Kahramanmaraş Earthquake

SITUATION REPORT II

22.02.2023
Over 58 million nutrition services have been distributed
OVERVIEW

On 6 February 2023, two devastating earthquakes, measuring 7.7 and 7.6 magnitudes on the Richter Scale, struck Pazarcık and Elbistan in Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye. Devastating impacts have been felt across the ten provinces in which a state of emergency has been declared Adıyaman, Gaziantep, Kilis, Hatay, Malatya, Diyarbakır, Adana, Osmaniye, Kahramanmaraş and Şanlıurfa, Elazığ, with Hatay, Kahramanmaras and Gaziantep reportedly hardest hit. These earthquakes are the largest to hit Türkiye in the last century and the most significant to strike the country’s south-east region in hundreds of years.

The earthquakes and aftershocks have caused catastrophic devastation, almost 14 million people are affected; 9.1 million people have been directly impacted. By 21 February, more than 41,000 people in Türkiye had lost their lives, and tens of thousands were injured, according to Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD).

242,392 personnel and a total of 14,740 search and rescue workers are still working on the ground from Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, Gendarmerie Special Public Security Command, Ministry of National Defense, National Medical Rescue Teams, Ministry of Health Ambulance teams, Fire Departments of Municipalities, Ministry of National Education, Non-Governmental Organisations, Volunteers, Security Units, Local Support Teams and international teams. 13,700 vehicles are in the affected area; excavators, tractors, cranes, dozers, trucks, water trucks, trailers, graders, vacuum trucks, and construction machinery, along with 38 ships commissioned. An air bridge was also established to transport personnel and materials to the region. A total of 11,907 sorties were carried out with 116 helicopters and 72 planes affiliated with the Air Force, Land Forces, Navy, Coast Guard Command, Gendarmerie General Command, General Directorate of Security, Ministry of Health and General Directorate of Forestry.

The earthquake has impacted critical infrastructure, damaging most regional airports, although service for all airports was restored quickly after the earthquakes. Given the devastating scale of the disaster, the relief and recovery efforts are being planned on a large scale and require significant funding to address the necessities of the affected population.
The number of people planned to be sheltered in tents, containers and camps: 1.2 Million+

The number of people residing in the affected area: 1,606,000

The number of people that have been evacuated: 3 Million+

The number of tents: 220,000

The number of people planned to be accommodated in dormitories and guesthouses: 700,000+

The number of planned tents: 418,000

The number of planned containers: 200,000
TÜRKİYE DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN (TAMP)

Türkiye is often exposed to natural hazards, such as earthquakes, landslides, floods and avalanches on a significant frequency. Thus, the country ranks 45 out of 191 countries with an index of 5.0 according to the Global Risk, categorizing itself in the “high risk” criteria among the countries.

TAMP aims to increase the efficiency and quality of the response and coordinate strategic planning against all types of disasters that may occur in Türkiye. The plan was launched in 2015 by AFAD. This plan ensures that operational risks are minimized during disasters through its integrated planning approach and modular structure, which coordinates public institutions, the private sector, non-governmental assembly and persons at the time of responding to disasters and emergencies. These institutions are included in classified service groups and coordination units where the basic principles of the institutions are determined along with the roles, duties and responsibilities. Accordingly, there are 28 service groups created according to the nature of the services carried out in the intervention.
As a part of the TAMP, Türk Kızılay is the main responsible for the National Nutrition Service Group as well as a member of 8 other service groups; Communication, Health, Transportation, Sheltering, Psychosocial Assistance, In-kind Assistance Storage Management and Distribution, International Support and Relations, National and International Cash Donation.

**National Nutrition**

Türk Kızılay is the head of the National Nutrition Service Group that provides and coordinates the nutrition activities in the centre and field during any disaster by establishing necessary nutrition facilities for the disaster victims based on food distribution standards. More than 5,000 Türk Kızılay staff and volunteers have been working around the clock since day one, with over 870 vehicles - most of which are mobile kitchens and distribution vehicles, providing over 3,800,000 nutrition support on a daily basis. So far, the Türk Kızılay has provided almost 55 Million hot meals and breakfasts.

A handbook on Türk Kızılay Nutrition Services During the Disasters was prepared and released to regulate nutritional preparedness and maintenance. In the manual, Türk Kızılay divides the period times into two groups: The Early Period (first 72 hours) and the Long-term Period (after 72 hours). In the critical hours following the disaster and emergency, hot nutrition services (soup, tea, high-energy nutrients, etc.) and ready-to-eat foods are highly preferred due to quick processing time and easy supply. Türk Kızılay’s mobile bakery oven, mobile kitchens and mobile catering vehicles are immediately deployed to provide food to the affected population through quick and timely service.

Within the scope of Türk Kızılay’s emergency response planning, the continuation of the distribution of food baskets and hot meals is the prioritised area. The distribution of hot meals which is over 4,000,000 on a daily basis affecting 11 Provinces rias ongoing apart from those provided through mobile units, there are two priorities to addressed, the first is to meet the daily hot meal needs of over 323,000 evacuees sheltered in the public facilities, dormitories and hotels in 71 provinces. The second is to provide hot meals on a daily basis to 1,205,156 people sheltered in tents and 25,500 people in temporary shelters.
**Communication**

The primary responsibility of the communications services is granted to the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure. In case of a disaster, the Ministry gathers all the members of the service group under its coordination. The members provide tools to the Ministry during a disaster to maintain a more coordinated and effective response.

The responsibility of Türk Kızılay is to equip the service group with its modern and well-functioned GSM, hand-held transceiver and satellite tools. Through these devices, first-hand information from the affected area is carried out to the related institutions, making the response stronger and more reliable.

**Health**

The Ministry of Health leads the Health Service Group as the main responsible. Türk Kızılay, as a member of this service group, carries out the “National Blood Donation Project” to meet the needs in Türkiye through its voluntary and permanent donors. More than 300 service points across the country with 18 Regional Blood Centers, 68 Blood Donation Centers and mobile blood distribution vehicles are ready to operate with its thousands of specialists. Türk Kızılay tests blood donations in modern laboratories for patients’ safety before delivering them to hospitals. Along with safe blood donations, marrow transplantation and stem cell therapy are in operation under the TÜRKÖK Project.

Within the coordination of the Ministry, Türk Kızılay also provides hygiene supplies and mask distribution to the field teams from any institution and affected population, along with accommodation and nutrition for the health staff. Additionally, Türk Kızılay’s mobile clinics are operating in coordination with the Ministry of Health.
Logistic

The Logistic Service Group is led by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime and Communications. The main goal of this service group is to ensure the transportation of priority personnel, tools, equipment and materials to the disaster area. Within the scope of this mandate, Türk Kızılay coordinates and works with the related institutions.

While providing efficient, effective and reliable warehouse services by preserving current conditions with the most up-to-date technology and infrastructures with a “continuous improvement” perspective; Türk Kızılay Logistics aims to maximize operational efficiency through a traceable and measurable management ground. The logistics are able to carry out its activities in the fields of humanitarian aid and public distribution, as well as the distribution of various products, such as food, textile, cosmetics, building materials, medical supplies, etc.

From its roots, Kızılay Logistics rapidly carries out emergency assistance activities, and carries out its activities within the principles of the necessary planning and effective resource management during disasters. Kızılay Logistics also constructs infrastructures specially designed for health logistics.

Shelter

The Shelter Service Group carries out shelter, cleaning, health and social needs services of disaster victims during emergencies. The Group is operated and coordinated under the leadership of AFAD.

The tent and container production have been facilitated in Ankara and Malatya that functions under the Türk Kızılay, which manufactures special tents at the highest quality standards and with an innovative perspective within the scope of the national and international humanitarian response. The income from tent and textile activities is transferred to Kızılay and used in humanitarian aid activities.
**Psychosocial Assistance**

As part of the Pre-Recovery Service Group, Emergency Psychosocial Assistance Group is led by the Ministry of Family and Social Services. The group is responsible for providing the necessary capacity improvement training to teams that will take part in psychosocial support services, identifying the needs and reporting to the correspondent authorities, providing psychosocial services to vulnerable and disaster-affected individuals and carrying out rehabilitation activities. Turk Kızılay supports the Ministry of Family and Social Services by deploying experts to scope out and analyse the needs, evaluate and implement emergency psychosocial and translation assistance in the field.

**In-kind Assistance Storage Management Distribution**

The Ministry of Family and Social Services is the head of the In-kind Assistance Storage Management Distribution Service Group. Türk Kızılay grants the related needs with the coordination of the Ministry by ensuring that aids are delivered to distribution centers in line with the incoming demand.

**TÜRK KIZILAY DURING THE KAHRAMANMARAŞ EARTHQUAKES**

Türk Kızılay has been conducting continuous relief efforts since the very first day of the disaster in the 11 provinces impacted by the earthquakes. The earthquakes hit communities at the peak of winter, which has been highly affecting the scale and scope of the operations. Considering the massive needs caused by the earthquakes and the Government's call for international assistance.

At the Türk Kızılay Disaster Coordination Center in Ankara, the teams are constantly analysing the real-time data reported from the field and systematically organising assistance with the support of the Türk Kızılay’s Operation Command Center established in the impacted region. Since the onset of the disaster, Türk Kızılay staff and volunteers have been mobilised across 11 impacted provinces in the region to respond to the overwhelming needs. Over 1200 personnel and 4000 volunteers are working in the field across the country, in coordination with the Emergency Operation Centre in Ankara.
Together with its National Nutrition Support Group partners, the Turkish Red Crescent has been distributing breakfasts, hot meals, as well as delivering food to support the teams that are working on the ground. To provide nutrition services, 356 mobile kitchens, 41 mobile bakeries, 22 field kitchens and 86 complimentary vehicles have been deployed to the field. Through our mobile and container kitchens, more than 58 million nutrition services have been distributed to those affected. Over 880 vehicles were submitted to the affected areas right after the disaster. The teams are responding to the food needs of the affected population daily. Together with that, Türk Kızılay supports the needs in various sectors, all the relief efforts, psychosocial needs, shelter and other complementary needs.

The earthquake’s impact on shelter and housing has been devastating in the region, with high levels of damage to densely populated residential areas. The shelter is a priority need for the response due to the extensive damage to housing and low temperature due to the winter season. In addition to those who lost their houses, many affected households are unwilling to return to their shelter for fear of aftershocks. In coordination with AFAD, Türk Kızılay has been continuously providing tents to respond to the needs.

Health components and psychosocial support have become one of the most critical elements in the field for the affected population. Türk Kızılay MHPSS teams have been working actively from the very beginning to ease the pressure on the affected people. Humanitarian interventions are conducted with Türk Kızılay staff and volunteers via 9 MHPSS tents and 2 mobile child-friendly spaces. While the acute phase continues, Türk Kızılay MHPSS teams plan to scale up MHPSS activities through the mobile units by deploying more volunteer psychologists to the field to support the affected populations. While the teams provide psychological first aid to the affected population against mental traumas, they also aim to reduce the effects of trauma and stress caused by the disaster by interviewing children and adults. In the coming six months to a 1-year period, Türk Kızılay aims to increase its response to long-term psychosocial effects caused by the disaster in coordination with the Ministry of Family and the Ministry of Health.
Additionally, Türk Kızılay has deployed 7 mobile clinics, specialists and teams to 6 quake-affected cities to provide community health care in coordination with the Provincial Health Directorates. Teams are also providing flu vaccines and hygiene kits to those in need. In terms of community health, Türk Kızılay supports Provincial Health Directorates with its WASH activities and mobile dental clinics with necessary medical teams to respond to the needs.

Additionally, the “Blood Donation” campaign has immediately been started in the country, in which millions of people showed their solidarity. Türk Kızılay teams are fully mobilised on the ground and increased the blood donation points to 300 in a short while, increasing the volume of the blood stocks and addressing the emergency needs accordingly. Information dissemination through communication activities has always been one of the core parts of any disaster.

As for communication activities, Türk Kızılay has deployed disaster communication tools in the affected areas to provide and strengthen the contact between the related institutions, which has accelerated the operations going on in the field. More than 25 reports have been published to inform public institutions, society and partners. Hundreds of social media posts on various communication platforms have been posted to increase awareness among society and related institutions.

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLANNING

Since the beginning of the crisis, there has been significant global solidarity that Türkiye has received from all over the world. Türk Kızılay observed this remarkable power while receiving global solidarity from the Movement and external partners. More than 90 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and international partners around the world have extended their solidarities to the Türk Kızılay, most of which include proposals of assistance to send either in the form of cash or material.
Within the scope of Türk Kızılay’s response planning, the continuation of the distribution of food items and hot meals is the prioritised area in the emergency phase. The distribution of hot meals, which is over 4,000,000 on a daily basis affecting 11 Provinces rias ongoing apart from those provided through mobile units, there are two priorities to address, the first is to meet the daily hot meal needs of over 317,000 evacuees sheltered in the public facilities, dormitories and hotels in 71 provinces. Another is to provide hot meals on a daily basis to 733,334 people sheltered in tents and 23,544 people in temporary shelters. Among other needs, this alone is a need for delivery of these services for up to 3-6 months and signifies enormous costs to our National Society at around 6 USD daily meal cost for each beneficiary. Increased global support and solidarity to deliver humanitarian assistance are essential in the weeks and months of recovery ahead is crucial.

Additionally, the Türk Kızılay is in the process of designing the cash interventions. An emergency cash intervention is already in implementation, starting from the cash for protection to the cash for recovery intervention in a broader context. The planning of complementary cash distribution to those in the tent, container camps and those evacuated to other cities reveals that we need to address aims to target at least a population of up to 1 - 1,9 million people.

In order to address the needs, Türk Kızılay has launched a fundraising campaign and also launched an International Appeal through the IFRC to mobilise this significant international solidarity. Increased global support and solidarity to deliver humanitarian assistance are essential in the weeks and months of recovery ahead is crucial.
In the aftermath of the 7.7 magnitude and 7.6 magnitude earthquakes that hit Pazarcık and Elbistan districts of Kahramanmaraş and shocked many other cities, Türk Kızılay launched a relief operation to assist people affected by the disaster.

**PAZARCIK EARTHQUAKE**
**22.02.2023**

58,970,934 Hot Meals (Person/Meal)
1,124 Staff On The Ground / 3,905 Volunteers On The Ground

9,974,279 Soup
64,466,856 Breads
28,108,246 Bottles of Water
14,477,997 Ready-to-eat Packages
3,353,593 Beverages

86 Mobile Catering Units
375 Mobile Kitchens
22 Field Kitchens
41 Mobile Ovens
50,883 Tents Dispatched
882 Vehicles in Total

The data covers all of the Disaster Nutrition Group services coordinated by Kızılay (Turkish Red Crescent)

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