



# SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

DECEMBER 5, 2013

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**9.3 million**

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

**6.5 million**

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

**2.3 million**

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

**563,706**

Syrian Refugees in Jordan  
UNHCR – December 2013

**833,382**

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon  
UNHCR – December 2013

**536,663**

Syrian Refugees in Turkey  
UNHCR – December 2013

**206,137**

Syrian Refugees in Iraq  
UNHCR – December 2013

**128,967**

Syrian Refugees in Egypt  
UNHCR – December 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) now confirms 17 cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) in Syria.
- A comprehensive polio outbreak response continues across the region with campaigns targeting 22 million children under five years of age.
- On November 28 and 30, UNHCR airlifted a total of 26.9 metric tons (MT) of relief supplies to cover gaps in hard-to-reach areas of Syria.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$271,995,689
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$442,699,121
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$635,084,221
<b>\$1,349,779,031</b>	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On December 3, U.N. Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Valerie Amos briefed the U.N. Security Council on the implementation of the October 2 U.N. Presidential Statement on humanitarian access in Syria. ERC Amos requested that the Government of Syria streamline processes to remove remaining bureaucratic impediments to humanitarian action, including facilitating humanitarian convoys and providing international non-governmental organization (NGO) staff visas. Amos also noted the lack of progress regarding the protection of civilians and the demilitarization of hospitals and schools.
- As of November 26, WHO had confirmed 17 cases of WPV1 in Syria. The majority—15—of the cases are from Dayr az Zawr Governorate, where the cluster of 22 “hot” cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) were first identified in mid-October. AFP is a common indication of polio, and health care workers test stool specimens from individuals with signs of AFP to confirm poliovirus infections. The two additional confirmed polio cases are from Rif Damascus and Aleppo governorates, indicating the likelihood of widespread circulation of the virus.
- Humanitarian agencies have begun distribution of winter items—including blankets, mattresses, plastic sheeting, warm clothes, and health and hygiene kits—to ensure that displaced populations are kept warm and protected from illnesses during the approaching winter season, which is forecast to be exceptionally cold.
- Humanitarian workers operating in Syria continue to face significant risks. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) announced that a mortar shell killed a staff member on November 24—representing the ninth UNRWA staff member and the thirteenth U.N. staff member killed since the start of the Syrian conflict.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- The security situation has deteriorated in the city of Homs and surrounding areas, further restricting access to populations in need. The main highway connecting Homs to Syria's capital Damascus is closed due to the tense security situation, causing new displacements and hindering relief operations. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) reports that the closure of the Damascus–Homs highway has suspended all movement to the central part of the country, affecting food deliveries to populations residing in Hama and Homs governorates. WFP is exploring alternative routes and access options to deliver food assistance in difficult-to-reach areas.
- While access to Aleppo Governorate generally improved following the reopening of the Aleppo–Al-Samaieh road, the subsequent closure of a major crossing connecting eastern and western sections of Aleppo has limited movement between the two neighborhoods, cutting off the east from humanitarian assistance.
- As of November 25, an estimated 2.5 million people were located in hard-to-reach areas of Syria, having received little or no humanitarian assistance in more than 10 months, according to the U.N. Conditions are particularly dire for approximately 250,000 people who remain in besieged neighborhoods and villages, including 205,000 people in Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-controlled areas and 45,000 in opposition-held territories. Both SARG and opposition forces continue to restrict the transport of certain medicines and surgical supplies based on the concern that they may be used to treat wounded combatants, according to the U.N.
- USG humanitarian partner UNHCR airlifted a total of 26.9 MT of winterization supplies; polio vaccines for 538,000 children; and tens of thousands of additional vaccines—against meningitis, tuberculosis, tetanus, and measles, mumps, and rubella—from Damascus to Al Hasakah Governorate in northeastern Syria on November 28 and 30 to help cover gaps in hard-to-reach areas of Al Hasakah, Ar Raqqa, and Dayr az Zawr governorates. The polio vaccines are part of the interagency effort led by WHO and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to ensure the vaccination of all children in Syria, including those residing in contested and opposition-held areas; these vaccines are intended for the December 8 round of vaccinations. Prior to the airlift, Al Hasakah had not received significant aid deliveries from the U.N. since May 2013 due to insecurity on the main road leading to the governorate. UNHCR maintains an office in Al Hasakah and has registered approximately 115,000 displaced people in the governorate.

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## HEALTH

- Through a USG-funded program, one NGO and its sub-partners have delivered approximately \$536,000 worth of medical supplies and medication to medical points in southern Syria since July 2013, assisting an estimated 29,480 people. Another USG-funded health organization has provided medical care to people affected by the conflict through field hospitals and medical points throughout Syria. To date, the NGO has performed nearly 190,700 surgeries.
- A comprehensive polio outbreak response continues across the region, with seven countries and territories conducting mass polio vaccination campaigns targeting 22 million children under five years of age. WHO anticipates that the outbreak response will need to continue for at least six to eight months, depending on the area and based on the evolving pattern of infection. Due to the conflict in Syria, frequent population movements across the region, and immunity gaps in key areas, WHO considers the risk of further spread of WPV1 across the region to be high.
- The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that the October-to-November round of vaccinations through the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) National Vaccination Campaign against measles and polio reached more than the targeted 2.2 million children—including approximately 300,000 in Dayr az Zawr—with polio vaccine and more than 1.1 million children with measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine across Syria's 14 governorates. WHO, UNICEF, and UNHCR plan to support the SARG Ministry of Health in implementing six to eight rounds national vaccination campaigns during the next six months, with the next scheduled round to start on December 8.
- UNRWA is supporting WHO and UNICEF rapid vaccination efforts to vaccinate all children under five years of age in Syria and surrounding countries. In Syria, UNRWA participated in the October 24 campaign to immunize children against polio, mumps, measles, and rubella, and is currently providing oral polio vaccine to all children under five years of age in its health facilities and centers housing IDPs. UNRWA is also working to immunize Palestinian children in

Lebanon—in conjunction with UNICEF, the Lebanese Ministry of Health, and local relief agencies—through house-to-house immunization campaigns that began on November 11 and are expected to continue through December 13.

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## **AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY**

- According to WFP, more than 3.4 million people in 13 Syrian governorates received WFP family rations during the distribution cycle completed in mid-November; no WFP rations were distributed in Al Hasakah Governorate due to control of primary transit routes by extremist groups. Previously, WFP reached the largest number of beneficiaries during the July cycle, serving 2.6 million people. Local Syria Arab Red Crescent (SARC) branches distribute slightly more than half of the WFP family rations, while approximately 25 Syrian NGOs and community-based organizations distribute the remainder. WFP family rations, designed for five people, comprise approximately 54 kilograms of rice, bulgur, pasta, dry and canned pulses, sugar, vegetable oil, canned tuna, and wheat flour. USG funding supports more than one-third of all WFP food assistance for the Syria crisis.
- UNHCR began cash distributions in Latakia Governorate on November 11 and had reached an estimated 1,525 individuals as of November 22. Ongoing cash distributions have also reached more than 57,300 people in Al Hasakah Governorate—an area difficult to reach with relief supplies. UNHCR has provided nearly \$3,557,000 in cash assistance to an estimated 150,000 vulnerable displaced Syrians in Al Hasakah, Damascus, Homs, Latakia, Rif Damascus, and Tartus governorates.

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## **DISPLACED POPULATIONS**

### ***Internal Displacement***

- Escalating fighting in Syria in November has led to further population displacement and increased need for humanitarian assistance for affected populations, according to WFP. An estimated 10,000 people have fled from the Al-Heran, Al-Jamoussa, Al-Ma'alk, and Al-Rafed areas in southwestern Al Qunaytirah Governorate to eastern and central parts of the governorate due to heavy fighting, according to the SARC. The SARC has reprioritized assistance to these locations, delivering food supplies to those displaced by the violence. In Rif Damascus, increased fighting displaced the entire populations of the Hajera and Sbeineh areas to Yarmouk camp, where nearly 30,000 IDPs currently reside, according to the SARC.

### ***External Displacement***

#### **Jordan**

- UNICEF and its implementing partners have reached nearly 109,300 Syrian children with psychosocial support through 52 child friendly spaces (CFSs) in refugee camps and 34 child and family protective places (CFPs) in host communities in Jordan since the beginning of 2013. Approximately 10 percent of these children have received focused and structured individual case management services. Since the beginning of 2013, UNICEF has recorded more than 520,000 visits from children and adolescents to playgrounds and recreation areas. Activities in the CFSs and CFPs include recreational activities designed to improve group dynamics and encourage self-expression, as well as activities with educational components ranging from mathematics and reading to personal hygiene and awareness of children's rights.

#### **Iraq**

- As of November 21, more than 5,440 Syrian refugee households—or 34 percent of the more than 15,600 households—in Iraq's Syrian refugee camps and transit locations had received fuel and winter-related relief supplies, according to UNHCR. UNHCR expects to reach the remaining refugee households with needed supplies by December 15.

#### **Lebanon**

- More than 18,100 Syrians have fled to Arsal municipality in the Bekaa Region of Lebanon since November 15, following escalating violence in Qarah town in the Qalamoun region of Rif Damascus Governorate. Arsal has a native

population of 35,000 and was already hosting 19,500 refugees from Syria prior to the most recent arrivals. U.N. agencies and relief agencies quickly repositioned staff to the Arsal area to address the needs of arriving populations. Local authorities have provided a temporary site in Arsal for a formal tented settlement that can accommodate 70 families. U.N. partners have also deployed mobile medical clinics to provide immediate health care services and are distributing relief items, including food parcels, blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits to new arrivals; nearly 90 percent of families have received relief items to date. UNHCR is considering transporting some families to less congested areas in the Bekaa Region since most informal tented settlements are already at capacity.

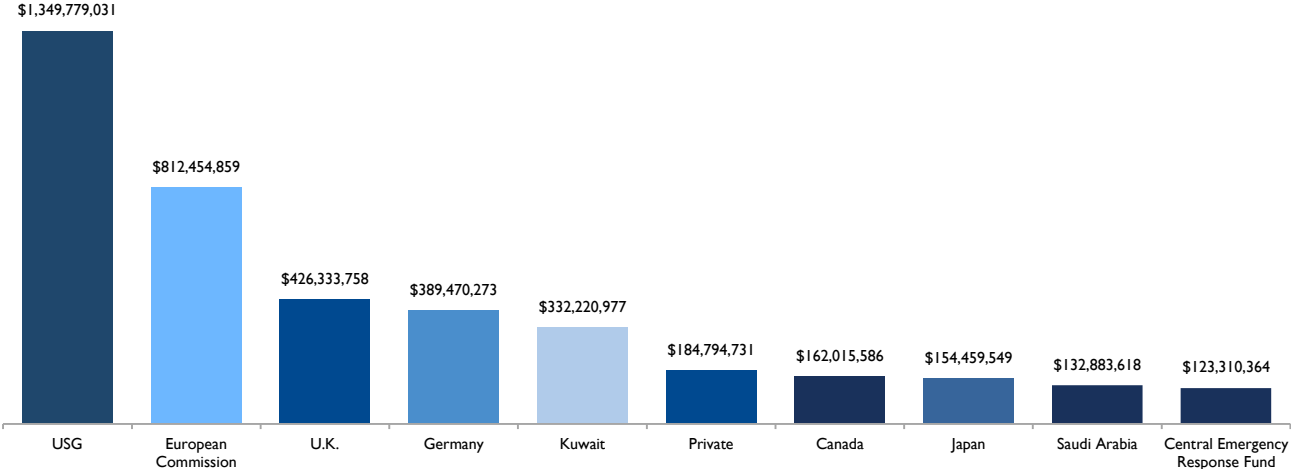
**Turkey**

- The Government of Turkey (GoT) Directorate of Education in Mardin Province has allocated land for a school for non-camp Syrian children. The school will have a capacity of 800 students and serve up to 2,400 children through three daily shifts. In Sanliurfa Province, officials informed UNHCR that three new schools have been opened for Syrians living in the city and more than 1,200 children have enrolled to date. Local officials expect the GoT Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency to provide four additional containers to increase the total number of Syrian children who can attend the schools, according to the Syrian teachers who are working in the schools on a voluntary basis.

**Egypt**

- According to UNHCR, 52 Syrian refugees detained in Egypt began a hunger strike on November 22. UNHCR estimates that since August 2013, approximately 1,300 Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria have been detained by the Government of Egypt, the majority on charges of attempting to illegally exit the country or lacking a residency permit. At present, approximately 920 are being held indefinitely and in poor conditions; almost all others have opted to “voluntarily” depart the country, the majority to Jordan or Turkey, according to UNHCR. In some cases, particularly for Palestinians who are being allowed to enter fewer countries in the region, refugees—including minors—have been sent back to Syria. UNHCR is also concerned about the residency renewal process and overcrowding in schools and plans to open a new office next month in the city of Alexandria. Egypt currently hosts more than 127,000 registered Syrian refugees and approximately 6,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

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



\*Funding figures are as of December 5. 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 529,000 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 39,476 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2013<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$200,016,769
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. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health	Syria	\$2,795,900
WHO	Health	Syria	\$14,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Syria	\$24,000,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$4,350,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$2,637,156
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$252,299,825</b>

USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$70,803,546
WFP	EMOP	Syria	\$162,095,475
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt	\$162,800,100
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$395,699,121</b>

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$27,600,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,900,000
International Organization for Migration	Relief Commodities, Border Transport	Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt	\$10,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Mental Health/Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health, Livelihoods, Capacity Building, Gender-Based Violence, Shelter, Case Management	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$22,924,280
U.N. Development Program (UNDP)	WASH	Lebanon	\$400,000
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Lebanon, Turkey	\$3,793,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$312,637,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$58,170,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt	\$72,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon	\$15,800,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$55,100,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$582,724,280</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013</b>			<b>\$1,230,723,226</b>

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2012<sup>1</sup>**

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>\$19,695,864</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>\$47,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>\$52,359,941</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012</b>	<b>\$119,055,805</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013</b>	<b>\$1,349,779,031</b>

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as November 21, 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](http://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](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).