



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #22, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

AUGUST 22, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.8 million

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

4.25 million

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

1.94 million

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

521,899

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – August 2013

700,961

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – August 2013

440,768

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – August 2013

155,258

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – August 2013

109,809

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – August 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 40,000 Syrians fled to Iraq between August 15 and 22.
- Escalated conflict in Syria is limiting access to communities in need of humanitarian assistance.
- Civil unrest in Egypt is coinciding with deteriorating treatment of Syrian refugees and prompting Syrians to seek assistance from UNHCR.

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 21, international media widely reported an alleged chemical attack in areas outside of Syria’s capital city of Damascus. Opposition groups attribute the attack to the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG), which denies the claims. Although the use of chemical weapons remains unconfirmed, public sources report high casualties and numbers of affected people. To date, the international community has been unable to independently confirm that conflict parties have utilized chemical weapons inside Syria. Since August 18, a U.N.-led mission has been in Syria to investigate sites where ongoing conflict may have included chemical agents.
- More than 40,000 people fled northern Syria for Iraq between August 15 and 22, one of the largest mass movements out of Syria since the conflict began, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq to 195,000, according to UNHCR. The exodus began after Iraq’s Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) opened access to Iraq via the Fishkhabour bridge to enable several hundred people camped nearby to enter. UNHCR estimates that 20,000 people crossed the bridge within the first three days. Refugees cited recent bombings, escalated conflict between armed factions, and difficulty meeting basic needs as primary reasons for flight. The KRG reclosed the Fishkhabour bridge on August 17 and opened the official border crossing at Sahela, just south of the bridge, on August 18. Sahela remained open as of August 22. Relief organizations are working with the KRG to respond to the influx, providing relief supplies, shelter, water, and food.
- From August 18 to 22, USAID Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (AA/DCHA) Nancy Lindborg traveled to Jordan and Lebanon to review USG efforts in response to the Syria crisis. AA/DCHA Lindborg met with government officials, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and others, expressing continued support for the humanitarian response and appreciation to neighboring countries for their assistance to Syrian refugees.

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

- Escalated conflict in Syria is limiting access to communities in need of humanitarian assistance, particularly in northern governorates. Relief organizations cite an increase in airstrikes, localized fighting, and conflict-related road closures as impediments to humanitarian operations in Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Idlib, and Latakia governorates. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has highlighted insecurity and road blockages as obstructions to delivering as many food rations as originally planned to Al Hasakah Governorate during the month of July. WFP and its partners continue to engage with local authorities to help improve transport of WFP-provided food assistance into Al Hasakah.
 - Despite barriers to access, humanitarian organizations continue to reach hard-to-access communities in northern Syria. Since May 2013, USG-supported NGOs have reached more than 330,000 people in conflict-affected areas of Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqa, and Idlib governorates with emergency relief supplies, including clothing, blankets, mattresses, cooking supplies, and plastic sheeting.
 - Active fighting, widespread insecurity, and numerous checkpoints along transportation routes are limiting humanitarian access from the city of Damascus to other parts of southern Syria. WFP reports that many locations in Rif Damascus Governorate have been inaccessible for several months. In Dar'a Governorate, relief organizations are working to reach populations affected by clashes and shelling in Al Harra and Nawa towns, from where an estimated 75,000 to 100,000 people have fled, including 22,500 newly registered IDPs now residing in surrounding communities.
 - In June and July 2013, a USG-supported NGO maintained semi-regular access to Dar'a Governorate communities in need of assistance, providing more than 200 clothing items, nearly 4,000 hygiene kits, approximately 490 bedding materials, and more than 1,000 infant kits, some of which will continue to support families during the coming winter months. The USG also supports networks of medical facilities and first aid responders who work in hard-to-access areas, including in the southern governorates of Damascus, Dar'a, Hamah, and Rif Damascus, where NGO partners have reached more than 84,000 people with health assistance since January 2013.
 - On August 3 and 12, following 30 days of siege, U.N. interagency cross-line convoys delivered 16 truckloads of supplies to the city of Idlib, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The convoys carried food assistance for 17,750 people, high energy biscuits for 50,000 people, and relief supplies for 12,000 people. In addition, the convoy delivered a three-month supply of primary care medicines for 45,000 people, as well as other medical support and surgical supplies for 6,350 people. Since January 2013, U.N. interagency convoys have delivered humanitarian assistance for 1.9 million people residing across lines of conflict.
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HEALTH & WASH

- U.N. agencies continue to highlight SARG constraints on the provision of health assistance in opposition-held areas, most notably the confiscation of medical supplies. In early August, media sources reported that SARG-imposed restrictions on U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) deliveries of medical kits had resulted in a decline of people receiving WHO-supported care in opposition-controlled areas, falling from approximately 914,000 people between January and March to 270,000 people between April to June. In August, the U.N.'s interagency convoys to Idlib city contained surgical supplies, representing some progress, given that the SARG regularly prohibits the inclusion of surgical supplies in cross-line aid deliveries.
- USG partners continue to provide medical assistance to vulnerable and conflict-affected Syrians despite insecurity and access constraints. In northern Syria, one partner recently opened multiple health centers that collectively hold more than 1,000 medical consultations per week—vaccinating children, administering reproductive health services, and screening for malnutrition. Between early to mid-August, a separate USG partner provided more than 4,400 Syrians with medical, mental health, and psychosocial services. In addition, in recent weeks the same partner has been pre-positioning additional supplies in areas of Syria that have recently experienced increases in active conflict in anticipation of growing medical needs.
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs remain a primary concern among relief agencies providing assistance in Syria. In the city of Dayr az Zawr, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) recently provided an electrical generator for the local water treatment plant, protecting an estimated 250,000 conflict-affected people from the loss of safe drinking water in the event of a power outage. In northern Syria, a USG partner is improving WASH conditions for IDPs by

constructing waste disposal infrastructure, distributing water sanitization tablets, and educating displaced families on healthy WASH practices, among other activities.

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Due to insecurity and access challenges along routes in Syria, WFP adjusted allocation plans for its July food dispatches. Unable to reach Al Hasakah and Idlib governorates with as many food rations as intended, WFP redirected remaining rations to other areas of high need in Al Qunaytirah, Damascus, Hamah, and Rif Damascus governorates.
 - In addition to food rations, WFP dispatched nearly 4,700 metric tons of wheat flour, including donations from the USG, to Aleppo, Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqah, Dayr az Zawr, Rif Damascus, Hamah, Homs, Idlib, and As Suwayda' governorates during the July cycle. In urban areas, the flour will support the production of bread rations by local bakeries, while in rural areas the flour will go directly to beneficiaries for home baking.
 - The USG remains the largest supporter of WFP's Emergency Operation (EMOP) in Syria, providing \$147.7 million to WFP for assistance inside the country. In addition, the USG has also provided \$48.6 million to NGOs in FY 2013 to deliver food rations and flour for bakeries in areas not accessible to WFP.
 - In neighboring countries, WFP continues to provide food assistance for Syrian refugees through a combination of food rations and vouchers. In July, WFP assisted over 1.1 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. WFP's assistance to Syrian refugees in the region has received support from the USG totaling \$116.5 million in FY 2012 and 2013.
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PROTECTION

- Of the 6.8 million people affected by conflict in Syria, more 3.1 million of them are children, according to UNICEF. As a part of the USG's ongoing support for child protection initiatives, USG partners continue to reach children through child-friendly spaces, supervised safe areas that facilitate the provision of psychosocial support, informal education activities, and child health interventions. In northern Syria, a USG partner is supporting multiple spaces that serve a total population of 800 children between the ages of 4 and 18, providing the children with safe areas to play and engage in learning activities, as well as receive access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.
 - In Tartus Governorate, UNICEF's child protection program recently conducted an initial assessment in four IDP shelters to determine priority concerns and develop appropriate response options. The assessment surveyed 411 families, including 770 children less than 18 years of age. Preliminary results capture cases of child labor, early marriage, psychological disorders, and unaccompanied children.
 - In response to these and other needs, UNICEF is supporting numerous protection interventions, including child-friendly spaces and access to psychosocial support at nearly 500 summertime school clubs. In addition, ongoing UNICEF psychosocial programs served approximately 1,100 children in Al Qunaytirah, Damascus, Dar'a, and Rif Damascus governorates between July 25 and August 8.
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DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Internal Displacement

- Heavy fighting near Latakia, the principal port city in northwestern Syria, displaced more than 3,000 families from 30 nearby villages in early August, according to OCHA. Approximately 80 percent of the displaced families are residing with relatives and host communities in Latakia city. The SARG also opened three shelters, in which IDPs are in need of WASH interventions, protection assistance, and education support, reports OCHA.

External Displacement

- As of August 7, more than 1.9 million Syrians had fled to Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt, and areas of North Africa. In addition, as of July 29, more than 100,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria have fled to neighboring countries,

primarily Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt, according to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Jordan

- On August 20, USAID AA/DCHA Lindborg announced approximately \$2.4 million from the USG for WFP's new Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation for Jordan, funding outside of the USG's support for the Syria humanitarian response. WFP's new operation will assist 160,000 food-insecure Jordanians, including people living in communities hosting Syrian refugees, through a flexible combination of food and cash assistance. The program will cover urgent food needs, as well as include a food-for-assets program that will help protect livelihoods. Since the beginning of the Syria crisis, the number of Jordanians who need food assistance has increased, due in part to overwhelming need among Syrian refugee populations for state services and recent Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (GHKJ) budget constraints.
- On August 19, UNICEF and the GHKJ Ministry of Education completed a three-day field capacity assessment of the most overcrowded schools in host communities. A total of 78 schools were surveyed, resulting in recommendations to double-shift classes in 29 schools and provide pre-fabricated classrooms to 10 schools.

Iraq

- In response to the mid-August influx of Syrian refugees into northern Iraq, UNHCR and partners dispatched more than 90 trucks carrying relief commodities and hygiene equipment, including mattresses, blankets, latrines, and showers, the agency reported on August 20. Transit sites were established at Kawergost, Qushtapa, Harir, and Baharka towns in Erbil Governorate, and in Aarbad town in Sulaymaniyah Governorate to accommodate the refugees. UNHCR reports that WASH continues to be a major challenge in hastily constructed transit sites.
- According to the U.N., Kurdish authorities and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) transported more than 22,000 refugees to the transit sites while other refugees sheltered with host communities. On the Syrian side of the border, UNHCR and other partners have begun providing water to assist people walking to the Iraq crossing in the heat.

Lebanon

- Human Rights Watch reported that as of August 6, Lebanese border authorities were preventing Palestinian refugees from Syria from entering Lebanon along the Damascus–Beirut corridor, allowing only some women and children into the country. Both Palestinian and Syrian refugees who arrive at the Lebanon–Syria border assume significant risk in attempting to flee Syria. UNRWA is seeking clarification from Lebanese authorities on the exact nature of the restrictions that are being introduced.
- The Syria conflict has resulted in population increases among Palestinian refugee camps and gatherings in Lebanon, according to UNRWA and media reports. For example, the number of Palestinian refugees in Ain el-Hilweh and Meih Meih camps and surrounding areas has increased 32 percent since the beginning of the conflict—from approximately 73,000 refugees to 96,400. As of August 9, UNRWA had recorded approximately 92,650 Palestinians from Syria in Lebanon.
- On August 20, UNRWA announced plans to transition from direct cash distributions to the provision of pre-loaded debit cards for Palestinian refugees from Syria. According to UNRWA, debit cards allow for more flexible provision of cash assistance to beneficiaries while also reducing transaction costs and minimizing security concerns associated with cash distributions.

Turkey

- UNHCR estimates that there are currently 500,000 to 600,000 Syrians residing in Turkey. The Government of Turkey (GoT) has registered and assisted more than 200,000 Syrians in 20 camps across 10 provinces. In addition, nearly 240,000 Syrians have been registered or have scheduled registration appointments outside of camps and have been provided access to medical care. The USG is providing support to Turkey's humanitarian response through funding to U.N. agencies and a number of NGOs. UNHCR, for example, provides tents, blankets, and mobile registration centers, as well as technical guidance on camp management, voluntary repatriation and registration. UNHCR also

provides kitchen sets and related equipment to permit refugees to prepare their own food purchased with an electronic voucher provided by WFP. The U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) supports prevention of and response to gender-based violence. UNICEF is providing educational resources and support activities, including child-friendly spaces and teacher training in trauma response, for children and youth in camps and urban areas. USG-funded NGOs provide health and psychosocial support.

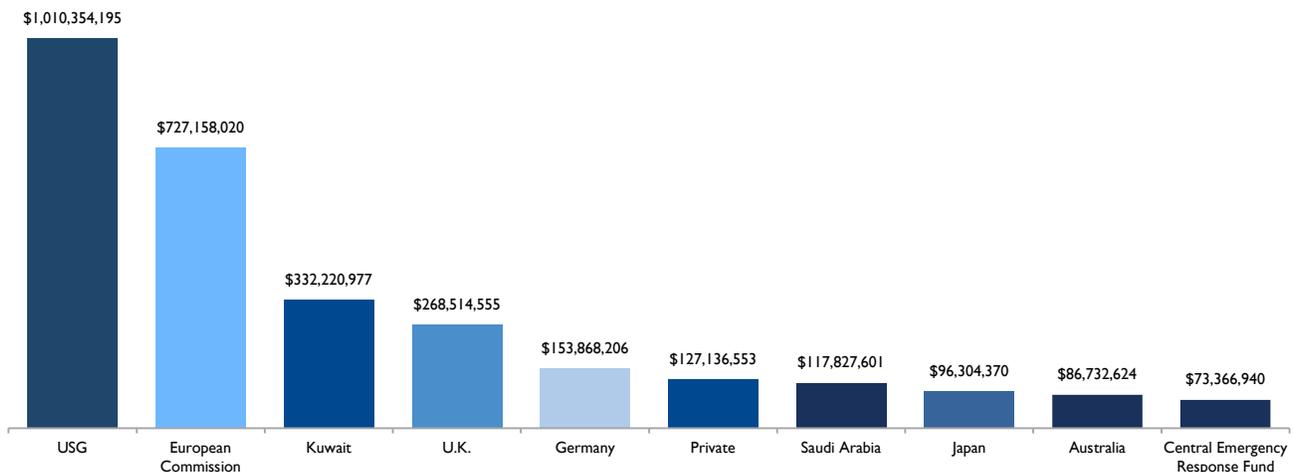
Egypt

- Increasing civil unrest in Egypt is coinciding with deteriorating treatment of Syrian refugees and prompting Syrians to seek UNHCR registration and protection services, the refugee agency reports. To accommodate the demand, UNHCR is modifying procedures to more rapidly assist Syrians through UNHCR’s Cairo headquarters, mobile registration offices, and a 24-hour hotline. In addition, UNHCR is distributing information on personal protection—such as carrying passports and UNHCR registration cards at all times—and on Egyptian law to help reduce the likelihood that refugees inadvertently commit crimes in Egypt and trigger deportation processes. UNHCR representatives in Egypt continue to advocate for improved Government of Egypt (GoE) treatment of Syrian refugees, including cessation of arbitrary detention and deportation.
- UNHCR reports that more than 109,000 Syrian refugees have sought UNHCR registration and assistance since the beginning of the Syrian conflict. At present, the GoE estimates that up to 300,000 Syrians reside in Egypt.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On August 7, the Government of the People’s Republic of China (PRoC) announced plans to provide approximately \$2.5 million to the GHKJ in support of Jordan’s ongoing refugee response, international media reports. The funding constitutes the third tranche the PRoC has allocated to Jordan to continue hosting Syrian refugees since the beginning of the crisis.
- The Government of Switzerland announced an additional 20 million CHF—\$21.7 million—for the Syria humanitarian response in Syria and in neighboring countries on August 4. The new funding will support basic food and cash assistance, medical care, shelter support, and protection activities for vulnerable populations.

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



*Funding figures are as of August 22, 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
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	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			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (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 August 7, 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>