

# TÜRKİYE AND SYRIA 2023 EARTHQUAKES – RESPONSE UPDATE

04 JULY 2023



A father stands proudly with his children in front of their new home, a symbol of hope. Previously living in a tent, they have now moved into a prefabricated dignified shelter unit provided by IOM and its partner on the ground. This intervention aims to replace 2,020 tents in ten camps for internally displaced people in Northwest Syria, with 80% of the target already completed.

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**2.5 Million**

relief items, including shelter materials, dispatched<sup>1</sup>



**22 Million USD**

In-kind contributions



**29,216**

shelter-related items provided across Türkiye and Northwest Syria



**72%**

of IOM emergency appeal funded

**APPEAL  
USD 161  
Million**

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

In the aftermath of a devastating earthquake, the Turkish Government is steadfast in its commitment to recovery efforts, seeking to rebuild communities and restore normalcy in the affected regions, inter alia with the support of the international community. The World Bank has approved one billion USD fund to aid in the reconstruction of rural housing and essential utilities. It will primarily focus on the restoration of municipal infrastructure, healthcare services, and the enhancement of rural dwellings.

As the summer temperatures rise, access to proper Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities becomes critical in the earthquake-affected areas. In addition, the layout and population density of some container and tent sites pose specific risks to vulnerable populations, especially women and girls, who face heightened threats of exploitation and abuse.

The recovery process faces challenges regarding the availability of cash in some affected areas, particularly in ATMs. Compounded by the loss or lack of essential civil documentation, and needed de-registration, accessing much-needed cash assistance proves to be an obstacle for those who require it most. Additionally, economic inflation has reduced the purchasing power of individuals, impacting the effectiveness of cash-based aid.

In midst of the recovery efforts, food security remains a pressing concern. As the Turkish Red Crescent concluded its food assistance for 80,000 people, there is a gap to be addressed by involved food security actors: there are still areas where individuals struggle to prepare their meals.

The future of cross-border aid to Northwest Syria relies on a decision on the renewal of the UN Security Council Resolution for another 12 months, as it expires on 10 July. Meanwhile, UN agencies, including

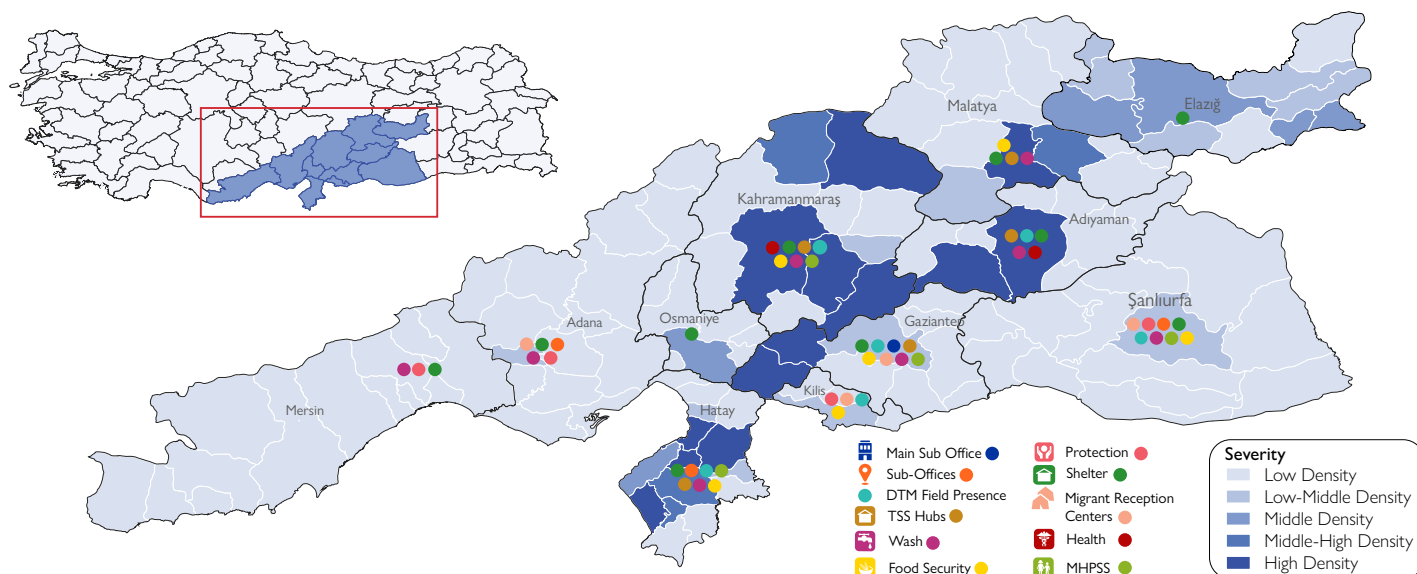
IOM, continue their regular cross-border operations and missions, as well as pre-position humanitarian supplies in Northwest Syria. However, the public health situation demands immediate attention, with a surge in lab-confirmed cholera cases prompting the launch of a crucial vaccination campaign targeting 1.1 million people.

## KEY MESSAGES

1. IOM has been scaling up in Türkiye and Northwest Syria, particularly in the areas hardest hit and where needs are highest.
2. Rising temperatures will further affect displaced persons, posing public health risks and increasing the needs for adequate access to WASH resources and facilities.
3. Where possible, the authorities will support communities in informal temporary settlements to transition to formal sites in which multisectoral services are centralized.
4. In parallel to humanitarian assistance, scale up of recovery and reconstruction activities calls for heightened coordination and cooperation among the parties involved.
5. IOM is strengthening its presence in post-earthquake provinces by establishing field offices and deploying dedicated teams.
6. IOM's consolidated appeal for earthquake response, totalling USD 161 million, has reached 72% of its funding target. Specifically, the earthquake response in Türkiye has received 52% of the requested funding, while the response in Northwest Syria has reached 114% of the funding goal.

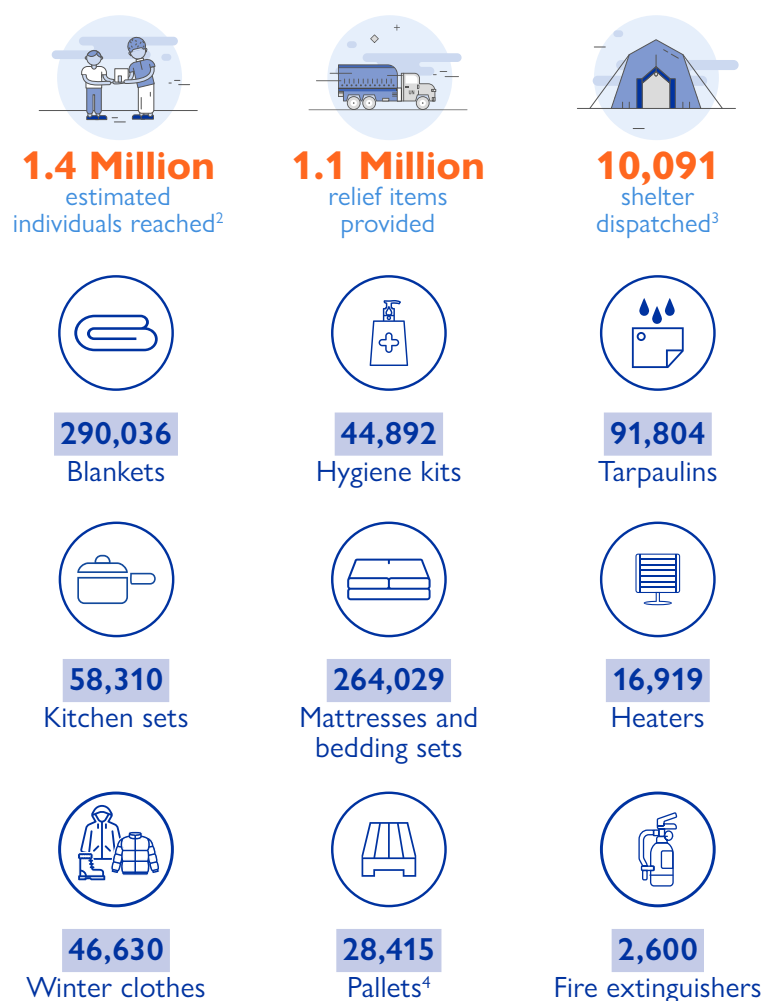
<sup>1</sup>In Türkiye and Syria since 06 February 2023

## TÜRKİYE RESPONSE



Additional food security, S-NFI and protection support for earthquake affected populations has been provided in Ankara, Aydın, Edirne, İzmir and Kayseri provinces, and is not shown in this map. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**52%** of USD 110 million funding target reached



<sup>2</sup> Estimated figure based on National Average Household Data and number of Shelter and NFIs dispatched

<sup>3</sup> Tents: 9,417, RHU: 500, Shelter Container: 156, Rub Hall: 18

<sup>4</sup> To help mitigate flood water seepage inside shelters

Over the past two weeks, IOM Türkiye's Shelter and Non-Food Items (S-NFI) teams continued to provide crucial support to the earthquake-hit provinces: 571 kitchen sets were delivered to Hatay, catering to the immediate needs of the displaced population.

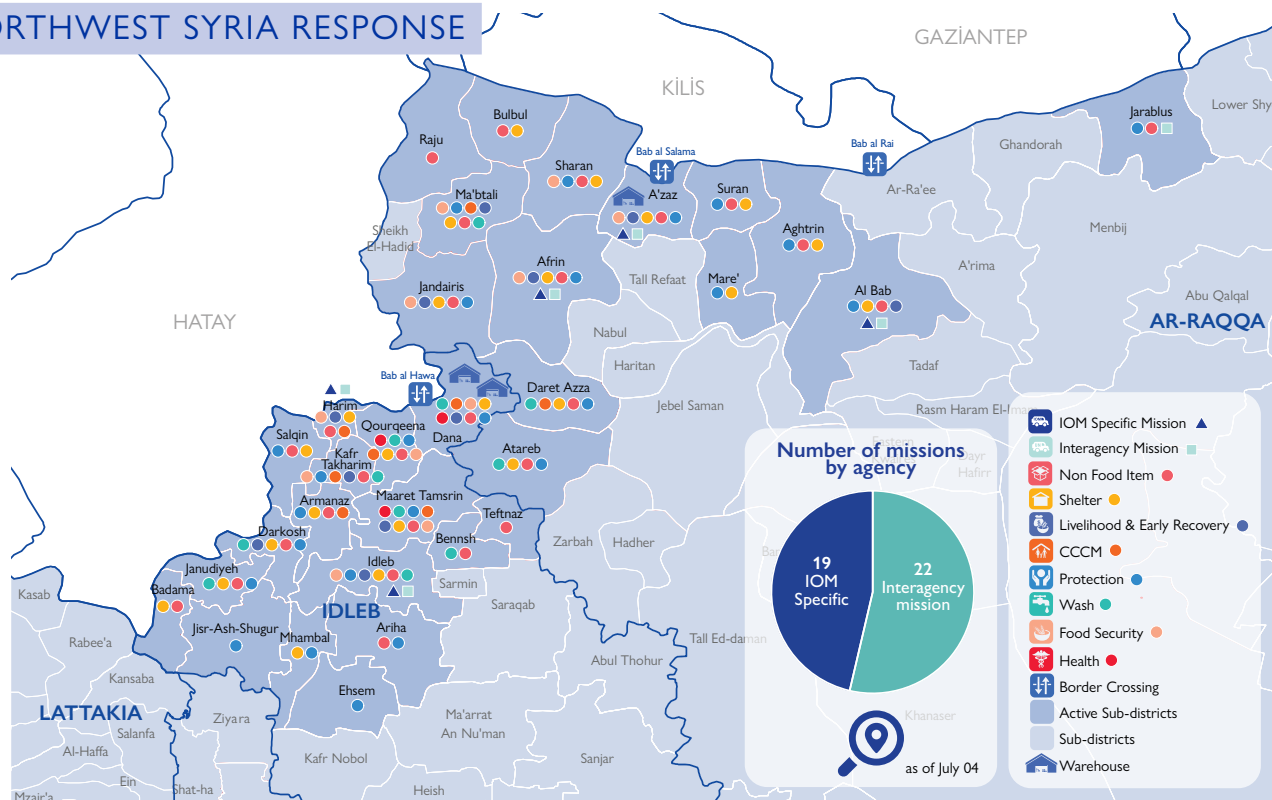
IOM continued to distribute hygiene kits in Hatay, where 2,000 hygiene kits along with 1,200 jerry cans were distributed, while 5,000 more are stored and will be distributed based on the demand. At the same time the establishment and connection of toilets and showers is underway, with 102 toilets and 23 showers connected so far.

For vulnerable individuals, planned cash assistance is awaiting completion of the verification phase, aiming to benefit 5,000 people severely affected by the disaster. IOM Türkiye's Psychosocial Support Teams conducted counselling services, awareness-raising sessions, and socio-cultural activities for 652 individuals in Adana, Hatay, Kilis, Kahramanmaraş, Mersin, and Şanlıurfa in the last two weeks.

IOM's Temporary Settlement Support Team organized a three-day thematic training for partners on core camp coordination and camp management responsibilities and tools to enhance effective response in displacement sites in line with humanitarian standards. The Displacement Tracking Matrix Team has been actively assessing protection needs in earthquake-hit Adıyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, and Malatya. It targets both Turkish and migrant populations, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, elderly individuals, and persons with disabilities. During the reporting period, a total of 626 interviews were conducted with female-headed households, 1,034 with elderly people, and 671 with persons with disabilities.

Over the last two weeks, 15 foldable stretchers donated by the German government were added to the mobile clinic vehicles that had been handed over earlier to the Ministry of Health. To address gaps in food security, IOM is actively engaged in close coordination with local authorities and sector representatives to identify additional community needs and offer necessary support.

## NORTHWEST SYRIA RESPONSE



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**114%** of USD 51 million funding target reached



**2.3 Million**  
estimated individuals  
reached<sup>5</sup>



**11.6 Million**  
medical items  
delivered



**1.4 Million**  
relief items  
dispatched



**467**  
trucks crossed  
into Syria



**23,184**

Hygiene kits



**11,561**

Mattresses and  
sleeping mats



**19,191**

Shelter related  
support provided<sup>6</sup>



**16,204**

Clothes



**6,167**

Arrival kits



**3,943**

NFI kits



**55,652**

Blankets



**12,435**

Kitchen sets

IOM Türkiye's Cross-border team has received the final batch of in-kind donations, which will be distributed in the coming weeks. The replacement of 2,020 tents with prefabricated dignified shelter units in ten camps in Idlib is now 80% complete. Through its local partner, IOM completed the construction of 1,855 Transitional Dignified Shelter (TDS) units, while 1,580 TDS units were handed over to the beneficiaries.

During the reporting period, 2,535 individuals benefited from medical consultations, including 700 individuals who received Sexual and Reproductive Health services, and 151 women have given birth to healthy babies at an IOM-supported hospital. IOM's implementing partners completed the verification process for beneficiaries of Cash-Based Interventions (CBIs) in five reception centres. Under the new e-voucher project, 750 households with pregnant and lactating women and children under two years old were selected to receive cash for nutrition assistance, the distribution will begin from 6 July onwards.

Regarding Water, Sanitation And Hygiene (WASH) support, 65,353 m<sup>3</sup> of chlorinated water was distributed to populations affected by earthquakes in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as in reception and collective centres. Additionally, 2,782 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste was removed and transferred to the landfill, and 9,673.5 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater was de-sludged from existing cesspits and septic tanks. Furthermore, the WASH infrastructure was successfully established in nine informal settlements. Around 1,905 beneficiaries in IDP camps and reception centres benefitted from hygiene promotion sessions, and 114 women and girls participated in menstrual hygiene-related awareness sessions. Nearly 2,000 hygiene kits were distributed over the last two weeks.

Lastly, over 2,000 beneficiaries have accessed protection services through mobile teams and protection help desks operated by IOM's local partners across Northwest Syria.

<sup>5</sup> 92% are indirect beneficiaries reached through health support provided to medical facilities

<sup>6</sup> 8,646 tarpaulins, 3,275 comprehensive shelter kits, 711 emergency shelter toolkits, 6,344 tents and 215 tent accessories





Hevidar stands next to a semi-ruined house of her husband's grandmother, transformed into a temporary sanctuary for their family after the devastating earthquake.

### WHISPERS OF RESILIENCE: HEVIDAR'S PATH THROUGH EARTHQUAKE AND CONFLICT

"When we arrived at the rural house, we faced a scarcity of essential supplies - food and clothing. The provided assistance has been and continues to be invaluable to us," says Hevidar.

Displaced after the earthquake, Hevidar, her husband, and three children lost their belongings and access to basic needs.

Recognizing the critical situation, IOM has been working swiftly and tirelessly, dispatching blankets, clothes, heaters, and other essential materials, to help people like Hevidar, improve their living conditions and build the resilience of the communities in post-earthquake provinces.

Despite the hardships, Hevidar remains determined to create a better life for her family. In the midst of adversity, IOM's support offers hope and relief to those in need.

[Read Hevidar's story](#)

IOM is grateful to partners that have enabled our rapid response in affected areas and further extends its appreciation for the ongoing support towards our Türkiye and Northwest Syria appeals, including IKEA Foundation, Better Shelter and Flexport.

