



earthquake status update no.15 northern syria - 26 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 (22), p (13), c (258)
 - Neirab: d (51), p (159)
 - Aleppo: p (83)
 - Ein el-Tal p (8)
 - 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 23 February, 589 calls (m 196, f 393) were made over the telemedicine system. About one third related to outpatient care, a third to NCDs and the remaining concerning a range of issues including MHPSS.

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 will be delivered to 13,905 impacted families at the end of this month.

Daily highlights

Latakia and Hama:

Low level earthquakes are continuing to be an almost daily occurrence along the Turkiye / Syria border, with a tremor today close to Hatay of 4.4 magnitude. As a result, families continue to be anxious of further building collapses and to be wary of staying in their homes at night. As a result, educational services remained suspended in Latakia.

In Hama, however, schools reopened today with a high attendance rate reported. Recreational activities were provided for students from 1st – 4th Grade at Bisan School and group counselling sessions were provided to Grade 5 students.

A delegation from UNRWA's Damascus Office also provided psychological support to 30 UNRWA staff in Hama Camp.

Neirab Camp, Ein el-Tal Camp and Aleppo:

In Neirab Camp, about 383 continue to be displaced as a result of the earthquakes and aftershocks. UNRWA continues to provide essential NFIs and RTE food to families in Ein el-Tal Camp, including blankets, jerry cans and cans of sardines. About 306 Palestine refugee families are reported displaced in Aleppo and are staying in collective shelters, mosques and with their relatives.

In Ein el Tel, members of UNRWA's protection team met with community representatives (m 3, f 9) to identify protection concerns and to build community-based protection mechanisms.

Needs update

Latakia:

There is an ongoing need for NFIs (including diapers for females and the elderly) 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:

UNRWA continues to provide essential NFIs to families. 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, particularly in some of the older installations which were already showing signs of significant wear and tear.

A governmental committee of engineers visited Bisan, Samakh and Kwikat Schools in Hama to assess their structural status. Their assessment report will be issued over the coming weeks. In Homs, where it had been reported that there are cracks in all of the UNRWA schools there (including Ramleh / al-Berweh, Alshajara and Ras al-Ahmad buildings), a technical assessment was undertaken by representatives of the Engineering Syndicate, who found that the schools were structurally safe and could continue to be operated norm.