



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #11, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

MARCH 14, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

4 million

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

2.5 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) – November 2012

1.1 million

Syrians Displaced to Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – March 2013

346,577

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – March 2013

351,683

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – March 2013

258,000

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – March 2013

112,945

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – March 2013

43,000

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – March 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- Syrian refugees exceed 1.1 million
- USG health and medical care reaches 1.9 million inside Syria
- Dramatically decreasing number of areas in Syria where people are able to live unaffected by conflict
- U.N. agencies face funding shortfalls

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$79,696,239
USAID/FFP ²	\$121,018,000
State/PRM ³	\$183,760,000
\$384,474,239	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The number of Syrian refugees reached 1 million on March 6. By March 12, more than 1.1 million people had fled Syria since the conflict began. U.N. agencies had originally anticipated reaching the 1.1 million refugee mark in June 2013, but accelerated outflows in 2013 resulted in surpassing the figure months early. Approximately 48 percent of the current refugees from the two-year long conflict have left Syria since January 1, 2013.
- Opposition forces seized control of large parts of the city of Ar Raqqa in northern Syria on March 4, prompting aerial attacks by the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG), according to international media sources. Ar Raqqa had hosted a large number of IDPs seeking refuge from conflict in other areas of the country. As of March 12, approximately 200,000 people had fled the attacks in Ar Raqqa to Dayr Az Zawr Governorate, according to an international non-governmental organization (NGO). As of March 6, more than 3,000 Syrians had crossed into the Akcakale District in Sanliurfa Province, Turkey, in response to the fighting, according Turkish media reports.
- The number of areas inside Syria where civilians are able to live unaffected by conflict has decreased dramatically since the beginning of 2013, according to a March 11 report to the U.N. Human Rights Council by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic. As fighting continues to intensify and entire neighborhoods are destroyed, Syrians are fleeing to a decreasing number of stable areas inside Syria, where humanitarian agencies are struggling to deliver aid to the growing number of IDPs, according to the Commission.

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)

HEALTH, WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

- Humanitarian agencies continue to receive reports of targeted attacks on hospitals, arrests of patients inside hospitals, and reprisal attacks against doctors and nurses, according to the Syria Needs Analysis Project (SNAP). A February 27 SNAP report stated that wounded and sick individuals in Aleppo, Dar'a, Damascus, and Hamah governorates have been refused treatment on sectarian or political grounds or have avoided seeking treatment in SARG-administered hospitals owing to a well-founded fear of arrest and torture. Consistent accounts indicate that snipers positioned at checkpoints in front of hospitals in Dar'a and Homs governorates have impeded access to treatment, according to SNAP. In addition, SARG air strikes on medical facilities continue.
 - Humanitarian agencies continued to provide WASH assistance in Syria in late February and early March, as the threat of water-borne diseases grows with the approach of warmer weather. The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), a USG partner, increased the water supply for approximately 55,000 people in suburban Aleppo by 20 percent and distributed more than 3,000 family hygiene kits in Dar'a and Rif Damascus governorates, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, OCHA reported that an international NGO has distributed hygiene kits for more than 111,700 people in Homs, Hamah, and Tartus governorates to date.
 - USG partner the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) supported 14 mobile teams that reached 3,400 women with reproductive health services between February 19 and March 4. In addition, five static clinics and an emergency obstetric hospital supported by UNFPA provided reproductive health services and emergency obstetric care to approximately 2,500 women.
 - Through direct health care services, provision of medicines and medical supplies, and training of emergency health workers, the USG has provided urgently needed health assistance to approximately 1.9 million people inside Syria.
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RELIEF SUPPLY ASSISTANCE

- Following numerous attempts, a UNHCR-led mission reached the city of Dar'a during the week of February 19, delivering relief items for 3,000 families to the SARC and items for 250 families to the Syrian Women's Union. In early March, OCHA reported that U.N. agencies finalized plans for a second convoy to Idlib Governorate, in northwestern Syria, to meet the needs of 25,000 people. Reaching Idlib involves significant logistical challenges, including difficulty finding drivers willing to travel to certain locations.
 - UNHCR, a USG partner, continued to deliver relief items to conflict-affected Syrians in March, although overall deliveries were approximately two weeks behind schedule. A lack of available trucks for convoys and the inaccessibility of the main UNHCR warehouse in Damascus due to intense fighting in late February contributed to the delays, according to UNHCR. UNHCR is building a storage tent in a different Damascus neighborhood as a contingency measure to mitigate the impact of the accessibility challenges with the main warehouse. To date in 2013, UNHCR has assisted nearly 300,000 people with relief items.
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POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

Internal Displacement

- An official from the Government of Turkey (GoT) Ministry of Foreign Affairs estimated that 50,000 Syrians are residing in IDP camps on the Syrian side of the Syria–Turkey border, according to a February 27 UNHCR report. Approximately 10,000 of these IDPs are located across the border from Kilis Province, Turkey, and 40,000 are located across the border from the Hatay Province towns of Reyhanli, Yayladagi, and Altinozu, according to the report.
- In the Olive Tree Camp in Atmeh, Syria, USG assistance is improving basic water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions, which is critical to help prevent the spread of illness and disease. USG partners established water trucking, constructed 140 latrines, and are building 18 septic tanks in the camp.
- An international NGO, in coordination with the SARC, reported providing mattresses, blankets, clothing, and food parcels donated by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) to respond to the needs of newly displaced Syrians from the

early March fighting in the city of Ar Raqqa. Approximately 200,000 people fled the fighting in Ar Raqqa to Dayr Az Zawr Governorate, according to NGO sources.

Refugees in Syria

- Beginning in early March, the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) organized a distribution of food to Palestinian refugees remaining in the Yarmouk neighborhood of Damascus. Prior to the crisis in Syria, approximately 160,000 Palestinian refugees resided in the neighborhood; now, only 20,000 are estimated to remain. The UNRWA food distribution, undertaken with support by local Palestinian charities and expected to last eight days, was the first direct humanitarian activity by any U.N. agency in Yarmouk since early December 2012, when a spike in the intensity of the conflict triggered significant displacement, attracted the presence of armed opposition groups, and curtailed humanitarian access. As of March 8, UNRWA had provided 28,652 refugee households in Syria with food parcels since the beginning of the conflict.

Turkey

- Turkish officials estimated in early March that more than 100,000 Syrians were living outside of official refugee camps in various provinces in Turkey, mainly Gaziantep, Kilis, Hatay, and Sanliurfa. Local authorities informed UNHCR that non-camp Syrians are being registered in coordination centers in Gaziantep and Kilis provinces. In these centers, jointly managed by the GoT Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) and the provincial governments, Syrians are issued an identification card that provides access to medical and other assistance. An estimated 6,000 non-camp Syrians had registered with the Gaziantep coordination center as of early March and more than 25,000 had pending registration appointments. Authorities plan to open similar centers in Sanliurfa and Osmaniya.
- In March, WFP began providing voucher assistance in the Harran refugee camp in Sanliurfa Province, Turkey, for the first time. More than 36,000 Syrian refugees have received assistance in Turkey via electronic vouchers to date. WFP plans to scale up operations to include two additional refugee camps in Turkey by April and assist 100,000 Syrians in Turkey through the voucher program by June 2013.
- AFAD announced in March that, according to U.N. criteria, Turkey has spent nearly \$1.5 billion to meet the needs of Syrian refugees. The AFAD director indicated that the total included direct assistance, operational costs, and payments for more than 5,000 workers.

Lebanon

- UNHCR and its implementing partners undertook a number of initiatives in February to increase registration of refugees in an estimated 800 municipalities in Lebanon. UNHCR reached out to members of the Shia and Alawite minority groups and the congregations of Syriac and Greek Orthodox churches to encourage refugee registration, emphasizing that registration is confidential and enhances protection. UNHCR also launched a birth registration campaign entitled “Give Your Child a Name” to ensure that Syrian children born in Lebanon do not become stateless. Information leaflets explaining the importance of birth registration and steps for completing the registration process are being distributed to Syrian refugees throughout Lebanon.
- UNHCR, in cooperation with NGOs, municipalities, and local religious charities, continued to provide assistance to new, unregistered refugees arriving in all regions of Lebanon in March. In recent months, assistance expanded to the Tripoli area, and UNHCR strengthened cooperation with municipalities and religious charities. Unregistered refugees have access to the same one-time relief package that registered refugees receive, as well as primary health care, emergency shelter, and food parcels from WFP.

Jordan

- To date, more than 342,000 Syrian refugees have registered with UNHCR or are awaiting registration in Jordan. The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan estimates the total number of refugees to be approximately 420,000. In February, more than 75,000 Syrians arrived in Jordan, the highest total for any month since the crisis began, according to UNHCR.

- In order to strengthen its registration capacity, UNHCR opened a registration center in Irbid, Jordan, on February 10. The center processes approximately 700 refugees a day in addition to the daily processing rate of approximately 1,000 people at the registration center in Amman. UNHCR reports that, as a result of these efforts, the waiting times for registration have been reduced to two and a half months.
- WFP has sufficient resources to cover food, voucher, and bread assistance for Syrian refugees in Jordan through March, according to UNHCR. At the beginning of April, WFP will require \$10 million for food assistance and \$25 million for voucher assistance to meet the food needs of Syrian refugees through June 2013.

Iraq

- The Government of Iraq closed the Yaarabiya–Rabia border crossing between Syria and Iraq on March 3, after Syrian opposition forces seized control of the border facilities on the Syrian side, according to international media sources. The Rabia border is a primary crossing point for Syrian refugees into northern Iraq’s Dohuk Governorate. It is the second Iraqi border crossing to be closed to Syrians seeking entry. The al-Qaim border crossing in Al Anbar Governorate has remained closed since mid-October 2012.
- Schools in al-Qaim refugee camps 1 and 2 enrolled two thousand students in grades 1 through 5 within days of opening enrollment. Staffed by Iraqi Ministry of Education (MoE) teachers paid by UNICEF, the schools are recognized by the Iraqi MoE, and students will earn certifications that will be accepted in Syria under a bilateral agreement between the Iraqi and Syrian school systems. UNICEF also plans to open schools for children in grades 6 through 8.

Egypt

- The number of registered Syrian refugees in Egypt increased from 13,000 at the beginning of January 2013 to more than 21,000 as of March 12, according to UNHCR. More than 23,000 additional refugees have contacted UNHCR and are waiting to register, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees in Egypt to more than 43,000. According to UNHCR, Syrian refugees are mostly hosted by local communities in Alexandria, Greater Cairo, Damietta, Mansoura, Hurghada, Suez, and Ismaila. Among Syrians in Egypt, UNHCR has identified a high prevalence of chronic illnesses, as well as rehabilitative and mental health care needs.

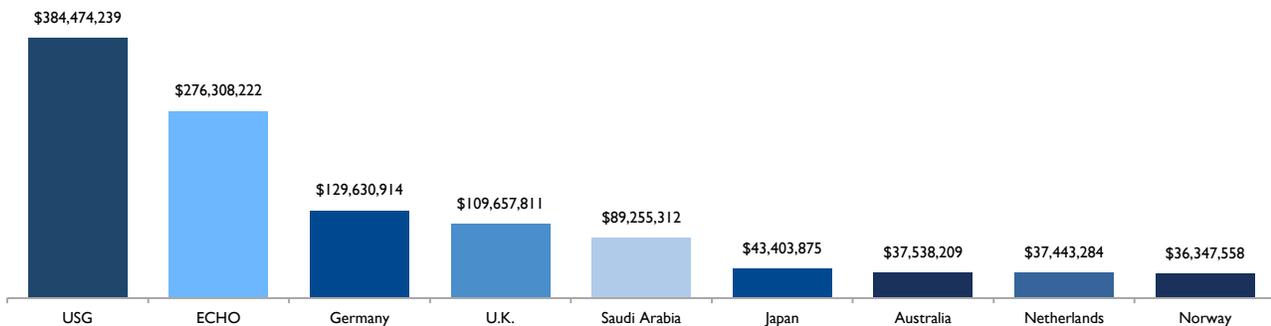
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- WFP reported that food insecurity has increased in Syria for several months as the country confronts extended shortages of basic commodities and decreasing domestic production. Insecurity has forced shops to close, hampering their ability to replenish stocks. Milling capacity has dropped sharply, affecting the supply of wheat flour and bread across the country, according to the U.N. Through monitoring activities, WFP found that IDPs living in temporary shelters struggle to cook food, due power cuts and the high price of cooking gas.
- In late February and early March, USG partner WFP re-established the Jordan–Syria supply route that was closed in December 2012 due to insecurity. As of March 4, WFP had dispatched 374 metric tons of food, bought locally in Jordan, via the newly re-opened route to WFP’s logistics hub in Damascus, where monthly rations are packaged for onward distribution. WFP also began working with six additional NGOs to help reach 2.5 million people with food assistance by April, according to OCHA. WFP is scaling up its distribution efforts to reach 1.75 million beneficiaries in Syria during the February distribution cycle, scheduled to end in March.
- A USG-supported NGO is scaling up a program that at full implementation will provide sufficient flour to more than 50 bakeries to support 210,000 people in Aleppo Governorate with daily bread at a reduced price. Some of these bakeries were closed before the program began and are now able to operate again, providing income for the bakeries and workers and bread for families in Aleppo.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- UNICEF reported in March that it will be forced to halt a number of life-saving interventions and will be unable to meet the basic needs of children—including water and sanitation services, immunizations, and emergency medical care—in Syria and throughout the region by the end of March 2013 unless additional funding is received immediately. UNICEF reports needing approximately \$157 million. The USG has provided nearly \$20 million to UNICEF in FY 2012 and FY 2013.
- As of March 1, the U.N. reported that humanitarian agencies had received only 20 percent of the \$1 billion requested in the Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP) to address the needs of those fleeing violence in Syria. UNHCR and humanitarian partner agencies represented in the RRP have prioritized for donors the most pressing unmet needs in order to continue providing urgent, lifesaving assistance to refugees while ensuring that the cost of their welcome is not solely borne by the countries of asylum and local communities. UNHCR prioritized 85 projects totaling more than \$511 million. The USG has provided more than \$160 million to the 2012 and 2013 RRP. In addition, the USG has contributed approximately \$113.5 million to the 2012 and 2013 appeal for the Syrian Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan.

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



*Funding figures are as of March 14, 2013. All international figures are according to OCHA’s 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.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the Syrian government 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 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 Opposition coalition (SOC). The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. Shortly after its formation, the SOC established the Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. USG, other donor, 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 in Damascus, Aleppo, and Dar'a governorates has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that more than 400,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict. Syria also hosts approximately 63,000 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, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$48,865,457
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$6,000,000
UNFPA	Health	Syria	\$400,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Syria	\$2,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$734,918
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$60,000,375
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria EMOP	Syria	\$27,018,000

WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt	\$29,000,000
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$18,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$74,018,000

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria	\$11,000,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$2,100,000
International Organization for Migration (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	\$7,500,000
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	\$73,637,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$10,070,000
UNICEF	Education	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq	\$10,000,000
UNRWA	Shelter, Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Lebanon	\$2,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$11,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$131,400,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$265,418,375

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

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
IFRC	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$12,965,409
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection	Syria	\$1,750,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,500,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$1,300,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$380,455
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$19,695,864

USAID/FFP			
WFP	Syria EMOP	Syria	\$32,300,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq	\$14,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$47,000,000

STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Emergency Medical Care, Food, and Relief Items	Syria	\$8,000,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Turkey	\$500,000
NGO Partners	Health, Psychosocial, Protection, and Shelter Assistance	Jordan and Lebanon	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Assistance for IDPs through Syria Humanitarian Response Plan	Syria	\$8,360,000
UNHCR	Support for the Regional Response Plan	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq	\$19,500,000
UNICEF	WASH and Protection	Jordan	\$2,000,000
UNRWA	Support for Palestinian Refugees in the Region	Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon	\$11,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$52,360,000

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012			\$119,055,864
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TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013			\$384,474,239
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.
² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of March 14, 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 response efforts in Syria can be found at 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, 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>