

# TÜRKİYE AND SYRIA 2023 EARTHQUAKES – RESPONSE UPDATE

24 MAY 2023



IOM Türkiye's Psychosocial Mobile Teams in Hatay are organizing activities for children affected by the earthquakes, including those with disabilities.

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**4 Million**

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



**26,397**

shelter-related items provided across Türkiye and Northwest Syria



**54%** of IOM emergency appeal funded

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The parliamentary and presidential elections held on 14 May in Türkiye resulted in a runoff, which is scheduled for 28 May. In preparation for the second round, the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency announced its plan to transport displaced earthquake survivors to participate in the voting process.

Meanwhile, the government continues working to relocate earthquake survivors to formal settlements. With rising temperatures, the tents in the earthquake-ravaged areas are becoming unsuitable for living during the summer. In addition to rising temperatures, the region faces an increased risk of insect and snake infestations, as well as inadequate water resources and washing facilities, posing a threat to public health. Access to clean water and proper hygiene remains insufficient, particularly affecting women and girls who are unable to meet their specific gender-related needs. Women in the affected region also face risks of gender-based violence and privacy violations.

During the recovery stage, one of the key priorities is to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Türkiye's Presidency for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises is offering reimbursed support of up to TL 75,000, with a grace period of 12 months to assist SMEs operating in the manufacturing sector within the earthquake zone, covering expenses such as maintenance, modifications, repairs, personnel, raw materials, and equipment.

In Northwest Syria, the United Nations and humanitarian partners continue to address the needs of affected populations. The authorization for additional two border-crossing points –

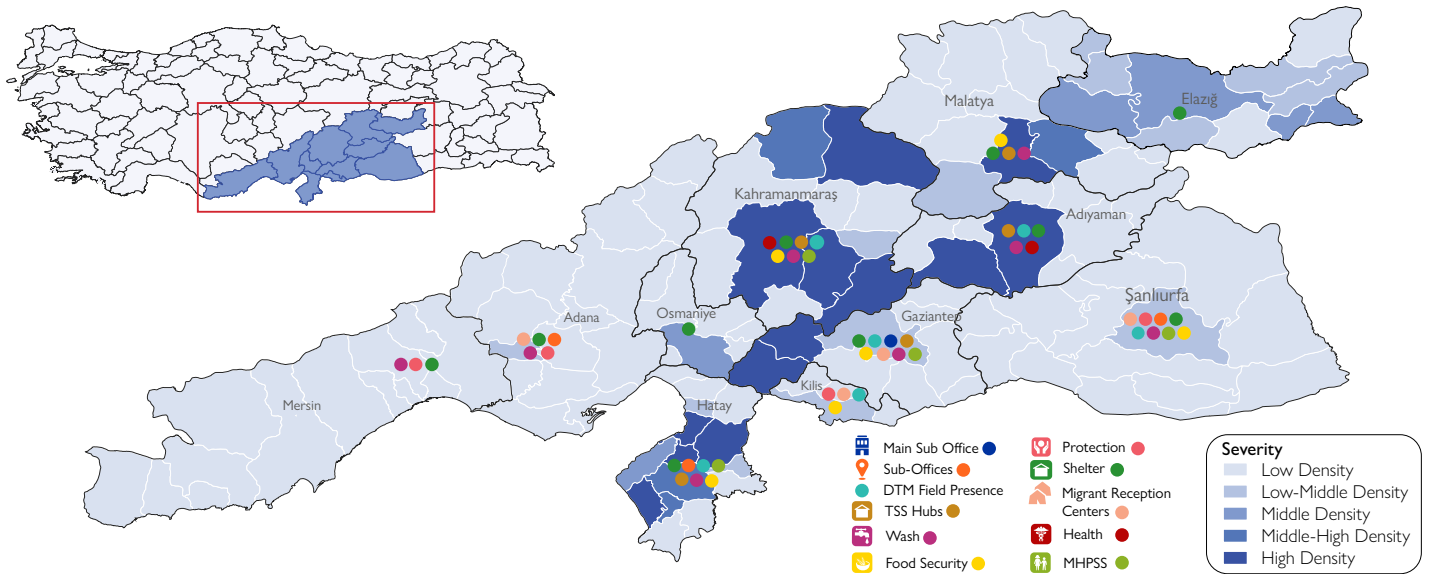
Bab Al Salam and Al Ra'ee – has been extended for another three months. This allows UN agencies to further scale up their assistance and conduct joint missions to assess the humanitarian needs firsthand. The public health situation in Northwest Syria requires increased support to enhance the operations of medical facilities, as the number of cholera cases continues to rise, with a total of 650 lab-confirmed cases. IOM will continue providing humanitarian support in various sectors, including shelter, non-food items, protection, cash and healthcare assistance.

## 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, communities in informal temporary settlements are supported to transition to formal sites in which multi-sectoral services are centralized.
4. IOM's early recovery, protection and health responses in Türkiye remain greatly underfunded.
5. [IOM's consolidated appeal for earthquake response, totalling USD 161 million](#), has reached 54% of its funding target. Specifically, the earthquake response in Türkiye has received 51% of the requested funding, while the response in Northwest Syria has reached 60% of the funding goal.

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

TÜRKİYE RESPONSE

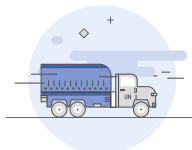


Additional food security, S-NFI and protection support for earthquake affected populations has been provided in Ankara, Aydın, Edirne, Izmir and Kayseri provinces, and is not shown in this map. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance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

**51%** of USD 110 million funding target reached



**1.4 Million**  
estimated individuals reached<sup>2</sup>



**1.1 Million**  
relief items dispatched



**9,926**  
shelter dispatched<sup>3</sup>



**290,036**  
Blankets



**264,029**  
Mattresses and Bedding sets



**91,804**  
Tarpaulins



**2,600**  
Fire Extinguishers



**58,310**  
Kitchen sets



**39,892**  
Hygiene Kits



**16,919**  
Heaters



**25,377**  
Pallets<sup>4</sup>

IOM Shelter teams have initiated a tender to procure 345 living containers for families affected by the earthquakes in Adiyaman, Hatay, Malatya, and Kahramanmaraş. Over the past two weeks, the affected families have received 1,000 sets of stationery and 1,140 pallets to improve their living conditions. In Adiyaman, 1,200 pallets were provided. Moreover, 30 containers have been delivered to Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) in Hatay to support those in need.

To ensure improved access to clean water and sanitation facilities, IOM teams are collaborating with the Malatya Water and Sewerage Directorate to plan WASH interventions and conduct rapid site pre-selection in the province. Similar activities for WASH interventions have taken place in Hatay. In six informal settlements in Antakya, a total of 36,100 litres of bottled water were distributed, along with 86 latrines and 53 mobile showers delivered in the past two weeks. In addition, IOM is conducting an assessment to identify affected small businesses eligible for the financial support.

As the need for psychosocial support is increasing, IOM's Psychosocial Support teams and IOM-supported Municipal Migrant and Community Centers have provided awareness-raising sessions, counselling, and socio-cultural activities to over 390 adults and almost 400 children in the past two weeks. The Temporary Settlement Support team has conducted site and neighbourhood profiling in Malatya, Hatay, Adiyaman, and Kahramanmaraş to identify key gaps and needs. Furthermore, 1,100 fire extinguishers have been distributed, and the distribution of 4,000 solar lamps and 1,000 streetlights has begun in the four areas.

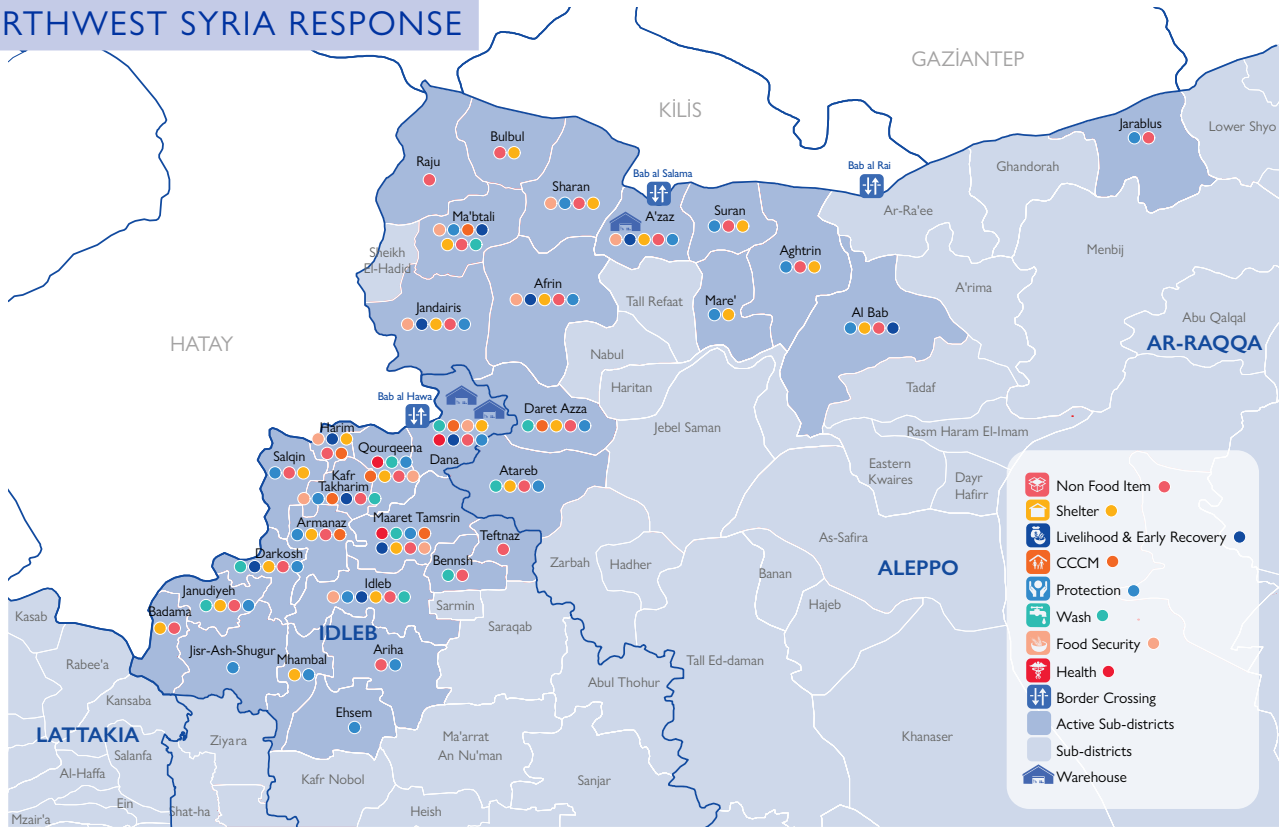
IOM has signed the memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Health to expand healthcare support in the earthquake-affected zones: at least nine mobile clinics will be operating in Şanlıurfa, Kahramanmaraş, Adiyaman, Malatya and Hatay. The procurement and donation of medical items to the Ministry of Health in Kahramanmaraş have been finalized. Additionally, IOM will support the Turkish Red Crescent with equipment to support public kitchens in the earthquake-hit zones.

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

<sup>3</sup>Tents: 9,287, RHU: 500, Shelter Container: 121, Rub Hall: 18

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

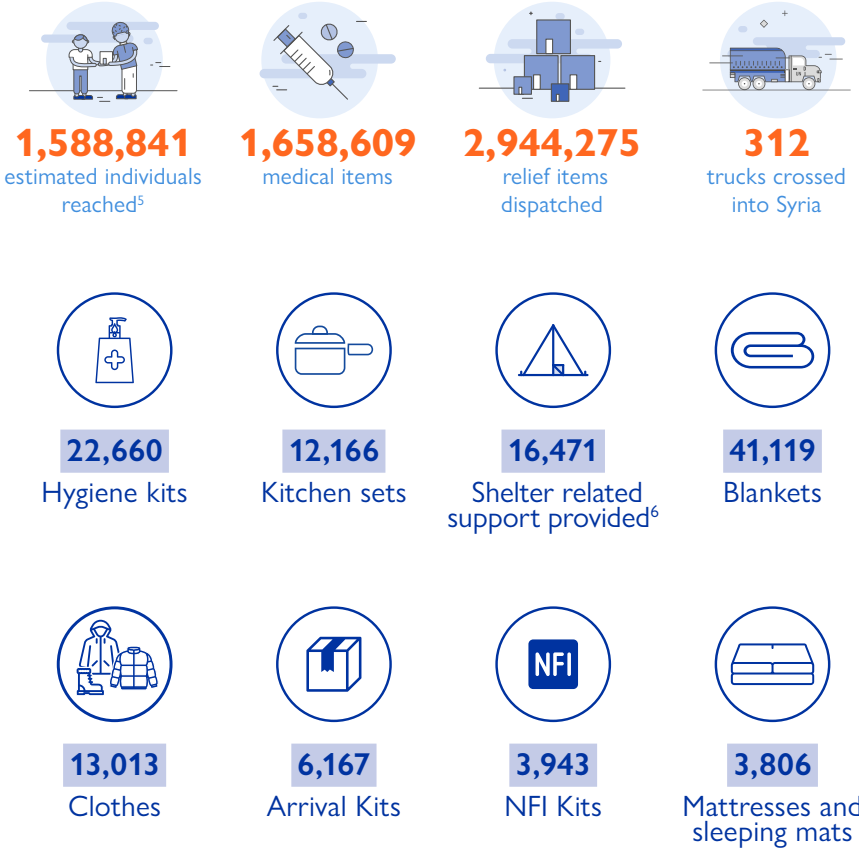
**NORTHWEST SYRIA RESPONSE**



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**60%** of USD 51 million funding target reached

IOM Türkiye's cross-border teams are making progress in providing dignified shelter and upgrading infrastructure and WASH services in nine camps in Idlib, with 40% completion. In total, 114 individuals are benefitting from cash for work interventions supporting the installation of dignified shelter units. Furthermore, the construction of 290 transitional dignified shelters has been completed, with 1,239 units still in progress. In just two weeks almost 2,700 individuals benefitted from healthcare service at an IOM-supported hospital. In addition to two operating mobile health clinics, IOM will support another one to reach more affected individuals. In total, 91 pallets of donated personal protective equipment and five respirators will be distributed among the partners. IOM is supporting management of internally displaced persons (IDP) camps and reception centres (RCs) for earthquake-affected families. Over the past two weeks, fire committees were established in 50 out of 56 sites. IOM continues its multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to ensure access to adequate food supplies. The distribution of MPCA has been completed in three districts in Aleppo Governorate. The cash for work activities are ongoing in Idlib and Aleppo Governorates. WASH activities continued in 45 informal camps, 11 planned camps, and 53 reception centres. Over the past two weeks 56,781.5m<sup>3</sup> of chlorinated water was distributed to earthquake-affected populations in IDP camps and different reception and collective centres; 1,510.79m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste was removed and transferred to the landfill and 8,111m<sup>3</sup> of the wastewater was de-slugged from existing cesspits and septic tanks. To mitigate public health risks, 115 hygiene promotion sessions were conducted. In total, 3,424 earthquake affected individuals benefitted from protection services over the last two weeks.



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

<sup>6</sup>6,263 tarpaulins, 3,257 comprehensive shelter kits, 567 emergency shelter toolkits, 6,219 tents and 165 tent accessories

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Thanks to support from IOM, Emel and her staff once again have a space to work as they continue to rebuild their business after the earthquakes.

### IOM SUPPORTS BUSINESS RECOVERY IN POST-EARTHQUAKE HATAY

Emel, owner of Türkiye’s largest cruelty-free silk production company and co-founder of the EcoDoku cooperative in Hatay, faced her biggest business challenge in the wake of the February earthquakes.

The disaster damaged approximately 90% of their tools and equipment, as well as silkworm habitat; only three out of 30 women employees could return to work.

“We can only rebuild and recover by producing”, says Emel.

With the cooperative transformed into a shelter for those in need, Emel and her team were left without workspace. Undeterred, they sought assistance from IOM. In response, IOM provided a container that now serves as their new working area.

[\(Read more at IOM Türkiye web\)](#)

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.

