

Recovery and Reconstruction after the 2023 Earthquakes in Türkiye

24 February 2023

Proposed Areas of UNDP Assistance

A series of devastating earthquakes hit Türkiye and Syria on 6 February 2023. The death toll in Türkiye has already exceeded 43,000 with more than 105,505 people injured, and the numbers keep climbing. The devastation hit 11 provinces - Kahramanmaraş, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Adana, Adıyaman, Osmaniye, Hatay, Kilis, Malatya and Elazığ - which cover a vast area in the Southeast with a population of 13.5 million. This region is not only less wealthy than the rest of the country; it also hosts half of the 3.7 million displaced Syrians who have taken refuge in Türkiye over the past ten years.

The scope and scale of the disaster are unprecedented, with damage and losses estimated as high as US\$84 billion. Recovery and reconstruction will require huge resources and years to complete.

UNDP is well positioned to provide support to this effort, drawing on its decades-long presence in Türkiye and its wealth of global experience in helping countries rebuild after earthquake disasters.

UNDP has been engaged in development work in Southeast Anatolia since the 1950s, and from the beginning of the Syria crisis, UNDP has been present across the region, providing support to communities hosting large number of refugees. The positive impact of this work has been recognised by partners at the local and national level, and UNDP's long-established role in offering assistance provides a strong foundation for immediate and near-term contributions to recovery and reconstruction, with full respect for government leadership in all aspects of the earthquake response.



7 February 2023, Islahiye District, Gaziantep

Photo: Levent Kulu, Hürriyet

UNDP's response strategy is built upon four pillars supporting an effective, human-centred, inclusive and sustainable recovery process for disaster-affected communities.

Pillar 1: Support to government-led crisis response and recovery planning

UNDP will apply internationally recognised methodologies and approaches to support a nationally-led rapid recovery and reconstruction needs assessment in coordination with other UN agencies and international partners. This will assess the earthquake's impact and generate a prioritised and costed catalogue of recovery needs. Building on these components, UNDP will support national and local partners in developing and implementing strategies and action plans in line with agreed priorities.

Pillar 2: Restoration of critical infrastructure and protection of cultural heritage

At least 156,000 buildings collapsed during the earthquakes or will need to be demolished. To address this massive destruction, UNDP will provide global expertise in safe demolition, debris and rubble management, and the recycling of debris material. In addition to removing unsafe structures that could collapse in aftershocks, it is paramount that waste and rubble are disposed of and managed in an environmentally sound way. This includes recycling and reusing materials in reconstruction when possible, and also safe disposal and handling of hazardous materials such as the asbestos used in older buildings. UNDP can help to apply proper debris-handling practices to preventing secondary deaths caused by vector-borne, zoonotic and communicable diseases, and the planning and management needed to prevent dumping of rubble in areas of nature protection; near sensitive drinking-water sources; and in spaces that may seem empty – dry riverbeds, for example – but can pose new threats.



Photo: Levent Kulu, Hürriyet

UNDP will also work with local partners to repair and reconstruct high-priority municipal infrastructure facilities essential to community life, such as drinking water supply and distribution systems, waste treatment plants, goods markets, community resource centres and other assets. This work will “build back greener,” for example by installing solar power systems while repairing public facilities.

In the medium and long term, UNDP can also help to support risk reduction in reconstruction efforts, with a focus on earthquake-safe construction. This effort would be two-pronged: supporting national and local governments in applying “smart cities” standards in issuing building permits and developing land use plans reflecting vulnerability and hazard analysis, while also assisting individual homeowners in applying earthquake-proof building codes and adopting earthquake-resilient technologies.

UNDP will also work to protect the many irreplaceable monuments of cultural heritage that have been damaged in the earthquakes and are exposed to further destruction in the aftermath. The Southeast region is home to a diversity of ancient civilizations, and the treasures of Antakya face particular risk. In the short term, UNDP will help to collect and safeguard damaged structures in line with preservations guidelines, and subsequently work with national authorities to ensure their restoration.

Pillar 3: Supporting livelihoods and socio-economic recovery

Building on ongoing refugee response programmes in the Southeast, UNDP will support affected people and communities to restore livelihoods and provide income-generating opportunities. This will include emergency livelihoods programmes; promotion of local economic recovery, including through start-up grants and access to finance to small businesses; income-generating solutions, including cash-for-work programmes; and psychosocial counselling and training for employers and employees. UNDP will also work with partners to initiate skills development and short- and long-term employment generation, focused initially on waste and debris management, and later on the construction sector.



Photo: Levent Kulu, Hürriyet

UNDP will leverage its strong experience and partnership with the private sector to contribute to the revival of the local economy. This will include small grants and advisory support to spur the revival of SMEs and support to business development and future-proof value chains for industries, manufacturing, and agriculture sectors. Beyond supporting local businesses, UNDP will continue mobilizing private sector support for recovery and reconstruction.

Public services including livelihoods support will be delivered through the erection of prefabricated social, vocational or training centres and the secondment of personnel to help deliver key public services.

Pillar 4: “Leave no one behind” through targeted support to vulnerable groups

The “leave no one behind” commitment of the Sustainable Development Goals is essential to earthquake and disaster response, as the most vulnerable suffer the most. Building on its longstanding work with vulnerable groups, including refugees, persons with disabilities (PwDs) and the elderly, UNDP will support the inclusiveness of recovery efforts by ensuring their needs are addressed in a targeted approach. UNDP’s approach will be participatory, designing community-based solutions through consultation with representatives not only of service providers but also the groups affected.



This will include the quick refurbishment of established community centres and new deployment of neighbourhood-level one-stop-shop “pop-up” kiosks and mobile units to provide custom-tailored legal aid; psychosocial support; and referral to care services, training and income-generating opportunities for the affected populations. UNDP will also work with law enforcement, local governments, ministries and other partners to reduce the risks of violence and neglect faced by women and PwDs after disasters, and also to foster social peace and cohesion across divides in displaced communities.



Photo: Eren Korkmaz, UNFPA Türkiye

The four potential areas of assistance build on UNDP's distinct comparative advantages, experience and partnerships in Türkiye and at the global level to support affected individuals, communities, institutions and the private sector, not only to cope with the immediate impact of the disaster but also to recover, thus paving the way to more sustainable and resilient lives in the longer term.

The proposal will be updated continuously to respond to the evolving needs and in line with government requests.



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UNDP Türkiye Flash Appeal

Overview

Proposed Priority Projects	# of Beneficiaries	Total Appeal
Early Recovery	2,903,500	US\$73,500,000
WASH	1,500,000	US\$30,000,000
Health	10,000	US\$5,000,000
Food Security and Agriculture	100,000	US\$5,000,000
Eight Projects in Total	4,513,500	US\$113,500,000

Early Recovery - Debris Removal

Emergency action for sustainable management of debris	
<p>Support emergency debris removal, segregation, recycling and safe management of debris to facilitate access to humanitarian assistance in affected areas and prevent the spread of diseases and environmental contamination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of the current situation including details of destroyed/damaged buildings, their locations, potential for recycling of debris, inventory of machinery available and suitability of labor-intensive approach for removal of demolition waste and capacity of debris waste storage areas as determined by municipalities. Supply of equipment to manage in the short term such as mobile crushers and excavators that will reduce the volume of demolition waste, providing training to the personnel to be assigned for the use of these equipment and potential reuse/recycling of suitable waste for reconstruction purpose. Labor-intensive /cash for work interventions for debris removal/recycling where suitable. Development of the debris management strategy/plan for the 11 most-affected provinces in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change. 2,500,000 people targeted. 	
Partners	Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Local Municipalities, Turkish Environment Agency, Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, AFAD
Budget	US\$40,000,000





Early Recovery - Restoring Livelihoods

Jump-starting economic activities in affected areas through emergency employment and rehabilitation of critical livelihoods infrastructure

Provide rapid access to income to affected populations and restore livelihoods infrastructure to jump-start socio-economic recovery in the short term:

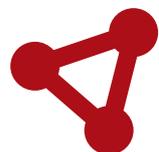
- Cash-for-work activities engaging men and women from affected communities, including support to emergency and humanitarian activities (such as debris removal, segregation or recycling where suitable, rehabilitation work, distribution of assistance, and logistical support to humanitarian activities).
- Assessment and rehabilitation of priority livelihoods infrastructure / superstructure to jump start the resumption of economic activities in affected areas – including the 33 affected Organized Industrial Zones (OIZs), markets, chambers of commerce and industry, SME centers, cooperatives.
- Counselling, financial assistance (including grants), and equipment to small businesses to preserve employment and restart activities.
- Counselling and job placement services to affected individuals based on assessment of employment needs.
- **300,000 people targeted (30,000 average in each province).**

Partners	Ministry of Industry and Technology, OIZ Directorates, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Social Security Institution, Ministry of Labor and Social Security
Budget	US\$20,000,000



10 February 2023, Kahramanmaraş

Photo: Levent Kulu, Hürriyet



Early Recovery – Social Protection

Provision of social services to vulnerable groups through rehabilitation of community centers and creation of new “pop-up” centers

Support the access of the most vulnerable groups affected by the earthquake to social services and other assistance by rehabilitating/installing new community/neighborhood centers providing counselling and referral services to vulnerable groups including elderly, persons with disabilities, widows, women at risk of GBV/violence, refugees and migrants.

- Centers for vulnerable groups and individuals will be established or rearranged in convenient locations to facilitate easy access for those in need, including through ‘pop-up’ and mobile centers where existing centers cannot be rehabilitated, as well as in proximity to shelter tents and temporary shelters.
- Providing referral services for social protection and livelihoods assistance.
- Introducing innovative and inclusive soft services and community activities for those groups.
- Enhancing service delivery capacity of personnel in the provinces through training and professional development programs and hiring of additional staff (including social service experts, psychologists).
- **100,000 people targeted (10,000 average in each province).**

Partners	Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, Ministry of Family and Social Services, Pilot Municipalities, Local NGOs
Budget	US\$10,000,000

Ulu Mosque, Adiyaman

Photo: Eren Korkmaz, UNFPA Türkiye



Early Recovery - Cultural Heritage Preservation

Preservation of relics and valuable heritage items, and safe debris management of World Heritage buildings/sites damaged by the earthquakes

Immediate action to preserve and reconstruct key tangible cultural heritage sites of the region affected by the earthquakes, particularly in Hatay (Archeology Museum), to avoid permanent loss/damage of cultural heritage.

- Inventory of affected heritages and rapid damage assessment of sites.
- Rapid threat assessment and impact mitigation, preparation of relief, restitution and reconstruction projects.
- Transporting key artifacts to safe locations.
- Response to time-sensitive opportunities to conserve irreplaceable cultural and natural heritage.
- Safe debris management for heritage buildings and sites to mitigate the impact and facilitate restoration.
- **2,500 people involved in restoration of cultural artifacts, with benefit to world heritage.**

Partners	Ministry of Culture and Tourism (DG Cultural Heritages and Museums, DG Foundations), UNESCO, academia, NGOs (ÇEKÜL, Union of Historical Towns etc.)
Budget	US\$2,500,000



Early Recovery - Coordination

Support to early recovery coordination and needs assessment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an early recovery strategy and action plan for the eleven most-affected provinces. Improving coordination in early recovery efforts among central and local authorities and international actors for the eleven most-affected provinces. 1,000 people hired as assessors and statisticians. 	
Partners	AFAD, Presidency of Strategy and Budget
Budget	US\$1,000,000



WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Emergency provision of critical WASH and waste management equipment and support	
<p>Provision of waste management, sanitation, and water supply equipment and rehabilitation services in order to prevent further health hazards, spread of diseases and environmental damage, and support local institutions to resume providing basic services to the affected populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of urgent waste management equipment including waste trucks and PPEs, to enhance capacity for basic waste management services, including municipal waste and healthcare waste. Provision of mobile water supply and treatment units and kits, mobile toilets, hygiene/wash kits, mobile wastewater collection and treatment units Provision of community laundries and showers. Rehabilitation of the water supply network and storage. 1,500,000 people targeted. 	
Partners	Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Ministry of Health, Turkish Environment Agency, Local Municipalities, Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, AFAD
Budget	US\$30,000,000



Food Security and Agriculture

Emergency support to agricultural and forestry production and agribusiness in rural areas	
<p>Provide rapid access to income to affected rural populations and restore agricultural infrastructure to enable socio-economic recovery in the short term for remote/rural populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing the situation of the farmers and agricultural labor force. Establishing temporary shelters for agricultural and forest villages. Contribution to fixing critical rural infrastructure (roads, energy, water). Determining and supporting rural labor force needs and gaps. Supporting agricultural industry facilities for food and feed sustainability. 100,000 farmers and rural agricultural workers targeted. 	
Partners	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Local Municipalities and Provincial Administrations, Chambers of Agriculture
Budget	US\$5,000,000

Health

Provision of prosthetic devices and integration support for amputees

Enhance healthcare services for amputees by providing access to high-quality prosthetic devices and promote the integration of amputees into society by enabling them to participate in daily activities.

- Preparation of needs assessment.
- Providing training to healthcare professionals.
- Provision of prosthetic devices.
- Delivery of services and reporting.
- Establishing crisis desks in health centers/ hospitals with experts who can provide relevant social service support and referral services.
- **10,000 people targeted.**

Partners	Ministry of Health
Budget	US\$5,000,000



14 February 2023, Kahramanmaraş

Photo: Levent Kulu, Hürriyet