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SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #22, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

10.8 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
U.N. – June 2014

6.4 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
U.N. – June 2014

3 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – September 2014

1,185,000

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – September 2014

844,000

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – September 2014

616,000

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – September 2014

215,000

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – September 2014

140,000

Syrian Refugees in Egypt
UNHCR – September 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. Secretary of State John F. Kerry announces nearly \$500 million in additional USG humanitarian assistance for the Syria crisis, bringing total USG assistance to more than \$2.9 billion since the crisis began.
- Through its implementing partners, the USG has provided humanitarian assistance to more than 5 million people affected by the crisis in Syria, supporting the health, food, emergency relief supply, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs of conflict-affected populations.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FY 2012 – FY 2014

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$570,019,529
USAID/FFP ²	\$971,715,017
State/PRM ³	\$1,359,865,086

\$ 2,901,599,632
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 12, U.S. Secretary of State John F. Kerry announced that the USG is providing nearly \$500 million in additional humanitarian assistance to populations affected by the crisis in Syria, bringing total USG humanitarian assistance for the Syria response to more than \$2.9 billion.
- Through its implementing partners, the USG has assisted more than 5 million people inside Syria, as well as refugees in the region and the communities hosting them. Since the crisis began, the USG has provided more than \$1.4 billion to assist refugees and host communities in the region and more than \$1.4 billion to assist people in need across all 14 governorates inside Syria.
- Of the newly announced funds, USAID/FFP is contributing more than \$74.2 million for continued food assistance inside Syria and in the region through partnerships with the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- In addition, State/PRM is providing nearly \$322 million in new funding to meet the urgent needs of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and other persons of concern fleeing Syria including through education, shelter, emergency relief items, health services, gender-based violence prevention and response, psychosocial support activities, and WASH assistance. More than \$69 million of the State/PRM assistance will support activities inside of Syria and more than \$252 million will support humanitarian activities in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.
- The additional funding also includes more than \$98 million from USAID/OFDA to support health care services, the distribution of emergency relief items, WASH programs, and protection activities across the country.
- Of the newly announced USG funding, more than \$99.5 million supports existing humanitarian aid operations carried out by NGOs conducting cross-border relief efforts that assist millions of conflict-affected Syrians.

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

- Violence in Syria has escalated since the beginning of August, according to the U.N. and NGOs. Heavy fighting between Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and opposition forces has displaced an estimated 76,000 people in northeastern Dayr az Zawr Governorate, while shelling and aerial bombardments have caused additional displacement in Aleppo, Al Qunaytirah, Ar Raqqa, Dar'a, Hamah, Idlib, and Rif Damascus governorates. In addition, the recent influx of Iraqi refugees fleeing ISIL attacks in Iraq has increased humanitarian needs in Syria's Al Hasakah Governorate.
 - The U.N. and the NGO consortium Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS) report that humanitarian access is extremely limited in ISIL-controlled areas, particularly in the northeast. Despite an increase in the amount of food aid delivered across the country, WFP reports that ongoing violence and the presence of armed groups blocking main access routes prevented WFP food deliveries from reaching Dayr az Zawr and Ar Raqqa governorates in August. While beneficiaries in Ar Raqqa received limited food assistance in July—only 24 percent of planned distributions—August marked the third consecutive month that WFP could not access Dayr az Zawr.
 - The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) reports that it distributed food parcels to 350 households and provided medical treatment to 147 civilians in Yarmouk neighborhood of Damascus on September 11, marking the fifth consecutive day of UNRWA distributions after four days without access, according to the U.N. agency. UNRWA reports that the humanitarian situation in the besieged area remains dire with more than 18,000 people trapped in the neighborhood.
 - The International Organization for Migration (IOM), in partnership with a local NGO and local authorities, delivered emergency relief supplies to approximately 7,500 people in the besieged Al Wa'er neighborhood on the outskirts of the city of Homs, Homs Governorate, on August 22. Since January 2014, IOM has reached more than 1 million IDPs with emergency relief supplies, noting that more than 43 percent of its deliveries crossed conflict lines to access U.N. identified hard-to-reach areas. According to the U.N., approximately 4.7 million people are living in hard-to-reach areas, including an estimated 241,000 living in besieged communities.
 - The U.N. and other humanitarian actors continue to monitor the security situation in Syria as efforts to expand the reach of humanitarian assistance continue. Amidst conflict and insecurity, USG partners are working through all available channels to reach crisis-affected people in opposition, Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG), and contested areas of Syria and have provided humanitarian assistance to 5 million people across Syria's 14 governorates since March 2011.
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AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Through cross-border deliveries from Jordan and Turkey, as well as food operations originating in Syria, WFP delivered food assistance to more than 4.1 million people inside Syria in August—the largest number of people reached in one month since the conflict began. WFP food assistance included providing more than 50,000 food rations, sufficient for more than 250,000 people, for partner distribution in opposition areas of Idlib Governorate, including in IDP camps, as well as targeting more than 83,000 people in opposition-held areas of eastern and western rural Aleppo Governorate. WFP reports that food deliveries across lines of conflict in Idlib and Aleppo governorates increased by 55 percent in August as compared to July. Overall, the agency crossed lines of control to provide food to more than 580,000 people between mid-July and September 2, a 320 percent increase from the 137,000 people reached in the preceding six weeks.
- In August, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and its partner the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) provided food assistance to more than 530,000 people across 10 governorates in Syria, including to 90,000 people in opposition-held areas.
- USAID/FFP has provided more than \$278 million for emergency food assistance in Syria in FY 2014, including nearly \$193 million to WFP. USAID/FFP has also provided \$262.5 million to WFP in FY 2014 to support food assistance to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries, making the USG the single largest supporter of WFP emergency food assistance operations for the Syria crisis, both inside Syria and in neighboring countries. In addition, USAID/FFP-supported food assistance through NGOs reaches populations in Syria inaccessible to WFP. Through WFP and NGO partners, USAID/FFP provides food assistance to more than 3.2 million Syrians each month, including more than 2.4 million people in Syria and approximately 800,000 Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. In total, USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$972 million for food assistance to populations inside Syria and Syrian refugees since the crisis began in March 2011.

HEALTH

- The upsurge in violence across Syria in recent months has exacerbated health needs throughout the country, according to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO). Increasing numbers of IDPs, limited humanitarian access to deliver needed medical supplies, and shortages of qualified medical personnel are contributing to the deteriorating health situation. In addition, continuous disruptions to the health care system, combined with a lack of essential medicines, are increasing the risk of vaccine-preventable and other communicable disease outbreaks.
 - Between August 27 and September 3, a USAID/OFDA NGO partner provided more than 44,000 trauma care consultations, including more than 1,000 major and 1,600 minor surgeries, in addition to more than 17,000 primary health consultations across Syria's northern governorates. During the same period, the partner also provided counseling sessions and group activities in IDP camps on infant and young children feeding practices.
 - Since the beginning of the conflict, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$207.8 million to support emergency health care interventions in Syria, including nearly \$111.2 million in FY 2014 support.
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WASH

- The U.N. and ACAPS report that drought conditions, combined with damaged water infrastructure, overcrowded shelters, and frequent power disruptions due to ongoing conflict have resulted in water shortages and polluted water supplies across Syria. WHO notes that the current availability of safe drinking water in Syria is one-third the pre-crisis level and that the conflict has damaged or destroyed one-third of water treatment plants.
 - In August, ICRC worked closely with the SARC and local water boards across Syria on a variety of water infrastructure activities. The organizations repaired 11 water pumps in Al Qamishli, Al Hasakah Governorate, that provide water to more than 120,000 people; upgraded sanitation and water networks at Al Dweir shelter in Rif Damascus, home to more than 1,600 IDPs from the town of Adra; repaired pumping equipment at College City, Kesweh, Marounch, and Al Nabek water stations, which provide safe drinking water to more than 300,000 residents in Rif Damascus; and provided financial support and maintenance for SARC water trucking in the city of Dayr az Zawr, which provides safe drinking water to more than 15,000 people living in shelters across the city.
 - In late August and early September, a USAID/OFDA partner provided WASH services to 24 IDP camps, benefitting more than 74,000 people. The NGO also continues to chlorinate water in 10 towns in northern Syria, serving an estimated 628,000 people.
 - USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$27 million in FY 2014 to address emergency WASH needs in Syria. With USAID/OFDA assistance, partners have expanded access to safe drinking water and sanitation services, including through emergency repairs of water treatment plants, improved sanitation facilities and services, and hygiene promotion activities to encourage positive health practices, such as correct hand-washing and water-handling methods, among crisis-affected populations in Syria. Since the beginning of the conflict, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$60 million for emergency WASH activities throughout Syria.
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REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Regional

- On August 29, USG partner UNHCR reported that the number of people seeking refuge outside of Syria had surpassed 3 million—an increase of more than 1 million people from August 2013. UNHCR reports that most refugees fleeing Syria remain in neighboring countries, with the highest populations in Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey, and the growing number has increased the strain on the economies, infrastructure, and resources of hosting countries.
- The USG, through State/PRM, has provided more than \$1.3 billion to Syria and the region since the start of the Syrian conflict, including more than \$724 million in FY 2014, to meet the humanitarian needs of internally displaced populations in Syria, refugees, and other populations of concern in neighboring countries.

Egypt

- Over the past year, UNHCR and its implementing partners have provided emergency assistance to the more than 700 Syrians that the Egyptian government has temporarily detained for attempting to migrate to Europe. UNHCR's assistance to these Syrians, most of whom are women and children, includes food, blankets, and medical care.

Iraq

- Between August 16 and 31, UNHCR reported 23 new cases of Syrian refugee children facing protection challenges, including psychosocial distress, child labor, early marriage, attempted suicide, and physical violence, in Iraq's Domiz refugee camp. Child protection committees continue to identify issues affecting children in both camps and non-camp areas. UNHCR and its partners currently support 129 unaccompanied and separated children with case management services.
- Although UNHCR remains unable to access Iraq's Al-Obaidi refugee camp due to the volatile security situation, the agency's implementing partners continue to assist refugees residing in the camp. Partners are distributing emergency relief items UNHCR pre-positioned prior to ISIL advances in June. One of UNHCR's partners provides life-saving health services, treating more than 600 patients for acute, chronic, and mental health conditions.

Jordan

- A USG NGO partner is providing 6,100 children with informal learning opportunities through an education initiative managed in coordination with the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Ministry of Education, UNHCR, and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). The program, which began in mid-2013, targets Syrian children in Jordan's refugee camps who are not currently enrolled in school and aims to reintegrate the children into the formal education system. The NGO partner provides Syrian refugee children with a condensed three-month curriculum of Arabic, English, math, and science, in addition to a variety of recreational and psychosocial support activities.
- In early August, State/PRM partner UNRWA received the results of an evaluation conducted on its July cash distribution program. Beneficiaries reported using UNRWA cash assistance to cover the costs of shelter and food, with 71 percent of beneficiaries citing rent and 59 percent citing food as one of their top three expenditures with the money received. Beneficiaries reported a high level of satisfaction with UNRWA communications relating to cash assistance, with 97 percent of beneficiaries reporting that they were satisfied, whereas only 76 percent of the Palestinian refugees from Syria reported satisfaction with the previous method of cash distribution. UNRWA expects that satisfaction levels will further increase with the full shift to ATM-based cash programming.

Lebanon

- According to international media reports, the Government of Lebanon (GoL) plans to set up two camps for Syrian refugees along its border with Syria to accommodate approximately 20,000 refugees. The decision comes despite the GoL's long-held reservations to establish refugee camps along the border due to security concerns, according to reports. Lebanon, which has a population of approximately 4 million people, hosts more than 1.1 million refugees.
- In late August, UNHCR reported additional displacement resulting from clashes between armed groups and the Lebanese Armed Forces in the town of Aarsal, Lebanon, following clashes earlier in the month. U.N. agencies and NGOs jointly conducted a security assessment in the area on August 28, and GoL security officials reiterated that the situation remains volatile. Persistent insecurity since early August has hindered humanitarian assistance activities in Aarsal, and some humanitarian organizations previously providing services in Aarsal have suspended their programs and evacuated the area, according to UNHCR. The deteriorating security situation has resulted in the displacement of both Syrian refugees and Lebanese families in recent months.
- In collaboration with other humanitarian agencies, USG partner UNICEF conducted a nutrition screening campaign in May and June 2014 in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. The campaign screened Syrian refugee children living in informal settlements for malnutrition and referred malnourished and at-risk children for prevention counseling or treatment at primary health care facilities, as appropriate. UNICEF collaborated with NGO partners to select and train more than 50 screeners for the campaign.
- State/PRM partner UNRWA has recently developed a water scarcity plan to minimize the effects of water shortages in 12 Palestinian camps in Lebanon as the influx of Palestinian refugees from Syria continues to strain the water and sanitation infrastructure in the camps. The plan includes installing water-monitoring systems in wells to provide data on salinity rates, potential contamination, and water levels, as well as activities to address other urgent needs such as equipment replacement and leakage detection. UNRWA is currently working with partners to synchronize contingency schemes to reduce environmental health risks and plan for proper underground water use.

Turkey

- In the second half of August, IOM distributed emergency relief supplies to more than 250 Syrian households—nearly 3,000 people—living in Hatay Province, Turkey. The assistance included blankets, mattresses, pillows, bed covers and diapers. Among the 250 households, more than 100 were new arrivals to the province. IOM distributions target both new arrivals in areas where IOM has existing operations, as well as households previously determined to be in need of emergency relief items. Since the beginning of the crisis, more than 135,000 Syrians in Turkey have benefited from IOM's relief supply distributions.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The U.N.'s Syria Emergency Response Fund (ERF), created in March 2012, channels support to humanitarian partners to respond to the current crisis in Syria and support humanitarian activities in neighboring countries. As of September 1, the fund had allocated \$73 million to more than 200 projects—including more than \$17.7 million for WASH activities, \$14.5 million to support emergency shelters and relief commodities, and \$12.9 million for health programs—in Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon.

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.
- 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. On March 19, 2013, the SC established the Syrian Interim Government, which opposes the SARG and is based in decentralized locations throughout opposition-held areas of Syria.
- Shortly after its formation, the SC established the Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to coordinate humanitarian aid to Syria. The 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.
- The U.N. Security Council adopted UNSCR 2139 on February 22, 2014, pressing the SARG and other armed actors to allow unfettered humanitarian access for relief aid workers in Syria. The resolution identified priority areas for emergency relief aid, and the U.N. is releasing monthly reports tracking progress on implementing the resolution's objectives and access gains, as well as persistent access impediments.
- On July 14, 2014, the U.N. Security Council unanimously adopted UNSCR 2165, authorizing U.N. cross-border and cross-line delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations without SARG approval. The new resolution permits the U.N.'s use of four border crossings from Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq—in addition to other crossings already in use by U.N. agencies—for delivery of humanitarian assistance into Syria. The resolution also establishes a monitoring mechanism—under the authority of U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and with the consent of the neighboring countries—to ensure that deliveries across these border points contain only humanitarian items.
- Syria hosts approximately 540,000 Palestinian refugees, with more than 80 percent living in and around Damascus. Intense fighting in and around Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that almost all of the 540,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria are directly affected by the conflict and 270,000 are displaced inside the country. Some 80,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria have fled to neighboring countries. Syria also hosts an estimated 39,500 Iraqi refugees, primarily in the greater Damascus area.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
NGO Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$244,584,485
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,000,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Syria	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$24,500,000
U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management		\$3,000,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection	Syria	\$4,500,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,500,000
WHO	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$13,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs	Syria	\$2,448,863
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$298,033,348
USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$86,015,896
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$192,845,900
WFP	Regional EMOP	Egypt	\$18,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Iraq	\$10,500,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan	\$102,250,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Lebanon	\$102,750,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Turkey	\$28,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$541,361,796
STATE/PRM³			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon	\$43,800,000
IOM	Relief Commodities, Border Transport, Health	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$13,800,000
NGO Partners	Health, Protection, Education, WASH, Shelter, Psychosocial, Mental Health	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$70,780,865
UNFPA	Mental Health, Capacity Building, Protection	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$7,100,000
UNHCR	Protection, Camp Management, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, Education, Relief Commodities	Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Regional	\$371,400,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection, Health	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$115,600,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Syria, Jordan, Lebanon	\$101,900,000
WHO	Health	Turkey	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$724,780,865
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2014			\$1,564,176,009

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹

TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE	\$252,290,317
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE	\$383,353,221
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE	\$582,724,280
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013	\$1,218,367,818

USG 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 USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012	\$119,055,805

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014	\$2,901,599,632
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Approximately \$12.8 million in funding was committed in FY 2012 and obligated in FY 2013.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 12, 2014.

³ Total includes \$10 million announced in FY 2013 for obligation by State/PRM in FY 2014.

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.