

2023 Türkiye and Syria EARTHQUAKES RESPONSE

project
HOPE

Proposal for Support

Situation Report

The February 6, 2023 earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria have caused catastrophic and devastating damage. More than two dozen aftershocks have continued to rattle the affected areas, creating increasingly hazardous environments for survivors and rescuers.

More than 11,000 have been killed across both countries, and the death toll is nearly guaranteed to rise as rescuers continue their operations. Over 35,000 have been injured, and the damage at the health facility level has severely impacted the provision of emergency medical attention. Freezing temperatures and snow on the ground have further exacerbated both rescue operations and living conditions for survivors without shelter, heat, food, or water.



The damage and destruction in the region are unprecedented. Syria, which has suffered from over a decade of war and instability, is now face-to-face with one of the most complex humanitarian challenges in recent years. Communities impacted by devastating airstrikes and bombardments were unable to withstand the earthquakes, as evidenced by the leveling of entire buildings.

In Türkiye, the public flow of gas was discontinued to prevent further damage to infrastructure, leaving survivors and rescuers in the extreme cold without proper heat. Housing, access to clean water, electricity, and communication remain very limited in the impacted areas.

Project HOPE's Response

Project HOPE deployed staff to Gaziantep within hours of the initial quake. In the first 24 hours, Project HOPE responders began assisting survivors out of the rubble and directing people to medical services. Project HOPE is surveying the affected areas to identify access points to major cities, including Gaziantep and Antayka, which will be vital to reestablish supply chains for humanitarian support.

Project HOPE has partnered with SAMU, a humanitarian response organization, and Dünya Doktorları Derneği, a Turkish-based relief organization. Through our collaboration with these partners, we are deploying a K-9 search and rescue team to the earthquake zone in Türkiye. This team will conduct lifesavings operations for at least the next two weeks. Project HOPE's team on the ground is identifying additional local partners and health care centers to support the immediate needs of the population.

Project HOPE has initiated the coordination and shipment of three Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHKs), medical supplies, and pharmaceuticals. The IEHKs support the provision of immediate primary health needs and contain three tons of essential medicines and medical devices. These include oral medicines, topical medicines, medical supplies, and equipment, for a population of 10,000 people for up to three months.

Project HOPE has a Type 1 Emergency Medical Team ready to deploy, and is positioning additional medical, mental health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) staff for support in the region. This mobile team will provide primary care services, stabilize patients with acute trauma injuries and refer patients for specialized care.

Additional emergency response teams are also being deployed to support the affected population, and our Emergency Response Unit is preparing additional teams to rotate into the response region as the need for a long-term response is expected.

Request for Support

Although communication with the impacted areas is limited at this time, Project HOPE's extensive disaster response experience, coupled with initial assessments and immediate capabilities of our team on the ground, has informed the expected response plan. Our teams will work through local partners and direct implementation in Türkiye, with our efforts based in Gaziantep and moving toward the more impacted regions as access allows.

Project HOPE anticipates the immediate emergency response to include the following:

- Continued search-and-rescue efforts, including the support of first responders;



Destruction in Antakya, Türkiye of the back-to-back 7.8 and 7.7 magnitude earthquakes that happened on February 7, 2023.

- Increasing access to emergency and primary health care in conjunction with existing health facilities, local partners, and Project HOPE's Emergency Medical Teams;
- The procurement and shipping of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, medical devices and equipment, and other health-related needs;
- Support the cold-chain system for sensitive pharmaceuticals, including insulin;
- Provision of clean water, hygiene kits, infant kits, and dignity kits to limit the spread of water-borne disease;
- Provision of additional non-food items, including blankets, tents, jerry cans.

Project HOPE is also planning an intermediate and long-term response plan, including the following:

- Rehabilitation of water supply systems at the primary, secondary, and tertiary health facility level;
- Mental health support for first responders, health staff, and civilians;
- Health interventions through community health agents focused on WASH, health, and mental health.

Project HOPE has estimated a total budget of \$4,000,000 to respond to the immediate needs of this emergency.