

This report is produced by the OCHA mission in Türkiye in collaboration with humanitarian partners and covers the humanitarian situation and earthquake response in Türkiye. It covers the period from 28 April to 4 May 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Partners are preparing for a transition from providing cooked meals to alternative modalities such as food packages or cash, identifying the feasibility of and obstacles to independent cooking for people in different locations and types of shelter.
- A total of 2.7 million Turkish lira (about US\$139,000) has been distributed in multipurpose cash assistance through the Flash Appeal supporting some 27,000 people to meet their own self-identified needs in locations where markets are functioning.



Humanitarian aid workers from Concern Worldwide distributing hygiene kits and other essential aid to rural families in Adiyaman Province. Credit: OCHA/Ahmad Abdulnafi

9.1M

affected people

2.5M

children in need of humanitarian assistance

5.2M

targeted for humanitarian assistance

3M

people forced to relocate from their homes

1.6M

people staying in informal settlements

50K

people killed

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Humanitarian partners are planning for a reduction in the provision of cooked meals for earthquake survivors in parallel with similar Government announcements, and in line with funding forecasts. Partners are reviewing how such a change in the modality of food assistance may affect different groups, and how best to meet the food needs of people who have been unable to safely resume independent cooking. Most of those receiving cooked meals have been living in tents and other basic shelters for a considerable amount of time without the ability to cook for themselves. In areas where hot meal assistance will end, people will require individual or community kitchen facilities, cooking items, fuel, water for cooking and dishwashing, fire safety and prevention and other considerations. Partners have noted the importance of consultation and communication with communities regarding changes in service provision, and making information available about other services, including access to cash and voucher assistance where feasible. The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) has requested that humanitarian partners support families to resume cooking their own food through the provision of cooking items.

Short to medium-term planning for people whose homes were damaged continues to be among the most pressing needs. Government-led efforts to provide improved services and upgrades for families in tents in informal sites are taking place, particularly in urban areas. However, most of the approximately 2.6 million people (650,000 households) staying in tents will continue to do so during the coming hot summer months, with basic living conditions and limited services, which is likely to lead to harmful health and protection consequences. In tandem, there are concerns about shelter support

packages and services available to groups that have stayed on their land in remote, rural and peri-urban areas, as well as those with lightly damaged but currently uninhabitable homes – amounting to two thirds of people living in tents.

The Flash Appeal for US\$1 billion to assist 5.2 million people affected by the earthquakes is 30.1 per cent funded, receiving \$302.9 million as of 4 May 2023, including \$10 million allocated by the Central Emergency Response Fund. The apparent reduction in total funding received compared to last week is due to an accounting adjustment on the Financial Tracking Service. Although the three-month appeal for funding through the Flash Appeal will conclude on 17 May, humanitarian partners will continue to operate in line with the duration of the projects agreed with donors.

The response to the earthquakes in Türkiye continues to be led by the Government of Türkiye in coordination with AFAD and with support from the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). The international humanitarian community continues to support the government in providing immediate assistance to the affected population, including through the direct contribution of in-kind relief items for onward distribution. In a collaborative effort, humanitarian partners are mobilizing emergency teams and relief operations, delivering relief items such as food, medical supplies, shelter, hygiene and dignity kits and WASH assistance, among other essential needs.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Education

Needs:

- All activities must be accessible and inclusive for children with a disability, including providing adapted and accessible WASH facilities in learning spaces.
- Containers or prefabricated schools continue to be needed as learning spaces, equipped with furniture, WASH facilities and accommodation for teachers, along with rehabilitation of 2,533 lightly damaged schools. Psychosocial support (PSS) is also still needed for students, parents/caregivers and teachers. Additional resources such as contract teachers and educational materials for students and teachers are still needed.
- Students and teachers, particularly those in rural locations, need access to transportation to reach school.

130K

teachers benefitted from self-paced psychosocial support training

Response:

- Cumulatively, more than 332,587 children continued to access formal or non-formal education, including early learning, through partner-supported system-strengthening and programmes.
- Approximately 130,000 teachers from all school levels benefitted from self-paced PSS online training conducted by the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), with the support of Education Sector partners.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Although school has resumed, the lack of transportation is impeding students and teachers from reaching learning spaces and newly reopened schools, especially in rural areas. While education has resumed in all districts of provinces affected by the earthquakes as of 24 April, attendance reports are: 35-50 per cent in Hatay, 70 per cent in Kahramanmaraş, 35 per cent in Malatya and 40 per cent in Adiyaman.
- In informal settlements and in many rural areas and villages, there is a lack of education services, compounded by the limited availability of temporary learning spaces (containers, prefabricated schools), accommodation and transportation for teachers to support the quick resumption of education in affected provinces.
- Lack of available education services in informal temporary settlements and rural areas/villages. These issues need further discussion with the MoNE to identify possible solutions, including in medium-term recovery plans.

Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items

Needs:

- Government efforts to provide improved services to self-settled families in tents (informal sites) are taking place, with some tent clusters, particularly in urban areas, targeted for installation of management structures and service upgrades similar to formal tent cities.
- A large number of the approximately 2.6 million people (650,000 households) still living in tents in both formal and informal sites are likely to stay in tents during the hot summer months, with basic living conditions and limited services, raising humanitarian concerns from both shelter adequacy and protection perspectives.
- Additionally, with the phase out of the provision of hot meals, AFAD has asked Shelter Sector partners to provide family kitchen sets to enable affected families to cook their own food. Most of those receiving food assistance are –

886K

people reached with support for improved living spaces

and will still be – living in tents and other basic shelters for a considerable amount of time without the ability to cook for themselves. In areas where hot meal assistance will end, people will require cooking items, cooking devices and fuel, water for cooking and dishwashing, fire safety and prevention and other considerations.

Response:

- The Government of Türkiye, with support of the humanitarian community, has been implementing their relief-to-recovery plan for affected households, prioritizing those left homeless (with destroyed or heavily/moderately damaged homes). Over 2.8 million people have been assisted with 805,700 tents in formal and informal sites and over 157,000 people have already been settled in 85,500 containers, mostly in container cities and some in their own land. More than 217,700 applications for containers have been received by AFAD and about 562,000 applications for rental support have been received by AFAD.
- Complementing the Government's vision and efforts to speedily achieve emergency shelter solutions and enable families to resume their domestic living, sector partners have primarily focused on resourcing AFAD with in-kind relief items.
- Direct shelter support has included provision of the following emergency shelter and basic household items assistance across all 11 affected provinces:
 - Over 886,500 people (233,300 households), were assisted with emergency shelter (59 per cent of the intended target), mostly tents, but including relief housing units, toolkits and tarpaulins.
 - Nearly 4.9 million people (1.3 million households) were provided with basic household items including clothing, cooking items, thermal comfort items, safety and security items and sleeping items.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Considering the Government's formal relief-to-recovery pathway, the scale of need and the humanitarian community limited funding and operational capacity to respond at scale, there may be delays and gaps in assistance, where the priority will be decongesting informal sites and focusing on assisting the most vulnerable people.
- There is lack of clarity regarding Government support packages and services available to different groups, particularly for:
 - Those in peri-urban, remote and rural areas, with different levels of housing damage, who have chosen to stay on their land, within their community and their networks of support, and with access to their livelihoods.
 - Those with lightly damaged dwellings assessed as structurally sound but uninhabitable without significant repairs (or without piped water to the homes) – a considerable proportion of households in tents.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Needs:

- Transitioning from food distribution to cash-based interventions is a priority where markets function, and the population has access to kitchens, utensils and clean water. A transition to cash assistance for food is being planned in coordination with the Shelter/NFI Sector.
- Farmers have lost their livestock, stored harvest and shelters for their animals, and prefer cash assistance to replace lost assets in areas where markets are functioning.
- Given upcoming seasonal deadlines for spring planting in impacted areas, farmers urgently require inputs including seeds, composite fertilizers and plant protection materials. Animal feed (cattle and small ruminant) is a priority need.

Response:

- About 633,000 people have received food packages and cash-for-food assistance. This number is slightly lower than previously reported due to updated data analysis.
- Food assistance provided through hot meals and soup kitchens reached approximately 2.3 million people daily during the reporting period.
- When kitchen facilities are available, assistance is provided through food packages. So far around 529,412 people received food packs in 9 affected provinces (Adana, Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye, Sanliurfa).
- Some 110,936 people received cash assistance where markets are functioning (in Adana, Adiyaman, Sanliurfa, Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis, Osmaniye, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya).
- The sector is coordinating with the Early Recovery Sector to harmonize cash assistance strategies and to reestablish market linkages between producers and new markets in support of livelihoods recovery.

2.3M

people reached with
cooked meals daily

633K

people reached with food
packages and cash

Gaps & Constraints:

- Agricultural labour shortages will continue to affect current and upcoming harvest seasons for many products, increased coordination and technical support in this area is required. Key supply and value chain disruptions are affecting small-scale farmer's ability to resume production.
- For those without access to clean water, kitchens, cooking utensils and fuel, the daily provision of hot meals has been the primary source of food since 6 February. Partners are looking to reduce the provision of hot meals in favour of food baskets or cash-based assistance in coming weeks, although there is still significant need to provide hot meals in some locations.

**Health and Nutrition****Needs:**

- Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) commodities including condoms, pregnancy kits and other contraceptives are needed in informal settlements in multiple locations. Medical facilities also need safe spaces for women at risk of violence, sexual abuse and exploitation. Hygiene kits, menstrual support kits, and mother and baby kits are also urgently needed.
- Safe space areas for women against risks of violence, sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Mother Baby Corners are needed in settlements to provide services including infant and young child feeding counselling to primary caregivers of children 6-23 months. Mother Baby Corners will also provide safe spaces for the promotion and support of breastfeeding.
- Accommodation facilities for health-care workers in Adıyaman, Malatya and Kahramanmaraş provinces are needed, as well as in areas to which people are returning following their forced relocation.

310K

people reached with health assistance

Response:

- Some 309,644 people have been reached with health and nutrition assistance in the affected area.
- In consultation with Hatay Public Health Directorate, 1,000 scabies medicines and 1,000 lice shampoos were distributed to people staying in informal settlements.
- Partners distributed 113 hygiene kits and 8 maternity kits to informal settlements in Malatya.
- Mapping of 642 active health-care service points in 11 provinces (including family health centres, community health centres, state hospitals, migrant health centres, pharmacies, field hospitals, mobile clinics, private hospitals and polyclinics) has taken place.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Hygiene kits and increased water supply are urgently required. People living in formal and informal settlements and in remote villages – particularly women – are developing skin diseases due to water shortages and lack of items to maintain personal hygiene.
- PSS support for children's mental health is urgently needed.
- There is a gap in the availability of health and nutrition services, notably in Kahramanmaraş, Adıyaman and Malatya provinces, particularly for people in rural and remote villages.
- There is an ongoing health concern about asbestos in damaged homes and in earthquake debris. Inappropriate waste management methods may be creating health issues, including for young children, older people and people with underlying medical conditions.

**Protection****Needs:**

- Safe spaces are needed in tent settlements for women, girls and boys at risk of violence.
- Early and forced marriages are being observed. Preventative and responsive measures are needed. Child labour, child abuse and child marriage are also being observed. Preventative actions are needed, along with safeguarding and monitoring school dropout of adolescent girls and boys in coordination with education partners.

185K

people provided with protection services

Response:

- The [Child Safeguarding Guidance Note](#) was launched to improve practical understanding of child safeguarding and to strengthen safeguarding practices. Protection Sector members are also developing key protection tools including a joint Safety Audit Observation Tool (designed with Violence Against Women and Girls focal points, the Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Network and the Disability Inclusion Task Force).

- Capacity sharing has taken place on legal issues related to guardianship and unaccompanied children.
- Age-specific PSS messaging has been rolled out.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Local-level training for civil society and state service providers is needed, particularly on early risk assessment and prevention of violence against women and girls, including child, early and forced marriages, is urgently needed (noting that Kahramanmaraş and Adıyaman provinces have started developing local action plans to deal with child, early and forced marriages).
- Collaboration with state service providers on specialized protection services will strengthen the humanitarian protection response.

Temporary Settlement Support (TSS)

Needs:

- As of March, some 2.4 million people were residing in settlements, of whom 1.6 million were living in informal settlements and about 792,000 in formal sites. However, since initial site mapping was undertaken, many sites have closed, been merged, or consolidated, particularly in urban centres in lesser affected provinces.
- In more affected provinces, authorities have made efforts to improve sites by formalizing informal tented settlements, while also relocating those in unsuitable or unsafe locations (e.g., near roadsides).
- There continue to be many people residing in informal settlements, with updated figures collected by TSS partners on a rolling basis to inform operational response, including families that are not eligible to relocate to container sites due to the damage level of their homes, those that prefer to remain in rural areas in proximity to land, homes and livelihoods, and people from medium damaged homes who feel unable to return home.
- Many informal sites continue to lack access to water and sanitation, access to information on available services and social protection schemes and support for people with disabilities or specific needs (e.g., accessible facilities).

1.6M

live in informal settlements

Response:

- Mobile TSS activities are being conducted in priority sub-districts in the four most affected provinces, hosting over 1 million people in informal sites. This includes:
 - Identification and referral of gaps and needs at sites, referring to relevant humanitarian partners locally.
 - Information sharing using available information on service providers, hotlines, key messages etc., TSS partners are responding to frequently asked questions based on available information from authorities and inter-agency efforts.
 - Community engagement at larger sites and in neighbourhoods in areas with dispersed, smaller sites, where community focal points facilitate engagement with affected people.
 - Site and safety improvements are being conducted at larger sites, including provision of lighting and distribution of fire extinguishers.

Gaps & Constraints:

- TSS partners have been compiling lists of frequently asked questions at sites. The most common questions relate to government social protection schemes and timeframes for relocation to container sites.
- Affected people's living situations remain highly fluid, with informal sites closing, merging or being formalized, and the movement of populations to formal sites, employment and areas of origin. Having up-to-date information on plans at the local level would enable stronger planning and response by humanitarian partners. Mobile approaches using area-based teams are aiding regular engagement with local counterparts.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs:

- Running water is not available in many emergency shelters and informal settlements. The lack of access to clean toilets and sanitation facilities leads to unsanitary conditions, and unsafe access to facilities for women, children and people with disabilities. Furthermore, the lack of adequate WASH facilities increases the risk of waterborne disease and hygiene-related outbreaks.
- In all affected provinces, there is an urgent need for dignity kits, and gender-sensitive and disability-friendly WASH facilities in temporary settlements.

2.4M

people received WASH assistance

Response:

- Some 2.41 million people (about 422,000 households) received WASH assistance in 11 provinces, including Adana, Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Malatya, Mersin, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır and Osmaniye.
- A total of 2,876,800 liters of potable water was delivered.
- A total of 3,401,490 litres of water was delivered for sanitation purposes.
- 658,478 hygiene kits were provided.
- 1,721 latrines were provided across all provinces.
- 1,629 bathing facilities were provided in Adiyaman, Hatay and Kahramanmaraş provinces.
- 44,017 dignity kits were provided.
- 180 waste containers were provided.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Connection of latrines is delayed due to public sector staffing shortages, especially in Hatay. The sector is working with authorities to address this.
- The ratio of latrine units and showers remains below standard, which is particularly notable three months into the response, however, it is improving.
- Treated and potable tap water requires the approval of MoH to be approved as fit for drinking, which is causing ongoing delays and inefficiencies in making it available to the affected population.
- The relatively unplanned timing of movements of people from Informal to Formal sites continues to cause inefficiencies – continues.
- Spontaneous population movements from informal to formal settlements are posing a challenge for WASH planning. The WASH Sector is working closely with TSS partners to pre-empt movements and plan accordingly.

 **Early Recovery**
Needs:

- Milk producers and distributors need extra vehicles with cold chains to keep products fresh during distribution (reported in Hatay).
- Accommodation for some 30,000 seasonal agricultural workers is needed in Malatya for May and June.
- Approaching the harvest season, the agricultural sector has multiple needs including collection, transportation, marketing, cold chain and storage. Women's cooperatives also need raw materials, space to operate, and machinery. Human resources are available; however, they face housing shortages.

Response:

- The Resilience Innovation Facility in Gaziantep has been redesigned, focusing on skills training, livelihood planning, and social cohesion based on the need for developing digital skills, supporting social cohesion for migrants and host community youth, and providing job opportunities – with engagement from the public and private sectors.
- Five containers were provided for the Turkish employment agency İŞKUR in Hatay and Kahramanmaraş, to be used as office space enabling them to resume activities. Seventeen containers have also been provided to be used as temporary shelter for İŞKUR officials in the four most affected provinces.
- Electrical infrastructure and various equipment were provided to the Hatay Provincial Directorate of Migration Management to rehabilitate a temporary accommodation centre.
- Free-of-charge support for transport for vulnerable people is being provided in Hatay.
- A street sweeping vehicle and 110 waste containers were provided to Kilis municipality to manage an increase in waste following a 40 per cent increase in its population following the earthquakes.
- 13 containers have been delivered to Hatay Firefighting Unit (8 to be repurposed for housing) and 20 containers have been delivered to Hatay Archaeology Museum (18) and Kahramanmaraş Archaeology Museum (2) to store and preserve historical artefacts to prevent further damage.

Gaps & Constraints:

- There is an ongoing need for rubble management and dumping in Adiyaman. The dumping of rubble near the city center may pose a serious health problem in the future.
- A gradual shift to cash support is needed. Some in-kind assistance in a few locations is observed as being sold in marketplaces, while some shop owners are affected and report that they cannot sell legumes, dry food or hygiene items because of the massive injection of in-kind assistance. Cash interventions are still limited and loss of documentation and difficulties in including women and people with disabilities are proving challenging for cash-for-work initiatives.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance and Social Protection

Needs:

- Multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) continues to be urgently needed to support people to meet their diverse needs in the most appropriate way. Humanitarian actors are being advised to transition to CVA projects, including MPCA, where markets are functioning, taking into account the sustainability of assistance, cost effectiveness and the level of market recovery in the affected areas. Members of the Cash-based Interventions (CBI) Technical Working Group (TWG) have been invited to start implementing MPCA projects in locations where markets are functional in line with the endorsed MPCA guidelines.

₺2.7M

has been delivered through cash and voucher assistance (CVA)

Response:

- Some 27,000 people have been reached with MPCA, with the transfer of 2.7 million TRY (~\$139,000) by 6 partners of the CBI TWG through the Flash Appeal. 135,000 people received MPCA through a humanitarian programme funded outside the Flash Appeal.
- Sectors continue to undertake planning and define standards and practices for CVA, including cash assistance programmes for shelter repair, work, rent, protection, food, WASH and livelihood activities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- MPCA is significantly underfunded in the Flash Appeal at 9 per cent of requirements, despite the urgency and prioritization of cash-based interventions.
- Operational gaps are observed, including minimal information on markets – delaying the start of cash and voucher assistance in some areas – and a need for sectoral guidelines and operating procedures for sectoral cash assistance.

Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications

Response:

- Storage common services continue in Adiyaman (1,800 m²), Hatay (825 m²) and Malatya (1,800 m²). Some 674.3 m³ (128 MT) of humanitarian supplies was received from five partners for storage between 26 April and 2 May, while 687 m³ (94.1 MT) was released from storage to 7 partners between 26 April and 2 May.
- Common storage services will be phased out on 19 May 2023. The Logistics Sector is working with partners on other storage options as required. The Logistics Sector will close on 24 May.
- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) continued to participate in activities across five affected areas: Gaziantep, Antakya (Hatay), Malatya, Kahramanmaraş and Şanlıurfa. ETS has scaled down activities and is working with partners to transition its activities by 17 May.
- ETS is working with settlement management to improve and maintain access to charging services via the 20 charging station units established in two temporary settlements in Hatay and Malatya, where affected populations can use the services at no cost to charge their communications devices.
- The sector, in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), is procuring security communications equipment to upgrade the existing UHF radio repeater site for United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS) in Gaziantep, Hatay, Sanliurfa, and Kilis, and adding two more UHF radio sites in Reyhanli and Mersin. The procurement process has been initiated.

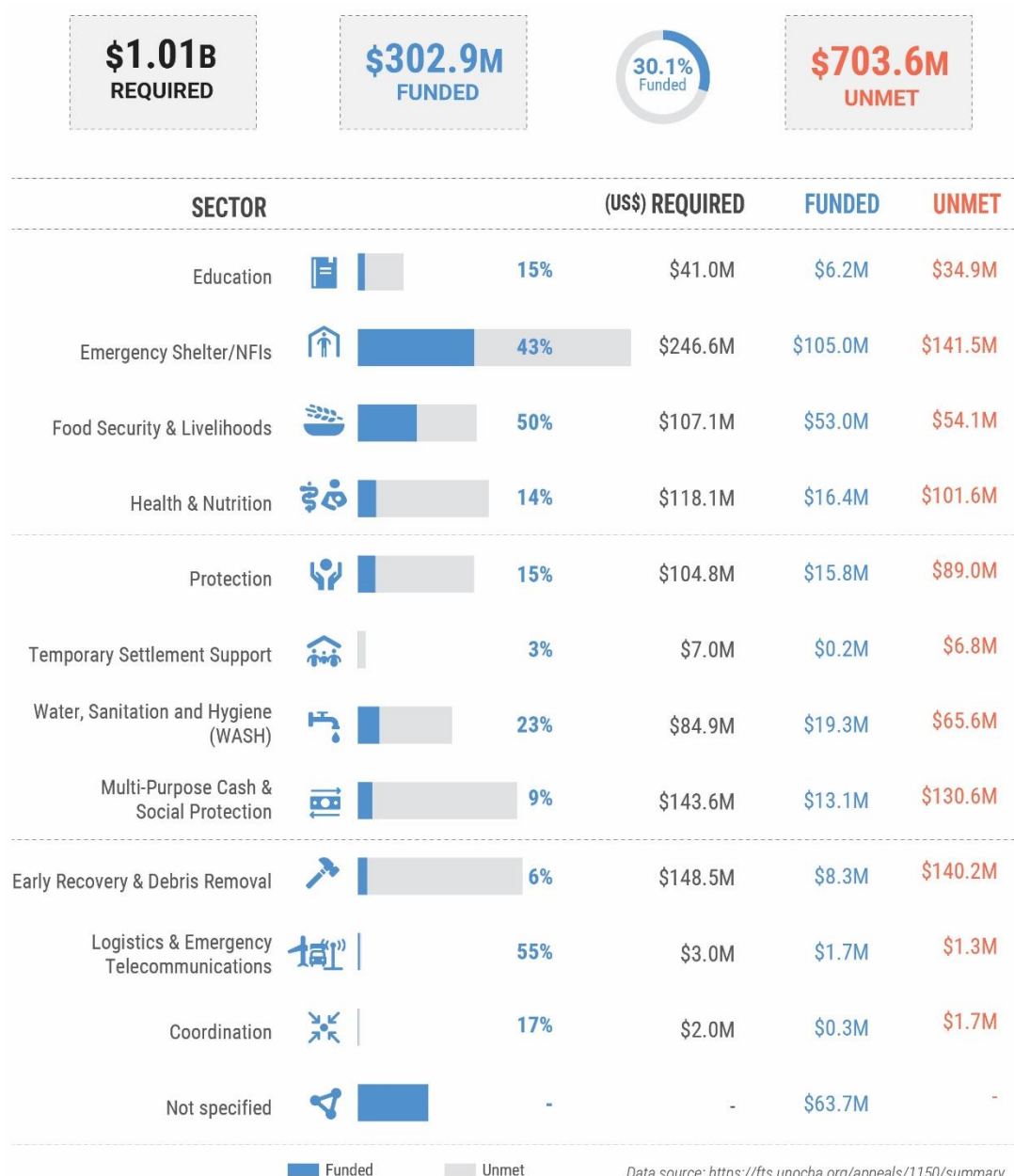
GENERAL COORDINATION

Weekly inter-sectoral coordination meetings take place on Mondays in Gaziantep and weekly area-based coordination meetings are held in the four operational hubs (Adiyaman, Malatya, Kahramanmaraş and Hatay), where sectors are strengthening their presence and coordination. The four area-based coordination hubs operate in the worst affected provinces and include representation by AFAD, local authorities and provincial directorates, thereby improving local coordination to address people's specific needs.

After three months, the inter-sectoral coordination group has agreed to transition from weekly situation reports to a periodic response monitoring report. The first publication is planned for mid-May.

FUNDING

The Flash Appeal has received under one third of its required funding to meet the needs of 5.2 million people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. All sectors remain underfunded, particularly Temporary Settlement Support, Early Recovery and Debris Removal, MPCA and Social Protection, Health and Nutrition, Education, Protection and WASH, which are significantly underfunded, reducing their ability to respond, creating gaps in assistance and increasing the risks described in this report. The Flash Appeal will close on 17 May.



Background to the crisis

On 6 February 2023, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck close to Gaziantep city in southern Türkiye, the most powerful earthquake recorded in the country since 1939. A second earthquake with a magnitude of 7.6 occurred nine hours later, its epicentre approximately 70 km from the first earthquake, in Kahramanmaraş province. On the same day, with the earthquakes having caused widespread destruction of houses and infrastructure in urban centres and rural areas across the country, the Government of Türkiye issued a level four alarm calling for international assistance. As of 5 April 2023, Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) reported that the death toll from the devastating earthquakes on 6 February has reached 50,3391 (including at least 6,600 Syrians present in Türkiye), and 107,204 people injured. Some 3 million people have relocated, and more than half a million buildings have sustained damage, of which at least 298,000 buildings have either collapsed or have been severely damaged.