

# Supporting Syria and the region:

# Post-Brussels conference

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# financial tracking

*September 2020*



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## Supporting Syria and the region: Post-Brussels conference financial tracking September 2020

On 30 June 2020, representatives of 84 delegations - 57 States, 10 regional organisations and International Financial Institutions (IFI) as well as 17 United Nations (UN) agencies – came together to renew political, humanitarian and financial commitments for supporting the future of Syria and the region at the Brussels IV conference. Hosted by the European Union (EU) and co-chaired by the UN, the eighth pledging conference announced a total funding pledge of **US\$5.5 billion (€4.9 billion) for 2020** and multi-year pledges of close to **US\$2.2 billion (€2 billion) for 2021 and beyond**. In addition, IFIs and donors also announced **US\$6.1 billion (€5.5 billion) in loans<sup>1</sup> for 2020 and beyond**.

This is the tenth financial tracking report in a series that tracks financial contributions against pledges made in response to the Syrian crisis. This report was commissioned by the European Commission and it presents the contributions of donors against their pledges made at the Brussels IV conference,

as of 31 August 2020<sup>2</sup>. It summarises the progress of contributions to respond in Syria and in the neighbouring refugee-hosting countries – Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Egypt.

It also provides a breakdown of grant pledges and contributions and loan pledges to Syria and the region. Information was gathered directly from all participating donors and multi-lateral development banks and supplemented by Brussels conference documentation and triangulated with data from the Office for the Coordination Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS). A glossary of the terms used throughout is given at the end of the report, as are details of the data sources and methodology employed.

Throughout the report, the term “contribution” refers to the sum of all assistance reported at each mutually exclusive stage of the funding process – committed, contracted and disbursed (see Annex A: Glossary).

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<sup>1</sup> Loan pledges refer to lending targets, which depend on the debtor’s willingness and ability to comply with the terms and guarantee requirements of the lender.

<sup>2</sup> Throughout the report, the data used is valid as of 31 August 2020 but is referred to as of August 2020.

# Contents

<b>1. Key results</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Overview</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Progress by Donor</b>	<b>5</b>
Grant Contributions	5
Loan Pledges and Contributions	9
<b>4. Progress by Country</b>	<b>10</b>
Grant Contributions	10
Loan Contributions	12
<b>5. In focus: Contributions to Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Syria</b>	<b>13</b>
Jordan	13
Lebanon	15
Beirut Explosion	16
Turkey	16
EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey	17
Syria	18
<b>6. Sectors</b>	<b>19</b>
COVID-19 Pandemic	20
<b>7. Channels of Delivery</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>8. Regional Multi-Donor Mechanisms</b>	<b>22</b>
UN Coordinated Response Plans	22
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>24</b>
Annex A: Glossary	24
Annex B: Methodology	26

# 1. Key results

At the fourth Brussels conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region held on 30 June 2020, the international community and governments of refugee-hosting countries came together to reaffirm their commitments to helping millions of affected civilians in Syria and Syrian refugees and the communities generously hosting them.

Thirty-seven donor countries and the EU pledged US\$4.9 billion (€4.4 billion) in grants to support

humanitarian, development and stabilisation activities in 2020 in Syria and the region<sup>3</sup>. Of these, sixteen made forward-looking pledges of US\$2 billion (€1.8 billion) for 2021 and beyond. The IFIs, donor countries and the EU also announced US\$6.9 billion (€6.2 billion) in loans. The purpose of this tracking mechanism is to provide an update on the funding delivered in the region and to ensure accountability of donors for the delivery of funding against the pledges made at the Brussels IV conference.

The report published today reports that, as of August 2020:

- US\$5 billion (€4.5 billion) in grants was contributed by donors for the year 2020 (up to August) for Syria and countries in the region most affected by the Syrian crisis (Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt), already exceeding by 2% the original conference pledge of US\$4.9 billion (€4.4 billion).
- For 2021 and beyond, as of August 2020, donors have already made available US\$1.7 billion (€1.5 billion), 85% of the conference pledge of US\$2 billion (€1.8 billion).
- US\$6.9 billion (€6.2 billion) of loans were pledged at the conference to the governments of refugee-hosting countries for 2020 and beyond.

EU member states and EU institutions pledged US\$3 billion (€2.7 billion), 61% of the 2020 pledge made at the Brussels IV conference, and contributed US\$3.2 billion (€2.8 billion) in 2020, as of August 2020 already exceeding by 2% their original conference pledge. The three largest donors were the EU, Germany, and the USA, accounting for 70% of total grant contributions provided up August 2020.

As of August 2020, the largest grant contribution has been for Syria, US\$1.7 billion (€1.5 billion). The five largest donors, accounted for 75% of total grant contributions for Syria in 2020, as follows: Germany US\$427 million (€381 million), USA US\$384 million (€343 million), EU US\$270 million (€241 million), UK US\$103 million (€92 million), and Japan US\$76 million (€68 million). For 2021 and beyond, US\$104 million (€93 million) of grant contributions were already made available for Syria.

As of August 2020, Lebanon has received the second largest amount of grant contributions, US\$944 million (€842 million). The three largest donors contributed 67% of the total: EU (US\$231 million, €206 million), USA (US\$229 million, €204 million), and Germany (US\$169 million, €151 million). For 2021 and beyond, grant contributions of US\$317 million (€283 million) were already committed or contracted for Lebanon. New loan pledges for Lebanon for 2020 and beyond, amounted to US\$500 million (€446 million).

As of August 2020, Turkey is the second largest recipient of grant contributions among the neighbouring countries, receiving US\$806 million (€720 million) in grant contributions for 2020. For 2021 and beyond, grant contributions of US\$73 million (€65 million) were already committed or contracted for Turkey. Loan contributions for Turkey for 2020 and beyond, amounted to US\$43 million (€38 million), of the pledged new loans of US\$56 million (€50 million).

As of August 2020, Jordan received US\$631 million (€563 million) in grant contributions for 2020. For 2021 and beyond, grant contributions of US\$726 million (€649 million) were already committed or contracted for Jordan. Loan contributions for Jordan for 2020 and beyond, amounted to US\$888 million (€793 million), of the pledged new loans of US\$2.5 billion (€2.3 billion).

As of August 2020, Iraq and Egypt received grant contributions of US\$378 million (€337 million) and US\$52 million (€46 million), respectively. For 2021 and beyond grant contributions for Iraq and Egypt that are already committed or contracted, totalled US\$213 million (€190 million) and US\$20 million (€18 million), respectively.

As of August 2020, the funding requirements of the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan and the Syria Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan are covered by 38% and 22%, respectively. The co-chairs urged donors to step up their efforts and renew their financial commitments in support of the continued delivery of lifesaving, protection and resilience support in the region in 2020 and beyond, wherever possible on a multi-annual basis.

The region is facing new challenges from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and Lebanon is facing the new challenge of responding to the impacts of the 4 August 2020 Beirut port explosion. These impacts are being felt both by the Syrian people and their host communities. Donors are reorienting existing funding and pledging new funding to contribute to meeting these new needs.

<sup>3</sup> For the purposes of the financial tracking, the official pledges made at the Brussels conference are broken down slightly differently in this report between grants and loans provided by IFIs and the EU Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA). See Annex 3

B: Methodology, for more information on the Financial Annex to the Co-chair statement

## 2. Overview

At the Brussels IV conference on 30 June 2020, donors pledged a total of **US\$6.9 billion in grants for 2020 and beyond**: thirty-eight donors publicly pledged US\$4.9 billion in grants for 2020<sup>4</sup> and sixteen donors pledged a further US\$2 billion for 2021 and beyond<sup>5</sup>.

As of August 2020, donors reported grant contributions for 2020 at the time of data collection of US\$5 billion, already exceeding by 2% their original conference pledge. Of the 38 donors who pledged for 2020, 20 donors have met or exceeded their pledges.

For 2021 and beyond, donors reported grant contributions for 2021 and beyond totalling US\$1.7 billion, the equivalent of 82% of the grants pledged for this period.

For loans for 2020 and beyond, a total pledge was made of US\$6.9 million for new loans, with IFIs pledging US\$5.2 billion, donor governments pledging US\$0.9 billion and the European Union pledging US\$0.8 billion. As of August 2020, loan contributions have been realised for 14%

(US\$0.9 billion) of the new loan pledges made at the conference.

Since the conference, several donors have increased their confirmed pledge<sup>6</sup>. There is a clear trend of contributions (committed, contracted, and disbursed amounts), exceeding pledges made at conferences. This trend has been consistent each year since the data series was first collected in 2016. The realisation of further increases in contributions during 2020 is particularly critical as Syria and the region face new challenges in 2020, which will undoubtedly require additional new funding. To address the needs and impacts caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, is estimated to require an additional US\$1.2 billion in new funding<sup>7</sup>. The full extent of the new funding requirements to respond to the Beirut port explosion are not yet fully known, but clearly it will also require new funding. Many donors are already responding to these new challenges, including the provision of new funding.

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<sup>4</sup> Two countries pledged grants for 2020 at the Brussels III Conference in 2019, which were inadvertently excluded from the updated 2020 grant pledge at the Brussels IV Conference: Slovenia (US\$55,991) and Malta (US\$5,599). Pledges for FRIT in 2019 to be disbursed in 2020 were not included in the 2019 Pledge Statement from the Brussels III Conference for two countries: Finland (US\$1,394,177) and Ireland (US\$5,218,420). These were included in the Brussels IV Conference statement as new pledges.

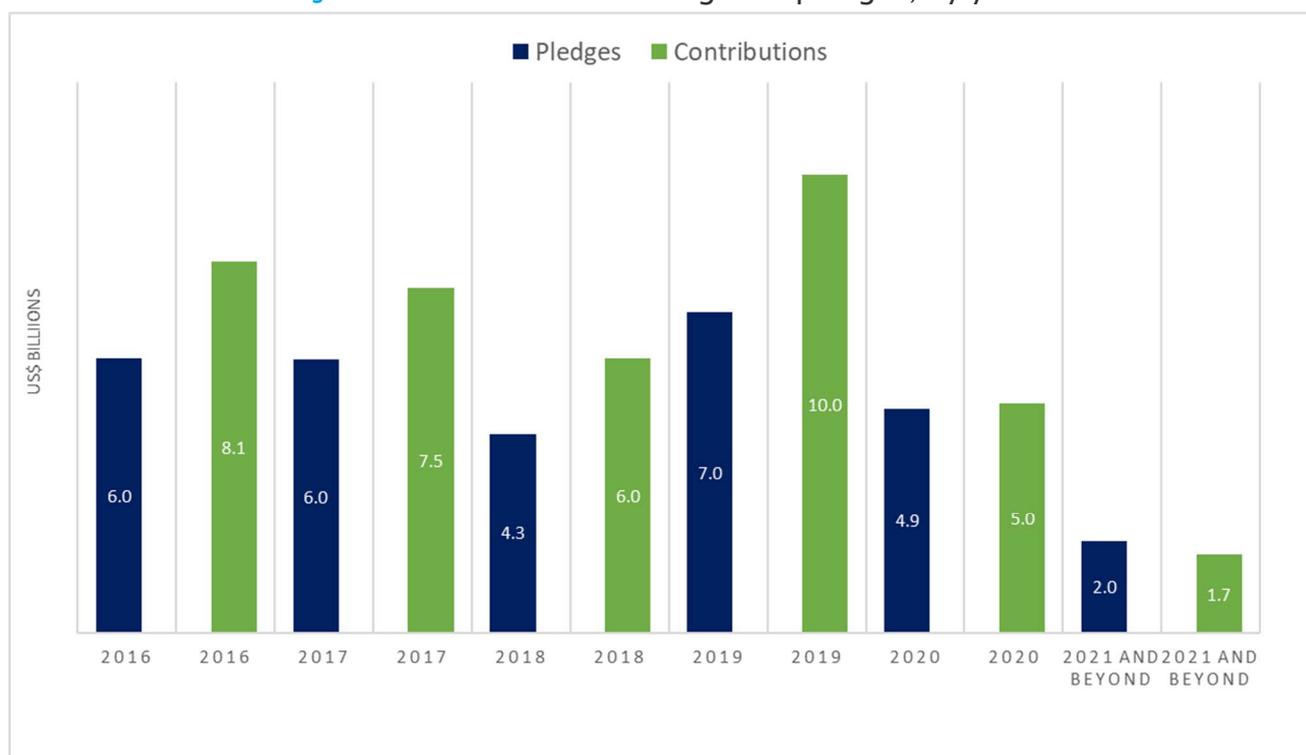
<sup>5</sup> The detailed list of all pledges can be found in the Financial Annex to the Brussels IV conference co-chairs declaration: [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/44897/syria-2020-pledging-statement\\_v03072020.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/44897/syria-2020-pledging-statement_v03072020.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> The planned contribution of Germany has increased since the conference pledge by an additional US\$2 billion, made up of:

US\$0.8 billion in grants for 2020, US\$1.1 billion in grants for 2021 and beyond, and US\$32 million in loans for 2020 and beyond. Germany reported that this increase was because these funds were only approved after the conference, and this includes additional new funds for the COVID response and the response to the Beirut port explosion on 4 August 2020. The USA also increased their planned contribution for grants for 2020, by an additional US\$87 million, as did the Netherlands by an additional US\$2 million.

<sup>7</sup> According to the Brussels IV conference co-chairs declaration: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/06/30/brussels-iv-conference-on-supporting-the-future-of-syria-and-the-region-co-chairs-declaration/>

Figure 1: Grant contributions against pledges, by year



## 3. Progress by Donor

### Grant Contributions

As of August 2020, donors have contributed a total of US\$5 billion in grants to Syria and the region against their grant pledges of US\$4.9 billion for 2020. This amounts to 102% of the total pledge for 2020 grants being firmly committed to a country, sector, and delivery channel<sup>8</sup>. This includes funds

reported as committed, contracted and disbursed. Of the 38 donors who pledged for 2020, 23 donors have made contributions that meet or exceeded their pledges. Yet several donors reported that COVID-19 was causing some significant delays in pledges transitioning to contributions<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> At the same time in 2019, only 90% of pledges had materialised as contributions (see Financial Tracking Report Number 8, September 2019).

<sup>9</sup> Whilst several donors reported this as an issue, the Republic of Korea and Italy reported this as a major challenge, that was

demonstrated clearly by the data reported with only a very small proportion of their 2020 grant pledges having been realized as contributions by August 2020.

Figure 2: Grant contributions against pledges by donor 2020

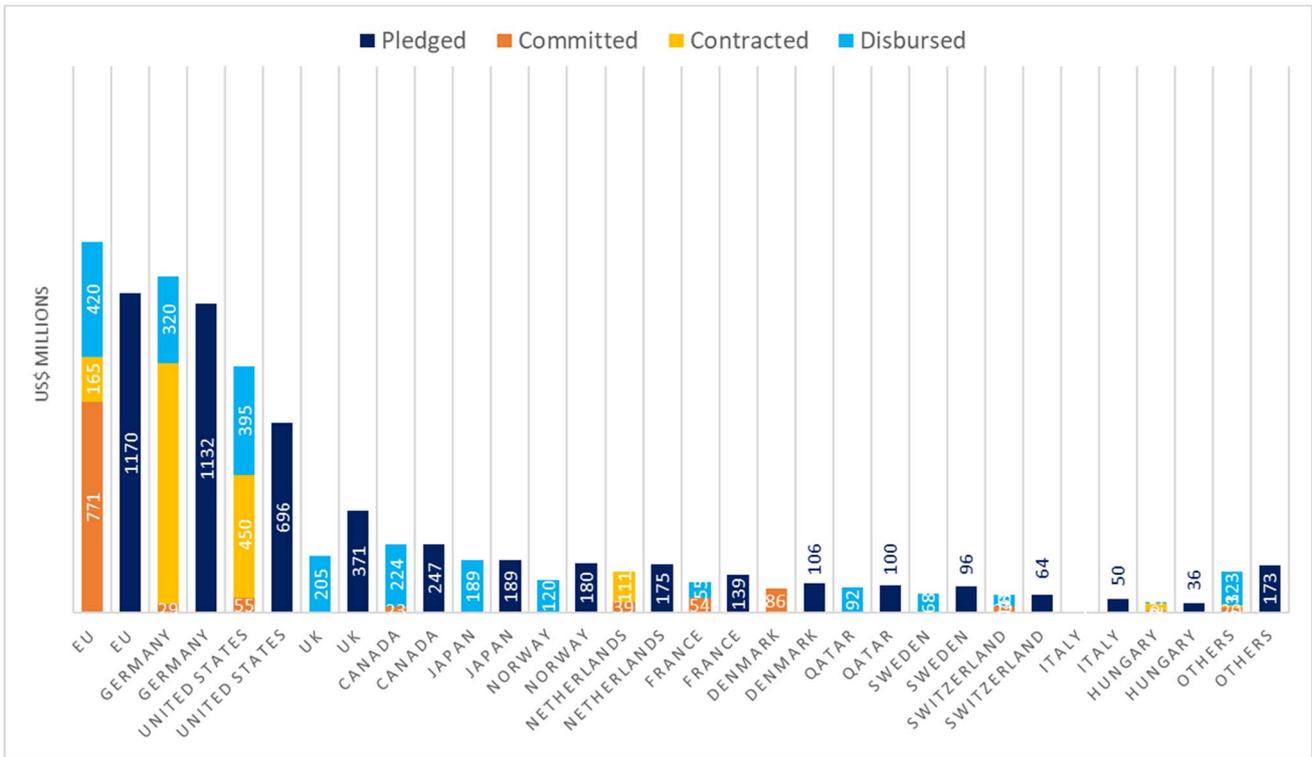


Table 2: Grant contributions and pledges (USD\$), 2020<sup>10</sup>

Donor	Pledged	Contributions	• Committed	• Contracted	• Disbursed
EU	1,170,212,766	1,356,416,573	771,041,433	164,918,253	420,456,887
Germany	1,132,138,858	1,232,004,479	29,328,108	882,956,327	319,720,045
United States	696,011,752	900,141,366	54,952,716	450,384,605	394,804,045
UK	370,828,183	204,857,094			204,857,094
Canada	247,489,429	247,489,430	23,074,107		224,415,322
Japan	189,093,752	189,093,752			189,093,752
Norway	180,022,631	120,152,248			120,152,248
Netherlands	175,027,996	149,944,009	39,305,711	110,638,298	
France	138,969,765	108,824,188	54,143,337		54,680,851
Denmark	105,967,233	86,427,176	86,427,176		
Qatar	100,000,000	92,023,836			92,023,836
Sweden	95,913,642	68,490,841			68,490,841
Switzerland	64,278,188	64,278,188	22,233,930	790,306	41,253,952
Italy	50,391,937	2,239,642			2,239,642
Hungary	36,095,925	36,097,333	8,628,323	25,123,606	2,345,404
Finland	27,995,521	26,881,299	7,172,452		19,708,847
Ireland	27,995,521	22,861,467			22,861,467
Belgium	27,760,147	27,760,147	4,479,283		23,280,863
Australia	23,989,034	23,989,034			23,989,034
Austria	18,917,133	13,597,984		2,975,588	10,622,396
Korea	13,450,000				
Luxembourg	8,398,656	8,048,314	89,586		7,958,728
Czech Republic	7,521,939	9,297,952	1,671,542	2,381,947	5,244,463
Spain	6,490,587	6,175,386	4,387,225	765,746	1,022,415
Poland	4,294,529	4,294,529	1,428,930		2,865,600
Iceland	2,031,076	2,031,076			2,031,076
Liechtenstein	1,022,129	1,022,129			1,022,129
Estonia	987,682	987,682			987,682
Slovakia	750,077	750,077		145,554	604,523
Croatia	223,964	223,964	223,964		
Bulgaria	190,370	190,370	83,987		106,383
Greece	111,982				
Portugal	111,982	111,982	111,982		
Lithuania	111,982	111,982			111,982
Malta	83,987	83,987			83,987
Brazil	75,000	75,000	75,000		
Cyprus	55,991	55,991			55,991
Slovenia	33,595	89,586			89,586
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,925,044,941</b>	<b>5,007,120,091</b>	<b>1,108,858,792</b>	<b>1,641,080,230</b>	<b>2,257,181,069</b>

Of the same thirty-eight grant donors, sixteen donors have made forward-looking pledges for grants for 2021 and beyond, totalling US\$2 billion. As of August 2020, these sixteen donors have contributed a total of US\$1.7 billion in grants to Syria and the region against their 2021 and beyond pledge. This amounts to 82% of the total pledge for grants for 2021 and beyond being firmly committed to a country, sector, and delivery channel. Of which, 50% of the total pledge is already contracted.

Germany has provided 73% (US\$1.2 billion) of the forward-looking contributions, including 85% of the already contracted contributions. Most of the remaining contributions were provided by Canada (US\$205 million), the Netherlands (US\$164 million), Switzerland (US\$41 million) and Hungary (US\$37 million). Some donors, such as the EU and Ireland, were not yet able to report their contributions for 2021 and beyond, due to internal annual budget approval processes.

<sup>10</sup> The 2020 grant contributions for all donors do not include contributions to FRIT, as all commitments to FRIT were made before the end of 2019. The EU Trust Fund (MADAD) is a pooled fund with approximately 90% of contributions to MADAD coming from the EU and the remaining 10% from other donors. Contributions made from MADAD in 2020 are included in the EU total 2020 grant contributions.

Figure 3: Grant contributions against pledges, by donor 2021 and beyond

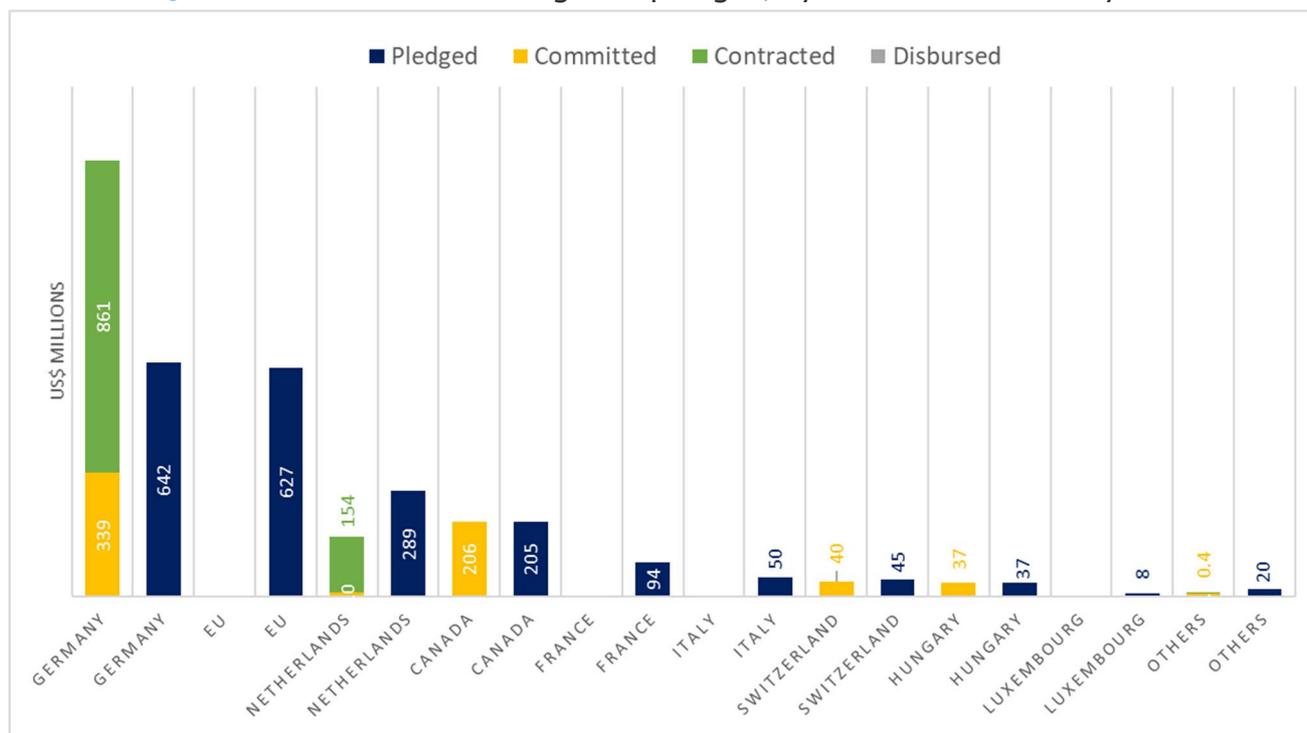


Table 4: Grant contributions and pledges (USD\$), 2021 and beyond

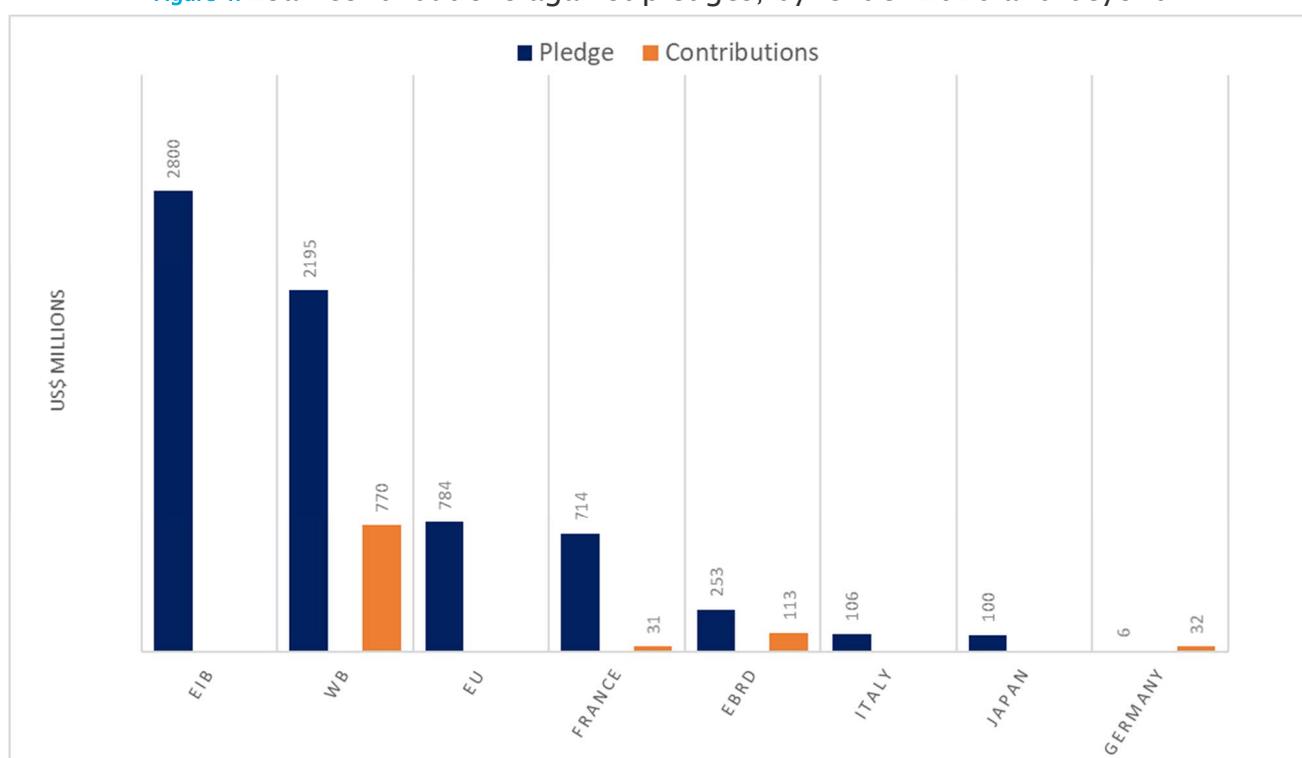
Donor	Pledged	Contributions	Committed	Contracted
Germany	641,657,335	1,203,169,093	339,619,261	863,549,832
EU	627,099,664			
Netherlands	288,689,810	164,155,277	10,190,370	153,964,907
Canada	205,131,015	205,131,015	205,131,015	
Italy	50,391,937			
France	94,064,950			
Switzerland	45,310,853	40,463,646	40,463,646	
Hungary	37,428,364	37,428,365	37,428,365	
Luxembourg	8,398,656			
Sweden	6,886,419			
Spain	5,599,104	1,903,695	1,903,695	
Czech Republic	4,178,855	3,343,084	3,343,084	
Iceland	2,009,944	2,009,944	2,009,944	
Slovakia	559,910			
Estonia	475,924	475,924	111,982	363,942
Slovenia	44,793			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,017,927,533</b>	<b>1,658,080,043</b>	<b>640,201,362</b>	<b>1,017,878,681</b>

## Loan Pledges and Contributions

Unlike grants, loans are usually multi-year funding arrangements, that can take time to contract and then the disbursements are often phased over multiple years, for sound financial management reasons. Rapid in-year disbursements of new loan pledges should not be anticipated in the same way as grants. At the Brussels IV Conference, a total of US\$6.9 billion of new loan funding was pledged for 2020 and beyond, which is on top of substantial pre-2020 loan pledges and contributions that have been made<sup>11</sup>. A total of US\$0.9 billion (14%) of the total

loan pledge for 2020 and beyond has already been committed as loan contributions. The three largest new loan pledges for 2020 and beyond have been made by the European Investment Bank (US\$2.8 billion), the World Bank (US\$ 2.2 billion) and the EU (US\$0.8 billion), which account for 83% of the total new loan pledge made at the Brussels IV conference. Germany has already exceeded their pledge, with a loan contribution of US\$32 million, against a pledge of US\$5.6 million.

Figure 4: Loan contributions against pledges, by lender 2020 and beyond



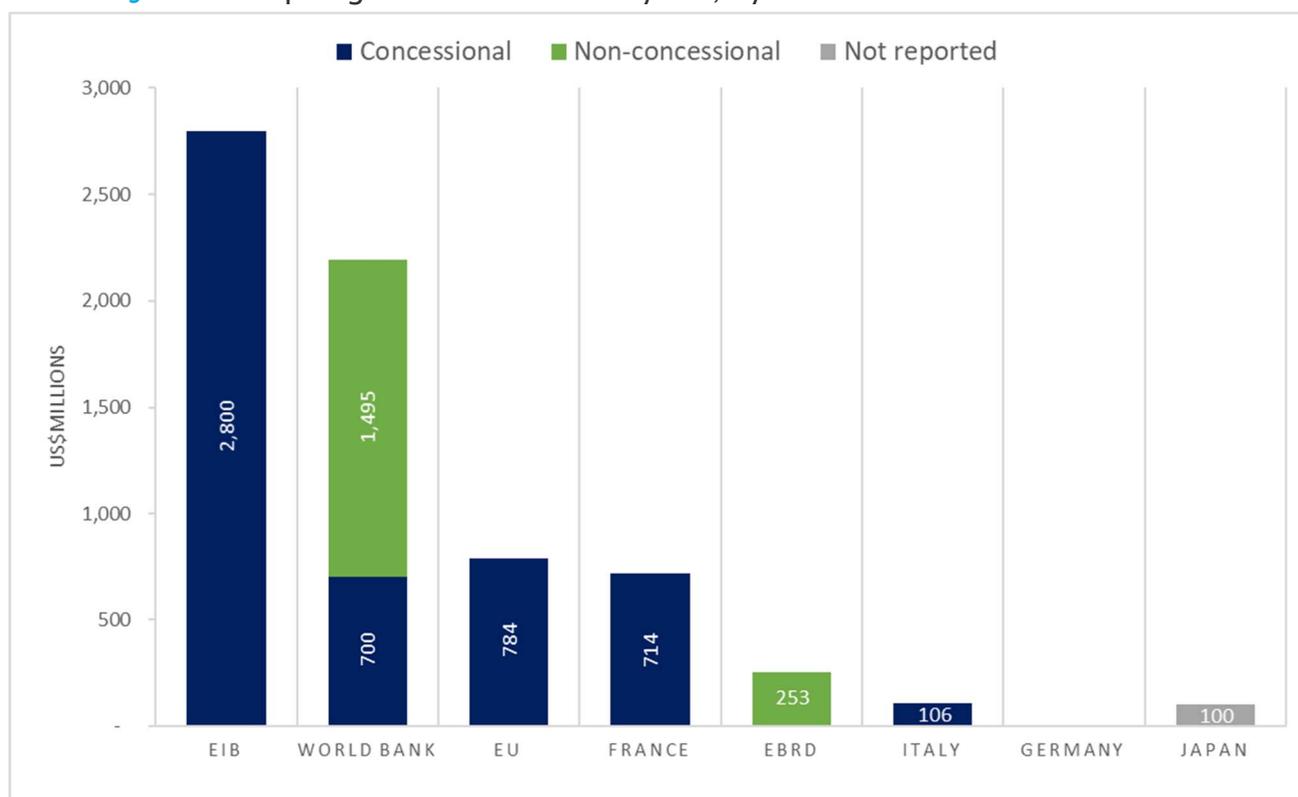
A key component of the tracking of loan funding, is to track the concessional status of the loan financing, with concessional loans offering a further means to support the region. Loan financing to the region is ideally made on concessional terms either on IDA-equivalent terms or consistent with the revised OECD DAC principles agreed on 16

December 2014. Of the total loan pledge for 2020 and beyond of US\$6.9 billion, the concessional status of the loan pledge has been declared at the point of pledging for US\$6.8 billion, and of this 75% has already been declared to be concessional based loan financing.

<sup>11</sup> For example, to date EBRD has committed €7.8 billion in loan financing over 3 years (2017, 2018, 2019) covering Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt. To date, EBRD has invested €8.267 billion in Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon by the end of 2019. EBRD had announced its support to Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon and their hosting of Syrian refugees through the €900 million Refugee Response Programme, launched in 2016. EBRD remains committed to this programme, and will continue support

to the region by extending the implementation period of the Municipal Resilience Refugee Response Programme until 2025 for Turkey and Jordan and expect to mobilise and implement projects worth €226 million (made up of €137 million from EBRD's own resources and €97 million from grant funds).

Figure 5: Loan pledges for 2020 and beyond, by donor and concessional status



## 4. Progress by Recipient Country

### Grant Contributions

The support to Syria and the region, is being provided in Syria, and to five neighbouring countries that are hosting Syrian refugees (Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt). This includes support that is being provided through regional or multiple-country frameworks covering all or several of these countries. Of the total 2020 grant contribution of US\$5 billion, 34% has been allocated to Syria. Whilst only sixteen of the thirty-eight donors have pledged and contributed forward-looking grant funding for 2021 and beyond, of the contributions

already realised 44% of the geographically defined contributions have been contributed to Jordan.

Many donors do not breakdown their pledge by country at the point of making the pledge at the annual conference. This accounts for the high proportion of pledges recorded as not geographically defined. Furthermore, several donors confirm additional pledges after the conference. These two factors contribute to the fact that contributions at the country level often exceed the country level pledge made at the conference.

Figure 6: Grant contributions against pledges by country, 2020

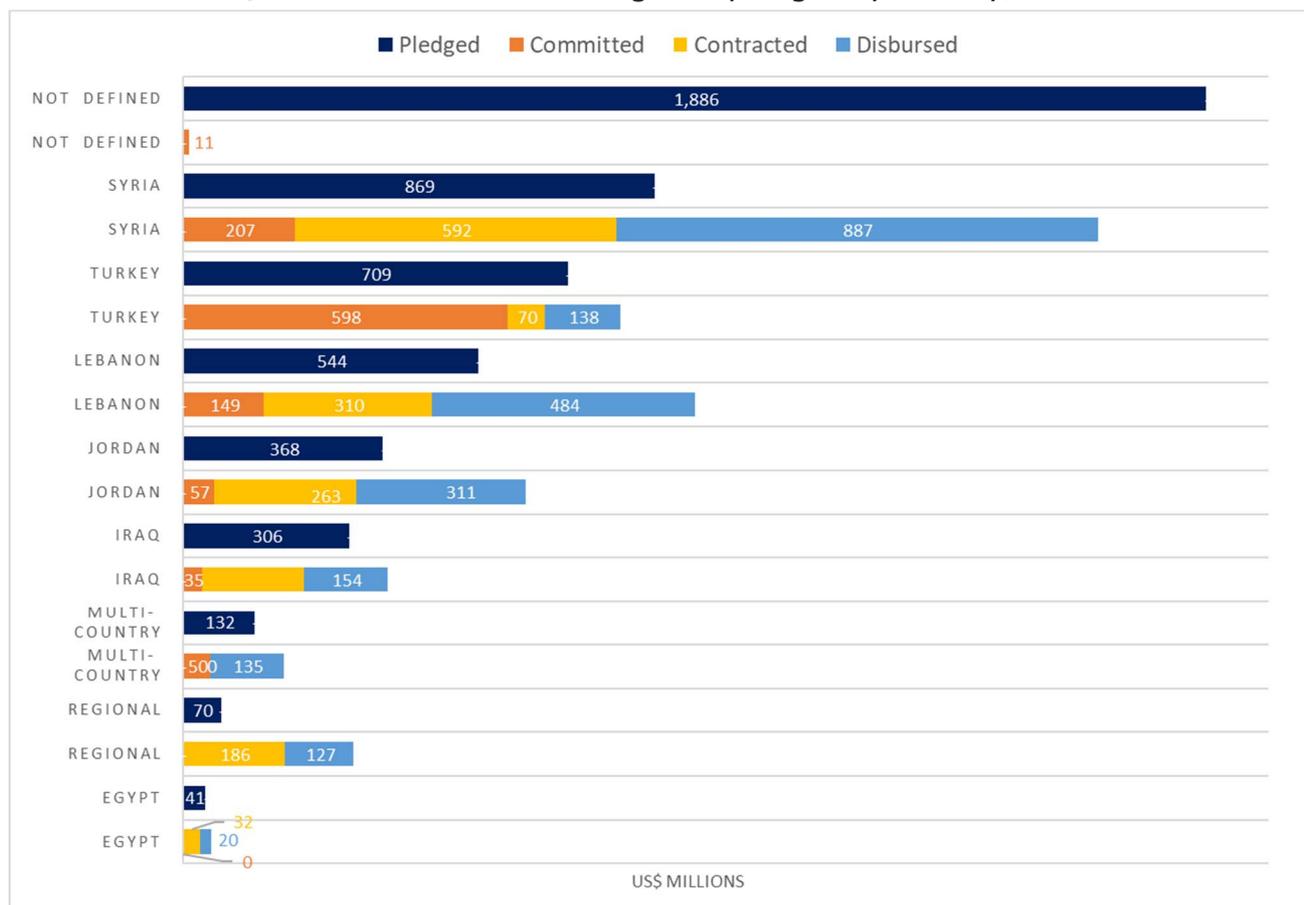
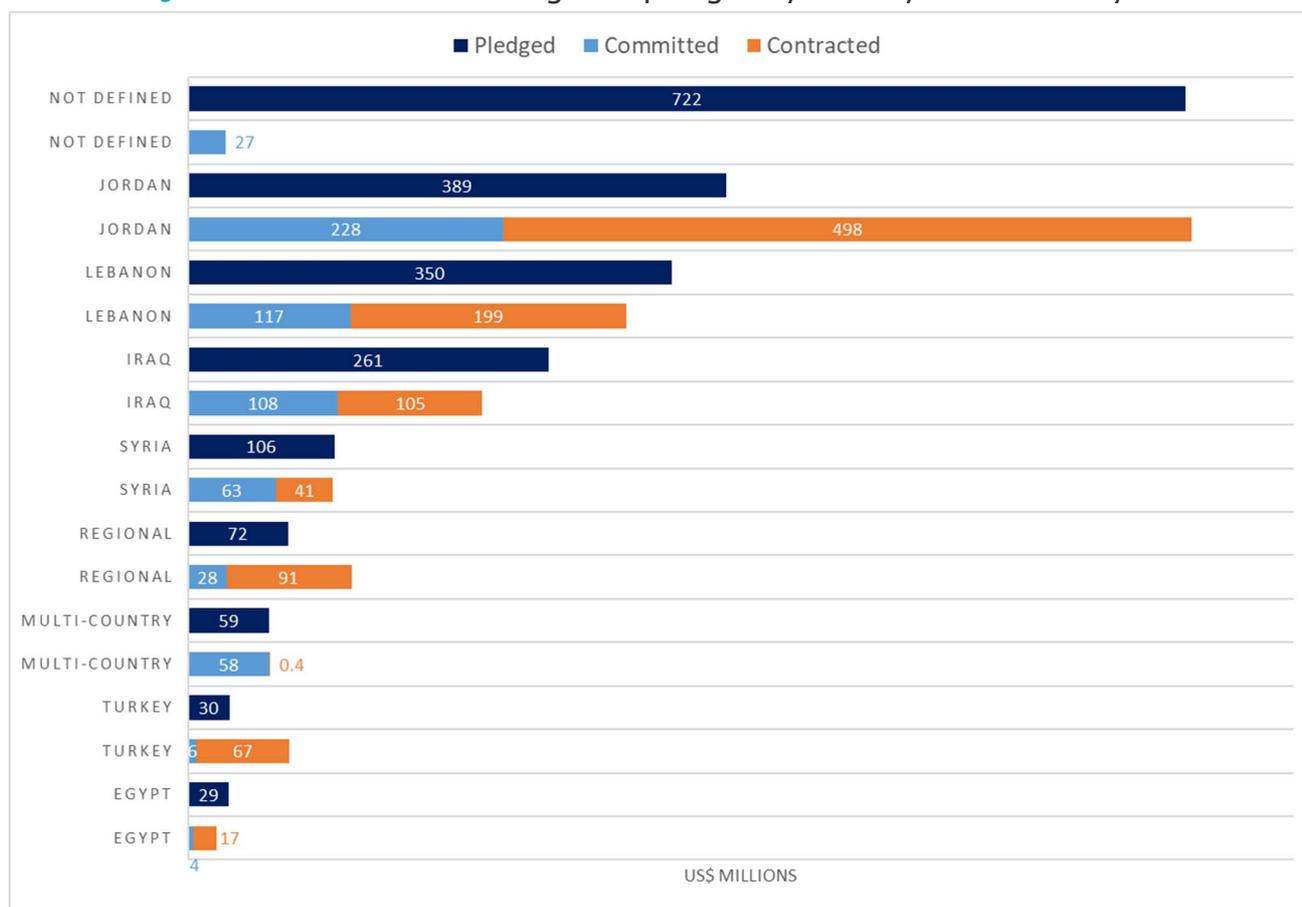


Figure 4: Grant contributions against pledges by country 2021 and beyond

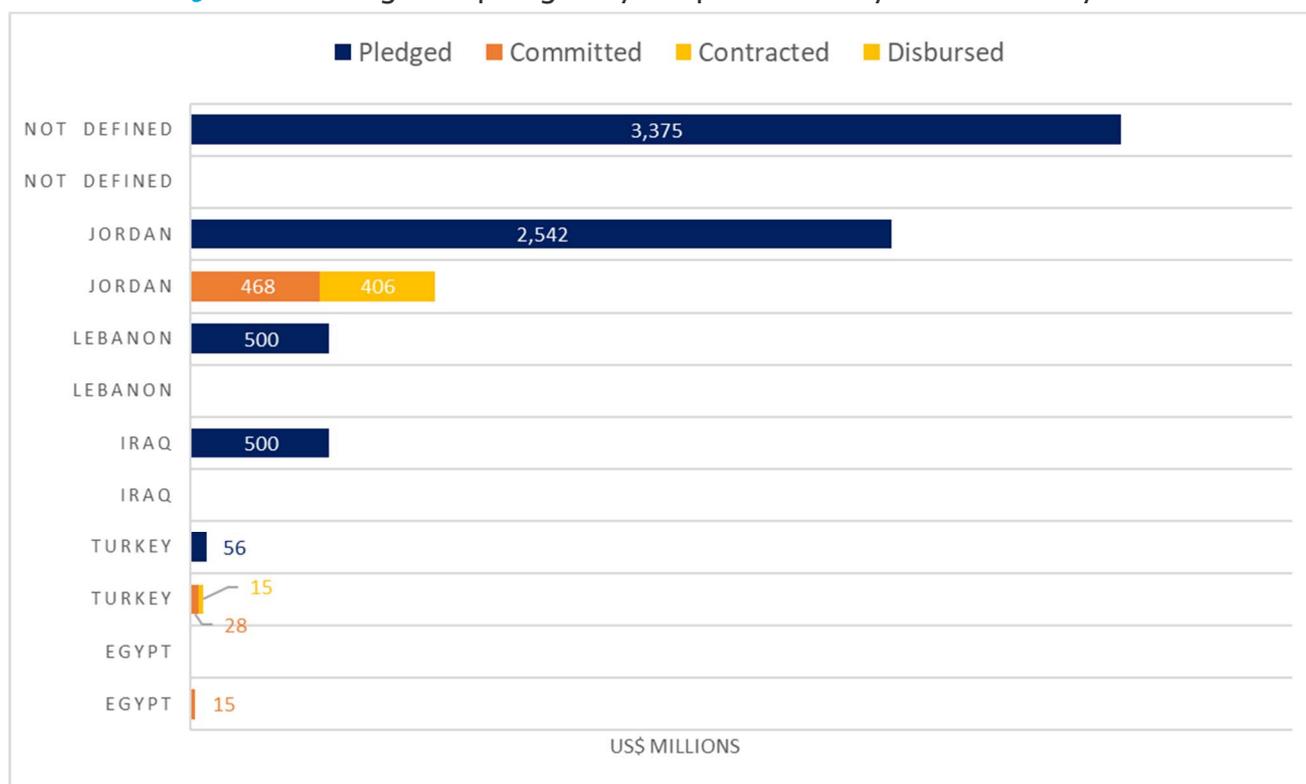


## Loan Contributions

As of August 2020, only 14% (US\$0.9 billion) of the total 2020 and beyond loan pledge of US\$6.9 billion has materialised as contributions for a specific country. Therefore, it is not appropriate at this stage to analyse loan contributions against 2020 and beyond loan pledges in a meaningful way at the country level. Analysis of loan contributions can only be meaningful over a longer multi-year period,

and therefore analysis of loans for 2020 and beyond at the country level is restricted to analysis of the pledge rather than contribution. Jordan accounts for 36% (US\$2.5 billion) of the total loan pledge for 2020 and beyond, and 94% (US\$0.9 billion) of the total contributions already realised against the new loan pledge for 2020 and beyond.

Figure 8: Loans against pledges by recipient country 2020 and beyond



## 5. In focus: Contributions to Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Syria

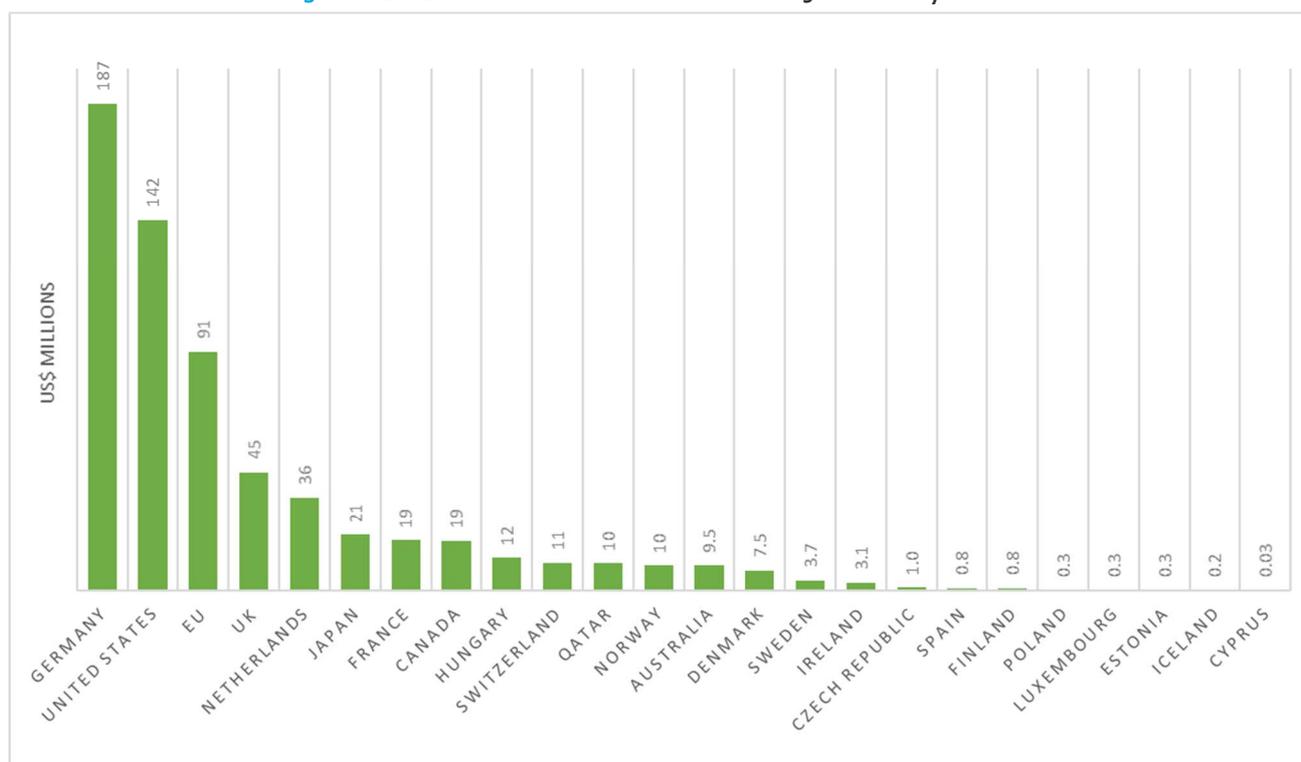
### Jordan

As of August 2020, total grant contributions for Jordan are US\$1.4 billion. This is made up of US\$631 million of grants for 2020, and US\$726 million of grants for 2021 and beyond.

The five largest-grant contributing donors combined provided more than three quarters, at 79% (US\$501

million), of all 2020 grant contributions for Jordan, made up of: Germany 29% (US\$187 million), USA 22% (US\$142 million), EU 15% (US\$91 million), UK 7% (US\$45 million), and the Netherlands 6% (US\$36 million).

Figure 9: 2020 Grant contributions for Jordan by donor

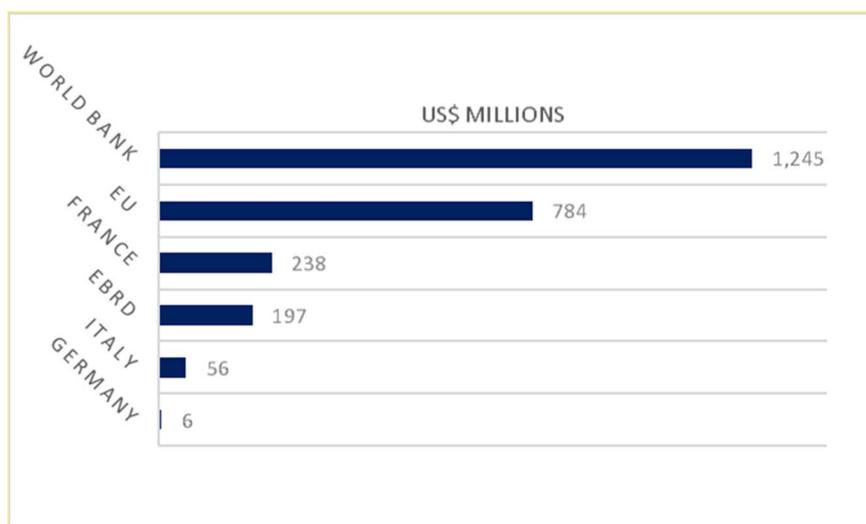


At the Brussels IV conference, Jordan received by far the largest pledge for loan financing, with a total loan pledge of US\$2.5 billion, of the total loan pledge of US\$6.9 billion for 2020 and beyond. The World Bank is by far the largest lender to Jordan, providing 49% (US\$ 1.3 billion) of the pledged loan financing for Jordan. The World Bank has structured most of the loan financing to Jordan on concessional terms using the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF). The pledges and

contributions under GCFF for Jordan have been included as an integral component of the World Bank concessional loan financing for Jordan. The next three largest loan pledges together with the World Bank make up for the bulk of the loan pledges for Jordan, and these are: the EU (US\$0.8 billion), France (US\$0.2 billion) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (US\$0.2 billion)<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>12</sup> Germany has recently confirmed an increase in their pledge of loan funding for Jordan for 2020 and beyond to a new total of US\$22.4 million.

Figure 10: Loan pledges for Jordan, 2020 and beyond



## Lebanon

As of August 2020, Lebanon has received total grant contributions of US\$1.3 billion, made up of US\$944 million in grants for 2020 and US\$317 million for grants for 2021 and beyond.

The five largest-grant contributing donors combined provided almost three quarters at 78% (US\$738 million) of all 2020 grant contributions, which are made up of: EU 25% (US\$231 million), USA 24% (US\$229 million), Germany 18% (US\$169 million),

France 6% (US\$56 million), and the Netherlands 5% (US\$53 million).

The World Bank is by far the largest pledger of loan financing for Lebanon, with a total new loan pledge of US\$450 million for Lebanon for 2020 and beyond, and the only other pledger of loan financing to Lebanon is Italy with a total loan pledge of US\$50 million for 2020 and beyond.

Figure 11: 2020 Grant contributions for Lebanon by donor

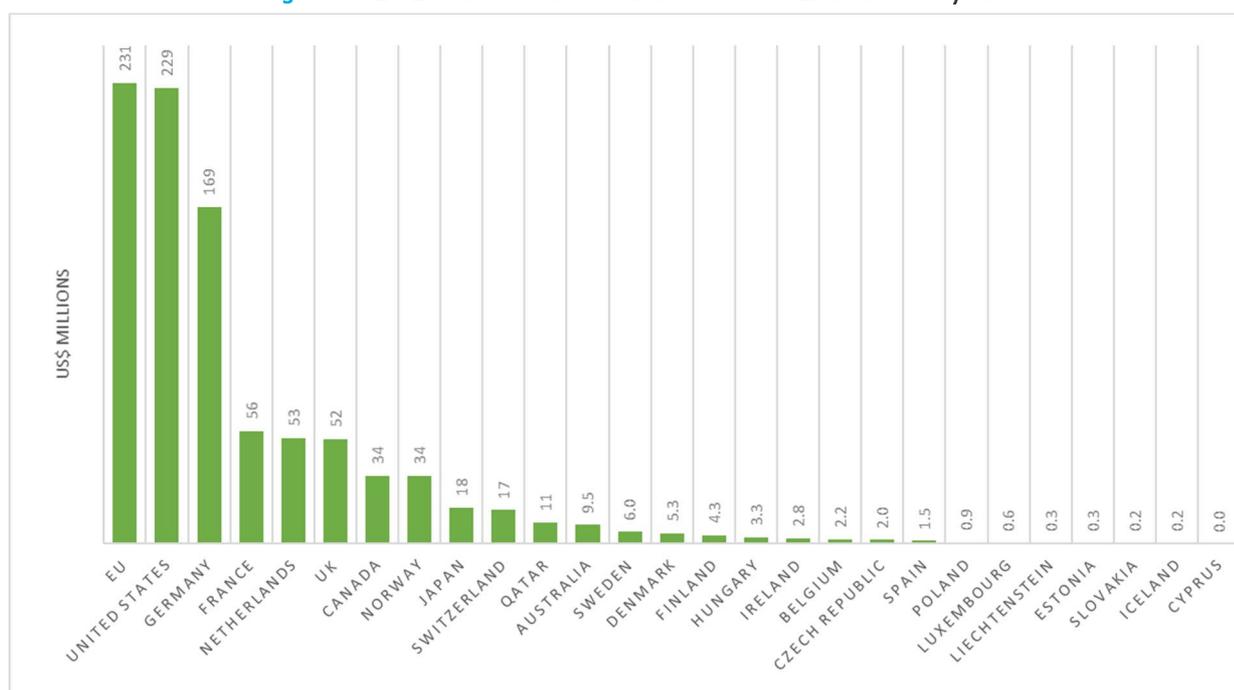
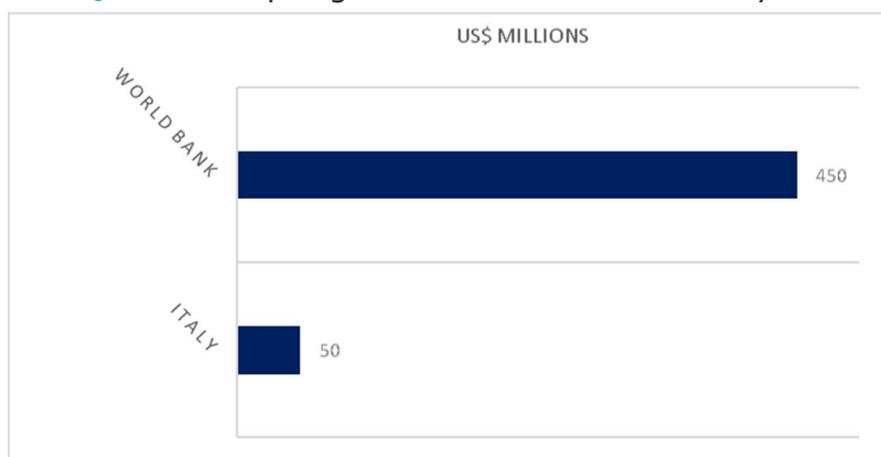


Figure 12: Loan pledges for Lebanon 2020 and beyond



## Beirut Explosion

The deadly explosion at the Beirut port on 4 August 2020 impacted both the Lebanese and Syrian refugee populations, with approximately one quarter of the casualties being Syrian refugees<sup>13</sup>. The capacity of Lebanon to meet the basic needs of vulnerable groups including refugees from Syria will continue to be affected by the consequences of the explosion for some time to come. The request for information from donors for this financial tracking exercise was sent before this incident, but several donors did provide information on their response to the Beirut port explosion.

Donors have adopted a slightly different approach to whether the funding for the response to the deadly explosion is separate to or partly included in the pledges and contributions of the ongoing support to Syria and the region. For example, USA has not included the response to the deadly explosion in Beirut as part of the wider support for Syria and the region. Whereas the EU and Germany have included part of the response to the deadly explosion in Beirut within the wider support for Syria and the region, and partly as a separate new stream of funding.

## Turkey

As of August 2020, total grant contributions have been made for Turkey of US\$0.9 billion, made up of US\$806 million of grant contributions in 2020 and US\$73 million in grant contributions for 2021 and beyond. Most of the total grant contributions for 2020 was provided by the EU, totalling US\$637 million (79%) of the total grant contribution for 2020 of US\$806 million. Most of the remaining 2020 grant

Following the deadly explosion in Beirut on 4 August 2020, the EU mobilised over €64 million<sup>14</sup> for emergency and recovery needs, including medical support, equipment, and protection of critical infrastructure. This comes in addition to the deployment of three hundred European search and rescue, chemical and medical experts to Beirut, three EU Humanitarian Air Bridge flights delivering medical aid and equipment sent through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The EU has stated it is ready to provide further support based on emerging identified needs and has co-authored the Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment led by the World Bank and UN.

Based on the available information from donors it appears that most of the emergency assistance provided in response to the deadly explosion in Beirut is not included within the wider support to Syria and the region. Germany has pledged €20 million for emergency assistance to Beirut, and only €3.1 million of that total amount to date is included within the pledge for Lebanon for the wider support to Syria and the region that is covered by this financial tracking exercise.

contributions for Turkey were provided by USA (US\$88 million) and Germany (US\$41 million).

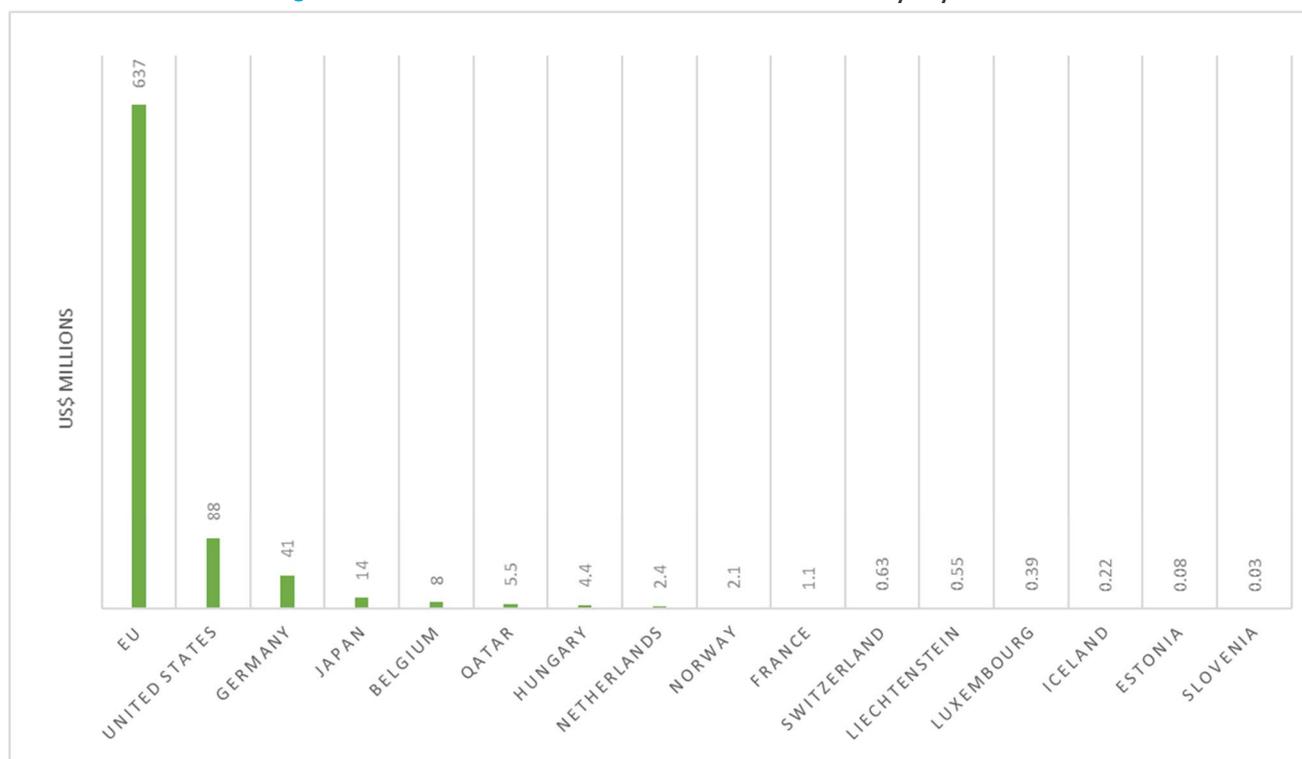
Turkey received a total new loan pledge for 2020 and beyond, of US\$56 million, from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> EU reporting.

<sup>14</sup> The EU announced EUR 63 M on 9 August 2020, with some additional funding having been mobilized since.

<sup>15</sup> Germany has recently confirmed a new loan pledge for Turkey for 2020 and beyond of US\$14.9 million.

Figure 13: 2020 Grant contributions for Turkey by donor



## EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey

The Facility for Refugees in Turkey (FRIT)<sup>16</sup> mobilised €6 billion for 2016-2019 from donors. By the end 2019, the entire operational budget had been committed, of which €4.7 billion is already contracted and €3.4 billion disbursed. This support is project-based, with activities continuing until 2025. The conference welcomed the work already done and the continuation of effective delivery of assistance under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey.

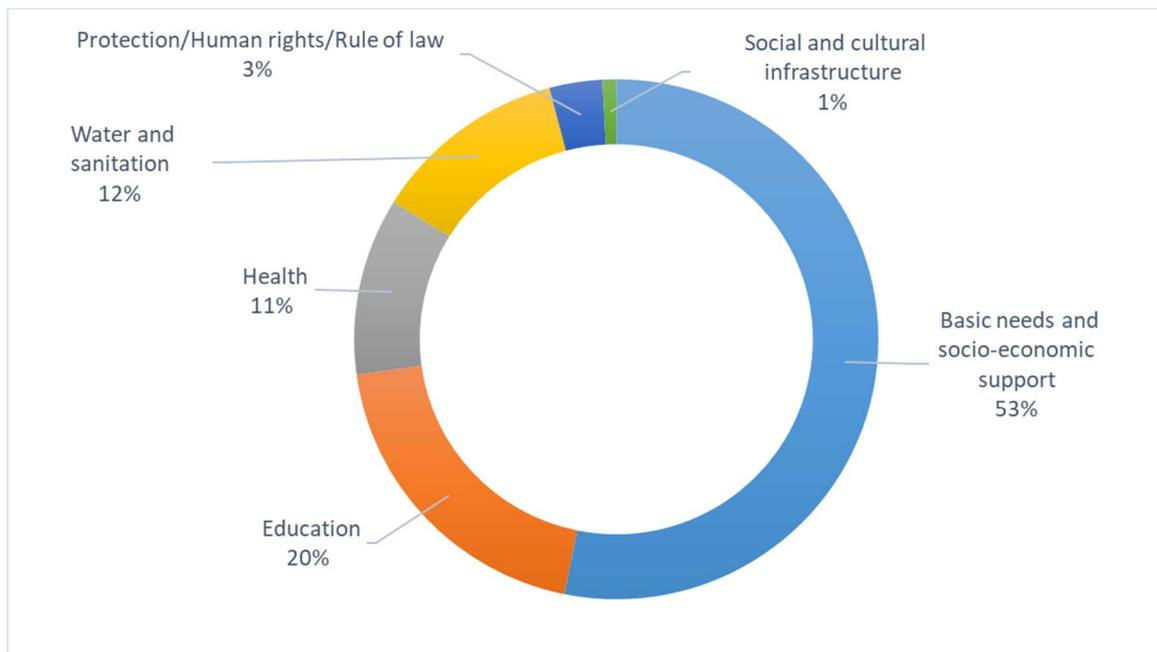
The EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey manages a total of €6 billion in two tranches: €3 billion for 2016 and 2017 (first tranche) and €3 billion for 2018 and 2019 (second tranche). Of that total, €3 billion (€2 billion from the first tranche and €1 billion from the second tranche) comes from EU member states as external assigned revenue, and €3 billion (€1 billion and €2 billion to the first and second tranches, respectively) comes from the EU budget. The Facility represents a joint coordination

mechanism, designed to ensure that the needs of refugees and host communities in Turkey are addressed in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Facility focuses on humanitarian assistance, education, protection, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support.

The Facility continues to utilise these funds in 2020 to meet the needs of refugees and host communities in Turkey. Of the total second tranche funds (€3 billion or US\$3.3 billion) available to the Facility, the full operational envelope was committed by the end of 2019. Therefore, any contributions to FRIT by donors are not included in the preceding analysis of 2020 contributions. But to provide an update on the progress of FRIT contributions pre-2020, as of August 2020, out of the total of €3 billion (US\$3.4 billion) of the second tranche, €1.78 billion (US\$2 billion) has been contracted, out of which €1 billion (US\$1.1 billion) has been disbursed.

<sup>16</sup> For more information on the FRIT please see the EU website: [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/news\\_corner/migration\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/news_corner/migration_en)

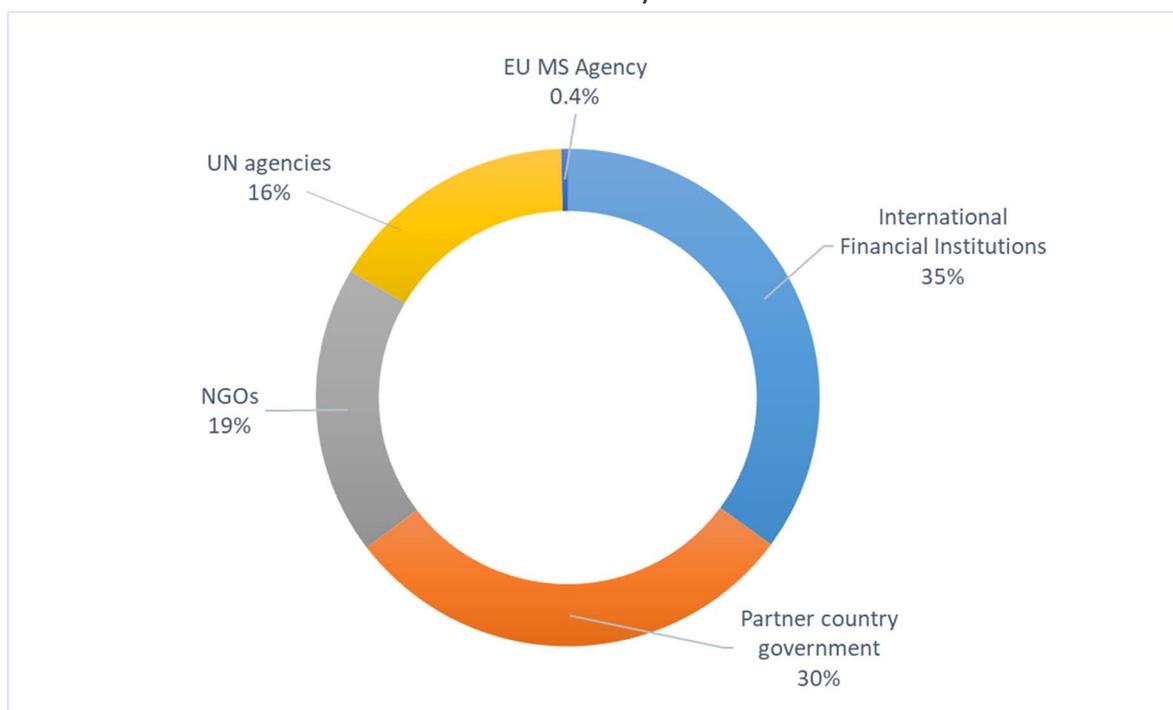
**Figure 14:** Grant contributions for Turkey from the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey, by sector



The FRIT contributions are notably investing more than half of the second tranche in basic needs and socio-economic support. The other notable investments being in education, water and

sanitation and health. The most utilised delivery channels for FRIT contributions from the second tranche are the International Financial Institutions and partner country governments.

**Figure 15:** Grant Contributions from the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey, by Channel of Delivery

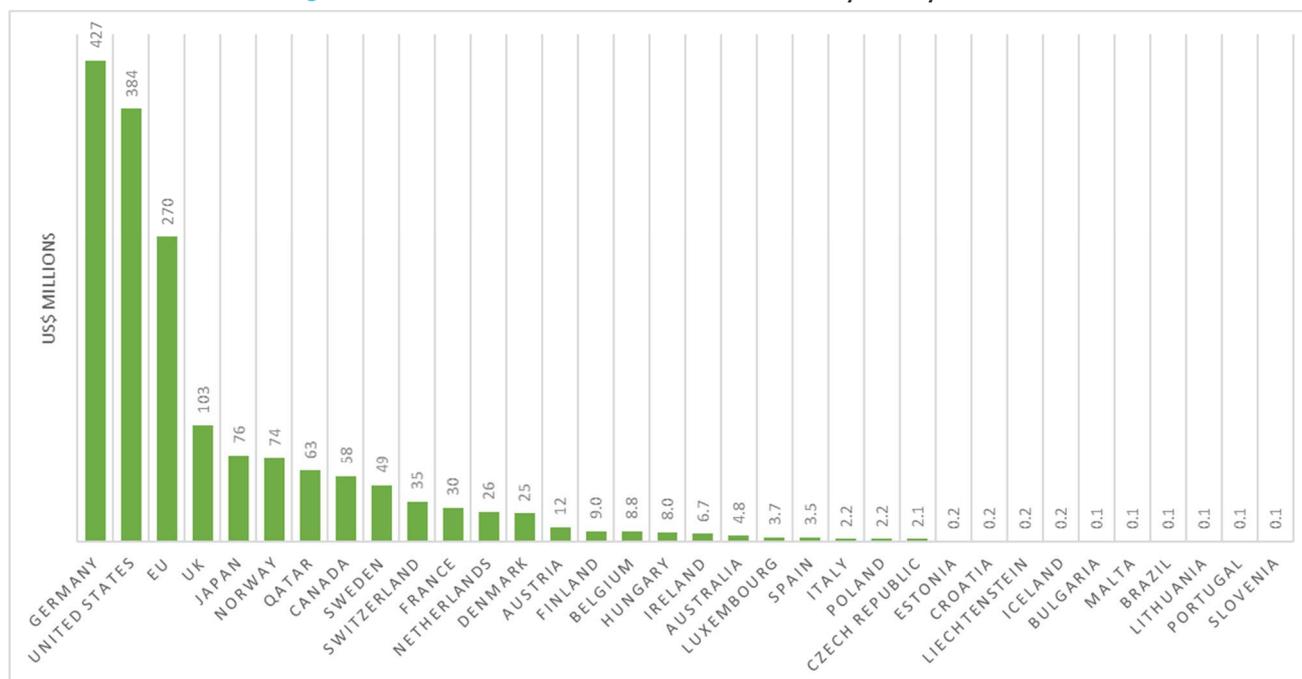


## Syria

The total 2020 grant contributions for Syria amounts to US\$1.7 billion, which is provided by thirty-four of the total thirty-eight donors. The five largest contributing donors account for 75% (US\$1.3 billion) of the total contribution, made up of

Germany contributing 25% (US\$427 million), USA providing 23% (US\$384 million), EU 16% (US\$270 million), UK 6% (US\$103 million) and Japan 5% (US\$76 million).

Figure 16: 2020 Grant contributions for Syria by donor

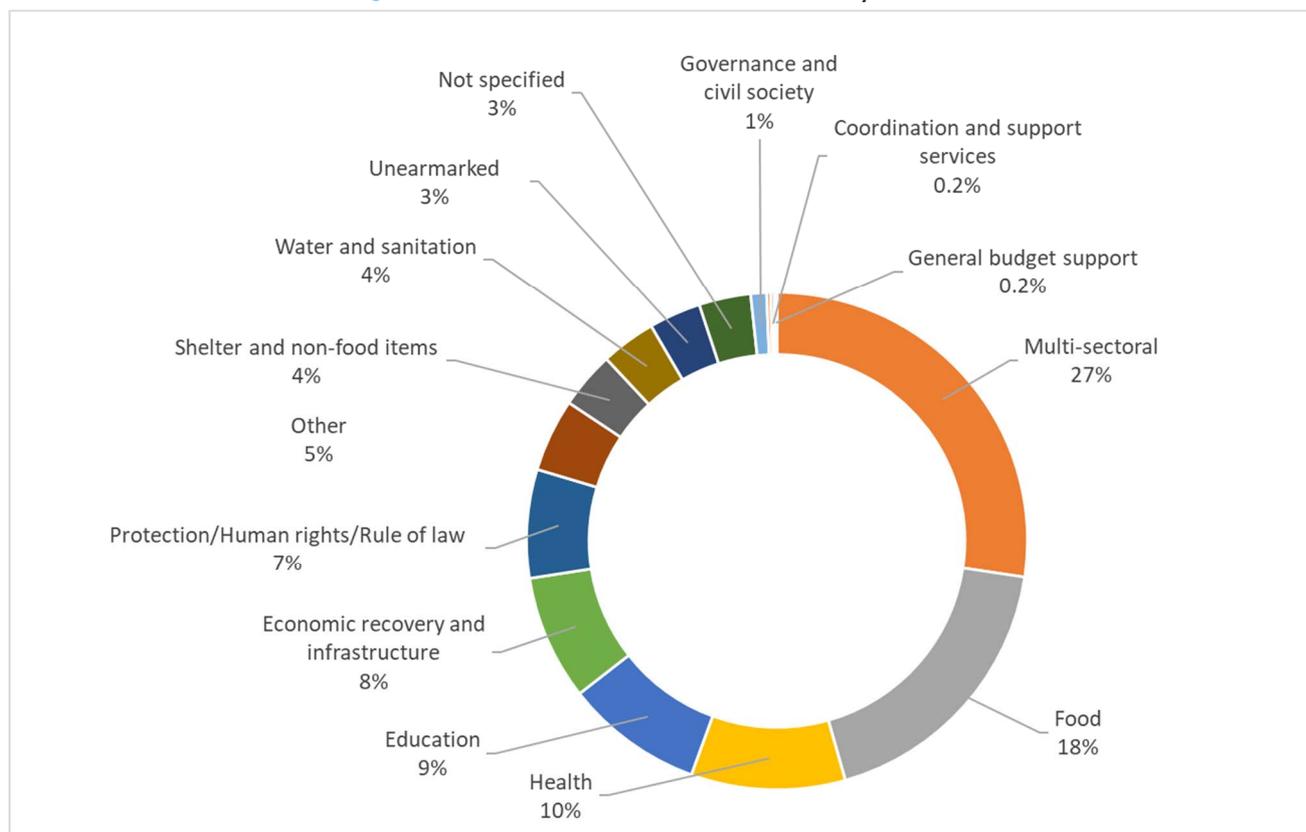


## 6. Sectors

Of the total 2020 grant pledge of US\$4.9 billion for Syria and the region, a total of US\$5 billion has been realised as contributions in 2020. Not all contributions can be broken down by sectors. Some donors were unable to report on the sectoral breakdown of their contributions at this point in 2020. This sectoral analysis is therefore based on a breakdown of \$4.3 billion of the total US\$5 billion confirmed contributions, provided by thirty-five of the thirty-eight donors.

Aside from the 27% of reported sectoral contributions that have been allocated to multi-sectoral activities, the largest grant investments in 2020, have been in food, health, education, and economic recovery and infrastructure. Compared to 2019, the most notable change has been the increased allocation to the food sector, which has increased almost four-fold from 6.1% in 2019 to 18% in 2020. As the sectoral analysis conducted was at the regional level, this will hide significant variations in the sectoral breakdown at the national level.

Figure 17: 2020 Grant contributions by sector



## COVID-19 Pandemic

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is dramatically impacting Syria and the region. Whilst not a specific topic in the original plan for data collection, several donors volunteered insights on the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which are analysed below. It is important to note that this evidence was not formally requested from all donors, and so the analysis is anecdotal rather than representative, but it still adds value and highlights areas that could be addressed with subsequent data collection and analysis.

The declaration of the co-chairs at the Brussels IV conference highlighted the additional challenge that Syria and the region faces resulting from the public health and economic impacts of the COVID pandemic: “The worsening economic context in Syria and the region and the protracted nature of the crisis warrants further support. US\$384 million are required to address the public health and socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis in Syria, with an additional US\$806 million needed across the region, in particular to provide immediate

assistance as well as to support host countries’ national systems and recovery plans, vulnerable families and host communities”<sup>17</sup>.

The EU, UK, USA, Canada and Germany are all, both re-orientating existing funding (pledges and contributions), and pledging new funding, to address the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in Syria and the region. All five donors stated that some of the funding included in this report is being used towards the COVID-19 pandemic response in Syria and the region. The emerging needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic was noted by several other donors as a key issue, and therefore it is likely that many other donors are replicating this approach, whilst there is insufficient evidence or data available to definitively conclude if other donors are adopting the same approach.

Several other donors noted that the COVID-19 pandemic presented new challenges for pledges to be realised into contributions, and that some delays

<sup>17</sup> This is a direct quotation from the co-chair’s declaration at the conclusion of the Brussels Four Conference. The full declaration can be found at:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/06/30/brussels-iv-conference-on-supporting-the-future-of-syria-and-the-region-co-chairs-declaration/>

in partners receiving funding have been experienced.

The EU has reoriented more than €80 million to address the emergency needs, health and socio-economic challenges related to the Covid-19 pandemic inside Syria.

The EU Regional Trust Fund (MADAD) has redirected activities within ongoing programmes, involving more than €91.5 million mostly in the health and WASH sectors, and on 9 June 2020 has adopted an additional €54.7 million package for refugees from Syria and vulnerable persons in Jordan and Lebanon to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grant pledges from Germany, have substantially increased since the Brussels IV Conference. The total pledges from Germany include €411.3 million specifically for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is made up of €375.5 million pledged for grants in 2020, and €35.8 million pledged for grants in 2021 and beyond.

The UK has disbursed a total of US\$17 million specifically to assist in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, from the total disbursements reported under this financial tracking report. Canada also reported that US\$7 million of the existing pledge for 2020 grants was being directed to country based pooled funds and NGO partners to respond to growing COVID-19 pandemic specific needs.

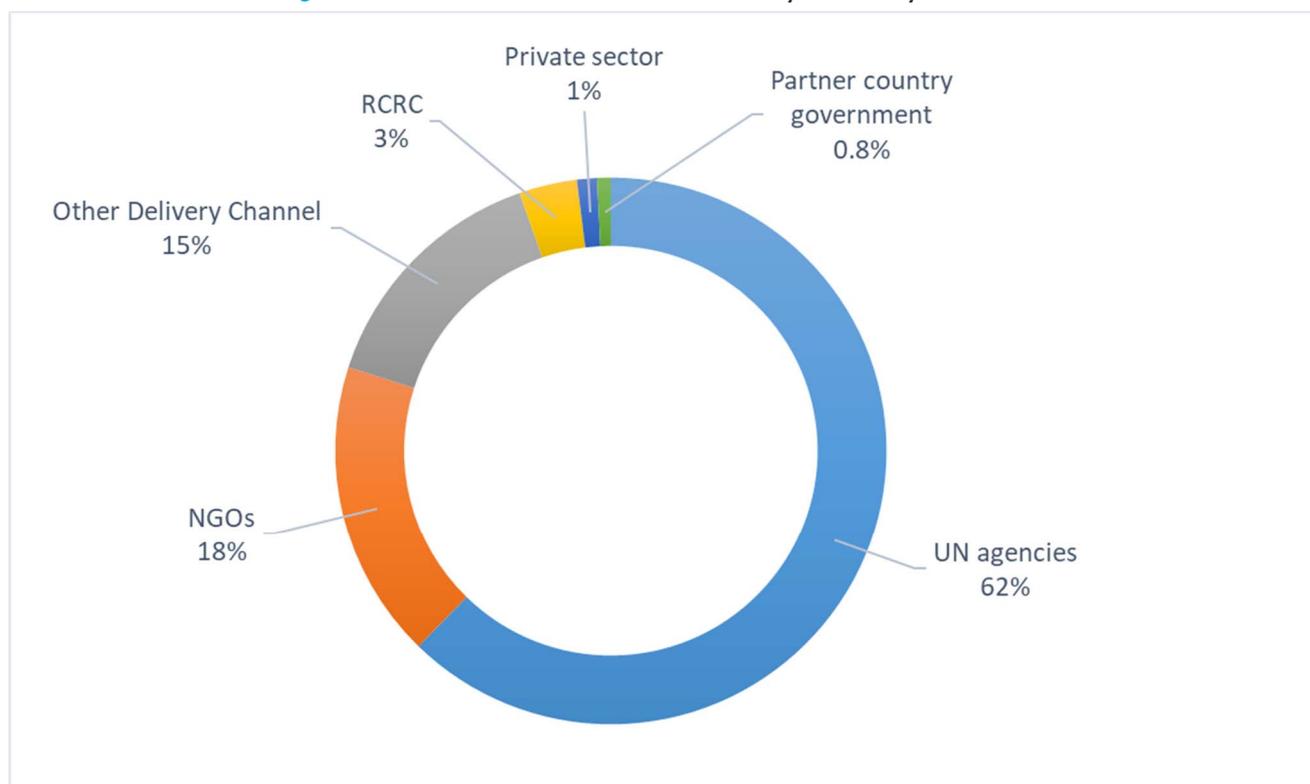
## 7. Channels of Delivery

Of the total 2020 grant pledge of US\$4.9 billion for Syria and the region, \$5 billion has been realised as contributions in 2020. Not all contributions can be broken down by channel of delivery. Some donors were unable to report on the channel of delivery of their contributions at this point in 2020. This analysis of channels of delivery is therefore based on a breakdown of \$4.3 billion of the total US\$5 billion confirmed contributions, provided by thirty-five of the thirty-eight donors.

The most popular channel of delivery that is being utilised for 2020 grant contributions are the UN

agencies, with 62% (US\$2.7 billion) of the total grant contributions with a breakdown by channel of delivery (US\$4.3 billion). This is a significant increase since 2019 where the UN was relied on for the delivery of 44% of grant contributions. As the delivery channel analysis conducted was at the regional level, this will hide significant variations in the breakdown of delivery channels at the national level.

Figure 18: 2020 Grant contributions by delivery channel



## 8. Regional Multi-Donor Mechanisms

There are two multi-donor mechanisms being utilised for support at the national level that are included in the scope of this financial tracking report<sup>18</sup>: the Global Concessional Financing Facility (utilised only in Jordan), and the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey (utilised only in Turkey).

The Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) helps to bridge the humanitarian-development gap by providing an affordable and sustainable means of coping with the long-term development costs of hosting large numbers of refugees. In this region, Jordan is presently the only country to benefit from this mechanism of concessional loan funding.

Beyond these two multi-donor mechanisms operating at the national level, there are three additional major multi-donor mechanisms that operate at the regional level to support Syria and the region. These three regional multi-donor mechanisms are: the EU Regional Trust Fund (MADAD); the UN Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP); and the UN Regional Refugee Resilience Plan (3RP). The EU Regional Trust Fund (MADAD) is reported on in the preceding sections of this report as an integral component of the EU 2020 grant contributions. The two remaining UN multi-donor mechanisms are reported on separately below.

### UN Coordinated Response Plans

The UN Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) responds to humanitarian needs within Syria, while the UN Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) covers protection and humanitarian needs as well as resilience in the countries hosting refugees (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey). The UN multi-donor coordinated response plans represent the largest combined and coordinated pillar of the humanitarian aid response architecture. These UN coordinated response plans bring together national governments, UN and non-governmental agencies to assess needs, develop strategic plans, deliver programmes and mobilise international donor support for addressing the priority humanitarian and protection needs of Syrians in Syria and Syrian refugees and host communities in neighbouring countries.

The combined funding requirements to deliver all components of these two UN coordinated plans is US\$9.8 billion for 2020. At present these plans are only partly funded with a total confirmed funding of US\$2.8 billion<sup>19</sup>. Interestingly, the total grant contributions reported by donors as being channelled through the UN agencies under this financial tracking exercise was US\$2.7 billion, which is very close to the figure reported separately by the UN through their own reporting mechanisms. It would have been possible to analyse further, and potentially attempt to reconcile the data from both reporting mechanisms, if all donors had been able to provide a breakdown of 2020 grant contributions by channel of delivery during this financial tracking exercise<sup>20</sup>.

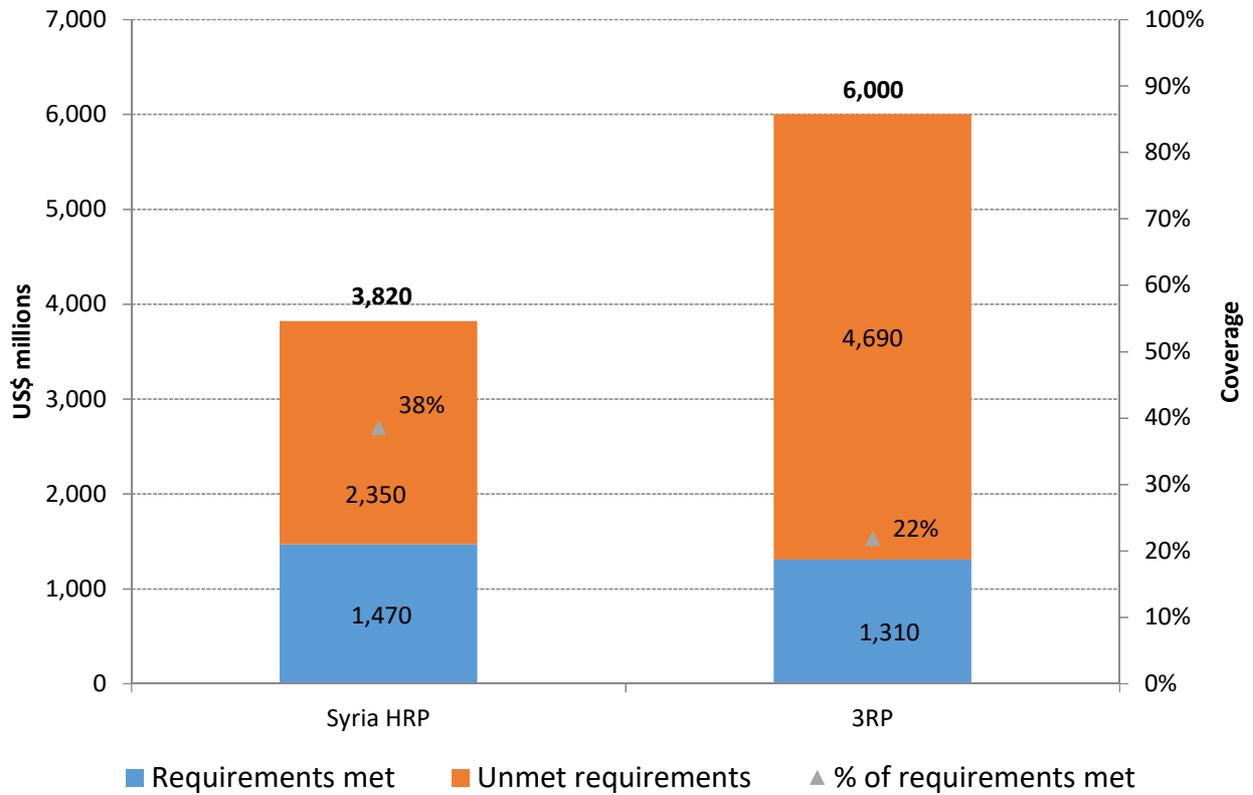
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<sup>18</sup> The Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) that supports concessional loan financing for Jordan is reported on under Section 5, in relation to the World Bank loan financing for Jordan. The EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey is reported on in relation to progress with pre-2020 grant pledges and contributions for Turkey under Section 5, in relation to FRIT grants for Turkey.

<sup>19</sup> Data sourced from the UN Financial Tracking System website: <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/943/summary>

<sup>20</sup> Data on channels of delivery was only available for US\$4.3 billion of the total US\$5 billion reported for 2020 grant contributions under this financial tracking exercise.

**Figure 8:** Requirements and contributions for Syria-related UN-coordinated response plans, 2020



# Annexes

## Annex A: Glossary

Term	Definition
Commitment	A firm plan expressed in writing and backed by the necessary funds, carried out by an official donor to provide specified assistance to a recipient country government, organisation or implementing agency. In the context of the tracking reports, commitments refer to those funds which have been committed but not yet contracted or disbursed. In the case of loans, the amount committed by financial institutions should be understood as the amount of loans formally approved by their institutions.
Contract	A binding agreement signed between a donor and a recipient implementing institution, organisation, or agency to implement an action. Funds can then be disbursed on this basis. In the context of the tracking reports, contracted funding refers to those funds which have been contracted but not yet disbursed. In the case of loans, the amount contracted by financial institutions refers to the amount of loans formally signed with the borrower.
Contribution	For the purpose of the tracking reports, 'contributions' is used as a general term to refer to the sum of all funds reported as committed, contracted and disbursed.
Disbursement	Outgoing funds that are transferred to a recipient institution, organisation or agency, following a commitment and/or a contract. In the context of the tracking report, disbursements refer to funds disbursed from the donor to the first-level recipient, not to the funds which are ultimately spent at the project level. Disbursements may depend on the progress of the respective projects and that achieved by respective implementing partners. In the case of loans, the disbursed amount by financial institutions refers to the amount transferred to the borrower.
Grant	Funding for which no repayment is required.
Lending institutions	All institutions that pledged and/or contributed loans as part of the Syria response. This includes multilateral development banks and government institutions.
Loans	Funding for which the recipient incurs a legal debt.
Loans – concessional status	The concessional status of a loan reflects the benefit to the borrower compared with a loan at market rate. Concessional loans' benefits can include a lower interest rate, a longer period in which the loan must be repaid and a delay to when the repayment must begin.
Multi-country	Pledges and funding labelled as 'multi-country' in the reports refer to instances where funding is directed (or will be directed) to two or more (but not all) specified countries in the Syria region. This differs from pledges and funding labelled as going to the 'region', which is specified as funding for the regional response by donors and may go to all countries in the region; as well as 'not defined', which refers to pledges and funding where no country or regional detail has been provided.
Multi-sector	In the context of sectoral disaggregation of grants and for the purposes of the tracking reports, multi-sector refers primarily to projects and activities with no one dominant sector and often applies to assistance for refugees provided and/or coordinated by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This definition is in line with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's sectoral definitions.
Multilateral development banks	Multilateral development banks are supranational institutions established by a group of countries with the common task of fostering economic and social progress in developing countries by financing projects (in the form of loans or grants), supporting investment, generating capital and providing technical expertise.
Pledge	In the case of grants, this refers to a non-binding announcement of an intended contribution or allocation by donors.

Term	Definition
	In the case of loans, this represents a non-binding announcement of a lending target. Achieving set lending targets depends on the ability and willingness of the borrowing party to take out a loan.
Recipient country	The reports include analysis of pledges and funding by recipient country. This includes direct funding to the governments of recipient countries, as well as funding channelled through organisations working in the country, such as the UN, NGOs, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the private sector.
Region	In the context of the Brussels Conference, 'region' refers to Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.
Unearmarked	In the context of the tracking reports, unearmarked refers to funding that is deliberately not directed to any particular sector by the donor. This differs from 'sector not specified' where details of sector-specific allocation are not available from the reports provided by the donors.

## Annex B: Methodology

The pledges made by the international community at the fourth Brussels conference in support of Syria and the region are detailed in the Financial Annex to the Co-Chairs' Statement<sup>21</sup>. The statement confirms that donors made a total funding pledge of USD 5.5 billion (EUR 4.9 billion) for 2020, USD 2.2 billion (EUR 2 billion) for 2021 and beyond, and USD 6.1 billion (EUR 5.5 billion) in loans.

For the purposes of the financial tracking, the official pledges made at the Brussels conference are broken down slightly differently in this report between grants and loans provided by IFIs and the EU Macro-Financial Assistance. The conference pledge was for grant support amounting to US\$4.9 billion (€4.4 billion) in grants for 2020, and multi-year pledges of US\$2 billion (€1.8 billion) for 2021 and beyond. The EU announced Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) loans amounting to €500 million (US\$560 million) for 2020 and €200 million (US\$224 million) for 2021. IFIs and governments also announced US\$6.1 billion (€5.5 billion) in loans for 2020 and beyond. For the purposes of this report this equates to a total loan pledge of US\$6.9 billion (€6.2 billion) for 2020 and beyond.

The overall purpose of the ongoing financial tracking of the support to Syria and the region, is to contribute towards the strengthening of the adherence to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) principles of aid effectiveness, specifically: national ownership; alignment; harmonisation; managing for results and mutual accountability<sup>22</sup>. The specific objectives of this financial tracking that contribute to the achievement of the overall purpose, is the transparent monitoring of the following components of financial support to Syria and the region:

1. Realisation of non-binding donor grant and loan pledges into firm funding (grant or loan) contributions<sup>23</sup> (committed, contracted, and disbursed).
2. Realisation of grant and loan contributions by country, sector, and delivery channel.
3. Concessional status of loans at each stage from pledge and each progressive stage in the progress of loan contributions (committed, contracted, and disbursed).
4. Realisation of grant and loan funding contributions (committed, contracted, and disbursed) from regional and country-specific multi-donor mechanisms.

The definitions of contributions have been applied rigorously throughout the data collection process and in the report. A non-binding pledge only becomes a contribution once it is committed, which is defined as: "a firm plan expressed in writing and backed by the necessary funds, carried out by an official donor to provide specified assistance to a recipient country government, organisation or implementing agency". The definition of a contribution also includes committed funds that have subsequently been contracted and then disbursed. This financial tracking report has applied the existing definitions of these terms comprehensively and consistently. The strict application of these definitions is critical to the achievement of all four of the objectives of this financial tracking, and a crystal clear distinction between non-binding pledges and actual funds being realised is essential to meet the overall purpose of mutual accountability.

The definition of terms (Annex A: Glossary), approach and methodology followed for this round of financial tracking has replicated the stated approach and methodology from the previous rounds of financial tracking, which encompass the following steps in the process:

1. The intended pledges of the donors and multi-lateral development banks were collected prior to the Brussels IV Conference, with the submission of Pledge Forms. Twenty-four donors (of the thirty-eight donors that made a pledge at the conference), and two banks (of the three banks that made a pledge at the conference), submitted a completed Pledge Form prior to the Brussels IV Conference.
2. During the Brussels IV Conference (30 June 2020) donors and banks publicly confirmed their pledges, which were recorded in real time, rapidly verified, and then the total pledge was released at the end of the conference in the Financial Annex to the Co-chairs Declaration.
3. On 20 July 2020, a detailed financial tracking form was sent for completion by all thirty-eight donors and three banks that made a pledge at the Brussels IV conference, with clear instructions on how to complete the forms. The donors and banks were requested to return completed forms with all the required data by 31 July, to complete the financial tracking exercise in time to publish the report ahead of the UN General Assembly meeting in September.

<sup>21</sup> [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/44897/syria-2020-pledging-statement\\_v03072020.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/44897/syria-2020-pledging-statement_v03072020.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> This financial tracking is being conducted in parallel to monitoring of policy commitments in Jordan and Lebanon.

<sup>23</sup> See Annex A – Glossary for detailed definition of all terms used.

4. As soon as data was received it went through a robust validation process before being entered on to the financial tracking database. The pledge data was verified with the pledges made at the Brussels IV Conference, with any differences being confirmed with the requisite donor or bank. The contribution data was then validated on the basis that firm commitments require written confirmations and requisite resources available, committed to specific countries, sectors, and delivery channels. Donors and banks are not asked to provide total contribution data, and a key step in the validation process was to total the mutually exclusive constituent components of the contribution (committed, contracted and disbursed funds), which was then compared to the total contribution at the level of country, sector and delivery channel. Any discrepancies were then interrogated to determine if there were errors in any of the data and the reasons then confirmed with the respective donor or bank.
5. Once the data was validated, it was entered on to the database<sup>24</sup>, and then analysed and graphed, and finally included in the report.

The robust data collection and validation process has enabled any gaps or deficiencies in data to be identified and assessed in detail to determine how to resolve the deficiency. All remaining gaps or anomalies in data are noted in the respective section of the report, with the full details of the anomaly being noted in footnotes throughout the report. This full disclosure on the strength of the data presented allows any independent reader to interrogate the analysis and draw conclusions with a full knowledge of the strength of the data presented.

The collection of a universal set of data from all donors and banks has enabled the analysis to rely solely on the universal primary data collected, with external secondary data sources from the UN only being used to compare and triangulate the data collected on the UN delivery channel.

The US\$ and Euro amounts for pledges are taken from the Financial Annex to the Co-chairs statement from the conference. The exchange

rates used in the statement are the UN Operational Exchange Rates<sup>25</sup> for the day of the conference (30 June 2020). For contributions in the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, the average UN Operational Exchange Rate for the respective year is used. For contributions in 2020 and beyond the average UN Operational Rate for the day of the conference (30 June 2020) is also used, to ensure comparability of pledge and contribution data.

The UN appeal information has been sourced from the UN Office Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking System (FTS). Funding figures for the Syria 3RP in FTS are gross figures and might differ from the net figures provided in UNHCR funding snapshots.

The sectoral analysis of grants in the report uses sector classifications that are specific to this tracking project and are consistent with previous reports to enable longitudinal analysis. The classification of sectors is informed by the OECD DAC sectors and purpose codes, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee<sup>26</sup> standard sectors. The sectors used for this analysis of grants include the following:

- education
- health
- water and sanitation
- governance and civil society
- social and cultural infrastructure
- economic recovery and infrastructure (including agriculture, mine action and livelihoods)
- food
- coordination and support services
- protection/human rights/rule of law
- shelter and non-food items
- multi-sector
- unearmarked
- not yet specified
- other

Funding that does not fall under any of these sector categories are combined into 'other', with additional detail provided by each institution in their data submission reports.

<sup>24</sup> The information management system designed and used for this financial tracking exercise was as follows: Macros and other extract, transform and load (ELT) functions were used to automatically extract input cells from each of the data reports regardless of whether or not they contained reported data.

- 225 cells potentially containing numerical data from each Grant form 2020 (Tables 1, 3 & 4)
- 225 cells potentially containing numerical data from each Grant form 2021 onwards (Tables 1, 3 & 4)
- 423 cells potentially containing numerical data from each Loans form 2020 onwards (Tables 1-4)

Not all donors completed all data sheets and so the Grants Database for 2020 and 2021 and beyond contained 16,875 rows of which 1,346 rows contained reported data. The final Loans Database contained 2,961 rows, of which 37 contained data. EDtaa tables were joined using the vertical concatenation function in JMP v14.2 and were then analysed with the tabulate function and graph builder.

<sup>25</sup> See UN Operational Rates of Exchange for the rates used in the financial tracking:

<https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php>

<sup>26</sup> The Inter-Agency Standing Committee is the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance involving key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners.