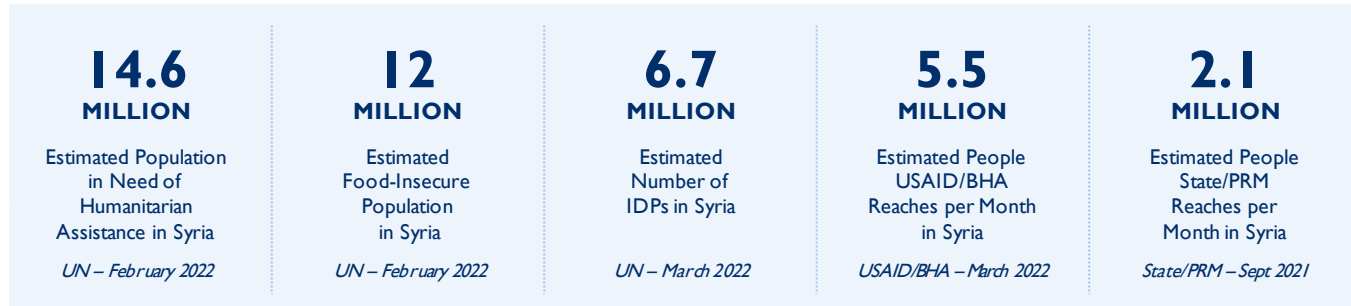


# Syria – Complex Emergency

AUGUST 12, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- An estimated 12 million Syrians are projected to face acute food insecurity through September due to worsening critical food conditions related to poor wheat harvests.
- Ongoing electricity shortages and deteriorating socioeconomic conditions throughout Syria threaten humanitarian efforts across all response sectors, the UN reports.
- The price of the minimum food basket in Syria increased 36 percent from the onset of the Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) invasion of Ukraine in February to June, contributing to food insecurity across the country, WFP reports.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2022	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$7,605,721,571
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$7,333,796,062
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,939,517,633</b>

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

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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### WFP, FAO Project Worsening Food Insecurity Amid Poor Wheat Harvest

Food insecurity in Syria is expected to worsen across Syria through September, according to a June UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UN World Food Program (WFP) report. The report projects that 12 million Syrians—approximately 60 percent of the country's 21.7 million people—will face acute food insecurity, including 2.5 million people facing severe food insecurity, during the June-to-September projection period as a result of eleven years of conflict, anticipated below-average domestic cereal production, increasing food prices, and poor economic conditions.

Syrian wheat farmers face poor harvests for the second consecutive year due to the decreased availability of irrigation water, delayed onset and reduced volume of rainfall, and elevated prices of agricultural tools, fertilizer, and seeds, according to FAO. Self Administration of North and East Syria officials project that the 2022 harvest season in northeast Syria, which typically spans June to July, is likely to yield only 450,000 metric tons (MT), falling short of the estimated 600,000 MT needed to meet the region's food needs, according to international media. The anticipated deficit of approximately 150,000 MT between wheat production and demand in northeast Syria also prevents the region from supplying surplus wheat to other areas of the country. Furthermore, due to fuel shortages and daily wage rate increases, harvesting costs for the current production season increased by 75 to 100 percent compared to the 2021 harvest season, resulting in elevated wheat prices, FAO reports. The high prices and lower-than-average yields, compounded by ongoing inflation, are likely to exacerbate food insecurity in Syria. In response to deteriorating food security conditions, USAID/BHA partners are providing vulnerable populations with cash transfers for food, emergency nutritional products, food vouchers, and monthly in-kind food rations.

### Lack of Electricity Access Exacerbates Need in Syria

A lack of reliable electricity threatens to exacerbate humanitarian needs and undermine relief efforts in Syria across every humanitarian sector, according to a recently released UN report. The electricity shortages are largely due to extensive damage to physical electricity infrastructure, lack of resources and supplies to repair damaged power plants, and shortages of fuel and fuel price increases, according to the UN. Notably, surveyed Syrian households ranked access to electricity as the third-highest priority in 2021, following food and nutrition assistance and livelihoods as the first- and second-highest priorities. Per capita electricity consumption levels in 2021 were approximately 15 percent of 2010 levels, prior to the start of the conflict, according to UN assessments: nearly 60 percent of surveyed Syrian households reported access to eight hours or less of electricity per day, with 30 percent of households reliant on less than two hours per day. In response to shortages, some households have adapted by switching to non-grid alternatives such as batteries, generators, and solar panels, though such alternatives are often prohibitively expensive.

Furthermore, 50 percent of communities surveyed reported that essential public services such as health facilities, schools, street lighting, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure received less than eight hours of electricity per day. Electricity shortages have disrupted the production and distribution of safe public drinking water, leaving households increasingly reliant on costly private suppliers or unsafe water sources, the UN reports. Reduced access to electricity has also affected food security and agriculture by limiting food production capability and driving up the prices of essential food items. The increased costs of living and loss of livelihoods have subsequently exacerbated protection risks among at-risk populations, as negative coping mechanisms—including child labor and early

marriage—have become more prevalent among households, according to the UN.

## Syria's Food Prices Remain Elevated Amid Ongoing Global Market Effects of the Ukraine Complex Emergency

The GoRF invasion of Ukraine has driven food price increases in Syria through resultant elevated commodity shipment costs, inflation, and international food supply shocks. Since the start of the conflict in Ukraine in late February, the average price of the minimum food basket—a group of essential food commodities including bread, lentils, oil, rice, and sugar—increased 36 percent in Syria, according to WFP. As a result, an individual earning the minimum wage in Syria—around \$33 per month—could only afford approximately 30 percent of a minimum food basket during June. Overall, the national average price of the minimum food basket increased in Syria by 45 percent from \$90 to \$113 between January and June 2022, WFP reports. The prices of all commodities in the basket have increased between approximately 50 and 130 percent since June 2021.

## Syrian Refugees in Turkey Report Worsening Discrimination

Syrian refugees in Turkey are facing increasing levels of discrimination as of May, negatively affecting refugees' mental health, according to a report published by the UN Community-Based Protection and Social Cohesion Task Force and cited by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). As a result of inflation and deteriorating macroeconomic conditions in Turkey throughout 2022, Syrian refugees reported increased tension with and a sense of growing isolation from host community members, while Syrian refugee children report an increase in peer bullying. Additionally, fearing discrimination and negative attitudes, some Syrians surveyed reported a reluctance to speak Arabic in public spaces, while others reported feeling unsafe in their neighborhoods. Studies on social cohesion in Turkey demonstrate that language barriers, misinformation, politicization of refugees, and segregation of neighborhoods exacerbate tensions between Syrian refugees and Turkish host communities, according to UNFPA. Heightened tensions and growing social barriers between Syrian refugees and Turkish residents are challenging UNFPA efforts to facilitate social cohesion-building events. As of early August, Turkey hosts an estimated 3.7 million Syrian refugees.

### KEY FIGURES



**6.6 Million**

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

### U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

#### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and 14 non-governmental organizations (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, emergency nutritional products, food vouchers, and monthly in-kind food rations 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.



**5 Million**

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

## HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 11 partners, including UNICEF, 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 community clinics and 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. To date in 2022, approximately 160,000 people received primary health services in UNHCR-supported health facilities. 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.



**15**

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

## 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 internally displaced person (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 2,800 community outreach volunteers and supports approximately 120 mobile units and nearly 130 community centers and satellite centers throughout Syria to provide psychosocial support (PSS), legal counseling, and case management and referrals. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNICEF, and 30 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 PSS, 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 core relief items, including kitchen sets, mattresses, plastic sheets, sleeping mats, solar lamps, thermal blankets, and water containers. To date in 2022, UNHCR has assisted 6,400 households in 12 governorates with core relief items. 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 Syrian Arab Republic Government (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 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 12, 2022, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted UNSC Resolution 2642, 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 6 months, with a potential renewal in January for an additional six months—until July 10, 2023—subject to the issuance of a UN Secretary-General report detailing humanitarian needs in Syria and adoption of a new UNSC resolution. 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 Iraq, Jordan, and Turkey.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>SYRIA</b>			
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Food Assistance–Cash Transfers; Local, Regional, and 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
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA</b>			<b>\$356,831,306</b>
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 (UNRWA)	Education, Food Assistance—LRIP, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Syria	\$12,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SYRIA</b>			<b>\$96,700,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING IN SYRIA IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$453,531,306</b>

#### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2022

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

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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN JORDAN</b>			<b>\$68,200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$134,752,591</b>
LEBANON			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, LRIP, Vouchers	Lebanon	\$73,000,000
	Program Support		\$35,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON</b>			<b>\$73,035,000</b>
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN LEBANON</b>			<b>\$111,100,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$184,135,000</b>
TURKEY			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Vouchers	Turkey	\$7,600,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TURKEY</b>			<b>\$7,600,000</b>
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TURKEY</b>			<b>\$74,548,214</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TURKEY IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$82,148,214</b>



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

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

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2022</b>	<b>\$519,018,897</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2022</b>	<b>\$375,648,214</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2022</b>	<b>\$894,667,111</b>

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

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022</b>	<b>\$7,605,721,571</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022</b>	<b>\$7,333,796,062</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2022</b>	<b>\$14,939,517,633</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year 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 [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)