

CONTEXT

- A magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck central southern Türkiye on February 6, followed by at least 78 tremors, including a magnitude 7.5 earthquake, according to the United States Geological Survey. The earthquakes resulted in 50,783 deaths and injury to approximately 107,000 people as of May 17, according to the Government of Türkiye (GoT) and the UN. The earthquakes directly affected an estimated 9.1 million people—including 4 million children—and damaged approximately 500,000 buildings, the UN reports. More than 11,000 aftershocks and heavy rainfall followed the earthquakes, resulting in subsequent flooding and approximately 2,800 landslides, causing the deaths of at least 110 individuals, according to local media. Moreover, the destruction of critical water supply and treatment infrastructure continues to affect water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services for millions of people across the country, according to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).
- The February earthquakes displaced an estimated 3 million people in Türkiye, with 1.6 million people residing in informal temporary settlements and approximately 800,000 residing in formal GoT-managed displacement sites as of May 17, according to the UN. Informal settlements lack adequate access to health assistance, safe drinking water, and WASH services amid rising summer temperatures, increasing concern for the spread of disease. Other key humanitarian needs in informal sites include access to information on available services, psychosocial support services, and social protection schemes.
- An estimated 3.4 million Syrian refugees—representing more than 60 percent of all Syrian refugees—and more than 322,000 refugees from other countries resided in Türkiye as of June 8, according to GoT. Approximately 63,000 Syrian refugees live in camps in earthquake-affected areas of southeastern Türkiye, and experience increased food insecurity and reduced purchasing power due to rising food prices and annual inflation, further exacerbated by infrastructure damage and production losses from the earthquakes, the World Bank and international media report.



ASSISTANCE

- In response to the February earthquakes, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and an Urban Search and Rescue Team to Türkiye from February 6 to March 24 to distribute critical humanitarian assistance and support search-and-rescue efforts. USAID/BHA

provided nearly \$56 million in earthquake response funding, including \$16 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support humanitarian partners providing food, health, shelter, and WASH assistance. With USAID/BHA support, WFP has reached 1.6 million people with \$11.2 million in multipurpose cash assistance and livelihoods support and \$1.6 million in food vouchers to affected populations since the onset of the earthquake emergency response in February. Moreover, USAID/BHA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) distributed nearly 850 metric tons of USAID/BHA relief commodities in February, including hygiene kits, kitchen sets, plastic sheeting, thermal blankets, and water buckets, to support shelter and WASH needs in earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye.



Türkiye, Adiyaman, Adiyaman province, March 2, 2023. Turkish Red Crescent volunteers preparing hot meals (beef and potato soup) at the Adiyaman University cooking facilities. These cooked meals will be distributed to families affected in the aftermath of the February 6 deadly earthquakes that hit Syria and Türkiye. WFP provides hot meals to people affected by earthquakes.

Photo Credit: WFP/Giulio d'Adamo

- USAID/BHA partners, including the UN World Health Organization (WHO) and non-governmental organizations Relief International and Samaritan’s Purse, continue to provide critical health assistance to affected populations in Türkiye. Between February and April, WHO procured, transported, and distributed critical medical supplies, including medicines and trauma kits, to GoT Ministry of Health (MoH) warehouses in earthquake-affected areas to provide emergency care and health services, benefitting an estimated 300,000 individuals. In addition, Relief International and Samaritan’s Purse provided emergency health support including installing latrines, operating a field hospital, and providing technical support to the MoH, since February.
- USAID/BHA partner UNICEF reached more than 387,000 affected caregivers and children with mental health and psychosocial support since February, as well as approximately 2.7 million children and women with gender-based violence mitigation messaging and awareness raising through social media. In addition, UNICEF provided hygiene supplies to more than 440,000 people, safe drinking water to 355,000 people, and improved access to sanitation services to nearly 8,700 people as of June 5. The WASH sector—led by UNICEF and comprising 18 partners—had reached nearly 3.5 million people across 11 provinces with assistance as of the same date.

USAID/BHA Funding in Türkiye ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$7,600,000	-	\$7,600,000
FY 2023	\$60,822,280	-	\$60,822,280

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 30, 2023. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

² Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.