

Arab Spring

Since December 2010 six out of 22 Arab countries (Yemen, Syria, Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Bahrain) have had major uprisings, only two (Egypt and Tunisia) have successfully managed a regime change. The various approaches and outcomes of the protests demonstrate the complexities and differences between each individual country. For example, Yemen has been in a protracted humanitarian crisis due to chronic water shortages and decades of conflict; Syria has suffered from severe on-going droughts; Egypt has been a large recipient of development aid whereas Bahrain has received no reported aid since 2004.

Basic indicators

Basic indicators show the diversity amongst the Arab Spring countries. Whilst gross national income (GNI) per capita and life expectancy are fairly similar, Yemen scores low overall and is ranked 133 out of 169 countries compared to Bahrain which is ranked 38.

Human Development Index (HDI), 2010	Libya	Bahrain	Yemen	Tunisia	Egypt	Syria
Life expectancy	74.5	76.0	63.9	74.3	70.5	74.6
Under 5 mortality (per 1000 births)	17	12	69	21	23	16
Adult literacy rate	88%	90%	63%	80%	66%	85%
GNI per capita (US\$)	9.7	10.2	7.8	9.0	8.7	8.5
Maternal mortality ratio (deaths of women per 100,000 live births)	97	32	430	100	130	130
Refugees	2100	100	1800	2300	6800	15200
HDI value	0.755	0.801	0.439	0.683	0.62	0.589
HDI rank	53	39	133	81	101	111

Figure 1: Basic Indicators. Source: HRI 2010

Trends in development aid to the Arab Spring

Total official development assistance (ODA) from all donors (reporting to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC)) to the Arab Spring peaked at US\$2.7 billion in 2001. Egypt has been the largest recipient of ODA which peaked at US\$1.5 billion in 2004. Between 2008 and 2009 ODA to Egypt and Libya declined whereas aid to Tunisia, Syria and Yemen increased. There is no reported ODA to Bahrain after 2004.

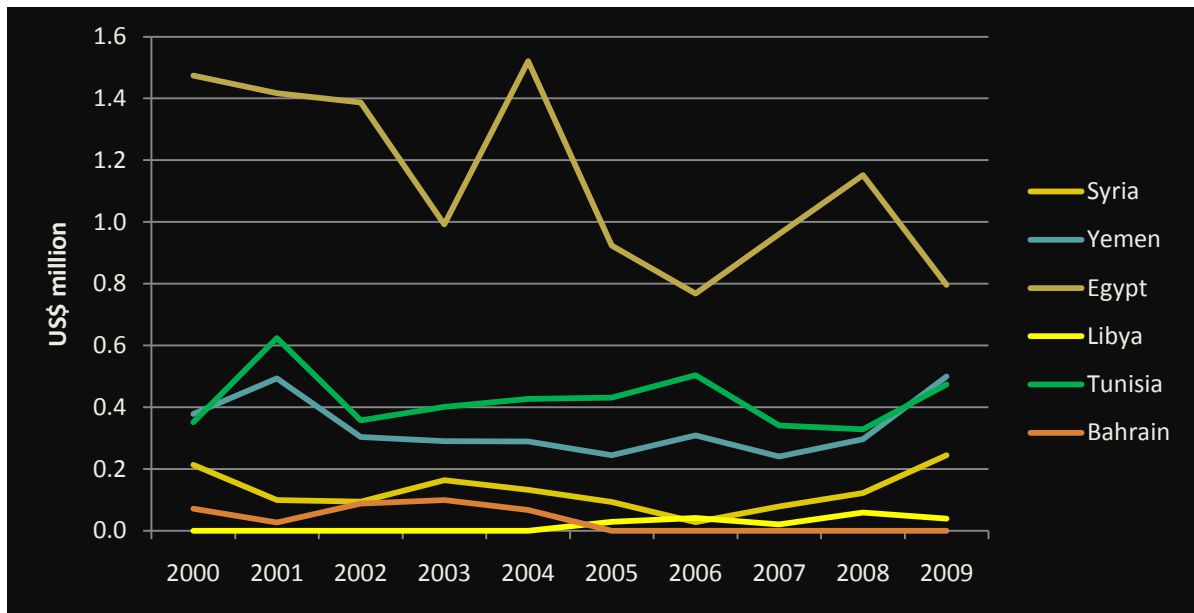


Figure 2: ODA to Arab Spring countries from all donors reporting to the OECD DAC, 2000-2009. Source Development Initiatives based on OECD DAC data.

Humanitarian trends

The following graph shows that between 2000 and 2006 humanitarian aid to the six Arab countries remained relatively low, and continued to remain low for Egypt, Tunisia and Libya until 2010. For example reported contributions to Libya only begin in 2011 and there are no reported humanitarian aid contributions for Bahrain.

In 2009 humanitarian aid peaked at US\$339.7 million, due in part to US\$278.7 for Syria of which 42% was from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNCHR). At the same time as humanitarian aid to Syria peaked, humanitarian aid to Yemen fell from US\$136.6 million in 2008 (of which 76% came from Saudi Arabia) to US\$53.0 million in 2009. By 2010 as humanitarian aid to Syria fell to US\$115.6 million Yemen's rose to US\$143.3 million. The rise in contributions to Syria in 2009 could have been in response to the drought and the UN CAP appeal launched that year.

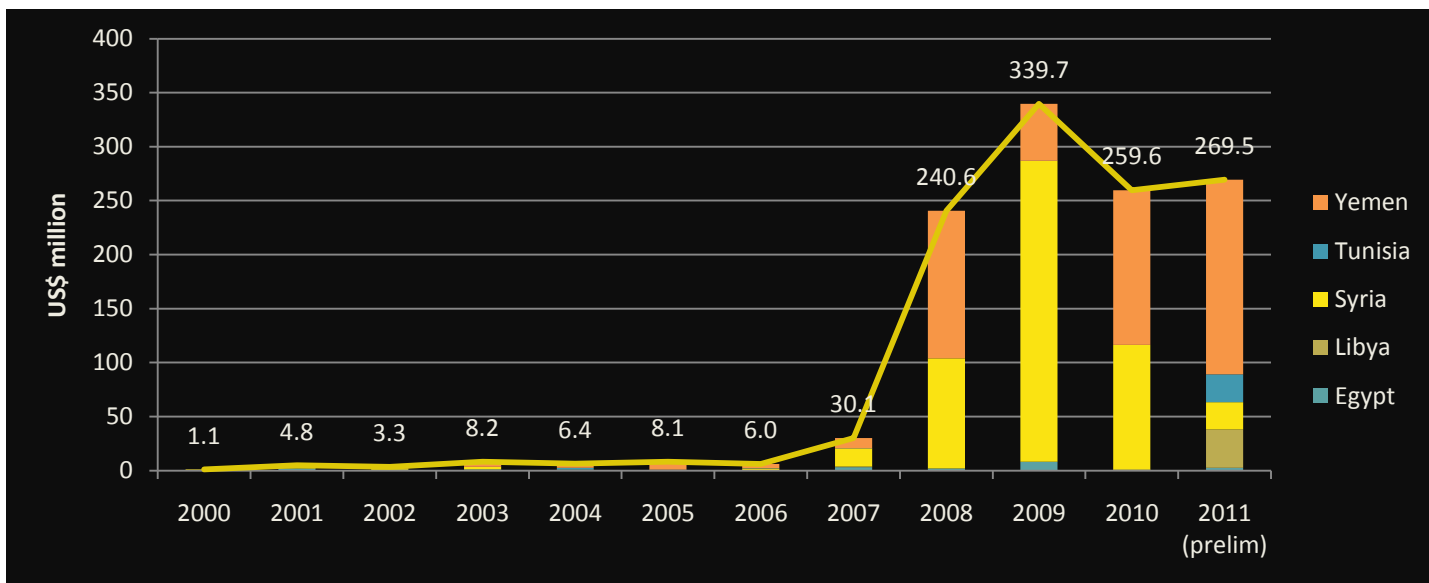


Figure 3: Humanitarian aid to Arab Spring countries from all donors 2000-2011. Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS (downloaded 28 July 2011). No data available for Bahrain

So far in 2011 the United States has been the largest overall government donor to the Arab Spring countries, US\$68.7 million, the majority of which has gone to Yemen, as well as the largest humanitarian aid donor to each individual country. The UAE has been the largest non-DAC donor and the tenth largest government donor (US\$5.2 million) all of which went to Yemen.

Top humanitarian aid donors

Donor	Egypt	Libya	Syria	Tunisia	Yemen	Total
United States	0.0	4.6	7.7	10.0	46.4	68.7
ECHO	0.0	0.9	2.6	0.0	22.4	25.9
United Kingdom	0.0	3.8	1.6	0.6	18.0	24.0
Germany	0.7	2.7	4.2	2.8	6.0	16.5
Australia	0.4	7.4	3.2	2.1	1.1	14.1
Switzerland	0.5	1.9	1.2	1.0	4.5	9.2
Spain	0.1	2.7	0.0	2.1	3.4	8.4
Japan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	6.5
Sweden	0.0	0.6	2.4	1.7	1.7	6.4
United Arab Emirates	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	5.2
Finland	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	3.8	4.0
Norway	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Italy	0.3	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.0	2.8
Canada	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	2.8
Russian Federation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.0	2.5
Total government donors	2.2	34.0	24.3	23.7	127.4	211.6
Total	2.5	35.5	25.3	25.9	180.3	269.5

Figure 4: Top 15 government donors to Arab Spring, 2011 (downloaded 28 July 2011).

Whilst the United States has been the largest government donor to Yemen in 2010 and 2011, Saudi Arabia was the largest government donor in 2008 and 2009, US\$103.9 million and US\$49.2 million respectively.

2008		2009		2010	
Saudi Arabia	103.9	Saudi Arabia	9.2	United States	42.2
CERF	8.2	CERF	7.7	CERF	15.3
Dubai Cares (UAE)	6.6	UAE	4.1	UAE	13.6
Netherlands	3.6	Sweden	3.9	ECHO	10.9
ECHO	2.3	ECHO	3.7	UK	6.7
UK	2.1	Germany	3.6	Germany	6.4
Italy	2.1	Switzerland	2.1	Switzerland	3.5
Germany	1.6	UK	2.0	Japan	3.1
UAE	1.4	Japan	1.9	Sweden	2.7
Japan	1.0	United States	1.8	Italy	2.4
Other donors	3.6	Other donors	12.9	Other donors	36.5

Figure 5: Top 10 donors' humanitarian aid to Yemen, 2008-2010. Source UN OCHA FTS

Other flows

Recent donor announcements show that further pledges are being made for the Arab Spring.

- In July 2011 the [UAE](#) offered US\$3 billion assistance package to Egypt. US\$750 million for housing and infrastructure projects for the youth and US\$750 for other initiatives targeting the sector.
- In the same month the [United Kingdom](#) announced US\$4.5 million in emergency humanitarian aid to Yemen for 40,000 displaced people in response to the ICRC's appeal.
- [Germany](#) has offered €100 million (US\$144 million) to support humanitarian needs.

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