



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# Office of Development Effectiveness

## Evaluations of Australia's humanitarian response to crises in the Horn of Africa and Syria

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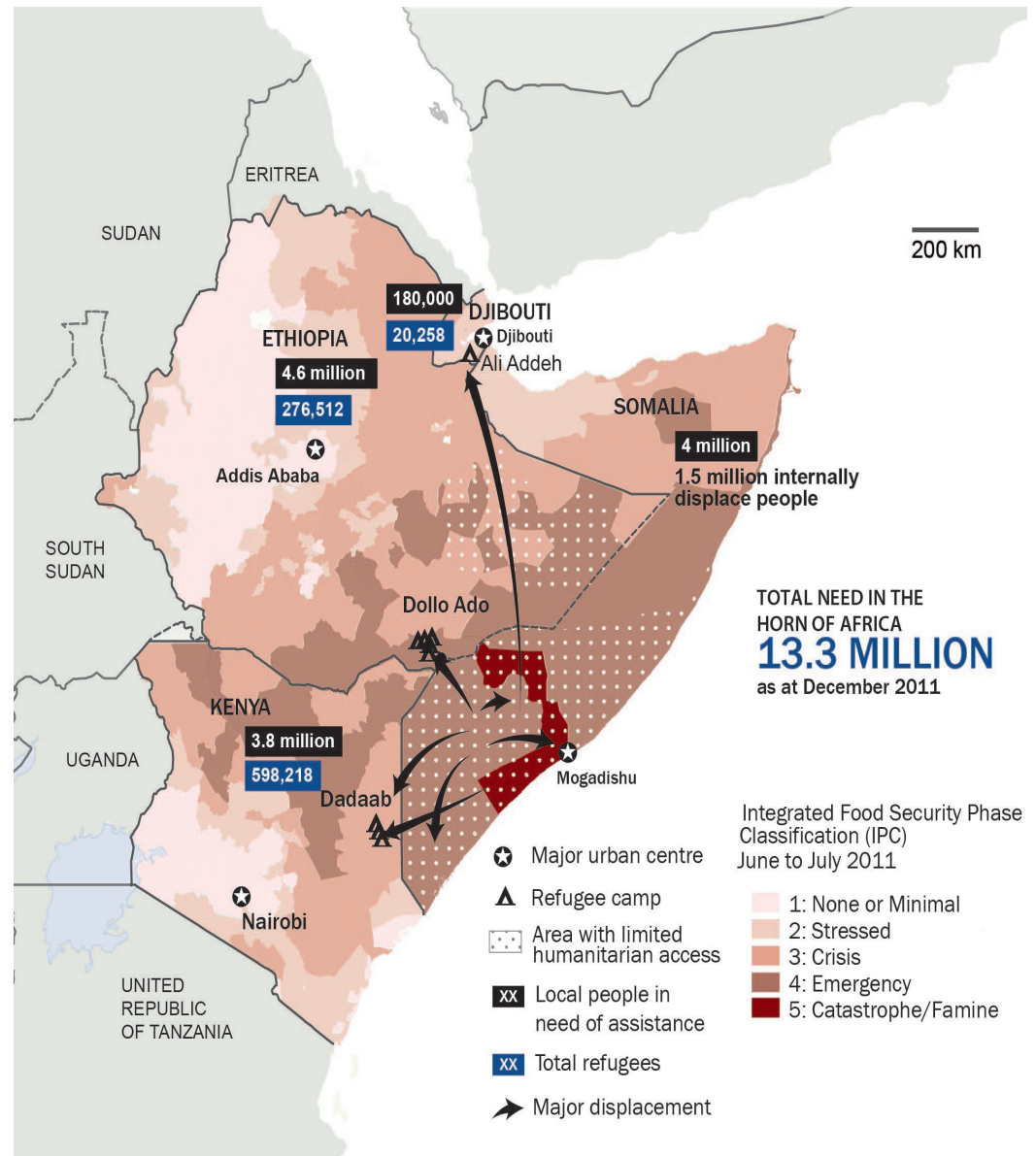
# Evaluation of Australia's response to the Horn of Africa Humanitarian Crisis



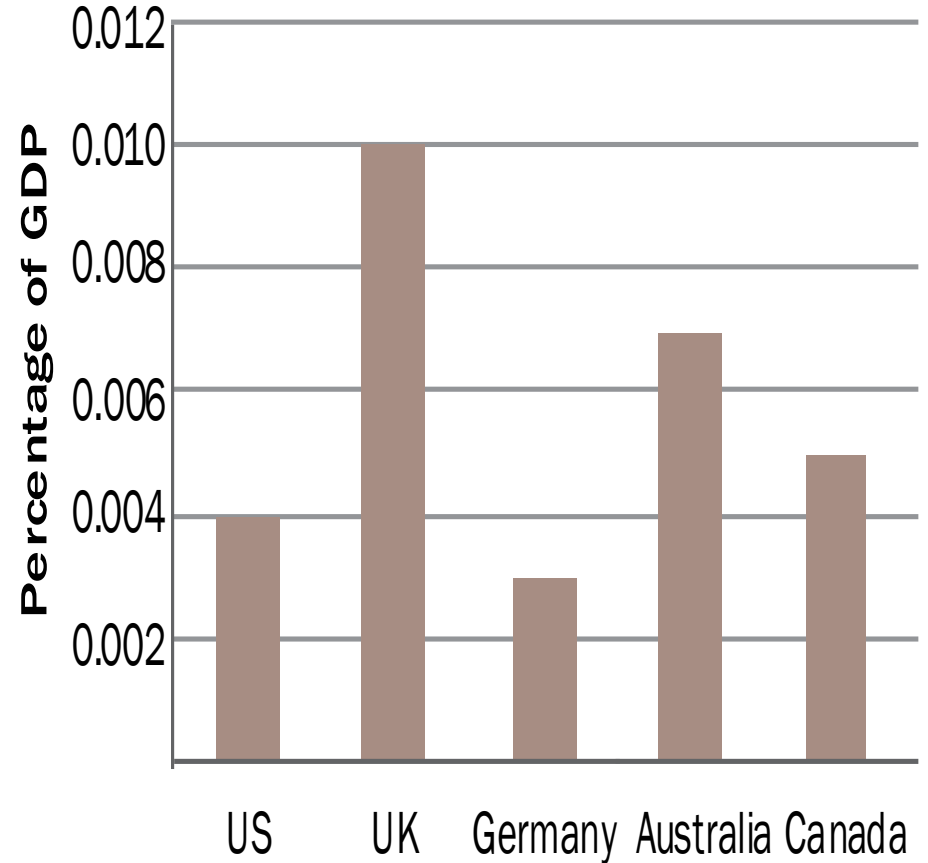
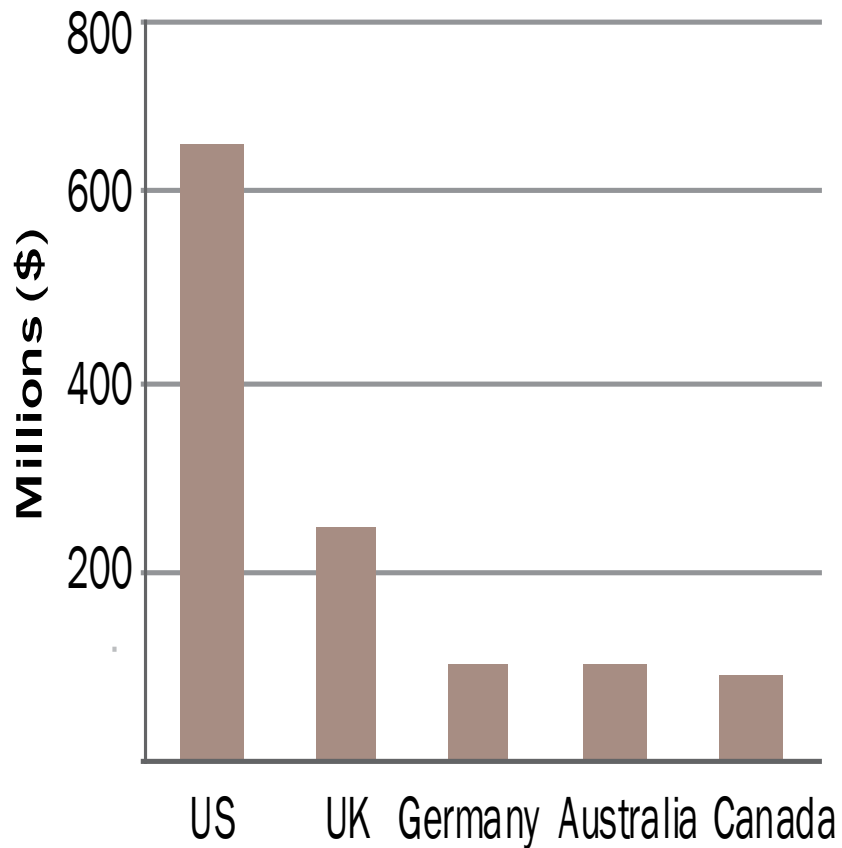
# Background

## Famine caused by

- drought & ecological vulnerability
- conflict
- actions of Al-Shabaab
- withdrawal of aid



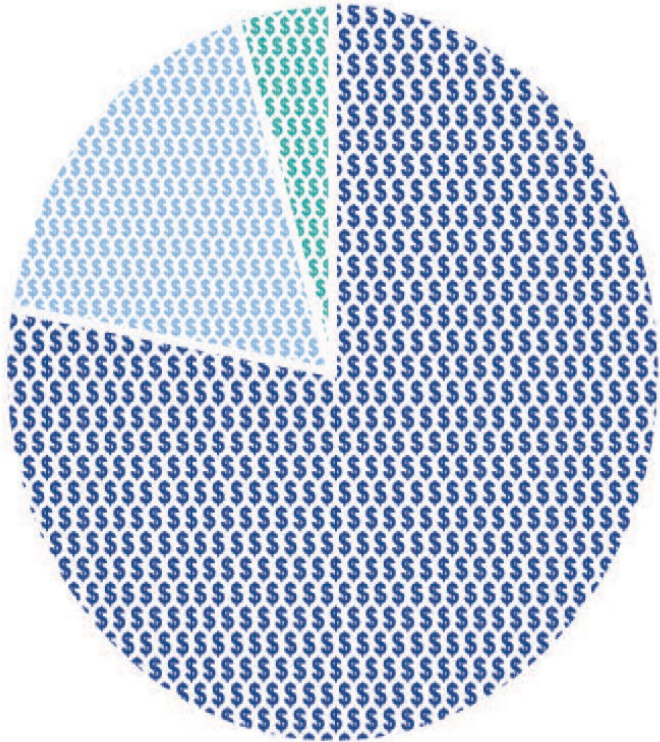
# Australia's response – Funding in 2011



# About the evaluation

- Evaluation purpose
  - *To improve the effectiveness Australian humanitarian assistance to slow onset crises?*
- Questions
  - how Australia responded
  - how Australian assistance was delivered
  - how well the needs of affected people were met
  - achievements of the Australian response
- Methodology

# Funding was disbursed quickly after the declaration of famine



\$ UN funds total **\$87.5 million**

\$ NGO funds total **\$19.5 million**

\$ ICRC funds total **\$5 million**

# Most funding went to Somalia as intended



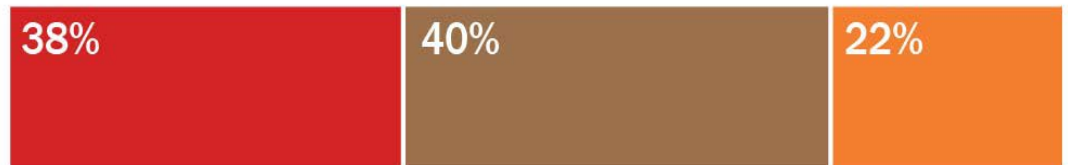
## UN assistance



## ICRC assistance



## NGO assistance



People needed multiple forms of assistance.

Cash transfers were effective & extensively used.

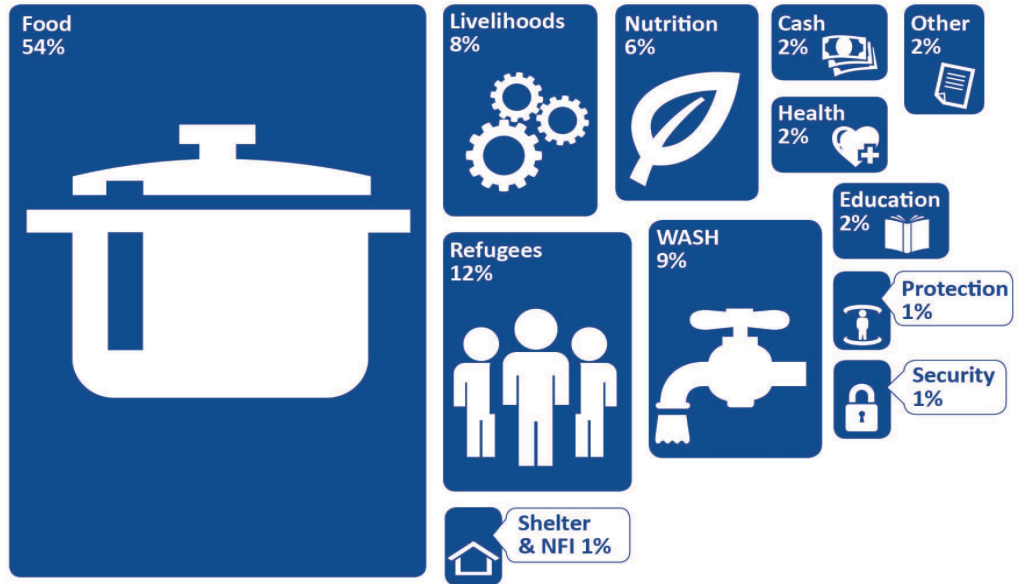
‘The elderly beneficiaries, who were mostly women, were happy because they had the freedom to buy easily chewable food such as liver.’



# Sectors supported

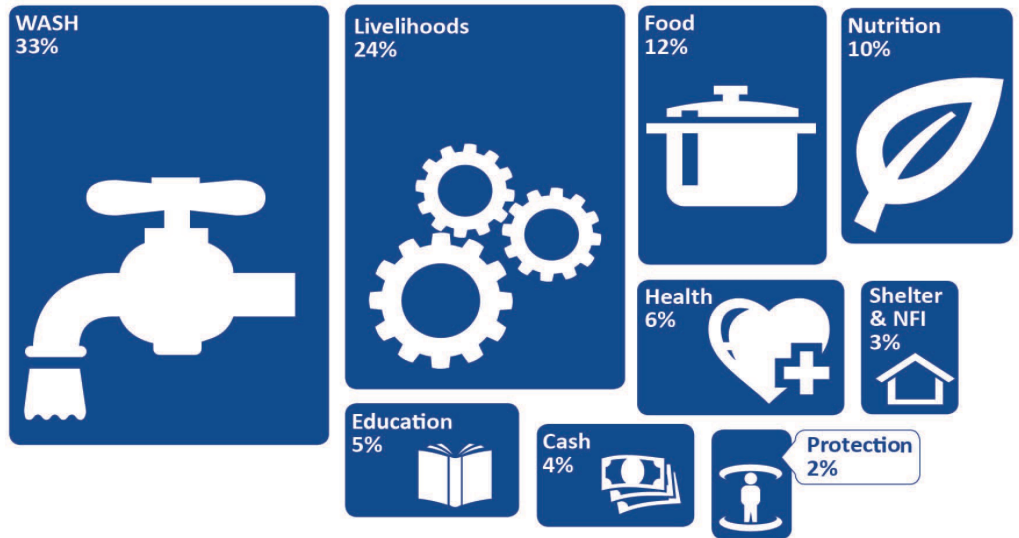
# All partners

All partners



Partners funded through the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement and the Dollar for Dollar Initiative

# NGOs



# NGO funding mechanisms

	<b>Humanitarian Partnership Agreement</b>	<b>Dollar for Dollar Initiative</b>
<b>Strengths</b>	Fast disbursement Efficient Best suited Australian NGOs	Public engaged Funding increased
<b>Weakness</b>	Limited funding	Slow disbursement Inefficient-20 NGOs

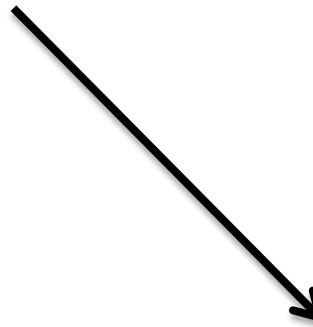
**NGOs with Australian base were not the most suited**

## FUNDING

Australia

5%

All other donors  
95%

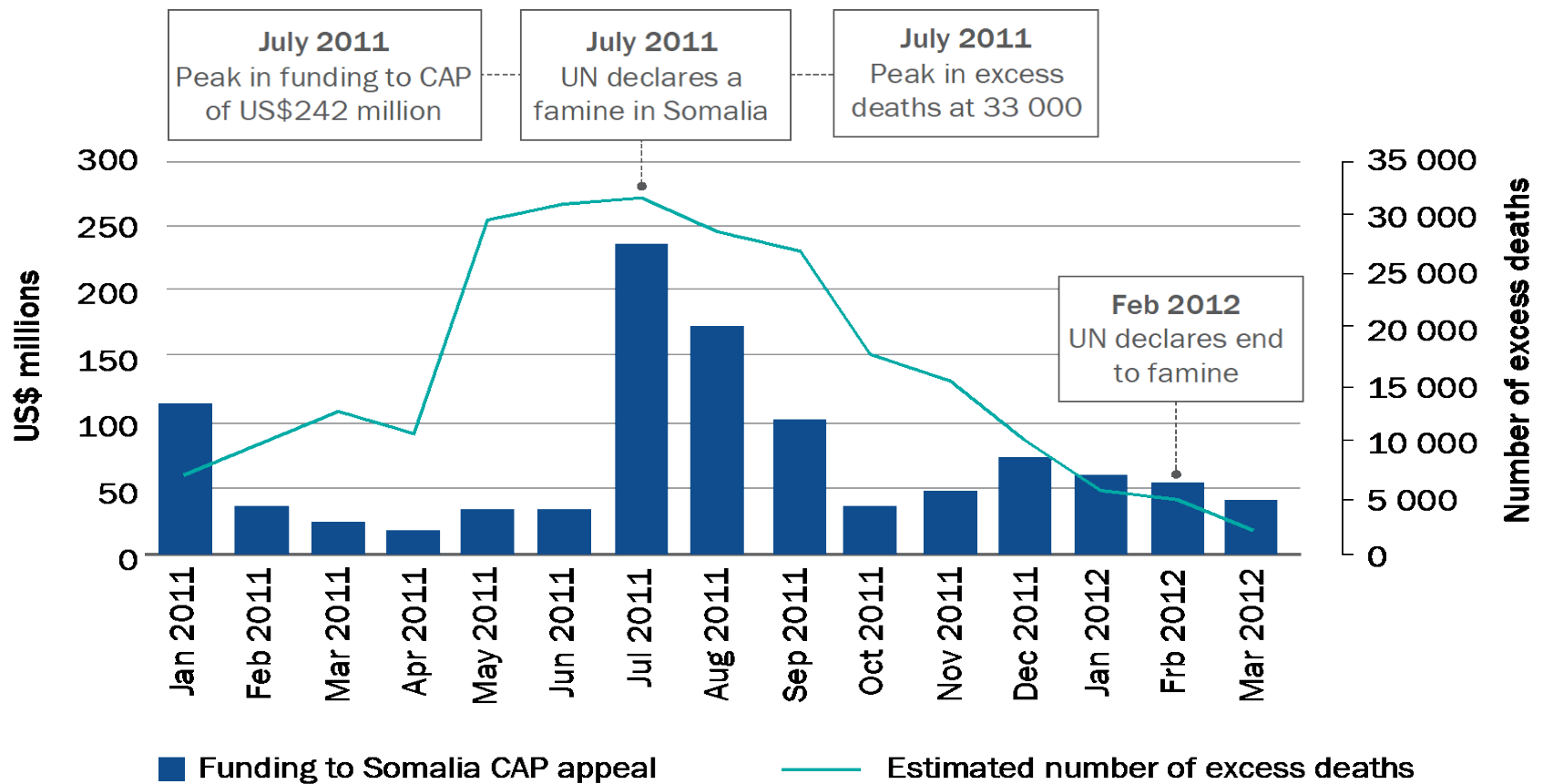


## RESULTS

Number of beneficiaries  
25%

Life saving  
assistance for  
those in need  
50%

# In Somalia the number of famine related deaths fell soon after aid was scaled up



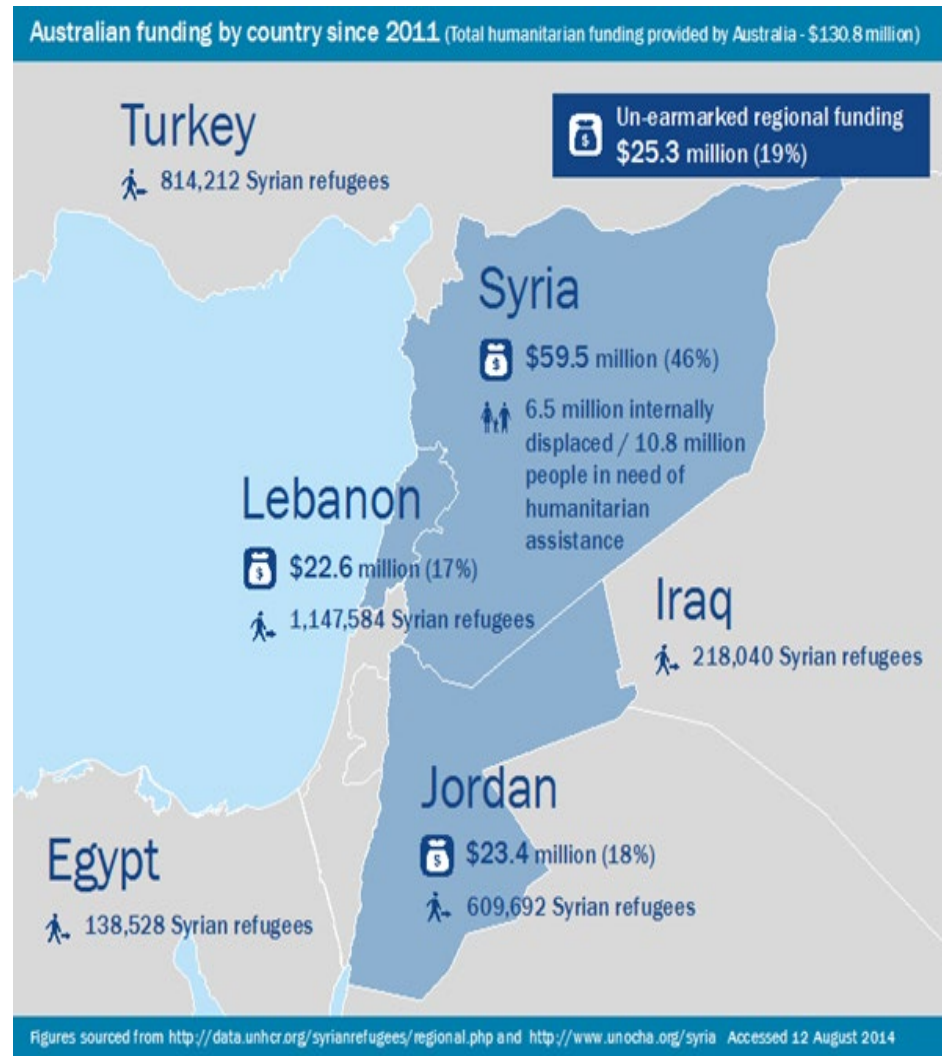
# Australia's humanitarian response to the Syria crisis



Waiting to receive food at the besieged al Yarmouk camp, Syria, UNRWA

# Australia's humanitarian response

- Diplomatic engagement
- Material assistance
  - \$130+ million, through UN, NGO and other partners
  - Delivered in Lebanon, Jordan, within Syria and across the region
  - Supporting activities across a range of sectors



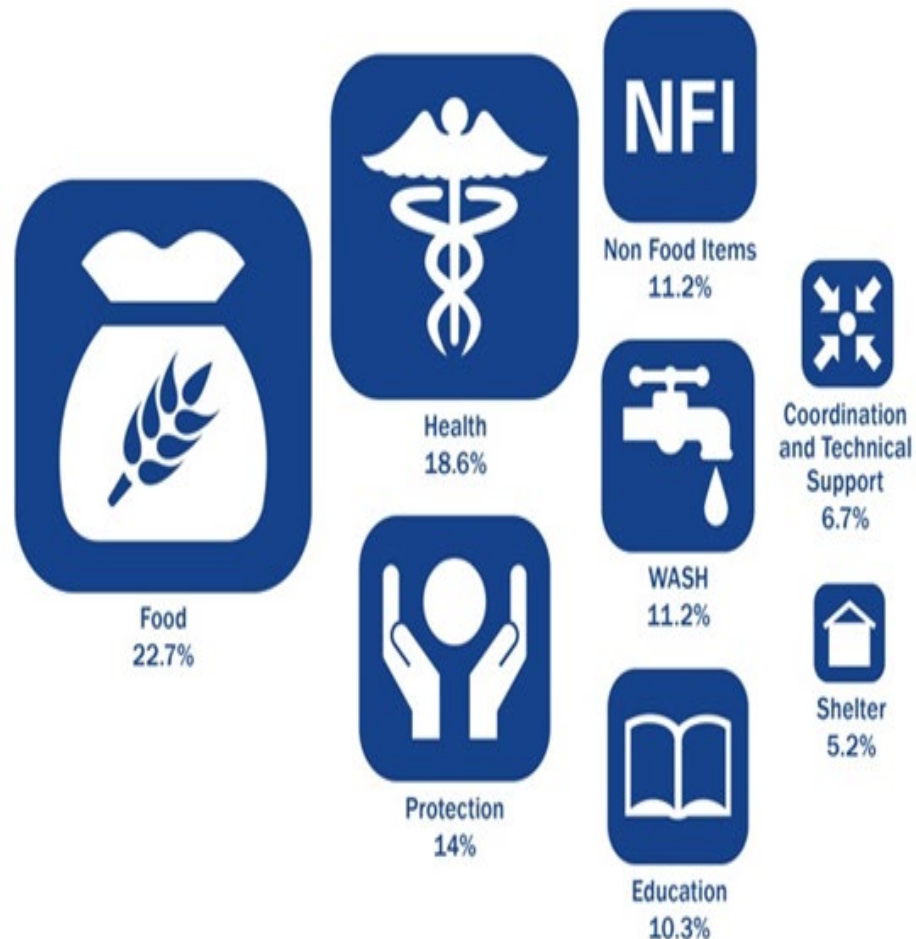
# About the evaluation

- Evaluation purpose
  - *What can the Australian Government do to improve its humanitarian response to the crisis in Syria?*
- Questions
  - how Australia responded
  - how Australian assistance was delivered
  - how well the needs of affected people were met
  - achievements of the Australian response
- Approach and methodology

# Evaluation findings

- Australian leadership
  - Improving humanitarian access
- Strategy
  - relevant, appropriate and flexible
  - coherence not optimal
- Funding
  - needs outstrip funds
  - flexibility highly valued
  - generally unpredictable

## Funding allocations to sectors



# Evaluation findings (continued)

- Funding mechanisms
  - protracted crisis
- Good humanitarian donorship
- Accountability, management and learning



Za'atri refugee camp, Jordan

# Syria and the Horn of Africa

## : comparisons and contrasts

### Similarities

- Large, protracted crises
- Timeliness of Australia's response
- Leadership on access
- Partner mediated
- Geographically distant
- Inconsistent reporting



# Syria and the Horn of Africa

## : comparisons and contrasts (continued)

### Differences

- Sectoral allocations
- DFAT's local engagement

