Kahramanmaraş Earthquake
SITUATION REPORT I

14.02.2023
Over 25 million nutrition services have been distributed.
THE SCALE OF THE CRISIS AND CURRENT SITUATION

A magnitude 7.7 earthquake occurred in Pazarcık, Kahramanmaraş Türkiye followed by an earthquake of 7.6 in Elbistan, Kahramanmaraş occurred the following day in the same region. This is the largest disaster of the century.

Earthquakes affected the neighbouring provinces of Adıyaman, Kilis, Osmaniye, Gaziantep, Malatya, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana and Hatay, where around 14 million people reside. Authorities declared this earthquake a Level 4 earthquake within the scope of Türkiye Disaster Response Plan, which calls for an international rescue. Officials from Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) also indicated that aftershocks are expected to continue for a long time.

According to official reports, 35,418 people have lost their lives and 105,505 people have been injured. 158,165 people have been evacuated from quake-hit areas. These numbers still keep increasing as the search and rescue operations are continuing at full speed.

238,459 search and rescue workers from AFAD, JÖAK, DİSAK, PAK, Gendarmerie, DAK, Ministry of National Defense, UMKE, Ambulance staff, Fire Department, Ministry of National Education, Güven, NGOs, Volunteers, Security Units and Local Support Teams. A total of 9,793 teams from countries have contacted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to offer assistance and have been deployed to earthquake areas. 12,235 vehicles in total are in the area; excavators, tractors, cranes, dozers, trucks, water trucks, trailers, graders, vacuum trucks, construction machineries along with 26 ships which commissioned. An air bridge has also been established to transport personnel and materials to the region. A total of 4,214 sorties were carried out with 170 helicopters and 76 planes affiliated with the Air Force, Land Forces, Navy, Coast Guard Command, Gendarmerie General Command, General Directorate of Security, Ministry of Health and General Directorate of Forestry.

Within the first week of the operation, the humanitarian need has been predominantly tied to search and rescue efforts. In the short term, casualties are expected to increase due to the gradual search and rescue efforts of collapsed buildings and the harsh weather conditions.
TÜRKİYE DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

Türkiye is a country where many natural disasters occur with significant frequency, such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, and avalanches. Türkiye ranks 45th out of 191 countries with an index of 5.0 according to the Global Risk, categorizing itself in the “high risk” criteria among the countries.

Increasing the efficiency of the response after disasters and coordinating strategic planning against all types of disasters that may occur in Türkiye, Disaster Response Plan (TAMP) was launched in 2015 in order to minimize operational risks during disasters thanks to its integrated planning approach and modular structure, which includes public institutions, private sector, non-governmental assembly and persons.

TAMP determines the basic principles and defines the roles, duties and responsibilities of the service groups and coordination units that will take part in responding to disasters and emergencies such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, avalanches, fires, industrial accidents and mass population movements in accordance with their areas of expertise. In this sense, there are 28 service groups created according to the nature of the services carried out in the intervention.

TURKISH RED CRESCENT (TÜRK KIZILAY) DISASTER MANAGEMENT

As a part of the TAMP, Türk Kızılay is responsible for the National Nutrition Service Group, by also taking part in 8 other service groups; Correspondence, Health, Transportation, Shelter, Psychosocial, In-kind Assistance Storage Management and Distribution, International Support and Relations, National and International Cash Donation.

National Nutrition
Türk Kızılay is mainly responsible for the nutrition activities in the center and field during any disaster. Türk Kızılay provides nutrition (food, beverages and water) services for disaster victims by establishing necessary nutrition facilities based on
food distribution standards. Türk Kızılay grants Mobile Bakery Oven, Mobile Kitchens and Mobile Catering Vehicles, standing by the victims through quick and timely service.

**Correspondence**
The primary responsibility of the correspondence services is the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure. Under its coordination, Türk Kızılay provides any possessed GSM, hand-held transceiver and satellite tools to the Ministry during disasters for a more coordinated and effective response.

**Health**
The Ministry of Health acts as the main responsible for Health Services. Türk Kızılay, as a member of this service group, carries out the “National Blood Donation Project” to meet all the blood needed in Türkiye through voluntary and permanent donors. More than 300 service points across the country with 18 Regional Blood Centers, 68 Blood Donation Centers and mobile blood distribution vehicles are ready to be in operation with its thousands of specialists. Türk Kızılay tests every blood donated in modern laboratories for patient safety before delivering them to hospitals. Along with safe blood donations, marrow transplantation and stem cell therapy are in operation under the TÜRKÖK Project.

**Logistics**
The Logistics Service Group is organized by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime and Communications. The main goal of this service group is to ensure the transportation of priority personnel, tools, equipment and materials to the disaster area. Within the scope of this mandate, Türk Kızılay coordinates and works with the related institutions.

**Shelter**
The Shelter Service Group carries out shelter, cleaning, health and social needs services of disaster victims during emergencies. The Service Group is under the leadership of AFAD. A tent factory and production workshop in Ankara and Erzincan also function under the roof of the Türk Kızılay, which manufactures special tents within the scope of the national and international humanitarian response.

**Psychosocial Assistance**
As part of the Pre-Recovery Service Group, Emergency Psychosocial Assistance Group is led by the Ministry of Family and Social Services. The group is responsible for providing the necessary capacity improvement training to teams that will take part in psychosocial support services, identifying the needs and reporting to the correspondent authorities, providing psychosocial services to vulnerable and disaster-affected individuals and carrying out rehabilitation activities. Turk Kızılay supports the Ministry of Family and Social Services by deploying experts to scope out and analyze the needs, evaluate and implement emergency psychosocial and translation assistance in the field.

**In-kind Assistance Storage Management Distribution**
The Ministry of Family and Social Services is the head of the In-kind Assistance Storage Management Distribution Service Group. Türk Kızılay grants the related needs with the coordination of the Ministry by ensuring that aids are delivered to distribution centers in line with the incoming demand.
PAZARCIK EARTHQUAKE
14.02.2023

In the aftermath of the 7.7 magnitude and 7.6 magnitude earthquakes that hit Pazarcik and Elbistan districts of Kahramanmaras and shocked many other cities, Türk Kızılay launched a relief operation to assist people affected by the disaster.

25,476,884*
Total Nutrition Service

961 Staff On The Ground / 4,565 Volunteers On The Ground

4,468,325 Soup

20,334,076 Hot Meals

15,463,328 Bottles Of Water

21,983,609 Breads

10,240,067 Ready-to-eat Packages

1,992,197 Beverages

86 Mobile Catering Units

320 Mobile Kitchens

22 Field Kitchens

33 Mobile Ovens

791 Vehicles in Total

*The data covers all of the Disaster Nutrition Group services coordinated by Kızılay (Turkish Red Crescent)

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Disaster Nutrition Service Group

Other Institutions, Foundations, and Organizations
Türk Kızılay conducts continuous relief efforts since the very first day of the disaster, the scale and scope of the operations affected by the harsh weather conditions, damage to roads and airports, truck shortages, and other logistical hurdles. At the Türk Kızılay Disaster Coordination Center in Ankara, the teams are constantly analyzing the real-time data reported from the field and systematically organizing assistance with the support of the Türk Kızılay’s Operation Command Center established in the impacted region. At the regional level, there are 5 Regional Disaster Management Directorates and 12 Disaster Response Centers affiliated to the Disaster Response Directorate (10 Disaster Response Center Directorates and 2 Local Disaster Management Center).

Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) staff and volunteers have been mobilised across 10 impacted provinces in the region to respond to the needs. TRC teams are responding to the food needs of the affected population, serving over one and a half million meals in the region daily. Together with that, Turkish Red Crescent support the needs in various sectors, all the relief efforts; psychosocial needs, shelter and other complementary needs.

Since the onset of the disaster, the Türk Kızılay has deployed its teams to all the affected cities to deliver humanitarian assistance amid the overwhelming aftermath of the earthquakes. 961 personnel and 4,565 volunteers are working in the field across the country, along with support from the center office in Ankara. Through our mobile and container kitchens more than 25 million nutrition services have been distributed to those affected. Over 791 vehicles were submitted to the affected areas right after the disaster.

The earthquake’s impact on shelter and housing has been devastating in most of the affected areas, with very high levels of damage to dense residential areas. The shelter is a priority need for the response due to the extensive damage to housing and low temperature due to the winter season. In addition to those who lost their houses, many affected households are unwilling to return to their shelter for fear of aftershocks. Since the beginning, Turkish Red Crescent has provided 45,000 tents with more than 55,000 blankets were provided to the affected population with the coordination of AFAD.
Health components and psychosocial support have become one of the most critical elements in the field for the affected population. Türk Kızılay MHPSS teams have been working around the clock since day one to ease the pressure on the affected population. Humanitarian interventions are conducted with Türk Kızılay staff and volunteers via 2 MHPSS tents (the number will be increased to 7) and 2 mobile child-friendly spaces. While the acute phase continues, Türk Kızılay MHPSS teams plan to scale up MHPSS activities through the mobile units, deploy volunteer psychologists to the field, and support internally displaced populations in cities. In the coming six months to 1-year period, Türk Kızılay aims to increase its response to long-term psychosocial effects caused by the disaster and alleviate the suffering. As for the Health Components, Türk Kızılay has deployed 12 mobile health vehicles, specialists and teams to 6 quake-affected cities to provide community health care in coordination with the Provincial Health Directorates. Teams are also providing flu vaccines and hygiene kits to those in need. In terms of community health, Türk Kızılay supports Provincial Health Directorates with its WASH activities and mobile dental clinics with necessary medical teams to respond to the needs.
Additionally, the “Blood Donation” campaign has immediately been started in the country, where millions of people showed their solidarity. Türk Kızılay teams are fully mobilized on the ground and increased the blood donation points to 300 in a short while, increasing the volume of the blood stocks and addressing the emergency needs accordingly. Information dissemination through communication activities has always been one of the core parts of any disaster. In Kahramanmaraş, Türk Kızılay has deployed his communication tools in the affected areas to provide and strengthen the contact between the related institutions, which has accelerated the operations going on in the field. More than 23 reports have been created to inform public institutions, society and partners.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

Since the beginning of the crisis, there has been significant global solidarity that Türkiye has received from all over the world. Turkish Red Crescent observed this remarkable power while receiving global solidarity from the Movement and external partners. More than 90 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and international partners around the world have extended their solidarities to the Turkish Red Crescent, most of which include proposals of assistance to send either in the form of cash or material.

Turkish Red Crescent has launched a fundraising campaign and also launched an International Appeal through the IFRC to mobilise this significant international solidarity. Increased global support and solidarity to deliver humanitarian assistance are essential in the weeks and months of recovery ahead is crucial.
For Further Information;

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