17 February 2023

15.8 million
Population in the affected 11 provinces (including 1.7 million refugees)

4.1 million
Women of reproductive age (estimate)

226,000
Pregnant women (estimate)

25,000
Births in the next month (estimate, under normal circumstances)

HIGHLIGHTS

● UNFPA is scaling up its response with partners to safeguard the health and rights of women and girls, including to give birth safely and to live free from violence and abuse.

● Nine percent of UNFPA’s appeal has been realized. UNFPA’s remaining funding requirement is USD 18 million for life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) interventions in Türkiye’s earthquake-affected areas.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

● On 6 February, two big earthquakes with 7.7 and 7.6 magnitudes, respectively, hit areas of Türkiye and neighboring countries. 2,724 tremors were felt between 6-10 February.

● The earthquakes severely affected 11 provinces in southeastern Türkiye, including Kahramanmaraş, Adana, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Elazığ, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye and Şanlıurfa, with about 15.8 million inhabitants, including 1.7 million refugees. Some 272,000 people have been evacuated from earthquake-hit areas.

● The earthquakes caused significant loss of life and mass destruction of residential and public buildings. Around 25,000 buildings were destroyed.

● A Level 4 Emergency was declared by the Government of Türkiye. A State of Emergency was declared on 8 February for the affected provinces for 3 months.

● As of 16 February, some 36,000 people have lost their lives and 108,000 people are injured. Casualty numbers are still expected to rise significantly.

● There is an imminent danger of serious epidemics due to unmet hygiene needs in the affected areas. Shelter, heating, sanitation, NFIs (including hygiene and dignity kits), food items and health are the short-term priority needs.

● There is a significant need for mobile and temporary service units.
Sexual and reproductive health needs: The earthquakes caused severe destruction of health facilities. Around 15 hospitals, including maternity hospitals, as well as several primary health care facilities in the 11 provinces have been damaged. Due to transportation disruptions, and many roads still being unpassable, earthquake survivors face difficulties accessing health services.

GBV and protection needs: In times of crisis, women and girls, and other vulnerable groups, face increased risks of GBV. Many women and children in the earthquake-affected areas are traumatized and need psychosocial support. Public facilities providing GBV response services in Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Adıyaman were demolished. There is a need for longer-term shelter for GBV survivors who had already been under protection before the earthquake.

Basic needs for hygiene and dignity supplies: Access to basic needs is a severe problem in the earthquake-affected region, particularly for menstrual hygiene and sanitary products, as well as clean underwear. Both earthquake survivors and volunteers operating in the region have very limited access to clean water, showers, toilets, and hand washing points. This has increased the risk of a spread of infectious diseases.

Needs of particularly vulnerable refugee groups: UNFPA’s rapid assessment among this group indicates safe shelter and psychosocial support counseling as priorities. With regard to emergency needs, 72% need shelter, 38% need food, 23% lack soap and other sanitary products, 19% lack heating in their houses, 10% of the respondents need medical assistance and 3% need cash support.

Youth specific needs: A second rapid assessment among youth, conducted in Hatay, highlighted that most of the young people in the province, which is one of the most severely affected areas,
have moved to other provinces, were accommodated in temporary shelters or were hosted by families and friends where they live in crowded spaces. This situation is expected to lead to an increased number of GBV cases, cases of violence against women and children, unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Cash for protection is a stringent need for this specific group.

**UNFPA RESPONSE**

- **Strengthening SRH & GBV Service Provision and Coordination:** UNFPA is working in close collaboration with the Turkish Ministry of Health (on health), Ministry of Family and Social Services (on GBV) and Presidency of Migration Management (on protection), in order to make sure that life-saving SRH and GBV services remain available to all earthquake survivors.

- **UNFPA-Supported Service Delivery Units:** UNFPA continues to provide uninterrupted SRH and protection services for the most vulnerable refugee groups and local communities through 5 out of 7 supported service units in the affected provinces, including in Adana (1), Diyarbakır (2), Hatay (0) and Şanlıurfa (2). One service unit in Hatay has not resumed operations yet. In addition, UNFPA supported service units in other provinces are providing GBV and SRH services to relocated earthquake survivors.

- **UNFPA mobile teams:** Health and psychosocial support have become one of the most critical elements for the affected population. To scale up the provision of life-saving services, UNFPA deployed 7 mobile outreach teams in Adana (1), Hatay (1), Sanliurfa (2), Diyarbakır (2), and Adiyaman (1) to provide SRH and GBV services including psychosocial support to survivors in hard-to-reach areas with the support of its partners and in coordination with the public authorities. The mobile teams also distribute dignity and maternity kits.

- **Reproductive Health Commodities:** UNFPA is ensuring that life-saving SRH services will continue by providing reproductive health commodities to local health authorities. UNFPA is in the process of procuring RH kits targeting 250,000 women.

- **Dignity and Maternity kits:** UNFPA continues distributing dignity and maternity kits through its partners to women and girls, young people and other vulnerable groups who have lost their belongings in the earthquake. 4045 dignity and maternity kits have been distributed. UNFPA is in the process of procuring 15,000 dignity kits and 5000 maternity kits.

**COORDINATION**

UNFPA will be mainly operating under the Health and Protection sub-sectors of the UN Earthquake Response Coordination Mechanism. As the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) GBV Sub-Working Group co-chair, UNFPA has been working with partners on mapping of existing service providers, referral mechanisms and key messages for affected individuals. UNFPA, as a partner of the UN Inter-Agency Assessment Working Group, is joining forces with other UN agencies to conduct a multi-sectoral rapid assessment of urgent needs.
FUNDING SITUATION

$19.7 M required  9% funded

- USD 1.8 million, including core UNFPA funds allocated for the emergency response, has been received from donors for the initial rapid response that will provide life-saving SRH and GBV services including IA Emergency RH Kits, dignity kits, maternity kits and psychosocial support.
- UNFPA's current funding requirement is close to USD 20 million for lifesaving SRH and GBV interventions in Türkiye's earthquake-affected areas.
- The OCHA-led UN Flash Appeal for Türkiye was launched on 16 February for a total of USD 1 billion. UNFPA’s current appeal is part of this Flash Appeal.
- UNFPA has initiated global and national donation campaigns targeting individuals as well as private sector donors that would like to support women and girls affected by the earthquake in Türkiye and the region.