

### CRISIS IMPACT OVERVIEW

- Two earthquakes hit southern Türkiye on 6 February 2023, affecting Adiyaman province. As at 6 March, a total of 307,000 people were reported to be displaced in the province (IOM 06/03/2023).
- On 15 March, flooding resulting from torrential rains also hit the earthquake-affected provinces of Adiyaman and Sanliurfa, killing 20 people, including at least two in Adiyaman (Hurriyet Daily News 19/03/2023). As at 16 March, three people were reported missing in Tut district in the province (FloodList 16/03/2023).
- The floods overwhelmed survivors of the earthquakes, who had been living in temporary tents and camps following the earthquakes, resulting in further displacement (OCHA 17/03/2023; TRC 04/04/2023).
- Floodwater and stagnant water have increased the risk of the contamination of drinking water, making the prevention of an outbreak of waterborne diseases a key priority. Adiyaman is also one of the worst-hit cities in terms of infrastructure damage, further elevating the need for WASH services (Oxfam 15/03/2023; IBC 03/04/2023).

### ANTICIPATED SCOPE AND SCALE

- As the temperatures are gradually starting to rise in Adiyaman, WASH needs that require higher water usage, as well as needs for shade and mosquito nets in shelters, are expected to increase (KII 17/04/2023; AccuWeather accessed 18/04/2023; STL 14/04/2023).
- There will be increased needs for shelter and higher pressure on services and access to resources as the people who had displaced to other provinces start returning to Adiyaman and people start moving from more informal to formal settlements (KII 17/04/2023).
- Having experienced traumatic events, including the destruction of their homes, the loss of relatives and friends, the loss of livelihoods, and injuries and other health problems, earthquake survivors may resort to negative

coping mechanisms. Children are highly vulnerable, as they are exposed to the risks of child labour, child marriage, removal from school, abuse, and begging (OCHA 11/04/2023).

### Adiyaman province profile



Source: ACAPS using data from OCHA (accessed 01/05/2023).

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307,000

DISPLACED  
PEOPLE  
IN ADIYAMAN

6,000

REPORTED DEATHS  
FROM THE  
EARTHQUAKE IN  
ADIYAMAN

75,000

DAMAGED/DESTROYED  
HOUSES

High Risk

OF DISEASE  
OUTBREAK



## INFORMATION GAPS AND NEEDS

- There is a lack of clarity regarding the distribution of people in different settlements.
- There are gaps in the breakdown of vulnerable people, including pregnant women and children, people with disabilities, and the elderly, in the settlements in Adiyaman.
- There are gaps concerning people's current access to ready-to-eat food and capability to meet their own food demands, even with markets slowly reopening.

## CRISIS IMPACT

### Lacking and inadequate WASH infrastructure

Adiyaman province, along with Hatay, is one of the worst-hit provinces in terms of infrastructure damage resulting from the earthquakes and flooding. Both phenomena have damaged the water supply system in the province, leading to an increased risk of water supply contamination. As a result, people have been forced to rely on humanitarian aid for safe water. Before the earthquakes, the population in Adiyaman had access to clean water, but significant displacement and infrastructure damage have created high levels of need for clean drinking water and sanitation. As at 13 April, there was still a shortage of WASH responders in the province (OCHA 17/04/2023). Settlements in Adiyaman also lack enough water supply, with the situation in informal settlements being significantly worse than in formal ones (IFRC 24/03/2023).

### Access to healthcare

The lack of WASH facilities in the camps is increasing the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks, with the lack of access to toilets or sanitation facilities leading to open defecation. The health sector has reported concerns about limited water disinfection procedures and a rise in cases of vomiting, diarrhoea, and pneumonia in some earthquake-affected regions (DFS 17/02/2023; IFRC 24/03/2023; OCHA 06/04/2023).

Confirmed cases of diarrhoea in Adiyaman have been treated, but the risk of waterborne and respiratory diseases remains high given overcrowding in the camps increasing the risk of the transmission of these diseases (KII 17/04/2023). There are also challenges with controlling garbage disposal and wastewater in temporary settlements (STL 14/04/2023). Health needs have worsened, as people with pre-existing conditions and the elderly who require medication experience disruptions to care (OCHA 11/04/2023). Flooding has further affected the provision

of healthcare by hindering the health responders previously attending to the people affected by the earthquake from reaching those in need of care. Health workers are also in need of psychosocial support and the regulation of their working hours given the harsh conditions in their work environment (OCHA 20/04/2023).

Access to dedicated healthcare services and specific nutrition-related information, such as about breastfeeding, is a concern for pregnant and lactating women. Latrines and showers in settlements in Adiyaman are not suitable for the needs of people with disabilities, especially in informal settlements. Without specialised access, people with disabilities experience constraints in their day-to-day activities, reducing their quality of life (STL 14/04/2023; KII 17/04/2023).

Before the earthquakes, there were ten hospitals and 883 physicians (medical specialists and general practitioners) in Adiyaman (SBB 27/03/2023). Out of a total of 116 hospitals in the earthquake-affected regions, 42 reported severe and moderate damage, although the specific number in Adiyaman remains unclear.

### Access to shelter

As at 6 March, the earthquake had resulted in 75,000 collapsed and severely and moderately damaged houses and displaced 307,000 people in Adiyaman province (SBB 27/03/2023; IOM 06/03/2023). As at 6 April, 220,000 people were living in temporary informal settlements, while an additional 156,000 resided in formal tent settlements established by the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority of Türkiye (STL 06/04/2023).

### Protection impact and risks

Overcrowded shelters expose people to a lack of privacy, especially affecting breastfeeding women and babies. Some latrines and showers are also far from the settlements. This and the lack of lighting near many facilities may create access problems for women and children (STL 14/04/2023). Harsh conditions like overcrowding also expose women and girls to higher risks of gender-based and other types of violence (IFRC 24/03/2023). There is also an increased risk of psychological violence, but women are unable to seek support and attend psychosocial support sessions when their primary needs remain unmet (STL 23/03/2023 and 14/04/2023).

Reduced access to schools also increases the risk of child labour, which has been reported as an increasing trend, especially in agriculture.



## Damage to agricultural land affecting rural livelihoods and food availability in the market

The earthquake and floods greatly affected Adiyaman, being mostly an agricultural area. The heavy rains and floods in the province led to overflowing dams inundating large areas of agricultural land, resulting in the loss of harvests (Oxfam 15/03/2023). The people of Adiyaman have also lost thousands of animals and have had their field surfaces destroyed by the earthquakes (FAO 06/04/2023). These amount to significant blows to their livelihoods, and they will require a great deal of time and resources before they can resume their pre-crisis daily activities.

The earthquakes and flooding have also greatly affected all links to the value chain, from production and storage to transportation. These blows raise major concerns on the long-term food security of Adiyaman and other affected provinces, as production and harvest needs will likely remain unmet in the foreseeable future (FAO 06/04/2023). Pre-earthquake, the agriculture sector in Adiyaman contributed 13.1% of national total production (SBB 27/03/2023).

## Market functionality

Market activity is slowly resuming, with some shops reopening, although there is still limited availability of open markets in the province (TRC et al. 12/04/2023). Food prices are also higher in Adiyaman compared to pre-crisis (KII 17/04/2023). People who are unable to buy from their usual shops are relying on in-kind assistance or resorting to travelling to other districts for shopping (TRC et al. 12/04/2023). On the supply side, traders face difficulties in finding commodities, as some wholesalers have left the city. Massive in-kind assistance has also led to an overall decrease in the demand of some items, preventing some retailers from selling legumes, dry food, and hygiene items.

Key infrastructure for people's livelihoods (e.g. markets, businesses, and schools) has not been fully repaired, which could mean a longer time for people to regain their livelihoods. Early recovery efforts, including the support of small and medium-sized enterprises, the restoration of services, and the repair of infrastructure, are vital in allowing people to get back to their lives and restarting the local economy (KII 17/04/2023; STL 23/03/2023).

## Reports of child labour amid the slow resumption of education services

As at 6 April, education had not resumed in all earthquake-affected provinces, although not in all districts. In Adiyaman, formal schooling had resumed in Celikhan, Gerger, Kahta, Samsat, and Sincik. At the beginning of April, education services remained lacking in informal

temporary settlements and rural areas (OCHA 06/04/2023). There is a need for learning spaces (containers or prefabricated schools) with furniture and WASH facilities. There are also over 2,500 lightly damaged schools that need rehabilitation. Psychosocial support and additional resources, such as contractual teachers and education materials, have been reported as needs for students and teachers. There is also a need to make all activities accessible and inclusive for children with disabilities (OCHA 17/04/2023).

The lack of temporary learning spaces, as well as accommodation and transportation for teachers, prevents the resumption of full-scale education services.

## DRIVERS OF THE CURRENT CRISIS

### Earthquakes and floods

The twin earthquakes on 6 February respectively measuring 7.8 and 7.5 on the Richter scale affected 11 provinces and killed over 50,000 people, including 6,000 in Adiyaman (IBC 06/04/2023; STL 06/04/2023).

The heavy rains that hit Sanliurfa and Adiyaman on 14–15 March also resulted in flooding in tents and other settlements occupied by people affected by the earthquakes, further elevating shelter needs (OCHA 17/04/2023). With even more people needing shelter, formal and informal settlements are becoming crowded, and a lack of WASH supplies is increasing the risk of waterborne and respiratory diseases (KII 17/04/2023).

### Poor enforcement of building regulations

Unsafe construction practices and the poor enforcement of building regulations led to the deadly collapse of thousands of buildings during the earthquakes. Construction regulations had been tightened and stricter safety standards set following previous earthquakes, but more than 75,000 buildings were issued 'construction amnesties'. These amnesties allowed the lifting of required safety certificates for a fee, contributing to the scale of the destruction. In November 2022, civil engineers raised warnings about the incapability of the country's infrastructure to handle a large earthquake. The stricter standards set for newer buildings were also sometimes not enforced (NPR 21/03/2023; Time 09/02/2023).



## AGGRAVATING FACTORS

### Cost-of-living crisis and political tensions

Türkiye had been experiencing runaway inflation and a collapse of the Turkish lira even before the earthquakes. In October 2022, inflation in the country hit a 25-year high of 85.5%, with many claiming an even higher rate. A spike in production costs and low revenue resulting from people having less money to spend led to the lira's fall in value, in turn reducing people's purchasing power and depleting wages. The lira's fall affected farmers and retailers across the country and led to local and foreign investors pulling their money, further affecting the economy and weakening Türkiye's ability to effectively deal with the earthquake crisis (Medya News 10/03/2023; Euronews 21/12/2022). Pre-existing poverty levels in Adiyaman also compounded the extensive damage from the earthquakes (IFRC 24/03/2023). In 2022, the rate of unemployment in Adiyaman stood at 10.7%, compared to a national average of 10.4% (TSI 23/03/2023).

With the Turkish elections coming up, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has been criticised for the slow response to the crisis. Effective response may also be limited as the focus shifts on the upcoming elections (BBC 27/02/2023). The possibility of a regime change could also mean priority changes affecting humanitarian aid, which could lead to a protracted crisis and increased needs among the displaced population. With elections coming up, some of the people who had moved out of Adiyaman after the earthquakes are returning out of fear of tensions and discrimination in Türkiye. If more people continue to return, there will likely be increased shelter and utility needs, e.g., for electricity and water services (KII 17/04/2023).

### Increased pressure on humanitarian aid and access to services as a result of the presence of refugees and multiple displacement

Türkiye hosts more than four million refugees. Of these, 3.6 million are registered Syrian refugees, half of whom live in the earthquake-affected provinces (SBB 27/03/2023). Adiyaman alone hosts more than 20,000 refugees. The earthquakes and subsequent floods, which displaced thousands of people, increased the shelter, food, and WASH needs of newly displaced people and the refugee population (DFS 14/02.2023).

## RESPONSE CAPACITY AND FUNDING

As at 17 April, the distance between affected regions and inadequate transportation were causing logistic delays (OCHA 17/04/2023). Regardless, there were no major humanitarian constraints reported to impact the provision of assistance.

There is an urgent need for additional donors and funding to meet health and nutrition needs in the affected regions, specifically in Adiyaman (OCHA 20/04/2023).

The organisation Support to Life is providing psychological counselling, psychiatry referrals, and psychosocial support group work (also for children) through mobile mental health and psychosocial support teams (STL 14/04/2023).

The Turkish Government is leading the response to the earthquakes, coordinated through the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency and with support from the Turkish Red Crescent. The international community comprising UN agencies and NGOs is also working with the Government of Türkiye in assisting the affected population (ETC/WFP 04/04/2023). Responders have been mobilised to deliver life-saving aid and protection assistance. As at 13 April, the 2023 Türkiye flash appeal requiring USD 1 billion to assist 5.2 million people was funded at only 29%, leaving a funding gap of USD 713 million. Underfunding in health and nutrition (only 14% of which has been covered) could mean worsening health conditions for people with pre-existing conditions. The response capacity to possible outbreaks of waterborne diseases and respiratory issues and management of already reported cases of diarrhoea, vomiting, and pneumonia have also deteriorated. The underfunding of the WASH sector (22% coverage) aggravates these concerns. The low funding for protection (15% coverage) highlights the importance of shifting further attention to and providing additional capacities for the most vulnerable populations, including children, women, elderly people, adolescents, and people with disabilities. The persistence of underfunding in education (15% coverage) and multipurpose cash and social protection (9% coverage) could result in the affected populations taking much longer to regain their livelihoods and expose them to protection-related risks, leading to a protracted crisis (OCHA 17/04/2023).

### Inadequate response resulting from reduced access to information about services

Access to information regarding services, including healthcare, education, and relocation eligibility, is considered a major priority for the affected population. People in remote areas, people with disabilities, and women face specific challenges in accessing information. The lack of access to information also particularly affects refugees, as information in their mother tongue may not be available, affecting their access to information that could ease their day-to-day challenges (STL 23/03/2023; IFRC 24/03/2023).



## ADIYAMAN PROVINCE PROFILE



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