

# WFP GCC Highlights 2014 in Review



**World Food Programme**

# Contents

A message from the Director - WFP Office UAE	p.3
2014 at a glance	p.4
Saudi Arabia	p.6
Kuwait	p.9
United Arab Emirates	p.12
Qatar	p.14
Oman	p.16



Syrian refugees in Jordan receive food assistance from WFP thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

# A message from the Director - WFP Office UAE

2014 was an incredibly successful year for WFP when it comes to its collaboration with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. This is reflected not only in the growing commitment **from the GCC countries to support WFP's** operations addressing world hunger, but also in the dedication and hard work of the team at WFP which has so effectively cultivated its relationships with the GCC.

The enhanced collaboration went from WFP senior management visits in the region to welcoming high-level delegations at WFP HQ, award ceremonies, photo exhibitions, office openings and conference presentations — all contributing to increasing the level of trust between WFP and each of the GCC countries, resulting in increased donation levels.

**“I feel we have come a long way and have established excellent new connections throughout the region. It is thanks to the commitment of the WFP Senior management that I have been able, together with my team, to make such ground breaking progress in my first year of tenure as the Director of the WFP UAE office. I thank the whole team, in Rome and the UAE, for their tireless support to this cause.”**

Mapping out new and old contacts throughout the whole region and the creation of a corporate database accessible to the organization is only one of the achievements that will benefit WFP in the long run.



There is still a lot work to be done, and it is clear that the GCC requires more advocacy in order to become knowledgeable about the WFP cost structure and operational issues.

In 2015, I hope to further solidify our strong ties with GCC counterparts at the capital level, streamline the communication with GCC donors worldwide, and capitalize on our successes with donor visibility and enhanced reporting. Working together with other UN **agencies and appearing as ‘One UN’ is a vision** for the future and is on our strategy for next year.

I am energized by the achievements over the past year, and am looking forward to keeping up this level of commitment and spirit of **collaboration to take WFP's partnership with the GCC to the next level.**

Abdallah Alwardat  
Director, WFP Office UAE

## 2014 at a glance

Nowhere was the successful relationship with the GCC countries more evident than in the sheer scale of the increase in contributions from recent years. In terms of figures, contributions rose from US\$12.5 million in 2012, to US\$64.6 million in 2013 and US\$341.5 million in 2014—ranking them the fifth biggest contributor to WFP in 2014.

The main operations to benefit from GCC country contributions were predominantly based in the Middle East and included Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. However, vulnerable populations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, Palestine, the Philippines, Senegal and South Sudan (to name a few) were also assisted through the generosity of the GCC countries.

Notably, the GCC countries were vital partners in helping WFP to cope with five level 3 emergencies that were prevalent throughout the year. In particular, the Syria conflict continued to impact the humanitarian situation in the region, resulting in significant humanitarian needs. In the face of severe food shortages

confronting the vulnerable populations in Syria and the refugees in its neighbouring countries, several of the GCC countries—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, on a smaller scale — **contributed to WFP's** operations in the region. Cumulatively they contributed over US\$123 million in total. This **ranked the GCC countries as WFP's** second biggest donor to the Syria Crisis. Their **commitment to supporting WFP's Syria** operations ensured that WFP was able to continue to support the life-saving needs of millions of vulnerable people in Syria and its neighbouring countries.

Overall, with the increased involvement of the GCC countries, WFP was able to maintain providing humanitarian relief to some of the **world's most vulnerable people, and continue** its movement towards a world with zero hunger. We look forward to strengthening these partnerships in 2015, and building a powerful relationship with these countries who have the capacity and desire to alleviate human suffering.

<b>GCC Countries Contributing to WFP</b>	<b>2014 (US\$)</b>
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	<b>269,908,689</b>
<b>Kuwait</b>	<b>37,475,000</b>
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	<b>29,760,000</b>
<b>Qatar</b>	<b>2,379,999</b>
<b>Oman</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>341,523,688</b>
<b>Overall Rank</b>	<b>5</b>



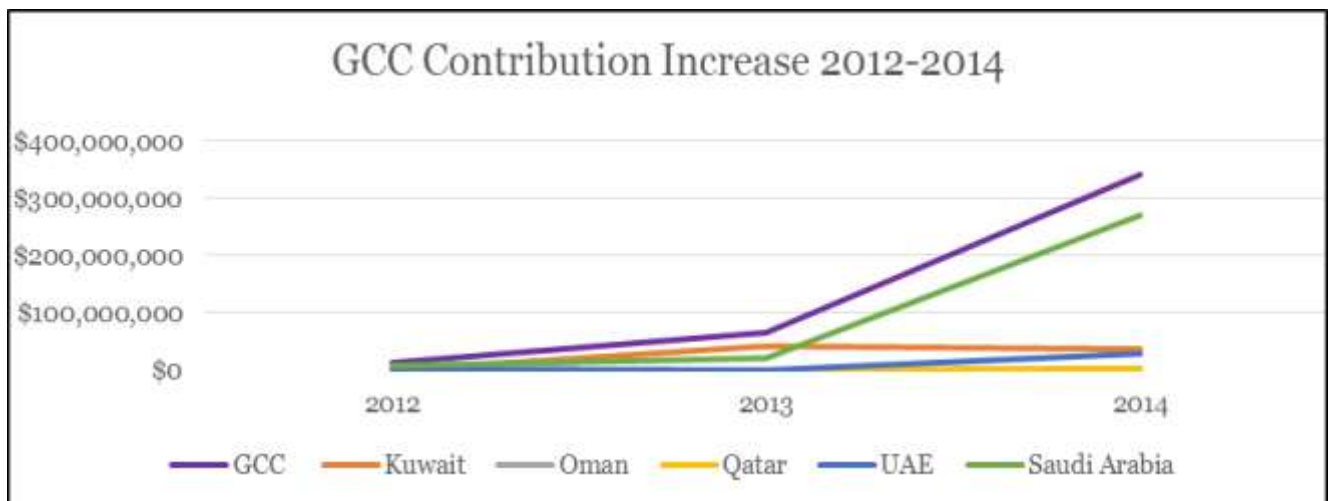
WFP/Sandy Maroun

Syrian refugees in Lebanon receive dates from WFP thanks to the in-kind contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

## GCC Countries Contributions to WFP

### Overall Facts and Figures

GCC WFP Ranking	5th
Total Contributions (US\$)	341,523,688
Total Contributions to the Syria Regional Crisis (US\$)	123,760,000
GCC WFP Ranking to the Syria Regional Crisis	2nd



# Saudi Arabia

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is WFP's biggest GCC donor, and this was evidenced with several significant contributions to WFP's operations this year. In 2014, it ranked 6th on the WFP Global Donor Ranking List, contributing almost US\$270 million to WFP's operations. The main recipients of Saudi assistance were WFP's operations in Iraq and Syria, demonstrating the Saudi commitment to support vulnerable people affected by conflict in the Middle East.

Since 2002, around US\$8 million has been provided as an in-kind donation of dates, which in 2014 were directed to vulnerable populations in Lebanon and Jordan affected by the Syria Regional Crisis. Moreover, 2014 saw the historical settling of a large amount of outstanding associated costs related to this in-kind donation that had been due to WFP since 2002. This marked a significant turning point in the relationship, and a move towards increased collaboration and partnership.

Overall, the increased support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to WFP's operations reflected both the humanitarian spirit and generosity of the Saudi people, and the considerable investment of WFP in its relationship with this vital partner over the years.

Country	Operation	Title	Amount US\$
Central African Republic	EMOP 200799	Critical Support to Populations Affected by the Ongoing Crisis in Central African Republic and its Regional Impact	3,000,000
Ethiopia	PRRO 200365	Food Assistance for Somali, Eritrean and Sudanese Refugees	42,000,000
Iraq	EMOP 200677	Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis	148,930,096*
Kenya	PRRO 200174	Food Assistance to Refugees	10,000,000
Philippines	PRRO 200396	Support for Returnees and other Conflict-Affected Households in Central Mindanae, and National Capacity Development in Disaster Preparedness and Response	14,333
Multiple	Multiple	In-Kind Contribution of 4000 mt of dates	7,964,266
Palestine	PRRO 200709	Food Assistance for Food-Insecure Populations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip	1,000,000
Syrian Arab Republic	EMOP 200339	Emergency Food Assistance to People Affected by Unrest in Syria	5,000,000
Syria Regional Crisis	EMOP 200443	Food Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Populations in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, and Egypt Affected by Conflict in Syria	52,000,000
TOTAL			269,908,689

\*This figure represents the final sum allocated to WFP after the deduction of an admin fee to OCHA for processing the US\$150 million grant

## Photo Exhibition in Rome

Date: 12 February 2014

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Photo Exhibition in Rome was the last event of a series of four exhibitions celebrating WFP's partnership with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to 'Eliminate World Hunger in our Lifetimes'. Previously successfully taking place in Vienna, Geneva and New York, the final Rome exhibition was inaugurated by the Executive Director and the Saudi Minister of Agriculture, His Excellency Dr. Fahd Bin Abdulrahman Bin Sulaiman Balghunaim. The exhibition remained open to the public for 3 days, with the images portraying some of the millions of people who receive food assistance each year from WFP, thanks to the generous support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## Contribution of US\$5 Million to Syria

Date: 11 May 2014

WFP received a generous contribution of US\$5 million from the Saudi Fund for Development, a government agency of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia operating under His Majesty King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud. The contribution enabled WFP to provide life-saving food assistance to thousands of displaced families across all 14 governorates in Syria, including specialized assistance for children and pregnant and nursing women. Part of the **donation also went to support WFP's school feeding programme inside Syria.**



The Executive Director meets with His Excellency Dr. Fahd Bin Abdulrahman Bin Sulaiman Balghunaim at the Rome Photo Exhibit

## Contribution of US\$150 Million to Iraq

Date: 17 July 2014

**In July, WFP's Iraq operations received US\$150 million** from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These funds were part of a US\$500 million contribution from the Kingdom to OCHA, with WFP receiving the largest single agency allocation at the behest of His Majesty King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud. As a result of this timely assistance, WFP was able to establish numerous field kitchens serving much needed hot meals to Iraqi internally displaced people living in camps, mosques, schools and other informal settlements. Following the generous contribution, the Executive Director took the opportunity to write to His Majesty King Abdullah to thank him for the continued support of the Kingdom and the Saudi people to WFP.

## Annual Contribution of Dates

2014 saw the distribution of the Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia's yearly in-kind** contribution of 4000 mt of dates to vulnerable populations affected by the Syria regional crisis in Lebanon and Jordan. The destination of the dates was decided by Saudi Arabia, in light of the urgent needs in the region and the continued hardship faced by the Syrian refugee population. Arriving during Ramadan, the dates were greatly appreciated by the beneficiaries and provided vital food assistance to those people struggling to sustain their basic needs.



Syrian refugees in Lebanon receive dates from WFP thanks to the in-kind contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

## Contribution of US\$1 million to Palestine

Date: 3 December 2014

In December the Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People, under the Saudi Ministry of Interior, contributed US\$1 million to WFP's operations in Palestine. The donation came at a crucial time when humanitarian needs in Palestine were mounting following the conflict in Gaza in July and August. The contribution will enable WFP to provide nutritious food and food vouchers for more than one month to some 122,000 of the most vulnerable Palestinians living in the West Bank. The contribution was confirmed at a signature ceremony in Cairo, attended by Dr. Saeed Al-Arabi Al-Harithy, Advisor to the Saudi Minister of Interior and Chairman of the Saudi Relief Committees, as well as Mr. Mubarak Bin Saeed Al-Bakr, Executive Director of the Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People.

## Contribution of US\$104 million to Refugees from Syria, South Sudan and Somalia

Date: 4 December 2014

At the end of the year, when humanitarian needs were at one of their greatest peaks, WFP received US\$104 million from His Majesty King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud to assist refugees sheltering in Ethiopia, Kenya, and countries neighbouring Syria. The contribution included US\$52 million to support about 1.7 million Syrian refugees who were facing suspension of their food assistance for December, just as another harsh winter in the region loomed; US\$42 million for refugees sheltering in Ethiopia, many from South Sudan; and US\$10 million to provide nutrition to refugees in Kenya. The funds went immediately to help people facing hunger and an uncertain future. WFP was extremely grateful for this assistance, which came at a crucial moment for these refugees—all of whom had fled protracted conflict. The generous gift also solidified the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's place as one of WFP's major donors.



Families in Iraq receive food distributed by WFP thanks to the contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



# Kuwait

The WFP relationship with the State of Kuwait has been greatly strengthened over the past 2 years, **and this continued into 2014 with several significant contributions to WFP’s operations, increased high-level interaction with Kuwaiti Ministers and the opening of a new office in Kuwait City. In 2014 it ranked 20th on the Global Donor Ranking List, contributing over US\$37 million WFP’s operations.** The main recipients of Kuwaiti assistance were vulnerable populations in Syria and its neighbouring countries, reflecting Kuwait’s longstanding commitment to support the beleaguered Syrian population.

Country	Operation	Title	Amount US\$
Iraq	SOP 200746	Special Operation—Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Support in Iraq	2,000,000
Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)	PRRO 200532	Nutrition Support for Children and Women in DPRK	225,000
Philippines	EMOP 200631	Assistance to People Affected by the Super Typhoon Haiyan	100,000
Somalia	PRRO 200443	Strengthening Food And Nutrition Security and Enhancing Resilience	150,000
Syrian Arab Republic	EMOP 200339	Emergency Food Assistance to People Affected by Unrest in Syria	13,000,000
Syria Regional	EMOP 200433	Food Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Populations in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, and Egypt Affected by	22,000,000
TOTAL			37,475,000

## Contribution of US\$35 Million to the Syria Regional Crisis

Date: 4 April 2014

Following on from their successful International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria in 2013, the Government of Kuwait hosted a second conference in January where they announced a pledge of US\$500 million to assist those people suffering from the conflict in Syria. Of that sum WFP received US\$35 million in April, with US\$22 million being directed to the Regional Emergency Operation and US\$13 million to the Syria Emergency Operation.



The Deputy Executive Director receives the cheque for US\$35 million from His Excellency Dr. Al-Matouq at the handover ceremony in Geneva



The Executive Director welcomes His Excellency Dr. Al-Matouq and the Ambassador of Kuwait to WFP HQ in Rome

The Deputy Executive Director met with His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Al-Matouq, Advisor at Aldiwan Alamiri, United Nations Secretary-General's Humanitarian Envoy for Kuwait and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Chairman of the International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO) in Geneva to accept the cheque for US\$35 million. This was part of the commemorative ceremony of contributions made by the State of Kuwait, co-hosted by OCHA and the Mission of Kuwait to the UN. His Excellency Dr. Al-Matouq was instrumental in obtaining contributions for **WFP's Syria operations in both 2013 and 2014**, and participation in the ceremony was a true honour for WFP.

## Dr. Al-Matouq Visit to WFP HQ

Date: 4 June 2014

In June, His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Al-Matouq, accompanied by the Rome-based Ambassador of Kuwait, His Excellency Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, visited WFP HQ in Rome for the first time. The delegation was received by the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director of Partnership and Governance

Services, with the purpose of building a sustainable relationship between WFP and the State of Kuwait. During a bilateral meeting with His Excellency, the Executive Director **acknowledged the Kuwaiti Amir's leadership** role for humanitarian causes by issuing him a certificate of appreciation. The delegation also **visited WFP's new Operations Centre (OPSCEN)**, where they received an in-depth **briefing on WFP's operations in Syria** and modus operandi.

## Opening of Kuwait Office and Hiring of Kuwaiti National

Date: 1 July 2014

This year WFP opened an office in Kuwait City and recruited the first ever Kuwaiti national to WFP, Mr. Omar Al-Essa. Mr Al-Essa will be striving to further strengthen the existing relationship with the State of Kuwait, local stakeholders as well as the private sector, reporting directly to the WFP UAE Office. The opening of the office represented a significant **step forward to enhance WFP's collaboration** with the State of Kuwait on the ground, and WFP will be celebrating this achievement with an official opening ceremony in the near future.

## Contribution of US\$2 million to Iraq

Date: 21 July 2014

As part of a US\$9.5 million Kuwaiti **contribution to OCHA's humanitarian response** efforts in Iraq, US\$2 million was allocated to WFP. The contribution, delivered by the Permanent Representation of the State of **Kuwait in Geneva, went to support WFP's** humanitarian operations to alleviate the suffering of Iraqis who were displaced by the violence in their country that began in early 2014. The contribution highlighted the trust of the State of Kuwait in the capacity of WFP to provide efficient, effective and neutral assistance to those in need in the Middle East.

## Celebration of Amir Humanitarian Leader Award

Date: 12 September 2014

In September, a Kuwaiti delegation was received by the Deputy Executive Director in **Rome to celebrate the Amir of Kuwait's** Humanitarian Leader Award. This Award, given to the Amir on 9 September in New York City by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, **was to recognize His Highness' humanitarian** leadership, especially with regards to the Syria crisis. The informal ceremony at WFP HQ was requested by the Rome based Ambassador of Kuwait, His Excellency Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. During the ceremony the Ambassador and the Permanent Representative, His Excellency Yousef Jhail, expressed their pride in the recognition from

the UN of the humanitarian role of Kuwait under the leadership of the Amir, and commended the partnership between Kuwait and WFP.

## Fifth Annual Conference for Effective Partnerships and Information Sharing

Date: 13 - 14 October 2014

In October, the Assistant Executive Director of Partnerships and Governance Services **participated in the 'Fifth Annual Conference for Effective Partnerships and Information Sharing for Better Humanitarian Action' in Kuwait City.** Her participation was part of efforts to further **strengthen WFP's partnership with the GCC** countries and contribute to raising the profile of WFP in the region. Alongside the participation in a High-Level Roundtable on the World **Humanitarian Summit (chaired by OCHA's** Valerie Amos), the Assistant Executive Director presented the introductory speech for Technical Session 1 of the conference. Effort was also **made to build on WFP's relationship with the** State of Kuwait (the host of the Conference) through meetings with high-level officials in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additionally, a meeting was conducted with Mr Hesham Yousef, Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). This meeting, at the side-lines of the conference, gave a positive indication for enhanced collaboration with OIC **in the future and clearly showed OIC's interest** in working closer with WFP.



The Deputy Executive Director and the Ambassador of Kuwait celebrate the Amir of Kuwait's Humanitarian Leader Award at WFP HQ in Rome



Refugees from Syria receive food assistance from WFP thanks to the contribution from the United Arab Emirates

## United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was a crucial partner to WFP in 2014, demonstrated not only through its generous contributions to WFP, but also through the support of its government to WFP's office in Dubai and the International Humanitarian City (IHC). In 2014 it ranked 24th on WFP's Global Donor Ranking List, contributing over US\$29 million to WFP's operations. The main beneficiaries of Emirati assistance were vulnerable populations in Syria and its neighbouring countries affected by the Syria conflict.

During the year, WFP managed to obtain office space in Abu Dhabi. This physical presence enabled WFP to work closely with the newly established Emirati Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD), a government body tasked with addressing humanitarian assistance from the UAE. MICAD is now a key counterpart for the WFP office in the country, with the Executive Director forming a close personal and strategic relationship with several high-level ministers.

Country	Operation	Title	Amount US\$
Syrian Arab Republic	EMOP 200339	Emergency Food Assistance to People Affected by Unrest in Syria	24,960,000
Syria Regional Crisis	EMOP 200433	Food Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Populations in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, and Egypt	4,800,000
TOTAL			29,760,000*

\*This figure represents the final sum allocated to WFP after the deduction of an admin fee to MICAD for processing the US\$31 million grant

## Executive Director Participation in DIHAD

Date: 25 March 2014

In March, the Executive Director attended the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition (DIHAD). During DIHAD she participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the conference, along with Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein and Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi, Minister of International Cooperation and Development, and Head of MICAD. The Executive Director was also the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony of the conference and met bilaterally with Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna to address the possibility of a greater partnership between WFP and MICAD. This relationship was strengthened through an additional bilateral meeting during the UN General Assembly in September, supporting **WFP's efforts to solidify its partnership with MICAD.**

## Assistant Executive Director Visits to the United Arab Emirates

Date: 3-5 September 2014

During a visit of the Assistant Executive Director of Partnership and Governance Services to Syria and Lebanon, a stop was made in Dubai. There she met with Her Excellency Shaima Al Zarooni, Chief Executive Officer of the IHC Dubai, and Najla Mohammed Al Awar,



The Assistant Executive Director of Partnership and Governance Services receives a plaque from His Excellency Hazza Mohammed Falah Al Qahtani in Abu Dhabi

Secretary General of the UAE Cabinet. IHC has **become a vital source of support for WFP's** operations in the region, and the meeting was **an excellent opportunity to strengthen WFP's** relationship with both the IHC and high-level government officials.

The Assistant Executive Director returned to the UAE later in the year, and again met with high-level government officials, including His Excellency Hazza Mohammed Falah Al Qahtani, Undersecretary for MICAD. As well as addressing the Syria Regional Crisis, His Excellency presented the Assistant Executive **Director with a plaque in recognition of WFP's** humanitarian efforts across the world.

## Contribution of US\$31 Million to Syria

Date: 17 September 2014

In January, the UAE pledged US\$60 million during the Second International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria. Of that amount, WFP was allocated US\$31 million. This was announced in a press conference hosted by the Government and MICAD in Abu Dhabi in April 2014, with the agreement being finalized and signed between WFP and MICAD in mid-September. Within the grant, US\$26 million **went towards WFP's Emergency Operation in Syria** (of which US\$6 million was specifically targeting nutrition) and US\$5 million **went towards WFP's Regional Emergency Operation**, helping vulnerable Syrian people in Jordan affected by the conflict in their home country. This contribution enabled WFP to provide vital assistance to those affected by the Syria crisis.



His Excellency Hazza Mohammed Falah Al Qahtani signs the MICAD agreement with WFP for the contribution to Syria in Abu Dhabi

# Qatar

2014 saw WFP expend great effort in cultivating its relationship with the State of Qatar. Several visits to the country to meet with high-level government officials and discussions of working with local Qatari NGOs resulted in a considerably strengthened partnership and additional contributions to **WFP's projects. In 2014 Qatar ranked 51st on WFP's Global Donor Ranking List, contributing over US\$2 million to WFP's operations. The main recipients of Qatari assistance were Syrian refugees in countries neighbouring Syria, and vulnerable people in Pakistan who benefitted from Qatar's yearly in-kind contribution of dates to WFP.**

Country	Operation	Title	Amount US\$
Pakistan	PRRO 200250	Enhancing Food and Nutrition Security and Rebuilding Social Cohesion	379,999
Syria Regional Crisis	EMOP 200433	Food Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Populations in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, and Egypt Affected by Conflict in Syria	2,000,000
TOTAL			2,379,999

## Assistant Executive Director Meeting with the Director of the International Development Department

Date: 14 October 2014

In 2014 WFP established a direct relationship with the Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Development Department, providing an opportunity for enhanced collaboration between WFP and Qatar. Alongside a visit to Qatar by WFP representatives from the UAE Office in August, the Assistant Executive Director of Partnership and Governance Services met with the Director of the International Development Department, His Excellency Dr. Ahmed bin Mohamed Al Meraikhi in October during her visit to Kuwait. His Excellency expressed on behalf of the State of Qatar the desire to partner with WFP, particularly in Syria, Gaza, Yemen, Darfur and South Sudan.

In addition, His Excellency expressed the desire **of the Qatari Ministry to learn more about WFP's modus operandi, with the hope establishing a greater understanding WFP's operations and working closely with WFP in the future.**

## Executive Director Visit to Doha

Date: 20 October 2014

Following an official invitation from the Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Executive Director undertook her first visit to Qatar to meet bilaterally with His Excellency Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, Minister of Foreign Affairs. The meeting was an excellent **opportunity to strengthen WFP's relationship with this key Qatari Ministry, and provided an opportunity for the Executive Director and Minister to address the ongoing crisis in Syria and its neighbouring countries.**



WFP/Abeer Etefa

Families in Syria benefit from WFP food distributions thanks to the generosity of donors such as the GCC

## The Annual WFP Partnership Consultations

Date: 29 - 30 October 2014

In October, representatives from the leading NGOs and Charitable Foundations in Qatar - the Qatar Red Crescent Society, Qatar Charity and the RAF Foundation - travelled to Rome to attend the 2014 WFP Annual Partnerships Consultation (APC). The representatives had the opportunity to meet with the Assistant Executive Director of Partnership and Governance Services to explore the possibility of a closer partnership with WFP. The consultation provided an excellent platform upon which to solidify the desire to partner together. In December, the Director of the WFP UAE Office followed up these potential partnerships by travelling to Doha to provide a **presentation of WFP's cost structure and modus operandi at a roundtable on 'Building Capacity, Partnerships and Coordination.'** WFP's participation in this event was greatly appreciated by the Qatari NGOs, and provided an opportunity to strengthen their engagement with the multilateral system.

## Contribution of US\$2 Million to Syria

Date: 11 December 2014

At the end of the year, when WFP was facing a dire funding shortfall for its Syria regional operations, the State of Qatar made a contribution of US\$2 million to assist WFP in its efforts to provide life-saving food relief to refugees from Syria. The timely gift enabled WFP to reinstate the Syrian refugees electronic food vouchers for December 2014, providing food and hope to many of the poorest and most vulnerable people during a time of great need.



WFP/Rein Skallerud

The Executive Director opens the 2015 Annual WFP Partnership Consultations at WFP HQ in Rome

# Oman

2014 witnessed the Sultanate of Oman reignite its relationship with WFP, with the first contribution to WFP since 2010 being registered at the beginning of the year. In 2014 it ranked 52nd on the WFP Global Donor Ranking List, contributing US\$2 million to WFP. The main recipients of Omani assistance were Senegal and Mauritania.

Country	Operation	Title	Amount US\$
Senegal	PRRO 200138	Assistance to Conflict-Affected in the Casamance Naturelle and other Communities Impacted by Production Deficits	1,000,000
Mauritania	EMOP 200438	Assistance to Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons from Mali Affected by the Ongoing Insecurity	1,000,000
TOTAL			2,000,000

## Contribution of US\$2 Million to the Sahel Region

Date: 6 March 2014

In 2014 the Sultanate of Oman made a contribution of US\$2 million to WFP for people suffering the effects of drought and conflict in West Africa. An original allocation of US\$1 million was confirmed by the Ambassador of the State of Oman in Rome, and a second allocation of US\$1 million was contributed through the Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations in New York.

The US\$2 million total contribution was shared equally between Senegal and Mauritania. In **Mauritania, US\$1 million went to WFP's** emergency operation to assist refugees and displaced people who were affected by the conflict in neighbouring Mali. The other US\$1 million went to support the relief operation in **Senegal's Casamance area, where sporadic** violence and landmines have left more than 50% of the population food insecure, with a high prevalence of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies among mothers and young children. With this contribution WFP was able

to build on the resilience projects that were part of **WFP's response to the devastating 2011-2012** drought which affected millions of people.

## Ambassador of Oman Presentation of Credentials

Date: 9 July 2014

In July, the Ambassador of Oman, His Excellency Ahmed Salim Mohamed Baomar, presented his credentials to the Executive Director at WFP HQ. As well as discussing the difficult humanitarian situations in the Central African Republic, Syria and Iraq, both the Executive Director and Ambassador Baomar highlighted their reciprocal interest in strengthening the already existing good relationship between WFP and the Sultanate of Oman through the establishment of a Junior Professional Officer. Both also expressed a desire to see the country become an active part of the WFP family. WFP is now planning a high-level strategic visit to the country to reach out to high-level officials and engage young professional Omanis with our operations.





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