

Syria Türkiye Earthquake Response (STER)

World Vision

Situation Report #4 | **April 21 2023**

On February 6, two earthquakes of 7.7 and 7.5 magnitudes occurred in Türkiye's Kahramanmaraş Province, followed by subsequent 6.4 and 5.8 magnitude quakes on February 20. 11 provinces in Türkiye's southeast region and neighboring Syria were impacted. The tremors were felt by millions of people across the area up to 1,000km (621 miles) away. According to government and UN sources, more than 55,190 people have died, and 129,490 have been injured. OCHA's flash appeals for Türkiye and Syria collectively note that 17.9 million people have been directly affected, 10.1 million need humanitarian assistance, and the humanitarian community is asking for 1.398 billion USD to address the issue. Additionally, heavy rains in Türkiye and Syria have caused flooding

and have exacerbated the shelter crisis in both countries. World Vision supported affected people within hours of the earthquakes and the floods by working through local partners. These efforts continue.

On March 20, the international community met in Brussels to collect funds for post-earthquake support in Türkiye and Syria. Together, they raised EUR7 billion in grants and loans, of which EUR 911 million was collected in grants for Syria, in addition to EUR1.7 billion in grants and EUR4.3 billion in loans for Türkiye.¹ Overall, the appeal for Syria before the earthquake was only 6% funded, whereas the flash appeal for earthquake relief was 95% funded.²



Map of World Vision Syria Response countries – showing where WVSR is responding

¹ <https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-03/Pledging%20Statement%20of%20the%20International%20Donors%E2%80%99%20Conference%20for%20the%20people%20in%20T%C3%BCrkiye%20and%20Syria.pdf>

² https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/overview/2023/plans?order=requirements_original&sort=desc

Key Needs

Türkiye:

As of March 16, approximately 2.3 million people live in temporary settlements in earthquake-affected areas, of which 1.6 million (70%) live in scattered informal settlements. Overcrowding and unsafe and unhygienic living conditions in shelters pose significant risks. The needs and risks continue in many sectors, such as health, education, protection, shelter, food security, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). Health services (mental health), shelter, water-sanitation facilities, protection (psychosocial support), and continuity of education are priority needs.

NW Syria:

In NW Syria, shelter and education are the two priority sectors. World Vision's rapid assessment noted that 94% of respondents reported their homes had been damaged in the earthquake. Half of these reported that it had been destroyed. Additionally, OCHA reports that "Heavy rain and storms affected northwest Syria (over the weekend of March 25), flooding 30 displacement sites, 1,500 tents were destroyed or damaged." In the education sector, 84% of needs assessment respondents reported that the earthquake had negatively affected their ability to access education for their children. Many schools were damaged, and over 100 are used as temporary shelters for displaced people. Multi-purpose cash remains one of the most effective modalities for delivering aid since the underlying vulnerabilities of the population mean that households have variable and urgent needs.

STER Goal

Through a combination of private donations and grants, World Vision Syria Response, through the Syria and Türkiye Earthquake Response (STER), is responding in the earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye and NW Syria. World Vision will respond mainly through the organization's partners to provide **WASH support, education, health and nutrition assistance, shelter and survival items, cash and voucher assistance, livelihoods, and child protection activities.**

- **Phase 1 – Emergency Assistance (First 30 Days of the Response: February 6- March 5)** - In the Emergency Assistance phase, World Vision paused its ongoing programming. It was critical to ensure that employees and their families were safe. Once this was assured, the team rapidly began allocating funding to partners and conducting direct implementation through MPCA; find out more in our first Situation Report [here](#).
- **Phase 2 – Stabilization (March 6 to end Sept 2023)** - transition from immediate life-saving activities to rehabilitating critical WASH, Education, Livelihood (cash for work), and Protection activities.
- **Phase 3 – Rehabilitation (Oct 2023 to Sept 2024)** - We will continue strengthening our response by integrating STER into ongoing programming.

Rapid Assistance provided (as of April 10)

Türkiye: World Vision continued providing WASH activities through its partner Support to Life (STL) by providing 30 days' safe water for 9,600 people, provision of 2,400 hygiene and dignity kits, provision of latrines for 2000 people for 30 days, provision of 600 emergency water storage containers, provision of communal water tanks in Adiyaman and Hatay. World Vision reached 38,150 households through its WASH intervention. World Vision also provided Hygiene Kits to 1,500 households last week in Adiyaman in partnership with Support to Life (STL). 

Syria: On April 11, WV received ten air shelters, some of which will be used to support health facilities. Additionally, 1953 households have received blankets and other NFI, and 155,600 liters of fuel have been distributed to help families manage the cold weather. 2,004 families received cash to buy food, medicines, and other essential items. 2,262 hygiene kits have been distributed. 34,594 people have had a primary health care consultation in a World Vision-supported facility, and 14,045 hot or ready-to-eat meals have been distributed. 

Key Activities in the coming weeks

Türkiye: World Vision will continue providing NFI kits to 4500 households in Adiyaman in April in coordination with AFAD and its local partners. World Vision is also procuring 200 living containers for the affected population in a Suruc (Sanlirurfa) village and Kirikhan, Hatay. NFI kits will also be provided to 200 households in Kirikhan.

World Vision and national partner IBC are in the process of providing voucher assistance, protection, and MHPSS services to community members affected by the earthquakes in Sanliurfa, Kilis, and Adiyaman provinces under GIRO 555 funding. World Vision and IBC will target a total of 3000 households (15,000 individuals, with short-term transitional three-month emergency voucher assistance (2500 TL/per household/Month).

Additional concepts are being developed for child-friendly spaces in Gaziantep's Islahiye or Nurdagi districts. Lastly, World Vision will support the Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) by procuring Hygiene kits distributed to 900 households or approximately 4500 individuals in Islahiye (Gaziantep).

World Vision is procuring Hygiene Kits for 900 households in the affected communities in Islahiye (Gaziantep).

Syria: Current programming, which began before the earthquake, will continue. Additionally, World Vision will procure 15,000 kits for school children, including school supplies, and start distribution in schools. World Vision is also setting up tents for vulnerable children to have safe places to play and receive services.

STER Budget



STER has raised over USD62 million through fourteen grants (60% of total funding) and private funds (40%). An additional USD 8.5 million in grants is in the immediate funding pipeline.

Visits

Our long-term registration in Türkiye has been renewed. This means that the office is open to visits within specific parameters and in consideration of the dynamic political and security context. All visits must be coordinated by the Response Advocacy and Communications manager (Hamzah_Barhameyeh@wvi.org) and approved by the Response Director (Johan_Moojj@wvi.org) before departure as early as possible. A protocol is under development which must be filled and signed before the planning starts. As for Northwest Syria, international staff visits are impossible due to the unstable security situation and high-risk context.

Assessments

World Vision and its partners conducted a Disaster Impact Assessment (DIA) from 6-22 March. The assessment focused on identifying the critical humanitarian needs of the affected population in five districts and focused primarily on the psychosocial well-being of children. Two hundred sixty-nine caregivers and 528 children responded to the survey. Key findings include:

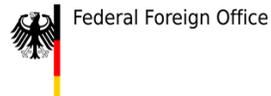
- Psychosocial effects on children were evident and troubling. 71% reported having “bad dreams” at least twice a week since the earthquake. 90% of caregivers said their children were “still afraid/ suffering psychological effects.”
- 99% of caregivers report having no psychological support since the earthquake.

- 94% of respondents said their shelters were damaged during the earthquakes. 66% live in tents currently, and of these, 72% report that they don’t know when they will be able to settle in their own homes again.
- 79% reported that food prices have increased “significantly.”
- 54% of respondents currently rely on water trucking, and 20% rely on a communal collection point for their water collection. 97% report that they do not treat their water before drinking it.
- 75% of caregivers reported that the earthquake affected their children’s education to a “great extent.” 84% said that their child stopped going to school after the quake.

Donors and World Vision offices supporting the STER



through World Vision Spain



through World Vision Germany



through World Vision Ireland



through World Vision Australia, Ireland, Netherlands and New Zealand



through World Vision Germany



through World Vision Netherlands



through World Vision Ireland



through World Vision Canada, Germany, Switzerland and United Kingdom



through World Vision United Kingdom



through World Vision Canada



through World Vision Japan



through World Vision United Kingdom



through World Vision Netherlands



through World Vision Canada



Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland



through World Vision Spain

World Vision offices in Australia, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan, United Kingdom and United States have also contributed more than 1 million USD in private funding.

Key Communications & Advocacy activities

Communications:

A Father's Quest to Save His Children

Syrian history is riddled with unforgettable dates- March 15 marks the beginning of the Syrian war that ravaged the country and **now-6 February is engraved in their memories.**

"During the earthquake, the situation was horrible, it felt like the end of the World," Shares Yahya who grabbed his children tightly as his house swayed from left to right.*

The 40-year-old father and his family, and mother are a couple of Syrians who managed to escape the rubble. But that wasn't the case for [7 thousand](#) Syrians who waited for help that never arrived.

As they managed to make their escape, Yahya had a moment of hope where he turned off the lights. Maybe a part of him prayed in a couple of minutes they'd go back home- **but fate decided otherwise.** Miraculously, the family made it outside, only to be greeted by freezing weather and another aftershock. Now, the family can't go back inside, and the scene of their home falling apart made it impossible to risk reclaiming any belongings.

So, with nothing but with clothes on their backs, they headed to a temporary shelter. They were stunned, the family was among [86,000 people](#) who also became displaced after their homes were completely or partially destroyed. There are *"no schools, no toilets, there is only one and people queue to use it. We are 13 people, and we are in one tent," he shares.* This means a lack of privacy for his mother, no education for his children and limited resources to survive.

Syria earthquake affected a severely devastated country that has been witnessing war for the past 12 years. But people are resilient, and Yahya is a prime example. His determination to salvage his family shows the great length a father is willing to go to just to keep his family safe.



External Consultant, World Vision Syria Response

Other communications products,

- Samer* is a loving father who moved all over Syria just to keep his children safe from war and shelling. Just when he thought it was stable enough and he began to feel productive and happy in a displacement camp near the Turkish border, the earthquake struck forcing him to go through the hardships all over again. Read his story here and learn more about how he struggled with securing water when he settled in the displacement camp and how it was later resolved. Read his story [here](#).
- Samer*, who gathered all his children and mother under his wing and managed to save them from the swaying building. *"I was sliding from the fourth floor to the ground floor," he shares.* Read his full story [here](#).
- Azizah* waited seven long years for her child. 27-year-old Azizah shares the difficult journey she had to go through to be a mother, *"every time I was going to the doctor, my husband would be waiting for good news. Unfortunately, every time I would come back and tell him that there was no pregnancy, he was feeling devastated".* Read her story [here](#).

Advocacy:

- Posted a [statement](#) addressing the tragic loss of an 8-year-old girl in an Idlib IDPs camp due to a severe windstorm. The February 6 [earthquakes](#) in Türkiye and northern Syria exacerbated existing hardships, including an ongoing [cholera](#) outbreak and water scarcity crisis.
- Collaborated with the SIRF group to provide contribution discussing "the lack of focus on durable solutions," as part of preparations for the Senior Officials Meeting on May 10.

CONTACT INFORMATION