

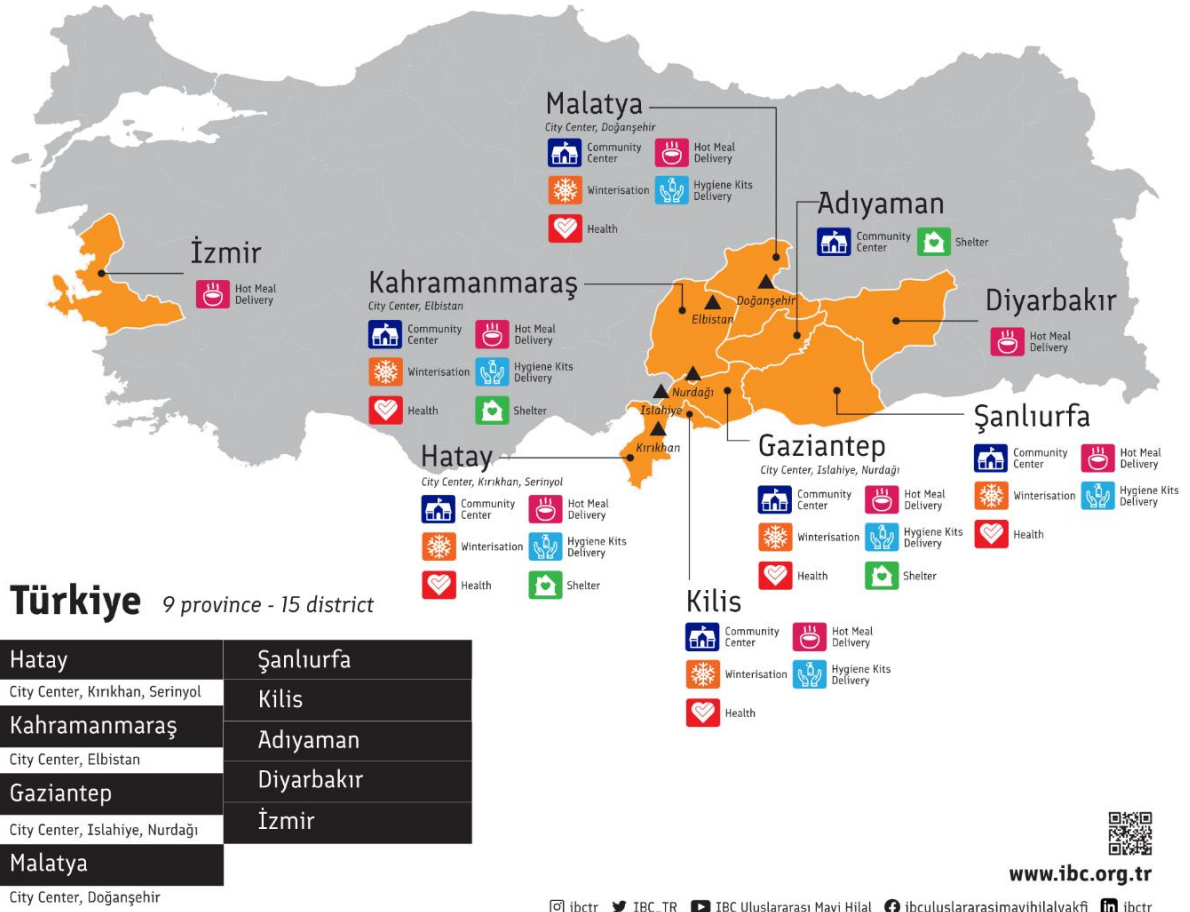
15 September 2023



TÜRKİYE EARTHQUAKES

SITUATION REPORT

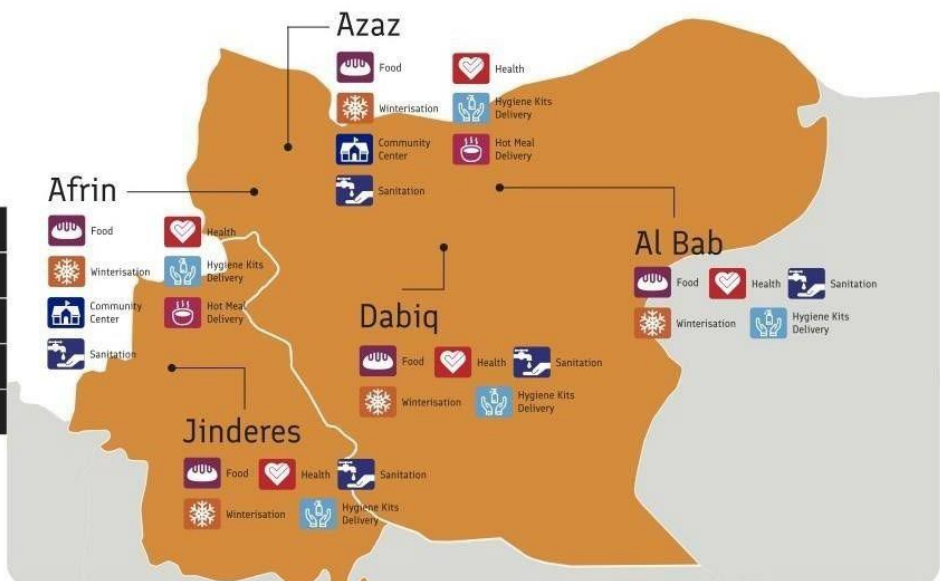
MAPPING OF IBC OPERATION IN TÜRKİYE AND SYRIA



MAPPING OF IBC OPERATION IN TURKEY AND SYRIA

Syria 5 province

Azaz
Al Bab
Dabiq
Afrin
Jinderes



The 7th month of earthquakes that shook Türkiye has passed...

A Long-Term Plan to Revitalize the Region, We Continue to Develop Sustainable Projects!

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation (IBC) would like to extend 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 mobilise the heroic efforts of the many search and rescue teams. Immense and continued cooperation is needed to prevent further loss of life and suffering.



Kirikhan / HATAY (Credit by Orhun Yüksel)

1. Developments

The 7th month of the 7.7 and 7.6 magnitude earthquakes centered in Kahramanmaraş and affecting 11 provinces has passed. In its latest statement, the Ministry of Interior stated that the highest number of casualties occurred in Hatay and that 50,783 people died in all regions. The number of migrants who lost their lives in the area was 7302. 107,000 people were injured in the earthquakes.

The debris removal works in Kahramanmaraş, Hatay and Adıyaman, the provinces with the most destruction, have now ended. The city centers, where thousands of people live, have become almost unrecognisable with the destroyed buildings. Throughout this process, solidarity to bring disaster victims back to life has grown like an avalanche, and strength has come from unity.

While the construction of 536,729 permanent houses is ongoing in 11 earthquake-hit cities, 82,104 new homes are planned to be built in Kahramanmaraş, the earthquake's epicenter, and 220,66 new houses in Hatay. Support efforts have also accelerated for the tradespeople severely injured in the earthquakes. The construction of 3,400 workplaces was completed and delivered to the tradespeople of the earthquake-hit region.

The priorities are also to ensure that housing and health services in the region are not interrupted. In the provinces affected by the earthquake, 42 of 136 hospital buildings were severely or moderately damaged. In addition, 97 migrant health centers serving 1.7 million refugees were almost unusable. ¹

¹ https://turkiye.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/turkiye_earthquake_situation_report_5.pdf



Nurdagi / GAZIANTEP (Credit by Orhun Yüksel)

Against this backdrop, the Defne State Hospital in Hatay, built on an area of 25 thousand square meters, was completed and put into service in two months, while work on the 200-bed Iskenderun Emergency Hospital in Iskenderun district is nearing completion.

The Ministry of Industry and Technology stated that they issued 479 incentive certificates for investments for sustainable development in the earthquake zone. It announced that the total investment amount for the earthquake-affected provinces is 61 billion Turkish liras.



The Ministry of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacir

The International Labour Organization (ILO) report "Assessing Local Labour Market Dynamics and Skills Needs in the Aftermath of the Earthquakes in Türkiye" calls for establishing Active Labour Market Policies to address the region's acute labour shortage.²

² https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---europe/---ro-geneva/---ilo-ankara/documents/publication/wcms_891542.pdf

The ILO study, which assessed the impact of the earthquakes on the labour market in Türkiye and possible recovery strategies, explored ways to plan an efficient reconstruction program to create income opportunities for the local workforce. The study also identified the occupations that will grow the fastest and the skills needed for these occupations.

According to UN OCHA's latest data, the number of households living in temporary shelters in the four provinces most affected by the earthquake (Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Adiyaman, Malatya) is 181,264. At the same time, it is estimated that 90 per cent of the people displaced by the earthquake are still living in temporary shelters.³

2. Humanitarian Needs, Gaps and Response

Adiyaman



Tent City (ADIYAMAN) (Credit by Orhun Yüksel)

According to official data, 8300 people died in Adiyaman, one of the cities with the most damaged infrastructure in the earthquake with Hatay. The demolition and debris removal of collapsed and emergency buildings have been completed in the city. Also, water cuts in the region make life difficult.

Container cities have replaced the tent cities established to meet the need for shelter in the region. 55,908 people are sheltering in container cities shown at 48 points in Adiyaman center and districts. In addition to temporary shelter, the construction of permanent residences continues. Adiyaman Governorate stated that the construction of 16 thousand 433 houses in 826 blocks is ongoing. With the recent groundbreaking ceremony organised by the Presidency, the construction of more than half of the nearly 65 thousand houses and village houses in Adiyaman has started.

Gaziantep

In the earthquakes, 3,919 people died across the city, including 2,14 in the Nurdagi district of Gaziantep and 1433 in the Islahiye district.

Efforts are underway to heal the wounds and normalise life in the city. While the construction process of permanent residences in the region continues 24/7, it was announced that the rough construction of TOKİ apartments has been completed at 70 per cent.

While the village houses in Nurdagi district, one of the most damaged settlements of the region, are at the delivery stage, it was stated that the homes built are suitable for the region's standards and, at the same time, resistant to a possible high-intensity earthquake.

³ <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/humanitarian-transition-overview-turkiye-earthquake-response-august-2023>



Nurdagi / GAZIANTEP (Credit by Orhun Yüksel)

Hatay

In Hatay, where the earthquake caused colossal destruction, 23,453 people died, and 30,762 people were injured. While 22 thousand 820 buildings were demolished across the city, 55 thousand 885 buildings were severely damaged.

After the earthquake, Hatay, the city of civilisation, where 4 billion 90 million Turkish liras of investment was made, was brought back to its feet with the reconstruction process; infrastructure services in the region are also being completely renewed. The construction of 50 thousand houses, village houses and workplaces in the city continues quickly within the scope of On-Site Transformation Projects.

Currently, 47 thousand 772 families are hosted in 158 container cities in Hatay. Together with the ongoing projects, it is stated that the final number of containers to be reached in 221 container cities will be 77 thousand when all works are completed. Also, the first permanent houses will be delivered in November/December.



Kirikhan / HATAY (Credit by Orhun Yüksel)

Kahramanmaras



Container City (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)

In Kahramanmaras, the epicenter of two significant earthquakes, 12,659 people died. In the region where 47 buildings collapsed, tents and container cities were first set up to shelter earthquake victims. 19,404 containers were prepared in the city center and 13,983 in rural areas.

While the relevant institutions and organisations are carrying out the works initiated for permanent shelter in the region, the construction of 82 thousand 104 houses and 30 thousand 310 homes of village type in rural areas is progressing rapidly.

Repairing public buildings in the city, whose entire infrastructure has been renewed, has also been completed. Currently, 62 thousand 409 disaster victims are sheltering in container cities established at 51 regional points.

Sanliurfa

Seventeen people lost their lives due to torrential rains in the region, which was also hit by floods after the earthquake. The region's increasing epidemics, scabies and infectious diseases continue to cause significant problems, especially for earthquake victims.

While the work to get the city back on its feet continues rapidly, the process has started for the completion of 3 thousand village houses in Sanliurfa. In Sanliurfa, the construction of TOKİ houses for disaster victims after the earthquake continues.

Malatya

Normalisation efforts continue in Malatya. In the region, where 1 out of every three buildings became unusable after the February 6 earthquakes, temporary container business centers were opened for tradesmen to contribute to economic recovery.

While aftershocks are felt in the region, demolition of heavily damaged buildings continues. There is a significant dust problem in the city. Although the municipal water is reported to be clean, residents are uneasy about using it due to the ongoing earthquakes and the turbidity of the municipal water.

According to current data in Malatya, 70,263 earthquake victims have been placed in 18,000 container cities located in 51 different locations. The construction of 14,338 permanent houses is currently underway in the region.



After the Debris Removed – Malatya Center (MALATYA)

North Syria

In addition to its 12-year crisis, Syria is recovering from an earthquake that killed thousands of people. Recent reports indicate that around 2.9 million people in the region were affected by the earthquake, and 302,500 people were forced to flee their homes. According to the latest data, 8,476 people in Syria and 4,276 Syrians in Türkiye died in the earthquake.

The earthquake reportedly caused 5.85 million dollars worth of damage to the Syrian economy. While the disaster was mainly effective in the northwestern regions of Syria, more than 170,000 people fled the area until the first week of March due to the earthquake.



Water Tank Project (Soran, KUZZEY SURİYE)

Most of those displaced by the earthquake have joined shelter camps, and new commands have been set up to accommodate large numbers of newly displaced people. Across Syria, the number of buildings fully or partially damaged by the earthquake reached 12,796, of which 2,691 were destroyed. Idlib was also the region with the highest number of damaged buildings, with 46.6 per cent of the buildings damaged in the earthquake. It was followed by the Aleppo countryside, where around 34 per cent of buildings were destroyed in the earthquake.

The already depleted health sector failed to meet the needs of the wounded in several areas. Dozens of health facilities were either entirely or partially destroyed. Education has also been negatively affected. As many schools as possible in the affected areas have been destroyed, damaged or turned into shelters for people affected by the earthquake.

The economic damage caused by the earthquake is estimated to account for around one-third of Syria's GDP in 2022, with financial losses being hefty in northwest Syria. Therefore, the earthquake exacerbated the disparity between the affected areas and the rest of Syria. Civil society organisations and initiatives, particularly in northwest Syria, have saved thousands of lives despite a severe lack of resources and equipment.

Both civil society organisations and civil initiatives have responded to the challenges exemplary, reflecting a culture of social solidarity and transcending the political, geographical and cultural polarisation exploited by authoritarian forces. This spirit of solidarity has been an essential factor in overcoming the social division that Syrians have experienced since the start of the war in the country.⁴

3. IBC in the Field



AFAD & IBC Temporary Living Area (Kirikhan, HATAY)

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation (IBC) continues its emergency response efforts and long-term support projects in the earthquake zone by signing the necessary protocols in cooperation with AFAD, Red Crescent, Municipalities, Governorships, Directorate of Migration Management and all relevant stakeholders with the priority of efficient use of resources.

IBC continues its operations in 6 regions in Türkiye, namely Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Kilis and Sanliurfa; in 5 camps in Al-Bab in Northwest Syria; and camps and villages in A'zaz, including the office established before the earthquake.

As the seventh month of the great catastrophe has passed, IBC continues its activities in the earthquake zones, having completed establishing four community centers, child-friendly areas and a mother-child care center, including the Adiyaman Community Center, which was inaugurated last month. IBC has also been approved by the Ministry of Family and Social Services for all operational support services to carry out activities related to psychosocial support for earthquake victims.

In the aftermath of the devastating earthquake, the vital needs of earthquake victims are becoming more apparent. In Gaziantep / Islahiye and Hatay / Kirikhan, as in many other areas where life stood, the need for access to hot meals and self-care facilities remains, especially in villages and container cities.

⁴ <https://scpr-syria.org/the-impact-of-the-earthquake-in-syria/>

IBC, which regularly conducts needs assessments in the earthquake zone, has completed the installation of mobile kitchens, mobile showers and toilets in many regions.

IBC serves over 2000 hot meals daily in the mobile kitchens established in the region. Especially for earthquake victims who do not have access to hot meals, hot meals are distributed regularly in the container cities in İslahiye, the Credit and Dormitories Institution, the Fevzipaşa campus, the construction sites of the camps and the center of Kirikhan.

Undoubtedly, children are among the most vulnerable groups affected by the earthquake. IBC provides clothing, health aids (including medicines and mobile services), hygiene materials, diapers and formula for newborns, children under three, and school-age children, prioritised in its humanitarian aid. The aim is to reach children of all ages and meet their needs while preventing possible secondary and tertiary health, hygiene and growth retardation risks. At the same time, the Baby Friendly Area established in Elbistan Müsiad Container City provides breastfeeding counselling and psychosocial support to mothers who have just given birth and organises activities that contribute to children's fine motor development.



AFAD & IBC Temporary Living Area (Kirikhan, HATAY)

Container houses in Hatay Kirikhan were provided by IBC partners Caritas, Conrad Hilton Foundation, JDC, King Baudouin Foundation, Corus International, IDRF Canada, Muslim Charity, World Jewish Relief and World Vision. Child-friendly and psychosocial activity areas continue their activities with the support of Good Neighbours International. With the help of Action Medeor, hot meals for 1000 people are distributed daily in Gaziantep /İslahiye.

As of August, we will continue to realise projects for protecting and developing the region's people with 170 container houses that we have placed in the Türkiye-Korea friendship city established in Hatay Serinyol.

In addition to all these, donors also provided drinking water support this month, which is the most critical need of the settlements in Hatay, Malatya, Adiyaman and Kahramanmaraş.

On behalf of hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries, IBC would like to thank all our partners for their support.

IBC extends its gratitude to all its partners for supporting hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries.

Adiyaman

IBC officially opened its Adiyaman Office and Community Center with the support of World Vision and GIZ. In the past months, more than 10,000 beneficiaries have been reached in Adiyaman. With the help of World Vision, we have also completed establishing a child-friendly space and a prefabricated building where awareness-raising activities on gender-based violence are carried out.



Child-Friendly Space opening ceremony and workshops with children support with World Vision (ADIYAMAN)



Workshops with children support with World Vision (ADIYAMAN)

Protection services for people affected by the earthquake, psychosocial support for children and adults, and grocery voucher distributions continue regularly in the region. We also conduct individual interviews with earthquake victims as part of protection and psychosocial support activities. In the past weeks, kitchen kits, baby care kits and diapers have also been distributed in the region.



IBC Community Center Tent opening ceremony support with GIZ (ADIYAMAN)



IBC Community Center Tent opening ceremony support with GIZ (ADIYAMAN)

Gaziantep

In Gaziantep, where we have been operating since the first days of the earthquake, we have offices and community centers in Nurdagi Aslanlı-3 Tent City, Nur-1 Tent City and İslahiye. In cooperation with local authorities, we provide psychosocial support, hot meals, in-kind aid and essential health services to approximately 2,000 people monthly. In addition, we continue to provide laundry support and hygiene kits to the region.



IBC Laundry (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

In İslahiye, our psychosocial support activities, child-friendly area activities, essential health-physical therapy services and hot meal distribution services continue fully. We have offices in Living Space-1 Container City, Syrian Container City and AHBAP Container City.

In addition, hot food service for 1250 people and breakfast service for 260 households are provided daily in the region. Since the first days of the earthquake, hot meal distributions have continued in container cities in İslahiye, in the credit dormitories institution, in the Fevzipaşa region and the construction sites of camp installation areas.

Child-friendly space practices in Nurdagi include sports, hand-skill development, free time, and creative drama activities. In addition to all these, food, hygiene, cleaning, clothing and underwear distributions continue regularly within the scope of in-kind aid.



Workshops for children at Child Caravan (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)



Workshops for children at Child Caravan (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)



Workshops for children at Child Caravan (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

In addition, psychosocial support activities, children's activities and in-kind distribution services continue with our expert teams in Belpınar, Mesthüyük, Gedikli, Çakmak, Kırışkal, Nogaylar, Yaylacık, Balıkalan, Emirler, Şatırhöyük Villages and Yeşilova hamlets of Nurdagi.

In İslahiye, a 3-room Study Center was opened in Yaşam Alan-1 container city with the support of NEAR. Here, training is organised for both adult and child groups with expert trainers. Handicraft activities for women and awareness sessions on disaster management will also be arranged here in the coming days.

We have also completed screening 1100 households in the region with physical therapy support within the scope of the IMC project.



Study Center in cooperation with NEAR (İslahiye, GAZIANTEP)



Study Center in cooperation with NEAR (İslahiye, GAZIANTEP)

Data in the Region

Nurdagi;

- Household Visits: 295
- Individual Interviews: 1799
- Child Friendly Space Activities: 9177 children
- Group Discussions: 156
- In-Kind Supports: 21551
- Hygiene Kit Distribution: 454 pieces
- Baby Hygiene Kit Distribution: 300 pieces
- Distribution of Feminine Hygiene Kits: 770 pieces
- Child Snack Kit Distribution: 900 Pieces
- Lice Spray Distribution: 550 pieces

Islahiye

- Household Visit: 1113
- Individual Interview: 1596
- Hot Food Service: 1250 people per day
- Breakfast Service: 260 households per week
- Child Friendly Space Activities: 3712
- Primary Health Care: Approximately 1182 people
- In-Kind Support 7904
- Kids Snack Kits: 150 pieces



Distributions with Good Neighbors support (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)



Distributions with Good Neighbors support (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

Hatay

Kirikhan

In Hatay, with the support of AFAD, life has started in Kirikhan Temporary Living Space, where those in need can access many services from shelter to food support, psychosocial support and protection measures, and those in need have settled in their containers with the coordination of AFAD.

Kirikhan Temporary Living Area was built with the contributions of Action Medeor, GIZ, IDRF, CORUS, Muslim Charity, WJR, JDC, World Vision, Good Neighbors, King Baudouin Foundation, Hungarian Church and Caritas on 34 acres of land with a layout that will expand from 400 houses to several hundred homes over 60 acres.



AFAD & IBC Temporary Living Area Beneficiaries (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Food Distribution support with Corus International (Kirikhan, HATAY)

The area has access to electricity, water and sanitation to accommodate an estimated 3,000 people. As of September, in AFAD & IBC Temporary Living Area, earthquake survivor families have been placed in 400 containers by AFAD, and 1347 people have been registered there. Also, the Health Center containers were installed and opened for use in August.

The child-friendly area, established with Good Neighbors' support, started its activities in August. Our beneficiaries in the child-friendly area start their day with sports activities while participating in documentary hour, chess hour, puzzle and chess activities. Actions have also started in a children's education and activity caravan that will be operational in the same area.



Workshops for Children at Child Caravan (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Workshops for Children at Child Caravan (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Workshops for Children at Child Caravan (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Workshops for Children at Child Caravan (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Zeynep, who lives in a temporary living space, receives a bicycle as a gift (Kirikhan, HATAY)



Drinking water is distributed with the support of donors (Kirikhan, HATAY)

According to the latest data:

- Breakfast and dinner for approximately 1400 people are distributed every week in the region.
- With the support of donors, 12 washing machines were put into service in the camp, and laundry detergent was provided for each container.

Serinyol

In the second week of August, we inaugurated the Türkiye-Korea Friendship City in Hatay's Serinyol district with the participation of Korean Ambassador Won Ik Lee, Hatay Deputy Governor Buğra Karadağ, Antakya District Governor Salih Gültekin, AFAD Foreign Relations Department Head Muhammed Maruf Yaman and Deputy President Muzaffer Baca.

We are providing support to the container city, which will shelter approximately 2000 people, with Save the Children, Good Neighbors, First Hope Association and KFHI under the coordination of AFAD and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

- 170 containers are placed in this area for earthquake victims.
- Distribution of basic need kits,
- Psychosocial support activities for women and awareness sessions on gender-based violence
- We will also develop employment projects to redevelop the region's people.



Türkiye- Korea Friendship City (Serinyol, HATAY)



Türkiye- Korea Friendship City (Serinyol, HATAY)

Kahramanmaras

In collaboration with the Japan International Support Program (JISP), we have established a Baby Friendly Space in Elbistan Müsiad Container Camp, where we continue to provide services to expectant and new mothers.

The nurses, psychologists and facilitators responsible for child development activities also visit our beneficiaries in the neighbouring container camps of Talas and Deik on certain days of the week.

Among the essential activities of our Baby Friendly Space project, a very innovative and special service, are breastfeeding counselling workshops and psychological support for expectant and new mothers.



Activities for Women in a Baby-Friendly Space support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)



Activities for Women in a Baby-Friendly Space support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)

In this context, with the breastfeeding counselling workshop, our nurses explain the importance of breast milk. These factors increase and decrease breast milk, expressing breast milk, breastfeeding techniques, problems experienced during breastfeeding, nutritional considerations during breastfeeding, and problems and solutions arising from improper breastfeeding. In addition to breastfeeding counselling, sensitivities such as newborn baby care, bathing, use of cotton clothes, room temperature and thrush formation are also shared by our expert nurses.

Expectant mothers and mothers affected by the earthquake also meet regularly with our psychologists to convey and share their feelings and receive the necessary psychological support. Mothers who socialise with meet-and-greet games relieve stress and are informed about the social and psychological help they can receive during the puerperium. They also benefit from distributing breastfeeding, hygiene and newborn kits prepared according to their feedback.



Activities for children in a Baby Friendly Space support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)

Our tent in the Müsiad Container Camp is also specially designed for babies to develop fine motor skills. The Baby Friendly Space is open for mother and baby beneficiaries every day of the week from 9-6 and continues to create new activities.



Activities for women at IBC Community Center Tent support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)



Activities for children at IBC Community Center Tent support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)

Since the beginning of September, over 1,000 participants have been reached through group psychosocial support activities, mother-baby counselling, group training, awareness sessions, social activities for children, and the distribution of child nutrition kits and hygiene kits.



Activities for children at IBC Community Center Tent support with JISP (Elbistan, KAHRAMANMARAS)

Kilis

Since 2011, IBC has been running social cohesion and child-friendly space activities at IBC Kilis Community Center, which has become an essential hub for the region. In addition, it now serves as the leading Center for IBC coordination, including cross-border projects.



Activities for children at IBC Community Center (KILIS)

Kilis Community Center collaborates with local governments, public institutions and other NGOs to provide effective and lasting solutions to the problems faced by earthquake victims.

The Center provides psychosocial support, protection, social cohesion, hand skills, school and homework support, information and counselling services, and orientation services. After the disaster, Kilis, which started to receive migration from different regions since the damage in the province was less than in other cities, has increased its sensitivity as it already hosts a large proportion of disadvantaged groups.



Activities for children at IBC Community Center (KILIS)

In this context, as IBC, emergency support, protection services, psychosocial support services, course services, social cohesion services and information services have been made more comprehensive in the ongoing projects.



Activities for children at IBC Community Center (KILIS)



Activities for women at IBC Community Center (KILIS)



Distribution of stationery and nutrition kits for children with Word Vision support (KILIS)

In this context, stationery kits were distributed to children with World Vision's support last week. We have also started a series of awareness-raising sessions to empower women. In the past few days, the Center also organised Introduction to Photography, International Children's Day with IOM, Technology Literacy, Cats Day, Skilful Hands Handicraft Workshop, and Science and Chess Workshop with a large group of participants.



Maharetli Eller Workshop (KILIS)



Activities for men at IBC Community Center (KILIS)

As of the first hours of the earthquake, the IBC Kilis Field Team started to carry out support activities and provided services to approximately 8,000 people within the scope of distributions, temporary shelter services, protection services, emergency support and regular support.

Sanliurfa

IBC conducts its activities in the region in cooperation with Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality and other NGOs. In recent weeks, psychosocial support services and child-friendly space activities have been ongoing within the scope of the GIZ and World Vision projects for those in need in the region. In addition, communication materials aimed at raising awareness are also presented to the beneficiaries, and psychosocial support activities are supported in this context.

In the past weeks in the region, 17 children received "Privacy Training", while 20 received "Privacy Training" at Siverek Youth Center. The "Overcoming Challenges" session was held. In Sulaymaniyah Youth Center, "Overcoming Challenges" sessions were also organised for 20 child participants.

In the past weeks, with World Vision's support, voucher distribution to support the monthly grocery shopping of 2,500 households in the region has been completed. With this project, families in need could reach their basic food, cleaning and clothing needs for three months without straining their budgets. The distribution of 40 nutrition kits was also completed recently.



Workshops for youth (Suruc / SANLIURFA)



Activities for children at IBC Community Center (SANLIURFA)



Activities for children at IBC Community Center (SANLIURFA)

In Sanliurfa, over 10,000 thousand beneficiaries have been reached through in-kind aid, psychosocial support, mental health support, social cohesion activities and individual interviews.

In Sanliurfa, IBC, with the support of the Metropolitan Municipality, has also provided battery-powered wheelchairs for beneficiaries with special needs to increase their freedom of movement and facilitate their daily lives.

North Syria

Following the 2023 Kahramanmaraş Earthquakes, we continue our support efforts in Northern Syria in line with our national policies and emergency humanitarian aid efforts in different provinces.

In the region, we are developing aid projects under different headings for communities exposed to the devastating effects of the earthquake and migration.



Health services support with Action Medeor (NORTH SYRIA)

IBC is the first and only Turkish NGO to support certain branches of inpatient hospitals in the region, especially in the health field, in addition to emergency humanitarian aid efforts in cooperation with Action Medeor.

This process, which we have determined as Phase 2, will continue until 31.12.2024 in the Euphrates Shield Region and will include physiotherapy and psychosocial support services in Azaz Watan Hospital, supported by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Türkiye.



Health services support with Action Medeor (NORTH SYRIA)

The IBC Syria team continues to visit tent camps in the region within the scope of the mobile clinic project (Qatar Village, Al Hadath Camp, Sosnbat Camp, Tadif Village and Tadif Camp). As of this week, 1835 patients have been supported in the camps visited by community health teams as part of the Mobile Clinic Project. In this context, 1181 patients received outpatient treatment, 359 at the Non-Communicable Diseases Clinic, and 285 at the Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinics.



Health services support with Action Medeor (NORTH SYRIA)



Health services support with MSF (AlBab / NORTH SYRIA)

In addition, work continues at the Dabiq Health Center. This week, 1796 patients were treated in Dabiq, and 44 were referred by IBC ambulances. In addition, 221 patients completed their treatment at the dental clinic. Within the scope of the newly launched physical therapy and psychological support project, screenings have started, and 294 patients have been reached with dialysis patient transfers and psychosocial support activities.

The Kahramanmaraş earthquakes shook northern Syria and Türkiye and caused extensive damage to northern Syria's homes, facilities and infrastructure.

As IBC, we took action to meet the needs of Soran, one of the most affected areas, in line with our needs analysis. We completed the construction of a new water tank with a capacity of 100 cubic meters in Soran, whose main water tank was destroyed, and put it into service. We are also restoring a 50 cubic meter capacity water tank damaged in the earthquake. After the restoration, we will provide water service to approximately 35,000 people in Soran.

The construction of a solar-powered system to fill both water tanks and distribute water to the city is nearing completion...



IBC Water Tank Project and solar-powered water pumping system (Soran, NORTH SYRIA)



IBC Water Tank Project (Soran, NORTH SYRIA)

Our project is one of the crucial steps towards a sustainable future; we aim to raise environmental awareness in an environmentally friendly manner with a solar-powered water pumping system.

Again, within the Access to Water and Sanitation (WASH) project scope, work has been completed for four toilet blocks and two shower areas for the İVA camp in Azaz.

The protocol preparation process for installing 21 toilet blocks for the Brotherhood Camp in the same region continues.

Coordination

Coordination is central to the humanitarian response for the earthquake regions. In this context, IBC has mobilised its total capacity in the region to cooperate and participate in daily and weekly meetings and 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 organised 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 in the newly implemented OCHA cluster system in Türkiye. To that end, IBC participated in several sectoral meetings this past week, including:

- ✚ Türkiye / UN OCHA - Food Security and Livelihoods Weekly Meeting
- ✚ Türkiye / UN OCHA - Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Meeting (WASH)
- ✚ Türkiye / UN OCHA - Shelter Meeting
- ✚ Cross-border Syria / UN OCHA - Food Security and Livelihoods Monthly Meeting
- ✚ Cross-border Syria / UN OCHA – HEALTH Monthly Meeting
- ✚ Cross-border Syria / UN OCHA – WASH Monthly Meeting
- ✚ NGO forum Monthly meeting
- ✚ UN women's gender working group
- ✚ Türkiye Localization Advocacy Group Monthly Meeting
- ✚ Disaster Platform Monthly Meeting

Through the cluster system and coordination mechanisms, effective humanitarian aid is provided and standardised in line with international standards, preventing duplication of aid and promoting humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, independence, and impartiality. The earthquake 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 apprised of the current situation regularly.

Last week, in addition to all these meetings, IBC participated in the congress titled "Hayatı Yeşertmek" and made a presentation on psychosocial support activities in the disaster area and projects implemented in the field of mental health in Hatay, one of the provinces where the devastating effects of the earthquake were felt the most.



"Hayatı Yeşertmek" Congress (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.



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Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria
INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)
September 15th, 2023, Situation Report 27

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 keep us in your minds.

For urgent information and to help, you can reach:

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