of more than 1,100 stances of latrines in 8 re-settlement areas
- Hygiene promotion and sensitization sessions which reached 27,336 people
- Provision of seeds, tools and agricultural training for more than 9,000 households
- Cassava multiplication project which benefited 167 households
- Intensive vegetable garden training for 3,000 households
- Hygiene promotion and sensitization sessions which reached more than 12,700 people
- Provision of cash-for-work opportunities for more than 2,000 people
- Rehabilitation of some 20 kilometers of road



Democratic Republic of Congo – Food Security and Road Rehabilitation



For the past four years, FH/DRC has been implementing OFDA and BPRM-funded food security and infrastructure rehabilitation programs for communities within South Kivu, Maniema and Katanga Provinces that are suffering from the devastating effects of years of conflict and instability. More than 100,000 people benefited from the activities of 2008 programs, which included: seed and tool distribution; fish farming; seed and cassava multiplication; therapeutic and supplementary nutrition centers; agricultural interventions; and the rehabilitation of 188 kilometers of road, 16 bridges and 6 markets.

Among the many successes of the program was the introduction of a disease-resistant cassava multiplication activity in efforts to combat the Cassava Mosaic Virus (CMV), which had infected more than 80% of the region's cassava plants. When beneficiary farmers planted their fields in early 2008, the difference between the improved cassava cuttings and the local varieties was indistinguishable. Today, the rapid-growth improved varieties have completely dwarfed the disease-affected local varieties, and the yield of the new plants was over five times what is normally obtained in the area with local cassava plants.

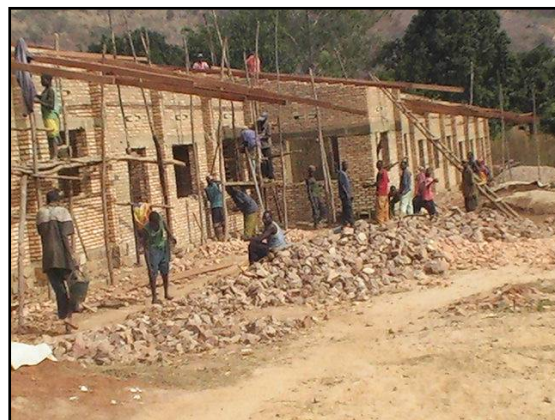


Burundi – Education and Food Security

Burundi has suffered one of the longest and most devastating conflicts in Africa, and throughout the course of the 12+ years of civil war, some 1.3 million people were displaced either inside the country (IDPs) or forced to flee into neighboring countries. (refugees) On August 1 2008, FH launched a new BPRM-funded program in two communities within Ruyigi Province to facilitate the sustainable repatriation and reintegration of Burundian returnees from neighboring countries.

The objectives of the program are:

- To *expand education opportunities* for children through the construction of three primary schools, each with six furnished classrooms, on-site lodging for teachers, administration offices, school latrines and water tanks.
- To *increase food security* for 2,500 families through the distribution of seeds, tools and goats. In addition, FH is providing training in various topics, including animal restocking, agriculture and food security, environment protection, leadership and development.
- FH will also provide temporary employment to more than 300 people through implementation of program activities. (including school construction and reforestation)
- To *protect and enhance the environment* through the establishment of two tree nurseries per school site (for a total of 6 tree nurseries)



2008 Response Report						
Country	Date	Disaster	# of Beneficiaries	Partners (operational & funding)	FH Response	Total Aid (in USD)
Peru	Aug 2007	Earthquake	57 individuals (adobe) 46 community volunteers (hygiene) 400 children (psychosocial)	Project Concern International (PCI) SENCICO	Trainings offered in reinforced adobe construction and basic hygiene and health prevention Psychosocial care through educational, sports and arts activities	FHUS: \$53,330 FHUK: \$2,289 CIDA: \$97,608 GRA: \$100,723
Kenya	Dec 2007	Post-election violence	16,955 (immediate response)	Feed the Children, World Relief, ADRA, Jamii Bora Trust	Food distribution and Disaster insurance scheme for low-income small scale business persons	RRF*: \$6,080 Local Sources: \$1,600
Mozambique	January	Flooding		UNICEF	Nutritional Support and Farmer Education	UNICEF: \$71,000
Bolivia	March	Flooding		MAP, Bolivia Ministry of Health	Medical shipments	FHUS: \$2,000
Uganda	March	IDP Relocation	400 families	Samaritan's Purse, Action Aid	Blankets, temporary shelter, jerry cans, water purification tablets, food	RRF: \$6,060
	Nov	DRC Refugees			Assessment (in Uganda and Rwanda)	RRF: \$10,000
Ethiopia	May	Ethnic Clashes	1,500 families		Distribution of cooking utensils, jerry cans, blankets, farming equipment and school desks	RRF: \$5,000 CFHI: \$10,000 CDP Funds: \$71,342
Myanmar	May 2	Cyclone Nargis	100,000 individuals	Global Relief Alliance (GRA) Myanmar Christian Coalition for Cyclone Relief (MCCCR) Local Churches	<i>Immediate:</i> Food, water, clothing, medicine, disaster assessment and project management training <i>Ongoing:</i> materials for home reconstruction, household supplies, equipment for decontaminating water and seeds/tools for agricultural recovery	FHUS: \$138,925 CFHI: \$53,800 GRA and other partners: \$6,500

China	May 12	Earthquake	Initial response: more than 10,000 individuals	Local Christian partner (not named for security reasons)	<i>Immediate:</i> food, water, clothing, medicine, temporary shelter and educational / recreational materials for children.	FHUS: \$95,025 CFHI: \$5,000
Philippines	June 21	Typhoon Fengshen	16 families	Filipino non-profit of professional architects	Rebuild/fortify 16 homes, repair water pump, reconstruct toilet facilities, facilitate risk management trainings with Tibag Disaster Council	RRF*: \$5,350
Haiti	Sept	Hurricanes		World Concern	Food/Hygiene Kits, relief for collapsed school, health intervention	RRF: \$3,000 FPC San Antonio: \$8,400
Bangladesh	Sept	Floods	600 families		Installation of 30 tube wells in Haimchar, repair of 18 homes in Shariakandi	RRF: \$5,000 CFHI: \$5,000
Sudan	Sept	Floods	1,300 families		Distribution of short variety maize seeds	RRF: \$5,000
Pakistan	Oct 29	Earthquake	280 individuals	Interfaith-League Against Poverty	Distribution of weatherized fleece jackets	RRF: \$2,000
India (Orissa)	August	Religious Violence	4,000 families	Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief	Non food items, including blankets, bed sheets, hygiene kits, buckets, utensils, flashlights and mats.	RRF: \$5,000
DRC	Ongoing	Civil Conflict	1,500 families	World Relief	Assessment Minova – Road rehabilitation, agriculture development, water and sanitation	RRF: \$3,000 \$10,000
Darfur, Sudan	Ongoing	Civil Conflict	54,900 individuals	GRA	Food distribution, nutritional support, water and sanitation, hygiene education, primary health care services	RRF: \$7,200
Chad	Ongoing	Civil Conflict	15,000 individuals	GRA	Rain water harvesting Assessment fees	RRF: \$5,100

*RRF: FH Rapid Response Fund