

Humanitarian funding analysis: Kurdish refugees from Syria into Turkey



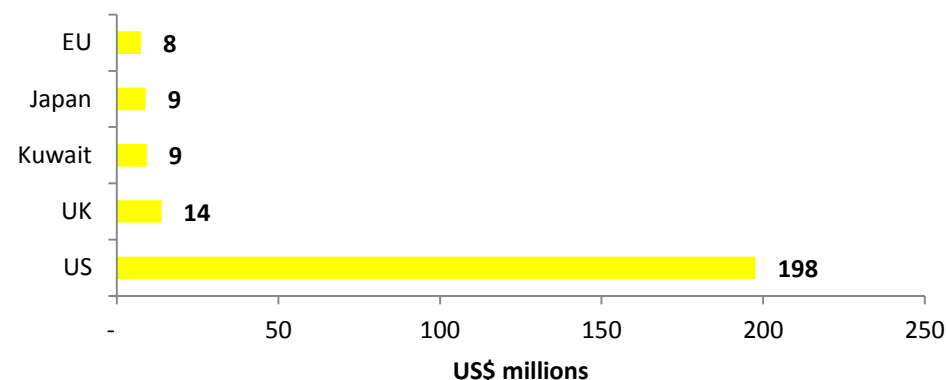
1. Key messages

- Donors have committed/contributed **US\$268 million of humanitarian funding to Turkey so far in 2014, both within and outside the UN-coordinated Syria Regional Response Plan (SRRP)** – an increase of US\$76 million from the previous year. **None of this funding is in response to the current wave of Kurdish refugees from Syria arriving in Turkey.**
- **The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has urgently appealed for more support for the new Syrian refugees arriving in Turkey. Only the United States (US) has so far announced a pledge of additional support (US\$20 million).**
- **The US is the top donor to Turkey with contributions so far in 2014 of US\$198 million – 74% of all humanitarian funding this year.**
- Out of a total US\$3.74 billion within the SRRP, US\$497 million is requested for Syrian refugees in Turkey. **Only 21% of SRRP requirements for Turkey have been met so far, leaving a funding gap of US\$392 million (79% of requirements).**
- **No Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) or Syria Emergency Response Fund (ERF) funding has been allocated to Turkey in 2014.** The Syria ERF currently only operates in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq. However, the strategy for this ERF states that support for Syrian refugees in Turkey will be considered in response to new developments and evidence of needs on the ground.

The US is the largest humanitarian donor to Turkey in 2014 by far, giving US\$198 million – 74% of all humanitarian funding to Turkey this year. Other major donors include the UK (US\$14 million), Kuwait (US\$9 million), Japan (US\$9 million) and the EU (US\$8 million).

The US was also the top humanitarian donor to Turkey in 2013 with an overall contribution of US\$67 million (35% of the total humanitarian funding to Turkey that year). Other major humanitarian donors to Turkey in 2013 were the EU (US\$26.1 million), Kuwait (US\$21 million) and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (US\$20 million).

Figure 1: Top humanitarian donors to Turkey, 2014



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014.

Detailed analyses of FTS data suggest that the vast majority, over 99%, of humanitarian funding to Turkey is for Syrian refugees. Only around US\$0.4 million of the total US\$268 million of humanitarian funding to Turkey in 2014 is for projects unrelated to the Syrian refugee population.

The majority (49%) of humanitarian funding to Turkey as recorded on OCHA's FTS is classified as 'sector not yet specified'. A further 45% of funding is classified as 'multi-sector'. 4% of funding is allocated to protection/human rights/rule of law; 1% is for food assistance; and 1% is for all other sectors (this includes shelter and non-food items; coordination and support services; economic recovery and infrastructure; and education).

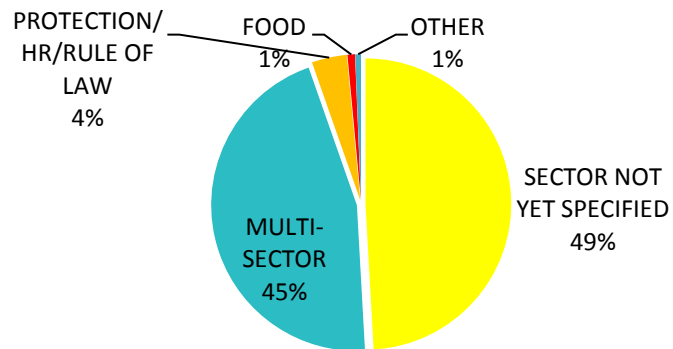
Key donors to Turkey	Committed/contributed in 2014
US	US\$198 million
UK	US\$14 million
Kuwait	US\$9.3 million
Japan	US\$8.9 million
EU	US\$7.6 million

2. Recent funding provided to Turkey (FTS reported)

Donors have committed/contributed **US\$268 million of humanitarian funding to Turkey so far in 2014.** Given that the most recently recorded commitment/contribution on the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS) to Turkey is August 2014, it can be assumed that none of the reported funding is intended for the response to the current movement of Kurdish refugees into Turkey.

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Figure 2: Humanitarian funding to Turkey 2014, by sector



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014.

3. Additional response to current situation

UNHCR has urgently called for more funding from the international community to help Turkey to host the massive influx of refugees from Syria into the country. UNHCR has also announced a recent additional contribution of US\$20 million from the US for assistance and urged other donors to follow suit. UNHCR's representative in Turkey said that the misconception that Turkey was reluctant to accept aid should be overcome.

The Government of Turkey is reported to be accelerating the construction of two new refugee camps, but it is not clear whether these are for the pre-existing refugee case-load or for new arrivals.

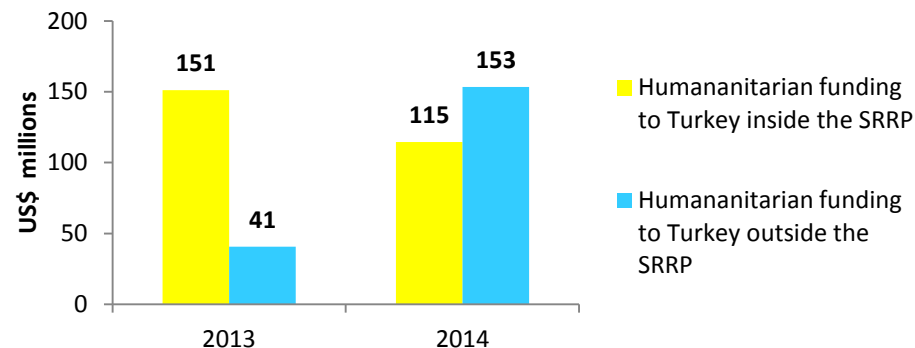
4. Existing appeals and response plans

Humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in Turkey is included in the SRRP, coordinated by UNHCR. At the time of the mid-year review of the 2014 SRRP, a total of US\$3.74 billion was requested to support a projected end of year population of 3.6 million Syrian refugees in the region (including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey).

US\$497.3 million of the total requested is for support to Syrian refugees in Turkey (13% of the total amount requested). As of 9 September 2014, according to UNHCR's SRRP Inter-agency information sharing portal, **US\$105.3m of requested funding for Turkey had been received (21%), leaving a gap of US\$392 million (79%).**

In 2013, humanitarian funding to Turkey was mostly channelled through the SRRP 2013 (79%). So far in 2014, the majority of funding for Syrian refugees in Turkey has been channelled outside of the SRRP 2014 (57%).

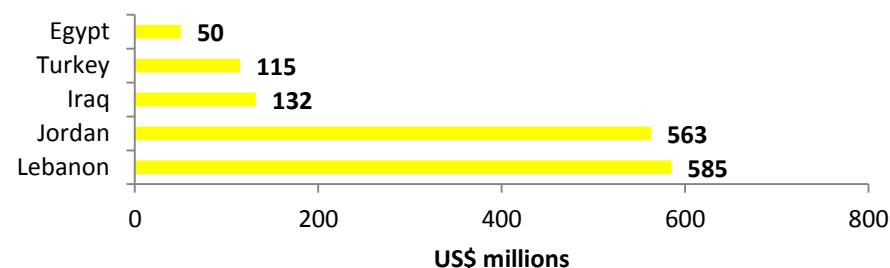
Figure 3: Humanitarian funding to Turkey 2013–2014 within and outside the SRRP



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014.

Humanitarian funding to Turkey within the SRRP 2014 is more than double that received by Egypt, but less than that received by Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. The projected end of year refugee population in Turkey is 1 million, compared with 140,000 in Egypt; 250,000 in Iraq; 700,000 in Jordan; and 1,500,000 in Lebanon.

Figure 4: Humanitarian funding to SRRP 2014 countries



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) June 2014 revised emergency appeal for population movements in Turkey requests a total of US\$45 million (using xe.com currency conversion rates). The amount of funding received against the appeal is not known at the time of writing.

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5. Pooled funding as part of the response

i. Syria Emergency Response Fund

The Syria ERF covers support to populations in need both within Syria and Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries. **No funding from the Syria ERF has yet been allocated to Turkey.** The latest available update on the Syria ERF from August 2014 states that out of the US\$73 million allocated since 2012, 49% of the funds have been allocated to projects in Syria, 21% to Lebanon, 20% to Jordan and 10% to Iraq.

The Syria ERF is overseen by the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator with OCHA's support and currently operates in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq. The Strategy Paper for the Syria ERF (January to July 2014 – no later strategy document is available) states that *"the inclusion of Egypt and Turkey will be on the basis of the overall needs and priorities. Turkey will be considered if the situation is triggered by new developments on the ground or if the projects demonstrate an urgent needs base."*

ii. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

No CERF funding has been allocated to Turkey so far in 2014, nor to any of the other countries in the region for hosting Syrian refugees. In 2013, Lebanon (US\$18 million), Jordan (US\$15 million) and Iraq (US\$10million) received CERF funding for humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugee populations. **In 2012, Turkey received US\$2.1 million of CERF funding for projects supporting Syrian refugees.** Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq also received CERF funding in 2012 for Syrian refugee-related projects.

6. Domestic response

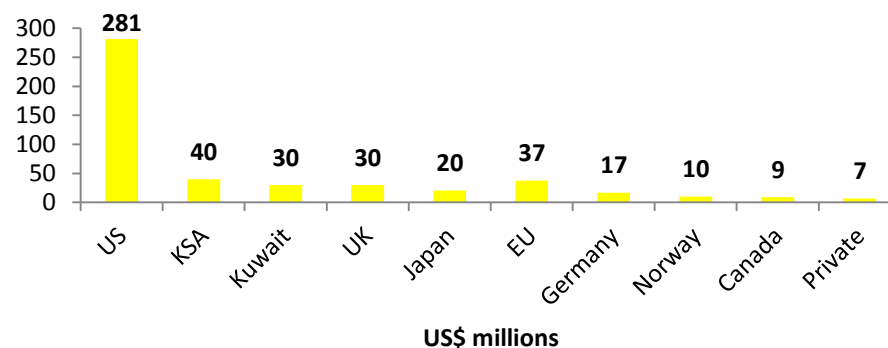
The Government of Turkey leads the refugee response within its own territorial borders. According to the mid-year review of the SRRP, Turkey extends temporary asylum to all Syrians in Turkey and provides food, shelter, basic services, education and medical assistance to Syrian refugees residing in camps, supported by humanitarian partners. There is no available data on the financial cost or government budget allocated to this.

There are currently 847,266 Syrian refugees or refugees awaiting registration in Turkey (out of an estimated 1,350,00 Syrians living in Turkey in total). Only 26% of that number are living in refugee camps and therefore receiving humanitarian support coordinated by the Turkish Government. These figures do not include non-registered refugees, nor the recent wave of Kurdish refugees arriving in Turkey from Syria.

7. Humanitarian funding trends to Turkey (historic)

The US has been the main donor donor to Turkey since 2012. Between 2012 and 2014, the US has contributed US\$281 million to Turkey – 52% of all humanitarian funding to Turkey in the time period. Other major donors from 2012 until 2014 include the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (US\$40 million – 7% of all humanitarian funding), Kuwait and the UK (US\$30 million each – 6% of the total respectively).

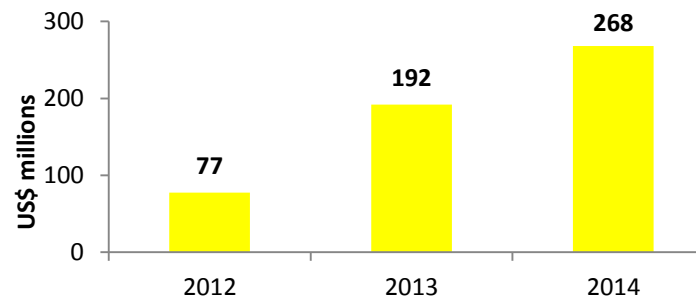
Figure 5: Top 10 humanitarian donors to Turkey, 2012–2014



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014.

Humanitarian funding to Turkey has been increasing year on year since 2012. From 2012 to 2013 there was an increase of US\$114 million (147%); and from 2013 to 2014 there was an increase of US\$76 million (40%).

Figure 6: Humanitarian funding to Turkey, 2012–2014



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 23 September 2014.