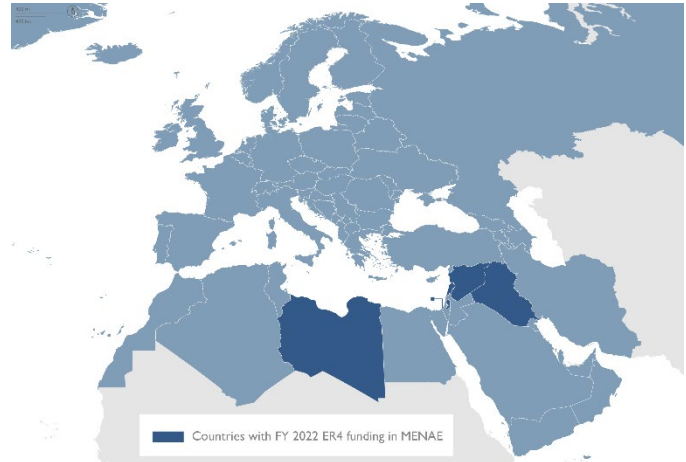


Early Recovery, Risk Reduction, and Resilience

Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance – Middle East, North Africa, and Europe

REGIONAL SUMMARY

- In FY 2022, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided more than \$17 million to partner organizations implementing early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities in five countries across the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe (MENA). Countries in MENA are susceptible to a range of natural disasters, including earthquakes, extreme winter weather, floods, and wildfires, putting communities at heightened risk of vulnerability.
- USAID/BHA supported programs in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Syria, the West Bank and Gaza, and the Europe and Caucasus regions during the fiscal year to build resilience and improve emergency preparedness among community members and local disaster management specialists.
- USAID/BHA partners across the region have implemented activities to bolster community resilience to natural disasters and strengthen the capacity of vulnerable populations to mitigate the effects of future climatic events. For example, USAID/BHA provided support for standalone ER4 activities in Libya in FY 2022, including \$900,000 to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to train local and national stakeholders on displacement tracking methods, facilitate community-based consultations, and support environmental improvement projects.



USAID/BHA ER4 Funding for the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe in FY 2022

Funding Type	Country	Total
Standalone ER4	Europe and the Caucasus, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, West Bank and Gaza	\$5,945,618
Integrated ER4	Syria	\$11,523,828
FY 2022 ER4 Total		\$17,469,446

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting Integrated Climate Monitoring in Iraq

USAID/BHA provided \$1.5 million in FY 2022 to support Action contre la Faim's (ACF) two-year program to develop and implement an open-source, integrated climate monitoring dashboard for the Government of Iraq (GoI) and communities across the country to detect drought and mitigate the adverse effects of resultant water scarcity. Through this initiative, ACF is building community and government capacity to monitor water flow and utilization. The monitoring dashboard supports high-risk, vulnerable communities in water-scarce areas to create context-specific disaster risk reduction plans to address water scarcity. To enhance the dashboard's effectiveness, ACF engages community-based organizations, government agencies, and local universities with analytical and technical support to improve their staff's ability to manage water-related data. By linking community plans to local authorities, this two-year program will result in harmonized early warning and response systems that enhance responsiveness and service delivery.



Prediction module peer review workshop facilitated by ACF and IMPACT Initiative with the University of Mosul and GoI's Ministry of Environment on September 22, 2022. Photo credit: ACF, Iraq.

Enhancing Disaster Risk Management Capacity in Libya

In FY 2022, USAID/BHA provided \$900,000 in funding to IOM to strengthen the disaster risk management capacity of Libya's local and national government authorities by improving data collection on climate change and environmental degradation, as well as how these factors affect community cohesion and migration. IOM collaborated with the Government of Libya to train local and national stakeholders on displacement tracking methods and fragility-related indicators for context-specific risk mapping and disaster risk management decision-making. In addition, IOM facilitated community-based consultations and supported locally led environmental improvement projects to bolster the resilience of vulnerable populations and mitigate disaster-related impacts on communities. IOM also distributed hygiene supplies and shelter items to displaced households to address the immediate effects of conflict or natural disaster.

Separately, USAID/BHA partner the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) delivered community-based health and first aid interventions to more than 14,000 people to help empower them to lead local health behavior change and conduct health promotion activities in their communities. In addition, IFRC distributed hygiene kits to improve the health of vulnerable populations in Libya during the fiscal year.

Strengthening Disaster Coordination in the Levant

USAID/BHA provided the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) with \$200,000 in FY 2022 to help strengthen disaster response and preparedness capabilities in the Levant region, with a programmatic focus on the West Bank and Gaza. OCHA facilitated professional dialogue sessions and joint simulation exercises to improve coordination between the different disaster response authorities in the region, contributing to improved regional preparedness.

USAID/BHA provided CARE nearly \$350,000 during FY 2022 to help strengthen humanitarian coordination and preparedness in Lebanon through the Linking-Informing-Knowledge Sharing (LINKs) platform, a digital hub that connects aid recipients, local organizations, and resource providers. USAID/BHA support enabled CARE to create additional resources on disaster risk financing and community-based disaster risk management for local organizations.

Increasing Resilience to Natural Disasters in Europe and the Caucasus

With regional funding in FY 2022, USAID/BHA extended Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) existing \$1.4 million award to support efforts to bolster the resilience of communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia against recurrent natural disasters. The Project for Increasing Resilience to Natural Disasters and Enhancing Preparedness Strategy (PREPS) reached approximately 3,110 people in 14 municipalities across the two countries with activities to strengthen disaster preparedness and mitigation capacities to reduce vulnerabilities to natural disasters. PREPS targeted municipalities with a higher risk of disaster but a lower risk reduction capacity. In addition, PREPS supported communities and municipalities to collaborate on disaster management initiatives that increased disaster resilience at the community, household, and municipal levels. To implement these activities in Serbia, CRS partnered with local non-governmental organizations Caritas Serbia and Philanthropy in Serbia. CRS has been working directly with government representatives at the municipal level in Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver assistance.



A joint conference in Bosnia between Caritas Serbia, CRS, Philanthropy, and USAID welcomed local government officials to discuss PREPS. Photo credit: CRS.

USAID/BHA ER4 ASSISTANCE FOR MENAE IN FY 2022¹

LOCATION	ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	AMOUNT
Standalone ER4			
Europe and the Caucasus	Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice (DRRPP)	UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)	\$399,455
	DRRPP	U.S. Forest Service (USFS)	\$900,000
	DRRPP, Multipurpose Cash Assistance	IFRC	\$1,700,000
Iraq	DRRPP, Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	ACF	\$1,500,000
Lebanon	HCIMA	CARE	\$346,163
Libya	DRRPP, HCIMA, Shelter and Settlements	IOM	\$900,000
West Bank and Gaza	DRRPP	OCHA	\$200,000
TOTAL STANDALONE ER4 FUNDING			\$5,945,618
Integrated ER4 With Response²			

Syria	Agriculture, Food Assistance, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH	Implementing Partner	\$11,523,828
TOTAL INTEGRATED ER4 WITH RESPONSE FUNDING			\$11,523,828
TOTAL ER4 FUNDING IN FY 2022			\$17,469,446

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2022.

² Integrated ER4 With Response refers to programming that incorporates ER4 components within an active humanitarian response. ER4 With Response funding for Syria is also reported in the Syria Complex Emergency Fact Sheet.

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 [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID 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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)