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Three girls play with a supply box in Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye, five days after the earthquake that hit the area.

06-16 February 2023

**UNICEF Türkiye**  
 Humanitarian Situation  
 Report No. 1

for every child

**Situation in Numbers\***

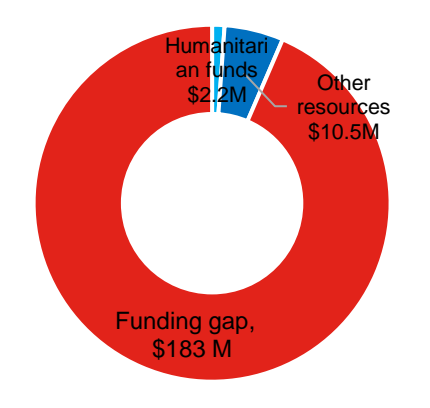
- 9.1 million**  
People in Need
  - 2.5 million**  
Children in Need
  - 3 million**  
People Targeted by UNICEF
  - 1.5 million**  
Children Targeted by UNICEF
- \* IA Flash Appeal, UNICEF Türkiye HAC

**Highlights**

- In the early hours of 6 February, two earthquakes (7.8 and 7.5 magnitude) hit south-east Türkiye and northern Syria. The impact has been devastating in the 10 worst affected provinces<sup>1</sup> of Türkiye where around 13.5 million Turkish citizens and 1.7 million registered refugees are living, including 5.4 million children, of whom over 811,000 are refugees<sup>2</sup>.
- Over 1 million people are staying in temporary accommodation<sup>3</sup>, facing adverse winter conditions. As of 16 Feb, over 1,467 unaccompanied children have been identified<sup>4</sup>. Access to education is hampered to nearly 4 million children including 350,000 refugee and migrant children<sup>5</sup>. School opening is postponed to 01 March 2023 in most affected provinces.
- The Government of Türkiye has announced a state of emergency for a period of three months in 10 provinces and leading the response. On 10 February, the Government of Türkiye requested the international humanitarian assistance. UNICEF Türkiye Earthquake Response Humanitarian Appeal 2023 is published, following the publication of Inter-Agency Flash Appeal on 16 February 2023.
- In between 06-09 February, UNICEF in coordination with the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS) evacuated 724 children.
- As of 16 February, nearly 218,000 people including over 132,000 children have been reached with critical supplies including hygiene kits, winter clothes, electrical heaters etc.
- 3,000 young volunteers, from Ministry of Youth and Sports, who were trained by UNICEF, have been mobilized delivering aid and providing information on services available to the children and families in affected provinces.
- As of 16 February, UNICEF is requesting US\$ 196 million to reach 3 million people, including 1.5 million children with provision of critical supplies, water sanitation and hygiene, health and nutrition, child protection, education and humanitarian cash support to vulnerable children.

**UNICEF Appeal 2023 (Feb-Apr)**  
**US\$ 196 million**

**Funding Status as of 16 Feb**



<sup>1</sup> Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis, Osmaniye, Malatya, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Şanlıurfa, Adana and Elgiz, all in the south-east of Türkiye.  
<sup>2</sup>TurkStat, Address Based Population Registration System, as of 31st December 2022.  
<sup>3</sup> Statement from AFAD, 11 Feb 2023  
<sup>4</sup>Ministry of Family and Social Services  
<sup>5</sup>Ministry of National Education, June 2022

## Funding Overview and Partnerships

Under the 2023 [UNICEF Türkiye Earthquake Response Humanitarian Action for Children 2023](#) (HAC) UNICEF is requesting US\$196 million to reach 3 million people, including 1.5 million children. The ask aligns with the [Türkiye Inter-agency Flash Appeal 2023](#) for the first three months of response (February to April 2023). UNICEF is grateful for the timely flexibility of Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, Kreditanstalt Fur Wiederaufbau, European Union including ECHO and Japan to reprogramme US\$10.5 million the available funding from ongoing programmes allowing UNICEF for immediate provision of critical supplies and services to children and families affected by the earthquake. UNICEF is grateful for the generous contribution from the Central Emergency Response Fund.

Rapid provision of funding will be instrumental to ensuring life-saving WASH, health and nutrition, child protection, education and humanitarian cash support to vulnerable children, adolescents and families affected by the earthquake. Flexible contributions will be critical to enable UNICEF to complement the Government-led response and promptly respond to current and increasing humanitarian needs.

Under the leadership of the Government of Türkiye and within the interagency framework for the earthquake response, UNICEF will work with key humanitarian partners – Government and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), through established interagency mechanisms. Consultations are going with the Ministry of Interior Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), Presidency of Migration Management (PMM) and key ministries including the Ministry of Family and Social Services, Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Youth and Sports, and Ministry of Health. Through its long-standing presence in Türkiye, UNICEF has established partnerships with the five municipalities in the earthquake affected provinces and will be scaled up to other municipalities to deliver immediate humanitarian needs to the affected children and families. UNICEF is also leveraging private sector partnerships throughout Türkiye.

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In the early hours of 6 February, two earthquakes (7.8 and 7.5 magnitude) hit south-east Türkiye and northern Syria. The impact has been devastating in the 10 worst affected provinces of Türkiye (*Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis, Osmaniye, Malatya, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Şanlıurfa, Adana*), where around 13.5 million Turkish citizens and 1.7 million registered refugees are living, including 5.4 million children, of whom over 811,000 are refugees. An eleventh province, Elazığ, has also been affected. As of 16 February, 38,044 deaths have been confirmed<sup>1</sup>. The Government of Türkiye has declared a three-month state of emergency in the 11 worst affected provinces and requested international support as it leads the national response effort.

It is estimated that at least 9.1 million people in the hardest-hit provinces likely to have been directly impacted. Over 1 million people are currently residing in temporary accommodations centers (TACs), facing adverse winter conditions. As of 15 February 2023, 1,457 unaccompanied children have been identified, of whom 755 are currently undergoing treatment in hospital. 93 children have been taken under state care for their treatment and 609 children have returned to their families after identity checks<sup>2</sup>. Access to education has been compromised for nearly 4 million children, including over 350,000 refugee and migrant children, as the opening of schools in affected provinces has been postponed until 1 March 2023, and affected families are temporarily using schools as shelter. Students in earthquake-affected provinces will be transferred to the other 71 provinces in the country, where capacity will need to be increased to accommodate them. While the assessments are ongoing, urgent need for WASH, protection including mental health and psychosocial support, to children and families has been identified.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Non-Food Items; Supply and Logistics

As of 16 February, nearly 218,000 people including over 132,000 children have been reached with critical supplies including hygiene kits, winter clothes, electrical heaters, jerrycans, etc. worth over US\$2 million. The office is procuring supplies valued at approximately US\$9 million for rapid distribution.

Since UNICEF Türkiye has been supporting the procurement and transport of critical humanitarian supplies to Ukraine and refugee receiving countries the Türkiye country office has active long-term arrangement (LTAs) with 86 local suppliers and service providers that allows for rapid procurement of emergency relief items.

<sup>1</sup> [Press Release Regarding the Earthquakes in Kahramanmaraş – 32 \(afad.gov.tr\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Family and Social Services

## Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

During the period 06-09 February, UNICEF in coordination with the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS) evacuated 724 children from *Kahramanmaraş, Gaziantep, Adıyaman, Hatay, Osmaniye, Kilis* to *Bursa, Niğde, Konya, İzmir, Ankara, Kocaeli, Muş, Eskişehir, Kırşehir, İstanbul*. UNICEF continues to support 724 children relocated from state care homes to other provinces, including through assignment of social workers, identification of unaccompanied and separated children and provision of supplies including hygiene kits and winter clothes for children. UNICEF continues to work with MoFSS, on identification, family tracing and re-unification of unaccompanied and separated children. UNICEF and MoFSS are currently identifying locations to set up Child Friendly Spaces.

Approximately 2,500 social workers from the MoFSS, who were trained by UNICEF, have been providing psychosocial support activities in affected areas and evacuated provinces and reached more than 193,000 people in affected/evacuated areas. UNICEF through its partner reached over 3,200 children and at least 40 caregivers with psychological first aid and recreation activities in Gaziantep, Sanliurfa and Diyarbakir provinces.

UNICEF conducted four trainings focusing on basic first aid and PSS concepts for partners, sessions were designed focusing on how to address the needs of affected populations: 382 staff from MoFSS including 14 hotline staff, psychologists and aid workers, counsellors, social work experts, teachers and translators are to be deployed to the most affected communities.

UNICEF is currently engaging with civil society partners with Child Protection/Gender Based Violence (GBV) outreach capacity to develop new emergency partnerships and mobilize further service provision to affected populations. UNICEF will rent 30 vehicles in the 10 provinces affected by the earthquake, to facilitate the mobility of MoFSS PSS teams in local communities.

## Social Protection

The Ministry of Family and Social Services (DG-Social Assistance) is leading the social protection response to the earthquake. UNICEF and the Ministry are designing a roll-out of a cash transfers program for children and families affected by the earthquake.

## Education

In coordination with the Ministry of National Education, UNICEF is developing the plan to complement government's efforts on return to school.

## Adolescent and Youth Engagement

The Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) has mobilized 2,500 youth volunteers, previously trained by UNICEF, to provide response support across 107 temporary accommodation centres in 10 provinces. In coordination with MoYS, 500 youth volunteers from UNICEF's Mahalle (Neighborhood) Support Mechanism were dispatched to MoYS response centres to support aid delivery and provide information about the services available to affected populations. UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Youth to support operations in 107 youth centers and dormitories that have been converted into temporary accommodation center in the 10 provinces.

## Social and Behaviour Change (SBC), Community Engagement and accountability to Affected Population (AAP)

Social Media Messaging reached over 1.8 million people including messages on prevention and access to services. UNICEF is preparing messages for field partners and families to prevent family separation. These will be disseminated to families through social media, and through organizations involved in the response to the affected population.

After the first day of the earthquake, SBC initiated community insight generation with the partner organizations in affected communities to understand the situation in order to determine the needs and priorities of the children and their families.

Some of the initial assessments informed inadequate health and nutrition services including lack of clean drinking water, absence of hygiene and basic sanitation facilities that potentially enlarging the risk of potential diseases. Moreover, with regard to people with disabilities (PwD) and children with disabilities (CwD), it was reported that the challenges are 2-3 times higher in the earthquake affected provinces. Over 150 people have been reached in Gaziantep, Adana, Adıyaman with referrals to basic needs services.

In addition, to generating community listening, UNICEF has also established a social listening mechanism. From these social listening conversation and engagement, identification of emerging needs and gaps have been

determined. From the available insights generated, immediate life-saving key messages have been developed and will be added to the hygiene/ baby and family kits being distributed to the affected population. These messages will also be disseminated using different channels; media, social media, printed and audio-visual materials including UNICEF partners and 120 volunteers. The assessment findings are being used to inform UNICEF’s response interventions.

**Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy**

Under the leadership of the Government of Türkiye and within the interagency framework for the earthquake response, UNICEF will complement and leverage existing national systems, programmes, capacities, and partnerships, including with civil society and municipalities to respond to the overwhelming needs resulting from the earthquakes. UNICEF will provide life-saving humanitarian assistance through supplies, technical support, and service delivery, working with local authorities in affected provinces to ensure inclusive age and gender-appropriate services for children, adolescents and their families. This will include water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health and nutrition, protection, education, early childhood development (ECD) and social protection (humanitarian cash). Under the UN inter-agency mechanism, UNICEF will lead the WASH and education sectors of the earthquake response.

**External Media**

UNICEF is committed to complementing the Government's humanitarian response, working to reinforce life-saving support for vulnerable children, young people and their families, in line with the Core Commitments for Children. UNICEF continues to highlight the situation of children and their families advocating for their immediate protection, safety and access to services in the aftermath of earthquake.

**Press Release:**

[Thousands of children are at risk from devastating earthquakes struck south-east Turkey and Syria \(unicef.org\)](#)  
[UNICEF: In the first week of devastating earthquakes, millions of children are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance](#)

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**Annex A: Funding Status as of 16 February 2023<sup>3</sup>**

Sector	Requirements	Funds Received		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Other resources used in 2023	US\$	%
Water Sanitation and Hygiene	\$13,000,000	\$1,500,000	-	11,500,000	88%
Health and Nutrition	\$19,250,000	-	-	19,250,000	100%
Child Protection	\$39,750,000	\$750,000	-	39,000,000	98%
Humanitarian Cash Transfer	\$45,250,000	-	-	45,250,000	100%
Education and ADAP	\$38,750,000	-	-	38,750,000	100%
Non- Food Items	\$40,000,000	-	\$10,500,000	29,500,000	74%
<b>Total Funding Ask</b>	<b>\$196,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,250,000</b>	<b>\$10,500,000</b>	183,250,000	<b>93%</b>

<sup>3</sup> Funding allocation to sector are provisional and allocation will be prioritized based on needs and urgency