



World Vision's Response to the catastrophic earthquake in Turkey and Syria

Background

At 4:17 in the morning on 6 February, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck northwestern Turkey. According to latest reports, this enormous tremor has already caused over 16,000 deaths in both Turkey, and Syria while over 20,000 are reportedly injured. At least 20 strong aftershocks have also been reported in southern and central Turkey and will likely continue for the next several days. The damage has been incredible, with dozens of cities and town experiencing severe damage to infrastructure.

Key highlights

Magnitude

7.8

earthquake about
23 miles (37km).

20,000

reportedly injured in
Syria and Turkey.

16,000

deaths recorded
so far in Syria and Turkey.

World Vision's Response

- From early Monday morning World Vision teams have been working in Turkey and Syria assessing the damage and helping those affected by this disaster.
- World Vision is already conducting a rapid assessment, and the team is in close contact with the UN and governments to ensure an effective coordinated response.
- Cold and sub-zero temperatures are a real concern – so providing lifesaving non-food items and heating will continue to be a priority. At least 20 medical facilities have been partially or completely damaged. World Vision's teams on the ground have already begun distributing fuel and heat to shelters holding those who have lost their homes. Key emergency items that will be needed include tents, blankets, mattresses, tarpaulins, heaters and ready to eat food).
- World Vision's immediate areas of response will cover Gaziantep and Sanliurfa in Turkey, as well as Azaz, Afrin and Idlib, in Northern Syria.

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