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**USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
(USAID/BHA)**

**Supplemental Guidance for NGO Partners in Syria
Fiscal Year (FY) 2022**

ANNEX I. USAID/BHA Source and Origin Restrictions for Food Commodities in Syria

USAID/BHA restrictions on source and origin requirements for food commodities apply for local and regional food procurement in Syria. Although the following guidance is tailored to the Syria crisis response, it is derived from [BHA Functional Policy 20-03](#).

Definitions

Source: A commodity's source is the country from which a commodity is shipped by the supplier.

Origin: A commodity's origin is the country in which it was grown or produced. If a commodity undergoes processing which creates a commercially recognized new commodity that is significantly different in basic characteristics or in purpose of use (e.g. wheat flour or vegetable oil), the origin is defined as the country in which the commodity was milled/refined/processed.

Per the above, wheat flour has different characteristics from and is used differently than wheat grain. Therefore, the action of producing wheat flour produces a new commodity.

Restrictions

Food commodities procured for USAID/BHA programs must comply with both of the following sets of restrictions.

Geographic Restrictions: Food commodities must be sourced and originate either from within the country in which they will be used (e.g. locally, i.e. Syria) or in a country that is within the same continent (e.g. regionally—in this case, Asia, the Near East, and North Africa). For the purposes of the Syria regional response, USAID/BHA considers North Africa to be regional. Commodities that are not sourced and produced within Asia, the Near East, and North Africa (e.g. international procurements) will generally not be allowed under Syria awards in the absence of a waiver. However, for international procurement, a waiver is not required as long as the country is Lower-Middle Income, a Least Developed Country, or Other Lower-Income Country, with the exception of India, West Bank/Gaza, and Nicaragua.

Developing Country Restrictions: USAID/BHA prioritizes food commodity procurement with International Disaster Assistance (IDA) funding in developing countries. In addition to regional requirements, commodities must also have source and origin in countries that are listed at the “Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories” level or below on the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) List of Official Development Assistance (ODA) Recipients available here: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>. Procuring from “Upper Middle Income Countries”, whether regional or international, requires strong justification and a waiver.

Waiver

If for any reason a project cannot be implemented under these restrictions or would have to be

delayed at the expense of providing urgent life-saving assistance to vulnerable crisis-affected households, please notify the AOR for your award in writing as soon as possible to request a waiver.

Note that the waiver request will require a management review within USAID/BHA. Please provide the following documents to request a waiver:

1. An itemized list of commodity type, quantity, and intended source and origin locations.
2. A clear justification documenting why the commodities cannot reasonably be procured in a way that would meet operational needs under USAID/BHA's policy restrictions. Supporting details might include insufficient availability on local/regional markets, inability of local production to meet quality requirements, purchase of commodity mixes from vendors that might at some time include commodities from non-allowed countries and for which disaggregation would not be possible or would disrupt supply chains for timely provision of emergency assistance, or exorbitant discrepancy in cost.

Below is a list of countries that are allowable for procurement within the USAID/BHA procurement policy as of December 2021. Please consult the latest [OECD list](#) and apply the restrictions prior to every procurement, as the OECD list does change.

Local Procurement

1. Syrian Arab Republic

Regional Procurement (Asia, Near East, and North Africa)

2. Afghanistan
3. Bangladesh
4. Bhutan
5. Cambodia
6. Egypt
7. Iraq
8. Indonesia
9. Jordan
10. Kyrgyzstan
11. Lao People's Democratic Republic
12. Lebanon
13. Mongolia
14. Morocco
15. Myanmar
16. Nepal
17. Pakistan
18. Philippines
19. Sudan
20. Sri Lanka
21. Tajikistan
22. Tunisia

23. Turkey
24. Uzbekistan
25. Vietnam
26. Yemen