



SYRIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #7, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013, JANUARY 17, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

4 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria
U.N. – December 2012

2 million

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Syria
U.N. – December 2012

639,679

Syrians Displaced to Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – January 2013

187,552

Syrians Displaced to Jordan
UNHCR – January 2013

210,398

Syrians Displaced to Lebanon
UNHCR – January 2013

154,705

Syrians Displaced to Turkey
UNHCR – January 2013

73,150

Syrians Displaced to Iraq
UNHCR – January 2013

13,874

Syrians Displaced to Egypt
UNHCR – January 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) plans to scale up food assistance to reach a total of 2.5 million people in Syria
- Harsh winter conditions affect areas of Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey
- Flooding in Jordan's Za'atri camp subsides

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN FY 2012 AND 2013

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$59,134,965
USAID/FFP ²	\$78,018,000
State/PRM ³	\$72,760,000
\$209,912,965	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- After receiving permission from the Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) to work with additional local organizations, WFP announced plans to scale up its beneficiary caseload by 1 million people, targeting all 2.5 million people identified as in need of food assistance by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent.
- Harsh winter weather, including heavy snowfall, torrential rains, and freezing temperatures in areas of Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, and Turkey, has affected vulnerable populations within Syria as well as Syrians displaced to neighboring countries.
- Torrential rainfall resulted in flooding at the Za'atri displacement camp in northern Jordan in early January, inundating 77 tents and prompting some residents to seek shelter in U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) school buildings. The floods subsided with improved weather conditions and drainage efforts.
- On January 6, SARG President Bashar al-Asad made his first public appearance in several months, reiterating his stance against opposition forces and proposing a SARG-developed plan to end the conflict, including a national reconciliation conference, democratic elections, and constitutional reforms. President Asad did not discuss rising internal and external displacement and urgent humanitarian needs.

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)

WINTER ASSISTANCE

- In January, unusually severe winter weather conditions across the Middle East put displaced and conflict-affected Syrians in Syria and across the region at risk of further deterioration in living conditions. Rising fuel prices across Syria have exacerbated the situation, leaving many people without access to a reliable source of heat, according to U.N. agencies.
 - To respond to the increasing humanitarian needs associated with winter, the USG has supported multiple partner organizations to provide winterization kits—containing items such as blankets, mattresses, reinforced plastic sheeting, insulation, and winter clothing—to people affected by the crisis and prevailing weather conditions in Syria and in neighboring countries. One USG-funded non-governmental organization (NGO) is working in collaboration with local partners to provide 6,000 kits each week for distribution across Syria. USG-supported winterization efforts are scheduled to continue through the end of the winter season. Concurrently, the USG is also providing household items and hygiene supplies to help families meet basic household needs.
 - USG partner UNICEF has reached approximately 263,000 people in Syria with winter supplies, including in Damascus, Rif Damascus, Homs, Al Hasakah, Tartus, and Ar Raqqah governorates.
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PROTECTION

- Up to 75 percent of displaced Syrian children surveyed in a camp in Gaziantep Province, Turkey, have experienced the death of an immediate family member due to the conflict, according to the results of a study conducted in November 2012 and by the U.N. The study authors estimate that half of the children interviewed were suffering from a depressive disorder, while one-third of the children displayed symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. UNICEF reports that the high level of displacement and distrust generated by the conflict has weakened traditional community support mechanisms for psychological distress.
 - A study released in January by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) reports that incidents of rape and other forms of sexual violence are increasingly common in Syria, contributing to an elevated level of psychological distress. Many households interviewed by IRC reported that sexual violence was a primary factor in the decision to flee Syria for neighboring countries.
 - Through local partner organizations, USG grantees continue to provide psychosocial support to vulnerable Syrians affected by the ongoing conflict. In January, a USG partner began a new protection intervention consisting of a series of psychosocial and child protection trainings in Syria facilitated by a technical specialist in education and child psychology. Training activities are scheduled to continue over the coming weeks, covering topics such as psychological first aid, skills for early detection of psychological disturbances in children and adolescents, and communicating with parents and caretakers.
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AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- The price of food and other basic commodities in Syria continues to increase, straining the ability of conflict-affected households to purchase sufficient food, according to relief agencies. WFP reports that long lines for bread are now commonplace throughout Syria, as many bakeries have closed or been damaged during the conflict.
 - In January, WFP received permission from the SARG to import fuel and wheat flour for humanitarian purposes, potentially easing humanitarian conditions in the country.
 - Only 5 percent of farmers surveyed in Syria reported harvesting their entire winter wheat and barley crops, while 20 percent were unable to harvest any crops due to the ongoing conflict in Syria, according to the preliminary results of a study conducted by WFP, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, and the SARG Ministry of Agriculture. Syria's economy relies heavily on agriculture, and continued unrest will likely affect the upcoming spring planting season, potentially contributing to unemployment and food insecurity.
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HEALTH

- Médecins Sans Frontières, an NGO operating inside Syria, recently reported publicly that SARG forces are heavily targeting hospitals in contested areas. IRC also reports that partner organizations have observed a systematic campaign to restrict access to emergency health care services through the strategic destruction and forced closures of hospitals and health care facilities. As a result, staff and patients have abandoned hospitals in many areas and are using temporary field hospitals instead, according to the NGO.
 - Despite significant insecurity, USG partners continue to support emergency medical care by providing medical supplies, equipment, and training for first responders and other medical personnel.
 - The U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), in cooperation with the SARG Ministry of Health and UNICEF, completed a vaccination campaign in late December reaching 1.5 million children with polio vaccine and 1.3 million children with measles vaccine. UNICEF also reports providing health supplies to reach 10,000 people over three months in Al Hasakah Governorate. The USG supports WHO, UNICEF, and others to provide urgent health interventions for conflict-affected populations in Syria.
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POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

Refugees in Syria

- According to UNHCR, the number of registered Iraqi refugees in Syria has decreased from 84,000 in October 2012 to 63,000 in January 2013. The majority of Iraqi refugees remaining in Syria live in and around Damascus, with the total Iraqi refugee population outside of Damascus currently at 16,412 individuals, or 26 percent of the registered population in the country.
- Starting in early January, media outlets reported that Palestinian factions in the Yarmouk neighborhood of Damascus, where 150,000 of Syria's 525,000 Palestinian refugees reside, are attempting to negotiate a ceasefire between opposition and SARG forces to allow for the safe return of Palestinian residents. The ceasefire agreement calls for all armed groups to withdraw from Yarmouk, for food and fuel to be allowed into the neighborhood, and for the neutrality of the area to be respected by all sides. News of the ceasefire follows reports of security forces imposing a blockade on Yarmouk to prevent supplies from entering the area and reports of shelling, ongoing clashes, and sniper fire by both opposition and SARG forces. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) reports that it has had to close many of its facilities in Damascus, including all facilities in Yarmouk, due to the fighting. UNRWA is providing shelter, food, and other assistance to Palestinian refugees who have fled Yarmouk in nearby UNRWA facilities.

Turkey

- To ease overcrowding in camps for displaced Syrians in Turkey, officials have started setting up additional family tents in Akcakale and Kahramanmaraş camps. In the border town of Nizip in Gaziantep Province, more than 1,500 Syrians are awaiting relocation to the new nearby 5,000-person capacity site scheduled to open on January 11, according to UNHCR.
- Local authorities and the Government of Turkey (GoT) Ministry of Foreign Affairs publicly reported that approximately 25,000 IDPs are living in informal displacement camps in Syria near the border of Turkey's Hatay and Kilis provinces. The GoT, through the Turkish Red Crescent Society, is providing basic humanitarian assistance to Syrians at locations inside Syria along Turkey's border, according to UNHCR.
- Turkey's Kilis Province camp, where more than 13,000 Syrians are residing, planned to hold elections on January 17 to select camp leaders and an 18-member administrative council. Kilis camp residents over the age of 18 will be eligible to vote in the election, according to the GoT. A total of 42 candidates, including at least one female candidate from each of the camp's six sections, are scheduled to participate in the election. The election winners will help administer services relating to security, health, education, and religion in coordination with the local governor's office.

- Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan plans to visit displaced Syrians residing in camps in Gaziantep Province on January 20. Erdogan is scheduled to examine the tent site in Islahiye, which is hosting 8,360 Syrians, as well as a site in Nizip, where 7,493 displaced Syrians are residing, according to UNHCR.

Lebanon

- Adequate shelter and access to education remain pressing needs among displaced Syrians in Lebanon. While many displaced people have secured lodging with host families, in rented apartments, or in abandoned buildings, the demand for accommodation resulting from the influx of displaced Syrians into Lebanon has outpaced the supply of adequate shelter, according to relief agencies. In addition, the increasing number of displaced Syrians in Lebanon has begun to strain services and infrastructure managed by the Government of Lebanon (GoL). On January 6, UNHCR reported that more than 1,600 Syrian children had enrolled in GoL public schools during the week of December 31, raising the total number of Syrian children currently enrolled in GoL public schools to more than 10,000.
- During the week of January 11, heavy rains and snowfall inundated the settlements of displaced Syrians in mountainous areas of the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon. Some Syrian households sought alternate shelter, and the weather also reportedly caused access difficulties for relief agencies in the area, according to UNICEF.
- UNICEF has provided funding to five implementing partners for the distribution of vouchers in Lebanon, which displaced Syrian families can use to purchase winter supplies. In total, UNICEF aims to reach 33,000 children with winterization relief commodities.
- To date, more than 10,300 children have accessed UNICEF-supported psychosocial services in Lebanon, an increase of approximately 1,900 over December. UNICEF expects the total number of children reached to rise as UNICEF receives additional reports from partners.
- An interagency needs assessment for child protection is scheduled for the Bekaa Valley in late January with technical support from the Global Working Group, according to UNICEF. The researchers will continue assessment activities in Beirut and in southern Lebanon during the remainder of January and early February.
- On January 14, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Mia Farrow visited displaced Syrians in Lebanon to raise awareness of their living conditions and to advocate for additional humanitarian support.

Jordan

- Harsh weather conditions in northern Jordan affected residents of the Za'atri displacement camp, where cold temperatures and floods prompted 1,300 residents to seek shelter in nearby school buildings, according to UNHCR. The floods subsided after weather conditions improved and UNHCR, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (GHKJ), and the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief dug culverts to drain the affected areas of the camp. On January 12, work began on installing drainage pipes, digging a large drainage ditch, and restoring the main camp road.
- UNICEF has begun working with IRC to help support unaccompanied children at Za'atri camp, including through receiving newly arrived unaccompanied children in need of care and coordinating family reunification in collaboration with UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Za'atri has experienced a recent influx of unaccompanied and separated children, 32 of whom arrived during the first two weeks of January. UNICEF and Save the Children assist more than 167 unaccompanied and separated children in Za'atri each week.
- UNICEF and the GHKJ have registered 2,345 Syrian children at UNICEF-supported public schools across the country since the beginning of 2013. A total of 21,790 Syrian students are currently registered with the GHKJ. In addition, UNICEF and its partners are assessing 20 public schools in host communities to ensure facilities provide appropriate support to displaced Syrian children.

Iraq

- UNHCR reports that heavy rain and low temperatures may be discouraging Syrian inflows into Iraq's Kurdistan Region (IKR). Between December 26 and January 8, the rate of arrival decreased significantly to approximately 155 people per day, from a December average of 400 to 500 arrivals each day. Reasons for the decline in registration include returns to

Iraq, flight to a third country due to the conflict, resettlement, and failure to contact UNHCR for a certain period of time.

- In Domiz camp, heavy rainfall continued to impact camp conditions in mid-January and delayed construction activities, though installation of latrines and showers and excavation of septic tanks remains ongoing. Stagnant storm waters in the camp made roads partially impassable.
 - Several Syrians displaced to Iraq reported having to pay armed entities on the Syrian side of the Syria—Iraq border prior to entering IKR, according to UNHCR. Displaced Syrians in Iraq have also reported physical abuse, harassment, and forced conscription by armed entities in the outskirts of Damascus.
 - UNHCR began distributing relief commodities—including plastic sheeting, thermal winter blankets, heaters and kerosene, and kitchen sets—to displaced populations in IKR in early December. Between December 26 and January 8, UNHCR distributed relief commodity kits to 89 vulnerable Syrian families. In addition, UNHCR distributed kerosene and heavy blankets to 200 vulnerable Syrian households in Sulaymaniyah Governorate.
 - Of the 1,125 displaced Syrians living in the city of Erbil, Dohuk Governorate, a majority is living in houses without roofs, windows, and doors in near freezing temperatures, according to UNHCR. UNHCR is working to identify the most vulnerable families in urban areas of Dohuk.
 - UNHCR and its partners continue the construction of a third camp in the district of al-Qaim in Al Anbar Governorate. Ongoing work includes the installation of tents, steel water tanks, and steel stands for latrines, water tanks, registration and administrative areas, a chain link fence and the foundation for a school.
 - All families of the first camp in al-Qaim have received camp stoves from the Government of Iraq (GoI) and relief commodities from UNHCR. In coordination with camp management, the GoI is also distributing monthly baby relief item kits containing infant’s milk powder and potable water.
 - In addition, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has distributed a total of 450 relief commodity kits to families residing in the towns of Hussaiba and Rawa in Al Anbar.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On January 3, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) launched a campaign to distribute relief supplies to displaced Syrians throughout Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey. As part of the campaign, KRCS will provide food parcels and winter relief commodities, such as blankets, to displaced communities coping with colder temperatures and inclement weather. As of January 4, KRCS had distributed supplies to approximately 250 Syrian families—nearly 1,250 persons—in Madaba Governorate, Jordan, according to international media. In addition, KRCS plans to deploy a convoy with an estimated 20 metric tons of food from Kuwait to Jordan in the coming weeks. The campaign, which KRCS is implementing in conjunction with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), plans to reach approximately 10,000 Syrian families, or an estimated 50,000 people.
- The United Arab Emirates Red Crescent (UAERC) is increasing its winter relief efforts to improve living conditions among displaced Syrians in Jordan, according to media reports. On January 8, the UAERC sent a convoy of 16 trucks carrying 158 metric tons of food, winter clothing, and relief supplies to Jordan. The food assistance will be distributed in Jordan’s displacement camps.
- Following a January 11 cabinet meeting, the Government of the Netherlands announced an additional appropriation of €5 million—or approximately \$6.7 million—to assist displaced Syrians affected by the heavy winter weather in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq.
- The Canadian International Development Agency has pledged an additional \$1.5 million to help address the needs of Syrians displaced to neighboring countries. The funding will support the provision of food, water, shelter, and relief commodities—such as hygiene kits, blankets, heaters, and winter clothing—for up to 170,000 people.

SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES 2012 AND 2013 TOTAL FUNDING*

PER DONOR
\$236,907,058



*Funding figures are as of January 17, 2013. All international figures are according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year calendar.

**European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

***U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

CONTEXT

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the Syrian government in March 2011, President Bashar al-Assad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Assad began responding to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate. On January 2, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay announced the results of a five-month assessment, which cites that the conflict has resulted in more than 60,000 deaths. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has estimated more than 45,000 deaths.
- On March 26, 2012, the SARG accepted a six-point peace plan proposed by U.N.–Arab League Joint Special Envoy to Syria Kofi Annan. The plan, endorsed by the U.N. Security Council, 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 2, Annan announced his resignation as the Joint Special Envoy to Syria, effective at the end of August. Lakhdar Brahimi became U.N.–Arab League Joint Special Envoy to Syria in September.
- On August 16, 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.
- Syria hosts approximately 525,900 registered 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 Damascus, Aleppo, and Dar'a governorates has significantly affected Palestinian refugees in Syria. UNRWA estimates that more than 360,000 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 2013¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE²			
NGO Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Syria	\$28,828,780
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		\$210,321
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$39,439,101

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE³			
WFP	Syria Emergency Operation (EMOP)	Syria	\$19,018,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq	\$12,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$31,018,000

STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
IFRC	Emergency Medical Care	Lebanon	\$400,000
UNFPA	Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response	Turkey	\$323,000
UNHCR	Support for the Regional Response Plan	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq	\$16,677,000
UNICEF	Support for the Regional Response Plan	Jordan	\$3,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$20,400,000

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2013			\$90,857,101
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of January 17, 2013.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES
PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE²			
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
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$19,695,864

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE³			
WFP	Syria EMOP	Syria	\$32,300,000
WFP	Regional EMOP	Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq	\$14,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$47,000,000

STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
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
ICRC	Emergency Medical Care, Food, and Relief Items	Syria	\$8,000,000
UNRWA	Support for Palestinian Refugees in the Region	Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon	\$11,000,000
NGO Partners	Health, Psychosocial, Protection, and Shelter Assistance	Jordan and Lebanon	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	WASH and Protection	Jordan	\$2,000,000
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Turkey	\$500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$52,360,000

TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012			\$119,055,864
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TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013			\$209,912,965
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¹ \$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 January 17, 2013
³ Estimated value of food assistance

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.
- 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:
 - 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.

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>