NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

$697.9 million

Total USAID/OFDA FY 2018 Funding for EMCA

$500,000

USAID/OFDA FY 2018 Funding for Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management

4

Partners Implementing FY 2018 Programs with DRR Components

OVERVIEW

- Natural hazards, such as droughts, earthquakes, floods, wildfires, and extreme winter weather, affect a range of countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia (EMCA).[1] Protracted conflict and limited governmental disaster management capacity in many EMCA countries compound the risks associated with natural disasters. Furthermore, environmental degradation and rapid urban growth in some countries have led to overcrowding and settlement in hazard-prone areas.

- During FY 2018, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) responded to complex, large-scale crises in EMCA while supporting DRR activities. In Europe, USAID/OFDA facilitated ongoing DRR efforts to build resilience and improve emergency preparedness, mitigation, and response capacity at the local, national, and regional levels. In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided $1.5 million for DRR projects throughout EMCA.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) FUNDING
TO EMCA IN FY 2018

Stand-Alone DRR Programs	$1,100,000
Programs that Integrate DRR with Disaster Response	$400,000
$1,500,000	

STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS IN EMCA

In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided approximately $1.1 million for stand-alone DRR initiatives in EMCA that improved preparedness and aimed to mitigate and prevent the worst impacts of disasters. Additionally, USAID/OFDA supported multi-regional and global DRR programs that strengthened disaster preparedness and response. At the regional and country levels, USAID/OFDA-supported initiatives engaged communities, national and local governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop effective strategies to reduce the risk of disasters. These programs all reflected USAID/OFDA's commitment to support capacity development; strengthen linkages among monitoring, risk identification, early warning, and early action; and expand partnerships and joint programming. Analysis of existing capacities and economic, environmental, and social trends guided the programs.

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[1] The EMCA region encompasses Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, West Bank/Gaza, and Yemen.

EMCA Regional Programs

- **Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination and Advocacy:** With $500,000 in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA continued supporting the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to increase cooperation and coordination among relief actors responding to disasters in the Middle East and North Africa. OCHA trained humanitarian actors to assess disaster response capacities, improve regional cooperation for future disasters, and increase the disaster response capabilities of local organizations in their respective countries.

- **Enhancing Regional IFRC Response Capacity and Strengthening RDRTs in Central Asia and Europe:** In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) with $200,000 to revitalize the Red Cross Red Crescent Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) system in Central Asia and eastern and southern Europe, as well as strengthen cooperation between response teams and national authorities to increase the efficiency of emergency preparedness and response efforts. IFRC revised and introduced new specialized trainings to build the expertise of RDRT roster members for deployment to emergency settings, including updated training on cash transfer programming as an increasingly important component of assistance beyond the emergency response phase. Finally, IFRC strengthened the management of RDRT staff rosters by improving databases and emergency alert systems.

- **Hydrometeorological Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction:** Through $400,000 in FY 2018 funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to strengthen capacity on detection, monitoring, and warning of flash floods in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, northern Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and Turkey. In collaboration with national authorities, the program aims to enhance the capabilities of national meteorological and hydrological services to support disaster management and risk reduction by strengthening provision of flash flood warnings and information to reduce loss of life. In addition, USAID/OFDA also supported WMO to aid the Armenia Service of Hydrometeorology and Active Influence on Atmospheric Phenomena to modernize meteorological services to improve warning of meteorological hazards in FY 2018.

Country-Specific Programs

Israel

- **Wildland Fire Capacity Building and Exchange of Best Practices:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA supported efforts to increase the capacity of the Israeli National Fire and Rescue Services to respond to wildfires. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) shared best practices to help their Israeli counterparts adopt appropriate USFS tactics and techniques to the local context.

West Bank/Gaza

- **Wildland Fire Behavior and Suppression Operations Training:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA concluded a program for wildfire response training in West Bank/Gaza. The USFS trained nearly 20 participants from the Palestinian Civil Defense on wildland fire behavior and operational firefighting techniques.

PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE

In addition to stand-alone DRR programs implemented to prevent or mitigate the effects of hazards in the region, USAID/OFDA integrated preparedness and mitigation into disaster response in FY 2018.

EMCA Regional Programs

- **Building WASH Technical Capacity in Humanitarian Crises:** In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA provided an NGO $400,000 to initiate the development of an advanced degree program to build capacity in the implementation of humanitarian water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programming in the Middle East. With USAID/OFDA's

support, the program—offered through the German Jordanian University in Amman, Jordan—will implement a market and feasibility study to inform the design of the degree program. The course will focus on humanitarian and WASH concepts and will include theoretical and practical elements to ensure graduates are able to support coordinated, rapid WASH interventions in humanitarian emergencies.

- **Nutrition Information Systems Project:** With prior year USAID/OFDA support, an NGO served as the technical convener of Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions surveys in Syria and Yemen. The project increased nutrition response effectiveness in humanitarian emergencies by facilitating technical coordination and nutrition assessment support and enhancing information sharing and best practices for nutrition activities across the Middle East. Activities included the provision of technical support to other NGOs, UN agencies, and respective Ministry of Health staff on survey planning, coordination, implementation, and data analysis.

Country-Specific Programs
Iraq
- **Strengthening GoI Response Readiness:** With prior year funding, USAID/OFDA continued to support the UN Development Program (UNDP) to assist the Government of Iraq (GoI) in establishing an early warning system and preparedness measures to protect vulnerable assets, communities, and institutions against the threat of Mosul Dam failure. UNDP took a phased response approach to the program, which commenced in FY 2016: Phase I facilitated communications between key decision-makers in the event of a Mosul Dam breach; Phase II focused on protecting essential infrastructure and developing alert systems, emergency response plans, and public awareness campaigns; Phase III supported the development of a national response plan, including institutional capacity building and creating an enhanced flood early warning system; and Phase IV expanded upon the Phase III risk management component by building community preparedness until the structural vulnerability of Mosul Dam is stabilized. In addition, the project strengthened flood risk management capacity in Iraq's Tigris flood plain.

USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR EMCA IN FY 2018[1]

LOCATION	PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	PARTNER	TOTAL
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS[2]				
EMCA Regional	Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination and Advocacy	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	OCHA	$500,000
	Enhancing Regional IFRC Response Capacity and Strengthening RDRTs in Central Asia and Europe	Risk Management Policy and Practice	IFRC	$200,000
	Hydrometeorological Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction	Natural and Technological Risks	WMO	$400,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR STAND-ALONE DRR PROGRAMS				$1,100,000
USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE				
EMCA Regional	Building WASH Technical Capacity in Humanitarian Crises	Risk Management Policy and Practice	Implementing Partner	$400,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS THAT INTEGRATE DRR WITH DISASTER RESPONSE				$400,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING FOR EMCA IN FY 2018				$1,500,000

[1] Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. This chart captures all USAID/OFDA DRR funding provided in FY 2018; program descriptions in the fact sheet reflect USAID/OFDA-supported DRR programs active during the fiscal year, regardless of year of funding.
[2] USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2018.

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 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:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
  - 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