



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #23, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

SEPTEMBER 12, 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 million

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

519,676

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – September 2013

731,675

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – September 2013

463,885

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – September 2013

180,129

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – September 2013

117,470

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – September 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of Syrian refugees surpassed the 2 million mark on September 3.
- Conflict in Syria internally displaced thousands of people during the month of August. At least 5 million people are internally displaced.
- The first humanitarian cargo flight with commodities for new refugees arrived in Erbil, Iraq, on August 26.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$208,811,613
USAID/FFP ²	\$312,783,482
State/PRM ³	\$488,759,100
\$1,010,354,195	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On August 30, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry announced that 1,429 people, including at least 426 children, died as a result of chemical attacks in suburbs of Syria's capital city of Damascus on August 21, according to preliminary USG assessments of all available information. After visiting affected areas, U.N. chemical weapons inspectors departed Syria on August 31 and are due to release a report on findings in the near future. While the USG and other members of the international community continue to debate appropriate response options, relief organizations have taken measures, such as developing contingency plans and positioning supplies, to minimize the potential disruption of humanitarian assistance and meet any new humanitarian needs in the event of an escalation of conflict.
- The number of Syrians registered or awaiting registration as refugees in Syria's neighboring countries surpassed the 2 million mark on September 3, reports UNHCR. In the previous 12 months, the number of Syrian refugees increased by 1.8 million people, reflecting a rate of 5,000 people fleeing Syria daily. Children less than 17 years of age constitute more than 1 million of those who have sought refuge outside Syria.
- On September 5, U.N. Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Valerie Amos traveled to Damascus to discuss ways to strengthen humanitarian efforts, to advocate for improved humanitarian access with the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG), and to meet with U.N. agency staff providing assistance throughout Syria. Referencing meetings with Syrian authorities and humanitarian organizations, the ERC voiced hope in addressing issues that have recently restricted the delivery of aid. ERC Amos's visit also marked the start of the Syria Humanitarian Country Team, a policy and strategy-focused coordination body of U.N. agencies and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as observers.

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

- Fighting and insecurity rendered many areas of Syria inaccessible to U.N. agencies and humanitarian organizations in August, reports the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In particular, increased violence, checkpoints in major cities, and road closures are impeding access in Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqa, Dayr az Zawr, Idlib, and Rif Damascus governorates, according to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP). Since mid-2012, WFP has been unable to access 39 locations in Damascus and Rif Damascus governorates where protracted sieges have limited the availability of basic goods.
- In recent weeks, UNHCR and partners suspended rehabilitation work on two IDP shelters in al Wa'er, Homs Governorate, due to insecurity and the inability to access sites, reports OCHA. UNHCR also canceled August 26 and 28 distributions of relief items in Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqa, Idlib, and Rif Damascus governorates due to insecurity.
- Despite impediments, U.N. agencies and humanitarian organizations, including USG partners, continue to work to reach hard-to-access areas with critical assistance. On August 29, the Syria Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for logistics activities—completed a humanitarian airlift of relief supplies to Qamishli, a city in Al Hasakah Governorate near the Syria–Turkey border that has been difficult for organizations to access overland from southern Syria. On September 2, a U.N. interagency convoy reached the city of Dar'a, carrying supplies for WFP, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The items in the convoy included medical assistance for at least 30,000 people, high-energy biscuits for 20,000 children, food rations for 5,000 people, and relief supplies for 5,000 people.
- In addition to supporting U.N. agencies, the USG provides substantial support to several NGOs, many of which are able to access areas of Syria inaccessible to the U.N. For example, throughout opposition-held and contested areas of Syria, USG-supported NGOs are providing food, medical care, relief supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to conflict-affected populations. Since August 2012, a USG partner has treated more than 145,000 patients at trauma care facilities in northern Syrian governorates, as well as benefitted nearly 274,000 people in these areas with emergency relief supplies. The USG provides humanitarian assistance on the basis of need, regardless of affiliation.

HEALTH & WASH

- During the week of August 18, Qusayr water station—a principal source of drinking water for Hamah Governorate and a large portion of Homs Governorate—sustained significant damage, resulting in the collapse of a water pipe and disrupting the water supply for 1.3 million people, according to UNICEF. As of late August, UNICEF, SARC, and additional humanitarian organizations were conducting rapid repairs while providing water trucking and distributing water storage containers and purification tablets.
- USG partners are also conducting hygiene promotion campaigns in collective IDP shelters, including those in and around Damascus Governorate. Teams aim to reach families with sanitation messages to help to reduce the incidence of diarrheal diseases by empowering communities with the knowledge to prevent and treat related illnesses, particularly among children under five years of age.
- More than 50 UNICEF mobile medical teams, as well as stationary health facilities in Damascus, Rif Damascus, and Al Qunaytirah governorates, provided health consultations to nearly 16,000 children between August 23 and September 5. To date in 2013, UNICEF medical teams have reached more than 200,000 IDP children.
- The USG continues to provide medical support to conflict-affected people, including those suffering from chronic conditions. During the week of August 26, a partner provided emergency care to more than 22,000 patients. In northern Syria, a USG partner supported primary health care services for nearly 18,000 patients and performed approximately 450 surgeries during the week of September 2.
- As of September 10, maternity hospitals and mobile teams supported by the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) had provided reproductive health services to approximately 9,000 women in Aleppo, Damascus, Homs, and Rif Damascus governorates. In addition, through the distribution of reproductive health vouchers, nearly 1,500 women had received

free emergency obstetrics care, including caesarean-section deliveries, at health facilities in Aleppo, Damascus, and Rif Damascus.

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- The price of bread and other food items in Syria's informal market continues to rise while the country's agricultural sector contracts, particularly affecting people in rural areas, according to OCHA. To sustain food production, the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is providing assistance to farmers through the distribution of barley seeds and wheat seeds. FAO recently opened a warehouse in Rif Damascus to expedite seed distribution ahead of the winter planting season. The USG recently provided \$1 million to FAO to alleviate the vulnerability of Syrian farmers and herders through the provision of seeds, farming tools, animal feed, and other types of agricultural and livestock support.
 - WFP reports that it is currently reaching 2.4 million of 3 million people targeted for monthly food rations inside Syria. Insecurity and conflict hampered the delivery of food assistance in August. The USG continues to supplement its support of WFP operations with support for NGO food deliveries to areas that WFP is unable to access.
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DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Internal Displacement

- Conflict in Syria internally displaced thousands of people during the month of August. According to relief organizations, more than 10,000 people fled southward from Damascus and Rif Damascus governorates following the August 21 chemical attacks. Amid escalated fighting and the possibility of international airstrikes on Syria, OCHA reports that a further 70,000 IDPs arrived in Adra Oumaliyah town, northeast of Damascus, during the end of August. The IDPs reportedly originated from surrounding communities, Damascus, and Rif Damascus.
- Fighting and escalated tension in southern Syria has exacerbated displacement to and within Dar'a Governorate, where the IDP population had reached 200,000 people by the start of September, according to relief organizations. The growing number of IDPs is straining resources, including food, water, and medicine, available in the governorate. On September 5, Jordanian media reported an increase in Syrians stranded near the Syria–Jordan border, describing a population of 50,000 people awaiting entry into Jordan.
- Clashes between armed actors and shifting lines of control displaced approximately 20,000 people to Qamishli and Al Hasakah cities throughout August, reports OCHA. According to relief organizations, a number of the IDPs came from communities in Ar Raqqa Governorate, including the city of Ras Al-Ayn and al-Thawrah district. In response to the needs of these IDPs and others throughout Syria, USG partners are providing displaced people with basic relief supplies, medical care, and psychosocial support.
- Approximately 235,000 Palestinian refugees are displaced within Syria, while clashes and shelling continue in or near Palestinian camps, according to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). In response to an increased need for emergency assistance, UNRWA and partners are providing services to Palestinian refugees in areas of secondary displacement, both in communities and collective shelters. UNRWA has established six mobile health points in Damascus, with plans to open four additional points in the coming weeks. The mobile health points are staffed by medical teams that previously served at health centers now closed due to insecurity. UNRWA has distributed medical supplies sufficient to meet needs in all 10 health points through October.

External Displacement

Jordan

- Between August 12 and 25, UNICEF's Back to School campaign reached 35,720 refugee households in Jordan's camps and host communities with messages highlighting the importance of continuing children's education. UNICEF, Save the Children International, and partner organizations aim to increase refugee student enrollment through distributing

materials, conducting peer-to-peer sessions, and raising awareness among adults in Za'atri refugee camp and five host communities.

Iraq

- As of mid-September, more than 60,000 Syrian refugees—the majority of whom are Kurdish—had crossed into the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) of northern Iraq since August 15, according to the U.N. The border between Syria and IKR remained open as of September 12.
- On August 26, the first humanitarian cargo flight with commodities for new refugees arrived in Erbil, Iraq, carrying UNHCR tents, WFP high-energy biscuits, and USAID emergency meal replacement bars. USAID's 225,000 meal replacement bars—the equivalent of one day's caloric requirement for more than 31,000 people—are being distributed at the Syria–Jordan border to newly arriving refugees.
- Severe heat and limited access to shelter, food, water, and adequate sanitation are the most critical concerns among the refugee population. U.N. agencies and relief organizations, including USG partners, continue to provide food, shelter, and relief commodities to newly arrived families.
- On September 8, UNICEF reported the distribution of seven tents to Arbat, Kawergosk, and Baherka camps for use as temporary classrooms for more than 1,000 students, with additional tents requested for other camps. UNICEF has also launched a back to school campaign in Arbat camp, with more than 300 children registered to date.
- UNICEF and partners recently provided measles vaccinations to 8,000 refugees under the age of 24 in Kawergosk and Baherka camp, with nearly 2,000 children under the age of five also receiving Vitamin A tablets, according to UNICEF. UNICEF is also providing measles vaccines and Vitamin A tablets in Qushtapa and Basirma camps.
- Recreation activities to support children's psychosocial recovery are being conducted by UNICEF for approximately 200 children per day in a new child-friendly space in Arbat camp. UNICEF is also erecting a child-friendly space in Baherka camp, while a space has been identified in the Basirma camp in which the Kurdistan Regional Government will provide social workers to support children's recovery from trauma and stress. With UNHCR and other partners, UNICEF is working to ensure separated and unaccompanied children continue to be identified at the Sahela border crossing.

Lebanon

- Following a verification process, UNRWA announced a reduced estimate of Palestinian refugees from Syria currently in Lebanon, lowering the figure from 93,000 to 45,000 individuals. The reduction reflects the movement of Palestinians back and forth between Syria and Lebanon. According to UNRWA, Palestinians from Syria have been traveling to Lebanon temporarily to seek medical care. A number of UNRWA health facilities in Syria are closed due to insecurity, while displacement among Palestinian refugees in Syria has made some operating facilities inaccessible. UNRWA continues to pursue clarification from Lebanese authorities regarding new border restrictions given recent media reports that Government of Lebanon (GoL) officials are denying Palestinians entry into the country.
- The GoL Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) continues to develop a national education strategy that would support a larger number of programs for both Lebanese and Syrian refugee children in the 2013–2014 academic year through a second shift of public schools classes. MEHE is working in close coordination with UNHCR, UNICEF, and partners to expand their current pilot programs for second shift schooling to 70 public schools. Education agencies will also provide children with basic education supplies, such as school-in-box kits, school bags, and early childhood development kits for the school year.

Turkey

- The total number of Syrian refugees who have entered Turkey since the start of the conflict in Syria is estimated at more than 500,000, according to the Government of Turkey (GoT).
- Turkish media reports that the GoT is establishing field hospitals in Akçakale, Reyhanli, Sanliurfa, and Viranşehir cities. The GoT is also building two additional Syrian refugee camps in Niğde and Aksaray provinces because pre-existing camps in border areas are reaching capacity. Local officials in Sanliurfa Province report that an additional camp in Viranşehir, with an estimated capacity of 18,000 people, is now admitting refugees.

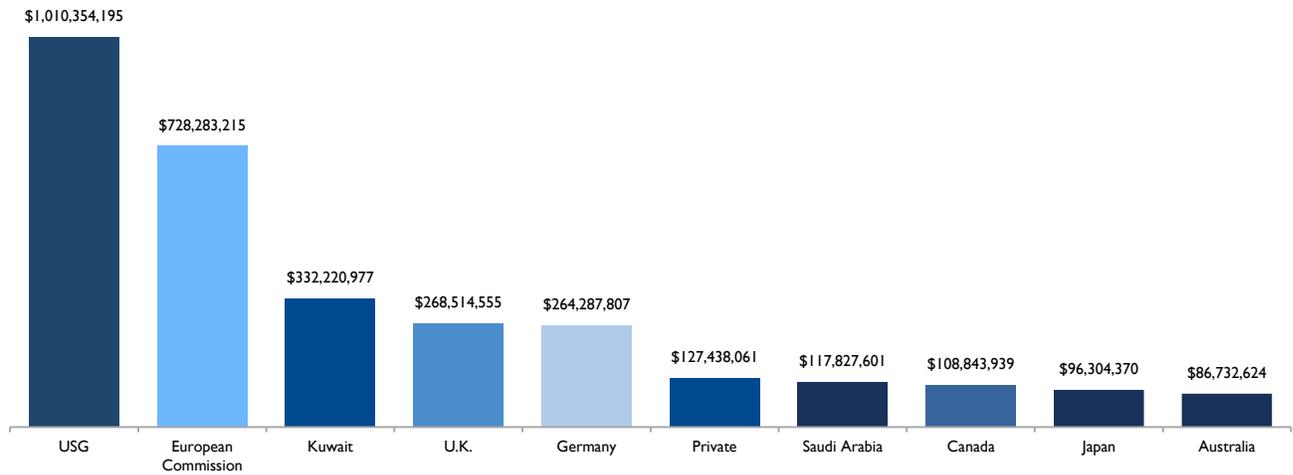
Egypt

- UNHCR reports the rate of newly arriving Syrians in Egypt has diminished significantly over the past couple of months, affected by the political unrest and an increasingly hostile environment for Syrians in Egypt. The population of Syrian refugees in Egypt is approximately 117,470, according to the latest data from UNHCR.
- The number of Syrians closing their UNHCR files in order to depart Egypt has recently spiked. During the week of August 19, UNHCR recorded 358 individuals who closed their files, compared to 284 cases during the entire month of July. People closing their files have cited anxiety, insecurity, and diminished livelihood opportunities as reasons for wanting to depart Egypt. In addition, since the beginning of July, some 280 Syrians have been arrested in Egypt for not having residency permits, not adhering to the curfew, attempting to leave the country illegally, or on suspicions of violence. UNHCR is providing legal assistance as possible; however its access to detained individuals has been affected by the state of emergency in Egypt imposed on August 14.
- To date, more than 12,000 Syrian students have been enrolled in public and private schools supervised by the Government of Egypt (GoE) Ministry of Education. Originally granted the same access as Egyptians to public schools, the GoE has announced that future Syrian enrollments will fall under the same restrictions as for foreigners. Syrian refugee children wishing to enroll in public schools will now be required to show documentation from UNHCR verifying that the child is a registered refugee and that the family does not have the financial means to enroll the child in a private school.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- European Commissioner for Home Affairs Cecilia Malmström announced on September 3 the decision by the Swedish Migration Board to allow all 8,000 Syrians previously granted temporary asylum in Sweden to apply for permanent residence permits. Sweden is the first country in the European Union to take such a measure in response to the deteriorating security situation in Syria.
- U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron announced £52 million—approximately \$81 million—in new support for the Syria humanitarian response at a meeting of the G-20 in Saint Petersburg, Russia, on September 6. The additional funding will support food, shelter, and medical assistance for conflict-affected people inside Syria and displaced to neighboring countries. With a pledged total of £400 million, or \$623 million, the Syria response represents the U.K.'s largest response ever to a humanitarian crisis.
- Following the G-20 Summit, the Government of Canada announced an additional \$45 million in humanitarian assistance, including food, water and sanitation, medical, and shelter support for Syrians displaced internally and in neighboring countries. To date, committed Canadian humanitarian aid totals \$203.5 million since January 2012.
- The Government of Italy has announced more than €6.3 million—\$8.4 million—in the pipeline for the Syrian crisis, in addition to nearly €19.7 million, or \$26.1 million, previously allocated to the response. Of the total, €500,000—nearly \$663,000—is supporting UNICEF emergency water and sanitation activities in Iraq.
- On September 10, UNRWA announced that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is providing \$10 million to support Palestinian refugees from Syria. The contribution, provided via the Saudi Fund for Development, will support UNRWA efforts to continue delivering food and cash assistance, as well as emergency relief, health, and education services to the Palestinian refugee population in Syria.

SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES 2012 AND 2013 TOTAL FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 12, 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 525,000 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			
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$137,476,887
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
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
UNFPA	Health	Syria	\$2,795,900
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$1,992,962
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$189,115,749
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$115,418,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt	\$101,800,100
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$48,565,382
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$265,783,482
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
IFRC	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
IOM	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan and Iraq	\$3,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Livelihoods, Capacity Building, GBV, Shelter, Case Management	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$7,499,159
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey	\$1,093,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$245,137,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$44,170,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$51,000,000

UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon	\$12,200,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$40,400,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$436,399,159
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$891,298,390

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			\$1,010,354,195
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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 September 12, 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.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>