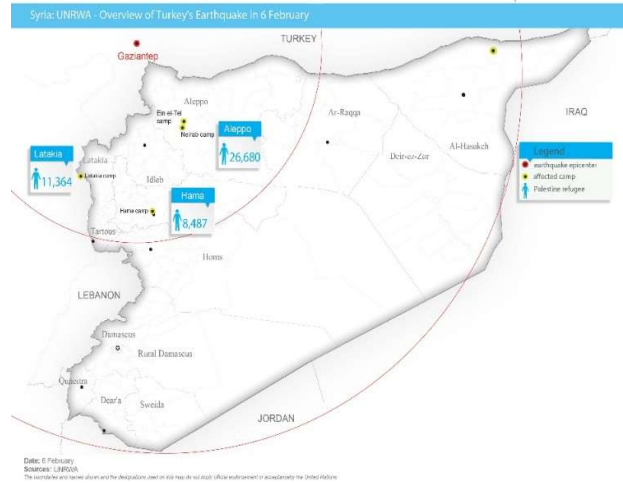




earthquake status update no.17 northern syria - 28 february 2023

Situation in numbers

- 1,414 deaths reported by the Syrian MoH (incl. 3 Palestine refugees in Neirab, 8 in Latakia and 9 in Jableh)
- 2,349 injuries reported by the MoH (incl. 9 Palrefs in Latakia and 2 in Neirab)
- Damage to homes and buildings (to date) (a = assessed, d = severely damaged, p=partially damaged, c=cracks)
 - Latakia & Jableh d (35), p (9), c (107)
 - Neirab: d (56), p (178)
 - Aleppo: p (86)
 - Ein el-Tal p (9)
 - Hama: a (118), d (5), p (7)
- 17 UNRWA installations have been assessed as partially damaged by the Engineering Dept, which is preparing to commence repairs
- As of 28 February, 720 calls (m 242, f 478) telemedicine calls were made.
- Between 12 and 23 February, 109 patients receives PSS supports from UNRWA's Health Centres in Latakia, Aleppo and Hama

UNRWA flash appeal

On 6th February, UNRWA launched its flash appeal for USD 2.7m to assist Palestine refugees who have been impacted by the earthquake. This will be revised in March.

Geographical coverage

Northern and Central Areas – Aleppo (including Neirab & Ein el-Tal Camps) and Latakia (including Jableh) and Hama.

UNRWA's Response

UNRWA is providing general assistance to families in the affected areas and targeted supports to Palestine refugees who have been made either temporarily or permanently homeless (under assessment). A round of cash assistance is currently being distributed to 13,905 impacted families.

Daily highlights

Latakia and Hama:

Low level earthquakes are continuing to be a more than daily occurrence along the Turkiye / Syria border (with 19 tremors recorded over the last 7 days alone and 258 over the last 30 days). A tremor was recorded today of 4.4 magnitude in Kahramanmaraş.

As a result, families continue to be worried about further collapses, with many afraid to stay in their homes at night. As a result, the number of displaced Palestine refugees staying in emergency shelters has remained high in recent nights at 112 families (550 individuals). It is important that adequate protective measures are put in place to safeguard the wellbeing of the families who are staying there.

All schools in Latakia will be closed until 5th March. Schools continue to operate normally in Hama. A team from UNRWA's Damascus Office provided PSS to 35 staff in Hama and have also supported 85% of staff in Latakia between 25th – 28th February. An older persons group in Latakia was also offered counselling support today.

Neirab Camp, Ein el-Tal Camp and Aleppo:

In Neirab Camp, the number of Palestine refugee families displaced as a result of the earthquakes and aftershocks remained at 44. In Aleppo, the number of displaced Palestine refugee families staying in collective shelters, mosques and with their relatives climbed to 423.

UNRWA continues to provide essential NFIs and RTE food to families in Ein el-Tal Camp, including blankets, jerry cans and cans of sardines. Five separate deliveries of NFIs have taken place to Ein el-Tal Camp between 8 – 16 February, providing various items to 92 households (186 beneficiaries).

Needs update

Latakia:

There is an ongoing need for NFIs (including diapers for females and the elderly), cash assistance and food items (including water, food baskets and RTE meals), as well as cleaning materials. Baby kits for pregnant women are a priority. UNRWA distributing these items on an ongoing basis.

Neirab and Ein el-Tal Camps:

There is still a need to scale up aid to provide PSS, repair of damaged homes, food assistance, blankets and other NFIs. In Ein el-Tal, an alternative location is needed for the mobile clinic to operate due to damaged buildings nearby.

Building Assessments:

Last week, UNRWA's engineering team completed their assessment of 17 installations, identifying a range of damage from small cracks in columns and walls requiring minor maintenance to more significant collapse and structural damage requiring complete reconstruction.

In Jaba'a Atleet School, UNRWA appointed a contractor to implement the necessary repairs and works got underway today. The assessment team from the Engineering Syndicate confirmed that UNRWA installations in Homs are safe for use.

UNRWA is awaiting the findings of the government's assessment survey of affected buildings in Latakia. The assessment is ongoing in Neirab, with around 445 houses have been surveyed to date. 118 houses have been visited to date in Hama.