

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 13 to 17 March 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Heavy rains have caused **flash floods** in Adiyaman and Şanlıurfa, two cities that were already impacted by the earthquakes, killing 18 people. Many tents were **inundated by floodwaters**, worsening already challenging conditions for the people living in the camps.
- In Adiyaman City Center and outskirts, AFAD reports that 220 thousand people live in tents, with many of them residing in informal settlements. This is particularly concerning given the informal settlements, already in dire need, **now require additional assistance as a result of the floods**.
- **2.3 million people** have been identified as **living in formal and informal settlements** across earthquake affected areas as of 16 March. Out of this number, **1.6 million** have been identified to be living in **informal settlements**.
- **Lack of access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene facilities** is a significant issue in many camps, particularly in informal settlements. This gap can lead to poor health outcomes, the spread of diseases, and exacerbate existing vulnerabilities.
- The persisting issues of **overcrowding, unsafe and unhygienic living conditions** in shelters pose significant risks.
- Access to education has been **hampered for nearly 4 million children**, including **350 thousand refugee and migrant children**.
- The UN and humanitarian partners set up **87 tented temporary learning spaces** benefitting about **6,100 children** in Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Gaziantep.
- Additionally, UN agencies and partners reached more than **520 thousand people** with **water, sanitation and hygiene assistance** as well as **45 thousand people** with **health and nutrition assistance**.
- WFP has provided more than **6 million food packages/hot meals**.
- **Supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), rural cooperatives and livelihoods** is essential for sustaining business and household incomes and preventing further migration.
- The UN launched a **Flash Appeal** for US\$1 billion to assist 5.2 million people affected by the earthquakes. As of 17 March, it is only **16.3%** funded.



Heavy rains and flash floods worsened conditions for earthquake survivors in Adiyaman as many camps were inundated. ©UNOCHA/Gizem Yarbil Guroi

9.1M

people directly affected

48K

people killed

3.5M

people provided with shelter and accommodation

2.7M

people displaced

SITUATION OVERVIEW



A latrine in a formal settlement in Adiyaman. ©UNOCHA/Gizem Yarbil Gurul

Heavy rains and storms have caused flash floods in Adiyaman and Şanlıurfa, two cities that were already reeling from the impact of the earthquakes, leading to the loss of 18 lives.

The floods have further compounded the already challenging conditions for those living in the camps, with many tents being inundated by floodwaters. In Adiyaman City Center and outskirts, a majority of the 220,000 people residing in camps live in informal settlements that lack access to safe water and sanitation facilities, healthcare, and other essential services. The floods have only worsened the dire conditions of these vulnerable individuals.

Authorities have temporarily evacuated some people from the camps to schools, mosques, and sports centers, while others have had to drain their flooded tents and surroundings. The floods have also exacerbated the poor water, sanitation, and hygiene situation in the camps, increasing the risk of disease transmission and poor health outcomes.

The response to the earthquakes is being led by the Government of Türkiye, coordinated through the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) and with the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). The international humanitarian community is supporting the Government of Türkiye in providing immediate assistance to the affected population.

According to AFAD, the total number of people provided with shelter and accommodation is more than 3.5 million. This includes about 1.9 million people provided with shelter in the earthquake affected region and more than 1.6 million people provided with accommodation in other provinces.

The United Nations and humanitarian partners are continuing to mobilize emergency teams and relief operations in Türkiye, providing essential relief items such as food, medical supplies, shelter, winter supplies, hygiene and dignity kits, and other life-saving items. These efforts aim to support the Government of Türkiye's response and provide immediate assistance to those affected by the disasters.

OCHA/UNDAC teams remain active in Gaziantep and in four hubs in Malatya, Kahramanmaraş, Adiyaman, and Hatay to help coordinate humanitarian relief efforts in close collaboration with Turkish authorities.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Education

Needs:

- Access to education has been hampered for nearly 4 million children, including 350,000 refugee and migrant children.
- The Ministry of National Education (MoNE) reported that nearly 243 thousand students moved with their families to other provinces and enrolled in Turkish public schools, mainly in Ankara, Antalya, Mersin, and Istanbul.
- Ensuring safe learning spaces is the foremost priority as numerous schools were damaged or destroyed. The provision of prefabricated schools or containers for both learning and teacher accommodation, along with repairing slightly damaged schools, are critical steps towards resuming education.

4M

school-aged children
affected

- The other key education needs are transportation for teachers to and from remote villages, stationery and learning materials for students, psychosocial support for children, adolescents, and education personnel who have been traumatized.

Response:

- MoNE has **resumed education in six out of 10 earthquake** affected provinces.
- MoNE has also established **104 hospital classrooms** for the students who have been receiving treatment in hospitals in 10 earthquake-affected provinces.
- Education Sector has provided **20,000 hygiene kits** through MoNE benefiting families who are temporarily being sheltered in MoNE buildings in 11 earthquake-affected provinces.
- Education Sector distributed and set-up **87 tented temporary learning spaces** benefitting about **6,100 children** in Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Gaziantep.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of **available temporary learning spaces** (containers, prefabricated schools), **accommodation and transportation for teachers** to support the quick resumption of education in the affected provinces.
- **Limited funding** to scale up education response in the affected provinces.



Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Local authorities in Hatay requested the construction of a LÖSANTE hospital, which specializes in cancer treatment.
- Scaling up services for sexual and reproductive health and violence against women, girls and other individuals in situations of vulnerability.
- Office furniture/equipment (Laptops, printers, air-conditioners, office tables, armchairs, mobile vehicles, containers, separators, stretchers, medicine cupboards,) medical equipment (weight scales, height scales, tromel, glycol-meters, hand dopplers, auto-scopes, ophthalmoscopes, sphyngometers) and 100,000 hygiene kits for Gaziantep Public Health Directorate.

45K

people reached

Response:

- **14 Emergency Medical Teams (EMT)** + 4 National Medical Rescue Teams (UMKE) in Hatay, Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş and Adıyaman.
- **357 psychosocial support** field staff received supervision through the “Ask the Expert” session.
- **1,378 staff** of the psychosocial team at the Ministry of Family and Social Services trained on ‘Psychological First Aid for Children’.
- **Cash assistance** for cancer and leukemia patients.
- **Free treatments** at LÖSANTE Hospital in Ankara for patients in critical condition.
- **Evacuation** from the earthquake-affected areas and free accommodation at LÖSEV Children’s Village in Ankara.
- **3,900 people** received sexual and reproductive health services.
- **1,600 maternity kits** for women.
- The LÖSEV EQ relief aid mobile project has **treated 11,000 cancer and leukemia patients** and evacuated 28,456 of their family members throughout Türkiye.
- **5 static service units** for sexual and reproductive health and protection services in earthquake-affected provinces.
- **9 mobile** outreach teams and **10 tents** for coordination/services for sexual and reproductive health and violence against women, girls and other individuals in situations of vulnerability.
- **12 static service units** for relocated **earthquake survivors** in other provinces.
- **10 tents** for **9 provincial health directorates** for coordination of sexual and reproductive health activities.

Gaps & Constraints:

- **Shelter, hygiene and basic needs** (clothing/heating/beds) including **nutrition food**.
- **Insufficient medical treatment sites** and **cash assistance** for debris cleaning.
- **Customs procedures** for the **IA Reproductive Health kits**.

- **Overcrowding, unsafe and unhygienic living conditions** in shelters.
- Increasing **violence against women and girls, unwanted pregnancies** and heightened risk for **sexually transmitted infections**.

Protection

- Provincial sector hubs are established in Malatya, Hatay, Adıyaman and Kahramanmaraş, and continue to identify the needs and the gaps along with identification of specific groups in most vulnerable situations.
- According to the Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) findings, **unaccompanied older persons, persons living with disabilities, lactating individuals and female headed households** are among the groups in most vulnerable situations.
- Sector members noted that among the most vulnerable groups affected were those that are typically hard to reach, such as **rural populations, women and children at risk of violence, and refugees¹**.
- Specialized services for these specific groups are identified as the most critical areas of intervention, with **women and girls** facing significant challenges **accessing humanitarian assistance and basic services**.
- The sector is working closely with organizations responding to the earthquake on risk mitigation measures and accountability to affected populations including Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

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members active in earthquake affected provinces

Temporary Settlement Support (TSS)²

Needs:

- **2.3 million people** have been identified as **living in formal and informal settlements** across affected areas as of 16 March. Out of this number, **1.6 million** have been identified to be living in **informal settlements**. TSS will prioritize locations based on severity of needs, capacity of partners and availability of resources.
- **Data is available** for all humanitarian partners and plans are currently underway to update the baseline, which will involve more focused coverage and adjusted tools to take into account sector inputs.

2.3M

Living in formal and informal settlements

Response:

- TSS partners are currently determining their coverage areas for mobile TSS activities which will include:
 - service mapping and gaps to support referrals to other partners;
 - identification of community focal points, with particular focus on underrepresented groups to support needs prioritization at sites that will be monitored by TSS partners;
 - site improvements, with particular emphasis on groups experiencing distinct vulnerabilities.
- The response is focused **on informal settlements** with more targeted and complementary support in formal sites based on dialogue with AFAD counterparts.
- The TSS sector is engaging closely with local authorities and AFAD to better understand needs, priorities and plans.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The sector is currently underfunded both for site mapping as well as partner mobilization. While partners have been identified, more resources will enable more geographic coverage, as well as increase the robustness of on-going site mapping exercises.

¹ The earthquake-affected population includes refugees throughout this situation report. References to the term “refugee” should be read in accordance with Türkiye’s legal and policy framework, notably the Law on Foreigners and International Protection, as well as the Temporary Protection Regulation, which govern the treatment of Syrians under temporary protection, international protection applicants and status holders in Türkiye.

²TSS is typically known as Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) – the TSS terminology has been determined in discussion with authorities, to adapt to the Türkiye context.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Need for **toilet** and **shower facilities** in the informal settlements in rural areas.

Response:

- **520,080 people** and **59,665 households** received WASH assistance.
- A total of **293,580 liters of potable water** was delivered.
- A total of **821,045 liters of water** was delivered for **sanitation** purposes.
- **44,964 hygiene kits** were provided.
- **971 latrines** were provided across all provinces.
- **1,288 bathing facilities** were provided in Adıyaman, Kahramanmaraş and Hatay.

520K

Individuals received
WASH assistance

60K

Households received
WASH assistance

Gaps & Constraints:

- A gap in **sanitation in the informal settlements**.

Early Recovery

Needs:

- Ensuring the stability of **agriculture, harvesting, and supply chain restoration** is crucial, as the potential loss of yields and capital by local producers could impede economic recovery.
- **Supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), rural cooperatives and livelihoods** is essential for sustaining business and household incomes and preventing further migration.
- The **loss of manpower, structures, and equipment** has significantly impacted the capacity of Organized Industrial Zones, SMEs, cooperatives, and farmers to resume their activities.
- Proper planning of **livelihood and business opportunities** is essential in and around tent/container camps.
- Supporting cities **hosting the majority of people displaced** from earthquake-affected areas, with priority given to critical cities like Mersin.
- Prioritize **social cohesion** as a critical need that should be integrated across all sectors and emergency response efforts.
- Exact number of people with disabilities is not known yet in the aftermath of the earthquake but it is anticipated to be high and responses to be adapted accordingly.
- Not much room for **debris removal** but expect to be more involved in the **debris management and recycling**.
- **Preserving cultural heritage** is also an important need (history and tourism). In Hatay, for example, 300 artefacts need to be repaired.
- **Support to local governments** is critical for cadastral replanning and in general post-disaster urban planning (e.g. UN Habitat)
- A legal clinic and web portal are essential for accessing information and rights in the aftermath of a disaster. These resources should aim to reinforce the available services map, such as afetharitasi.org on needs mapping, with a particular focus on supporting the most vulnerable individuals.

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participating
organizations/agencies

Response:

- On 20 March, the key findings from the Türkiye Earthquakes Recovery and Reconstruction Assessment (TERRA), which outlines a **recovery vision for each sector**, will be presented at the Donor's Conference in Brussels. The report was produced by the Turkish government in collaboration with UNDP, the EU, and the World Bank, and includes inputs from other UN agencies. Other sectoral assessments are also underway, including those by IOM, UN Women, FAO, INGEV, Concern, Needsmap, and others, covering SMEs and cooperatives in both rural and urban areas.
- **Cash distribution is promoted** in the response to enable individuals to buy in local markets when possible.

- FAO and UNV developed the concept for a project to **bring volunteers to agricultural fields** in alignment with the farming calendar. The project aims to recruit students and alumni from relevant schools, who will work alongside volunteer professors.
- Innovation for Development (I4D) will launch a "social procurement matchmaking platform" in two weeks. This platform is designed to **facilitate urgent business and economic recovery** in disaster, post-disaster, and humanitarian aid/development settings. By connecting buyers and suppliers on the same platform, the platform will enable local producers to access market chains and contracted sales options for agriculture support.
- **Regional Recovery Centers** in Adana and Gaziantep are under development in close collaboration with respective Chambers of Commerce.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Organizations' physical presences, networks, and outreach mechanisms have been disrupted, and their immediate reinstatement is unlikely. This disruption has **significantly impacted service delivery, especially for the most vulnerable**, and community centers have been damaged and are no longer functioning.
- No funding so far for the sector via the Flash Appeal undermining the capacity of the sector partners to deliver.

Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications

Response:

- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) response in Türkiye is co-led by WFP and the Government of Türkiye Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure to support the response in the affected areas.
- **10 charging station units are operational** in two temporary settlements in Hatay. Affected populations staying in the settlement are using the service to power communications devices for improved access to critical communications services and information.
- The ETS provides support and maintenance for **improved access to the established connectivity** at two United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) coordination sites in Hatay and Kahramanmaraş.
- The ETS engages with partners to **strengthen the security communications services** across the affected areas. Radio communications provides a back-up to support the safety and security of UN staff in the field in the case that mobile networks are disrupted.
- Following an assessment of security communications infrastructure in Hatay on 11 March, it was found that the UHF radio repeater is no longer operational. The ETS is liaising with UNDSS to identify the issue and restore the service.
- The ETS **is building the capacity of UN agencies** to use security communications equipment in the field. So far, 34 UN staff have received UHF handheld radio training sessions.

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charging station units
operational in temporary
settlements in Hatay

Constraints:

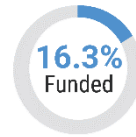
- The large geographical distance between the affected regions of Türkiye impacts on the timeliness of field missions and activities.

FUNDING

On 16 February 2023, the UN launched a **Flash Appeal** for US\$1 billion to assist 5.2 million people affected by the earthquakes. As of 17 March 2023, it is only **16.3%** funded with US\$164.2 million.

1.01B
REQUIRED

164.2M
FUNDED



842.4M
UNMET

Sector	Required	Funded ^(US\$)	Unmet
Education	\$41M	\$4M	\$37M
Emergency Shelter/ Non-Food Items	\$246.6M	\$31.9M	\$215M
Food Security and Livelihoods	\$107M	\$43M	\$64M
Health & Nutrition	\$118M	\$10.8M	\$107.2M
Protection	\$104.8M	\$14.8M	\$90M
Temporary Settlement Support	\$7M	\$6.6M	\$355k
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	\$84.9M	\$15.3M	\$69.6M
Multipurpose Cash & Social Protection	\$143.6M	\$7.6M	\$136M
Early Recovery & Debris Removal	\$148.5M	\$0	\$148.5M
Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications	\$3M	\$8.7M	-
Coordination	\$2M	\$960k	\$1M
Not specified	-	\$20.4M	-

Funded

Unmet

Data source: <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1150/summary>

For further information, please contact:

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For more information, please visit <https://response.reliefweb.int/turkiye>