Thanks to European Union funding and the partnership between the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC), over 1.5 million refugees living in Türkiye have been receiving humanitarian support through monthly cash assistance.

### Monthly Cash Transfers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>1,543,758</td>
<td>1,541,829</td>
<td>1,541,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>278,586</td>
<td>278,691</td>
<td>278,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRY</td>
<td>463,127,400</td>
<td>462,548,700</td>
<td>462,404,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Emergency Response Efforts

Following the earthquakes that struck Gaziantep and Kahramanmaraş on 6 February, affecting over 9 million people across 11 provinces, displacing almost 2 million, causing a death toll mounting up to over 50 thousand, IFRC - TRC partnership immediately paused non-essential services under the ESSN programme to channel all possible workforce into the earthquake response efforts, whilst maintaining cash transfers at the core of ESSN assistance. The paused services include sweepbacks, reporting, registration & application, data collection & analysis for ESSN studies such as Post Distribution Monitoring reports and Satisfaction Surveys. Kindly refer to page four and five for more details regarding the extent of IFRC - TRC partnership's efforts under the earthquake response.
In April 2023, a total of 1,799 household applications were received by the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation (SASF) offices and TRC Service Centres.

While 25 per cent of these applications were received by TRC Service Centres, 75 per cent were received by SASF Offices.

The total number of households applications received since the beginning of the ESSN III programme has reached 708,275 with 35.1 per cent of total applications having been received by TRC Service Centres.

Note: The remaining 1.5 per cent of all applications made within April 2023 have been completed.

These provinces contain 74% of ESSN III recipients.

The most common family profiles are as follows:

- 56,256 (20%) families with 1 adult male, 1 adult female and 3 children
- 48,891 (16%) families with 1 adult male, 1 adult female and 4 children
- 27,935 (10%) families with 1 adult male, 1 adult female and 2 children
- 23,171 (8%) families with 1 adult male, 1 adult female and 5 children
- 16,381 (6%) families with 1 adult female and 2 children
**IN NUMBERS: DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVE**

**Age**
- 2% 60+ years
- 36% 18 - 59 years
- 62% 0 - 17 years

**Gender**
- 53% female
- 47% male

**Nationality**
- Syrian: 1,490,393
- Iraqi: 70,283
- Afghan: 67,304
- Others: 7,970

Among the "others" are Iranian, Somalian, Pakistani, Chinese, Palestinian and other nationals.

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**SASF Discretionary Allowance**

In April 2023, 8,916 households across Türkiye received the ESSN assistance via SASF Discretionary Allowance (SDA). This SASF allowance continues to play an integral role in minimizing exclusion errors, while including vulnerable households under the ESSN assistance programme.

To increase the use of SASF allowance, the quota was increased from 5 per cent to 10 per cent in July 2022.

Due to the criteria change, the ESSN’s ability to target vulnerable households have improved at a significant level. Therefore, many households that used to rely on vulnerabilities to be eligible for the assistance are now directly covered under the new eligibility criteria.
The Turkish authorities, under the umbrella of Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), have been leading the overall coordination and management of the earthquake response. As the only National Society to be active in the affected area, Turkish Red Crescent leads in mass feeding, psychosocial support, relief distribution (blankets, sleeping bags, heaters, hygiene kits, beds and other non-food items) and blood services. TRC continues to deliver aid materials, especially to the hard-to-reach areas and villages, using off-road vehicles and other available transport means. Overall coordination of mass feeding services in the disaster-affected areas.

TRC's response is channeled through its disaster response centres and respective branches. Overall, 1,038 staff and 1,512 volunteers are on the field. On a rotational basis, the cumulative total of deployed staff is over 4,000, while approximately 150,000 volunteers are engaged to implement the response.

The monitoring and evaluation unit operated as a dynamic think tank, providing compelling evidence of the earthquake's impact on the host community, ESSN and CESSN population (Shaken to the Core and Portrayal of pre-disaster livelihoods). Their influential efforts shaped decision-making, including the inter-agency Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Market Assessment (MIRA). Through consultations with more than 2,000 community leaders (Consultation with Communities), M&E identified critical needs and province-specific severity categorization. Their market assessments acted as beacons, guiding targeted strategies of cash injection (Market assessment - dire humanitarian situation), while immersing themselves in two subsequent rounds of empathetic engagement with affected consumers and suppliers. The M&E comprehensive approach, backed by evidence-based insights, significantly shaped the earthquake response and delivered tailored support to affected communities.

Furthermore, analysis on bank transactions of ESSN and C-ESSN recipients in the affected area helped facilitate the efficient execution of cash assistance programmes, planned under the earthquake response. Secondary data review was also undertaken to support and inform decision making. As an IFRC emergency reporting tool, Situation Reports were prepared on a bi-weekly basis and circulated externally to share up to date information within Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, as well as with relevant stakeholders. These reports provide information based on sectors and were shared on IFRC GO platform.
Data analysis and reporting phases completed for 16th round of Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM-16) study. The report is being finalized for publication.

Data collection for PDM-17 is planned to be initiated within May 2023.

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) reports on the way:
- Housing and the Impact of Transfer Value: finalized to be published soon.
- Perspectives and Experiences on Gender-adjusted Dependency Ratio and Newly Eligible Recipients: data collection and analysis completed. Awaiting finalization to published.
- Adapting to New Realities: A Study of Changes in Refugee Household Compositions and Living Conditions after the Kahramanmaraş Earthquake: data collection started. The collected data will be analysed to produce this study.

The second round of Intersectoral Vulnerability Survey (IVS-2) finalized. Analysis results have been produced and compared with IVS-1 in terms of financial conditions of target populations. This product has been published in late April.

Market vouchers distributed by field teams in Temporary Accommodation Centres (TACs) to EQ-affected people.
Market vouchers have been distributed across seven TACs to the affected population to help them meet their basic needs in the aftermath of the EQ across seven TACs.

The Collective Kindness (CK) project being implemented successfully.
Being a part of EQ response efforts, Collective Kindness is designed to provide cash assistance to vulnerable households affected by the EQ. Households with residents moderately or severely affected by the EQ are provided with this assistance to help them meet their basic needs. The know-how pool, accumulated through ESSN implementation has been essential within both design and implementation of this intervention.

The fourth round of ESSN Satisfaction Survey (SS-4) published.

Programme website and Facebook
In April 2023, 35 posts were shared on Facebook to provide information about address changes, removal reasons, notification about dorman accounts and uncollected cards. Also, 200 information requests/complaints/feedback have been received and responded to (corresponding to a 100 per cent response rate).

168 TRC Call Centre
During the reporting period, a total of 10,524 calls were received and responded to. While 49 per cent of the calls were received from female individuals, 51 per cent came from male callers.

Short Message Service (SMS)
Approximately 308,069 SMSes were sent out to target groups of the ESSN programme. The SMSes are sent to programme applicants regularly to inform them on important updates regarding their programmatic status such as eligibility/ineligibility, exclusion from the programme, monthly uploads, card distribution, etc. Additionally, according to latest published satisfaction survey, 75 per cent of programme recipients and non-recipients prefer to receive programme related information by SMSes.