



USAID
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SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #10, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

MARCH 13, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

9.3 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria

U.N. – December 2013

6.5 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria

U.N. – November 2013

2.6 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – March 2014

584,600

Syrian Refugees in Jordan

UNHCR – March 2014

962,385

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

UNHCR – March 2014

634,788

Syrian Refugees in Turkey

UNHCR – March 2014

226,934

Syrian Refugees in Iraq

UNHCR – March 2014

135,030

Syrian Refugees in Egypt

UNHCR – March 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNICEF describes Syria as one of the world's most dangerous countries for children
- Escalated fighting in southern Syria generates additional displacement
- WFP food assistance reaches Ar Raqqa Governorate for the first time in six months

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FY 2012 – FY 2014

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$ 370,986,181
USAID/FFP ²	\$530,699,121
State/PRM ³	\$838,084,221

\$ 1,739,769,523
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The U.N. recently declared the Syria conflict the biggest humanitarian and peace and security crisis currently facing the world as fighting enters a fourth year. At least 9.3 million people in Syria need humanitarian assistance. More than 2.5 million people have been externally displaced; the majority have fled to Lebanon, followed by Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt.
- After three years of conflict, Syria has become one of the most dangerous countries in the world for children, according to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). Since March 2013, the number of conflict-affected children in Syria and displaced to neighboring countries has doubled from 2.3 million to 5.5 million. Child casualty rates are among the highest recorded in any recent conflict in the region; the U.N. estimates that at least 10,000 children have been killed to date, noting that actual figures are likely to be even higher. An estimated 1 million children reside in areas of Syria that are hard to access; approximately 500 children were among the residents evacuated from the besieged Old City of Homs in February.
- Aerial bombardment by the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) continues to drive large-scale population displacement in Syria. In Aleppo, Dar'a, and Rif Damascus governorates, barrel bombs—oil drums containing explosives and shrapnel dropped from aircraft—are causing indiscriminate injury and deaths among civilians. Relief agencies' estimates of resulting displacement range up to hundreds of thousands of people displaced.
- Conflict has displaced upwards of 70 percent of the Palestinian refugee population in Syria, marking the largest displacement of Palestinians in more than 45 years, according to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Many of the country's 12 Palestinian camps are in contested or uncontrolled areas, exposed to constant fighting, and experience continuous insecurity. Palestinians in Syria often lack support networks beyond where they live and have extremely limited options for leaving the country. Nearly 11,500 Palestinians from Syria have sought UNRWA assistance in Jordan and an additional 53,000 have sought UNRWA assistance in Lebanon—a country already hosting nearly 300,000 Palestinians in existing camps with limited or no access to basic services, property, or income-generating activities.

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

- More than 3.5 million people are living in areas of Syria that are difficult for U.N. agencies and their partners to access with humanitarian assistance. According to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), insecurity and access restrictions continue to hamper the delivery of aid in at least 12 of Syria's 14 governorates. However, local-level negotiations and partial lifting of blockades in February and early March enabled WFP to reach 71,500 people in limited-access areas of Dar'a, Dayr az Zawr, Idlib, and Rif Damascus governorates for the first time in several months. In early March, WFP food assistance reached Ar Raqqa, a governorate inaccessible to WFP for the past six months. WFP emphasized that while one-off aid deliveries provide temporary relief, humanitarian organizations require sustained access to provide critical assistance to civilians in need.
- In the besieged Barzeh district, Damascus Governorate, an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) convoy provided assistance for more than 4,000 families on February 26 and 27. The convoy delivered medical, food, and emergency relief supplies—including kitchen sets, blankets, and mattresses—to local committees and health personnel for onward distribution throughout Barzeh. The shipment of assistance follows an interagency aid delivery in early February, during which relief organizations provided food, emergency relief items, and medicine for up to 23,000 people, according to the U.N. The convoys are the first to enter Barzeh since SARG and opposition forces in the area declared a temporary ceasefire in early January.
- The USG works with several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to help reach areas of Syria inaccessible to U.N. agencies. For example, to provide bread in areas unreachable by WFP, USG-supported NGOs have distributed more than 26,000 metric tons (MT) of flour—the equivalent of more than 86 million daily bread rations—to bakeries in Aleppo, Dar'a, Hamah, and Idlib governorates since January 2013.
- Resumed shelling and clashes between various armed groups in the Palestinian neighborhood of Yarmouk near Damascus has disrupted UNRWA's ability to deliver food and other assistance to the besieged area since the end of February. Humanitarian conditions of the approximately 18,000 people trapped in the area remain dire, UNRWA reports. UNRWA and other relief organizations continue to press conflict parties for continuous access to Yarmouk, in particular to alleviate malnutrition and lack of health care, which UNRWA reports is contributing to a rising number of deaths.

EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMODITIES

- Escalating violence throughout Syria continues to force families to flee their homes without supplies or resources. In response, USG-funded organizations are working to provide emergency relief supplies, household goods, and other items to help conflict-affected people meet their basic needs.
- In southern Syria's Dar'a Governorate, a USG partner reached nearly 5,900 vulnerable people in mid-February and early March with hygiene supplies, clothing, blankets, and other items. In Aleppo Governorate, where continued aerial barrel bombing by SARG forces has displaced tens of thousands of people from eastern neighborhoods in the city of Aleppo, USG partners provided affected families with hygiene supplies and baby kits sufficient to assist 17,500 people. With USG support, NGOs have delivered enough emergency relief items to help 1.2 million people in Syria since October 2013.
- The USG also supports efforts by U.N. agencies to reach people in need with basic supplies. Since the beginning of 2014, UNHCR has assisted nearly 950,000 people in Syria by providing core relief items, including mattresses, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, water cans, hygiene supplies, solar lamps, and plastic sheeting. To date in FY 2014, the USG has provided UNHCR with \$104.7 million for assistance in Syria and in neighboring countries, including the delivery of emergency relief supplies.

HEALTH

- Polio vaccination campaigns continue across the Middle East in response to Syria's October 2013 polio outbreak and the disruption of child immunizations due to three years of conflict. According to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, the March round of vaccination campaigns coordinated by the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the governments of Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt were all completed as of March 10, with Lebanon's

round nearing conclusion. To date, the SARG has reported 25 cases of laboratory confirmed wild poliovirus type 1 in Syria, with one additional case pending confirmation in Hamah Governorate. No polio cases have been confirmed in neighboring countries to date.

- In opposition-held areas of seven northern Syria governorates, the Polio Control Task Force—led by the Syrian Coalition’s Assistance Coordination Unit—concluded their March round of polio vaccinations, targeting children five years of age and under.
- The near destruction of Syria’s health system due to conflict has endangered the lives of millions of people in the country, according to a new report by international NGO Save the Children. WHO estimates that nearly one-half of Syria’s doctors have fled the country. A 2013 WHO and the SARG Ministry of Health assessment of 45 public hospitals found that only .3 percent of remaining health care personnel were qualified emergency doctors. Critical shortages of health professionals, medical supplies, and equipment have forced many medical staff to perform procedures or tasks for which they are not adequately trained or in ways that do not adhere to generally accepted medical standards.
- Given the scale of need, the USG continues to prioritize the delivery of health care services in Syria. Between February 26 and March 4, a USG-supported NGO provided more than 19,300 primary health care consultations and performed more than 700 minor surgeries at facilities across northern Syria. The NGO also provided the primary health care facilities with relief items, including pharmaceutical kits and medical equipment.
- The USG continues to support UNRWA’s 14 health centers and nine health points in Syria, which provide life-saving medical care and ensure Palestinian refugees are still able to access health services.
- USG partner the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) is working to bolster access to reproductive health care for conflict-affected people in Syria and in neighboring countries. Inside Syria, UNFPA notes that growing violence in Aleppo, Ar Raqqa, Dar’a, Dayr az Zawr, Hamah, Homs, and Rif Damascus governorates has increased the number of people with little or no access to reproductive health care, including emergency obstetric care. In areas with less active conflict, such as Latakia and Tartus governorates, growing numbers of IDPs are straining local health infrastructure. In response, UNFPA worked with the SARG Ministry of Higher Education, the Syrian Family Planning Association, and SARC to facilitate access to reproductive health services for 14,000 women through a voucher program in February. Participating in interagency humanitarian convoys, UNFPA also delivered reproductive health kits to medical facilities and midwives in Damascus, Rif Damascus, and Idlib governorates, benefitting more than 54,000 women.

AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION

- U.N. agencies estimate that 6.3 million people in Syria face severe food insecurity due to the worsening crisis. According to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), ongoing fighting and insecurity will likely hamper 2013/2014 winter crop production in Syria by limiting farmers’ ability to access their farmland during key periods of development and harvest. Other contributing factors to a poor harvest include a lack of fuel to power water pumps and other farming equipment, in addition to a lack of harvesters. Potential drought conditions may also harm cereal harvests in Syria following the Middle East’s driest winter in several decades, according to FAO.
- Amid growing accounts of malnutrition in conflict-affected Syrian children, WFP plans to scale up distributions of Plumpy’Doz—a specialized nutrition product for children—across all 14 governorates throughout 2014. In February, WFP dispatched more than 58 MT of Plumpy’Doz for 50,000 children residing in IDP shelters and host communities in Dar’a, Idlib, Latakia, Rif Damascus, and Tartus governorates. WFP also dispatched 36 MT of Nutributter—a quantity sufficient to help 20,000 children—to Aleppo Governorate.
- On March 1, a U.N. interagency humanitarian convoy reached Harim, a rural district in northern Idlib Governorate, where approximately 60,000 people are residing in at least 36 IDP camps, according to WFP. The convoy carried enough food rations sufficient to assist 17,500 of the most vulnerable people.
- Between January 18 and February 28, UNRWA delivered nearly 8,000 food parcels to Palestinian refugees trapped in Yarmouk; each food parcel feeds five to eight people for up to 10 days. According to Amnesty International, starvation remains one of the three predominant causes of death in the Damascus neighborhood and is the reported cause of death for two-thirds of nearly 200 civilians who have died in Yarmouk since July 2013.

DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Internal Displacement

- Escalated fighting between SARG and opposition forces in southern Syria is generating additional displacement, both internally and to neighboring countries. According to the U.N., conflict displaced an estimated 35,000 people in southern Al Qunaytirah to middle and eastern areas of the governorate, as well as to Damascus, Dar'a, and Rif Damascus governorates during the end of February. In Rif Damascus Governorate's Qalamoun region, recent fighting displaced an estimated 45,000 people from the town of Yabroud, including nearly 15,000 who fled across the border to Lebanon, according to relief organizations.
- In eastern, primarily opposition-held, neighborhoods in the city of Aleppo, sustained use of barrel bombs by SARG forces, as well as access restrictions and insecurity, continue to prevent relief agencies from conducting needs assessments or delivering assistance. The aerial campaigns have displaced tens of thousands of people, many of whom fled across conflict lines to western areas of the city. Humanitarian organizations continue to express concern regarding reports of IDPs in western Aleppo sleeping in public parks, streets, and unfinished buildings due to a shortage of shelter options. Humanitarian organizations have reported that some IDPs who fled across conflict lines from eastern Aleppo to SARG-controlled parts of western Aleppo have returned to the east due to extremely poor conditions, despite continued fear of aerial bombardment.

External Displacement

Jordan

- The presence of more than 580,000 Syrian refugees in Jordan has strained the country's resources, including its scarce water supply. In northwest Jordan, UNICEF is funding two portable wastewater treatment plants at Za'atri refugee camp to help prevent the camp's growing population from contaminating the Za'atri aquifer. UNICEF expects the wastewater treatment plants—anticipated to begin operation by June—to benefit up to 100,000 people in Za'atri.

Lebanon

- In the town of Aarsal in northeastern Lebanon, the rapid influx of nearly 15,000 refugees fleeing conflict across the border in western Syria in February has resulted in shelter concerns. UNICEF is collaborating with UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations to ensure safe living conditions for refugees. UNICEF and UNHCR are also working with local authorities and the Government of Lebanon Ministry of Social Affairs on contingency options, including identifying more than 150 unfinished buildings as potential shelter options for new arrivals.
- In response to increasing pressure on Lebanon's water infrastructure from new refugee arrivals, UNICEF has worked with regional water authorities to replace four pumps to benefit a projected 90,500 Syrian refugee and Lebanese host community members in North Lebanon Governorate. UNICEF is also repairing 47 chlorinators to improve water quality in areas of Beirut, Mount Lebanon, and South Lebanon governorates. In addition, UNICEF has extended support to 13 water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure projects conducted by UNRWA and the U.N. Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT) in the town of Saida and in Chouf District; the projects' completion is expected in May.

Turkey

- Turkish authorities, in cooperation with humanitarian organizations, are working to provide medical care and other needed assistance to Syrians displaced to Turkey. According to the Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (AFAD), the Government of Turkey and relief actors have provided approximately 2.4 million medical interventions to conflict-affected Syrians since the start of the Syria conflict. Of these medical interventions, more than 39,000 were operations, and 373,000 cases were referred to state hospitals. AFAD reports that more than 10,000 Syrian births have been recorded in Turkey since the beginning of the crisis.
- According to UNHCR, AFAD has deployed 12 of the 23 mobile coordination units provided by UNHCR to facilitate urban refugee registration. AFAD sent the units to Kilis, Gaziantep, Hatay, Sanliurfa, Kahramanmaraş, Osmaniye, Adana, and Batman provinces. Of the twelve units, five are operational in the cities of Reyhanli, Kirikhan, Osmaniye, Islahiye, and Akcakale and are being used to register Syrians residing outside of camps.

Iraq

- In early March, UNHCR—in cooperation the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Rescue Committee—opened the first secondary school for Syrian refugees in Domiz camp, located in Iraq’s Kurdistan Region (IKR). The school is capable of hosting 600 students. Approximately 95 percent of Iraq’s 226,000 registered Syrian refugees are residing in IKR, including 58,500 refugees in Domiz.
- In February, UNFPA-supported women’s spaces in Erbil and Dahuk communities provided services to more than 450 Syrian women and girls, and 1,500 women and girls benefited from social activities organized by UNFPA women’s spaces for female refugees living in IKR. The women’s spaces provide various basic support and referral services, such as counseling sessions and psychosocial care, including for gender-based violence.

Egypt

- U.N. agencies and their implementing partners are working to provide educational and psychosocial support to Syrian refugee children in Egypt. In the city of Alexandria, UNICEF has established five child-friendly spaces in partnership with local community development associations that will serve more than 2,200 children. In coordination with the Government of Egypt Ministry of Education, UNHCR and UNICEF have increased school capacity in Syrian refugee populated areas to enable access to education for nearly 7,000 children ages six to 14, including through teacher training and the delivery of education supplies. In addition, UNICEF collaborated with civil society organizations to establish 12 community-based kindergartens for children ages three to five.
- To help inform Syrian refugees of their rights, UNHCR conducted awareness training sessions in February for 32 Syrian refugees residing in Greater Cairo. The trainings focused on Egyptian laws and regulations related to maintaining legal residency for refugees, the consequences of irregular migration, and instructions on accessing UNHCR refugee services.

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 540,000 Palestinian refugees, with more than 80 percent living in and around Damascus. Intense fighting in and around Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that almost all of the 540,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria are directly affected by the conflict and 270,000 are displaced inside the country. Some 80,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria have fled to neighboring countries. Syria also hosts an estimated 39,476 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED
IN FY 2014¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$57,500,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Syria	\$2,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$22,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,500,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$13,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$99,000,000
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$50,345,900
WFP	Regional EMOP	Egypt	\$3,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Iraq	\$2,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan	\$21,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Lebanon	\$20,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Turkey	\$7,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$105,345,900
STATE/PRM³			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$10,800,000
International Organization for Migration	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$3,600,000
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq	\$1,700,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt, Regional	\$104,700,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$43,700,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$28,100,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TBD	Health	Lebanon	1000000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$203,000,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2014			\$407,345,900

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

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$252,290,317
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$378,353,221
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$582,724,280
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013	\$1,213,367,818

**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, FY 2013, and FY 2014	\$1,739,769,523
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¹ Year 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.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of February 27, 2014.

³ Total includes \$10 million announced in FY 2013 for obligation by State/PRM in FY 2014.

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.