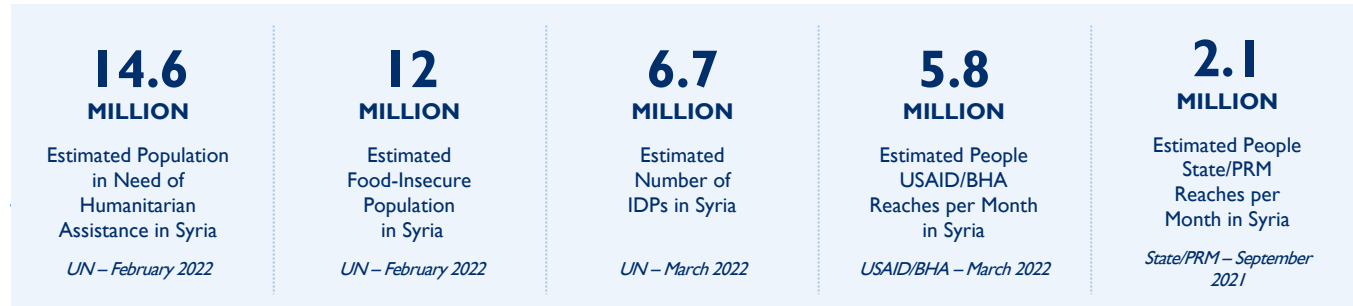


Syria – Complex Emergency

MAY 10, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield announced nearly \$808 million in new USG humanitarian funding in response to the Syria crisis during the sixth annual Brussels Conference on Supporting Syria and the Region on May 10.
- With USG and other donor support, UN agencies continued to deliver life-saving assistance cross-border from Turkey into northwest Syria as humanitarian needs continue to increase.
- Impacted by inflation and reliance on global imports, prices of food and other basic commodities continued to increase countrywide in March, with food prices reaching record highs for the seventh consecutive month.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2022	USAID/BHA ¹	\$7,562,721,571
	State/PRM ²	\$7,333,796,062
	Total	\$14,896,517,633

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

¹USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
²U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

USG Announces \$808 Million in Funding at Brussels Conference on Syria

On May 10, U.S. Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield announced nearly \$808 million in additional U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian assistance in response to the Syria crisis during the sixth annual Brussels Conference on Supporting Syria and the Region hosted by the European Union, the main annual high-level fundraising event for the Syria crisis response. The new assistance comprises approximately \$446 million from USAID/BHA and nearly \$362 million from State/PRM to continue provision of life-saving emergency assistance to Syrians. The funding will support internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable populations in Syria as well as Syrian refugees residing in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey. Since the start of the crisis in 2012, the USG has provided nearly \$15 billion in humanitarian assistance to support Syrians in need.

The new funding includes USG support for UN agencies and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to provide agriculture, food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance for people in Syria and refugees in regional host countries. The funding also supports protection activities—including safe spaces for women and girls and psychosocial support services—for conflict-affected communities in Syria. Additionally, the assistance will sustain health facilities across Syria, facilitate immunizations for children against communicable diseases, and provide malnutrition screening and treatment services to pregnant and lactating women and children younger than five years of age.

UN Delivers Life-Saving Cross-Border Assistance Under Resolution 2585

Since the UN Security Council (UNSC)'s adoption of Resolution 2585 on July 9, 2021, the UN has continued delivery of critical humanitarian assistance into northwest Syria through Turkey's Bab al-Hawa border crossing. From February 1 to March 29 alone, nearly 1,300 trucks transported UN humanitarian commodities through the Bab al-Hawa crossing into northwest Syria, reaching more than 1.4 million people each month with assistance, the UN reports. Specifically, the shipments enabled relief actors to provide food assistance, shelter and relief commodities, WASH supplies, sexual and reproductive health care, and gender-based violence prevention and response services during February and March. UN agencies also delivered 13 trucks of essential medicines, medical supplies, personal protective equipment, and infection prevention and control kits to the northwest via the cross-border route.

During a late April briefing to the UNSC, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Joyce Msuya highlighted ongoing efforts to expand the cross-line delivery of assistance from Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-held areas to opposition-held areas of northwest Syria. On March 30, the UN conducted a cross-line humanitarian delivery of food, health, nutrition, and other humanitarian assistance, the third such mission since August 2021. However, Deputy ERC Msuya stressed that current cross-line assistance complements, but cannot replace, the UN's significantly larger cross-border operation into northwest Syria. She reiterated the need for the UNSC to renew the resolution enabling cross-border assistance prior to its upcoming expiration in July. UN officials and representatives from donor countries and countries in the region have similarly stressed the importance of sustaining and increasing UN cross-border assistance into Syria and re-authorizing the cross-border resolution.

Humanitarian Conditions, Food Insecurity Deteriorate Further in Northwest

Although airstrikes in northwest Syria decreased in frequency in recent months, artillery shelling

continued to occur on most days during March, resulting in injuries to at least six civilians during the month, according to the UN. In addition, deteriorating economic and security conditions newly displaced nearly 8,000 people in the region in March. Furthermore, precipitation, flooding, and strong winds during the month affected nearly 220 IDP sites in the region, resulting in the destruction of approximately 2,400 tents and damaging 3,000 others. As of late April, approximately 2.7 million people remain displaced across northwest Syria, including 1.7 million people sheltering in camps.

Additionally, the continued depreciation of the Turkish Lira in March further impacted the prices of basic commodities in northwest Syria, where the currency is commonly used, the UN reports. In March, Turkey's annual inflation rate increased to more than 60 percent, caused in part by the Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) invasion of Ukraine, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Therefore, prices of food, fuel, and other essential goods in northwest Syria, many of which are imported from Turkey, have significantly increased in the region. Nearly 30 percent of IDPs in Idlib Governorate and 20 percent of IDPs in northern Aleppo Governorate have income levels critically below the level of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket—the average cost of goods and services that a household requires to meet basic needs for one month—which increased in price by more than 10 percent from September to March, the UN reports. Drought conditions, shrinking availability of arable land, and a resulting increased reliance on wheat imports from Turkey have continued to drive increases in bread prices, with more than 55 percent of households in the northwest unable to afford their daily needs of bread. Recent increases in bread prices have resulted in a wave of civilian demonstrations in the northwest, the UN reports. Increasing food insecurity in the region underscores the need for sustained UN cross-border assistance to northwest Syria.

Record High Prices Affect Cost of Food, Commodities in Syria

The effects of the GoRF invasion of Ukraine continue to drive increases in food and fuel prices globally. In March, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s Global Food Price Index reached nearly 160 points, a more than 12 percent increase compared to the previous month, and the highest level since the UN agency began recording in 1990. As a result of the Ukraine complex emergency, Syria's ongoing economic crisis, and the country's reliance on global imports of key commodities such as cooking oil, flour, rice, and wheat, food prices across Syria reached record highs for a seventh consecutive month in March, according to a WFP market price analysis. During the month, the national average price of the WFP standard reference food basket—the cost for a group of essential food commodities, including bread, lentils, rice, sugar, and oil—increased by 24 percent, reaching nearly 287,000 Syrian Pounds, or approximately \$114.

As a result of rising prices and declining purchasing power, an average household requires at least 515,000 Syrian Pounds per month—or \$204—to afford essential goods and services, including clothing, education, food, health, rent, transport, and utilities, according to an assessment by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) of 120 families across seven governorates from January to March. The increased cost of living far exceeds the minimum monthly wage. A majority of households interviewed—more than 90 percent—reported not having sufficient food to eat. Approximately 60 and 40 percent of households also identified fuel for cooking and heating and clean water as urgent needs, respectively. Due to the unaffordability of essential goods, households are resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as reducing the quantity and quality of household meals, selling fuel to purchase food, and skipping urgent health care services, NRC reports.

KEY FIGURES



6.6 Million

Number of people USAID/BHA reaches with monthly food assistance in Syria and neighboring countries



5 Million

Number of people USAID/BHA reached with health assistance in FY 2021



15

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

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and 15 NGOs providing emergency food and nutrition assistance within Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. In Syria, USAID/BHA partners provide vulnerable populations with cash transfers for food, food vouchers, monthly in-kind food rations, and emergency nutritional products, while also distributing wheat flour and yeast to bakeries. USAID/BHA assistance also supports the provision of cash transfers for food and food vouchers for Syrian refugees. WFP and USAID/BHA-funded NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to more than 6.6 million Syrians, including more than 5.5 million people inside Syria and 1.1 million refugees across Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 11 partners, including UNICEF, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and the UN World Health Organization (WHO), to provide critical health assistance in Syria, cumulatively supporting approximately 480 health facilities. USAID/BHA-supported activities include community-based health education, direct health services through mobile medical units, reproductive health services, the provision of equipment for health facilities, and training for Syrian medical workers. USAID/BHA is supporting additional NGOs to bolster coronavirus disease (COVID-19) health response capacity in Syria by establishing primary health care services in areas with limited health infrastructure, providing equipment to intensive care and isolation facilities, and promoting effective infection prevention and control practices.

State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides medical consultations and facilitates community-based health programming through 26 community clinics and 12 health points in UNHCR-supported community centers in areas of Syria with minimally accessible health services. The UN agency also distributes masks and sanitation supplies to community centers throughout the country to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In addition, State/PRM supports UNHCR, UNICEF, and nine NGO partners to provide health assistance, including medical consultations, specialized health services, and vaccinations, for refugees in neighboring countries.

WASH

USAID/BHA supports 13 NGO partners, as well as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNICEF, to provide 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 handwashing stations and latrines—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. Furthermore, USAID/BHA is supporting NGOs to bolster COVID-19 response capacity in Syria by increasing water trucking frequency to communities and IDP sites, providing additional water for handwashing and cleaning, and distributing soap and other WASH commodities. State/PRM also supports partners—including one NGO in Iraq and Lebanon, one international organization in Jordan, and a third partner in Syria—to provide WASH assistance to Syrian refugees as well as vulnerable populations inside Syria.



242

Number of centers through which State/PRM provides protection assistance in Syria

PROTECTION

State/PRM partner UNHCR provides comprehensive protection services—including identifying protection cases, facilitating community-based protection interventions, providing referrals to legal aid services, and providing educational services for parents and children—for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians in both Syria and neighboring countries. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR engages 2,870 community outreach volunteers and supports approximately 120 mobile units, 90 community centers, and 30 satellite centers throughout Syria to provide psychosocial support services, legal counseling, and case management and referrals. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNICEF, and 28 NGO partners to provide protection assistance, including legal documentation and case management services, for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.

USAID/BHA funds 15 protection partners, including IOM, UNFPA, and UNICEF, to 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 gender-based violence survivors throughout Syria.



8

Number of State/PRM partners providing shelter and relief commodities in Syria and neighboring countries

SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports 11 partners, including IOM, to distribute shelter materials and basic household items and conduct shelter rehabilitation activities in Syria. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners establish and maintain IDP camps, rehabilitate existing IDP camps and collective centers, and distribute emergency shelter items. Further, with State/PRM support, UNHCR facilitates the distribution of hygiene kits, relief commodities, and tents to IDPs and host community members in Syria. During the 2021–2022 winter season, UNHCR shipped 15,000 winter core relief item kits and 2,400 tents and installed more than 900 tents in response to severe winter weather in northwest Syria. From September 2021 to March 2022, UNHCR provided winter core relief items to more than 133,000 households. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in neighboring countries.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Following the commencement of peaceful demonstrations against the 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 (SDF) announced the capture of the last ISIS strongholds in Syria.
- On July 9, 2021, the UNSC adopted UNSC Resolution 2585, authorizing UN cross-border 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 12 months—six months with an automatic extension of an additional six months following the issuance of a UN Secretary-General report detailing progress on cross-line humanitarian assistance and operational transparency. The resolution is a partial renewal of previous cross-border aid resolutions, beginning with UNSC Resolution 2165 on July 14, 2014, which authorized four border crossings from Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2022¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
SYRIA			
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Local, Regional, International Procurement (LRIP), Vouchers; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$141,322,244
IOM	HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$21,281,787
UNICEF	Nutrition, Health, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$19,345,596
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Syria	\$3,000,000

WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, LRIP, Vouchers; Nutrition	Syria	\$171,500,000
Program Support		Syria	\$381,679
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$356,831,306
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education; Food Assistance—LRIP, Vouchers; Health; Livelihoods; Protection; Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$27,600,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), HCIMA, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$57,100,000
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA)	Education, Food Assistance—LRIP, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Syria	\$12,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$96,700,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2022			\$453,531,306

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2022¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
EGYPT			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers	Egypt	\$15,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT			\$15,000,000
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities	Egypt	\$6,600,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection	Egypt	\$900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN EGYPT			\$7,500,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2022			\$22,500,000
IRAQ			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	CCCM, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$15,400,000
UNICEF	Education, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Iraq	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN IRAQ			\$16,400,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN IRAQ IN FY 2022			\$16,400,000
JORDAN			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers	Jordan	\$66,552,591
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$66,552,591

STATE/PRM			
IPs	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$3,400,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Education, HCIMA, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$47,200,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$15,600,000
UNRWA	Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$68,200,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2022			\$134,752,591
LEBANON			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers, LRIP, Vouchers	Lebanon	\$30,000,000
Program Support			\$35,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$30,035,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, WASH	Lebanon	\$7,400,000
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$67,500,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Lebanon	\$36,200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$111,100,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2022			\$141,135,000
TURKEY			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance–Vouchers	Turkey	\$7,600,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TURKEY			\$7,600,000
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Health, Livelihoods, Protection	Turkey	\$4,148,214
IOM	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Turkey	\$8,500,000
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Turkey	\$42,300,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Turkey	\$19,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TURKEY			\$74,548,214
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TURKEY IN FY 2022			\$82,148,214

REGIONAL			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection	Regional	\$1,200,000
TOTAL REGIONAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$1,200,000
TOTAL REGIONAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$1,200,000

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2022

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$476,018,897
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$375,648,214
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$851,667,111

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022			\$7,562,721,571
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022			\$7,333,796,062
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022			\$14,896,517,633

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of May 10, 2022.

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 [usaaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)