Intake by Country

Country	Count
Syria	84
Iraq	6
Turkey	14
Jordan	11
Lebanon	1

Allegations

Allegation	Complaints	Cases
Fraud	35	21
Theft	40	0
ISIL/JAN Diversions	21	1
Bribery or Kickbacks	4	3
Other	16	0
Total	116	25

Reports Generated

	Count
To USAID	8
To Lead IG	98
To External Entities	23
Total	129

USAID OIG Coordination

	Count
Joint Cases	1
Syria Inv. Working Group Meetings	3
Referrals to Bilateral Donors	16
Referrals to IPOs	7

Syria Complaint Locations

Legend:
- Theft
- ISIL Diversion
- Program Fraud
- Bribery/Kickbacks
- JAN Diversion
- Other
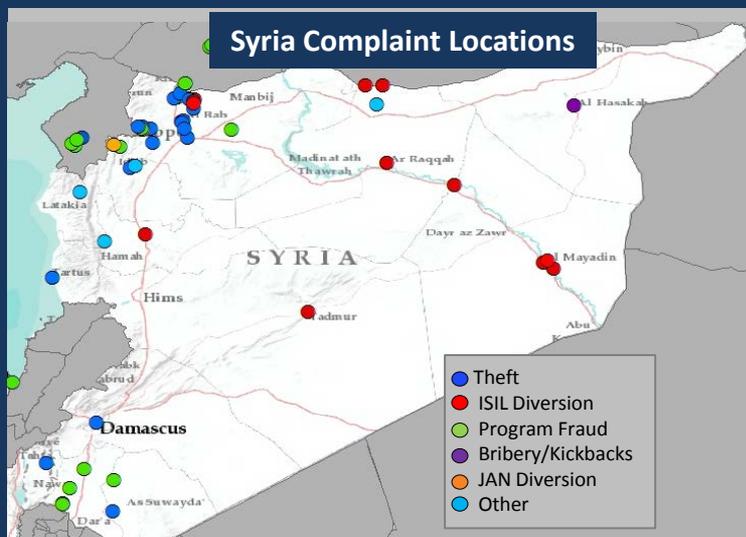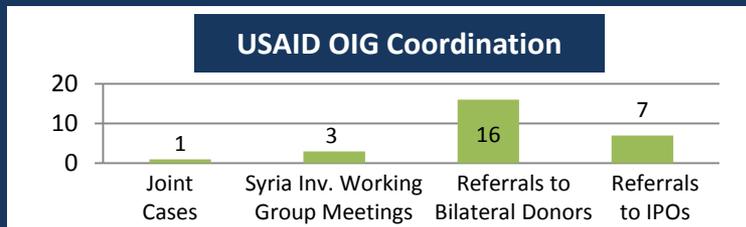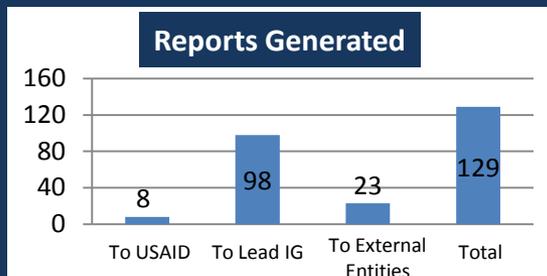
Losses[a]

	Food	Total Dollar Loss
ISIL	4,000 rations, 15 MT flour	$454,138
JAN	12.5 MT flour	$194,415
Other	34 MT flour, 275 rations	$673,770
Total	61.5 MT flour, 4,275 rations	$1,322,323

Investigative Outcomes

Systemic Changes	2
Procurement Actions	7
Suspensions/ Debarments	15
Personnel Actions[b]	11
Savings	$11,574,379
Arrests	0

Fraud Awareness Briefings

Number of Briefings	32
Number of Attendees	480

Source of Complaint

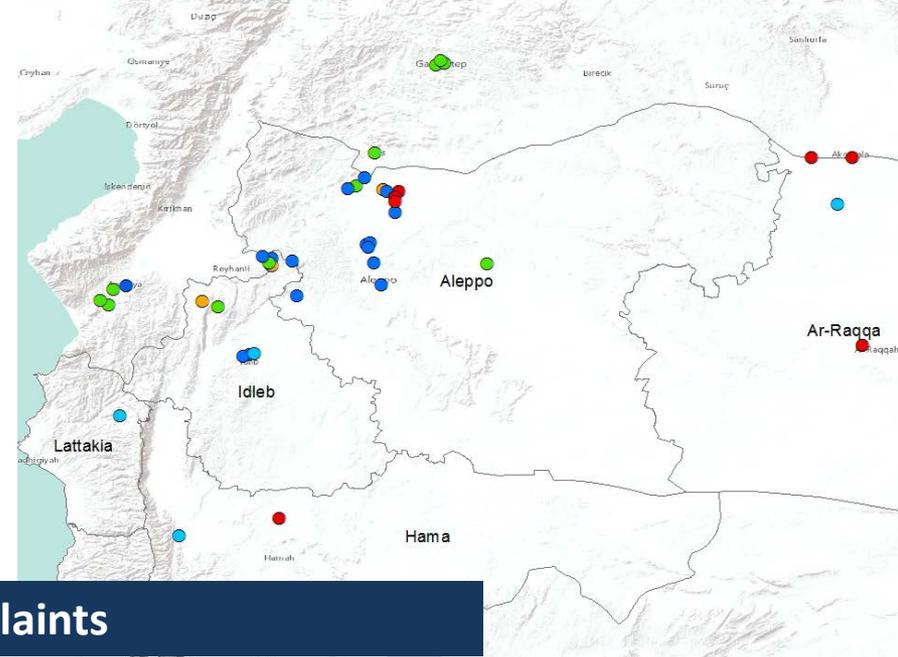| Source	Percent
OIG Hotline	7%
Implementers	33%
USAID	57%
Other	3%
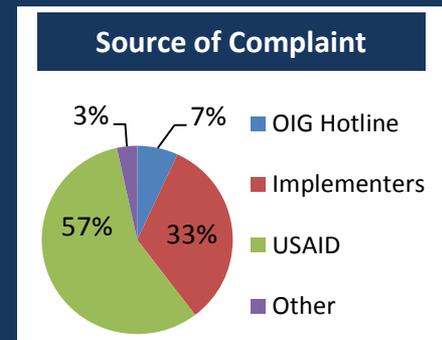
a. Monetary value of food loss is incorporated in recorded dollar losses b. Personnel Actions includes employee terminations and resignations
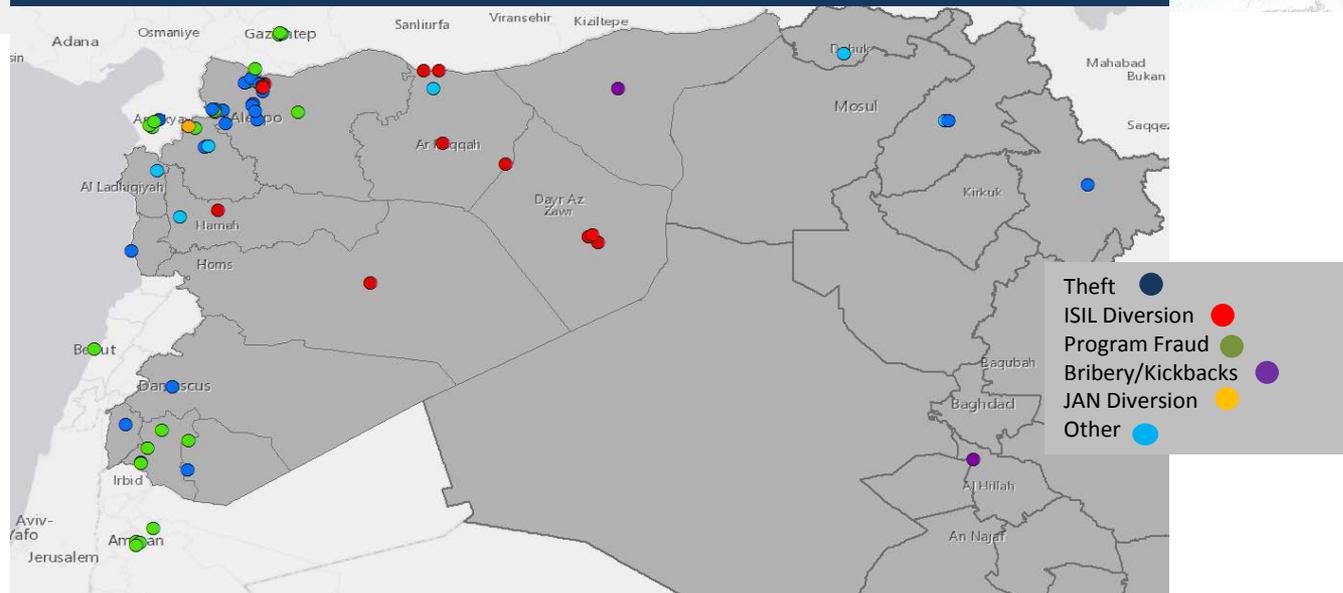
Complaint Density, Syria
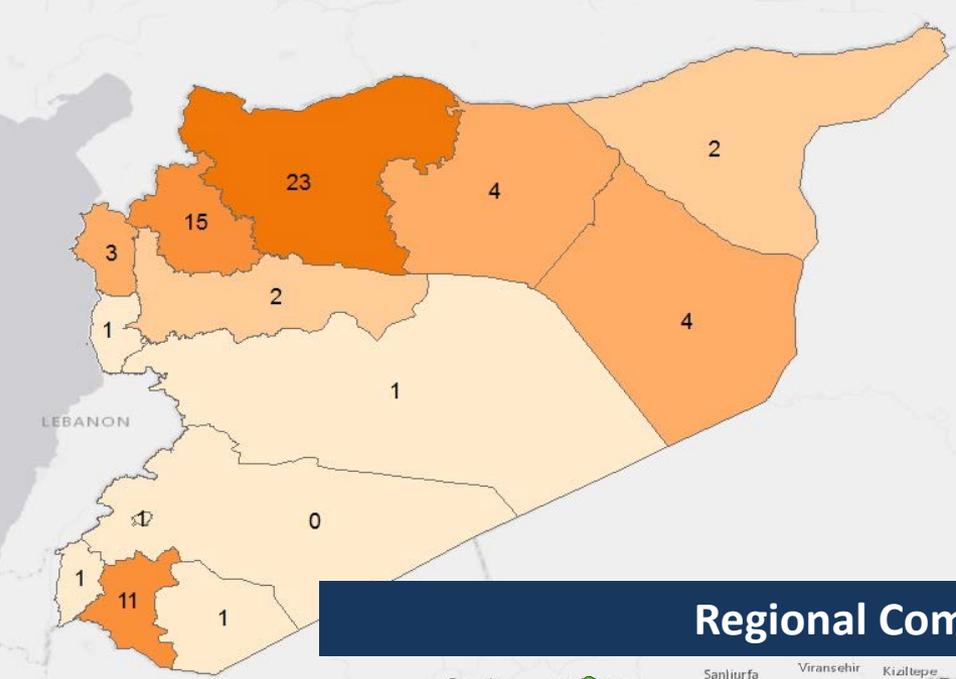
North Syria Complaints

Regional Complaints

Theft
ISIL Diversion
Program Fraud
Bribery/Kickbacks
JAN Diversion
Other

Investigative Narratives

Twelve Turkish Companies and Individuals Suspended and Three Implementer Staff Members Terminated

In January 2016, as a result of an OIG investigation, five companies operating in Turkey and seven of the companies' owners and operators were suspended from receiving U.S. Government awards. These companies and individuals were found to have violated federal or state antitrust statutes by having colluded with each other in order to win an award to provide supplies to displaced persons under two USAID-funded programs, International Rescue Committee's (IRC's) Mua'ada: Emergency Aid for Conflict-Affected Syrians program and International Medical Corps' (IMC's) Health, NFI, WASH, and Protection Programming for Conflict-Affected Populations program. In January 2016, IRC terminated two staff members from its Turkey office, who had accepted money from vendors in exchange for steering contracts to them. In March 2016, IMC terminated one staff member from its Turkey office.

OIG's Engagement and Advice Leads to $106,000 in Savings and the Suspension of Two Turkish Entities

OIG distributed a questionnaire to all OFDA and FFP implementing partners in Turkey and Iraq. OIG distributed the questionnaire to collect information from implementing partners possibly affected by collusion, product substitution, and bribery schemes identified during an ongoing investigation into vendors in Turkey. As a result of this questionnaire, a USAID implementing partner carried out additional oversight of its procurement activities and of a vendor, which was listed in the questionnaire. The implementing partner identified discrepancies in food baskets purchased for distribution in Syria and determined that the vendor fraudulently profited approximately $106,000 by manipulating the contents of more than 55,000 food baskets. Because of the difficult operating environment within Syria, USAID OIG assumed an advisory role during the implementer's internal review. In March 2016, the implementer committed to not charging USAID for this amount and determined it would no longer work with the vendor. In addition, in March 2016, USAID suspended the vendor and its owner.

USAID Cooperative Agreement Reduced by $10.5 Million Due to Detected Fraud in Syria Cross-Border Program

In March 2015, OIG received allegations of fraud and mismanagement against an Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) subawardee. OIG found that the subawardee had not distributed aid products in southern Syria in accordance with the subaward, but instead had another organization do the distribution. Despite the fact that the subawardee did not incur the planned expenses for the warehouse, transportation, or distribution, it billed OFDA for the full cost of the project. In July 2015, as the result of OIG investigative findings, OFDA reduced its overall planned funding by $10.5 million to the prime implementer. The investigation into the prime implementer's management of the subawardee is ongoing.

Investigation Leads to Partial Termination of a USAID-Funded Syria Cross Border Program and a Savings of $968,319

An ongoing OIG investigation revealed systemic weaknesses on the part of an implementer in the procurement, storage, handling, transportation, and distribution of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies purchased for use in Syria. As part of the investigation, OIG personnel physically inspected materials on hand in several warehouses operated by the implementer, reviewed associated documentation, and interviewed key personnel. OIG shared its findings regarding these issues as well as procurement irregularities identified in the course of the ongoing investigation with USAID, which conducted a concurrent inspection of the warehouses and materials in question. In March 2016, USAID partially terminated the implementer's award for failing to comply with terms and conditions. As a result of the partial termination, the implementer canceled a planned and approved procurement of additional pharmaceuticals valued at $968,319.

OIG Investigations in Turkey and Jordan Result in Suspensions at OFDA Projects

Two ongoing OIG investigations revealed possible product substitution, bribery and procurement fraud in USAID-funded non-food item (NFI) procurements conducted for the Syria cross-border program. One case currently involves multiple Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) funded projects in Turkey and the other includes one OFDA funded project in Jordan. As a result of preliminary investigative data OIG shared with USAID in December 2015, USAID suspended certain program activities carried out by the impacted implementing partners. USAID OIG also referred twenty-four entities to the USAID Suspension and Debarment Office for potential administrative action.

Syria Investigations Working Group

In October 2015, USAID OIG founded the Syria Investigations Working Group (SIWG). The group consists of representatives within the investigative oversight bodies of the USAID OIG, the Department of State OIG, public international organizations (PIOs), and bilateral donors. The group shares investigative leads, coordinates oversight activities, and identifies trends in the region. OIG hosted the group's two teleconferences and, in February 2016, hosted an in-person meeting at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. Attendees included representatives of the oversight or investigative elements of USAID OIG and the Department of State OIG as well as several PIOs and bilateral donors.

OIG Investigation of Food Assistance Program in Syria Results in Systemic Changes

In 2015, OIG received numerous allegations that community representatives in southern Syria were selling flour provided by a USAID-funded program that had been intended for beneficiary consumption. In response to the allegations, the USAID implementer temporarily suspended flour shipments and implemented additional monitoring requirements. Subsequently, OIG met with USAID, the implementer, and subcontracted staff to discuss a plan forward. As a result, they all agreed to suspend flour distributions until the program was restructured by limiting flour distributions to bakeries.

USAID OIG Fraud Prevention and Compliance Handbook

USAID OIG conducted an analytical initiative by evaluating programmatic, geospatial and criminal trends in USAID humanitarian programs responding to the Iraq Syria crisis. OIG undertook this initiative using complaint data, Geospatial Information System (GIS) software, implementing partner interviews, and investigative findings. From the analysis to date, OIG identified high risk behavior and best practices used by USAID partners responding to the humanitarian crisis in Syria and Iraq. USAID OIG conveyed these findings in a Fraud Prevention and Compliance Handbook for the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team and implementing partners. OIG recently distributed the handbook during a February 2016 visit to USAID partners in Jordan.