

Response Review of Türkiye Syria Earthquake (TSE) Appeal 2023 Brief



Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) **Türkiye Brief**

About the DEC TSE Appeal

Following the devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake in South-East Türkiye and North-West Syria, fourteen DEC member agencies worked closely with multiple local partner organizations under the DEC-funded Türkiye/Syria Earthquake (TSE) Appeal across the region to deliver humanitarian assistance in both Türkiye and Syria.

The DEC's fundraising campaign raised over £150 million to date and the fundraising is ongoing, with an allocation of £39,408,374 million dedicated to Phase 1 from February to July 2023 of the response in Syria and Türkiye.

Emergency relief sectors



In Türkiye, DEC member agencies responded in six of the most affected provinces: Gaziantep, Hatay, Adiyaman, Kahramanmaraş, Killis, and Sanliurfa.

Affected people supported included:



About the Response Review

The response review of the DEC TSE Appeal covers phase 1 and comprises a real-time review (RTR) with key stakeholders aimed at facilitating collective reflection and learning in real-time to enhance the ongoing response and strengthen efforts to localize humanitarian actions, as well as a perception survey with earthquake affected people to gauge their perceptions and priorities. NSDation Consultancy Services designed the response review evaluation framework in accordance with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and Grand Bargain commitments.

The review engaged with 11 key informants through in-depth interviews and sought the perspectives of 258 affected community members via a perception survey.

What We Learned

- ▶ The DEC's focus on rapid and effective response facilitated the swift adaptation of projects when needed, enabling DEC member agencies to adapt their plans in line with the rapidly changing situation on the ground.
- ▶ DEC member agencies delivered targeted assistance amid widespread infrastructure damage and staff impact. However, there is room for improvement in maximizing the use of needs assessments to identify the needs of vulnerable people.
- ▶ DEC member agencies and local partners logically prioritized immediate needs, meeting a significant level according to affected people interviewed. There was little parallel focus on how to blend this with mid to long-term priorities like livelihood support.
- ▶ Phase 1 efforts largely lacked emphasis on DRR, with expectations for more significant developments in Phase 2. In Türkiye, collaborative efforts on joint DRR between DEC member agencies and national institutions were few. However, the earthquake's magnitude has renewed this a commitment of key stakeholders, a positive shift.
- ▶ Despite the establishment of feedback and complaints mechanisms by DEC member agencies and their local partners, these systems are often underutilised by the affected population.
- ▶ Some DEC member agencies and local organizations in Türkiye collaboratively designed projects, empowering local partners to lead field operations. However, response delays were partially attributed to a lack of pre-vetted partnerships, highlighting the necessity to adhere to national regulations for streamlined operations through local partners in alignment with DRR planning.

Actionable Recommendations for DEC Members

More effective use of needs assessments

Improve needs assessment effectiveness by optimizing the use of secondary data combined with standalone snapshots for key vulnerabilities. Improve coordination on needs assessment between DEC member agencies and local partners, enhance preparedness for targeted assessments during fast-onset emergencies, with a specific focus on vulnerable populations. Strengthen collaboration with Civil Society Organizations and volunteer networks for deeper insights into evolving needs.

Enhancing disaster risk reduction

Invest in regular training and public awareness campaign activities to develop and implement community-based DRR with local communities in high-risk areas, focusing on knowledge about earthquake preparedness, evacuation protocols, and fundamental first-aid skills. Collaborate with national institutions to ensure that DEC member agencies and local partners have preparedness systems and protocols in place in line with national mechanisms.

Enabling feedback and complaints

Invest in community groups as vital links between DEC member agencies, local partners, and community members, fostering trust, effective communication, and active participation. Revise existing mechanisms to ensure they are user-friendly, accessible, and culturally appropriate.

Increasing NGO contribution to the Grand Bargain

Local partners should continue investing in advocacy to stress the importance of the application of localisation priorities by DEC member agencies and donors for the TSE response (and beyond). Individually, have open discussions with DEC member agencies and donors on areas in need of organisational development support, stronger, more direct connections to funds, and increasing representation in key decision-making forums.

Meeting mid to long term priorities

Design projects with a dual focus on short and mid-term solutions while aligning with longer-term priorities. Provide support and funding for community-led projects focusing on medium to long-term needs, including rebuilding infrastructure, livelihood support, and psychosocial services. Encourage community-driven resource mobilization initiatives, allowing communities to take ownership of their recovery by leveraging local knowledge, resources, and assets.

Feedback From Earthquake Affected People



Affected community satisfaction with.....?



About NSDation



NSDation is a trailblazer in consultancy services, specializing in the development and implementation of cutting-edge Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) systems. Our expertise spans Third-Party Monitoring, Evaluations, Assessments, and dynamic capacity-strengthening activities. Dealing with intricate human development needs demands a broad, innovative, and adaptable perspective. The core of our work is built upon championing mutual respect for diversity and cultural differences, upholding accountability to partners and stakeholders, and maintaining the highest ethical standards.

To learn more about our projects, visit www.nsdation.com