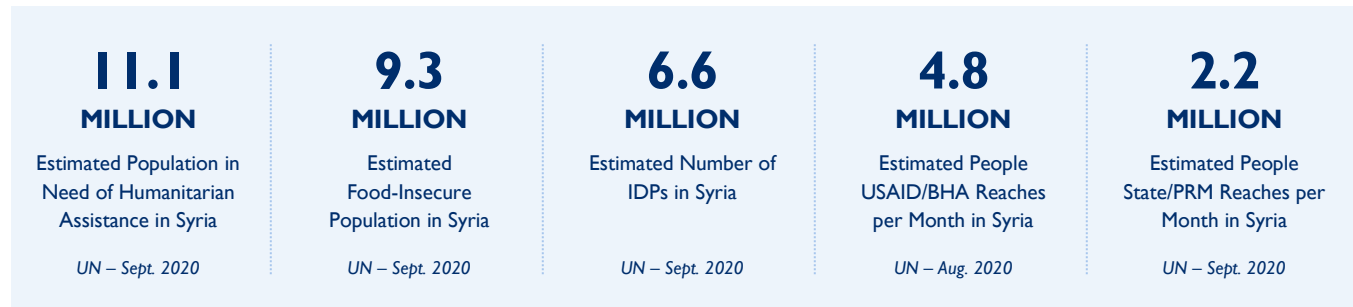


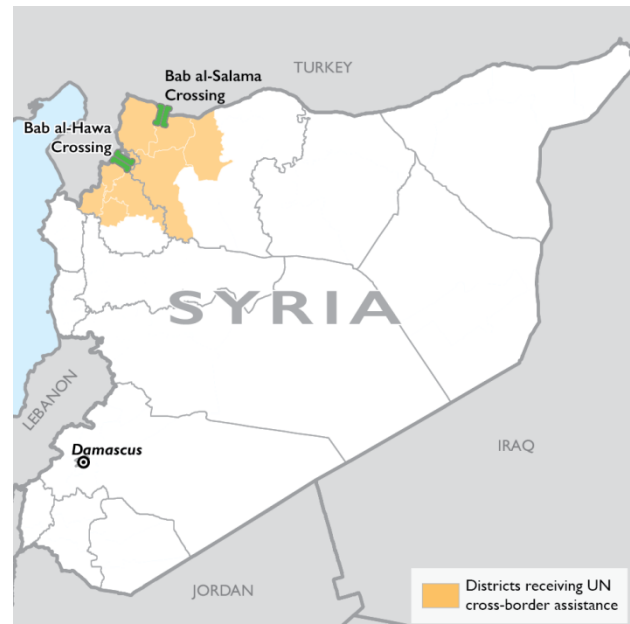
Syria – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Relief agencies report rising food insecurity countrywide amid protracted large-scale displacement and deteriorating economic conditions, further compounded by COVID-19-related challenges; wheat and fuel shortages exacerbate needs in southern and central Syria.
- As Syria's COVID-19 outbreak worsens, health actors warn that actual caseloads are likely far higher than confirmed cases due to lack of testing and surveillance capacity.
- Despite continued insecurity and reduced cross-border access in recent months, USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to provide life-saving food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2020	USAID/BHA ^{1,2}	\$6,153,700,050
	State/PRM ³	\$6,050,511,437
Total		\$12,204,211,487⁴

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² Total USAID/BHA funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace.

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ Total includes supplemental FY 2020 funding through USAID/BHA and State/PRM for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) preparedness and response activities.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Food Insecurity Increases in Northwest and Southern Syria

Food insecurity worsened across Syria during the month of September, with deteriorating economic conditions—including rising fuel costs and low wages, combined with the ongoing depreciation of the Syrian pound—contributing to escalating food prices and insufficient access to food. According to an assessment by USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP), more than half of surveyed households in September reported inadequate food consumption levels—a more than 25 percent increase since August and approximately double the level reported in September 2019. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees were among the worst affected, according to the assessment.

Food insecurity remains highest in northwest Syria's Aleppo Governorate, where large-scale internal displacement, economic decline, and the spread of COVID-19 contributed to inadequate food consumption among 57 percent of households included in the WFP survey. A separate assessment conducted by the REACH Initiative in September identified bread, rice, and sugar as the most critical food needs among populations in northwest Syria and cited lack of transportation to markets and high costs of essential food items as the primary barriers to accessing food among IDPs and other vulnerable populations. As of September, a total of 4.3 million people in northwest Syria require food security and livelihood assistance, including 3.7 million food-insecure people and an estimated 615,000 people at risk of food insecurity, according to the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security and livelihoods activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders, including USAID/BHA partners.

In central and southern Syria, relief actors report that insufficient wheat quantities have resulted in bread shortages, particularly in Dar'a, Damascus, and Rif Damascus governorates. As of late September, WFP reported hours-long lines at subsidized bakeries in Rif Damascus, as well as closures or reduced operations of many bakeries in Dar'a. Severe fuel shortages in recent months have also adversely affected commercial activities—including bakeries—countrywide, worsening food security and livelihood conditions. Across Syria, 9.3 million people remain food-insecure while another 2.2 million are at risk of food insecurity, WFP reports.

UN Continues Cross-Border Assistance in Northwest Syria

Despite a reduction in cross-border access in 2020, UN organizations are continuing efforts to address severe humanitarian needs in northwest Syria through cross-border operations. During September, 845 trucks transported UN humanitarian commodities into northwest Syria through Turkey's Bab al-Hawa crossing, the UN reports. The supplies reached an estimated 1.9 million people with food supplies and livelihood support, approximately 900,000 people with health assistance, and an estimated 5,100 people with basic household items or shelter support. Since the start of UN cross-border authorization in July 2014, more than 41,000 trucks have transported UN commodities from neighboring countries to vulnerable populations in Syria, including approximately 36,000 trucks from Turkey.

Bab al-Hawa is the sole remaining UN Security Council (UNSC)-authorized crossing into Syria, following a July UNSC vote that removed authorization for the Bab al-Salama crossing between Turkey and northern Aleppo and a January UNSC vote that removed authorization for two crossings from Iraq and Jordan. Due to the loss of Bab al-Salama, UN agencies must use Bab al-Hawa—which enters Syria through northern Idlib Governorate—to reach approximately 2.8 million people in northwest Syria, including an estimated 1.3 million people in need in northern Aleppo previously reached through Bab al-Salama. Humanitarian actors continue to report a need for urgent road repairs along the route from

Bab al-Hawa to northern Aleppo to ensure humanitarian access through winter, when road conditions are expected to further degrade. In other areas of Syria where cross-border access has lapsed entirely during the past year, UN agencies must rely on cross-line access from Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-controlled areas.

Health Actors Face Challenges Amid Growing COVID-19 Outbreak

Health actors continue to express concern regarding the spread of COVID-19 in Syria following a six-fold increase in confirmed cases countrywide between early August and late September. Although COVID-19 caseload figures appear low compared to other countries in the region, the UN notes that the number of cases is likely higher than reported figures due to several factors, including unknown or untraced exposure among more than 90 percent of positive cases, contact tracing challenges in IDP camps and remote communities, individuals' reluctance to visit health facilities, and social stigma. COVID-19 also continues to strain Syria's already limited health infrastructure, which was only 50 percent operational prior to the pandemic, according to the UN.

The risk of COVID-19 transmission remains particularly high in camps and other crowded settings. Relief agencies recorded several confirmed COVID-19 cases—including among health workers—at multiple camps in September, prompting relief actors to expand COVID-19 identification and screening efforts. However, significant challenges to addressing COVID-19 remain, notably the inability to effectively isolate suspected and confirmed cases among individuals living in crowded settings, the UN reports. Other factors contributing to the heightened transmission risk in camps include a lack of entry screening procedures, low contact tracing capacity, poor adherence to preventive measures, underreporting of symptoms among camp populations, and limited infrastructure and resources to allow for physical distancing, especially in communal facilities and gathering points.

KEY FIGURES



5.9 Million

Number of People
USAID/BHA Reaches
With Monthly Food
Assistance in Syria and
Neighboring Countries



5 Million

Number of People
Reached by USAID/BHA-
Supported Health
Assistance During
FY 2020

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and 15 NGOs to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable populations within Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. Within Syria, USAID/BHA partners provide monthly food rations, such as beans, bread, canned goods, grains, and oil; wheat flour and yeast to bakeries; food vouchers; cash for food; and emergency nutritional products. USAID/BHA-funded assistance also supports the provision of food vouchers, cash for food, and emergency nutrition for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. WFP and USAID/BHA-funded NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to more than 5.9 million Syrians, including more than 4.8 million people inside Syria and 1.1 million refugees across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 10 partners, including UNICEF, to provide life-saving health assistance in Syria. USAID/BHA-supported activities include community-based health education, direct health care services through

mobile medical units, provision of equipment for health care facilities, and training for Syrian medical workers. Additionally, USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF and three NGOs to bolster COVID-19 health response capacity in Syria by establishing primary health care services in areas with limited health infrastructure, providing equipment to intensive care units and isolation facilities, and promoting effective infection prevention and control practices. USAID/BHA partners have also adapted programming to incorporate physical distancing and are disseminating public health and prevention messaging as part of COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides medical consultations and facilitates community-based health programming at 23 community center clinics and 11 UNHCR-run primary health care facilities in Syria. From January to August 2020, these UNHCR centers provided medical consultations to nearly 148,000 individuals and coordinated community-based health programs for more than 51,000 individuals. UNHCR is also working to provide personal protective equipment and sanitation supplies to community centers, distribution sites, and health facilities in Syria.



12

Number of USAID/BHA partners providing critical WASH assistance in Syria

WASH

USAID/BHA supports 10 NGO partners, as well as IOM and UNICEF, to provide water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance in Syria. USAID/BHA partners distribute essential hygiene items to vulnerable populations and enhance WASH facilities by rehabilitating small-scale sanitation and water systems, such as latrines and handwashing stations, in displacement camps and informal settlements. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners increase access to safe drinking water through emergency water trucking and the distribution of water storage tanks and water treatment devices. Further, USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF and four NGOs to bolster COVID-19 response capacity in Syria by increasing water trucking frequency to provide additional water for handwashing and cleaning and distributing additional soap and other WASH commodities to beneficiaries.



693,000

Number of People Reached by State/PRM-Supported Protection Assistance in Syria From January to July 2020

PROTECTION

State/PRM partner UNHCR identifies protection cases, provides referrals to legal aid services, and facilitates community-based protection interventions for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians. With State/PRM support, UNHCR also conducts psychosocial support sessions and awareness-raising sessions on civil status documentation and housing, land, and property issues; legal counseling and assistance; case management; and referrals. UNHCR manages more than 100 community centers countrywide and has trained more than 2,700 outreach volunteers on protection issues. From January to August 2020, UNHCR provided protection services to more than 693,000 people across Syria.

USAID/BHA's 13 protection partners, including UNICEF, provide

psychosocial support, learning and recreational opportunities, and case management and referral services for children at high risk of exploitation and abuse. USAID/BHA also supports safe spaces for women and girls, as well as medical supplies and specialized training for health staff to provide appropriate care for survivors of gender-based violence, throughout Syria.



1.6 Million

Number of People Reached by State/PRM-Supported Relief Commodities in Northwest Syria From January to July 2020

SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports 13 partners, including IOM and UNICEF, to distribute shelter materials and basic household items and conduct shelter rehabilitation activities in Syria. In advance of and during the winter season, USAID/BHA partners distribute emergency shelter and relief items such as blankets, fuel, kitchen sets, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, tents, and winter clothing. Additionally, in northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners establish and maintain IDP camps, rehabilitate existing IDP camps and collective centers, and distribute emergency shelter items.

Further, State/PRM support to UNHCR facilitates the distribution of relief commodity kits, hygiene kits, and tents to IDPs and host community members in Syria. From January to August 2020, UNHCR's cross-border assistance reached approximately 1.6 million people with relief commodities and 860,000 people with shelter assistance in northwest Syria. Across the country, UNHCR and partners reached nearly 2.5 million people with core relief commodities and more than 1 million people with shelter assistance.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against SARG in March 2011, SARG President Bashar al-Assad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Assad responded to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate. The escalation in conflict has led to widespread displacement and a humanitarian crisis within Syria and the region. Hostilities continue to date, as shifting frontlines and areas of control force IDPs into smaller and more congested areas, exacerbating humanitarian needs.

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 opposition-held areas of Syria. During 2014, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) captured significant areas of Syria, adding additional complexity to the multi-actor conflict. In March 2019, the Syrian Democratic Forces announced the capture of the last ISIS strongholds in Syria.

On July 11, 2020, the UNSC adopted UNSC Resolution 2533, 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 Turkey's Bab al-Hawa crossing for the delivery of humanitarian assistance into Syria for one year, expiring in July 2021. 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.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2020 ¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
SYRIA			
USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM); Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Monitoring and Evaluation; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$197,748,574
IOM	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$19,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	HCIM	Syria	\$4,000,000
UNICEF	HCIM, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH,	Syria	\$12,251,803

UN World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Syria	\$18,000,000
Program Support		Syria	\$1,010,552
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2020			\$252,010,929
Food Assistance ²			
Implementing Partners	Cash Transfers for Food; Food Vouchers; Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Complementary Services; HCIM	Syria	\$190,264,015
WFP	Food Vouchers, LRIP, Nutrition, Complementary Services	Syria	\$235,000,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2020			\$425,264,015
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2020			\$677,274,944
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Emergency Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$37,200,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$104,910,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2020			\$142,110,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2020			\$819,384,944

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2020

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Food Assistance			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Egypt	\$20,500,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT IN FY 2020			\$20,500,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Child Protection, Education, Health, Mental Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance	Egypt	\$1,772,905
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities	Egypt	\$12,410,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Nutrition, Youth Programs	Egypt	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN EGYPT IN FY 2020			\$16,182,905
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2020			\$36,682,905
USAID/BHA			

Food Assistance			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Iraq	\$9,452,496
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN IRAQ IN FY 2020			\$9,452,496
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Gender-Based Violence Protection, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance, WASH	Iraq	\$11,914,051
IOM	Durable Solutions, Education, Information Coordination, Livelihoods, Social Cohesion	Iraq	\$1,838,609
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$35,810,000
UNICEF	Child Protection, Education, Nutrition, WASH	Iraq	\$1,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN IRAQ IN FY 2020			\$51,162,660
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN IRAQ IN FY 2020			\$60,615,156
USAID/BHA			
Food Assistance			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Jordan	\$63,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN IN FY 2020			\$63,000,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Health, Protection, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$24,454,419
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Jordan	\$2,491,223
IOM	Cash-Based Programming, Transportation	Jordan	\$3,500,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$66,080,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Jordan	\$25,540,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN JORDAN IN FY 2020			\$122,065,642
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2020			\$185,065,642
USAID/BHA			
Food Assistance			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Lebanon	\$80,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON IN FY 2020			\$80,000,000
STATE/PRM			

Implementing Partners	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Protection, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$31,713,855
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$117,700,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Lebanon	\$78,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN LEBANON IN FY 2020			\$227,513,855
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2020			\$307,513,855
USAID/BHA			
Food Assistance			
WFP	Food Vouchers	Turkey	\$8,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TURKEY IN FY 2020			\$8,000,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Turkey	\$29,982,393
ILO	Livelihoods	Turkey	\$9,345,508
IOM	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Psychosocial Support, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Turkey	\$11,200,000
UNHCR	Capacity Building, Cash-Based Programming, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Turkey	\$55,620,000
UNICEF	Cash-Based Programming, Child Protection, Education, Gender-Based Violence Prevention, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Youth Programs	Turkey	\$39,530,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TURKEY IN FY 2020			\$145,677,901
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TURKEY IN FY 2020			\$153,677,901
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection	Regional	\$1,500,000
TOTAL REGIONAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN FY 2020			\$1,500,000
TOTAL REGIONAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$1,500,000

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2020³

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$858,227,440
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$706,212,963
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$1,564,440,403

FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE⁴

USAID/BHA			
Non-Food Assistance			
NGOs	ERMS, HCIM, Health, MPCA, WASH	Syria	\$19,091,985
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Syria	\$5,900,000
TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING IN FY 2020			\$24,991,985
Food Assistance			
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Local Procurement	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon	\$32,350,000
TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING IN FY 2020			\$32,350,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$57,341,985
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partner	Health, WASH	Jordan, Syria	\$6,730,000
NGOs	Cash-Based Programming, Livelihoods, Mental Health, Protection, Psychosocial Assistance, Relief Commodities	Lebanon, Turkey	\$1,287,699
IOM	Cash-Based Programming, Health, Logistics, Protection	Iraq, Jordan, Turkey	\$5,185,000
UNHCR	Cash-Based Programming, Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$47,163,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon	\$23,120,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN FY 2020			\$83,485,699
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE FOR SYRIANS IN FY 2020			\$140,827,684

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYS 2012–2020⁵

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYS 2012–2020	\$6,153,700,050
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYS 2012–2020	\$6,050,511,437
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYS 2012–2020	\$12,204,211,487

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2020.

² USAID/BHA food assistance funding supports Syrian refugees, non-Syrian refugees, and host community members.

³ This total does not include supplemental FY 2020 funding for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

⁴ Figures represent supplemental International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 30, 2020.

⁵ This total includes supplemental FY 2020 funding for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

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 [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

More information can be found at:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)