



on February 6, 2023
Kahramanmaraş Earthquake / Türkiye

Consultation with The Communities



DISCLAIMER

This report is prepared based on the most updated programme data was collected immediately after the earthquake, 13th February, by Kızılay volunteers. Although the findings of those analyzes are interpreted by taking into account field level observations, assumptions may differ after conducting more comprehensive studies, which are planned in the upcoming period.

INTRODUCTION

Magnitude and scale of the Kahramanmaraş earthquakes damaged every aspect of individuals living in the affected area who were lucky to survive them. Both in cities and villages, people's lives have been uprooted, yet impact of the disaster in these areas might differ because of the diversity of the pre-disaster everyday lives of people. Hence, it is crucial to take into consideration how urgent needs that come to surface as a result of the earthquakes when planning responses to them. This study sheds light to the scale of the damage on urban and rural areas, as well their most immediate needs and provides a needs-based roadmap for future response programming.

On February 6, 2023, two devastating earthquakes struck Pazarcık and Elbistan in Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye. The earthquakes measured 7.7 and 7.6 on the Richter Scale, respectively, and were followed by over 3,100 aftershocks, including a 7.6-magnitude earthquake that hit Elbistan.

The Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) reported¹ that impacts have been felt across 11 provinces, where a state of emergency has been declared. Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, and Gaziantep have been reportedly hit the hardest, while Elâzığ has also been affected. These earthquakes are the largest to hit Türkiye in the last century and the most significant to strike the country's southeastern region in hundreds of years.

The earthquakes and aftershocks have caused catastrophic devastation, with at least 9.1 million people in the 11 hardest-hit provinces likely to have been directly impacted². By February 15, more than 35,400 people in Türkiye had lost their lives, and tens of thousands were injured³. The earthquakes struck while most people were sleeping, leaving many trapped inside buildings as they collapsed. More than 105,500 people were injured, and the death toll is expected to continue to rise as search and rescue operations continue, and recovery operations commence⁴.

The situation is further compounded by harsh weather, including a possible snowstorm, which is forecasted in the coming days. This will add to the challenges faced by families ravaged by the earthquake, as well as the ability of humanitarian agencies to respond⁵. The Gölcük earthquake, the 1939 Erzincan earthquake, and the 1668 North Anatolia earthquake are the previous three strongest earthquakes to impact the country, with devastating consequences⁶.



¹UNICEF, Devastating earthquakes strike Türkiye and Syria, link: <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/Syria-Turkiye-earthquake>

²OCHA (19.02.2023), link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-2023-earthquakes-situation-report-no-2-19-february-2023>

³CARE (06.02.2023), link: <https://www.care-international.org/news/deadly-earthquake-leaves-thousands-people-turkiye-and-syria-vulnerable-amid-harsh-winter>

⁴OCHA (16.02.2023), link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-2023-earthquakes-situation-report-no-1-16-february-2023>

⁵Ministry of Labour and Social Security, <https://www.csb.gov.tr/13-ilde-153-bin-506-bagimsiz-birimin-acil-yikilmasi-gereken-agir-hasarli-ve-yikik-oldugu-tespit-edildi-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-38425>

⁶Ministry of Labour and Social Security, <https://www.csb.gov.tr/bakan-kurum-10-ilde-41-bin-791-bininin-yikik-acil-yikilacak-ve-agir-hasarli-oldugunu-tespit-ettiler-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-38426>

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The impact of the earthquake on food security and markets was observed to differ significantly based on the evaluated location relative to the affected areas. In Gaziantep, for instance, markets remain operational and accessible, and people are utilizing both cash and credit cards to purchase goods and meet their essential needs. Similarly, in Kahramanmaraş, the epicenter of the earthquake, people are reportedly able to procure food securely. The availability of services was adversely affected by the seismic event, including education, electricity, health, water, and waste disposal. The consequences of the earthquake led to the provision of some essential services, such as generators, through donations and appeals embarked by governmental and civil society organizations. Yet following the immediate disaster response, steps for early recovery are waiting to be taken.

Shelter is still one of the most critical needs. Buildings in the affected area are classified into several categories based on the level of damage incurred⁷. Buildings that have not suffered any damage are considered "undamaged," while those with minor cracks in the paint, plaster, and walls, as well as plaster falling from the walls, are considered "slightly damaged" buildings. In both of these cases, it is safe to continue using the building, hence in locations where buildings were slightly damaged, the need for temporary shelters is expected to be low. Buildings with cracks in the walls and thin cracks in the supporting elements following the disaster are classified as "moderately damaged buildings." It is recommended that these structures not be used until their bearing capacity is restored, which can be achieved by repairing or strengthening the structure, but the evacuation of goods can be carried out. Hence, it is possible to say that if multiple buildings are moderately damaged in an area, then there is a need for temporary shelter. Buildings with wide and widespread shear breaks and separations in the supporting elements are classified as "heavily damaged." These structures are considered "buildings with irreparable loss of bearing capacity and irreversible damage (in terms of strength and economy)." Buildings in which the structural elements have been permanently displaced and partially destroyed due to the earthquake fall under the category of "immediate demolition." Finally, buildings that are completely destroyed are referred to as "ruined" buildings⁸. In these areas, as expected, procurement of not only temporary shelters but also longer-term homes are necessary. In addition, the probability of relocation to other cities would be expected to be higher in locations where buildings are severely damaged.

The damage caused by the recent earthquake in Turkey has been estimated to be quite significant. The Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation has assessed the cost of the damage to be USD 84.1 billion, which includes USD 70.8 billion for repairing thousands of homes, USD 10.4 billion for the loss of national income, and USD 2.9 billion for the loss of working days. Experts in economics and government officials have predicted that the earthquake will result in a reduction of up to two percentage points in economic growth for the current year⁹. Prior to the earthquake, the government projections were 5 per cent growth for 2022, and 5.5 per cent for 2023⁹.

All in all, the disaster had impact on people's lives on both macro and micro levels. Following section focuses on critical needs emerged in affected provinces, categorized by priority.

⁷ Ministry of Labour and Social Security, <https://www.csb.gov.tr/13-ilde-153-bin-506-bagimsiz-birimin-acil-yikilmasi-gereken-agir-hasarli-ve-yikik-oldugu-tespit-edildi-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-38425>

⁸ News Website, <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/turkey-earthquake-financial-damage-estimated-staggering-84bn>

⁹ News Website, <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/earthquake-could-cost-turkey-up-84-bln-business-group-2023-02-13/>

PRIORITY NEEDS

While making this ranking, the number of destroyed, to be demolished and heavily damaged buildings in the cities is taken as a basis. Provinces with 20,000 or more buildings are classified as most critical, provinces between 2,000 and 20,000 are classified as moderately critical, and those below 2,000 are classified as less critical. Since the primary factor group of the earthquake is buildings and infrastructures, this ranking was deemed appropriate, but it is not fully explanatory in terms of proportion of needs. However, this ranking is successful in generating a general idea.

Critical

In Kahramanmaraş, a total of 179,002 buildings were examined and 34,523¹⁰ of them were determined to be urgently demolished, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was Dulkadiroğlu, where 17,638 buildings were inspected and 3,042 were identified as to be demolished urgently, with heavy damage, or ruined. The least damaged districts were Çağlayancerit and Merkez where none of the buildings will be demolished or is heavily damaged.

In this province, in addition to shelter, WASH is another immediate need. In areas with communal toilets, these facilities are insufficient and do not meet the needs of the population. The need for portable toilets is also expected to increase as more disaster-affected people arrive in Adana from Hatay and Kahramanmaraş provinces. Although food aid is being supplied, there seems to be a lack of coordination in terms of its proper distribution. Whilst there is no shortage of access to clean drinking water, tap water is currently unavailable.

In Hatay, a total of 231,553 buildings were inspected and 49,404 were identified to be in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was Antakya, where 2,619 out of 5,382 buildings inspected were determined to be immediately demolished, heavily damaged, or ruined. The district with the least damage was Reyhanlı, where only two buildings were identified to be in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined out of 462 inspected.

The province requires charging stations for phones, along with various other essential items listed in order of priority, such as clothing, blankets, heaters, wood stoves, dozers, generators, coal/wood, diapers, women's underwear, sanitary pads, elderly diapers, beds, gas for cooking, flashlights, and candles. One of the most crucial needs observed throughout Hatay is the lack of access to water and sanitation. In many areas, latrines are still yet to be provided¹¹. Even in public buildings such as mosques that have not been demolished, facilities either lack running water and soap or are not operational¹². Additionally, people with disabilities encounter difficulties when attempting to access toilets and other essential needs¹³.

According to the TRC field teams, the health needs that require the most urgent attention include access to medical professionals, patient transportation services, ambulances, and various essential medicines such as those for heart, blood pressure, thyroid, itching ointment, pain relief for children, colds, green prescription medicines, and diabetes. Additionally, there is a pressing need for first aid supplies and diapers for both children and the elderly. The Hatay region is also in dire need of psychological support due to the lingering effects of aftershocks¹⁴. Many residents, particularly children, report a persistent fear of another major earthquake, which exacerbates the need for appropriate support and care.

¹⁰22.02.2023 Kahramanmaraş Pazarcık Bilgi Notu

¹¹Data Friendly Space, Situation Biweekly Report, (21.02.2023). <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-earthquake-february-2023-bi-weekly-highlights-21022023>

¹²Situation Report, Earthquakes in Türkiye, <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/situation-report-earthquakes-turkiye-february-20-2023-no1>

¹³News Website, <https://www.dokuzeylul.com/depremezede-engelliler-icin-buyuk-dayanisma>

¹⁴Relief International (20.02.2023). <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-and-syria-earthquake-emergency-situation-update-4>

In Malatya, the number of buildings examined was 97,962, of which 25,324 were identified as requiring urgent demolition, having severe damage or already collapsed.

The district of Doğanşehir in Malatya was the most affected district by the earthquake, with 4,876 buildings examined and 2,126 identified as needing urgent demolition, having severe damage or already collapsed.

In Adıyaman, , a total of 91,021 buildings were inspected and 20,561 were identified to be in need of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was the Central district, where 14,163 buildings were inspected and 3,554 were identified in need of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined. The districts of Celikhan and Gerger had no buildings to be urgently demolished, or heavily damaged, and ruined.

There are widespread issues with toilets, water access, and sanitation, it is observed that toilets are either absent, inadequate, or not hygienic. There is also a lack of closed water reservoirs in most districts, resulting in long queues to obtain water from fountains and sinks. The inaccessibility of running water poses a significant risk of pandemic outbreak due to poor hygiene. In addition, the availability of water for cleaning purposes such as dishwashing or bathing is severely limited.

The mobile network signals are feeble and insufficient to enable internet connection. Humanitarian aid operations have commenced in the urban area and villages that are within reach following the earthquake. Nevertheless, some villages remain inaccessible due to road closures caused by either destruction or heavy snowfall. Many villages located in mountainous regions cannot be reached at present, and no information has been gathered concerning the extent of damage in those areas. Relief items received by the crisis management desk are collected in a warehouse located in the industrial zone of Adıyaman, and are distributed by the volunteers from neighbouring provinces.



Severe

In Gaziantep, a total of **269,194** buildings were inspected and **16,949** were identified in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was Nurdağı¹⁵, where 10,579 buildings were inspected and 4,787 were identified in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined. Karkamış and Yavuzeli districts none of buildings had severe damage.

AFAD is establishing five container villages in Gaziantep, consisting of 1,300 containers that will provide two rooms each but lack sanitation facilities and kitchens¹⁶. Consequently, the provision of communal WASH blocks and kitchens is essential. Municipalities have confirmed their responsibility for solid waste management. There is an obvious need for latrines specifically for persons with disabilities¹⁷.

In Osmaniye, a total of **85,316** buildings were inspected and **5,801** were identified to be in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was Merkez, where 1,088 out of 13,667 buildings inspected were identified to be in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined. The district of Sumbas had the least damage with only 13 out of 416 buildings inspected identified to be in a state of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

In Elazığ, **8,793** buildings consisting of **73,444** independent units underwent damage assessment studies.

The results showed that 7,228 independent units in 2,030 buildings were severely damaged and deemed to be urgently demolished, while 801 independent units in 138 buildings were moderately damaged. Additionally, 15,532 independent units in 1,460 buildings sustained slight damage, and 9,503 independent units in 723 buildings remained undamaged.

¹⁵Situation Report, Earthquakes in Türkiye, <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/situation-report-earthquakes-turkiye-february-20-2023-no1>

¹⁶Ministry of Labour and Social Security, <https://www.csb.gov.tr/gaziantep-te-konteyner-kentler-kuruluyor-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-38418>

¹⁷Relief International (20.02.2023). <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-and-syria-earthquake-emergency-situation-update-4>



Moderate

In Adana, almost **20,966** buildings were examined. The total number of buildings to be demolished, heavily damaged, and demolished in an emergency was determined as **163**.

Çukurova was recorded as the district that suffered the most from the earthquake in the city. In the district, 2,875 buildings were examined, 30 buildings will be demolished immediately, severely damaged and demolished. In Adana's İmamoğlu, Karaisalı, Kozan, Sarıçam and Yüreğir districts, no buildings that will be demolished, severely damaged or collapsed have been identified.

The most pressing requirement in Adana is for adequate shelters. Those affected by the disaster are currently residing in AFAD tents, school playgrounds, sports facilities, vehicles, the TÜYAP building, and the Women's Solidarity Center building. However, the capacity of these facilities is being exceeded due to the large number of affected individuals from all central districts of the city. While Türk Kızılay has provided blankets to all affected individuals, those staying in tents report that one blanket is insufficient to protect them from the cold weather, and therefore heaters are in high demand as a non-food item. Priority food needs include bread, dry food items, baby food and milk, legumes, pasta, tea, sugar, salt, oil, flour, and water, which are currently being distributed by Türk Kızılay. While water cuts have not been observed in the city center, access to clean water is problematic in the Çukurova region. The lack of adequate latrines and washing facilities poses serious hygiene concerns, particularly for women in need of sanitary pads and mobile latrines. According to Field observations the absence of cleaning facilities also poses a risk for those with skin diseases. Special attention is required for affected individuals with chronic diseases, pregnant and lactating women, and those with specific dietary needs.

In Şanlıurfa, a total of **92,805** buildings were inspected and **1,431** were identified to be in need of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

Haliliye district was the most affected with 145 out of 12,785 buildings inspected were identified to be in need of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined. The districts of Akçakale, Ceylanpınar, Halfeti, Harran, Hilvan, Suruç, and Viranşehir had no buildings to be urgently demolished, heavily damaged, or ruined.

Overall, the majority of neighborhoods in the region encounter issues with latrines, which are either missing, inadequate, or unclean. Moreover, a closed water tank is missing from almost all districts, making it challenging to secure a reliable water supply. In areas where water is accessible from fountains, long queues are common, and some residents rely on bottled water to meet their needs. Additionally, disabled individuals face significant obstacles when attempting to access latrines.



In Diyarbakır, a total of **73,741** buildings were inspected and **1,634** were identified to be in need of urgent demolition, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The district with the most damage was Bağlar, where 153 out of 5,730 buildings inspected were identified to be urgently demolished, heavily damaged, or ruined. The districts of Bismil, Dicle, Egil, Hazro, Kocaköy, Kulp, and Silvan had no buildings identified to be urgently demolished, heavily damaged, or ruined.

The individuals impacted by the earthquake are still staying in open public areas, including schools, small tent settlements, mosques, and sports centers. Both the host and refugee communities share the same spaces, and there is a high request and need for essential items such as blankets, mattresses, winter clothing, shoes, socks, women's underwear, and disposable utensils¹⁸. While access to food is not a significant issue, there is still a scarcity of baby formula and baby food. Limited availability of hygiene items such as diapers, sanitary pads, and wet wipes remains a challenge. Additionally, there is an issue with waste disposal outside the city. Although the Directorate of Family and Social Services staff have initiated a mission with PSS teams in some public living areas, the provision of psychosocial support remains inadequate, particularly outside of tent areas.

In Kilis, damage assessments were made for **25,461** buildings, of which **1,686** were identified as requiring urgent demolition, having severe damage or already collapsed.

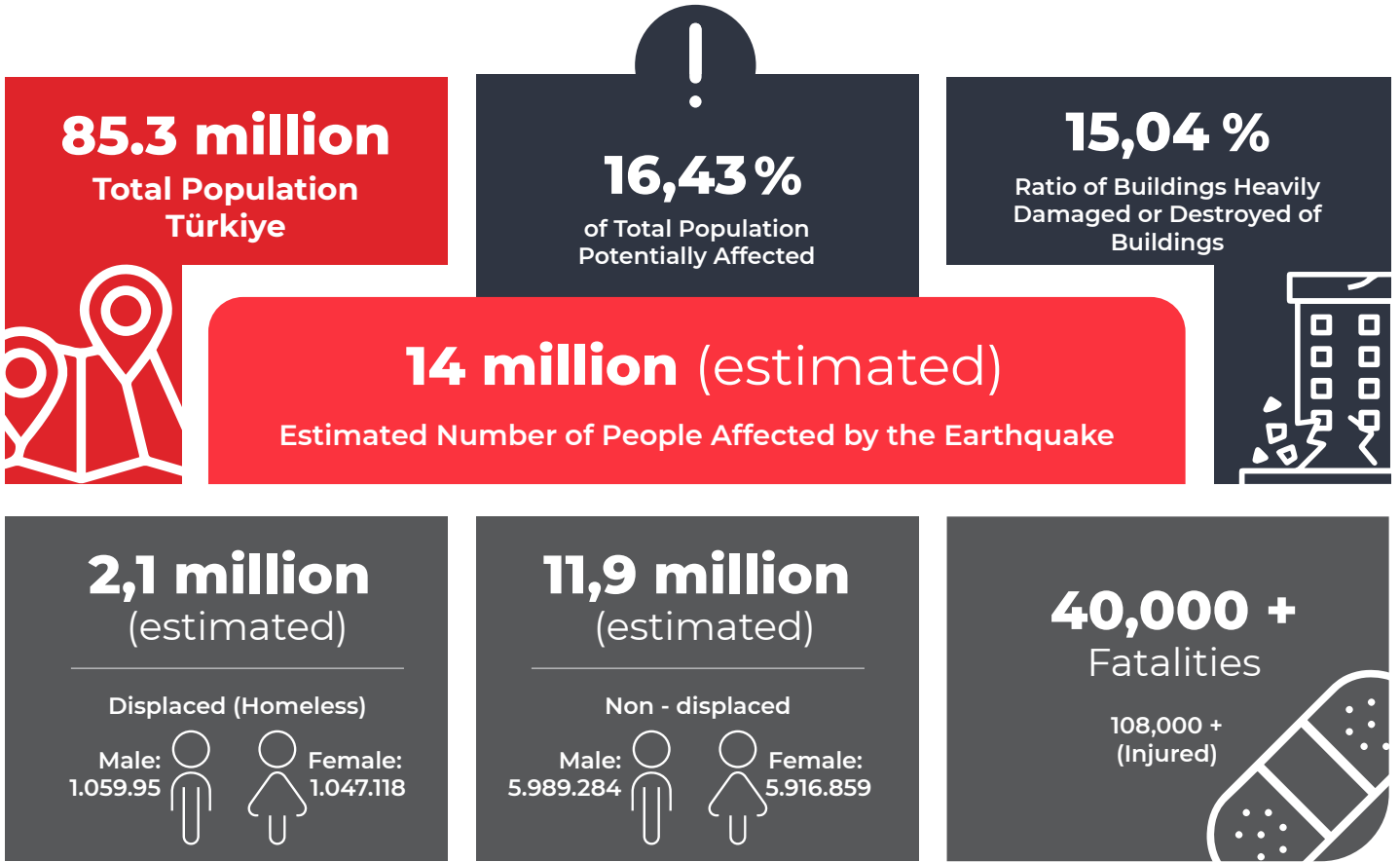
The central district of Kilis was the most affected by the earthquake, with 1,635 buildings examined and 200 identified as requiring urgent demolition, having severe damage or already collapsed.

The district of Musabeyli had the least damage from the earthquake, with ²⁸ buildings identified as requiring urgent demolition, having severe damage or already collapsed. The Ministry's damage assessment mission is ongoing.

¹⁸Reuters News, <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/two-women-survive-days-earthquake-rubble-death-toll-tops-24150-2023-02-11/>

About Study

According to TUIK statistics, 85,3 million people live in Türkiye and 16,4 per cent of these people live in the affected area by the earthquakes¹⁹. The earthquake caused to huge destruction. In the last report of AFAD dated February 15, 2023, indicated that 15,04 per cent of buildings were heavily damaged or destroyed. Some of them these people are dead, injured, or displaced. That's why we are assuming to 15,04 per cent of the living people in the affected areas were directly affected by the earthquake.



To evaluate the situation 30 volunteer of Türk Kızılay made phone surveys with mukhtars registered to social assistance in the most affected region. By disaggregating urban and rural areas enumerators asked what are the needs of each community by sector.

¹⁹<https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Adrese-Dayali-Nufus-Kayit-Sistemi-Sonuclari-2022-49685>

Figure 1. Sample size by location and city

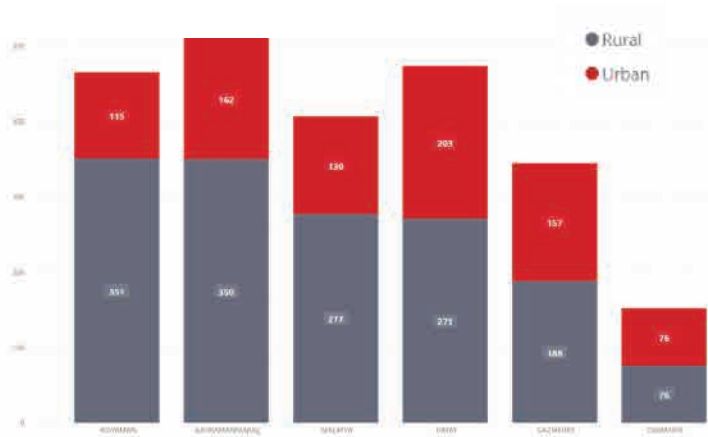
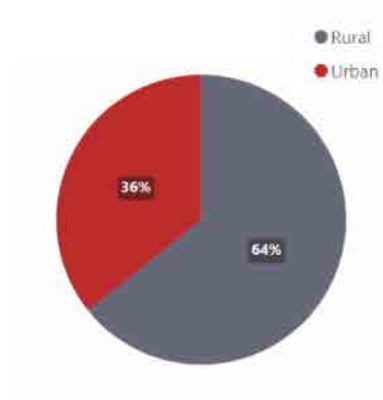


Figure 2. Urban and Rural Sample Ratio

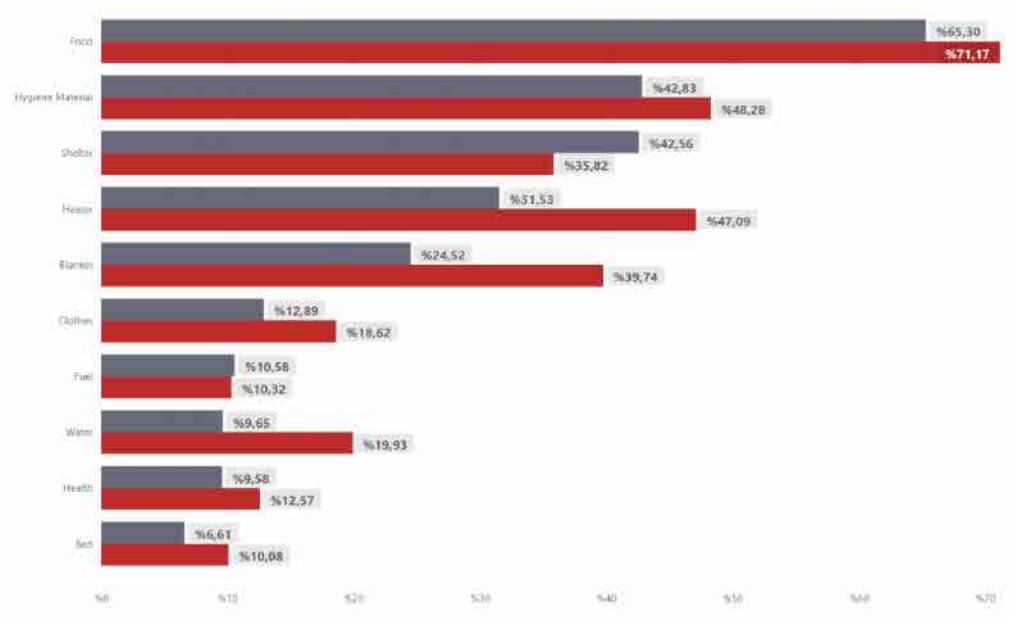


In total 2.618 mukhtars have joined the survey. As can be seen in Figure 1, the province with the highest number of interviews is Kahramanmaraş. The sample size is smallest in Osmaniye. While 64 per cent of the participants were mukhtars of the rural areas, remaining participants were representatives of the urban areas.

Data

The data was collected immediately after the earthquake, 13th February, by Kızılay volunteers via conducting a brief survey with participation of mukhtars in the area that registered the public aid programme via phone. Geographic diversity of the sample is limited to due to pressing priorities during Türk Kızılay response to the earthquakes. in the surveys. The most affected regions were prioritized while selection of the locations for surveys. Therefore, the results should be considered as a preliminary definition of the early stages of the earthquake disaster. Follow-up studies will be conducted to complement the primary data, while secondary data was utilized to fill in any information gaps in this paper.

Figure 3. Main Needs Items by Urban/Rural



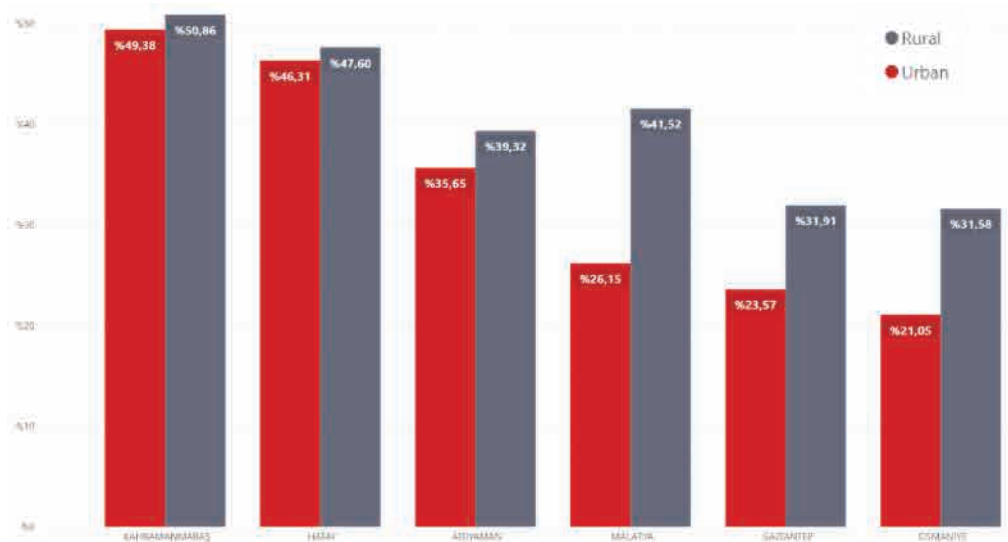
During the data cleaning process, the tent which is the most commonly occurring word in the open-ended questions was not an option in the need question. So, we added the tent as shelter need for each individual indicated in the open-ended section. After that, in the needs section, there were food aid and dry food options separately. In the food aid parcel there is already dry food like pasta or rice. So we merged these two needs in order to get a clear picture.

Shelter/NFI

In the absence of centralized tent camp sites, as observed in urban settings like Hatay, small-scale camp sites with 50-100 tents are dispersed and settled together to form unmanaged tent camps. This smaller camps are often set up in parks, road sides, open spaces, greenhouses, and similar areas²⁰. Unfortunately, both none of these temporary shelter options are sufficient to accommodate large number of affected individuals. Covering floors of the tents with thick blankets, carpets and other type of material that can be used for insulation from cold are particularly essential, since floor of those tents provide protection for only from water, snow, and tents. In an effort to address this challenge, centralization to some extent has been established in Kahramanmaraş and Adıyaman, where rural communities have been encouraged to settle. However, it is improbable that those in rural areas will abandon their livelihoods to relocate²¹. Türk Kızılay Field teams stated that approximately 3 out of 4 people who migrated from the district centers settled in the villages. This wave of migration coming from the district centers to the villages makes it more difficult for the people living in the villages to meet their basic needs. It is therefore essential to conduct Key Informant Interviews (KII) to ascertain whether there has been an influx of population in the villages as a result of this displacement.

People living in rural areas need shelter more than those living in the district center due to the extra immigration from outside²². While 43 per cent of the households affected by the earthquake in rural areas state that the housing conditions are insufficient, this is 36 per cent for those reside in the district center. In Malatya, on the other hand, the gap between the rural (42 per cent) and urban populations (26 per cent) in terms of shelter needs is much larger. Kahramanmaraş is the province where shelter needs are the most prominent. One of the two mukhtars in both rural and urban areas stated that their neighbourhood need shelter. Gaziantep is the province with the least difficulty in terms of accommodation. Those affected by the disaster demanded tents instead of containers.

Figure 4. Shelter need ratio by province and location



²⁰OCHA (16.02.2023), link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-2023-earthquakes-situation-report-no-1-16-february-2023>

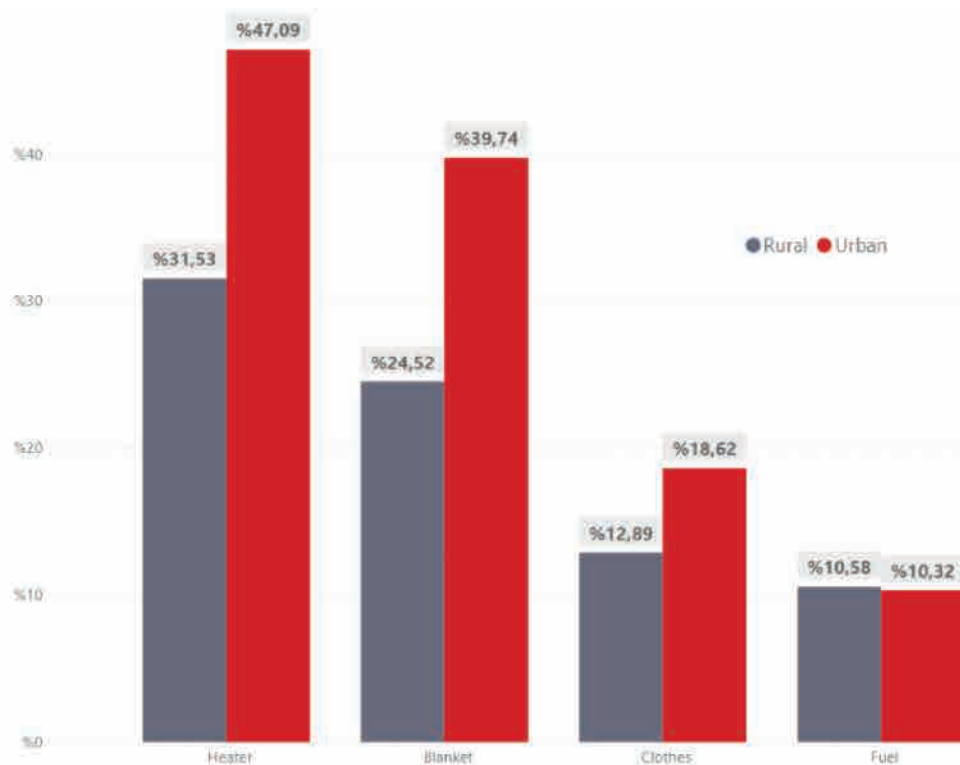
²¹UNHCR Website, <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/98890>

²²Relief International, Türkiye and Syria Earthquake, Emergency Situation Update 4 (20.02.2023), link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-and-syria-earthquake-emergency-situation-update-4>

Heating is also a major challenge across various locations, especially for Hatay and Gaziantep, and addressing this issue will be crucial in mitigating the adverse impacts of exposure to the cold. The inability to adequately meet the need for shelter, clothing and blankets causes more heater demand. According to analysis results it is found that 47 per cent of the people living in the urban areas cannot meet their heating needs whilst this rate is 32 per cent in the rural areas.

In Gaziantep, forty per cent of the urban areas reported the need for blankets while it is 25 per cent for rural areas. In summary, about 50 per cent of the affected households cannot face their heating needs especially in Osmaniye and Gaziantep city centers. One of the main problems in heating is the inability to provide sufficient wood and coal. Although people have stoves for heating (though some villages and district centers state that the number of stoves is insufficient), they cannot find enough coal and wood. In the majority of locations, there is a lack of electricity and natural gas/heating. Furthermore, there is limited or irregular access to fuel. Especially in Kahramanmaraş, the need for fuel draws attention.

Figure 5. Ratio of can't meet NFI needs by location

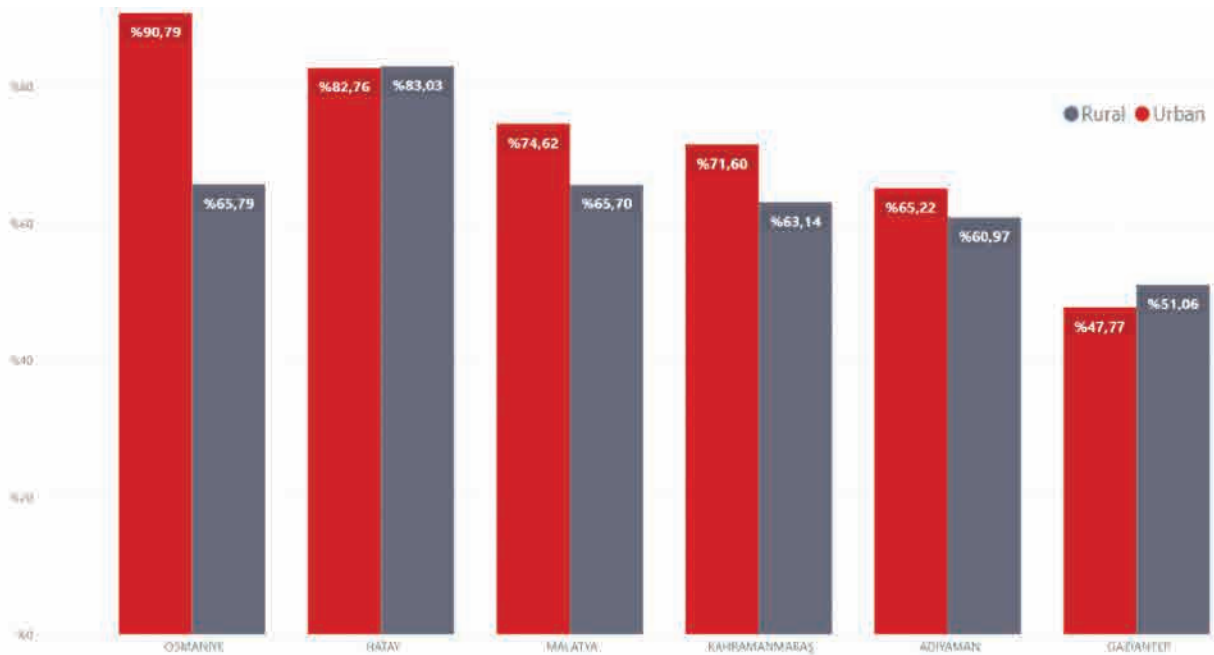


Food Security and Livelihood

Food is still among the priority needs for people living in the affected areas. According to analysis results, approximately 71 per cent of the people living in the district center and 65 per cent of the rural areas could not adequately meet their food needs. The need dry food or food parcels are reported, rather than bread. In addition, some households also stated that they needed milk and baby food.

In rural areas, the primary sources of livelihood are agriculture and livestock, whereas in urban settings, small and medium scale businesses or casual work are more common. Communities in rural areas, especially those whose livelihoods depend on agriculture and livestock, including the elderly, are unlikely to relocate to designated tent sites. The earthquakes effected animals as well as people living there. Since the earthquake period coincided with the winter, the animals could not spread on the pastures due to snow or cold, and the result of the earthquake the structures such as barns and warehouses where winter fodder was kept were damaged. Therefore, in the analysis results, three per cent of households dealing with husbandry, especially in rural areas (due to the lack of sufficient feed for the animals) are in need of ready-made feeds. Hence, in addition making sure that aid reaches these remote locations, there is a need for rebuilding animal shelters, tarps, and animal feed to support these communities.

Figure 6. Ratio of can't meet food needs by location

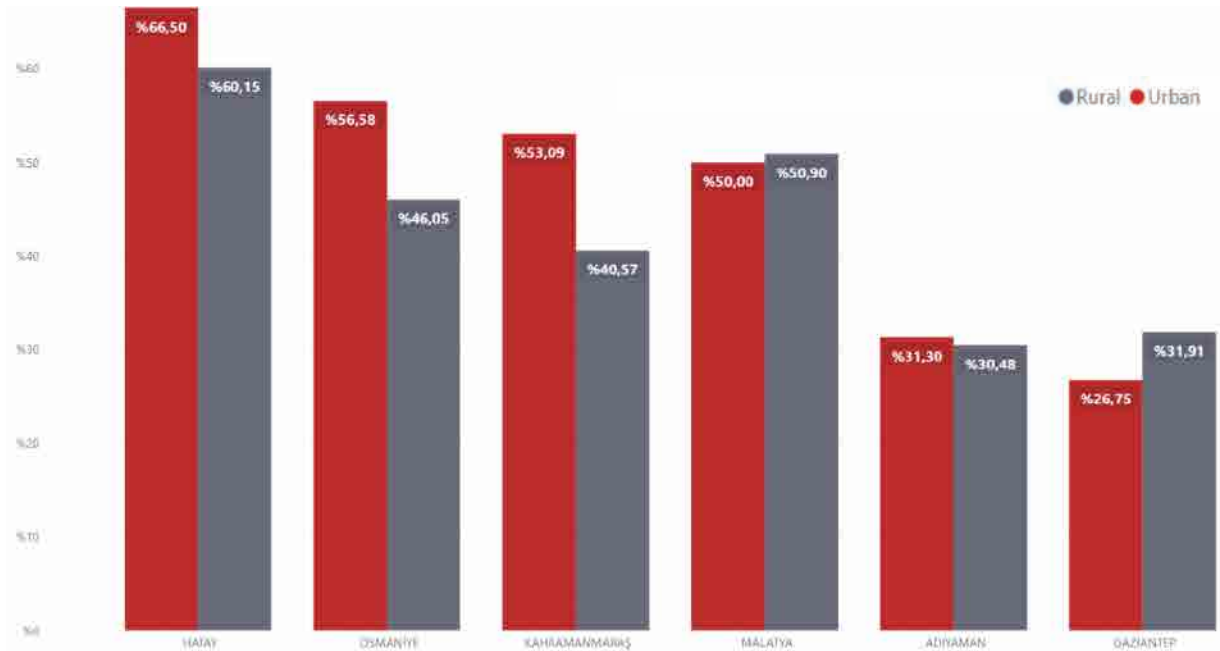


Wash

Some tent sites do not have portable latrines, shower, and hand-washing stations. Field data state that people living in the district center suffer the most due to the explosion or damage of the water lines after the earthquake. Twenty per cent of the mukhtars interviewed in the district center stated that there is a need for water supply for hygiene purposes. This rate is 10 per cent in rural areas. The fact that households living in rural areas have additional water resources such as fountains or streams in addition to tap water supports them to meet their water needs more easily. Hatay is the province with highest reported needs for water for hygiene purposes, one out of every four neighborhoods in the city center needs water.

In addition, 43 per cent of people living in rural areas and 48 per cent of people living in urban areas stated that they cannot meet their hygiene needs especially in Hatay and Osmaniye. So, it means that one out of every two people could not meet their hygiene needs. Gaziantep is the province that suffers the least, only one out of four people in Gaziantep could not meet their hygiene needs. There is an urgent need for distribution of comprehensive dignity and hygiene kits that cater to the specific needs of women and children, including materials for addressing the effects of cold weather²³. These kits should include menstrual hygiene materials, feminine wipes, rash cream, fungus treatment, lice shampoo, dry shampoo, adult diapers, and disinfectants.

Figure 7. Ratio of can't meet hygiene material needs by location and province



Field observations report that there have been frequent cases of scabies, diarrhea, and nausea reported. In order to prevent and manage these conditions, communities must have access to facilities that allow them to boil water, wash clothes, and shower. Therefore, sanitation has become an urgent need in Hatay, Osmaniye and Kahramanmaraş, according to analysis results.

²³Relief International, Türkiye and Syria Earthquake, Emergency Situation Update 4 (20.02.2023), link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-and-syria-earthquake-emergency-situation-update-4>

Health

Two state hospitals, one located in Antakya and the other in Iskenderun, have collapsed while another hospital in Antakya has been severely damaged beyond repair. In an effort to provide medical care, a field hospital has been established at one of the hospital sites in Antakya and another in İskenderun²⁴. However, the latter is not used frequently due to accessibility issues. Despite the presence of surgeons in Antakya, they are only able to operate in a tent setting as there are no sterilized operating rooms available. In Adiyaman, the teaching hospital is the only hospital currently operational while a field hospital has recently been established next to the heavily damaged maternity hospital. Although medication and supplies are more readily available in central locations, common medications such as antibiotics, cold treatments, and medicines for chronic illnesses such as heart, blood pressure, and thyroid issues are reportedly difficult to access and are running out quickly. The safety of pregnant women during labor, as well as treatment during pregnancy, care for mental health patients, those with respiratory diseases, and the treatment of chronic illnesses, is a significant concern, particularly in rural areas²⁵.

In both urban and rural settings, mobile health teams are required to provide medical care. Larger camp sites can have more comprehensive healthcare facilities. Although ambulance services are accessible in some places, complete coverage is lacking, and transfers can be challenging due to road conditions, staff shortages, or poor coordination. Access to equipment for people with disabilities is limited in some locations. There are reports of an increasing smell of decomposition where destruction happened, particularly in urban areas such as Hatay and Adiyaman. Based on field observations, high number of cases of diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting have also been reported in Hatay, Adiyaman, and Kahramanmaraş. Although there has not been an official announcement, health experts suspect the outbreak of cholera in Hatay²⁶.



²⁴IFRC, Emergency Appeal Operational Strategy, Türkiye, Europw Region Earthquakes (21.02.2023).

link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-europe-region-earthquakes-emergency-appeal-ndeg-mdrtr004-operational-strategy>

²⁵UNFPA (07.02.2023), link: <https://www.unfpa.org/press/unfpa-scaling-emergency-response-reach-women-and-girls-turkiye-and-syria-aftermath-powerful-earthquakes>

²⁶News Website (10.02.2023), link: <https://www.tum-haberler.com/saglik/deprem-bolgesindekiler-icin-kolera-salginii-uyarisi-kolera-nedir-nasil-yayilir-32236>

Education

One of the areas indirectly affected by the earthquake is education. Families affected by the disaster are currently using schools as temporary shelters. The damage to schools as well as the physical and mental destruction caused by the earthquake resulted in the suspension of education in 11 provinces affected by the earthquake. Nearly four million children, including over 350,000 refugee and migrant children, have been deprived of education due to the postponement of school openings in affected provinces until March 1, 2023. The capacity, which was 3 percent as of February 12, was increased to 10 percent²⁷. Families affected by the disaster are currently using schools as temporary shelters. The students in earthquake-stricken provinces will be relocated to the other 71 provinces of the country, where capacity will need to be expanded to accommodate them²⁸.

Markets

Field observations, in most locations, access to markets is either limited or non-existent. The central city of Gaziantep is in good condition, and Adana has also returned to normal functioning²⁹. Goods procurement is possible from these locations, and trade chambers are cooperating with one another. In Hatay, only markets in the Arsuz district have been minimally affected. Food aid is being delivered to accessible areas, with hot and cooked food being provided at most camp sites³⁰. However, with increasing population movement from urban to rural areas, previously distributed stocks in these locations are expected to run out more quickly. Due to the effects of the destruction on critically affected provinces, market infrastructure and network is vanished. Especially at Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Malatya is vulnerable to loss of food or nfi accessibility. Also, the study conducted with Türk Kızılay field officers³¹ shows the same results, Hatay, Antakya and Samandağ especially in grim conditions. The same study shows that there are no working atms or banks to provide the cash needed desperately. With the lack of markets, there is lot of black-market occurrence in these regions and cash is the only way to provide some of the necessities³². Also, because the population moved to the rural area the regions with small or no market network is the ones in most critical need.

²⁷https://www.ntv.com.tr/turkiye/10-ilde-1-marta-kadar-egitime-ara-verildi_kBoAleLfUq08G2DizVBqw

²⁸UNICEF (14.02.2023), link: <https://www.unicef.org/turkiye/en/press-releases/one-week-devastating-earthquakes-millions-children-remain-need-urgent-humanitarian>

²⁹Data Friendly Space, Situation Biweekly Report, (21.02.2023). You may see the report via link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-earthquake-february-2023-bi-weekly-highlights-21022023>

³⁰News Website (06.02.2023), link: <https://www.cnnturk.com/turkiye/son-dakika-turkiyenin-yarisi-depremi-hissetti-iste-deprem-bolgesinden-ilk-kareler?page=1>

³¹Field Monitoring Assessment Survey that conducted between 11.02.2023- 14.02.2023

³²Relief International (20.02.2023), Rapid Needs Assessment Report, Türkiye Earthquake Response,

link: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/rapid-needs-assessment-report-turkiye-earthquake-response-february-2023-0>



OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Immediately after the earthquake, the Türk Kızılay sprang into action, dispatching expert teams from their Disaster Response Centers and branches to reach the affected region. The organization's resources were mobilized to provide support in the areas of nutrition, psychosocial support, blanket distribution, blood services, and catering. In particular, soup and treats were distributed to citizens who were forced to spend the night outside. Türk Kızılay also directed search and rescue teams to the region, while Kızılay's psychosocial support teams worked to provide aid to those impacted by the earthquake. Furthermore, the organization ensured that blood and plasma stocks were readily available in the region to meet any potential needs.



CONCLUSION

The earthquakes damaged people's lives irreparably. However, damaged residential areas, infrastructure and part of livelihoods can and need to be repaired immediately, in addition to pressing needs such as food, appropriate and warm shelter, medicine, and sanitation products. Providing medical care and psychological support and revival of livelihood opportunities have also the priority actions to be taken. The research indicates that the existing circumstances may pose risks related to public health (the spread of infectious diseases and the deterioration of chronic illnesses), psychological, protection (such as tension, child protection, and gender-based violence), food security, and livelihood aspects.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the information gathered, the following are some recommendations for addressing the actions have been identified in response to the earthquake,

- Ensuring the provision of suitable, secure, and warm shelters.
- Ensuring that response efforts are inclusive and responsive to the specific needs of vulnerable groups, such as women, children, and people with special needs.
- Distributing non-food items, such as hygiene kits, underwears, and providing food.
- Addressing gaps in health services such as PSS.
- Meeting education needs and ensuring access to education by all affected children.



on February 6, 2023
Kahramanmaraş Earthquake / Türkiye

Consultation with The Communities



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