

# TÜRKİYE AND NORTHWEST SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE AND RECOVERY 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT





#### FOREWORD

The February 2023 earthquakes that struck Türkiye and Northwest Syria were a tragedy. At IOM, we regretfully lost three of our own: Ahmed Kenan, Hedil Elahmed and Serkan Çalış. Many more of our staff and their loved ones were directly affected. Although the past year has been incredibly challenging, I am proud to have witnessed IOM teams nationwide demonstrate tremendous resilience and solidarity – responding swiftly from the onset through the generous contribution of IOM's donors and member states and guided by the Government of Türkiye's strong leadership.

Our response was anchored on the belief that migrants and displaced people should receive the support they need, and that they have a key role to play in the recovery process, working hand-in-hand with local communities. This principle guided our efforts across multiple sectors – supporting the management and maintenance of settlements, improving food security and health services, addressing protection risks, meeting shelter needs, enhancing access to water, sanitation and hygiene, and more. Our strong supply chain and logistics network, built through nearly a decade of humanitarian work across Türkiye's southeast, enabled us to immediately respond and deliver aid, including across the border into Northwest Syria. We expanded our presence in the affected region, including opening new field offices in Adiyaman and Malatya.

I invite you to read this report and learn about what IOM accomplished in 2023. More crucially, I hope you draw from this report an understanding of what IOM can continue to offer as we focus on supporting the long-term recovery of affected communities. We aim to leverage IOM's global expertise to promote effective labour management aimed at re-boosting the economy in key industries, through upskilling and labour skill matching for Turkish citizens and individuals under temporary protection. We have identified three key priorities:

- Addressing post-earthquake mobility and creating conditions for returns,
- · Leveraging mobility and emergency livelihood for economic recovery, and
- Increasing preparedness for future disasters.

We will continue to ensure maximum impact of our work through effective coordination, including through our leadership role in the UN's Earthquake Solutions and Mobility Analysis Team (ESMAT). We will work closely with partners to address challenges and identify opportunities of post-earthquake mobility trends. Our efforts will remain evidence-based, informed by rigorous data collection and analysis initiatives.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of Türkiye for enabling IOM to play a significant role in the response. We remain ready to work with you toward achieving the goals set forth in the new National Development Plan.

Finally, in paying tribute to our departed colleagues and tens of thousands who perished, I take this opportunity to re-emphasize IOM's vision: to deliver on the promise of migration, while supporting the world's most vulnerable.

**Gerard Karl Waite** Chief of Mission International Organization for Migration (IOM) Türkiye

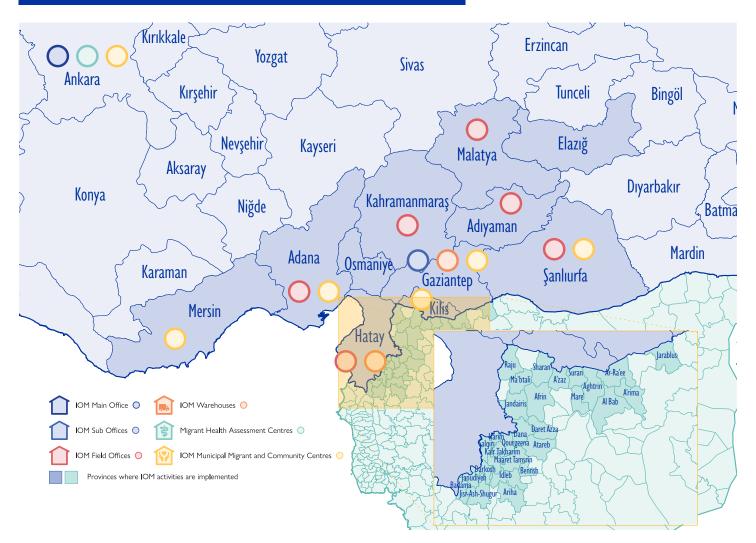


#### **INTRODUCTION**

On 6 February 2023, two earthquakes of magnitude 7.7 and 7.6 struck southern and central Türkiye and northern and western Syria – leading to a series of aftershocks and causing widespread damage and loss of life. IOM's initial estimates indicated that roughly 3 million people in Türkiye were forced to flee their homes at the onset, with hundreds of thousands moving into formal and informal settlements. In Northwest Syria, over 108,000\* were newly displaced by the end of March, adding to 2.8 million already internally displaced and magnifying humanitarian needs caused by the protracted conflict.

IOM launched an appeal of USD 161 million which was 72 per cent funded over the past year – with Türkiye receiving USD 57.6 million and Northwest Syria receiving USD 58.3 million. This support from the international community allowed IOM to be a leading first responder on the ground, leveraging its existing operational presence in the affected regions.

#### IOM'S PRESENCE IN THE AFFECTED REGIONS



\* Northwest Syria – Factsheet (as of 31 March 2023). United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

## 

IOM EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT - TÜRKİYE





# 39,000

individuals received cash assistance

IOM provided multipurpose one-off cash assistance to 6,189 earthquake-affected households or 39,012 individuals to support their access to basic needs. The cash assistance provided flexibility for the households to purchase essential items, such as food, clothing, shelter, and medicine, based on their individual needs. The package amount to be provided was closely coordinated with the Cash Working Group. Those targeted for assistance were the most vulnerable, taking into account the households' socio-economic status,



dependents to dependency ratio, shelter conditions, food consumption score, coping strategies, as well as health and protection-related vulnerabilities.



#### 4,650

individuals benefited from Early Recovery and livelihoods support

IOM supported affected families in their journey towards recovery and resilience, including by establishing financing mechanisms, providing cash assistance, and offering vocational/skills training to support employment.

- 52 skilled individuals in Adiyaman were supported with cash grants to enable them to establish or recover their micro and small businesses.
- 521 producers from earthquake-affected provinces benefited from value-chain matchmaking, while 30 received training related to tender readiness.



## IOM MIGRATION

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT - TURK

- In collaboration with the non-profit organization Field Ready, IOM supported 30 individuals with vocational training, leveraging innovative solutions and digital technologies from the Resilience Innovation Facility (RIF)\* to address early recovery needs.
- IOM supported or equipped four communitybased projects, three in Hatay and one in Kahramanmaraş, through infrastructure upgrade and equipment provision to enhance access to basic services. Around 4,000 individuals benefited from this support.
- IOM organized two hackathons, gathering young innovators to develop solutions to promote socioeconomic integration in communities.

In close cooperation with the Gaziantep Chamber of Industry, IOM conducted an Earthquake Impact Analysis in Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya. The analysis aimed to evaluate the impact of the earthquakes on production activities, particularly in the region's manufacturing industry, to inform recovery efforts.

\* Inspired by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Fab Lab model, the Resilience and Innovation Facility is a state-of-the-art facility in Gaziantep that empowers migrant and local youth by providing open access to tools and technology – fostering social cohesion, education and innovative problem-solving for young people to gain valuable skills, nurture creativity, and build livelihoods.



**100,000+** individuals received food support

IOM worked with partners to address immediate food-related needs.

- IOM swiftly provided food kits to 16,000 affected families in Aydin, Edirne, Gaziantep, Hatay, Istanbul, Izmir, Kahramanmaraş, Kirklareli, Malatya, Manisa and Şanlıurfa (including families who moved to provinces outside the affected region).
- In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and local authorities, IOM provided eight mobile kitchens in Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, and Şanlıurfa, each serving three meals a day to 1,000 individuals.
- · IOM supported public soup kitchens in Kilis,



Izmir and Sanliurfa by providing dry food items to affected those in need.

• IOM facilitated the establishment of a public kitchen in Kahramanmaraş by providing essential equipment and cooking tools.



26,800+ individuals received primary health care services

# 129,000+

individuals reached through MoH's mobile health services

Following the earthquakes that caused extensive damage to public health systems, IOM supported the Ministry of Health's (MoH) emergency response efforts through provision of essential, lifesaving health services in nine affected provinces.



- In coordination with implementing partners Dünya Doktorları Derneği (Doctors of the World) and Yeryüzü Doktorları Derneği (Doctors Worldwide), IOM reached 26,824 individuals, including 5,917 non-nationals, with primary health care services in Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya. Out of this, 22,808 received medical consultations, 3,274 women benefitted from sexual and reproductive health services, 10,582 were reached through awareness sessions and 742 mental health and psychosocial support sessions were held.
- IOM supported the Ministry of Health (MoH)'s

Protection

23,800+ individuals benefitted from protection services 17,600+ individuals received mental health and psychosocial support

IOM addressed immediate protection needs of affected individuals, improving their wellbeing and building coping strategies to support their recovery from the consequences of the earthquakes.

- IOM reached 17,646 individuals through MHPSS interventions, empowering and building the resilience of marginalized groups.
- Through its community-based protection activities, IOM reached 291 individuals through case management, referrals and information sessions on protection-related themes, and 3,366 individuals through its Municipal Migrant and Community Centres, increasing community engagement with affected communities.
- IOM provided emergency protection assistance to 1,280 individuals in need of safe accommodation and transportation, medical equipment and support to cover necessary medical expenses.
- 1,254 individuals were provided with specialized protection support through IOM's implementing partners.
- To ensure protection was centred throughout IOM's response, 172 staff, partners and stakeholders were trained on protection mainstreaming across different sectors. Furthermore, to reduce and

service delivery through donation and logistical support. 15 vehicles were rented for MoH's mobile health services in nine cities, providing services to 129,046 individuals. Over USD 225,000 worth of medicine, medical equipment and supplies were donated to MoH to support the establishment of primary health care services in facilities and through mobile health services.

• To enhance the capacities of frontline health workers, IOM trained 138 MoH staff and partners on priority health topics, including protection, gender-based violence prevention and risk mitigation mainstreaming in health.



mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) risks, IOM developed tools and conducted safety audits, increased consultations with women and girls on safety issues in sites and advocated with site authorities and sectors to address these concerns. All IOM earthquake response staff were trained on GBV incident disclosure dos and don'ts, safe and ethical referrals, and GBV risk mitigation in all site locations. Pocket guides were developed and contextualized to support field teams with onhand information to reduce GBV risks.

#### NFI Shelter and Non-Food Items

282,000+ individuals received shelter support 800,000+ individuals received non-food items

IOM played a vital role in meeting humanitarian needs by supplying essential shelter and non-food items.

- To address the urgent need for housing, IOM provided 1,106 accommodation containers (including 50 accessible containers for persons with disabilities), 500 relief housing units, 8,615 tents and rubb halls, equipped with basic necessities.
- IOM provided direct accommodation assistance to 589 individuals, ensuring safety, security and dignity. Accommodation was offered in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, trailers, short-term or vacation rentals, or in the form of rental subsidy up to one month.



- To enhance shelter safety against harsh weather conditions, IOM supported 10,625 individuals with shelter improvement kits.
- In collaboration with local authorities, IOM dispatched critical items such as non-food items (NFIs), hygiene kits, drinking water, core relief items and food kits – reaching over 800,000 individuals.



66,300+ individuals benefitted from mobile TSS activities

**3,600+** referrals made to other sectors

As lead of the TSS Sector, IOM works with partners to support site management and maintenance, as well as referral of affected people to receive basic services.

- TSS sector partners conducted mobile TSS activities in 4,244 informal sites, including awareness raising, information dissemination, site improvement and referral to other sectors – benefiting an estimated 16,673 households and 66,374 individuals.
- TSS sector partners conducted 3,607 individual and group level referrals for assistance through different sectors, including Cash, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter/NFI and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).
- TSS sector partners distributed 33,853 communal NFIs, such as fire extinguishers/safety kits, heaters, air-conditioners, snow kits, tool kits foldable ramps, and information boards, benefiting an estimated 164,523 households and 675,512 individuals residing in temporary settlements, mainly as part of the winterization support.
- As part of winterization support, IOM ensured weather-appropriate gathering spaces are available,



including constructing and/or equipping four outdoor shaded spaces and four multipurpose communal spaces.

- IOM improved access and mobility in a formal site in Hatay through a graveling project benefitting an estimated 206 households.
- On behalf of the TSS Sector, IOM organized two training sessions on camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) for 46 participants representing Sector Partners, with the aim of building technical capacities for an effective settlement response.

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### 500,000+ individuals benefitted from WASH services

Since the onset of the earthquakes, IOM has been collaborating with authorities to ensure access to clean water and sanitation facilities. This includes the provision of water supply, installation of communal and single units of toilets and showers, garbage containers and hygiene kits, baby kits, menstrual kits, incontinence kits, jerrycans and hygiene promotion activities. Interventions focused on the most affected provinces of Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya, with additional activities in Adana, Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa. In total, over 500,000 affected individuals benefitted from WASH support, which have been crucial to improving their well-being and decreasing public health risk in more than 30 settlements.



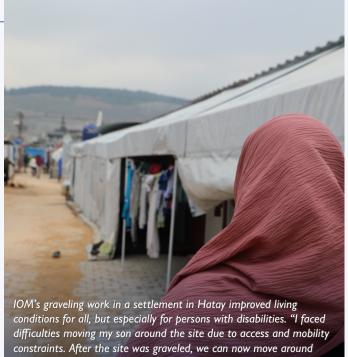
With limited water supply in their settlement, Layla and Omar had to walk a kilometre uphill every day – braving the dirt road with their small feet, barely covered with old plastic slippers. IOM's WASH interventions helped ensure that settlement residents had access to clean water and sanitation facilities. © IOM Türkiye 2023 | Emrah Özesen

#### **Cross-Cutting Priorities**

#### **Disability Inclusion**

To equip IOM staff with knowledge on inclusion, IOM developed seven guidance notes and documents on disability-inclusive programming. Moreover, regular awareness sessions were conducted to sensitize and raise awareness among staff on disability inclusion.

- IOM's shelter and WASH teams ensured that between 5 to 12 per cent of containers and latrines provided are accessible for persons with disabilities.
- IOM ensured that the inclusion of persons with disabilities is mainstreamed in protection services, such as case management and psychosocial support.
- IOM improved access and mobility in a formal site in Hatay through a graveling project.
- To ensure tailored and evidence-based interventions, IOM carried out a survey focusing on the needs and priorities of persons with disabilities in earthquake-affected provinces.



with greater ease, access the market and use the facilities," said Waafa.

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#### **Displacement Tracking Matrix**

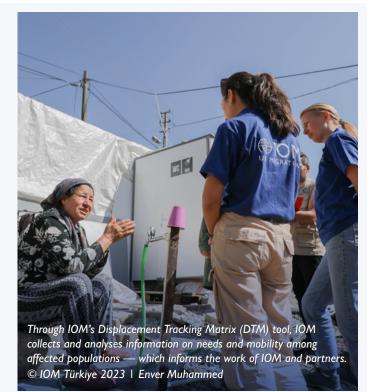
To inform response efforts and empower humanitarian partners to implement evidence-based, data-driven interventions, IOM conducted a broad range of assessments using its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool, in collaboration with local authorities and university partners. These include:

- Rapid Multisectoral Needs Assessment
- Displacement Overview
- Site Mapping and Assessment in 11 provinces
- Protection Needs Assessments of female-headed households, older persons and persons with disabilities
- Two rounds of Post-Earthquake Neighborhood and Site Mapping in Adıyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya
- Site Assessments in Adıyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Osmaniye and Malatya

#### Inter-Agency Coordination

IOM was designated as Co-Chair (together with the Resident Coordinator's Office and UN High Commissioner for Refugees) for the Area-Based Coordination set-up established in August 2023, following the departure of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). As Co-Chair, IOM supported engagement with local authorities, localization and resource mobilization, including through donor briefings. Within this framework, IOM hosts four hub coordinators in Adiyaman, Malatya, Hatay and Kahramanmaras.

- Within the ABC, IOM co-chairs the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Technical Working Group, together with the World Health Organization (WHO), in the four hubs (Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaras and Malatya). These groups provide thematic guidance and support to members and other sectors, aimed at effective coordination and reducing the risk of duplicating efforts.
- Within the ABC, IOM co-chairs the Ageing and Disability Inclusion Task Team (ADITT). Recognizing



the exclusion and vulnerabilities that persons with disabilities and older persons experience, ADITT acts as a resource for stakeholders to better mainstream the inclusion of persons with disabilities and older persons in programming. ADITT released seven guidance notes and reports focusing on different areas and sectors.

Moreover, following endorsement by the UN Country Team, IOM initiated the establishment of the Earthquake Solutions and Mobility Analysis Team (ESMAT), comprised of agency, sector and NGO representatives. The group's aim is to support evidence-based analysis on humanitarian and recovery priorities, including through IOM's DTM tool, agency and government data, situation overviews, and mapping of potential solution pathways. ESMAT produced four situation updates, four province-level profiles, informed inter-sectoral winterization priorities and developed a Solutions and Mobility Index through IOM's DTM tool. This index has been widely recognized as the primary source of analysis to inform response planning.



#### **Resettlement and Complementary Pathways**



1,280+ refugees supported with extended accommodation

In response to the earthquakes, several resettlement countries, including Canada, France, Germany, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, increased their intake of refugee resettlement cases, prioritized and expedited processing for refugees from affected areas, or allocated a quota when none had been foreseen.

- IOM worked closely with resettlement countries to provide long-term shelter during interview processing in Ankara and Istanbul, as well as prior to their departure to destination countries.
- In coordination with partners, IOM supported rapid visa and exit permit processing and expedited departure arrangements through commercial and charter flights.
- IOM further provided medical support and NFIs to those in need.

In total, nearly 5,000 refugees were resettled from affected areas, while 1,280 refugees were supported with extended accommodation.



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IOM EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE



In 2014, IOM Türkiye launched its Cross-Border Programme – with a focus on the procurement, storage, shipment and distribution of lifesaving humanitarian relief items into Northwest Syria. Since then, the programme has grown to include humanitarian activities in eight different sectors. This programme enabled IOM to swiftly respond to the earthquakes in Northwest Syria.



**98,000+** individuals benefitted from

individuals benefitted from camp care and maintenance 56 IDP sites and 5 reception centres received CCCM support

IOM provided comprehensive CCCM support in 56 informal internally displaced persons (IDP) sites and 5 reception centres in Idleb and Aleppo governorates. Activities aimed at promoting community participation and enhancing local governance structures through the establishment and training of several committees, including community, fire safety and first aid committees. The training sessions sought to equip local actors with the skills to secure the provision of services and mitigate the risk of fire-related hazards. Trainees were then tasked with improving living conditions, such as the installation of toilet blocks, maintenance and installation of sewage networks, maintenance and installation of water networks, road graveling and installation of solar lamp posts. Overall, IOM's CCCM work benefited over 98,000 individuals.



Following the earthquakes, camps had to take in more displaced families, placing additional strain on already limited resources. IOM supported the management of sites and reception centers to improve infrastructure and address basic needs. © IOM Türkiye 2023 \ Olga Borzenkova





96,500+ individuals benefitted from cash-for-food 28,600+ individuals received multipurpose cash

assistance

To address food insecurity, IOM implemented cashfor-food programmes, which offers individuals greater freedom of choice to purchase food supplies according to their needs:

- Five rounds of USD 65 were distributed per household, per month, to 21,886 individuals in 4,550 households.
- Three rounds of USD 75 were distributed per household, per month, to 48,522 individuals in 9,885 households across 57 camps.

IOM further implemented two cash-for-food programmes through the e-voucher modality. Registered and verified beneficiaries were provided with cards that were restricted to food and hygiene items, and each month IOM topped up the cards for each selected beneficiary to shop in selected and contracted vendors' shops:

• Eight rounds of USD 75 were distributed to 850 households, accounting for 4,092 individuals in eight camps.



• Six rounds of USD 75 were distributed to 1,737 households, accounting for 8,921 individuals in 11 camps as part of the e-voucher project. As part of cash-for-nutrition under the same project, to reduce malnutrition, six rounds of USD 25 were distributed to 889 households, accounting for 4,905 individuals. Beneficiaries of cash-for-nutrition were pregnant and lactating women and households with children under two.

Moreover, IOM provided emergency multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to 28,653 individuals in 5,406 households across 13 locations.

# Early Recovery and Livelihoods

2,600+ individuals benefitted from income-generating opportunities 200 individuals benefitted

from business grants

To drive post-disaster community recovery, IOM supported 2,652 individuals with short-term income opportunities through its cash-for-work programme, engaging in activities such as debris removal, cleaning, road rehabilitation and light rehabilitation of public facilities. IOM supported 200 individuals through business grants in Aleppo, facilitating the expansion or establishment of businesses and income generation in various sectors such as construction, electronics, food and textile. Additionally, 130 individuals in Idleb underwent business development training, enhancing their capacity to effectively manage agriculture business operations.



Fatima is one of over 2,600 displaced people in Northwest Syria who benefited from IOM's cash-for-work programme, helping communities recover by offering temporary income and involving them in the rehabilitation process. "I was very happy when they asked me to come and sign the contract, because it would allow me to have an income, even if temporary, and learn agricultural skills." © IOM Türkiye 2023





116,500+ individuals received health **12 million+** medical items delivered

IOM offered a wide range of health services, benefiting 116,599 individuals through mobile teams and support to primary and advanced secondary healthcare facilities.

- 29,593 individuals were supported through secondary health services, such as cardiac catheterization, dialysis sessions, oncology services and surgeries for both adults and paediatric patients.
- 14,004 women received sexual and reproductive health services.
- 34,410 individuals accessed community health services.

Additionally, IOM received, trans-shipped and distributed over 12 million medical items, donated inkind by a variety of public and private donors.



"We cannot live without dialysis." Ahmad is one of hundreds of patients who benefitted from 5,400 dialysis kits sent by IOM to nine hospitals in Northwest Syria – helping ensure access to lifesaving treatment. © IOM Türkiye 2023



964 trucks crossed into Northwest Syria

Leveraging its strong humanitarian logistics network in the affected region, IOM dispatched 964 trucks from Türkiye into Northwest Syria through three border crossings: Bab-Al Hawa (503), Bab-Al Salam (434) and Al-Ra'ee (27). Trucks carried essential relief items, including non-food items, tents, temporary shelter units and medical items. A total of 192 out of the 964 trucks carried in-kind donation items.





62,600+ individuals benefitted from protection services

22,400+ individuals received mental health and psychosocial support

IOM reached a total of 62,624 individuals through protection activities, including 22,243 most-at-risk individuals, through mental health and psychosocial support activities.

- IOM continued providing individual protection assistance, gender-based violence and child protection case management, legal counselling and referrals to specialized and non-specialized services through mobile teams, static community centres and child-friendly spaces.
- 1,496 psychosocial support kits were distributed to children who attended structured PSS sessions, in addition to targeting caregivers through structured parenting skills sessions. This strengthened the



overall well-being of children and caretakers and helped mitigate the adverse effects of stress and negative emotions caused by conflict and the earthquakes.

#### NFI Shelter and Non-Food Items



560,000+ individuals received shelter and non-food items

IOM procured, shipped and prepositioned over 3.5 million shelter and non-food items in its warehouses in Türkiye and Syria. 98,000 items were subsequently distributed through selected Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)\* partners, in coordination with the Shelter/NFI Cluster, reaching 358,342 individuals in over 72,000 households across 452 camps.

- 15,890 households received winterization NFIs.
- 12,835 households received shelter repair kits.
- 3,257 households received comprehensive shelter kits.
- 5,359 households received tents.
- 12,326 households received NFI kits.
- 7,717 households received new arrival kits.
- 21,745 households received comprehensive or consumable hygiene kits.
- 10,247 households received kitchen sets.
- 965 households received winter clothing kits.



IOM further received some 160,000 different nonfood items and kits through in-kind donations from various international donors. These included shelter items such as shelter kits, tarpaulins and tents; NFIs, including mattresses, kitchen sets, sleeping bags, blankets and winter clothing kits; and other items such as generators, solar lamps and heaters. These items benefitted approximately 200,000 individuals or 40,000 households.

\* The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) is IOM's flagship instrument for delivering emergency shelter and non-food assistance to displaced populations in Northwest Syria. It is designed as a first line response to any onset emergency – conflict-related displacements, flooding, wind and fire incidents, and emergency winterization needs – and to fill the gaps in the overall cluster response.

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IOM EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

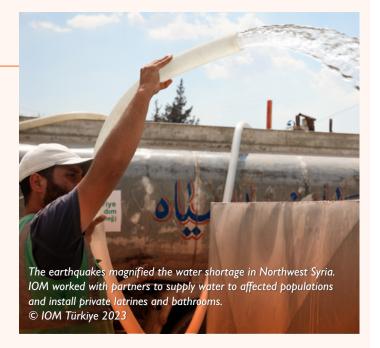
# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### **369,000+** individuals benefitted from

WASH services

IOM, in collaboration with four implementing partners, successfully delivered WASH infrastructure and services to 324,045 individuals in 64,510 households across 127 locations (55 informal camps, 11 planned camps and 53 transit/reception/collective centres and 8 healthcare facilities). This aimed to ensure access to safe water and sanitation facilities.

- 990,193.6 m<sup>3</sup> of chlorinated water was provided.
- 39,344.41 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste was successfully removed and transferred to the landfill.
- 149,537.78 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater was managed appropriately from existing latrine sludge containments.
- 15,436 hygiene kits were distributed.
- 10 camps received infrastructure support, including sewage networks, holding tanks and septic tanks.
- Three big-scale elevated water tanks with 600 m<sup>3</sup> capacity were constructed to provide piped water to 74,500 individuals daily.
- A centralized improved medical waste management



facility was constructed, treating 165,000 beneficiaries' waste monthly.

• 8 primary healthcare facilities were provided with WASH infrastructure and supplies.

In addition, IOM received over 10,000 WASH items and kits through in-kind donations from various international donors. 45,000 individuals in 8,600 households benefitted from these items, which included hygiene kits and feminine hygiene products, various toiletry items, buckets, jerrycans and water tanks.

