Regional Profile
Countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe (MENAE) are susceptible to a number of natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, and wildfires. In addition, protracted conflicts in FY 2021 continued to generate population displacement, increase food insecurity, and constrain local access to basic necessities, including health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. In FY 2021, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided more than $1.8 billion to 12 countries and the Europe and Caucasus region to provide urgent support, including food, shelter, and WASH assistance, to displaced populations, host communities, and other vulnerable populations. USAID/BHA also provided more than $2 million in early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience programs in Libya, Ukraine, and the Europe and Caucasus region to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and strengthen disaster preparedness and response capabilities, helping emergency response specialists provide timely support to individuals adversely affected by sudden-onset emergencies.

Humanitarian Situation in FY 2021
Complex emergencies remained the primary driver of humanitarian needs in MENAE in FY 2021. Conflicts in Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen displaced civilians, increased protection risks, and reduced local access to basic health services amid the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. These conflicts also exacerbated existing vulnerabilities facing women, children, and members of traditionally marginalized groups. In addition, severe wildfires in Greece, North Macedonia, and Turkey damaged or destroyed hundreds of houses and square miles of farmland, prompting residents of affected areas to abandon their communities of origin and seek refuge in neighboring locales.

USAID/BHA Priorities
In FY 2022, USAID/BHA will continue to partner with national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies across MENAE to provide urgent assistance to food-insecure households, host community members, internally displaced persons, and refugees. In situations where insecurity hinders humanitarian access to vulnerable populations, USAID/BHA will continue to advocate for all parties to conflict to respect the independence, impartiality, and neutrality of relief operations and grant humanitarian organizations unfettered access to those in need of assistance. USAID/BHA anticipates that relief actors will encounter heightened challenges responding to humanitarian needs in MENAE in FY 2022, as aid agencies attend to new and evolving crises both inside and outside of the region. In response, USAID/BHA will promote greater coordination with national NGOs to fully leverage the knowledge and experience of local humanitarian aid workers operating in the field and ensure relief operations are sustainable and attentive to local needs.