



# UNHCR TÜRKİYE EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

4 May 2023

## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

As of 2 May, AFAD is using a UNHCR-donated mobile coordination centre in Malatya as an information and service point for the earthquake-affected population. Here, officials can verify documents and information on heavily damaged houses and flats, as well as the government's cash assistance to the affected population.

Following developments in Syria in 2013, UNHCR donated 23 mobile coordination centres to AFAD. These are currently stationed at AFAD crisis centres in the most affected provinces to facilitate verification of information regarding damaged buildings, complaints, applications for cash assistance, registration for tents, management and coordination.

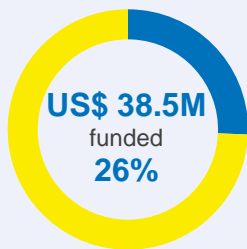
## UNHCR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(as of 01 May 2023)



**US\$ 150M**

UNHCR's requirements for the earthquake emergency response in Türkiye, targeting 1.5 million people



The overall funding to the Syria and Türkiye Earthquake Emergency Appeal is 57%

## UNHCR ITEMS DELIVERED TO DATE



**Overall:**

**1.3 million**

core relief items dispatched to Turkish authorities, municipalities, and partners; including among other:



**443,800**

sanitary items



**187,800**

sleeping items (blankets and sleeping bags)



**91,300**

beds and bedding



**72,600**

hygiene kits



**56,700**

sleeping mats/mattresses



**45,000**

clothing items



**41,500**

kitchen sets



**34,700**

tents

## UNHCR CAPACITY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

### Delivery of Assistance

UNHCR is supporting the capacity of national and local authorities to respond to needs, including through the delivery of core relief items (CRIs). To date, UNHCR has delivered over **1.3 million CRIs** to counterparts, including the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), and the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS). UNHCR is also delivering CRIs to municipalities for direct distribution to the earthquake-affected communities.

Last week, UNHCR transported 2,000 blankets and 2,000 hygiene kits to Yıldırım Municipality in Bursa in the Marmara region. UNHCR also delivered 6,000 kitchen sets to Adıyaman municipality.

UNHCR also delivered 8,300 items to Yesilyurt municipality, in Malatya, including hygiene kits, coats, and baby diapers. The items were distributed at one of the largest settlements in the province accommodating 3,700 refugees and 1,000 members of the host community. Vulnerable people were reached through mobile distribution.

### Protection

Since 6 February, UNHCR has conducted protection assessments to identify specific needs among the affected population, counselling over **6,500 people**, including nationals from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran among others.

Last week, UNHCR completed close to 500 protection assessments and identified 400 people with urgent resettlement needs, referring others for medical, protection, legal or UNHCR cash-for-protection interventions.

The [earthquake section](#) of the [UNHCR Help website](#), launched on 8 February, has reached **61,000 page views** so far. This week's main post was a reminder for students to apply to UNHCR's higher education grant.

### Field Observations and Response

UNHCR has so far monitored 58 sites accommodating refugees in the southeast region. During the monitoring visits UNHCR observed conditions and access to services, and referred people with specific needs to sector partners for WASH, Shelter/NFI, and Food Security, or cash-for-shelter programmes.

In the past week, UNHCR in Malatya province visited nine out of 32 formal tented settlements and three informal sites, hosting some 5,000 refugees, mostly Syrian. UNHCR has also followed up on the conditions and needs of refugees residing in sites in Şanlıurfa, Hatay and Kahramanmaraş provinces.

In the southeast region, UNHCR is assessing the needs and capacities of 37 Refugee Led Organizations (RLO) and Community Based Organizations (CBO) to calibrate the expansion and capacity-building of UNHCR's local network and include them in coordination platforms. Based on discussions with these organisations, the most mentioned protection concerns relate to access to safe shelter, psychosocial support and job opportunities.

UNHCR is also encouraging local NGOs to engage with local authorities and support their activities. In Konya province, hosting one of the highest number of earthquake-affected people, UNHCR facilitated an NGO coordination meeting on 28 April with the Turkish Red Crescent and the provincial directorate of migration management.

UNHCR is supporting seven partners through specific needs funds (SNF) for refugees and asylum-seekers. Extremely vulnerable persons can receive in-kind support, and/or a one-time cash assistance under the SNF. CBOs working with UNHCR partners identify and refer the refugees to the SNF-managing partners. Complementing this effort, UNHCR also directly disburses cash assistance for people with special needs.

## Education

UNHCR provided a one-time emergency cash top-up to 67 refugee higher-education students this past week, in addition to their stipends. The students are education cash-grant beneficiaries and DAFI students, who have either experienced the earthquake directly or have families in the affected areas. Around 890 students are eligible for the earthquake top-up.

## Temporary exits to Syria

UNHCR met with 12 families who had temporarily exited to Syria and returned to Türkiye through the Karkamış border area. The families were mostly returning to Adana, Gaziantep and Hatay provinces and had for the most part visited family members and checked on property and damages. Based on official sources, around 16,000 Syrians out of 73,000 authorised to temporarily exit to Syria had returned as of 19 April.

## UNHCR presence in affected areas

UNHCR carries out daily missions from Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa to earthquake-affected provinces, and has reinforced its emergency response capacity in areas such as protection and coordination through 113 support missions. As of 4 May, UNHCR has 82 staff in Gaziantep, Hatay, Şanlıurfa, and a temporary office in Malatya, established on 13 March.

## INTER-AGENCY

### Latest developments

- The Protection Sector conducted an in-person training in Kahramanmaraş on 4 May on Safe Referrals targeting non-protection partners in all sectors, following up on an online training on 25 April. In-person trainings are scheduled for the coming week in Adıyaman, Malatya and Hatay to assist partners in referring people with specific needs, divulge the referral tool package, and guide on interaction with persons with specific needs.
- The cash-based intervention technical working group (CBI TWG) held a virtual workshop on 28 April to prepare questionnaires and define roles for a joint market assessment with 55 participants from UN agencies and national and international NGOs.

## BACKGROUND

- The three-month state of emergency, due to expire on 6 May, remains in place for 11 provinces. According to [authorities](#), around 51,000 people have lost their lives, of which at least 7,300 are foreign nationals.
- The Turkish government is leading the response through [AFAD](#) and provincial governors. The Turkish Red Crescent ([TRC](#)), local partners and humanitarian organisations are working alongside AFAD. The PMM is coordinating support to temporary settlements accommodating refugees and community members. The MoFSS offers protection and psychosocial services for women, children and at-risk groups.
- The OCHA-led coordination mechanism for the earthquake response, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, operates from Gaziantep, while the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meets weekly in Ankara. UNHCR leads the Protection Sector, co-leads the Cash-Based Intervention Technical Working Group, and contributes to other sectors, including the cross-cutting coordination on Accountability to Affected Populations. The coordination is established in collaboration with partners, NGOs, UN agencies, and local authorities and provincial directorates.
- To strengthen localization, NGOs co-chair with UNHCR the Protection Sector (Association for Solidarity with asylum-seekers [SGDD-ASAM](#)), as well as the sub-sectors on child protection ([Support to Life](#)) and violence against women, girls and vulnerable groups ([KAMER Foundation](#)).
- The four area-based coordination hubs continue to operate in the worst-hit provinces with representatives from AFAD, local authorities and provincial directorates, thereby enhancing local coordination to address the needs of persons with specific needs. Details of the consolidation of the provincial hubs for the period following the initial three-month Flash Appeal are being discussed. It is expected that, with the consolidation of hubs, the Protection Sector will continue to meet regularly in the four hubs.
- In alignment with the [Türkiye Earthquake UN Flash Appeal](#), UNHCR is appealing for USD 150 million to cover the emergency response in Türkiye through an [Earthquake Emergency Supplementary Appeal covering Türkiye and Syria](#). The aim of UNHCR's action is to improve living conditions of earthquake-affected people, and assist those with specific needs, including refugees, in accessing necessary services including documentation and social protection.

**UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to the earthquake response with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds' as well as to those who have provided earmarked contributions.**

**DONATE**

The next Türkiye earthquake response update will be issued on 8 June 2023.