6 April 2023



KAHRAMANMARAŞ EARTHQUAKES

SITUATION REPORT

Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)

April 6th 2023, Situation Report 20



MAPPING OF IBC OPERATION IN TURKEY AND SYRIA



2 Months Have Passed Since the Disaster

"We have lived the apocalypse, now we are trying to get better"

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation (IBC) would like to extend our sincere condolences to all those affected by the earthquakes. IBC employees in the region are safe and accounted for, though some have lost family members and loved ones and saw their entire homes destroyed. Thank you to all who continue to mobilize and to the heroic efforts of the many search and rescue teams. Immense and continued cooperation is needed to prevent further loss of life and suffering.



Elbistan / KAHRAMANMARAS

1. Development

Two months have passed since the 7.7 and 7.6 magnitude earthquakes, which are defined as the biggest disasters of recent years.

Türkiye Ministry of Interior announced that the loss of life in Kahramanmaraş-centered earthquakes increased to 50,399 and identification of those who lost their lives is still ongoing.

In Syria, which was affected by earthquakes, 8,476 people lost their lives.

On Wednesday, 15 March, the earthquake region experienced yet another disaster when extreme rains resulted in widespread, devastating flooding in Adıyaman and Sanliurfa. Currently, it is known that 20 people have lost their lives due to the flood.

While it is stated that all these disasters affected 16 percent of Turkey's population, that is 14 million people, life in the region continues in tents, container cities, and dormitories. On the other hand, the construction of permanent residences continues.

Those who experienced the biggest earthquake recorded in the history of the Türkiye express their feelings by saying "We have seen the apocalypse".

Noting that the need for shelter, water, sanitation, and hygiene services is still very high, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said, "We urgently need more funds to help over 5 million people." ¹

OCHA said only 28 percent of its \$1 billion emergency fund calls were met. OCHA spokesperson Jens Laerke stated at a press conference that 3 million people were displaced in the earthquakes that directly affected 9 million people, and called for an emergency case.



OCHA spokeperson Jens Laerke

Larke said, "We are now in what we call a humanitarian emergency. We are working to identify what survivors need and how we can support them. We have 3 months for this. We will implement these projects and they will continue in the future. That's why I'm still calling for support for the emergency relief campaign we started for Türkiye." ²

While a commitment of 7 billion USD was provided at the International Donors Conference held in Brussels on March 20, the findings included in the "Turkey Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction Assessment Report", which explains the damage caused by earthquakes, were also presented at the conference. The report states that the damage caused by the earthquake is approximately 103.6 billion USD.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) also stated that more than 20 percent of Turkey's food production was damaged in the earthquake, which affected 11 important agricultural provinces.

FAO pointed out that the earthquake-affected region of Turkey, known as fertile lands, constitutes about 15 percent of the country's agricultural income.

¹ https://www.unocha.org/

² https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/03/1135212

It is stated that more than one-third of the people in the earthquake areas made their living from agriculture but are now struggling under difficult conditions.

Along with the indescribable pain experienced in the region for 2 months, aftershocks still frighten earthquake survivors.

The survivors, on the other hand, demand long-term, sustainable, and effective support efforts.

2. Humanitarian Needs, Gaps and Response



Demolition works being carried out in Antakya, Hatay.

Adiyaman

Adiyaman, along with Hatay, is expressed as one of the cities whose infrastructure was most damaged in the earthquake. One of the biggest needs of the region is water and sanitation...

Adiyaman Municipality and Adiyaman Governor's Office launched temporary neighborhood markets in order to restore life in the city to its old days and to meet the needs of the people more easily.

Gaziantep

Efforts are being taken to address the need for shelter in the region. Temporary shelters consisting of masonry structures, prefabricated, and containers are being set up for earthquake victims, especially in Nurdagi and Islahiye regions. Steel construction bazaar built for tradesmen in the Nurdagi district has also started. In Islahiye, where some tradesmen have started to open their workplaces, citizens carry out their public and banking transactions on mobile trucks and tents brought to the district. Work is also underway for permanent residences in the region.



Container city located in Islahiye, Gaziantep

Hatay

Hatay suffered the biggest loss of life in the earthquakes. In the region, life began in tent cities and container cities. However, it is still not enough, thousands of people still need support. Building demolition and debris removal works in the region still continue in 42 neighborhoods. The transition process of the disaster victims staying in tent cities to container cities has also started. To date, 12,322 containers have been installed in 30 living spaces in Hatay. The earthquake victims live in these containers which come installed with in-home toilet and bathroom, and food support is provided either by hot meal or food parcel. Twenty-thousand 274 disaster victims are sheltered in these container homes.

Kahramanmaras

Aftershocks continue at the epicenter of the earthquakes. Debris removal and demolition of heavily damaged buildings in the region continue in 10 neighborhoods. State Hydraulic Works (DSI) started to drill wells to meet the water needs of the region. It is planned that the drinking water will be met from these newly opened wells when the work on the new settlements, which aims to meet the water needs of the Container and Tent Cities, from the underground waters here.

Sanliurfa

Seventeen people lost their lives due to heavy rains in the region, which was also damaged by the flood disaster after the earthquake. The establishment of temporary shelters in the region under the coordination of AFAD continues rapidly. In the statement made by Sanliurfa Governor's Office, 5 thousand earthquake victims stay in houses in the city, while 144 families stay in tents in the Birecik region.

Malatya

While it is stated that there is a need for 80 thousand houses in Malatya, which was hit by the earthquake, it is stated that the groundbreaking works for 11 thousand houses have started.

Surive

In addition to the crisis it has been experiencing for 12 years, Syria is currently trying to recover from the damage caused by the earthquakes in which thousands of people lost their lives.

Current reports state that approximately 2.9 million people in the region were affected by the earthquake and 302,500 people were forced to leave their places of residence. Again, according to the latest data, approximately 8,476 people lost their lives.

In the economy and labor market conditions, which have already suffered great damage in the last 12 years in Syria, approximately 170,000 employees lost their jobs due to the earthquake. While this loss directly affected 154 thousand households and more than 725 thousand people, around 35 thousand micro, small and medium-sized enterprises were also damaged. This temporary loss of employment in Syria results in a loss of labor income equivalent to at least \$5.7 million per month.³



Tent camp in A'zaz, N. Syria

UN OCHA states that earthquake victims in Syria do not have access to safe water. In addition, it is stated that the threat of access to safe food has increased after the earthquake, and the camps where displaced people live are flooded due to the current weather conditions.

According to the statement, in Syria, where approximately 8.8 million people were affected by the earthquake, families displaced by heavy rains are in a more difficult situation... Right now, their camps are flooding and thousands of tents are disappearing. Because of this, at least 50 displacement sites were flooded.

While the UN and partners provide emergency shelters, food, water, sanitation and hygiene supplies; In the provinces of Aleppo, Latakia and Hama, more than a hundred schools are currently used as collective shelters.

3. IBC in the Field

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation (IBC) continues emergency response across the earthquake zones in cooperation with AFAD, Turkish Red Crescent, local municipalities, governorships, councils, and the relevant and necessary stakeholders. For the earthquake response, IBC is operational and present at multiple sites located in seven provinces in Türkiye (Gaziantep, Hatay, Izmir, Kahramanmaras, Kilis, Malatya, Sanliurfa) and in the Aleppo governorate in Northwest Syria (5 camps in Al-Bab, multiple camps and villages in A'zaz including IBC's pre-earthquakes established office).

³ https://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm

With an aim to use resources efficiently, IBC has agreed on protocols with all local governorates and coordinates all activities with AFAD, TRC, the Directorate of Migration Management, and all other relevant and necessary stakeholders. Additionally, in line with the permission that IBC and all stakeholders must obtain to conduct psychosocial support (PSS) and related activities in the earthquake response, IBC's mobile PSS team has been approved by the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoSS) for all operational areas.

As assessments are ongoing, IBC is responsive to the needs in the whole earthquake region, including the cities to which survivors have been evacuated.

After the effects of the devastating earthquake and the losses it caused, the vital needs of the earthquake victims become more evident. Like many regions where life has come to a standstill, in Islahiye and Kirikhan, especially in villages, access to hot meals and self-care facilities is more than ever in places where tent settlements are set up. IBC, which performs needs analyzes at regular intervals in the earthquake area, has put the mobile kitchen, shower, and toilet, which it has completed, into the service of earthquake victims.



IBC Container City in Kirikhan

More than 2000 hot meals are served daily in the mobile kitchens developed by IBC in the region. With the onset of Ramadan, hot meals are regularly distributed to earthquake victims, especially those who don't have access to hot meals during the fast-breaking hours, in the container cities in Islahiye, the credit dormitories institution, the Fevzipasa region, the camp construction, and the tent cities in the center of Kirikhan. Hot meal aid is not limited to the month of Ramadan but will continue as two meals a day during and after the feast.

Children are among the most vulnerable groups affected by the earthquake. IBC also provides clothing, health aids (including medicine and mobile services), hygiene materials, diapers, and food support for newborns, underthree and school-age children, which it prioritizes in humanitarian aid. The aim here is to reach children of all ages and meet their needs while preventing risks such as possible secondary tertiary health, hygiene, and intellectual disability.

In this direction, IBC hosted the Donor organization Action Medeor and RTL on the field last week. Our partners, who support our emergency humanitarian aid distributions from Germany also accompanied our distributions in Islahiye, Nurdagi, Kirikhan, and Antakya. As IBC, we would like to express our special thanks to all our partners for their support, on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries we have reached.





IBC hosted RTL on the field

Adiyaman

With the support of WHH, preparations for the distribution of 500 tents to those in need were completed, and installations began in rural areas and city centers. Plans have been completed for the distribution of 500 hygiene and 500 food packages.

In this process, the goal was to identify those in need and deliver requested goods in a timely manner, with case management support.





Tents set up in Adiyaman with the support of WHH

Diyarbakir

In the past weeks, we distributed hot meals to 500 people as part of the GIZ Earthquake Emergency Support with the Diyarbakir-based Smile to Life Association, to which we provided mentoring support within the scope of the GIZ CLIP project. We will continue to support the region with hot meals for the next 2 months.⁴

⁴ https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/67106.html

Gaziantep

Hot food distribution in the mobile kitchen, which started its operations with the support of Action Medeor, continues in the container cities in Islahiye, the credit dormitories institution, the Fevzipasa region, and the campsite construction sites. With the arrival of Ramadan, the service of iftar menus takes place regularly.





Iftar meal distribution in Islahiye with the support of Action Medeor

Also this week, food distribution for a total of 1000 people, 250 each to UKKASE Student Dormitory, Fevzipasa region, Memurkent Container area, and Islahiye Construction Site, was completed.





Food parcel distribution in Islahiye

Other deployments completed this week in the region:

Islahiye

- Hot meal service for 7000 people (1000 people every day)
- 20 Tarpaluin Distribution
- 20 Food Kits Distribution
- 75 sets of bedding sets Distribution
- 66 packages of child hygiene kits Distribution
- ♣ 66 packs of feminine hygiene kits Distribution
- ♣ 66 packages of general hygiene kits Distribution
- Primary health care was provided for 180 beneficiaries



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April 6th 2023, Situation Report 20





Distributions made in Islahiye with the support of Lions

Nurdagi

- Protection and PSS need assessment interviews were held with 49 beneficiaries
- Protection and PSS interviews were conducted with 184 child beneficiaries
- Protection and PSS interviews were conducted with 72 female beneficiaries
- Protection and PSS interviews were conducted with 77 male beneficiaries
- Protection, social cohesion, and PSS interview were carried out with 391 beneficiaries
- 100 blankets were distributed
- 10 diapers were distributed
- 10 packs of children's food was distributed
- 25 general hygiene kits were distributed
- 360 units of drinking water were distributed
- 50 pieces of men's underwear were distributed
- ◆ 50 pieces of women's underwear were distributed
- ♣ Mental health and PSS services were provided to 17 people
- 4 12 beneficiaries were referred to the hospital for primary healthcare
- ♣ Dispatchement was provided to the Directorate of National Education for 7 children who could not attend school





Workshops in the child caravan and tent camp in Nurdagi

Hatay

The infrastructure works of Kırıkhan Community Center, which was established with the support of AFAD in Hatay and where people in need can access many services such as food support, psycho-social support, and protection services, have been completed.

The installation of activity/community tents in the area has begun. The Kirikhan container camp is built on an area of 34 decares to expand from 400 houses to several hundred houses more on 60 decares. The area will house an estimated 3000 people and provide access to electricity, water, and sanitation.

With the month of Ramadan, IBC field team started to distribute iftar and sahur meals with the mobile food bank in the region.



Distribution of iftar meal in the tent area in Kirikhan

Head of AFAD Yunus Sezer also visited the IBC Container City area this week and made evaluations about the latest state of the preparations together with our field team.





Head of AFAD Yunus Sezer also visited the IBC Container City area

Izmir

In Türkiye, 330 thousand people from 11 provinces under the state of emergency were evacuated to other provinces. In this context, thousands of earthquake survivors reached Izmir in the past weeks and a cooperation protocol was signed for earthquake victims in accordance with the demands of local administrations and the Directorate of Migration Management. Currently, IBC provides hot meals to those affected by the earthquake at the Air Force Special Education Center in Ozdere, Izmir, and TMO camp in Gümüldür, Izmir.





Hot meal support for people affected by the earthquake at Izmir Ozdere Air Force Special Education Center

Within the scope of the first agreement of the project, three hot meals a day are served, with a total of 35,000 meals. This week, with the support of GlobalGiving and Episcopal Relief, the centers distributed hot meals to approximately 900 people. Along with three meals for earthquake victims in the region, iftar and sahur support will continue to be provided throughout the month of Ramadan.

Kahramanmaras

This week, negotiations were held with the Governor of Elbistan for the container areas to be established in the Elbistan region of Kahramanmaras. In the region where IBC provides food parcel support to container cities, a popcorn machine has been installed for children and movie screenings have started.





Film screening and popcorn prepared for children in Elbistan





Hygiene kit distribution with the support of GIZ in the Kardes Sehirler Container City, Elbistan

The efforts have started to establish a mother-child center in the container city in the region with the support of the Japan International Support Program. Also this week, IBC has completed the distribution of hygiene kits to the Kardes Sehirler container city with the support of GIZ.





Distribution of suhoor meals to the tent area in Elbistan with the support of WHH

Kilis

IBC also carries out social cohesion and child-friendly space activities at the IBC Kilis Community Center, which is an established and important center for the region since 2011.

In addition, IBC Kilis Community Center serves as the main center for IBC coordination, including cross-border projects.



Iftar meal distributions

More than 500,000 meals have been served in the region so far. This week, IDRF, one of IBC's donor institutions, also visited our center in Kilis, and meetings were held for the coordination of the upcoming projects slated to begin in the coming days.

Malatya

An IBC child-friendly area and PSS services have begun in Malatya Dogansehir with the support of GIZ. In addition, our child-wellness teams continue their activities in the region for children affected by the earthquake. This week, the distribution of mother-child hygiene kits and food kits in the Dogansehir region was completed.



Workshops for children in Dogansehir

Sanliurfa

IBC is meeting one of the most urgent needs in the field by providing psycho-social support services in Sanliurfa. This week, psychosocial support and social cohesion activities took place in Harrani Youth Center and Youth-Sports Department of Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality.





PSS event held at Hayati Harrani Youth Center in cooperation with Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality

Along with the IDRF representatives, the distribution of food packages to the flood-affected areas was also completed this week.





Iftar dinner given in cooperation with Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality

N. Syria

IBC Syria team continued to visit tent camps in the region this week as part of the mobile clinic project (Al Hadath Camp, Sosnbat Camp, Tadiff Village, and Tadif Camp). A total of 794 people were reached this week in the camps visited by community health teams.



Dabiq Health Center

In addition, IBC's work continues at the Dabiq Health Center where services were provided for 833 patients this week. 15 patients were transferred to hospitals by IBC ambulances.



Food package distribution in Azez region with the support of IDRF

Also this week, with the support of IDRF, the distribution of food parcels for approximately 1,150 families in two camps in Al-Harameyn and Ahl al-Sham in the Azez region was completed. With these distributions, food support was provided to approximately 7000 beneficiaries.

Upcoming Projects to be Started in the Coming Days

- 🖶 IBC will expand its work in Hatay with Caritas, which we have been working with since the first days of the earthquake. With Caritas, we have distributed 800 feminine hygiene packages, 800 family hygiene boxes, 500 children's and adult clothing, and 500 tarpaulins. IBC will expand its Mobile Toilet and Mobile Shower Cabin services in Hatay Container City. The new mobile toilet units will also have a separate toilet for the disabled.
- ♣ Within the scope of the project we carried out with IMC, IBC provided 3 trucks of carboy drinking water to people living in tent cities. In the coming days, 750 feminine hygiene packages, 750 family hygiene packages, 1300 children's and adult clothes, 400 dry food boxes, and 5000 children's nutrition packages will be distributed. Within the scope of our project, we will cooperate with Islahiye State Hospital and provide medical supplies such as neck braces, arm cuffs, and crutches to individuals who need physical therapy. The earthquakes response is still evolving. Medical and general evacuations continue to take place, albeit at a slow pace.

Coordination

Coordination is central to the humanitarian response for the earthquakes regions. In this context, IBC has mobilized its full capacity in the region to cooperate and participate in daily and weekly meetings and in contact with AFAD authorities, Governors, District Governors, municipalities, and all relevant provincial representatives along with NGOs and civil society actors. Local and national NGOs involved in the earthquake response are organized under the name of Local Humanitarian Forum (LHF) which IBC participates in, in coordination with other local actors to improve coordination and inclusion of local NGOs and CSOs to the newly implemented OCHA cluster system in Türkiye. To that end, IBC participated to a sectoral meeting this past week including:

♣ Türkiye / UN OCHA- Shelter Meeting (Weekly)

Through the cluster system and coordination mechanisms, effective humanitarian aid is provided and standardized in line with international standards, preventing duplication of aid, and promoting humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, independence, and impartiality.



IBC Container City in Kirikhan, Hatay

IBC would like to thank its generous partners, donors, and their networks so far who have allowed us to respond urgently to this devastation that has shaken the region to its core.



The earthquakes response is still evolving. Shelter/tents, thermal clothing, sleeping bags, heat, water, power supply, and baby care kits are still urgently needed.

As personnel on the ground are tasked with recovering the deceased and evaluating structural damage, the relief efforts to meet the hundreds of thousands of displaced residents must continue to be scaled up, especially for the most vulnerable women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons facing protection issues due to legal status in Türkiye. IBC will keep all partners and potential donors appraised of the current situation regularly.

We ask our partners and international civil society members to help us in these tragic days so that together we may overcome the suffering of our people. Please, do not forget about us.

For more information and support, you can reach:

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IBC Earthquake Photos Updated Daily:

https://bit.ly/3ZjSFx8

Kirikhan/Hatay Container Home Camp Photos:

https://bit.ly/3m12XUT

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