



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

FEBRUARY 7, 2020

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

11.7 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
UN – January 2019

6.2 million

IDPs in Syria
UN – May 2019

4 million

People Reached per Month by USAID Assistance in Syria
USAID – December 2019

5.6 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – January 2020

3.6 million

Syrian Refugees in Turkey
UNHCR – January 2020

914,648

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
UNHCR – December 2019

654,692

Syrian Refugees in Jordan
UNHCR – January 2020

245,810

Syrian Refugees in Iraq
UNHCR – December 2019

438,000

Palestinian Refugees in Syria
UNRWA – June 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hostilities displace approximately 586,000 people in northwest Syria since December 1
- Humanitarian organizations suspend health care services at more than 50 facilities in northwest Syria during January
- Despite ongoing security concerns, relief actors continue to provide humanitarian aid to IDPs and other conflict-affected Syrians

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$1,950,692,988
USAID/FFP ²	\$3,287,437,637
State/PRM ³	\$5,260,812,775

\$10,498,943,400

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since December 1, Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) airstrikes, shelling, and a Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) ground offensive have displaced an estimated 586,000 people from and within southern Idlib Governorate and western Aleppo Governorate, including approximately 200,000 people displaced from January 26 to February 2 alone, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Relief actors note that a significant portion of newly displaced people in northwest Syria had previously been displaced by conflict in recent months, reflecting a trend of compounding primary, secondary, and tertiary displacements in the region.
- Hostilities continue to impact humanitarian services in northwest Syria, with heavy fighting resulting in the closure of more than 50 health facilities during the month of January, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports. In addition, an airstrike caused major structural damage to a hospital in Idlib on February 4, rendering it inoperable, according to relief actors.
- While ongoing hostilities pose significant safety and security challenges for humanitarian agencies in northwest Syria, USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, and State/PRM partners continue to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable populations. USG partners are distributing essential relief items, food, and winterization support to internally displaced persons (IDPs); supporting hospitals and mobile clinics serving conflict-affected populations; and providing shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to IDPs in camps and informal settlements across the region.

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)

INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

Northwest Syria

- Hostilities in northwest Syria, primarily in southern Idlib and western Aleppo governorates, continue to drive displacement and exacerbate humanitarian needs. Since December 1, shelling, airstrikes, and the SARG ground offensive have displaced an estimated 586,000 people from and within Aleppo and Idlib, the UN reports; many people have been displaced multiple times due to shifting conflict front lines. The total displaced includes approximately 200,000 people displaced over one week from January 26 to February 2, according to OCHA. Recent displacement compounds the already significant humanitarian needs in northwest Syria, where an estimated 400,000 people were displaced between late April and late August 2019 due to GoRF and SARG hostilities.
- In response to heightened humanitarian needs amid large-scale displacement, OCHA released the Northwest Syria Humanitarian Readiness and Response Plan on January 31, which requests additional funding to meet humanitarian needs through July. The plan requests \$336 million in funding, including approximately \$200 million to address the current funding gap and an additional \$136 million for contingency planning in anticipation of new displacement. OCHA's planning figure seeks to address the immediate needs of approximately 520,000 people displaced from December 1 to January 31, as well as an expected 280,000 people at imminent risk of displacement due to ongoing military operations in the northwest. The plan's priority activities include protection support, such as the facilitation of voluntary departures through safe routes away from hostilities; establishment of additional reception centers and shelters in and near camp locations; provision of food and non-food items; and winterization, WASH, and health care assistance.
- According to OCHA, the majority of populations displaced since December 1 moved to other areas within Idlib—including to Dana, Idlib, Maaret Tamsrin, and Salqin sub-districts—while an estimated 144,000 of the recently displaced individuals traveled to northern Aleppo, including to Government of Turkey-controlled Afrin, Azaz, Al Bab, and Jandairis sub-districts. The Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian CCCM activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—reports that nearly all newly displaced people are in need of basic relief items, while approximately 80 percent need shelter assistance and nearly 60 percent need food and cash assistance.
- The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates that an average of 6,500 children per day fled violence in northwest Syria from January 25 to February 1, bringing the total to more than 300,000 children displaced since early December. In addition, more than 75 percent of the approximately 900 children killed in Syria during 2019 were located in northwest Syria; the highest number of child casualties occurred in Idlib, according to UNICEF.
- On January 24, the SARG resumed a ground offensive in southern Idlib, rapidly taking control of multiple villages near the governorate's Ma'arrat An-Nu'man city and subsequently seizing the city on January 28, according to international media. Populations displaced either by direct hostilities or in anticipation of hostilities fled northward, further exacerbating stressed housing conditions in urban areas, as well as shelter conditions in IDP camps and informal settlements near the Syria-Turkey border, USAID partners report.
- From January 1 to February 6, airstrikes and ground hostilities resulted in the deaths of more than 180 civilians in Aleppo and Idlib, including approximately 60 children, OCHA reports, adding to the more than 1,500 civilian deaths verified since military escalations began in late April 2019. Humanitarian organizations are attempting to facilitate voluntary relocation of civilians from conflict areas; on January 25, NGOs helped relocate approximately 1,800 civilians to areas under less imminent threat from hostilities, the UN reports.
- Winter weather conditions have further exacerbated IDP and host community vulnerabilities; on January 31, flooding affected approximately 50 households in Idlib's Armanaz sub-district, and a windstorm damaged areas of Atma, Dana, Hazzano, and Jisr Ash Shugur sub-districts, affecting more than 470 households.

Northeast Syria

- As of mid-December, nearly 70,600 people remained displaced from and within Aleppo, Al Hasakah, and Ar Raqqa governorates as a result of hostilities in northeast Syria during October. An additional 90,000 people remain at IDP camps due to earlier displacements, including more than 66,100 people in Al Hasakah's Al Hol camp as of mid-January, the UN reports. According to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), nearly 20,000 Syrian refugees crossed into Iraq from northeast Syria between October 9 and January 27.

HEALTH

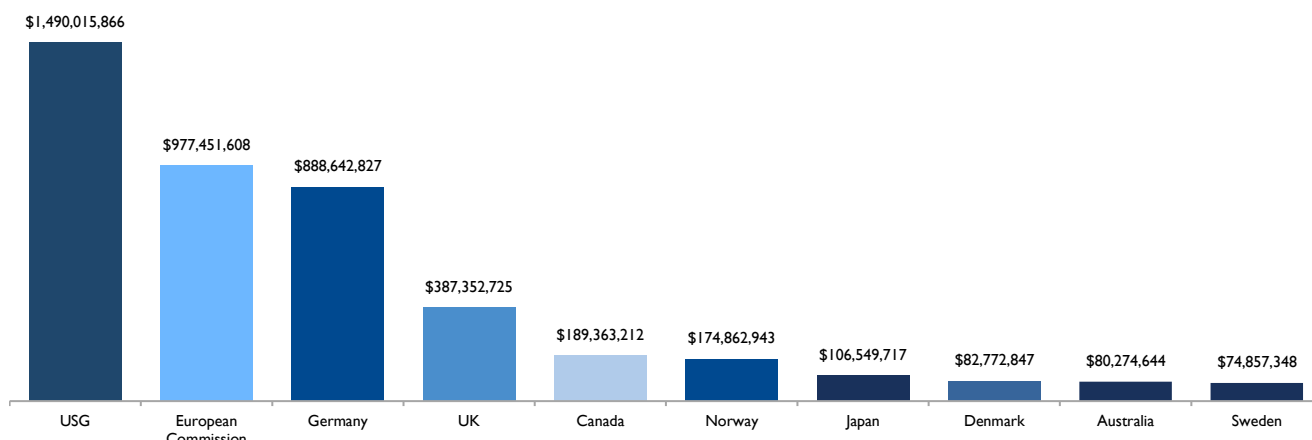
- Hostilities continue to have a devastating impact on civilian infrastructure, including recent attacks on health care facilities in Aleppo and Idlib. During 2019, the UN confirmed 85 attacks on health care facilities and health personnel across Syria, including attacks in Aleppo, Hama, Al Hasakah, Idlib, and Ar Raqqa governorates. Cumulatively, from January 1 to December 31, the attacks killed 54 people, injured more than 100 people, and affected at least 61 health facilities, five of which were attacked twice. The figures represent an ongoing toll; in 2018, the UN reported more than 140 attacks, which killed 102 people and injured nearly 190 others.
- According to WHO, relief actors suspended services at approximately 53 health facilities in northwest Syria during January, citing insecurity and shifting population movements as civilians fled hostilities. WHO estimates that more than 2.9 million people in northwest Syria are in need of health care services, which are already limited by access constraints and a lack of basic medical supplies. On average, WHO and its partners reach approximately 800,000 people per month with health care services in northwest Syria, the UN agency reports. Additional USAID partners and relief agencies continue to provide health assistance in affected areas.
- On February 4, an airstrike hit Idlib's Sarmin Health Facility, causing major structural damage and rendering the facility inoperable, relief agencies report. As of February 2, the center had operated on an emergency basis and completed a partial evacuation due to nearby hostilities; the center had provided an average of approximately 4,250 health care services to nearly 3,800 beneficiaries each month. The facility was part of the UN-led deconfliction mechanism, which is meant to protect civilian infrastructure—including health facilities, schools, and warehouses—from GoRF and SARG hostilities. In addition, OCHA reported airstrike damage to a primary health care center in Aleppo's Anadan town on February 6; to Idlib's Al Hikma Hospital and Al Nour Hospital in Teftnaz town on February 5; to Idlib's Ariha Central Hospital on January 30; and to Idlib's Al Iman Hospital in Sarja town on January 26, resulting in facility closures and damage to limited medical supplies.

WASH

- From early December to mid-January, approximately 101,100 IDPs arrived at camps supported by a USAID/OFDA partner in northern Idlib, with approximately 90 percent—or an estimated 90,800 new IDPs—in Dana sub-district, followed by approximately 9,300 arrivals in Darkoush and 1,000 arrivals in Bidama, the UN reports. The USAID/OFDA partner provides shelter and WASH support at approximately 160 camps and settlements across the three sub-districts. Despite logistical challenges posed by new arrivals, the USAID/OFDA partner bolstered services to camp populations in December, providing safe drinking water to more than 180,000 people through water trucking, pumping, and network maintenance, and delivering more than 15,600 shelter insulation kits and approximately 4,800 shelter tool kits to camp residents. The USAID/OFDA partner also conducted hygiene promotion, latrine maintenance and desludging, and water purification and testing activities across the camps during the month. USAID/OFDA partners continue to provide WASH support countrywide, including through the distribution of hygiene kits.

2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of December 31, 2019. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2019 calendar year, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect publicly announced USG funding for FY 2019, which runs from October 1, 2018, to September 30, 2019.

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, SARG 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 (AOGs) 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. The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. On March 19, 2013, the Syrian Coalition established the Syrian Interim Government, which opposes the SARG and is based in decentralized locations throughout AOG-held areas of Syria.
- On January 10, 2020, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted UNSC Resolution 2504, authorizing UN cross-border and cross-line delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations in Syria. The resolution permits the UN’s use of two border crossings from Turkey for the delivery of humanitarian assistance into Syria for six months, expiring in July 2020. The resolution is a partial renewal of previous cross-border aid resolutions, beginning with UNSC Resolution 2165 on July 14, 2014, which had authorized four border crossings from Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq.
- UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) estimates approximately 438,000 Palestinian refugees remain in Syria, representing a decrease from the 560,000 people registered with UNRWA prior to the conflict. Intense fighting in and around some Palestinian camps and neighborhoods has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. Syria also hosts an estimated 34,000 Iraqi refugees and asylum seekers, as well as more than 3,200 refugee persons of concern from other countries.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
NGO Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$178,211,423
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	HCIM, Health, Shelter and Settlements	Syria	\$3,001,725
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, HCIM, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$20,187,224
OCHA	HCIM	Syria	\$4,625,000
UNICEF	HCIM, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$19,000,000
UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	HCIM	Syria	\$997,229
WHO	Health	Syria	\$20,825,517
	Program Support	Syria	\$3,094,005
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$249,942,123
USAID/FFP			
NGO Partners	Cash Transfers for Food; ERMS; Food Vouchers; Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Complementary Services	Syria	\$155,388,486
IOM	LRIP	Syria	3,015,000
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, LRIP, Nutrition, Complementary Services	Syria	\$120,000,000
WFP	Food Vouchers	Egypt	\$18,000,000
WFP	Food Vouchers	Iraq	\$6,000,000
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Jordan	\$74,000,000
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Lebanon	\$86,000,000
WFP	Food Vouchers	Turkey	\$13,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$475,403,486
STATE/PRM			
NGO Partners	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance, Shelter, WASH	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$95,147,597
Implementing Partner (IP)	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Health, Protection, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$60,100,000
IOM	Border Transport, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities	Iraq, Jordan, Turkey	\$15,600,000
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Jordan	\$2,222,660
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Livelihoods, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$2,000,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Region	\$413,900,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, GBV Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey	\$173,200,000
WHO	Health	Iraq	\$2,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$764,670,257
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$1,490,015,866

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding reflects publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2019.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2019

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$1,950,692,988
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING	\$3,287,437,637
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$5,260,812,775
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2019	\$10,498,943,400

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.
- 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:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - 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>