

2023 Türkiye & Syria EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE



Situation Report #14

April 11, 2023

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 26 million people in Türkiye and Syria have been affected by two deadly earthquakes in February and the thousands of aftershocks that followed.
- Project HOPE has successfully registered as a recognized international NGO in Türkiye, paving the way for longer-term presence in Türkiye and support for earthquake survivors.
- Project HOPE continues to support Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) in Northwest Syria.
- A total of 47 shelter containers have been delivered for affected populations in Türkiye, with an additional 28 en route.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As the Muslim holy month of Ramadan nears its end, residents in southern Türkiye and northern Syria continue to struggle to recover from the devastation inflicted by February's earthquakes.

The Turkish government recently released a report evaluating the impact of the earthquakes in the 11 most affected provinces. This assessment estimates that more than 500,000 houses were either severely damaged or collapsed, about 130,000 were moderately damaged, and almost 1.3 million were lightly affected.ⁱ

The Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Authority has announced a commitment to construct over 400,000 houses and more than 80,000 "village houses" (which includes barns and gardens).ⁱⁱ In the meantime, many of the estimated 3.3 million internally displaced people across the country are in urgent need of health services, mental health support, non-food items, protection services, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support.ⁱⁱⁱ



Project HOPE Country Director, Adam Jacovou, inspects the shelter containers purchased for the Adiyaman container city. Photo by Christine Lathrop, Project HOPE, 2023.

The International Labor Organization reported on April 4 that hundreds of thousands of workers in Türkiye and Syria lost their livelihoods in the aftermath, placing significant financial constraints on affected communities. In Syria alone, the loss of 170,000 jobs has led to total labor income losses equivalent to at least \$5.7 million USD a month.^{iv}

To date, an estimated 50,000 people in Türkiye and 6,000 people in Syria have died in the earthquakes.^v The World Health Organization estimates that 26 million people are in need of urgent support.^{vi}

PROJECT HOPE RESPONSE

Project HOPE's Emergency Response Team was activated within hours of the earthquake, providing key non-food items to the impacted population. As part of Project HOPE's commitment to the localization of humanitarian aid, we have established partnerships with numerous local organizations between Türkiye and Northwest Syria, and we are in the process of expanding that network.

To date, Project HOPE has procured 75 housing containers across Türkiye to address basic shelter needs for displaced populations and responders. Forty units have arrived in Adiyaman as part of the container city currently being constructed. The Project HOPE containers will be located adjacent to University Hospital to support displaced health staff. An additional five containers have arrived in Kahramanmaraş to house health workers identified by the Ministry of Health, and Project HOPE delivered 10 more containers to the Turkish humanitarian organization Dünya Doktorları Derneği in Hatay Province to provide shelter for health workers and essential services such as a public kitchen and laundry service.

Recognizing the need to support earthquake survivors with disabilities, Project HOPE also delivered 150 mobility devices, including wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches to the Gaziantep Ministry of Health. Also, seven infant incubators were delivered to Gaziantep Cengiz Gokcek Gynecology and Pediatrics Hospital, with an additional seven currently en route.

Project HOPE has distributed 3,000 hygiene kits to the Ministry of Family and Social Services in Kahramanmaraş and, through a partner, is coordinating the distribution of an additional 10,000 hygiene kits to camps throughout the affected region.



Project HOPE mental health program officer, Rawan Hamadeh, plays with kids during a visit to Nurdagi. Mental health is a key component of Project HOPE's response activities. Photo by James Buck for Project HOPE, 2023.

Project HOPE has identified immense needs in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for survivors dealing with the long-term impacts of trauma. In collaboration with local partners, Project HOPE plans to implement MHPSS activities in the affected area, which will complement efforts by local authorities and organizations.

In Syria, Project HOPE is working with Syrian Relief and Development (SRD) to provide primary health support through the deployment of MMUs to earthquake-impacted populations in the Azaz and Daret Azza districts in Northwest Syria. Each MMU is conducting about 75 patient consultations per day, primarily with women and children. The Project HOPE team is identifying additional partners for MHPSS support in Syria. Project HOPE has also delivered an Interagency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK) to SRD containing essential medicines, medical supplies, and equipment to support primary health care services for up to 10,000 people over a three-month period. Project HOPE is currently procuring and allocating additional IEHKs and other needed resources for Syria.



Project HOPE partner, SAMU, conducted search and rescue operations in the days following the earthquakes. Photo by James Buck for Project HOPE, 2023.

ⁱ <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-earthquakes-recovery-and-reconstruction-assessment>

ⁱⁱ <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/turkiye-earthquakes-recovery-and-reconstruction-assessment>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/effects-february-2023-earthquake-labour-market-turkiye>

^{iv} <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/effects-february-2023-earthquake-labour-market-turkiye>

^v <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-65056253>

^{vi} <https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/14-02-2023-statement-turkiye-and-syria-earthquakes>