



ShelterBox

MONTHLY RESPONSE SUMMARY

TÜRKIYE/SYRIA: EARTHQUAKES

On 6 February 2023, two devastating earthquakes measuring 7.7 and 7.6 in magnitude struck Kahramanmaras, Türkiye.

The first earthquake struck in the early hours of the morning, and was centred around 32km from Gaziantep, a major city and provincial capital in the country's south-east. Two weeks later, another powerful earthquake hit Türkiye, close to the border with Syria. These earthquakes are the largest to hit the region in the last century.

As of 1 March, 11,000 aftershocks had occurred, according to Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) with more set to continue. The impact has been felt across the ten provinces in which a three-month state of emergency has been declared - Hatay, Kahramanmaras and Gaziantep have reportedly been the hardest hit. Some 15 million people live in these provinces, including over 1.7 million Syrian refugees.

As of 27 February, a total of three million people have been displaced in Türkiye. As of 20 March, the death toll has now surpassed more than 50,000 people across Türkiye and Syria. Close to nine million people in Syria have been affected by the earthquakes. The damage is worst in the north-west, where the areas hardest hit are the governorates of Aleppo and Idlib.

Following a request from the Turkish Red Crescent, an immediate 'gift in kind' was made just days after the earthquakes. 528 tents were shipped on flights provided free of charge by Turkish Airlines from our warehouse in Panama and sent directly to the affected areas. An initial emergency response team (SRT) travelled to the affected region within 48hrs of the earthquakes to begin crucial assessments.

Rotary is supporting the Government led response, coordinated through AFAD, supported by the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC). Rotary is working closely with, and have permission from, AFAD to operate in some of the affected areas. Rotary's connections with AFAD, search and rescue organisations, supply chain and logistics businesses and municipalities has been critical in



Mattresses being distributed in northwest Syria, by our partner ReliefAid.

enabling ShelterBox to respond and get aid on the move in a dynamic and complex emergency.

Rotary and Rotaract members have been instrumental in this response from the very beginning, providing ShelterBox with critical introductions to local authorities, valuable translation services, assistance with travel and logistics across the country and supporting with distributions on the ground.

In collaboration with Rotary, Project 1 in Türkiye is aiming to support 2,000 families affected by the earthquakes in Hatay, Antep Maras, Malatya and Adiyaman. It aims to contribute to people's immediate safety by providing access to emergency shelter and basic household items. Distributions have been ongoing throughout March and April, and we expect these to be completed by mid-May.

In northern Syria, with our existing partner, Bahar, project 1 aims to support 992 earthquake affected households in the Aleppo area with tents, blankets and mattresses, solar lights, water carriers, the construction of tent bases, and cash assistance. An increase in material costs has necessitated a cost extension to the project which has led to a slight delay in signing contracts. Distributions are hoping to start in the coming month. A second 'lighter' project with our existing partner, ReliefAid, is now complete. We have provided 6,000 blankets and mattresses (4 of each to each family) to support new arrivals into displacement camps in Idlib. Beyond the emergency phase of this response, we will be scoping additional opportunities to support families with more durable shelter options over the coming months.

IMPLEMENTING/PLANNING

PROJECT 1 IN TÜRKIYE IS AIMING TO SUPPORT 2,000 FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE WITH:



tents



mattresses



blankets



solar lights



stoves*

*as well as woven bags and family hygiene kits (*stoves for the first 1,000 families only during the colder weather)*

MALAWI: CYCLONE FREDDY



Tropical cyclone Freddy induced torrential rain from 11-13 March which caused flooding affecting 14 districts in the southern parts of the country.

An estimated 1.1 million people have been left in dire need of urgent humanitarian support, including shelter, food and clean water. The government has declared a state of emergency and requested international support. Over 1,000 people have died, and over 560,000 have been displaced and are now currently living in one of 550 IDP camps. Many of the camps have been set up in schools, causing disruption to children's education. Pressure on local governments to dismantle the camps so that children can return to school has led to overcrowding and reports of people being forced to return home without the resources to rebuild and recover. The government have stated that there are no readily available shelter materials in-country.



Grace and her family received ShelterBox aid after Cyclone Idai in 2019.

ShelterBox previously supported 2,000 families affected by Cyclone Idai in Malawi in 2019.

In partnership with CARE Malawi, we are currently planning a project to support around 1,500 - 1,800 families with essential shelter and household items. We are working with CARE Malawi and the local government to design an emergency shelter package which is suitable for the local context.



Distributions in Novoselivka in February

On 24 Feb 2022, Russia launched a major military operation in Ukraine, representing a significant escalation of the conflict which has been ongoing in the east of the country since 2014.

An estimated 7.7 million Ukrainians are now living as refugees in countries across Europe and as of 23 January, another 5.5 million are estimated to be internally displaced within the country. Around half the population have been affected by the war in some way and an estimated 17.6 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, with the highest needs in Eastern Ukraine. Waves of attacks on energy infrastructure have periodically left millions of people without electricity, and disrupted water supply and heating systems. With the passage of time, the number of refugees in need of shelter assistance has reduced whilst the gap in provision within Ukraine has remained widespread. Therefore, we are now fully focused on supporting people within Ukraine.

UKRAINE: CONFLICT



Due to the shifting context, challenges in access due to the winter conditions, and continued attacks on infrastructure, we had to take a flexible approach to project 4, which was initially focused on providing 2,000 families in rural and suburban communities with emergency kits to allow them to make repairs to their damaged homes. Some families who had intended to stay in their houses found that without power, life became intolerable, and made the difficult decision to move. We therefore prioritised the distribution of winter clothing, blankets, solar lights and stoves, in Kyiv and Chernihiv oblasts. Distributions are now complete for these items. As it became clear that our original caseload for the shelter repair kits in Chernihiv no longer existed, we decided to distribute shelter kits in eastern areas, recently damaged by the war. The last of these are currently being distributed.

Gaps in support and the escalation of attacks on energy infrastructure during the depths of winter, prompted a decision to run a rapid winter response (project 5) to run in parallel with Project 4. Project 5 focused on aid items to keep people warm rather than traditional shelter materials, and had a wide geographic spread. These materials have now all been distributed, and early discussions have begun to determine the shape of a possible project 6.

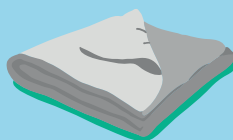
FOR PROJECT 5 WE HAVE SUPPORTED 6,000 HOUSEHOLDS WITH:



winter clothing



stoves



blankets



solar lights



water carriers

and sleeping bags to help people survive the coldest winter months.

SOMALIA: DROUGHT



Decades of conflict, climate shocks, disease outbreak and widespread poverty have devastated the people of Somalia. An estimated 8.2 million people across Somalia will be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023.

Currently, drought across the Horn of Africa region is the leading driver of displacement within Somalia. The last four consecutive rainy seasons have brought lower than average rainfall, and in November 2021, the government declared a state of emergency as over one million people have been displaced by the drought and a further 500,000 displaced by ongoing conflict. Whilst the whole of Somalia is facing displacement due to the drought, the most acute needs are in the central and southern regions. More than 700,000 people have yet to receive any sort of shelter assistance, living in deplorable conditions with critical needs.



The ShelterBox team undertaking assessments alongside our partner IOM in January.

Ethiopia remains a complex humanitarian emergency characterised by conflict, insecurity, and the effects of climate change which have all contributed towards mass displacement and humanitarian need.

The conflict in North Ethiopia intensified in 2021 and expanded from Tigray to the neighbouring regions of Amhara and Afar. At least 2.6 million people have been displaced with an additional 1 million since the conflict restarted in August 2022. Estimates suggest that over 600,000 people have died since the conflict began, with half of these deaths attributable to starvation or lack of healthcare. A ceasefire agreement was signed in November 2022, and the humanitarian corridor, which had been closed throughout the conflict, is now open, allowing access to vital aid,

With our partner, Juba Foundation, distributions for a pilot project supporting 500 drought displaced households are now underway. The project will focus on providing a durable shelter solution which will enable families to settle for a longer period of time. Construction will be provided to ensure that shelters are built safely and will endure. A comprehensive household item (HHI) package will also be provided which will include blankets, kitchen sets, solar lights, mosquito nets and jerry cans. The additional key element of this project will be to provide routes to secure tenure for families to remain on the land long enough to enable self-recovery (2-5 years).

Nearly half of the planned 500 shelters have now been constructed. With the additional space for private use around the shelters, families have been given the option of keeping their old shelters for cooking or other uses. A project visit is planned in May to see the first distributions and to start to form the concept for project 2.

ETHIOPIA: COMPLEX CRISIS



including ShelterBox aid.

30 million people within Ethiopia have also been affected by the ongoing drought which began in October 2020 as a result of consecutive failed rainy seasons across the Horn of Africa. 560,000 people have been forced to leave their homes in search of food and water and nearly 10 million are living in crisis with catastrophic levels of food insecurity. While there has been some rainfall since March, it has caused widespread flooding across the drought affected areas causing more than 200,000 people to be displaced.

Localised, inter-communal violence is also prevalent across the country, displacing hundreds of thousands. Communities often settle temporarily on open ground with no shelter, or in simple structures that barely provide protection and have minimal privacy, safety, and comfort.

Working with our partner, IOM (International Organization for Migration), project 5 is now complete. We supported 12,000 of the most vulnerable displaced families in three distribution cycles over 12 months. It represents a huge scale up on previous projects due to the massive needs in the country. Reporting activities are now underway for project 5, and planning has begun for project 6.

PROJECT 5 HAS SUPPORTED 80,000 PEOPLE (12,000 HOUSEHOLDS) WITH:



tarpaulins



sleeping mats



blankets



kitchen sets



mosquito nets

as well as ropes, washbasins, jugs, bags and 20l jerry cans, with soap being added into the package where possible.

PAKISTAN: FLOODING



The 2022 Pakistan floods have inundated millions of acres of land leaving nearly 2 million homes damaged or destroyed. Over 33 million people have been affected (15% of the population of Pakistan) and more than 1,700 people have lost their lives. As of 9 March 2023, 1.8 million people still remain exposed to contaminated, flooded areas.

ShelterBox responded to the flooding crisis with two emergency projects to support those in the worst affected areas. In collaboration with our partner Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and implementing partner Islamic Relief Pakistan (IRP), Project 1 supported 1,200 households (7,033 people) across four locations in Sindh and Balochistan with an emergency shelter package including tents, tarpaulins and rope, water filters, water carriers, blankets, mattresses, mosquito nets and solar lights.

Project 2, which aimed to contribute to the self-recovery process of approximately 5,000 households in Sindh and Balochistan with cash assistance, is now also complete.

Project 3 will focus on supporting families in Dadu, Sindh, to recover by providing them with an improved, more durable and longer-lasting shelter to allow better protection in case of future flooding.

The second component of project 3 will seek to pre-position emergency shelter materials with our partner, ahead of the next monsoon season, to ensure a rapid emergency response. The project commenced in April and we are in the early stages of recruiting staff and finalising detailed plans.



The Far North region of Cameroon is impacted by the ongoing Lake Chad Basin (LCB) crisis with multiple factors driving displacement.

Extremist attacks by organised groups are driving Nigerian refugees into Cameroon. Flooding affecting Cameroon's northern regions, and the shrinking Lake Chad, amplify an already insecure environment. As of March, there are currently 646,000 people currently displaced by the LCB crisis, including over 385,000 IDPs (internally displaced people), 138,000 returnees (people who were displaced but who have returned), and 122,959 Nigerian refugees. The situation remains volatile and over recent months, there has been a notable resurgence in violent attacks by the armed group JAS in the LCB region.

Minawao Camp - one of the largest in the country - was initially

CAMEROON: COMPLEX CRISIS

opened in 2013 to host 35,000 refugees fleeing insecurity in Nigeria. However, that number has now more than doubled, currently hosting more than 78,722 refugees. We have been working in the Far North region since 2015, previously with our partner IEDA relief, with activities taking place both on camp, supporting refugees, and off camp, mainly supporting IDPs.

We are now working with a new partner, Public Concern, a national NGO based in Maroua in the Far North of Cameroon. They have extensive experience working in this region, including the founding and management of Minawao Camp itself. Project 11 aims to support 9,800 families in the Far North (refugees, IDPs, returnees and vulnerable populations) with a range of emergency, transitional and durable shelters. It builds on the learning of our previous projects and will utilise our new local partner's ability to carry out local procurement, delivering a larger range and more specific set of aid packages to affected people in Cameroon.

Distributions have been ongoing throughout April, as is training on data collection and PDM surveys. A concept note has been submitted for approval as we move into the initial planning stages for a potential project 12.

PROJECT 11 WILL SUPPORT APPROXIMATELY 9,800 HOUSEHOLDS WITH:

a range of emergency, transitional and durable shelter kits plus household items, both on and off camp, including:



community tool kits



kitchen sets



tents



mosquito nets



sleeping mats



The ShelterBox team hosted a community focus group in Metuge in November 2022.

MOZAMBIQUE: CONFLICT



Mozambique faces diverse challenges that have created a complex humanitarian crisis for which the country is under-resourced and under equipped to respond.

Violent incidents involving the Islamist extremist group, Ahlu Sunna Wal-Jama, began in 2017 and attacks on civilians, government forces, and military installations have continued to increase into 2022. Violent insurgents have expanded their area of operations into Niassa from the neighbouring province of

Cabo Delgado.

Over a million people are currently internally displaced due to conflict, and as a result of the devastating effects of climate change including cyclones and flooding. The need for humanitarian assistance has grown exponentially, with people exposed to dire living conditions, with 90% of IDPs reporting shelter as their most urgent need. Children are currently accounting for 59% of displaced people, with more than half being women and girls.

Project 2 is integrated with the ECHO (EU Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations) funded 'Multi-sector Response to Crisis-Affected Populations in Northern Mozambique' project, which our partner CARE, is implementing in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces. Project 2 will provide 3,000 shelter kits and 3,000 family kits to support families living in resettlement sites who have either not received any humanitarian shelter assistance, or who have been living in resettlement sites for more than six months and whose shelter items now need replacing. Shelter survival kits will be provided to 3,000 families in hard to reach/high security risk areas, where they may be cut off from access to basic items. Distributions have been ongoing since November but there have been some delays since the Pemba team are currently responding to Cyclone Freddy in Zambezia.

We have submitted an application for project 3 to ECHO as part of a consortium and are now awaiting the outcome.

YEMEN: COMPLEX CRISIS

More than eight years of armed conflict in Yemen has caused tens of thousands of civilian casualties, uprooted millions and destroyed the economy. It remains one of the world's largest humanitarian crises.

Conflict between Houthi rebels and the Yemeni government began in 2004 with tensions escalating into outright civil war in 2014, when Houthi forces seized the country's capital and largest city Sana'a. In response, Saudi Arabia led a coalition of Arab states to begin a military intervention, in order to restore the Yemeni Government. As a result of the ongoing conflict, an estimated 21.6 million people need humanitarian assistance, and 4.5 million people are internally displaced.

Between April and October 2022, the UN arranged a nationwide truce which led to a number of tangible benefits, including a reduction in violence and a decrease in conflict-displacement by more than 70%. The war has largely been on an uneasy pause since then, though escalations by the Houthis have seen an increase in Marib in the last few months, causing displacement. Shelter needs also remain significant with climate-related events, such as flooding, triggering a 90 per cent increase in displacement in 2022, with IDPs in Marib some of the hardest hit. The 2023 rainy season begun this month, with heavy rains and flooding damaging or destroying the homes of an estimated 50,000 internally displaced people in Marib.

Working in partnership with BCHR (the Benevolence Coalition for Humanitarian Relief), Project 2 will focus on providing a more durable, locally made transitional shelter to IDPs in Marib. The principal design consists of an iron grid, fireproof thermal insulation, iron panels and corrugated steel sheets, with a concrete floor to protect against damage from flooding. The shelters are built with wooden doors and windows to provide more ventilation and privacy, and they also have lighting and sockets.

Project 2 aims to support in total around 1,415 internally displaced households, with 915 households receiving transitional shelters and priority household items (mattresses, blankets, floor mats and fire extinguishers). The project will also include emergency prepositioning of a less comprehensive shelter package (tarpaulins and rope) to enable rapid response to 500 households impacted by disasters, such as flooding, that occur during the project timeline. The project is expected to last 13 months, with phase 1 of installations of the first 150 iron nets due to be complete by mid-May.





Our partner, HELP, spoke to Adama and his family during assessments in 2022.

BURKINA FASO: CONFLICT



Burkina Faso is one of the fastest-growing displacement crises in Africa. Since January 2019 over 1.7 million people have been forced to flee their homes due to extremist violence.

From 2020 there has been an escalation in the conflict with Jihadist groups fighting over ideological differences and for control of territory, causing further mass displacement. Nearly 40% of the population is directly affected by the closure or reduction of basic social services. IDPs from Burkina Faso represent more than 68% of the total of displaced persons in the Central Sahel region.

Burkina Faso's military government has continued to dismantle its ties with France and the humanitarian community with the expulsion of the French military, notable French figures and the suspension of French radio stations in recent months.

With our partner, HELP, project 5 is now underway, and will seek to build on the success of Project 4. It will focus on the construction of new transitional shelters, called Sahel Tents, for around 1,100 newly displaced families and is designed to support families during their first 1.5 years of displacement. We are learning, however, that displaced families are residing in these shelters for a lot longer. We are therefore implementing improvements to the design to facilitate this, with the construction of a concrete base that will protect families from flooding and improve levels of hygiene and dignity. The tarpaulins, rope and some household items will be internationally imported as per before but items that form the structure of the Sahel Tents, along with wash kits, cooking pots and water carriers will be locally procured. The construction phase and distributions of aid are expected to start in May/June.

SYRIA: CONFLICT



ShelterBox has been responding to the Syria crisis since 2012.

Whilst we have seen the conflict dynamics in Syria show a general trend towards stabilisation, there have been periodic regional escalations which serve as a reminder that the potential for the situation to descend into active conflict remains.

The current Syrian crisis is compounded by a series of factors and events that interlink to create significant suffering to the resident population including the ongoing threat of hostilities, including sporadic artillery and air strikes; the regional economic crisis which has seen the dominant currency in Idlib (the Turkish Lira) depreciate significantly; the effects of Covid-19; and environmental factors such as drought, seasonal flooding and wildfires.

The two winter projects which aimed to meet families' shelter and household item needs over the cold winter months are both complete. In the Northwest with our partner ReliefAid, we have provided essential shelter and household items to 2,000 households; as well as 800 households having received tent levelling support (temporary foundations for tents, raising them off the ground). Distributions are complete in the NorthWest with an extra 36 tent levels constructed for new arrivals.

In the NorthEast with our partner, Bahar Organisation, we provided essential shelter and household items to another 2,000 households. Both projects contained household items that focus on providing thermal comfort to the individual through clothing, mattresses and blankets; whilst the tarpaulins were to be used to repair leaking tents. Final reporting for both projects is currently under review.

Following the earthquake in February, we are planning two further projects to support earthquake affected families in the Aleppo and Idlib governorates of Northwest Syria.



Tasnim and her family were displaced from their home in the countryside outside Raqqa. Our partner, Bahar Organisation, met with them during assessments in the Northeast in January 2023.