

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FLASH APPEAL

IOM EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

An earthquake of 7.7 magnitude hit Southern Türkiye and Northern Syria in the early hours (4:17 AM) of Monday 06 February 2023, followed closely followed by another one of magnitude 7.5. The quake, with epicenter in Southern Türkiye, is one of the strongest to hit the region in more than 100 years. The death toll in Türkiye and Syria is reported to have reached at least 34,179 people, and is likely much higher.

In north-west Syria, as of 12 February, the earthquake is reported to have affected at least 78 communities and 35 sub-districts, resulting in more than 4,300 deaths and 7,200 injuries. More than 1,700 buildings have been completely destroyed, more than 5,700 have been heavily damaged or partially destroyed, and over 11,000 families are homeless (OCHA).

The situation is especially dire for the 4.1 million people who rely on humanitarian assistance in north-west Syria. Many affected families are reported to be staying with friends or relatives; however, large numbers are estimated to be staying in temporary collective centres or makeshift shelters out in the open. Already, 2.9 million people have been displaced in this area. Since the earthquake, more than 30,000 displacement movements were recorded (CCCM cluster), and flooding in Idleb forced 7,000 people to evacuate their homes. Partners report that around 90,000 women, children and vulnerable persons are currently sheltered in more than 164 collective shelters. The high risk of

aftershocks in the coming weeks is preventing families from returning to their homes safely.

The immediate needs include: 1) heavy machinery for debris removal and immediate search and rescue teams; 2) tents, isolation rolls and non-food items (NFI); 3) heating materials, 4) emergency food assistance; 5) water trucking and sanitation support; 6) lifesaving medical support; 7) fuel for hospitals and health centers; 8) transportation assistance; 9) Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) support; and 11) protection interventions, including the establishment of safe spaces for women and girls and family reunification support.

IOM SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC APPEAL (USD) (February - April 2023)	
SNFI	19 M
WASH	17.5 M
CCCM	7.5 M
Health	5 M
Protection	2 M
Total	51 M

IOM CAPACITY

In 2014, IOM started its first Cross-Border Programme in Türkiye for north-west Syria, with a focus on the procurement, storage, shipment, and distribution of life-saving humanitarian relief items. Since then, IOM's cross-border operations have grown to include humanitarian activities in different sectors, including provision of shelter, water and sanitation, relief items, protection, and food. These programs reach more than one million Syrians annually with essential assistance.

IOM has more than 500 personnel based in south-eastern Türkiye, operating extensive supply-chain management systems to ensure rapid, smooth, and accountable flow of emergency stocks, utilizing IOM's warehouses across Türkiye. IOM works with implementing partners in north-west Syria to ensure that global standards and protocols are followed during the implementation of activities. IOM prioritizes programme approaches that are conflict, climate and gender-sensitive, upholds humanitarian principles, mainstreams protection, adheres to do-no-harm principles, and is accountable to those affected by the compounded crises. Protection principles are mainstreamed across interventions to ensure safety and dignity, avoid causing harm and support the meaningful access to assistance for all persons in need, without discrimination. This includes GBV risk mitigation as well as Disability Inclusion of Persons.

A particular attention will be given to effective participation and empowerment of the community, ensuring that Complaint and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) and other reporting mechanisms related to Prevention against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and the Child Safeguarding Policy are in place to prevent misconduct and increase accountability to affected population, in line with the IOM AAP Framework. A priority, along with addressing the immediate needs in disaster affected communities, is to work towards improving preparedness and reduce disaster risks.

COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS

IOM's cross-border humanitarian activities are implemented in line with the UN inter-agency Flash Appeal for Syria, and are closely coordinated with interagency clusters, technical working groups, and through inter-agency coordination fora at the country and global level. IOM plays an important role in the cross-border Shelter/NFI, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), CCCM, Protection, Early Recovery (ERL) and Health clusters. IOM is a key actor in the Humanitarian Liaison Group and Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, and at the regional level, IOM is an active member of the Whole of Syria Strategic Steering Group.

IOM works through Syrian NGO partners as well as international NGOs to implement programming in north-west Syria, with dedicated systems in place to ensure quality, monitoring and accountability of project activities. Through these partnerships, IOM also undertakes regular capacity-building initiatives with its partners, to strengthen capacities and support a sustainable and effective response.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM CCCM interventions will facilitate essential assistance to 352,500 individuals in some of the most severely hit areas. IOM will carry out site improvements in 150 IDP sites hosting 262,200 individuals through infrastructure repairs of lighting poles, water taps, latrines, and damaged communal areas, and rehabilitate fire points. Additionally, IOM will install 10 reception centers (rub halls) to host people affected by the crisis. The reception centers will provide urgent shelter from winter conditions as well as heating and food to families transiting to or from temporary accommodation. Where feasible locally, IOM will engage in site preparation and site management in conjunction with its tent activities proposed under its S/NFI sector, including in shelter and other sites.

Funding required

\$7,500,000

Target individuals

352,500

SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (S/NFI)

IOM S/NFI response in NWS will provide life-saving assistance to 159,000 displaced persons in the most affected areas. IOM will provide immediate shelter assistance (tents) and, where feasible, shelter repairs, to 35,000 individuals whose homes are either destroyed or uninhabitable, and plastic sheets to 61,000 people. Emergency shelters will provide the most affected individuals protection from extreme weather conditions. Moreover, IOM will provide lifesaving NFI kits containing a kitchen set, a hygiene kit, mattresses, blankets, jerrycans, plastic sheets, solar lamps, diapers, and carpets. This will cover the emergency basic needs of more than 98,270 vulnerable individuals, particularly in light of the disruption of the markets resulting in families struggling to meet their urgent needs. As a consignee for in-kind supplies, IOM will also be responsible for transporting and distributing in-kind items on behalf of member states and partners. Markets and financial infrastructure will be regularly assessed to determine feasibility and appropriateness of cash based interventions.

Funding required

\$19,000,000

Target individuals

159,000



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PROTECTION

Crisis affected populations are often exposed to compounded protection risks, including family separation, loss and damage of civil status and property documentation and risk of gender-based violence (GBV). To uphold affected individuals' rights, IOM implements its response activities through an integrated approach that mainstreams protection and helps mitigate risks of gender-based violence. Accordingly, IOM protection activities will mitigate and respond to protection risks of 20,000 individuals with providing critical protection services, such as Psychosocial First Aid (PFA), general protection and child protection concerns' referral to specialized and non-specialized services, and ensuring IOM safely and ethically handles disclosures of GBV survivors to receive lifesaving support provision of in-kind assistance, legal information, counselling services (MHPSS), family tracing and reunification and safe spaces for women and girls. IOM will participate in rapid protection assessments and multisectoral safety audits to better understand the contextualized risks facing diverse groups affected by the earthquake. All assessment findings will be used to tailor the Protection response alongside informing all humanitarian actors on mainstreaming interventions as well as information sharing to the affected population. IOM will continuously coordinate with relevant clusters, local authorities, and other stakeholders to map available services and understand the urgent emerging needs to adapt protection interventions accordingly.

Funding required

\$2,000,000

Target individuals

20,000

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

The earthquake took place during a harsh winter with sub-zero temperatures, snowfalls, and floods. Many affected people are staying in temporary collective centers or makeshift settlements without minimum or adequate water and sanitation services. The existing water supply and sewage systems collapsed due to the earthquake. Consequently, vulnerable individuals are becoming increasingly exposed to the risk of infectious diseases, including cholera, COVID-19, and other diseases. Therefore, IOM's WASH intervention will include: 1) supplying chlorinated water trucking to 561,145 individuals; 2) establishing water distribution points; 3) installing emergency toilets; 4) conducting emergency repairs of WASH facilities and infrastructure; 5) conducting sewage and solid waste management activities; and 6) distributing hygiene and cholera kits.

Funding required

\$17,500,000

Target individuals

436,446



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DIRECT HEALTH SUPPORT

The huge number of casualties is overwhelming hospitals and medical centers in north-west Syria, particularly those with limited medical, surgical, and intensive care unit (ICU) beds. As part of its health response, IOM will provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations through supporting clinics and hospitals by procuring vital medical items (equipment and/or medicines), in close coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Health Cluster. IOM will also support clinics and hospitals including mobile clinics with operational running costs and rehabilitation of infrastructure to enable them to stay operational and scale-up their medical response to meet the needs. Furthermore, IOM will work closely with implementing partners to provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services at different levels. Finally, IOM will support outbreak preparedness and response including community-based surveillance, risk communication and community engagement and population mobility mapping to inform public health events.

Funding required

\$5,000,000

Target individuals

100,000

This IOM Flash Appeal is fully aligned with the [UN Flash Appeal for Syria](#). The urgent needs captured here also complements the activities outlined in the [IOM's Crisis Response Plan \(2023\)](#), and capture the additional and immediate needs brought on by the devastating earthquake.



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