



# SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #17, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

JUNE 7, 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

**1.6 million**

Syrians Displaced to Neighboring Countries  
Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – June 2013

**472,631**

Syrian Refugees in Jordan  
UNHCR – June 2013

**511,418**

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon  
UNHCR – June 2013

**376,640**

Syrian Refugees in Turkey  
UNHCR – June 2013

**155,139**

Syrian Refugees in Iraq  
UNHCR – June 2013

**77,169**

Syrian Refugees in Egypt  
UNHCR – June 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Clashes in Al Qusayr result in elevated needs and displacement in the area
- U.N. releases revised appeals requesting \$5.2 billion—the largest in U.N. history
- Refugee flows into Jordan decrease in May

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

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$79,696,239
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$145,515,020
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$288,759,100
<b>\$513,970,359</b>	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In late May and early June, intense clashes between opposition fighters and forces allied with the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) took place in the town of Al Qusayr, located approximately six miles west of the Syria–Lebanon border in Homs Governorate. The fighting sharply reduced humanitarian access, trapping at least 1,500 injured civilians in the area, according to the U.N. As clashes subsided, thousands of civilians reportedly fled to the neighboring towns of Buaydah and Hasiyah.
- On June 7, the U.N. launched the revised Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan and Syria Regional Response Plan in Geneva, Switzerland. Combined, the revised appeals request \$5.2 billion for humanitarian programming inside Syria and across the region through December 2013. The request includes \$830 million for refugee support for the governments of Jordan and Lebanon. The revision represents an increase from the original \$1.6 billion request for the combined appeals—the largest in U.N. history—launched in January 2013. As revisions apply to the outstanding appeals, donor contributions thus far in 2013 will count toward the total revised appeals request. The U.N. estimates that more than 10.2 million Syrians in Syria and across the region will be in need of assistance by the end of 2013.
- On June 4, the U.N. Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria released a report stating that there are reasonable grounds to believe that chemical weapons have been used in Syria. However, the Commission was unable to determine the precise agents, delivery systems, and perpetrators of the weapons and noted that the SARG, SARG-affiliated militia, and anti-SARG armed groups have all committed war crimes and endangered civilians in the pursuit of military objectives. The Commission based its findings on interviews, photographs, and medical records.
- In May, refugee flows into Jordan decreased dramatically due to tighter border controls, leaving several thousand displaced people waiting at border areas to enter the country.

<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)

## HEALTH, WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

- The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reports that Syria's deteriorating health sector, high levels of internal and external displacement—with the displaced often experiencing overcrowded, unsanitary conditions—and warming weather raise the risk of enhanced disease transmission in Syria and neighboring countries.
- At least 35 percent of the country's public hospitals are no longer functional, and in some insecure governorates, up to 70 percent of qualified medical personnel have fled, WHO reports. In addition, vaccination campaigns have not proceeded as needed, resulting in the reappearance of vaccine-preventable diseases.
- WHO anticipates an increased risk of waterborne diseases such as hepatitis, typhoid, and dysentery in the coming months. In addition, cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis—a disease transmitted by the bite of the sand-fly—have been on the rise since 2012 due to incomplete vector-control campaigns, including in areas where the disease was previously unreported.
- In response to these heightened disease risks, WHO and its partners—with support from the USG—are monitoring and developing early warning systems, pre-positioning outbreak treatment and response supplies, and conducting mass vaccination campaigns both inside Syria and in neighboring countries. Since 2012, USG-supported health interventions have assisted more than 2.2 million people in Syria, including 658,000 children who have received vaccinations from USG partners.
- Through non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, the USG is providing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support to vulnerable populations, including IDPs, across the country. WASH assistance to northern Syria includes hygiene awareness promotion activities, the rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation systems, and distribution of hygiene kits.
- The insecurity in Al Qusayr has impaired operations at a major water pumping station serving 65 towns and cities in Homs and Hamah governorates, according to USG partner the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). UNICEF is working to provide emergency power to restore the water supply and delivery of safe drinking water to areas hosting IDPs.

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## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS & CROSS-LINE ASSISTANCE

- Security conditions in Syria remain volatile, and humanitarian agencies frequently face restricted access to populations in need of assistance. Despite these constraints, the U.N. has dispatched 14 interagency convoys in Syria since the end of January 2013, reaching hard-to-access areas such as Homs, Idlib, Aleppo, and Dayr az Zawr governorates with vaccinations, food, medical assistance, and basic relief commodities.
- Humanitarian actors are working to secure access to Al Qusayr, where needs are reportedly very high. On June 1, U.N. Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issued statements expressing alarm at the escalating violence in the Al Qusayr and entreated all involved parties to cease hostilities and permit civilians to move to safer areas.
- During a two-day lull in fighting in the Al Wa'er suburb of Homs in late May, UNHCR delivered relief items for more than 10,000 people and distributed blankets, mattresses, and household items to 200 families displaced to the city of Homs. Two additional relief trucks carrying 3,000 hygiene kits turned back due to insecurity.
- Al Wa'er is home to 400,000 people, half of whom were displaced from other areas of Homs Governorate, primarily Baba Amr and the old city of Homs. UNHCR is pre-positioning relief items in other locations in Homs Governorate as a contingency measure for the area.
- The recent fighting in Al Wa'er seriously damaged at least five IDP shelters, displacing approximately 5,000 people, many of whom have been displaced multiple times. On May 26, a UNHCR team visited one of the IDP shelters in Al Wa'er hosting 2,100 individuals and observed minimal sanitation, little water, and no electricity. Food and medicine were in short supply, and the team identified a need for mattresses, blankets, and hygiene kits.
- In addition, UNICEF reports that IDP children from Al Wa'er in Tartus Governorate have displayed symptoms of severe psychological distress.

## FOOD SECURITY

- Consolidated monitoring and evaluation assessment data from the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) indicate that the unavailability of cooking gas, high bread prices—which had quadrupled by March 2013—as well as insufficient bakery production capacity in some IDP-hosting areas and generally volatile conditions are contributing to continued food insecurity and poor nutrition in Syria. While conditions vary widely by governorate, WFP reported in May that 75 percent of individuals surveyed during the first quarter of 2013 had no source of income and were consuming two or fewer meals per day.
- To date in FY 2013, the USG has provided more than \$98.5 million to WFP and NGO partners for emergency food assistance for Syrians across all 14 governorates of Syria and those displaced throughout the region.

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## POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

### *Internal Displacement*

- Tartus Governorate has recently experienced an influx of IDPs, the majority from Aleppo and Homs governorates, many of whom are facing significant WASH needs. To date, the humanitarian community has established 21 shelter spaces for the IDPs.
- Of the 40,000 people displaced due to fighting in Al Qusayr, approximately 7,000 have remained in the nearby town of Hasiya, while others have been displaced to Buaydah or continued to move further outside of the area in the search of safer locations, according to the U.N.

### *External Displacement*

- As of June 6, an estimated 1.6 million Syrian refugees resided in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt. Due to the scale and rapidly changing nature of the situation, UNHCR has reported data entry challenges, but that registration remains critical for ensuring refugee protection and the delivery of life-saving assistance.
- Increased fighting in recent weeks and shifting lines of control across Syria have resulted in increased outflows to neighboring countries, according to UNHCR. The majority of Syrian refugees live in urban environments rather than refugee camps.
- On June 6, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched the revision of its existing appeal, increasing its funding request to assist Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq from approximately \$5 million to \$29.6 million. Revisions to additional appeals are expected later this month.

### **Turkey**

- As of June 5, more than 376,000 Syrian refugees were registered or waiting to be registered in Turkey, representing a 150 percent increase from the number of those registered refugees in Turkey at the beginning of 2013. The Government of Turkey (GoT) estimates that at least 400,000 Syrians are present countrywide.
- The GoT officially announced that the Coordination Center in Sanliurfa Province is now open and registering non-camp Syrians as refugees. By May 24, nearly 1,900 Syrians had been registered and issued individual identification cards, enabling them to access free medical services. To facilitate increased registration, local authorities plan to open branch offices in every town of the province.
- In late May, IFRC released a revised emergency appeal for Turkey requesting approximately \$45.9 million in cash, in-kind items, or services, and extends the timeframe of the operation by an additional four months—through December 31, 2013—to provide assistance for up to 225,000 beneficiaries in 17 refugee camps in Turkey. The Turkish Red Crescent is a member of the IFRC and is responsible for implementing the program. The revised appeal shifts the focus of the funding to mid-term relief support, and funding will support non-food item distributions, including blankets, mattresses, bedding, kitchen sets, stoves, heaters, and electric fans.

## Lebanon

- Hosting more than 511,000 Syrian refugees, Lebanon continues to be the largest Syrian refugee-receiving country in the region. Recent fighting near the Syria–Lebanon border, however, has increased tensions across North and Bekaa governorates in Lebanon, challenging humanitarian assistance efforts and potentially limiting humanitarian access.
- Despite these challenges, humanitarian organizations continue to provide assistance to refugees in Lebanon living in and outside of camps. Approximately 12,000 refugees benefited from shelter assistance interventions in May, and more than 334,000 individuals received hygiene kits, according to the U.N.
- Recent Government of Lebanon statements indicate that President Michel Sleiman is considering placing restrictions on Syrian refugee arrivals to the country, according to local media outlets. Officials from UNHCR noted that restrictions would likely prove difficult to implement due to Lebanon’s long and largely unmarked border with Syria.
- UNICEF is providing assistance to vulnerable refugees in Lebanon, including those living in informal settlements, many of which are located in the Bekaa Valley. At the Tal Al Abiad tented settlement, UNICEF is addressing WASH needs through the delivery and installation of 94 1,000-liter water tanks, benefitting more than 1,000 people. UNICEF has also installed 20 latrines, and is in the process of installing 40 more. To address health needs, UNICEF supports six mobile medical teams which are active in 12 tented settlements in the towns of Baalbek and Hermel. To date, the USG has provided \$28 million to UNICEF for refugee assistance in Syria’s neighboring countries.

## Jordan

- Following a week of dramatically decreased numbers of Syrian refugees crossing into Jordan between May 18 and May 23, new arrivals continue, though the number of new arrivals is lower than in previous months, according to the U.N.
- UNHCR cash assistance for Syrian refugees in urban areas of Jordan began in March, and UNHCR and its partners have identified more than 14,000 families as eligible. UNHCR dispersed approximately \$1.3 million in April to 10,415 families in Jordan and plans to reach 12,000 vulnerable families by the end of the year.
- UNHCR has registered more than 170,000 people in the Za’atri refugee camp, although refugees frequently leave the camp after being registered. The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has authorized the construction of a camp near the town of Azraq in northeast Jordan, and U.N. and NGO partners are working to complete construction on the camp, which is expected to have the capacity to host more than 100,000 people by the end of 2013.

## Iraq

- As of June 2, more than 7,000 Syrian refugees in the Al-Qaim area of Iraq had returned to the Syrian border town of Abu Kamal due to improved security conditions in recent weeks, according to international media outlets. The reverse flow coincides with reduced offensives by the SARG military in the area.
- In May, UNHCR launched a cash assistance pilot project targeting approximately 700 extremely vulnerable Syrian refugee families living in urban communities in the Kurdistan Region. UNHCR and partners are verifying vulnerabilities and assessing education, livelihood prospects, and medical needs through home visits.

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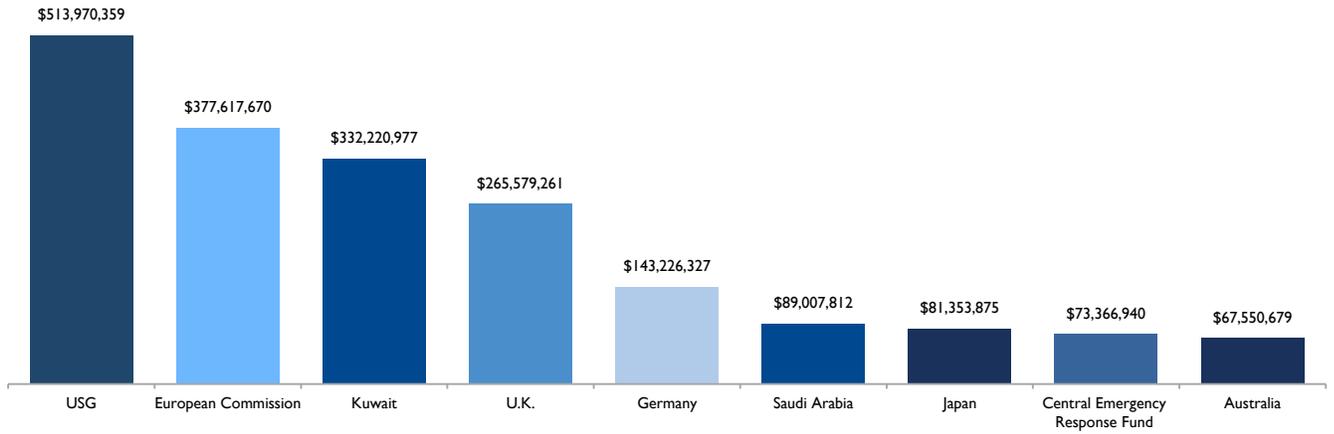
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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On June 6, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso announced that the E.U. plans to provide an additional €400 million—approximately \$523 million—in aid for Syria and neighboring countries. The funding package will include humanitarian assistance and non-humanitarian budgetary and development support for countries hosting large numbers of Syrian refugees.

# SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES 2012 AND 2013 TOTAL FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of June 7, 2013. All international figures are according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (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 are not yet reflected in OCHA's figures.

## CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the Syrian government 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 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 in Aleppo, Damascus, and Dar'a governorates has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) estimates that more than 420,000 Palestinian refugees are directly affected by the conflict. Syria also hosts approximately 63,000 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>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
NGO Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$48,865,457
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$6,000,000
U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health	Syria	\$400,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$2,000,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$2,000,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$734,918
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$60,000,375</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operations (EMOP)	Syria	\$46,246,300
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt	\$29,700,100
NGO Partners	Food Assistance	Syria	\$22,568,620
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$98,515,020</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ICRC	Health, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH, Capacity Building	Syria	\$11,000,000
IFRC	Winterization, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$2,100,000
International Organization for Migration	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	\$145,137,000
UNHCR	Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Health, WASH	Syria	\$19,170,000
UNICEF	Education, WASH, Child Protection	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq	\$26,000,000
UNRWA	Food, Health, Education, Relief Commodities, Shelter, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon	\$3,800,000
UNRWA	Food, Relief Commodities, Health, Education, WASH	Syria	\$17,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$236,399,159</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013</b>			<b>\$394,914,554</b>

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

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
IFRC	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$12,965,409
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$500,000
U.N. Department of Safety and Security	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Syria	\$300,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection	Syria	\$1,750,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Syria	\$1,500,000
WHO	Health	Syria	\$1,300,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$380,455
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$19,695,864</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
WFP	Syria EMOP	Syria	\$32,300,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq	\$14,700,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$47,000,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
ICRC	Emergency Medical Care, Food, and Relief Items	Syria	\$8,000,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Turkey	\$500,000
NGO Partners	Health, Psychosocial, Protection, and Shelter Assistance	Jordan and Lebanon	\$2,999,941
UNHCR	Assistance for IDPs through Syria Humanitarian Response Plan	Syria	\$8,360,000
UNHCR	Support for the Regional Response Plan	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq	\$19,500,000
UNICEF	WASH and Protection	Jordan	\$2,000,000
UNRWA	Support for Palestinian Refugees in the Region	Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon	\$11,000,000
<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>\$513,970,359</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of June 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 response efforts in Syria 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).

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>