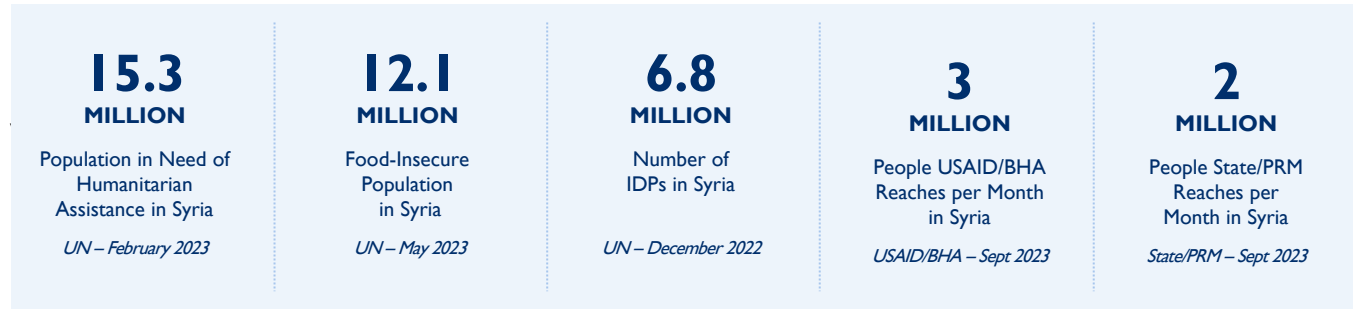


# Syria – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The UN resumed the cross-border transshipment of life-saving humanitarian aid to northwest Syria via the Bab al-Hawa border crossing point on September 19, dispatching nearly 50 trucks to Idlib Governorate from Türkiye from September 19 to 22.
- Intensified hostilities in Aleppo and Idlib governorates have led to civilian deaths and increased humanitarian needs among affected households.
- The cost of the average food basket in Syria rose by 90 percent in July compared to the previous year. USAID/BHA partner WFP reached 3.5 million people with food assistance in August.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$8,743,977,748
For the Syria Regional Crisis Response in FYs 2012–2023	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$8,442,280,455
	<b>Total<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>\$17,186,258,203</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7*

<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)

<sup>3</sup> The total USG funding for the Syria regional crisis response does not include funding for the 2023 earthquake response, which is reported separately.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### **UN Secures Authorization for Cross-Border Access to Northwest Syria via Bab al-Hawa**

The UN resumed transshipment of life-saving relief commodities to northwest Syria via the Bab al-Hawa border crossing point (BCP) on September 19, after reaching an agreement with the Syrian Salvation Government (SSG) on September 11, according to international media. With the resumption of cross-border movements from Türkiye, the UN dispatched nearly 50 trucks—carrying health items, nutrition commodities, and essential shelter items—to Idlib Governorate from September 19 to 22.

Previously, the UN was unable to utilize the Bab al-Hawa BCP for nearly three months following the July 11 expiration of the UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolution that authorized UN cross-border access. The Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) issued a letter to the UN on August 7 allowing for UN cross-border humanitarian access to continue via Bab al-Hawa for six months, though UN cross-border operations from Türkiye to northwest Syria via the Bab al-Hawa BCP remained paused until September 11, when the SSG also authorized the resumption of UN cross-border movements into Idlib. The early August SARG letter also extended UN access via the Bab al-Salama and Al Ra'ee BCPs by an additional three months. An estimated 2.7 million people in northwest Syria rely on UN cross-border aid, the majority of which enters Syria via the Bab al-Hawa BCP, relief actors report. Between February and July, UN truck movements via Bab al-Hawa accounted for more than 80 percent of trucks entering northwest Syria from Türkiye, as the Bab al-Salama and al Ra'ee BCPs—both located on the borders of northwest Syria—are geographically longer and poorly maintained. Meanwhile, humanitarian nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) continued to transport staff and relief commodities through all three border crossing points.

### **Heightened Hostilities in Aleppo and Idlib Result in Civilian Deaths and Displacement**

Increased hostilities across northern Syria, including clashes along the front line in northeastern Aleppo Governorate and shelling in southern Idlib, resulted in the deaths of at least five people, injury to 22 others, and the displacement of an estimated 26,500 individuals between September 1 and 9, humanitarian actors report. The majority—nearly 87 percent—of displaced households fled frontline areas of northeastern Aleppo. Households displaced due to the insecurity reported an urgent need for essential relief items and food assistance.

The escalation of hostilities in September follows a series of incidents during August that affected internally displaced persons (IDPs) and led to civilian deaths; an August 26 shelling incident in Idlib resulted in the deaths of two children and multiple airstrikes on August 22—targeting areas north and southwest of the city of Idlib—resulted in the deaths of two IDPs and injury to ten more, including two children. An earlier incident on August 5 led to the deaths of three civilians and injury to six others, according to international media. Overall, hostilities in northwest Syria led to the deaths of at least 49 civilians including 16 children, between January and 1 and August 30, the UN reports.

### **Food Prices Increase Across Syria as the Syrian Pound Continues to Depreciate**

The average price of the UN World Food Program's (WFP) standard monthly food basket—comprising essential food commodities, such as bread, lentils, oil, rice, and sugar sufficient to feed a five-person household—in Syria rose by more than 90 percent in July as compared to the previous year and nearly 600 percent over the previous three years, according to the UN agency. Additionally, the minimum

expenditure basket—which measures the cost of living for a five-person household—increased by more than 90 percent during the same period. Despite an August SARG-issued increase to the country’s minimum wage, approximately doubling the value, the new wage covers less than 15 percent of the minimum expenditure basket cost, while the Syrian pound lost nearly 60 percent of its value since January, further decreasing household purchasing power, WFP reports.

USAID/BHA partners continue to respond to food insecurity in Syria. With USAID/BHA support, WFP reached 3.5 million people across Syria with food assistance, including cash-based transfers for food and in-kind food, in August. The UN agency distributed more than 20,500 metric tons (MT) of food commodities during the month. WFP also provided food vouchers for approximately 95,000 children ages 6–23 months and 34,000 pregnant and lactating women to prevent acute malnutrition and bolster nutritional intake during the month. USAID/BHA contributed more than \$410 million for emergency food assistance in Syria and for refugees in the surrounding region during FY 2023.

## KEY FIGURES



**3.5 Million**

People supported monthly through USG emergency food assistance

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and 13 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 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 in the region. WFP and USAID/BHA NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to 3.5 million people inside Syria and to Syrian refugees across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye as part of their complex emergency response. State/PRM supports UNICEF to monitor, identify, and respond to cases of malnutrition in Syrian refugee populations throughout Türkiye and to provide awareness campaigns on breastfeeding and best practices to prevent chronic malnutrition.

In addition, after the February 2023 earthquakes, WFP and five USAID/BHA NGO partners responded to meet immediate food assistance needs for earthquake-affected populations in Syria. WFP continues to provide emergency assistance to earthquake-affected populations in opposition- and SARG-held areas of Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Idlib, and Latakia governorates. Between early February and late April, WFP provided 1.2 million meals to populations displaced by the earthquakes and reached 500,000 people with one week’s worth of ready-to-eat rations.



**11**

Number of USAID/BHA partners providing health assistance in Syria

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 11 partners, including the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, and the UN World Health Organization (WHO), to provide critical health assistance in Syria through activities such as community-based health education, direct health services through mobile medical units, the provision of equipment for health facilities, reproductive health services, and

training for Syrian medical workers. UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and seven NGOs are continuing to deliver critical health services to earthquake-affected populations in Syria, including delivery of medical supplies, deployment of mobile health and nutrition teams to provide health services, and dispatch of mobile medical units and surgical teams to treat trauma injuries and provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) at temporary shelters housing displaced populations.

State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, WHO, and 20 NGO partners to provide health assistance, including medical consultations, specialized health services, MHPSS, and vaccinations, for refugees in neighboring countries.



14

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

## WASH

USAID/BHA supports 12 NGO partners, as well as the International Organization for Migration (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 handwashing stations and latrines—in displacement camps and informal settlements. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners continue to increase access to safe drinking water through emergency water trucking and the distribution of water storage tanks and water treatment devices. USAID/BHA is also supporting NGOs to strengthen cholera response activities by distributing soap and other WASH commodities, increasing water trucking frequency to communities and IDP sites, and providing additional water for handwashing and cleaning. State/PRM also supports partners—including international organizations in Jordan and Lebanon and a partner in Syria—to provide WASH assistance to Syrian refugees, as well as to vulnerable populations inside Syria. With State/PRM support, UNHCR and partners repair WASH networks to improve sanitation services and enable the provision of safe drinking water in northwest Syria.



230

Centers through which State/PRM provides protection assistance in Syria

## PROTECTION

State/PRM partner UNHCR provides comprehensive protection services—including facilitating community-based protection interventions, identifying protection cases, providing educational services for parents and children, and providing referrals to legal aid services—for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians in both Syria and neighboring countries. UNHCR also supports community-led initiatives that aim to foster better community relations and support the needs of IDPs, returnees, and host communities. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNICEF, and NGO partners to provide protection assistance, including legal documentation and case management services for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. Additionally, UNHCR supported 115 community centers and 115 mobile units across the country while adding two mobile units in Ar Raqqa and Dar'a governorates during September. In response to the February earthquakes, UNHCR has

continued to provide protection services, such as access to civil documentation to acquire housing, land, and property, for earthquake-affected individuals.

USAID/BHA funds 13 protection partners, including IOM and UNFPA, to provide case management and referral services, learning and recreational opportunities, and psychosocial support 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.



**15**

Number of USG partners providing shelter and relief commodities in Syria and neighboring countries

## **SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES**

USAID/BHA supports nine partners, including IOM, to distribute shelter materials and basic household items and conduct shelter rehabilitation activities in Syria. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners distribute emergency shelter items, maintain IDP camps, and rehabilitate existing IDP camps and collective centers. State/PRM partner UNHCR supports the replacement of damaged tents for households in IDP camps in northeast Syria. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and five NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in Syria and neighboring countries. In September, UNHCR repaired 43 damaged houses in Damascus Governorate, in addition to the repair of 17 common areas in damaged buildings sheltering 725 individuals.

Since the February earthquakes, UN agencies—including U.S. Government (USG) partners—had transported more than 3,700 trucks carrying critical relief commodities from Türkiye to northwestern Syria to support conflict and earthquake-affected populations as of mid-July, the UN reports. The total includes nearly 3,100 trucks that delivered aid through the Bab al-Hawa BCP, approximately 530 trucks that crossed through the Bab al-Salama BCP, and nearly 100 trucks that crossed through the Al Ra’ee BCP, according to the UN—the latter two crossings having been opened by the SARG after the earthquakes. Seven UN agencies—including IOM, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO—transported commodities including in-kind food assistance, pharmaceuticals, and other relief items. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and six NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in neighboring countries.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Following 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 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 January 9, 2023, the UNSC adopted UNSCR 2762, reauthorizing UN cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations in Syria for six months. The resolution permitted the UN’s use of Türkiye’s Bab al-Hawa crossing for the delivery of UN humanitarian assistance into Syria until July 10, 2023. The resolution was a partial renewal of previous cross-border aid resolutions, beginning with UNSCR 2165 on July 14, 2014, which authorized four border crossings from Iraq, Jordan, and Türkiye. In July 2023, the UNSC failed to reauthorize UN cross-border access. The UN and SARG reached an understanding in early August 2023 to resume UN cross-border assistance via the Bab al-Hawa border crossing point with transshipments beginning in September.
- On February 6, 2023, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck central-southern Türkiye—near the border with Syria—at a depth of 11.1 miles. The earthquake and subsequent aftershocks resulted in at least 6,000 deaths and injury to more than 11,200 people in Syria as of March 24, as well as damage to or the destruction of at least 34,000 buildings. On February 13, SARG President Bashar al-Assad granted the UN three months of cross-border access to two additional border crossings—Al Ra’ee and Bab al-Salama—for aid deliveries from Türkiye to northwest Syria. On May 13, access to the two border crossings was extended until August 13, and on August 6, the SARG further extended access until November 13.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>SYRIA</b>			
USAID/BHA			
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$9,500,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Syria	\$2,500,000
UNFPA	Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)	Syria	\$13,100,000

UNICEF	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$13,900,000
WFP	Food Assistance, HCIMA, Logistics, Nutrition	Syria	\$115,000,000
WHO	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Syria	\$7,935,000
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture, Health, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Food Assistance, HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$399,406,682
	Program Support		\$606,937
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA</b>			<b>\$561,948,619</b>
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$76,400,000
IPs	Education; ERMS; Food Assistance, Food Vouchers; Health, Logistics Support; Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$65,808,973
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$142,208,973</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$704,157,592</b>

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2023

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>EGYPT</b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Egypt	\$10,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN EGYPT</b>			<b>\$10,000,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection	Egypt	\$900,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection	Egypt	\$8,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$8,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$18,900,000</b>
<b>IRAQ</b>			
STATE/PRM			
UNICEF	Education, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Iraq	\$1,200,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$21,900,000
UNFPA	Multisector	Iraq	\$500,000
WHO	Multisector	Iraq	\$2,707,723
IPs	Agriculture, Education, ERMS, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Iraq	\$7,888,735
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$34,196,458</b>
<b>JORDAN</b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Jordan	\$55,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN</b>			<b>\$55,000,000</b>
STATE/PRM			

IOM	MPCA, Protection	Jordan	\$3,100,000
UNICEF	Education, ERMS, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$27,600,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Education, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$58,100,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Jordan	\$2,400,000
UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)	Education, ERMS, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan	\$1,100,000
IPs	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan	\$24,292,226
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$116,592,226</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$171,592,226</b>
<b>LEBANON<sup>2</sup></b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Lebanon	\$45,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON</b>			<b>\$45,000,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Protection, MPCA, Logistics Support	Lebanon	\$900,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Lebanon	\$65,300,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	ERMS, Shelter and Settlements	Lebanon	\$4,200,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$88,000,000
IPs	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$32,049,455
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$190,449,455</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$235,449,455</b>
<b>TÜRKIYE</b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Türkiye	\$5,100,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN TÜRKIYE</b>			<b>\$5,100,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
International Labor Organization (ILO)	ERMS	Türkiye	\$3,500,000
IOM	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Türkiye	\$34,000,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$35,700,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$54,600,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Türkiye	\$6,000,000
UNDP	Multi-Sector Assistance	Türkiye	\$2,800,000
IPs	WASH, Livelihoods and Economic Recovery, Protection	Türkiye	\$21,933,072
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$158,533,072</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TÜRKIYE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$163,633,072</b>
<b>USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$677,048,619</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$650,880,184</b>



**TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2023**

**\$1,327,928,803**

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023<sup>3</sup>**

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023</b>	<b>\$8,743,977,748</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023</b>	<b>\$8,442,280,455</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2023</b>	<b>\$17,186,258,203</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>4</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
IOM	Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Aleppo, Idlib	\$18,300,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Affected Areas	\$31,000,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Nutrition	Affected Areas	\$65,000,000
WHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
IPs	Agriculture, Health, ERMS, Food Assistance, HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$49,200,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$170,000,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	CCCM, HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Affected Areas	\$26,400,000
IPs	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$50,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$77,000,000</b>
<b>DoD<sup>5</sup></b>			
	In-Kind Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$4,475,623
<b>TOTAL DoD FUNDING</b>			<b>\$4,475,623</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$251,475,623</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 September 30, 2023. Total value of food assistance and associated costs adjusted from estimated to actual values.

<sup>2</sup> Funding for Lebanon is also reported in the Lebanon Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #4 dated September 30, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> The total USG funding for the Syria regional crisis response does not include funding for the 2023 earthquake response, which is reported separately.

<sup>4</sup> The USG earthquake response funding was previously reported in the USG Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Fact Sheets.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

**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](http://cidi.org)
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](http://reliefweb.int).

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