

SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

OCTOBER 24, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.8 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
U.N. – April 2013

5 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
U.N. – September 2013

2.2 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – October 2013

549,575

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – October 2013

798,293

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – October 2013

513,094

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – October 2013

197,844

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – October 2013

126,081

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – October 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- U.N. Security Council issued a non-binding Presidential Statement calling for Syrian authorities to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations in Syria.
- Initial test results from the national polio laboratory in Damascus indicate that two cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) detected in Dayr az Zawr Governorate could be positive for polio. Key actors are considering plans for a possible response.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$271,995,689
USAID/FFP ²	\$442,699,121
State/PRM ³	\$635,084,221

\$1,349,779,031
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On October 2, the U.N. Security Council issued a non-binding Presidential Statement calling for Syrian authorities to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations in Syria. The Statement encourages all parties to permit safe and unhindered humanitarian access in Syria, including across lines of conflict and—where appropriate—across international borders. In addition, the Statement urges all parties to immediately demilitarize medical facilities, schools, and water stations; refrain from targeting civilian infrastructure; and agree on ways to implement humanitarian pauses to facilitate humanitarian transport and response. Furthermore, the U.N. Security Council stressed the importance of providing humanitarian assistance on the basis of need, regardless of political affiliation.
- Initial test results from the national polio laboratory in Damascus indicate that two cases of AFP detected in Dayr az Zawr Governorate in October could be positive for polio, according to an October 19 U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) report. The Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) Ministry of Health has confirmed that it is treating the event as a cluster of “hot” AFP cases, pending final laboratory confirmation, and is working with WHO to plan an urgent response across the country, with supplementary immunization activities planned for neighboring countries.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- On October 13, SARG authorities allowed more than 3,000 women, children, and elderly men to leave Moadamiyeh—the most inaccessible town in the West Ghouta area of Rif Damascus. Despite the ceasefire, humanitarian workers were unable to enter the town, which has been under siege for 10 months and faces shortages of essential relief supplies, staple commodities, and food. Humanitarian organizations transported those who were allowed to leave to a shelter in a nearby town, where the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent provided food, water, and relief items. ICRC estimates that thousands remain trapped, many of whom require medical assistance.
- The USG continues to provide medical support, relief items, food assistance, and other aid to people affected by the Syria conflict, including in areas near Moadamiyeh. Lack of access continues to constrain the ability of humanitarian organizations to reach some of those most in need.
- A nine-truck U.N. convoy reached the city of Ar Raqqa in late September, delivering 222 metric tons (MT) of humanitarian aid, including food and non-food relief items such as hygiene kits and medical supplies. The medical supplies were sufficient to meet the needs of nearly 13,000 people for one month, according to the U.N. In early October, UNHCR also reached Al-Asadiya for the first time, a remote village of 1,200 in Ar Raqqa Governorate that has experienced significant damage.
- Despite security challenges that have prevented humanitarian agencies from delivering commodities in the city of Qamishli, Al Hasakah Governorate, UNCHR had provided nearly 30,000 vulnerable people with cash assistance in place of core relief items, as of September 30.

WINTERIZATION

- The humanitarian community is preparing for greater winterization needs across Syria during the upcoming winter compared to last year. Forecasts indicate a severe winter and the number of people displaced is significantly higher now than during last winter. Furthermore, people are more vulnerable after an additional year of conflict and repeat displacement.
- Relief agencies have prioritized procurement and stockpiling of relief items—including warm clothing, boots, mattresses, and blankets—to enable rapid distribution to the most vulnerable people in need of assistance. Relief agencies are also undertaking efforts to insulate and rehabilitate collective shelters housing IDPs. UNHCR, through implementing partners, has rehabilitated 67 collective shelters in Damascus, Rif Damascus, Tartus, Homs, Aleppo, and Al Hasakah governorates for an estimated 30,000 people and is currently rehabilitating an additional 32 shelters. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and a relief agency working in Syria also report having rehabilitated or begun repairs on shelters to benefit approximately 21,000 people.
- USG partners are working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the international community to coordinate the approach to winterization and ensure that distributions of relief items are equitable and do not increase tensions. The USG reached 730,000 people with winterization and other relief items last winter and has scaled up support to winterization programs to meet identified winterization needs this season.

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Although access, coordination, and information gathering continue to pose a challenge to the humanitarian response in Syria, the Food Security and Livelihoods Working Group based in Turkey has been able to collect significant data on food distributions. During August, the most recent month with complete information, 11 NGOs delivered 9,480 MT of food to more than 820,000 conflict-affected individuals in six of Syria's 14 governorates, including to individuals in 19 IDP camps. Approximately 20 percent of the food assistance was delivered in the form of food rations; the remainder was primarily composed of flour delivered to households and bakeries, providing families with access to bread, a staple food in Syria. USAID remains the single largest donor of food assistance in Syria.
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DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Internal Displacement

- The displaced population in Hamah Governorate has increased significantly due to the governorate's location between Aleppo, Homs, and Idlib—three of the most conflict-affected governorates in Syria—and its proximity to fighting in contested areas of Homs, according to the U.N. As the number of new arrivals fleeing violence in surrounding governorates increases, the humanitarian situation in Hamah is deteriorating due to the strain on basic services. A recent interagency U.N. assessment identified winterization, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene needs in the governorate. Most people seeking assistance in Hamah are women and children, according to the U.N.
- Intensive armed conflict in the Dar'a Palestinian refugee camp on October 12 reportedly killed seven Palestinian refugees in Syria and injured at least 15, according to an October 14 statement by the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Additionally, two UNRWA facilities sustained heavy damage. UNRWA called for a cessation of fighting in Palestinian refugee camps, emphasizing that conflict-related damage to UNRWA facilities limits the availability of services and aggravates the humanitarian crisis experienced by Palestinian refugees.

Refugees in Neighboring Countries

- On October 12, a boat carrying 400–500 Palestinians and Syrians fleeing violence in Syria capsized in the Mediterranean Sea in an area between the Italian island Lampedusa and the coast of Malta. Maltese and Italian forces rescued 200 people and recorded at least 34 fatalities. The rescue took place two days after 12 refugees drowned off the shores of Egypt. The Egyptian coast guard saved 72 Palestinians, 40 Syrians, and four Egyptians. UNRWA stated that the number of Palestinians from Syria on the two boats indicates Palestinian refugees' extreme vulnerability, lack of safer options, and growing desperation. UNHCR indicated that increasing numbers of the 250,000–300,000 Syrians in Egypt are attempting the journey to Italy due to increased anxiety about their security; many Syrians in Egypt mention physical assaults, verbal threats, detention and deportation as motivation for moving on. While only 350 Syrians arrived on the coasts of Italy in 2012, nearly 7,600 Syrians and Palestinians have arrived between January and September of this year.
- On October 18, UNHCR appealed to European and other states to grant asylum or humanitarian admissions to more Syrians, as an increasing number of people are fleeing the country via the dangerous route across the Mediterranean Sea. UNHCR called upon states beyond Syria to share the burden and responsibility currently assumed by countries directly neighboring Syria. To date in 2013, 16 Western countries have pledged to resettle 10,240 Syrian refugees, according to UNHCR.

Jordan

- The Jordanian government and World Bank recently signed a \$10 million grant to improve living conditions in cities and towns most affected by the Syrian refugee population. The funding will allow municipalities to finance additional programs to reduce strain on available services and diminish tensions between communities. The grant is part of a \$53 million World Bank program seeking to strengthen the capacity of local Jordanian authorities to provide public services and support to refugees.
- As of October 7, UNHCR had registered 600,000 refugees in Jordan. However, due to refugee returns from Jordan to Syria, which currently average 300 per day, UNHCR reports the Syrian population of concern in Jordan is approximately 540,000.

Iraq

- Darashakran refugee camp, in Erbil Governorate, has opened to recent Syrian refugee arrivals. UNHCR built the camp with the support of the Kurdistan Regional Government, U.N. organizations, and NGO partners. UNHCR plans to move approximately 50 families—or 300 people—per day to the camp, which can accommodate up to 10,000 people and could later be expanded to double in capacity. Each new family to the camp is receiving a shelter unit that includes cinderblock structures with all-weather tented roofs and a separate latrine, bathing area, and cooking space to ensure privacy. To date, UNHCR has erected approximately 2,000 shelters.
- U.N. agencies recently assessed needs among Syrian refugees in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR). In Dohuk Governorate, UNHCR and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) jointly inspected five settlements where 490 Syrian

refugees have sought shelter in empty buildings and are receiving assistance from the local community. The agencies found generally good conditions, with a need for minor building repair, hygiene kits, and winter relief supplies.

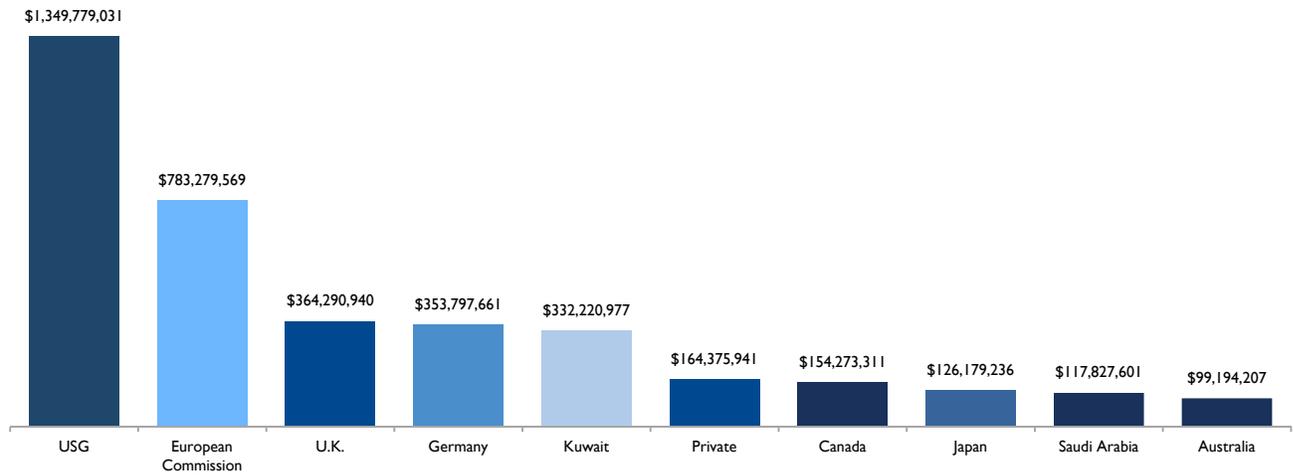
Lebanon

- In Lebanon, humanitarian organizations observed an increase in the number of Syrian refugees evicted from their places of residence throughout September, according to UNHCR. Reasons for eviction included the inability to pay rent on time and the presence of refugees on privately owned land. In the Bekaa Valley, more than 1,300 people in eight locations were evicted during the month. UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council relocated the refugees deemed most vulnerable to alternative shelters, while relief agencies are working to further systematize the referral of vulnerable families for counseling and care.
- On October 1, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim spoke of the growing strain of Syrian refugees on Lebanon, advocating for more international assistance to the country. Kim noted that the influx of Syrian refugees hosted in Lebanon would be proportionally similar to the U.S. receiving 56 million refugees. As of October 2, more than 776,900 Syrians had sought refuge in Lebanon.
- In Lebanon, UNRWA launched a new program of cash distribution through electronic debit cards for Palestinian refugees from Syria. To date, cards have been distributed to approximately 13,000 families. UNRWA reports the new card system will reduce UNRWA's overhead costs and minimize the security risk associated with cash-in-hand distribution. During late 2013 and early 2014, UNHCR is also planning to replace direct distribution of relief items to Syrians in Lebanon with a cash alternative, using debit cards. The large-scale use of debit cards to deliver cash assistance to Syrians in Lebanon will support winterization efforts for approximately 90,000 households across the country during the coming months.
- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has also begun transitioning from paper food vouchers to electronic vouchers for Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Eligible families will receive an electronic card loaded with \$27 per family member per month. Like paper vouchers, families can use the electronic cards to purchase nutritious food items at participating local stores. Both types of vouchers support the local economy while allowing refugees to tailor food assistance to their families' needs.

Turkey

- To prepare for impending cold weather conditions in Turkey's refugee camps, UNHCR is procuring blankets and heaters for refugee families. In addition, the Government of Turkey has begun permitting Syrian doctors to work in Turkish camps on a voluntary basis to increase access to health care. Interested doctors must submit a petition stating their interest to volunteer, along with a certified diploma, to the camp management in order to provide medical services.
 - In Turkey's Kilis Province, local officials are transferring Syrian refugees who have been living in parks and mosques to a new transit center on the road to Gaziantep Province. With additional tents, the transit center can accommodate an estimated 3,000 people, according to UNHCR. Officials will then move refugees to camps when space becomes available, report international media sources.
 - In the Kilis Oncupinar container camp, camp officials informed UNHCR that during the ongoing re-registration at the camp, they will also register the 1,000–2,000 unregistered Syrians now living in the camp with relatives and/or in makeshift annexes to the containers. In order to accommodate these unregistered Syrians, as well as 300 additional unregistered Syrians waiting outside the camp for admission, the camp has received some 160 additional containers.
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SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES 2012 AND 2013 TOTAL FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of October 24, 2013. All international figures are according to OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2012 and 2013 calendar years, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2012, for FY 2013 and on October 1, 2011, for FY 2012. Please note that recent funding pledges may not be reflected in OCHA's figures.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, President Bashar al-Asad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Asad began responding to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate.
- A U.N. Security Council-endorsed peace plan—accepted by the SARG on March 26, 2012—called for a ceasefire, unrestricted humanitarian access, and the withdrawal of military personnel from populated areas. The ceasefire never took full effect as clashes between SARG and opposition forces, as well as SARG attacks on demonstrators and populated areas, continued.
- On August 16, 2012, the U.N. elected not to renew the mandate of the U.N. Supervision Mission in Syria, which had suspended operations on June 16 due to increasing levels of violence throughout the country. All U.N. military observers departed Syria in late August 2012.
- At a November 2012 meeting in Doha, Qatar, Syrian opposition factions formed an umbrella organization—the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, also known as the Syrian Coalition (SC). The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. Shortly after its formation, the SC established the Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. USG, other donors, and NGO representatives meet with the ACU on a regular basis to share information regarding identified needs, current and planned assistance, and challenges to providing aid.
- Syria hosts approximately 529,000 Palestinian refugees, with more than 80 percent living in and around Damascus, particularly in the neighborhood of Yarmouk. Intense fighting in and around Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that more than 420,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict and 235,000 are displaced inside the country. Syria also hosts an estimated 62,200 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES
PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$200,016,769
U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$3,000,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health	Syria	\$2,795,900
WHO	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$2,637,156
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$252,299,825
USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$70,803,546
WFP	EMOP	Syria	\$162,095,475
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt	\$162,800,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$395,699,121
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
IOM	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$10,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Livelihoods, Capacity Building, GBV, Shelter, Case Management	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$22,924,280
U.N. Development Fund (UNDP)	WASH	Lebanon	\$400,000
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,793,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$312,637,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$58,170,000

UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$72,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon	\$15,800,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$55,100,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$582,724,280
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$1,230,723,226

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$19,695,864
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$47,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$52,359,941
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012	\$119,055,805

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013	\$1,349,779,031
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¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. \$12.8 million in funding was committed in FY 2012 and obligated in FY 2013.

²USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as October 24, 2013.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- The USG encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.