Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria
INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)
June 15th 2023, Situation Report 24

MAPPING OF IBC OPERATION IN TURKEY AND SYRIA

Turkey 9 province - 14 district
- Hatay (City Center, Kirıkhan)
- Kahramanmaraş (City Center, Élişan)
- Gaziantep (City Center, İskiliki, Nusayibi)
- Malatya (City Center, Elâzığ, Ceyhan)
- Şanlıurfa (City Center, Diyarbakır)
- Kilis (City Center, Diyarbakır)
- Adıyaman (City Center, Diyarbakır)
- Malatya (City Center, Elâzığ, Ceyhan)
- İzmir (City Center, Diyarbakır)

Syria 5 province
- Azaz
- Al Bab
- Dabiq
- Afrin
- Jinderes

www.ibc.org.tr
It has been 4 months since the earthquakes that were described as having the power of 130 atomic bombs occurred!

A collective effort is still underway to develop and rebuild the earthquake-stricken region!

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation (IBC) would like to extend our sincere condolences to all those affected by the earthquakes. IBC employees in the region are safe and accounted for, though some have lost family members and loved ones and saw their entire homes destroyed.

Thank you to all who continue to mobilize and heroic efforts of the many search and rescue teams. Immense and continued cooperation is needed to prevent further loss of life and suffering.

1. Developments

Four months have passed since the earthquakes with magnitudes of 7.7 and 7.6, centered in Kahramanmaras. To alleviate the suffering of the affected 11 provinces, all government institutions, public organizations, civil society groups, and nearly every individual in Türkiye continue to make every effort to contribute. In its latest statement, the Ministry of Interior announced that the death toll from the Kahramanmaras-centered earthquakes has risen to 50,783. The number of migrants who lost their lives in the region is reported to be 7,302.

While the demolition and debris removal operations continue in many cities affected by the earthquake, especially in Hatay, it is stated that these efforts will be completed within two months. Permanent housing is rapidly being constructed in the region, and the tents initially set up in Gaziantep, Kahramanmaras, Malatya, and Adiyaman for the accommodation of earthquake victims are now being replaced by containers. It is planned that those still living in tents will transition to container cities within one month, thus bringing an end to life in tent cities.
So far, more than 130,000 containers have been installed at 352 different locations under the coordination of AFAD, providing shelter for a total of 320,000 people.

Alongside these efforts, work towards the comprehensive development of the earthquake-stricken region has also gained momentum. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan announced that 11 new areas in certain districts of Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş, and Hatay will be declared as industrial zones. Erdogan said, with the publication of a decree, work has begun in these areas, covering a total area of 2,430 hectares.

2. Humanitarian Needs, Gaps and Response

Adiyaman
Adiyaman is stated to be one of the cities that suffered the most infrastructure damage in the earthquake, along with Hatay. Almost everyone in the city has lost one or more relatives or close acquaintances.

While the debris removal operations are still ongoing in the region, on the 122nd day of the earthquake, a lifeless body trapped under the rubble was recovered. Currently, 21 tent cities and 26 container cities have been established in the city. A total of 47,237 earthquake victims are accommodated in 12,396 containers.

According to the latest statement by the Ministry of Interior, 64,500 houses will be reconstructed in Adiyaman.

Gaziantep
Efforts are rapidly underway to heal the wounds and restore normalcy life in the Nurdagi and Islahiye districts of Gaziantep, which were affected by the earthquake. In the initial phase, some of the earthquake victims in these two districts were relocated to prefabricated houses. After the completion of the container cities, around 53,000 earthquake victims moved from tents to these new shelter areas.

With the completion of 29,751 houses and 12,607 village houses planned to be built in the region, a permanent solution to the housing problem will be achieved.

1 https://www.tccb.gov.tr/
According to the latest developments, there are currently only 900 tents remaining in the Nurdagi and Islahiye regions of Gaziantep, and the earthquake victims living in these tents are expected to transition to the completed containers in a short period of time.

Hatay

In Hatay, where the earthquake caused significant destruction, steps taken to address the housing problem are largely being resolved. The earthquake victims are being relocated to new living areas that include social amenities. Currently, out of the 3,388 container house requests in the Iskenderun district, 2,865 have been fulfilled. Social support units such as libraries, women's support centers, swimming pools, and mini football fields are also being constructed in the container cities to enhance the social life of the residents.
Kahramanmaras

In the epicenter of the earthquake, Kahramanmaras, a total of 86,000 earthquake victims are accommodated in 26,000 containers. Additionally, 20,300 earthquake victims are residing in tent cities. The construction work for the 77,000 permanent houses in the city is about to commence.

Sanliurfa

In Sanliurfa, the region that was also affected by flash floods following the earthquake, 17 people lost their lives due to heavy rainfall. Damage assessment studies have been completed in the city, and container clinics are being set up in Harran State Hospital, which was damaged during the earthquake.

Malatya

As the normalization efforts continue in Malatya, a total of 70,263 earthquake victims are housed in 18,000 container cities located in 51 different locations across the city. Work is ongoing to establish an additional 5,000 containers. Furthermore, it has been noted that the earthquake victims who are currently residing in the existing tent cities in the city center and districts will be relocated to the newly established container cities. Construction work has commenced for the construction of 70,000 permanent houses in Malatya.

North Syria

Syria, in addition to the crisis it has been facing for the past 12 years, is now trying to recover from the devastating earthquake disaster in which thousands of people have lost their lives.

Current reports indicate that approximately 2.9 million people have been affected by the earthquake in the region, and 302,500 people have been forced to leave their homes. According to the latest data, 8,476 people have lost their lives.
During the 7th Brussels Conference on Syria, representatives from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) came together to highlight that the war in Syria has lasted twice as long as World War II. The impact of the ongoing war, combined with the recent earthquake, was expressed as astronomical in terms of its effects on people.²

In Syria, where the economy and labor market have already suffered significant damage in the past 12 years, around 170,000 workers have lost their jobs due to the earthquake.

This loss directly affects 154,000 households and over 725,000 individuals, while approximately 35,000 micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises have also been affected. This temporary employment loss in Syria results in a labor income loss equivalent to at least $5.7 million per month.³

The five provinces in Syria that have been severely affected by the earthquake, namely Aleppo, Hama, Idlib, Latakia, and Tartus, are home to 42.4% of the country's population. Out of the 7.1 million people of working age in this population, 2.7 million were employed, either formally or informally, and 22.8% of them were women. Rebuilding livelihoods in the region, addressing poverty, informality, and exploitation, is crucial, and both workers and businesses require urgent assistance.

1. IBC in the Field

IBC is continuing its emergency response efforts in the earthquake-affected areas in collaboration with AFAD, the Turkish Red Crescent, municipalities, governorates, and all relevant stakeholders. The Blue Crescent Foundation operates in eight regions in Türkiye, namely Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Izmir, Kahramanmaras, Kilis, Malatya, and Sanlıurfa, as well as in five camps in El-Bab in North Syria, including operations in A’zaz camps and villages, including the pre-earthquake office.

As of April, IBC has completed the establishment of three community centers, child-friendly spaces, and one mother-child care center in the earthquake-affected areas.

IBC works in coordination with all governorates under protocols signed for efficient use of resources, while coordinating its projects with AFAD, Turkish Red Crescent, Directorate General of Migration Management, and all relevant stakeholders.

In addition, IBC obtains the necessary permissions from relevant institutions to carry out psychosocial support activities, and all operational support services are approved by the Ministry of Family and Social Services.

Following the devastating effects of the earthquake and the losses it caused, the vital needs of earthquake survivors have become even more evident. In areas where life has come to a standstill, such as Gaziantep/Islahiye and Hatay/Kirikhan, especially in villages and locations where tent settlements are established, access to hot meals and self-care facilities is more crucial than ever.

IBC which conducts regular needs assessments in the earthquake-affected region, has also made mobile kitchens, showers, and toilets available to earthquake survivors.

IBC serves over 2,000 hot meals daily through the mobile kitchens it has set up in the region. Regular hot meal distributions will continue in Islahiye container cities, Kredi Yurtlar Kurumu, Fevzipasa district, camp construction sites, and tent cities in Kirikhan / Hatay where access to hot meals is limited.
Among the most vulnerable groups affected by the earthquake, children undoubtedly hold the top priority. IBC provides clothing, health assistance (including medication and mobile medical services), hygiene materials, baby diapers, and formula support for newborns, children under the age of three, and school-age children. The aim is to meet the needs of children of all age groups and prevent potential risks such as secondary and tertiary health issues, hygiene problems, and growth retardation.

The container houses in Kirikhan/Hatay are provided through partnerships of IBC with Caritas, Conrad Hilton Foundation, JBC, Hungarian Church, GIZ, King Baudouin Foundation, Corus International, IDRF Canada, Muslim Charity, World Jewish Relief, and World Vision. Child-friendly spaces and psychosocial activity areas are supported by Good Neighbors International. UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) support continues in Gaziantep/Islahiye, with daily distribution of hot meals for 1,000 people.

IBC extends its gratitude to all its partners for their support, on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries.

Adiyaman
IBC has reached 9,878 beneficiaries through its support activities in Adiyaman in recent weeks. In the ongoing aid efforts in the region, distributions for new container areas in partnership with the Golbasi District Governorship are also planned.

With the support of Give2Asia, the distribution of 350 sets of women’s and children's underwear has been completed. In the coming days, 300 women's hygiene kits containing nail scissors, sanitary pads, hand cream, shampoo, mirror, comb, and soap, 300 baby diapers, and 200 adult diapers will be delivered to the earthquake survivors.
Distributions made in Adiyaman since May 19, 2023:

**In K-10 container city:**
- Baby Kits: 45 sets
- Women’s Hygiene Kits: 45 sets
- Kitchen Kits: 221 sets

**In K-14 container city:**
- Baby Kits: 35 sets
- Women’s Hygiene Kits: 35 sets

**In Kahta container city:**
- Baby Kits: 120 sets
- Women’s Hygiene Kits: 120 sets
- Kitchen Kits: 411 sets

**In Gölbaşı K-25 container city:**
- Kitchen Kits: 939 sets
- Breakfast Kits: 727 sets
- Women’s Hygiene Kits: 606 sets
- Baby Kits: 350 sets
- Hygiene Kits: 900 sets

Last week, with the support of WHH (Welthungerhilfe), 15 hygiene kits containing shampoo, wet wipes, toilet paper, paper towels, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, detergent, cologne, garbage bags, surgical masks, surgical gloves, and razors were distributed. Additionally, 353 breakfast meals containing muhammara, tahini, grape molasses, pumpkin preserves, and olives, 64 stationery kits including drawing pads, notebooks, pencils, erasers, watercolors, and pencil sharpeners, and 64 children’s clothing kits consisting of 3 underwear, 2 tank tops, and 2 pairs of socks were distributed in the region.
Distributions with the support of Give2Asia (Adiyaman)

Hygiene and kitchen kit distribution with the support of WHH (Adiyaman)

Hygiene and kitchen kit distribution with the support of World Vision (Adiyaman)
In Nurdagi Aslanli-3 Tent City, there are 390 tents and approximately 2000 people. In Islahiye Container City-1, there are 257 housing units and 1157 people. Additionally, 244 more containers have been set up in the second phase, accommodating approximately 1000 people. IBC continues its work in coordination with local authorities in these areas and the surrounding villages.

As part of psychosocial support activities in Nurdagi, home visits, individual consultations, needs assessments, and psychologist support are conducted. Within the scope of child-friendly area activities, sports events, skill development activities, free time activities, and creative drama activities continue. In addition, distributions of food, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, clothing, blankets, and underwear are ongoing as in-kind assistance.

In Islahiye, basic physical therapy services, hot meal services, and breakfast services are also provided. Hot meal distributions are carried out in Islahiye's container cities, student dormitories, Fevzipasa region, and camp installation areas through the mobile kitchen, which was established with the support of Action Medeor. Starting from March 21st, a daily hot meal service for 1250 people is provided, and starting from May 1st, breakfast services are provided to 260 households.
Distribution of food package and lighting devices (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

Distribution of stationery kits with the support of tradesmen in Esenyurt and children’s nutrition kits (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

Distributions since May 19, 2023:

**Nurdagi;**
- Food Kit: 300 pieces
- Children’s Stationery Kit: 275 pieces
- Children’s Food Kit: 300 pieces
- Hygiene Kit: 700 pieces

**Islahiye;**
- General Hygiene Kit: 300 pieces
- Food Package: 70 pieces
- Children’s Food Kit: 25 pieces
- Daily Hot Meal Service for 1250 people
- Weekly Breakfast Service for 260 households
Activities since May 19, 2023:

**Nurdagi;**
- Home Visits: 590
- Individual Consultations: 3598
- Child-Friendly Area Activities: 11801
- Group Meetings: 312

**Islahiye;**
- Home Visits: 804
- Individual Consultations: 3174
- Daily Hot Meal Service: 1250 people
- Weekly Breakfast Service: 260 households
- Child-Friendly Area Activities: 4832
- Basic Healthcare Service: Approximately 2400
Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria
INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)
June 15th 2023, Situation Report 24

Workshops with children in Aslanlı-3 Tent City (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)

Workshops with children in the IBC Community Center Tent (Islahiye, GAZIANTEP)

19 May Youth and Sports Day event in the container city (Nurdagi, GAZIANTEP)
Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria
INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)
June 15th 2023, Situation Report 24

Hatay
With the support of AFAD in Hatay, the infrastructure and container installation work of Kirikhan Community Center, where earthquake survivors can access many services such as food support, children’s center, psychosocial support, and protection measures activities, have been completed.

Kirikhan container camp; With the contributions of JDC, Hungarian Church, GIZ, IDRF, CORUS, Muslim Charity, WJR, World Vision, Good Neighbors, King Baudoin Foundation and Caritas, it is being built in an order that will expand from 400 houses on 34 acres to several hundred houses on 60 acres. The area will house an estimated 3000 people; Access to electricity, water and sanitation will be provided.

Since May 31, 2023, in the AFAD & IBC Temporary Living Area, earthquake-affected families have been placed in 188 containers by AFAD, and registration for 648 individuals has been completed. As per the instructions of the district governor, the families to be placed in the first 200 containers have received the keys, and the delivery of keys for the remaining 200 containers will begin in the coming days.
Since May 31, 2023, the following distributions have taken place:

In the Yeni Neighbourhood Dispersed Tent City:
- 400 servings of hot meals
- 400 servings of breakfast meals

In the Aydinli Neighbourhood Dispersed Tent City:
- 300 servings of hot meals
- 300 servings of breakfast meals

At the construction site:
- 150 servings of hot meal
- 150 servings of breakfast meals

Hot meal distribution with the support of IDRF (Kirikhan, HATAY)

Workshops for children (Kirikhan, HATAY)
Kahramanmaraş

As of May 24, 2023, a total of 47 activities have reached 2717 beneficiaries, including creative drama, psychosocial support sessions, educational sessions, cinema screenings, baby-friendly area activities, health counseling, and individual counseling. Additionally, 35 child nutrition kits and 9 breastfeeding kits were distributed in the Baby-Friendly Area.

As of May 25, 2023, the following distributions were made:

**In Cumhuriyet Container City:**
- Food Packages: 850 units
- Heaters: 380 units
- Baby Hygiene Kits: 200 units
- Women’s Hygiene Kits: 400 units

**In the villages:**
- Food Packages: 360 units
- Mobile Toilets: 6 units
- Books: 300 units
Devastating Earthquakes in Southern Türkiye and North Syria
INTERNATIONAL BLUE CRESCENT RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (IBC)
June 15th 2023, Situation Report 24

Kilis
Since 2011, IBC has been carrying out important social cohesion and child-friendly area activities at the Kilis Community Center, which has become a significant center for the region. In addition to these activities, it currently serves as the main coordination center for IBC, including cross-border projects. The Kilis Community Center collaborates with local authorities, public institutions, and other NGOs to effectively and permanently address the problems faced by earthquake victims.

The center conducts various activities for individuals affected by the earthquake, including psychosocial support, protection, social cohesion, skills training, school and homework support, information and counseling services, and orientation services.

In recent days, in collaboration with IOM, the Kilis Municipality Youth Center organized creative drama workshops and improvisational theater activities for young people.
Furthermore, focus group meetings were organized recently to help home-based women cope with the emotional challenges they face after natural disasters. Morning coffee gatherings were held during these activities to facilitate social interaction, promote mutual support, and strengthen social bonds. Based on the findings from these meetings, group psychosocial support sessions were conducted.

Sanliurfa
IBC is carrying out its activities in collaboration with Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality and other NGOs in the region. In the past weeks, distributions of general hygiene kits and baby hygiene kits have been completed for those in need in the area. Additionally, mental health and psychosocial support activities are ongoing in the region. Through material assistance, psychosocial support programs, mental health support, social cohesion activities, and individual consultations, IBC has reached over 10,000 beneficiaries in Sanliurfa.
North Syria

IBC’s Northern Syria team has continued to visit the tent camps in the region as part of the Mobile Clinic project this week. The camps visited by the Community Health teams include Qatar Village, Al Hadath Camp, Sosnbat Camp, Tadiff Village, and Tadif Camp. Since May 24, 2023, a total of 3,198 patients have received health services at the visited camps, and 1,058 patients have received health services at the Dialysis Center.
In addition, the work at Dabiq Health Center is ongoing. This week, 3,584 patients have been treated at Dabiq, and services have been provided for 84 patients through referrals made with the assistance of IBC ambulances.

IBC has also accelerated its efforts to address the significant challenges of access to clean water and sanitation in the region. They are working on completing the construction of water tanks in the Soran area.

In A’zaz;

With the support of Action Medeor, 250 hygiene kits for families, 250 hygiene kits for women, and 150 hygiene kits for children, as well as 362 baby diapers, have been distributed. 13 packages of diapers have been provided for the elderly in the Shammar Camp and Al Hilal Camp. Additionally, 362 adult diapers have been distributed to disabled and ill individuals in dispersed camps in the Sijjo area.

With the support of Kinder, 150 food parcels have been distributed at the Mefrak Niyara Camp, reaching 935 people.

With the support of IDRF, 550 food parcels have been distributed at the EGDA Camp, reaching approximately 3,600 people.

Medical Global has supported the distribution of five water purification devices.

These efforts aim to address the urgent needs of the affected population in Northern Syria and provide them with essential services and support.
Coordination

Coordination is central to the humanitarian response for the earthquake’s regions. In this context, IBC has mobilized its full capacity in the region to cooperate and participate in daily and weekly meetings and in contact with AFAD authorities, Governors, District Governors, municipalities, and all relevant provincial representatives along with NGOs and civil society actors. Local and national NGOs involved in the earthquake response are organized under the name of Local Humanitarian Forum (LHF) which IBC participates in, in coordination with other local actors to improve coordination and inclusion of local NGOs and CSOs to the newly implemented OCHA cluster system in Türkiye. To that end, IBC participated to a number of sectoral meetings this past week including:

- Türkiye / UN OCHA - Food Security and Livelihoods Weekly Meeting
- Türkiye / UN OCHA - Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Meeting (WASH)
- Türkiye / UN OCHA - Shelter Meeting
- Cross-border Syria / UN OCHA - Food Security and Livelihoods Weekly Meeting

Through the cluster system and coordination mechanisms, effective humanitarian aid is provided and standardized in line with international standards, preventing duplication of aid, and promoting humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, independence, and impartiality.

The earthquakes response is still evolving.

Shelter/tents, thermal clothing, sleeping bags, heat, water, power supply, and baby care kits are still urgently needed.
As personnel on the ground are tasked with recovering the deceased and evaluating structural damage, the relief efforts to meet the hundreds of thousands of displaced residents must continue to be scaled up, especially for the most vulnerable women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons facing protection issues due to legal status in Türkiye.

IBC will keep all partners and potential donors appraised of the current situation regularly...
The earthquakes response is still evolving.

As personnel on the ground are tasked with recovering the deceased and evaluating structural damage, the relief efforts to meet the hundreds of thousands of displaced residents must continue to be scaled up, especially for the most vulnerable women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons facing protection issues due to legal status in Türkiye.

IBC will keep all partners and potential donors appraised of the current situation regularly...
We ask our partners and international civil society members to help us in these tragic days so that together we may overcome the suffering of our people. Please, keep us in your minds.

For urgent information and to help, you can reach:

**Muzaffer Baca**  
Vice President  
+90 532 2344229  
mbaca@ibc.org.tr

**Alper Mavi**  
Regional Coordinator  
+90 538 5159806  
alper.mavi@ibc.org.tr

**Heather Uner**  
Programs and Partnerships Manager  
partnerships@ibc.org.tr

1. IBC Earthquake Photos Updated Daily:  

2. Kirikhan/Hatay Container Home Camp Photos:  

3. Donate to Help Earthquake Victims via IBC at GlobalGiving:  
   [http://goto.gg/58539](http://goto.gg/58539)

To follow our work, visit our website: [WWW.IBC.ORG.TR](http://WWW.IBC.ORG.TR) or follow us on:

- [@ibc_tr](https://twitter.com/ibc_tr)
- [@ibctr](https://twitter.com/ibctr)
- [IBC Uluslararası Mavi Hilal](https://www.facebook.com/ibc.tr)
- [IBC Uluslararası Mavi Hilal Vakfı](https://www.facebook.com/ibc.tr)
- [International Blue Crescent (IBC)](https://www.facebook.com/ibc.tr)