

Location of disaster	Kahramanmaraş, Adıyaman, Kilis, Osmaniye, Gaziantep, Malatya, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana and Hatay	Date	09.02.2023
Prepared by	Support to Life (STL) Türkiye		

1. Situation overview:

A devastating earthquake of 7.8 on the Richter scale hit Southern Turkey in the early hours of 6 February (4.17 a.m.), with epicentre in the Pazarçık district of Kahramanmaraş province. The earthquake affected the neighbouring provinces of Adıyaman, Kilis, Osmaniye, Gaziantep, Malatya, as well as Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana and Hatay, where around 13.5 million people reside including around 2 million Syrian refugees. According to WHO, the affected regions in Turkey and Syria are home to around 23 million people including 1.4 million children.¹ Many aftershocks followed the earthquake and a second major earthquake hit the region after 9 hours with 7.5 magnitude causing serious further damage and destruction of damaged buildings.



According to the latest official statements² from Türkiye, 17,134 people lost their lives and 70,347 people have been wounded. There are 11,302 reports of collapsed buildings, of which 6,444 have been confirmed. In Syria, already wrecked by more than 11 years of war, it is reported that more than 3,162 people have been killed. The death toll is expected to rise as rescue workers and residents have been searching frantically for survivors under the rubble of crushed buildings. Due to the risk of further damage as a result of aftershocks, people are

¹ <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/who-says-syria-already-crisis-needs-massive-humanitarian-aid-after-quake-2023-02-07/>

² <https://www.birgun.net/haber/canli-deprem-felaketinde-4-uncu-gun-can-kaybi-16-bin-170-e-yukseldi-420704>

not able to go into their houses, therefore staying outdoors in the cold and rainy weather. As of noon time on 9 February, a total of 30,360 people had been evacuated from the disaster area.

Hatay is one of the most severely affected provinces in Türkiye according to the latest updates, with multiple major buildings collapsed including Antakya and İskenderun public hospitals, AFAD premises (Directorate of Disaster and Emergency Management Agency) and Gendarmerie Headquarters. The airport runway is damaged, causing problems for airplanes to land. At the end of the fourth day, rescue teams are preparing to leave the area. Earthquake response and coordination is still limited in Hatay, where people are in urgent need of life saving assistance.

Support to Life (STL) has operated in the affected provinces of Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana and Hatay provinces since 2013, providing protection and livelihood support to refugees and host community members. Being provinces heavily populated by Syrian refugees, STL has been running community centres in these provinces, including one in the Narlıca neighbourhood of the Antakya district of Hatay.

2. Population data (Turkey):

	Total	Source of information
Number of people affected	13.5 M	AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency)
Number of dead	17,134	AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency)
Number of injured	70,347	AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency)

3. Humanitarian needs, response, and gaps by sector:

1. DİYARBAKIR

On 08.02.2023, STL Diyarbakır and Batman teams held a meeting with the Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce and Industry. STL teams divided up into groups to assess the needs in the temporary accommodation areas in the central 4 districts of Diyarbakır where earthquake survivors reside. Areas visited are Sümerbank and Koşuyolu tent areas, Yenişehir District (Sümer Park Tent Area, Demirok Wedding Hall, Mir Yıldız Wedding Hall, Regional Directorate of Meteorology, Youth Centre) and Sur District (İskenderpaşa Primary School, Hz. Süleyman Mosque, İsmetpaşa School).

1.1 Shelter and NFIs

Major shelter and NFI needs identified in the areas visited are winterised tents, waterproof ground mats, blankets, heaters, mats, beds, pillows and winter clothing. In some settlements such as Sümerbank and Koşuyolu tent areas, tents are set up on soil and mud with no protective materials underneath. In the train station of Yenişehir, 7 wagons reopened to the public for accommodating 350 people. No circulation of people is observed. Some wedding halls such as Demirok Wedding Hall and Mir Yıldız Wedding Hall are used for accommodating affected families. Need for blankets have been identified in these places. Similarly, premises of Regional Directorate of Meteorology is accommodating affected families. In Sur District, two schools and

a mosque have been turned into a temporary shelter for hundreds of affected people. Blankets are also needed in these reception and accommodation centers.

1.2 Food Security

Baby formula is a need in all the areas visited, since number of babies and children is high. Furthermore, insufficiency of food has been reported in some areas visited.

1.3 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs identified are hygiene materials for women and children and diapers. At the train station of Yenişehir, STL team observed the need for drinking water, hygiene kits and blankets. Subsequently, 1,000 bottles of drinking water were delivered by STL.

2. ŞANLIURFA

According to the official statement of the Minister of Health issued on 8 February, 15 buildings collapsed in various districts and neighbourhoods of Şanlıurfa. The most affected districts are Haliliye, Eyyübiye, Birecik, and Karaköprü, where 127 lives were lost and over 2,000 people were injured.

It was reported by the officials that there are two locations with collapsed buildings in Şanlıurfa with around 400 individuals under debris. The most heavily affected locations are Yenişehir Neighbourhood in Haliliye District and Devteşti Neighbourhood in Eyyubiye District.

2.1 Shelter and NFIs

After the earthquake, the Provincial Directorate of Migration Management set up tents at Temporary Accommodation Centres in several locations in the central districts of Şanlıurfa. According to the information obtained from AFAD and local authorities, locations that are used for temporary accommodation are Karaköprü Picnic Area, Piazza-Nearby Museum, Şanlıurfa Fair Ground, condolence houses in villages, Veysel Karani Neighbourhood, Market places, Sırrın tent area, Mosques and Youth Centres.

Major needs identified are tents, blankets, baby formula, diapers in every size, adult diapers, electric and catalytic heaters, winter clothes, flashlight, firewood, mats, sleeping bag, sanitary pad, gloves, winter coats and power banks.

2.2 Food Security

Food distribution has been started according to the information received from the Provincial Security and Emergency Coordination Centre (GAMER).

2.3 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Access to clean water and hygiene materials is limited. Bottled water is used to meet the need for drinking water.

2.4 Health

Hospital capacities in Şanlıurfa are adequate. There is an observed need for psychosocial support in both the medium and long term.

2.5 Protection

Individuals who reach out to STL or other institutions are referred to relevant government and local administrative services via phone calls.

3. HATAY

The centre of Antakya is still inaccessible, which makes delivery of relief goods impossible despite the fact that trucks carrying aid items have started arriving into the city. STL teams observe trucks driving through streets and handing out goods to those in need. ExpoHatay is partly used as a warehouse, but it's not functioning as intended and security is far from ideal.

3.1. Shelter and NFIs

Shelter and insulation are the most prominent problems. Moreover, STL observed that there are significant number of people who do not have tents, sleep under tarpaulins and burn fires for warmth and insulation from the cold. There is a tent camp in Dostluk Park. AFAD has established a camp with 680 tents at Hatay's New Stadium, which is also the site of STL's mobile latrine set-up. The majority of the camp population is composed of refugees. There's also a major fuel shortage in the province.

3.2 Food Security and WASH

Despite the absence of a coordinating body since the earthquake, there is now presence of public authorities on the ground in the areas visited. Bottled water, hygiene materials and food items are distributed in multiple locations.

4. ADANA

4.1. Shelter and NFI

According to the information obtained from the Crisis Desk, 6,000 earthquake survivors are accommodated in TUYAP building. Many spend the night in their vehicles or in emergency centres.

During field visits, STL observed that the assistance was not organized. Too many blankets had arrived in certain areas which could have been delivered elsewhere to other parts of the disaster area more in need.

4.2 Food Security

Many affected people are able to access food in the AFAD tent. STL team observed that food distributions exceed the actual need in the province, and assistance to other locations should be prioritized.

4.3 WASH

There have been no cuts or shortage in Adana's water supply and distribution system. AFAD and municipality teams provide bottled water as needed.

4.4 Health

Injured individuals who were rescued from the rubbles are referred to hospitals. Transfer patients from Hatay were expected. PSS activities were launched by Metropolitan Women and Family Services on the third day following the earthquake. STL psychologists have started to support these services.

4. STL's emergency response:

Ongoing – (Shelter) Tent Set-up and Winterization (Hatay)

With funding from Save the Children, STL has rapidly launched a project to assist 50 affected families (approx. 200 persons) in Hatay province who have been heavily affected by the earthquake and lost their homes. A rapid needs assessment in Hatay is being carried out. STL teams are deployed on the ground, and are keeping close coordination with local authorities.

50 winterised family-size tents left Ankara for Hatay late on 8 February to provide temporary safe shelter to families. Delivery of additional NFIs for basic needs and winter needs is planned, including heaters (including fuel to last for a minimum of 2 weeks), utilities/small equipment, mattresses, and blankets, which will accompany the setup of tents.

200 direct beneficiaries



Tent set-up

Completed – (WASH) Mobile Latrines and Hygiene (Hatay)

100 portable latrines, fully equipped and managed by designated staff for upkeep and maintenance were rented, delivered and set up at Hatay's New Stadium on February 8. Hygiene kits are procured and shipped to Hatay. Additionally, 2 sets of 4 hand washing basin platforms are being procured and will be set up on 10 February.

2,000 direct beneficiaries



Hygiene kits



Portable latrines

Completed – (Food Aid) Ready-made Meals (Hatay)

Ready-made meals were delivered to 1,600 people accompanied with 2,400 water bottles to those accommodated in sports halls and school buildings used as temporary accommodation centers.

In-progress – (WASH) Water Tanks (Hatay)

STL will install 5,000-litre water tanks in 12 points of Antakya for the provision of safe water for 15 days to approximately 20,000 beneficiaries. A water truck will accompany the set-up and refill the tanks periodically. Given the urgency of the need in the province, STL started the shipping of the water tanks on 9 February by pre-financing and will pool funds from multiple funders.

Approx. 20,000 direct beneficiaries



Water tanks

In-progress (Food Security) Food Distribution (Sanliurfa)

Harran University communicated that they plan to provide 1,000 earthquake survivors with 2 meals a day by their kitchen staff and distribute 10,000 hot meals in coordination with Adiyaman University staff and students. STL procured food items and ingredients on 9 February and will deliver them to the university within the next couple of days. The delivery of food is planned to start on 11 February and will continue for the following 5 days with the possibility of extension.

1,000 direct beneficiaries

Planned – (Basic Needs) Support to Refugee Babies and their Families (Diyarbakır)

STL will provide relief goods to meet the basic needs of the most vulnerable refugee families such as baby formula, diapers and blankets. The action will primarily target refugee families with children in the Refugee Centres in Diyarbakır but also all other affected people.

200 direct beneficiaries

Planned – (Basic Needs) Refugee Families in Narlıca (Hatay)

STL has identified refugee families taking shelter in Zeytindalı Primary School in the Narlıca district, who are in need of tents, food items, drinking water, blankets and winter clothing for children. As soon as STL gets a clearer picture of the situation on the field, items urgently needed will be budgeted and procured.

200 direct beneficiaries

5. Coordination:

The Turkish government declared a "level 4 alarm" that calls for international assistance for this disaster. AFAD (Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency) and Provincial Governments are in charge of the response at the local level as well as metropolitan municipalities sending expert teams to the affected areas.

A total of 24,727 search and rescue personnel work in the region, including 5,709 rescue personnel from abroad. Together with the number of field personnel assigned from the public sector, the total number of personnel working in the region is 113,201.

A total of 5,557 vehicles, including excavators, tractors, cranes, dozers, trucks, water trucks, trailers, graders, and vacuum trucks were transferred to the region. STL is in coordination with NGO partners in the Disaster Platform as well as the Provincial Directorates of AFAD in the provinces. Together with teams from Adana and Mersin, STL has been operational with two additional teams from Istanbul.

STL teams on the ground continue to observe and analyse efforts in coordination with AFAD, Provincial Health Directorate, Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services, Social Service Centres, Municipality, Governorate, and Provincial Immigration Administration. However, a systematic coordination mechanism has still to be established.

Distribution of aid without the knowledge of AFAD is not permitted. Therefore, relief items are taken into inventory at the AFAD warehouses. Due to the lack of a provincial coordination mechanism, daily meetings are held at the Security and Emergency Situations Coordination Centres (GAMER), which were established under the chairmanship of the appointed Ministers and Governors in the 10 provinces where the earthquake took place. In GAMER-led coordination, NGOs are not included without the reference of AFAD, District Governorates, and Municipalities.

1. DİYARBAKIR

A meeting was held with the Governorship Provincial Civil Society Relations Manager on coordination. In the meeting with the director, it was stated that there is no coordination of NGOs in the province and relief goods should be coordinated with AFAD.

2. ŞANLIURFA

In Şanlıurfa AFAD has an available warehouse, where material flow is under the responsibility of the deputy governor and relief goods are transferred to districts via district governorates. Based on the information obtained from Provincial Security and Emergency Coordination Centre (GAMER), a crisis desk has not yet been established, but NGOs can operate on the ground and STL can be contacted by GAMER in case of need. The emergency response efforts are coordinated rather through exchanging information on specific needs with the institutions with whom relations were built long before the disaster.

STL is also in close contact with other governmental entities and NGOs in the province, including Health and Support Centre for Migrant Women and Youth, Şanlıurfa Bar Association, Centre of Migration and Refuge, ŞÖNİM, Provincial Directorate of Migration Management, Viranşehir District Health Directorate, Akçakale Social Support Centre, Viranşehir Social Support Centre, IOM, CARE International, MAYA Foundation, GOAL and CONCERN.

3. HATAY

STL's team in the field is in close contact with the Altınözü Municipality and works towards improving coordination.

4. ADANA

AFAD Crisis Desk was established under coordination of Adana Governorship and operates in collaboration with the municipality. STL met the Crisis Desk regarding the needs and joined their Whatsapp group for coordination.

6. Safety and security:

Major aftershocks continue to affect the areas. Due to collapsed buildings and heavy debris in heavily affected areas, roads are blocked. Transportation is a major challenge, particularly in Hatay.

7. Other:

School holiday was extended for another week until 20 February. Universities will remain closed until further notice by the Higher Education Institution (YÖK).

It was announced that the road permit requirement for refugees in the 10 provinces affected by the earthquake has been abolished and a 90-day road permit will be issued to them by the provincial directorates of migration administration in the provinces they go to, with the exception of Istanbul.

8. Contact information:

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