

OPERATION UPDATE

Syria, MENA| Syria Earthquake

<p>Emergency appeal No: MDRSY009</p> <p>Emergency appeal launched: 07/02/2023.</p> <p>Operational Strategy published: 20/04/2023</p>	<p>Glide No: EQ-2023-000015-SYR</p>
<p>Operations update: 12-months update</p> <p>Date of issue: 16/05/2024</p>	<p>Timeframe covered by this update:</p> <p>From 07/02/2023 to 31/01/2024</p>
<p>Operation timeframe: 24 months (06/02/2023- 28/02/2025)</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 3.5 million people</p>
<p>Funding requirements (CHF):</p> <p>CHF 100 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal</p> <p>CHF 200 million Federation-wide</p>	<p>DREF amount initially allocated:</p> <p>CHF 2 million</p>



SARC Volunteers providing support in the earthquake affected places. Source: SARC

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks **CHF 100,000,000 (IFRC Secretariat funding requirements)**, is **61 percent funded**. This includes hard and soft pledges. Additional funding is needed to enable the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, through the IFRC, to continue addressing people's immediate needs affected by the earthquake. See the [donor response list here](#).

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

The devastating earthquake that struck Syria and Turkey on February 6, 2023, had severe consequences for an already vulnerable population. Before the seismic events, more than four million people in northwest Syria, and 15 million people across Syria, were already in need of humanitarian aid, reflecting the severe protracted crisis affecting the population. The earthquake, measuring magnitudes of 7.8 and 7.5, caused severe damage in Aleppo, Latakia, Tartous, Hama, and Idlib governorates. Major infrastructure damage was observed in cities and rural areas across these regions. According to reports from the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), the earthquake resulted in the tragic loss of 5,670 lives, with 11,774 individuals sustaining injuries. SARC estimated that over 8 million people have been directly affected by the event.

The SARC teams have been at the forefront from the first moments of the earthquakes with 4,000 staff and volunteers involved in the largescale response. By 31st January 2024, SARC had provided 24.2 million services to people affected by the earthquake¹. This includes distributing more than 8.5 million food and non-food relief items such as standard food parcels, canned food parcels, blankets, mattresses, hygiene kits, dignity kits, and menstrual hygiene management kits. More than 33,000 families received multi-purpose cash grants, and four million people received medical services and medicines free of charge in SARC's mobile or static health facilities including emergency surgical operations, deliveries, and incubator care for newborns. Around 600,000 people benefitted from protection services including psychosocial support, legal services, and awareness raising. Large-scale water infrastructure repair works have been completed or are underway, including the repairs of the Aleppo City equilibrium line that provides water to millions of people and the rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in collective centres, schools, and communities.

In the aftermath of the crisis, SARC conducted a rapid assessment of water and sanitation infrastructure in all impacted governorates to collect vital information. The presence of thousands of displaced individuals residing in shelters heightened the susceptibility to diseases attributed to overcrowding, unsafe water, and insufficient sanitation and hygiene. Following the earthquake, there was a notable 28% surge in morbidity related to common ailments like influenza and diarrhoea within weeks particularly in collective centres. Consequently, it was crucial to prioritize essential healthcare, access to clean water, and hygiene awareness to mitigate the potential for disease outbreaks and transmission, particularly in densely populated shelter environments.

Following the earthquakes, IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal of CHF 200 million to reach 2.5 million affected people. The Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-Wide approach, based on the response priorities of SARC and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to it, integrating holistic planning within the operational strategy, taking into consideration the programmatic sectorial experiences of in-country Partner National Societies with SARC, and assigning lead coordination positioning.

The number of people in need of humanitarian response in Syria has increased from 15.3 million to 16.7 million since 2023². After more than 12 years of crisis, most major cities in Syria still lie in ruins, with very limited functioning infrastructure and no resources to rebuild. Basic factors to drive the economy, such as electricity, fuel, infrastructure, and access to raw materials have been gravely depleted. The Syrian economy is currently in a downward spiral with massive inflation, a weakened currency, and massive price increases on normal consumer goods. With the dramatic reduction in funding among major donors, there are very limited resources left for the very basic needs of the

¹Counting unique number of persons assisted is posing a challenge given the scale and scope of the response and the multiple needs of the population affected. Therefore, SARC has opted to report on number of services provided.

² [Humanitarian Needs Overview \(February 2024\)](#)

population, not to mention recovery and reconstruction. For SARC, the key humanitarian service provider in Syria, the reduction in funds has severe consequences. SARC is now forced to scale down its provision of critical lifesaving services such as healthcare and relief including food and water. With 70% of the population living below the poverty line, among which 30% are below the extreme poverty line, the Syrian people will have increasing difficulties in getting their next meal on the table and will continue to have no possibilities to organize themselves for a better future.

Currently, in Syria, there is still a need for relief, recovery, and longer-term development interventions to run in parallel. At the end of December 2023, the local currency traded at an average of SYP 14,343 to a dollar on the parallel market. During the year, it nearly lost 60 percent of its value. The cost of food more than doubled during 2023, and in December 2023 the standard food basket cost was five times more than the monthly minimum wage. The surge in costs was mainly driven by a weakened currency and cuts in fuel subsidies³.

Following the earthquake, Syria has been affected by several crises. In June and July 2023, regions such as Homs, Hama, Lattakia, and Tartous, which were already grappling with the aftermath of an earthquake, experienced widespread wildfires. These fires inflicted substantial material and environmental harm, consuming homes and crops and thereby jeopardizing the primary livelihoods of the affected population. Moreover, swaths of land of vegetation, forests, and natural reserves fell victim to the blazes. Responding to a request from SARC, the IFRC promptly allocated 500,000 CHF from the DREF in August 2023 to address the repercussions of the wildfires.

Over the past year, a water crisis has been intensifying in the As-Sweida governorate. Marked by a decline in rainfall and snowfall, crucial sources for dam water collection were compromised. Neglected maintenance of water systems and the unavailability of spare parts resulted in the non-operational status of a substantial number of wells, reaching approximately 80%. In response, the IFRC allocated an additional 800,000 CHF from the DREF in August to address the urgent maintenance and repair requirements.

By October 2023, tensions escalated in the Middle East with the eruption of the conflict in Gaza. While the initial weeks of the conflict were highly unpredictable, the spillover into Syria has largely been contained so far. However, targeted strikes continue in the South and Central parts of the country, with an increased number of strikes and aggression actions unfolding in various parts of Syria, including the Northeast, Northwest, and Syrian deserts. Recognizing the risk of the Gaza conflict spreading to neighboring countries, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal to support the readiness and response efforts of National Societies in neighboring regions, including the Egyptian Red Crescent, Lebanese Red Cross, Jordanian Red Crescent, and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, in anticipation of potential hostilities and ensuing humanitarian needs.

In this context, SARC's staff and volunteers continue to be a lifeline for the communities they serve, and their tireless work provides people with food and water, basic relief items, health care, and psychosocial support in communities and cities. Currently, in Syria, there is still a need for relief, recovery, and longer-term development interventions to run in parallel.

³ WFP Syria Country Office, Market price watch bulletin, December 2023 issue 108.

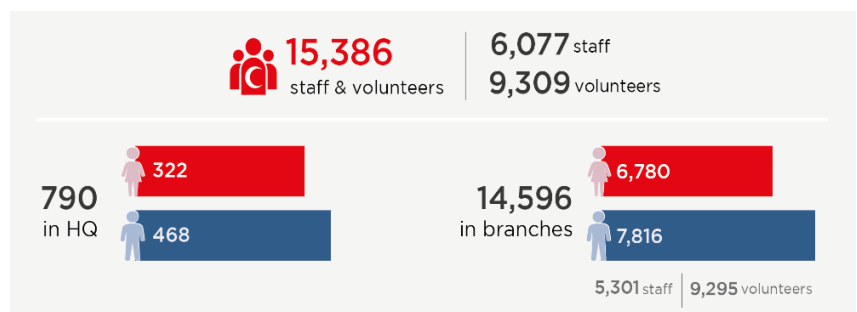
Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

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The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) has a strong capacity for emergency response and relief, emergency medical services, healthcare services, Water and Sanitation (WASH), food security, livelihoods, protection, community services, media and communication, logistics, coordination, and information management, with a strong focus also on national society strengthening and corporate services. SARC's dedication to humanitarian principles and its ability to adapt and deliver services in challenging contexts are commendable.

The National Society's Headquarters is in Damascus, and it has a network of 14 branches across all the governorates of Syria and 74 active sub-branches with a total of 15,386 active volunteers and staff. As a humanitarian auxiliary to the public authorities, SARC is Syria's national coordinator for humanitarian aid as mandated by the Government of Syria. SARC provides



life-saving assistance to meet humanitarian needs in the areas of relief, emergency response, shelter services, emergency medical services/first aid, primary health care, clinic/hospital services, psychosocial and mental health support, water and rehabilitation, sanitation, and hygiene promotion, protection, livelihoods and food security which aims at early recovery, guided by its Strategic Plan (2023-2027).

Reporting on SARC's earthquake response plan, **up to January 31, SARC has provided 24.2 million humanitarian services** with financial and in-kind contributions from its partners, where a single beneficiary may have received more than one service depending on specific needs. The cumulative services and numbers presented in the infographic below reflect SARC's multi-sectoral response strategy and achievements reached with financial, in-kind and technical support from partners since the onset of the emergency. This includes support from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, States, UN agencies, humanitarian actors, the private sector, public, national institutions, and organizations.



Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

From 6th Feb 2023 to 31st Jan 2024

7.8 Magnitude

Situation:

8M people affected

5 governorates affected

11,774 people injured

5,670 people killed

123,226 buildings destroyed or damaged.

1 SARC facility destroyed.

9 SARC facilities damaged.

Key figures of the response activities:

2.5 millions targeted people
3.5 millions reached people
24.2 millions provided service

16.1M services provided by the disaster management team
457.4K services provided by the water and rehabilitation team

5.7K cases responded to by the emergency medical services team.
556.4K services provided by the protection & community services team.

7M medical services provided by health department
76.6K legal services provided by the legal services team.

33.4K families received cash assistance.
1.5K families benefited from livelihood projects.

177 implemented training.
SARC received humanitarian aid support through 322 planes from various components of the international community.
More than 5K logistic services provided.

How we respond:

The Initial Response:
The SARC teams intervened from the first moments of the disaster and participated in evacuations and ambulance operations, preparing shelters, in addition to evaluating the infrastructures, buildings and shelters.
The first priority was initially to provide life-saving assistance.
All operational teams have been mobilized from all departments within the sectors concerned in the response, which have provided their various services, and are still developing their long-term plans to continue providing appropriate services according to the stages of the response.

The Integrated and Participatory Response:
In order to implement a comprehensive and integrated response, and to ensure optimal coordination between SARC programs, a multi-sectoral assessment is implemented in order to target beneficiaries and provide various services in an effective and coordinated manner.
The process of revising the earthquake plan has commenced with a kickoff workshop aimed at drawing lessons from our initial response efforts. This will be followed by activities focused on revising and collecting data, ultimately resulting in an updated plan that addresses the ever-changing requirements.
In order to improve the quality of services provided, current services are monitored and evaluated, where satisfaction and feedback surveys were collected for services provided, and monitoring checklists were implemented to monitor the work carried out by the Water and Rehabilitation Team, in addition to other assessments tools.

Protection and Inclusion:
Based on the principle of protection and inclusion, projects are being implemented to facilitate the access of people with special needs to various services, where ramps have been built for people with disabilities in health centers and shelters in Aleppo, Latakia, Hama and Homs.

Community Engagement and Accountability:
As part of SARC CEA's approach, we actively engage the community during the response by adopting a participatory approach. This involves listening to their needs and using this valuable information to guide and adapt our response activities.
Standardized community feedback channels were adopted to collect complaints, questions and requests in the affected governorates related to response interventions.
In order to enhance the role of volunteers and its importance in communicating with the community effectively and reliably, briefing sessions were provided to 579 volunteers about the activities provided by the programs within the organization based on the Welcome to SARC guidance, and briefing sessions on the Code of Conduct.
In addition to trained 89 volunteers about the CEA procedures, and feedback channels.

Capacity Building:
To bolster the expertise of SARC volunteers in disaster management, recovery, emergency preparedness, and community engagement, a range of training sessions on various subjects are organized, where 177 training were implemented for 5,926 participants. Amongst these training:
• Risk reduction measures and community awareness of the risks of the earthquake sessions for 1,241 participants, in addition to training 64 volunteers about advanced disaster management.
• Psychological first aid & psychosocial support training for 1,199 participants.
• 40 volunteers received training about restoring family links, and 20 of them also trained in body management topics.
• First aid training for 439 volunteers and 947 people from the local community.
• 80 volunteers from the cash and voucher assistance team received training about market analysis and conduct PDH.
• Trained 32 volunteers to be prepared as peer support facilitators and 77 volunteers received peer support sessions.
• 283 volunteers received training about protection and gender-based violence.

SARC-HQ



Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

From 6th Feb 2023 to 31st Jan 2024

7.8 Magnitude

Medical Services: 4,514,557 beneficiaries

The total medical services reached 7,026,896 services, as follows:

Program	Beneficiaries	Services
Mobile Health Units	258,130	516,260 consultations and medicines
Community-Based Health and First Aid	2,321,326 <small>beneficiaries from assessment sessions through 134 assessment missions</small>	2,375,997 including distributing 54,955 items, and 10,321 referrals.
Physical Rehabilitation Program	97,406 <small>included 3000 beneficiaries with disabilities</small>	290,360 including 1,555 mobility aids, distributing 29,552 hygiene items.
Mental Health	6,526	8,467 including psychological support sessions for 480 volunteers.
Medical MobileTeam	144,540	291,699
Clinics	1,643,998	3,477,131
Nutrition	30,861	42,380 including distributing food supplements and vitamins
Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	11,770	24,602 including the following services: 1,120 hospitalizations 3,169 emergency cases 9,075 diagnostic services (lab test, Echo, X-Ray, medicine, bandages, and others).

Legal Services: 76,691 beneficiaries

The provided legal services includes:

- 41,612 beneficiaries from legal needs assessments.
- 11,536 beneficiaries from legal visits and monitoring.
- 9,158 beneficiaries from legal consultations.
- 34 beneficiaries from interventions before courts.
- 13,035 beneficiaries from legal awareness sessions.
- 300 beneficiaries from legal communication & cooperation services.
- 1,016 beneficiaries from interventions before administrative bodies.

Cash and Voucher Assistance: 33,498 benefited families

In the aftermath of the earthquake, the Cash and Voucher Assistance Unit has worked to respond through coordination with the various units, where in coordination with the operations department, a quick registration form was developed, that includes basic information to register potential beneficiaries in each of the directly and indirectly affected governorates. The plan included intervention on several levels:

The first level: Provision of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). By using a scoring matrix based on the vulnerability criteria described in the Syrian Arab Red Crescent's operational plan.

The second level: is intervention in the field of shelter and the early recovery phase through coordination with the Livelihoods Unit and the Water and Rehabilitation Unit. The work is carried out in cooperation and coordination with the operating rooms approved by the government in order to ensure coordination of work between organizations working on the ground to reach the most vulnerable families and avoid repetition among the beneficiaries. Cash assistance was distributed in Hama, Aleppo, Latakia, and Idlib to 33,498 families, worth 3,150,000 per family.

Livelihood: 1,584 benefited families

With a participatory approach, livelihood needs assessment has been conducted in Aleppo, Hama, and Latakia for the affected people from EQ for different Livelihood groups and different wealthy groups. The assessment included interviews with Key Informants Interview, Focus Group Discussions, and Household levels, to understand and analyse the impact of the disaster on livelihood assets, coping strategies, market functioning, and seasonal factors.

The project was published, applicants were received, and the initial list of potential beneficiaries was prepared, entrepreneurship training was conducted, and the final lists of beneficiaries were prepared.

The relevant intervention was identified, which aims to contribute to the recovery of small businesses affected by the earthquake by providing and restoring the equipment and tools necessary for livelihood activities. Accordingly, projects for those affected by the earthquake were modernization, which included:

687 small project was supported by cash, in the targeted governorates:
Aleppo 250 projects. Latakia 248 projects. Hama 189 projects.

Project to protect and enhance the livelihoods of 897 farmers affected by the earthquake in Latakia, through the distribution of fertilizers, and irrigation networks, work is also underway to distribute appropriate inputs.

At the same time, the livelihood needs assessment is still ongoing for different affected areas to identify interventions according to the needs.

SARC-HQ



Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

7.8 Magnitude

From 6th Feb 2023 to 31st Jan 2024

During the earthquake response, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent mobilized all operational teams from all departments within the sectors concerned in the response, and the following services were provided:

Disaster Management Services:

- Evacuating families from their cracked homes toward shelters.
- Organizing the movement of **4,338 families** (21,690 people) from their places of residence to other places (1,041 families in Homs, 1,184 families in Tartous (172 families of them internally displaced), 1,568 families in Rural Damascus, 124 families in As-sweida, 187 families in Idleb, 51 families in Qunietra, 29 families in Damascus, and 154 families in Dar'a).
- Received 71 cases for facilitated restoring family links by the body management and restoring family links team, 44 of them closed successfully, and the others are still in the process.
- More than 200 shelters have been served by SARC teams since the beginning of the response, and currently, **9 shelters** hosting **4,340 people**, are designated for response by the SARC, as services are being provided to them.
- Deliver a convoy with relief and medical items to Sheikh Maqsoud in Aleppo consisting of **31 trucks**, and a convoy with relief items to Fafien neighborhood in Aleppo consisting of **12 trucks**.
- 8,459,474** distributed items (including convoys' items).

Non-Food Items & shelters: 1,174,163 items	WASH: 2,800,108 items
Food & Agriculture: 3,672,196 items	Nutrition: 813,007 items

Protection and Community Services: 556,452 beneficiaries

- Protection and Community Services provided different services, as follows:
- Provide awareness sessions and distribute posters for **268,365** beneficiaries about safety and security measures in earthquakes, panic, dealing with children, grief & loss, and sessions about sex and gender-based violence, and others, in addition, to distribute in-kind assistance for 160 beneficiaries to running 189 focus group discussion sessions.
 - Provide psychological first aid services for **34,157** beneficiaries especially for children, in addition to providing services in shelters such as recreational activities for 50,299 kids.
 - Case management services and referral to medical, legal, and mental health services for all age groups to 14,710 beneficiaries.
 - In addition to 159,146 structured activities for all ages, **29,319** education services, and 107 peer support activities.

Emergency Medical Services:

5,760 beneficiaries

5,760 cases responded to by the EMS team, as follows:



Water and Rehabilitation:

- Implement rapid assessment for water & sanitation infrastructure, and electricity networks across all affected governorates, 310 houses were also assessed, in addition to assessment for 32 SARC facilities, and an assessment of damages of 55 central water tanks, in addition, to implementing a need assessment of the SARC Children's Hospital, and assessed Al-Razi Hospital in Aleppo.
- Assessment of **215 shelters** including **schools**, and **43 shelters** rehabilitation, in addition to provide **46** shelter kit services, including maintenance of windows, doors, water tanks, electrical panels, and cables, with all the necessary supplies for installation.
- Installing **48** water tanks with different capacities, providing **46** metal barrels and **6** water pumps in addition to **29** water heaters, and supplying (**15,025 m³**) of water through cisterns.
- Distribute **119,347** water bottles and **11,472** jerry-cans and **246** bread portions in shelters, in addition to distributing **46,607** hygiene kits and **278,879** other items.
- Following up and supervising the rubble removal work resulting from the earthquakes and demolishing cracked buildings, in cooperation with the Aleppo City Council and the ICRC.
- Provide **5** electricity generating sets for bakeries in Lattakia, in addition to **14** electricity generators, **29** battery (200A), **41** solar light (100W), and **14** electrical transformers in Aleppo, and Hama, in addition to maintenance of two collective kitchens, and follow-up of the rehabilitation work of **4** bakeries, and an electricity generator was also provided to a bakery in Aleppo..
- Installation of **2** electrical transformers for the shelters in Idlib, providing **6** batteries, **10** electric chargers with different capacities, and **4** solar lights, in addition to installing **17** water taps and **4** showers within the shelters in Idlib.
- Rehabilitation of one of the SARC clinics in Aleppo.
- The health awareness promotion team provided awareness sessions about several topics including cholera and its prevention, in addition to the promotion of hygiene behaviors.

SARC-HQ

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:

SARC received support from Partner National Societies through both bilateral and multilateral multi-year programming. Partners continue to avail technical expertise and in-kind relief items to SARC, and the membership based on requests.

On 17 February 2023, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) was allocated CHF 282,339 from DREF to support the Palestinian refugees in the earthquake-affected areas of Lattakia, Aleppo, and Hama for six months. In the initial phase supported by this DREF, a total of 2,500 people will receive support to cope with the effects of the earthquake through the provision of shelter, food, non-food items, and assistance. To view the DREF operational strategy, click [here](#).

Needs analysis.

The February 2023 earthquakes in Syria and Türkiye have added agony to an already catastrophic situation, increasing the strain on services, causing displacement, and inflicting widespread damage. According to the Syria Earthquake Recovery Needs Assessment (SERNA)⁴, earthquakes resulted in \$8.9 billion in losses and \$14.8 billion in recovery needs over the next three-year period. Based on the completed assessments and secondary data review, the key needs to be addressed through this operation are described below.

Shelter⁵: Some 87,330 housing units representing 4.8 percent of the total housing stock are considered partially damaged and destroyed across the urban and rural areas of the earthquake-affected governorates. The governorate with the highest damage was Aleppo at 74 percent of total damages, followed by Idlib. The total economic loss estimated across the six governorates is about US\$69.2 million.

Livelihoods and basic needs⁶: At the end of December 2023, the local currency traded at an average of SYP 14,343 to a dollar on the parallel market. During the year, it nearly lost 60 percent of its value. The cost of food more than doubled during 2023, and in December 2023 the standard food basket cost was five times more than the monthly minimum wage. The surge in costs was mainly driven by a weakened currency and cuts in fuel subsidies⁷. At the community level, the living conditions have also significantly deteriorated. Food support, multi-purpose cash or vouchers, shelter support, and winterization support were identified as the most pressing needs among communities. This underscores the urgency of providing social assistance to mitigate the impact of the disaster on the affected communities.

Health⁸: The February earthquakes not only damaged health facilities, but also fragile medicine equipment and devices such as C-arm Machines, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRIs), and Computed Tomography scans (CT scans), many of which were already operating well beyond their normal lifespan due to a lack of eligible funding for replacement. Furthermore, many machines are non-functional due to unilateral coercive measures which prevent the importation of spare parts, updating of software, and provision of expertise needed for repairs. During the earthquakes, these factors impacted the timely and effective delivery of life-saving trauma and surgical care. The RDNA estimated damage from the earthquake to nine types of public and private health facilities, shown in Table

⁴ [Syria Earthquake 2023 Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment \(RDNA\)](#)

⁵ [Syria Earthquake 2023 - Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment \(RDNA\) \(English\)](#)

⁶ [Syria Earthquake 2023 - Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment \(RDNA\) \(English\)](#)

⁷ [WFP Syria Country Office, Market price watch bulletin, December 2023 issue 108.](#)

⁸ [Syrian Arab Republic: 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview \(February 2024\)](#)

10. The earthquake-affected governorates have an estimated 1,067 facilities, of which 314 were already damaged or destroyed before the earthquake. Public medical centers are the most numerous (740), followed by public hospitals (211).

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)⁹: As a result of the earthquakes, damage to WASH systems has restricted the population's access to water and sanitation services in affected communities. Additionally, economic decline has impeded service providers' technical and financial capacities to operate and maintain water and sanitation systems adequately. Economic downturns and limited household finances remain a challenge for vulnerable communities and households in accessing safe and equitable WASH services and hygiene items and hinder the adoption of coping mechanisms for water.



SARC volunteers assessing the earthquake affected buildings . Source: SARC.

Operational risk assessment

Risk Management measures undertaken for the earthquake response are engrained in IFRC's Risk Management Policy. The policy sets out the key elements of the IFRC's risk management, outlining the main principles behind its risk management framework. In Syria, IFRC has established a structured approach to managing risk using risk management systematically to inform decision-making. A Risk Management Delegate for the IFRC in Syria was recruited in July 2023 to ensure the operation is aligned with IFRC's risk management standards and procedures and has a key role in supporting SARC in its risk management endeavours. A risk register has been established and risk mitigation plans are systematically implemented and followed up for the identified risks in close cooperation with SARC.

⁹ [Syrian Arab Republic: 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview \(February 2024\)](#)

In general, IFRC is embedding risk culture in the earthquake response and annual programming working hand in hand with SARC to build its capacity in risk management. These efforts will in the long run support effectiveness, efficiency, and timely response by establishing control measures and follow-up mechanisms. Capacity building and risk management training for SARC are ongoing to embed risk culture amongst the staff members in its HQ and Branches. Training of SARC Risk focal points and branch staff on the Risk concept and process was recently facilitated by IFRC, and subsequently, a risk focal point has been identified. SARC with the support of IFRC is developing a risk register to plan, prevent, mitigate, and respond to diverse risks that could potentially affect the National Society.

The ongoing conflict in Gaza has made the security context volatile in the region with spill over into Lebanon in particular. Due to this emerging conflict contingency plans have been activated to safeguard the safety of staff and ensure programme business continuity. The Risk Management and Security staff are working closely together on the monitoring and assessment of the situation and coordination between the Movement partners is taking place regularly.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The current Operations Update is based on the orientations and guidelines as defined by the published [Operational Strategy](#). Four months post-earthquake, approximately 130 staff and volunteers from SARC headquarters and the earthquake-affected branches gathered in Damascus to discuss the revision of the Earthquake response plan and medium to long-term recovery and resilience-strengthening interventions. All relevant stakeholders including technical sector leads, support services, and crosscutting areas from SARC headquarters and branches, IFRC, ICRC, and Partner National Societies contributed and participated in the workshop.

While SARC with IFRC and RCRC partners are working to provide basic humanitarian assistance and services to address the most urgent and immediate needs of affected communities, there is a need collectively to lay the foundations for medium to longer-term programming that improves resilience. The approach will inform the implementation of more sustainable and durable interventions that reduce vulnerabilities and exposure to risks, strengthen critical services, and revitalize livelihoods and economic recovery. SARC is planning the shift to programming that strengthens resilience, supports durable and sustainable solutions, and builds capacities and skills in long-term displaced populations to be more self-sufficient. SARC's approach to resilience strengthening will be grounded on the Strategic Plan 2023-2027 which focuses on a comprehensive coordinated response, recovery, and resilience building through comprehensive, multisectoral interventions that address multiple health, nutrition, WASH, and livelihoods needs.

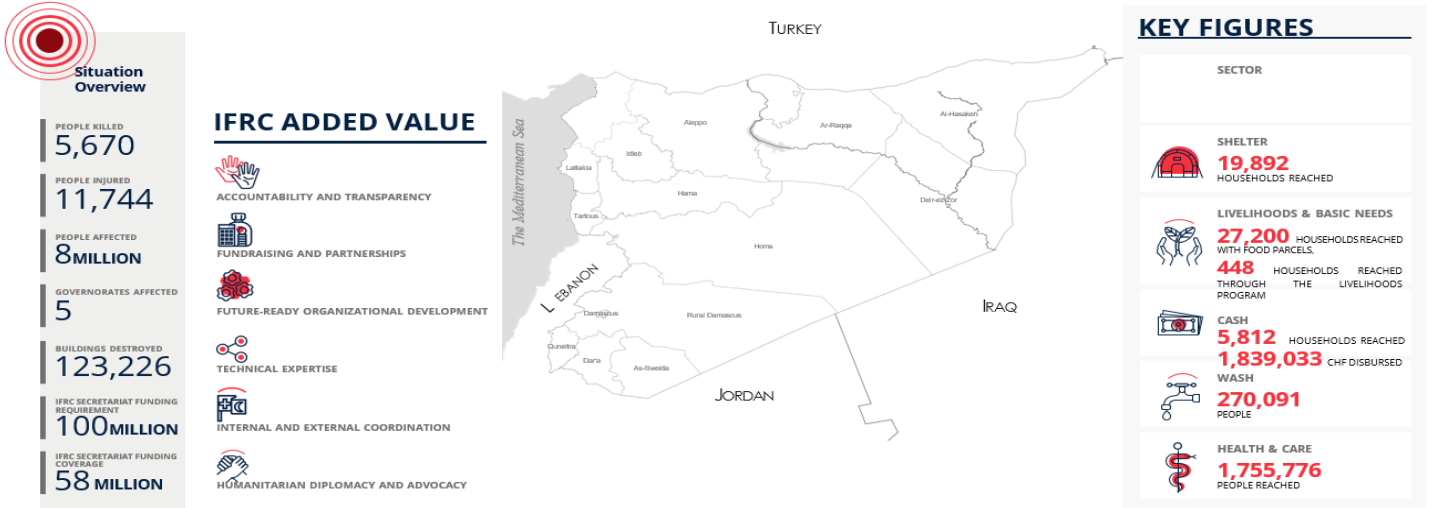
The SARC approach to resilience strengthening should bring together the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of dignity and well-being into comprehensive and multisectoral assessments and interventions that address health, social, WASH, and livelihood needs at the community level. The roadmap should outline the key approaches and milestones for linking the immediate humanitarian assistance plans and the mid to longer-term programming and ensure all efforts contribute to strengthening community resilience in the earthquake-affected areas and beyond, with a focus on ensuring the full participation of women and girls among others to strengthen their agency and wellbeing

IFRC RESPONSE

Earthquake | Syria



This infographic demonstrates the added value that the IFRC has brought to complement the response to the emergency operation by SARC



C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Objective:		1. Emergency phase: Communities in crisis-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety through emergency shelter and household items provision.		
		2. Resilience building: Meet the medium-term shelter needs and urban resilience in line with principles of dignity, protection, and an integrated approach.		
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC actual¹⁰	IFRC actual¹¹	IFRC target
	Number of households provided with household items that support the restoration and maintenance of health, dignity and safety and the undertaking of daily domestic activities in and around the home	514,659	19,892	31,950 ¹²

¹⁰ This is the achievement of SARC through funding support from the Movement, and other partners.

¹¹ This is the achievement through IFRC-supported funding.

¹² Includes households to be reached with tents, tarps, kitchen sets and jerry cans.

SARC mobilized its Disaster Management (DM) teams across branches to provide essential support to affected communities. SARC's efforts included the distribution of 8,459,474 food and non-food items, ranging from food parcels to hygiene kits and blankets. Additionally, the DM teams coordinated relief distributions by other SARC sectoral teams. SARC dispatched convoys of relief supplies that were distributed in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Lattakia and Tartous.

SARC teams supported the light rehabilitation and repairs of 43 collective centers including maintenance of windows, doors, water tanks, electrical panels and cables in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake. Over 200 collective shelters have been served by SARC since the commencement of the response and at the end of the reporting period SARC continued to support 9 shelters.

The DM beneficiary database was updated with factors such as geographical vulnerability, needs mapping, and capacities of host communities mainly in the governorates affected by the earthquake. This updated database facilitated the identification and targeting of persons most in need of additional assistance thereby ensuring effective use of limited resources.

IFRC support to SARC: In response to the earthquake in Syria, the IFRC supported SARC to take significant steps to support the affected population. Since the last Operations Update, the IFRC supported the distribution of kitchen sets reaching 9,141 households which translates to 42,244 people (7,561 male children, 9,743 female children, 11,292 male adult and 13,648 female adults). The households reached were Aleppo (4,000), Hama (821), Homs (100), Lattakia (3,220), and Tartous (1,000). A total of 1,306 households (6,236 people - 929 male children, 1,007 female children, 2,062 male adult and 2,238 female adults) were reached through the distribution of jerrycans. The households reached were Hama (163), and Tartous (2,000). These items were aimed at providing essential tools for food preparation and to facilitate water storage and transportation. Tarpaulins were also distributed to 3,097 households made up of 17,414 people disaggregated as 3,528 male children, 4,456 female children, 4,203 male adult and 5,497 female adults. The households reached were Aleppo (940), Ar-Raqqa (1,000), Hama (855), Homs (272), and Tartous (30). These tarpaulins served to provide temporary shelter and safety to the earthquake affected people.

The IFRC also supported SARC with emergency shelter items received in-kind from the European Humanitarian Response Capacity mechanism. On February 26, 2023, a plane cargo of relief items comprised of tents, stoves, tunnel tents, ropes, and tarpaulins from ECHO arrived in Syria for the response to the earthquake. This was the first plane with relief items to land directly from the EU in Damascus since the start of the crises in 2012. The in-kind emergency shelter relief items were distributed to earthquake-affected and vulnerable households in Aleppo, Lattakia and Ar-Raqqa. Shelter specialists were deployed in the first months of the response through the IFRC global human resource surge mechanism to assess, analyze, and recommend suitable shelter solutions for midterm stays of displaced people. Feasibility assessments and design of prefabricated shelters started during the reporting period. Overall, the implementation of shelter solutions was not without its challenges due to initial lack of national strategy for medium and long-term shelter solutions for the affected populations.



SARC volunteers facilitating distributions. Source: SARC



Livelihoods

Objective:

Communities in crisis-affected areas and the displaced can cover their immediate food needs and protect and build resilient livelihoods.

Key indicators:

Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	IFRC target
<i>Number of targeted households reached with food (in-kind)</i>	315,620	27,200	126,110
<i>Number of households with damaged basic livelihood physical asset in targeted communities restored</i>	1,584	448	3,015

In the wake of the earthquake, communities often face immediate challenges such as displacement, destruction of infrastructure, and disruption of regular food supply chains. Food parcels become crucial as they provide immediate relief, offering sustenance to those who may have lost their homes and access to regular sources of nutrition. In 2023, there was a substantial increase in the cost of the standard reference food basket, more than doubling within the calendar year, while income levels remained relatively low. During the period under review, SARC distributed a total of 3,672,196 food items. The distributions were done in the affected governorates of Aleppo, Lattakia, Hama, Tartous, and Homs within shelters and to the host and local communities.

The IFRC provided support by facilitating SARCs procurement and distribution of 27,200 parcels of food, effectively reaching 27,200 households. The households were made up of 127,179 people disaggregated as 25,498 male children, 29,641 female children, 30,916 male adult and 41,124 female adults. The households reached were drawn from Aleppo (15,910), Hama (300), and Lattakia (10,990). The food parcels provided the earthquake-affected families with nutritious food, enhancing food security, and relieved them from financial strain, allowing families to allocate resources to other pressing needs.

Livelihoods plays a key role in the recovery and resilience of people affected by earthquakes, thus SARC has it at the centre stage of the response. During the period under review, livelihood needs assessments were done in Aleppo, Hama, and Lattakia for those affected by the earthquake. The inclusion of various livelihood and wealth groups in the assessment process, through data collection methods like Key Informants Interviews, Focus Group Discussions, and Household-level interviews, ensured understanding of the diverse impacts of the disaster. The assessment not only delved into the immediate consequences on livelihood assets but also considered coping strategies, market dynamics, and seasonal factors, providing a holistic view of the challenges faced by different communities. During this period report SARC supported 1,584 households with the support of Movement partners with livelihoods projects (farmers and small businesses affected by the earthquake). The financial support from the Movement Partners allowed SARC to implement livelihood projects. These projects were focused on promoting small-scale businesses and agricultural initiatives. The goal of these projects was to facilitate the restoration of livelihoods and the generation of income for the households impacted by the earthquake.

The identification of relevant interventions, particularly the support for small business owners to protect and restart their livelihoods, demonstrates a targeted and strategic response to the specific needs of the affected populations. The dissemination of the project, receipt of applicants' applications, and the preparation of an initial list of potential beneficiaries reflects a transparent and inclusive process.

The ongoing entrepreneurship trainings indicate a commitment to capacity-building and empowering individuals to rebuild and sustain their livelihoods. Simultaneously continuing the livelihood needs assessment for different affected areas underscores a dynamic and adaptive approach, ensuring that interventions align with evolving circumstances and emerging needs. This comprehensive strategy, from assessment to intervention and ongoing evaluation, exemplifies a thoughtful and community-driven response to post-disaster recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Consequently, from the assessments SARC with IFRC support initiated a livelihoods project to support the recovery of small businesses affected by the earthquake in Syria. A total of 448 households (approximately 2,270 people) in Aleppo, Lattakia and Hama have been supported through the provision of cash to renew, and/or rehabilitate equipment, supplies, and infrastructures needed to restart or protect their livelihoods.

The implementation process of this project is as follows: first, a dissemination of the project is carried out in the selected areas. A period is opened for interested people to fill out an application form. The target population voluntarily applies to join the programme based on specific eligibility and criteria set in the call for applications. Next, a verification of the households who have submitted the application forms is conducted and the provisional list is set up. Afterwards, those selected attend the basic business management skills training and develop and present their business plan. An evaluation is made by the program team and the final list of those who will be supported through the program is set up.

Based on the steps of the implementation, in August, SARC Livelihood teams from Aleppo, Hama and Lattakia branches carried out the dissemination of the project in the selected areas. More than 800 households applied to join the program and a verification was carried out. The targeting criteria to join the program is: Mandatory criteria: Small

business owners/IGA's affected by the earthquake and who have lost their source of income; Not benefiting from any similar livelihood program with another partner after the earthquake disaster; The family has access to a suitable place to set up the project. Conditional (vulnerability) criteria: Women breadwinners; Households with children under 5 years old; Households with pregnant women and the elderly; Households that have a PWD and/or Chronic illnesses; Households with a high dependency ratio.

After the household's verification, 596 were selected and attended the training. The programme team reviewed the business plans (the business has all the necessary requirements to be carried out) and 448 were selected in Hama, Lattakia, and Aleppo to receive economic support in the form of conditional cash to start implementing activities. Out



of the 448 participants in the training, 348 (78%) were men and 100 (22%) were women. The total people targeted through this project is 2,270.

The cash distribution started in October. Each family receives SYP 16,000,000 in two installments to restart their income-generating activity. The first installment is conditional on having attended the training and having the business plan approved and the second installment is conditional on having purchased the material detailed in the business plan. At the end of January 2024, 98% of the households had received the 2 installments.

Basic business management skills training in Hama. Source: SARC.

projects through the Cash and Voucher Assistance modality, there is close coordination between SARC Livelihoods and Cash and Voucher Assistance teams from the assessment. The majority of the people targeted through this intervention have previously been assisted by SARC during the emergency phase with unconditional multipurpose cash assistance to address their basic needs. The assistance has been approved by the operational rooms or the local government authorities.

SARC branch livelihood staff and volunteers (45 volunteers have been supporting this program) set up a monitoring system (baseline, post distribution monitoring, end line) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) initiatives to engage and communicate with the affected population more effectively in order to better understand their diverse needs, vulnerabilities and capacities; to gather, respond to and act on their feedback, priorities, and preferences and provide them with opportunities to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

The provision of cash to renew, rehabilitate, or protect equipment, supplies, and infrastructures enables households to restart their income-generating activities will ultimately contribute to the economic recovery and stability for the earthquake-affected families. On the other hand, the basic business management skills training aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage their businesses effectively, potentially leading to improved productivity and profitability. Since this marks the initial month following the distribution of the second

To ensure good planning and implementation of SARC's livelihoods

instalment of conditional cash, upcoming monitoring visits will be conducted to evaluate the progress, impact, and sustainability of the project on the businesses.



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective: *The affected households are provided with unconditional multipurpose cash assistance to address their basic needs (life-saving and longer-term) in an accountable and participatory manner.*

	Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	IFRC target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of households targeted with multi-purpose cash assistance</i>	33,498	5,812	15,000
	<i>Total spent for operation in CHF as multi-purpose cash transfer</i>	10,599,568	1,839,033	4,800,000

SARC's Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) team carried out a comprehensive registration exercise of earthquake-affected populations across all affected governorates. The data collected informs the identification of the most affected families (loss of income/livelihoods and/or shelter as well as additional vulnerability criteria), enables the cash transfers once families are selected, and is used for deduplication of efforts between SARC and external partners. The registration database will also inform other sectoral responses including livelihoods support.

The recommended cash transfer value for Multi-purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) (SYP 1,050,000 per month) was endorsed by the National Cash Working Group (CWG) in March 2023. The monthly transfer value was based on 60 % of the full Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) as of December 2022 and costs for essential lost NFI items. The MEB covers the most essential items including items that families lost in the earthquake. The basket and transfer value has been calculated by the CWG in consultation with other sectors and clusters in the country, meaning that all other actors will follow the same values according to their sector. SARC has been registering affected people, carrying out the verification process and coordinating with the Operations Rooms of the affected governorates.

During this reporting period, SARC distributed cash assistance in Hama, Aleppo, Lattakia, and Idlib to 33,498 families (Reaching approximately 167,490 people), worth SYP 3,150,000 per family with the support of Movement and external partners.

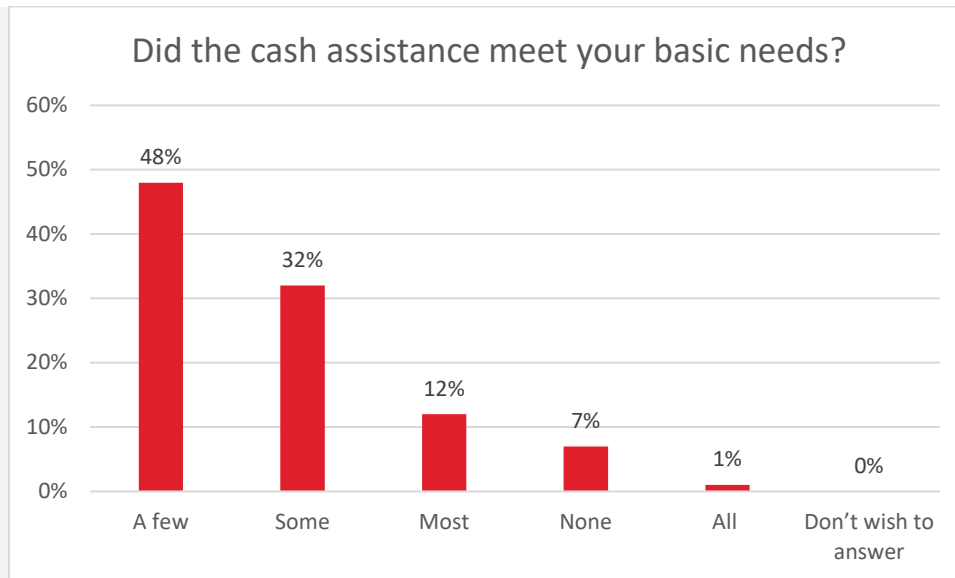
Through the support of the IFRC, SARC distributed MPCA to 5,812 households (approximately 29,903 people) drawn from Aleppo (2,646), Hama (1,212), Idleb (122), and Lattakia (1,832). This distribution accounted for 17% of the households reached by SARC through MPCA. Cash transfers are made through Al Fouad remittance company with whom SARC has a long-term service agreement (aligned with IFRC procurement standards). Cash-out points are operational and still functioning after the earthquake. Al Fouad has extensive coverage in the affected areas. Once the final list of targeted households reaches Al Fouad, the registered cash recipient receives a text message that their money is available at the nearest agent or agent of their choice.

Field monitoring visits have been conducted, and the families interviewed stated that due to the increasing cost of living and high prices for shelter repairs the amount received was not enough to cover their basic needs. Rent, food and health costs were the highest expenditures reported. Families visited during the field monitoring visits reported that they did not face any issues collecting assistance from the selected Financial Service Provider, nor spending the assistance in their local markets (items are available, yet at increased prices as mentioned above). Families stated that they were treated with respect by the Financial Service Provider and SARC staff and were grateful for the assistance received.

The flexibility provided by cash assistance has enabled Syrian families to address a diverse range of basic needs such as food, water, clothing, and essential household items. This flexibility has empowered families to make decisions tailored to their unique circumstances and priorities. Moreover, MPCA plays a key role in relieving economic strain among earthquake-affected families. By providing resources, it catalyses kickstarting recovery initiatives and engaging in economic activities. This financial support has the potential to contribute significantly to cover the basic needs of the people affected by the earthquake. It stands as an important element in not only addressing urgent needs but also laying the groundwork for sustained recovery and resilience within the earthquake-affected communities in Syria.

During the review period, post-distribution monitoring (PDM) activities were conducted by SARC with the support of MEAL, IM, and CVA staff and volunteers at the branch level. These volunteers facilitated data collection to provide a comprehensive overview of cash distributions carried out by all partners supporting SARC with cash distributions. The primary objectives of the PDM were twofold: firstly, to gather and analyze information aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the CVA programs and suggest potential improvements for future distributions, and secondly, to gather feedback from the community. The sampled respondents were 53% from Aleppo, 18% from Hama, and 29% from Lattakia. Most respondents (71%) were heads of households, while the remaining 29% were not. In terms of age distribution, the majority (88%) fell within the 18 to 64 age brackets, with 12% aged 65 and above. Concerning disability, 23% of respondents reported living with a disability, while 77% did not.

Based on the responses gathered regarding the adequacy of cash assistance in meeting basic needs, the breakdown reveals that 48% of respondents felt it addressed only a few of their necessities, while 32% indicated it covered some needs. Additionally, 12% reported that the assistance addressed most of their requirements. While 7% stated that it failed to meet any of their basic needs, a mere 1% expressed satisfaction, stating that it fulfilled all their needs. The finding shows that there are still unmet needs after receiving MPCA With inflation playing a major role in these results.



When queried about the utilization of cash assistance, the predominant response, accounting for 62% of beneficiaries, was its allocation towards purchasing food items. Following closely behind, 38% of respondents reported utilizing the cash for debt repayment, alongside another 28% who directed it towards health and medicine expenses. The utilization of cash for payment related to telecommunication and transportation, as well as the acquisition of a heater and productive assets, constituted the least common responses among beneficiaries. These findings show how the beneficiaries prioritized their most urgent needs, which have been food, alleviating financial burdens such as debt repayment, health and shelter (reparation or rent). This also shows that beneficiaries found the items and services available in the local market.

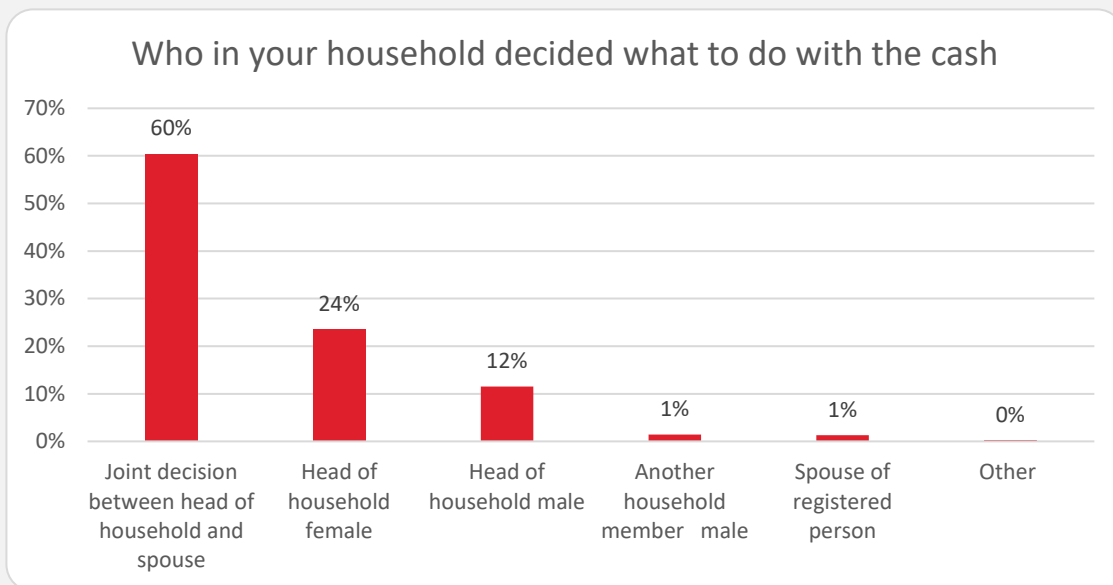
What the cash assistance was used for	Percentage ¹³
Paid for telecommunication	1%
Paid for transportation	3%
Bought a heater	3%
Bought productive assets	3%
Paid household bills electricity, water etc	4%
Bought non-productive assets	5%
Education	7%
Bought hygiene items	7%
Shelter repairs labour	10%
Bought fuel for cooking and heating	11%
Bought clothes and shoes	16%
Paid my house rent	19%
Shelter repairs materials	20%
Paid for health medicine	28%
Debt payment	38%

¹³ The total percentage is more than 100% because this was a multi-select question, and one respondent could choose more than one choice.

When surveyed about their perception of safety while traveling to receive assistance, the majority of respondents, comprising 93%, indicated that they felt secure. This high level of perceived safety suggests that the beneficiaries generally felt confident and at ease when accessing the Financial Service Provider where assistance was provided by SARC.

As part of the PDM process, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) questions were included to gauge the level of community awareness and satisfaction with feedback mechanisms. Furthermore, 93% of respondents who received feedback expressed satisfaction with the response they received. These findings highlight the effectiveness of the CEA initiatives in promoting transparency and accountability at the community level and the progress of SARC towards institutionalizing CEA.

When asked about decision-making regarding the utilization of cash assistance within their households, a significant majority, constituting 60% of respondents, reported that it was a collaborative effort between the household head and their spouse. This indicates a shared decision-making process between partners in managing the financial resources. Additionally, 24% of respondents stated that the female head of household was primarily responsible for making these decisions. However, this does not reflect women's influence in household financial decisions, but rather these are women-headed households. Finally, 12% mentioned that the male head of household held the primary decision-making authority regarding cash utilization.





SARC Volunteers registering earthquake affected people for cash distributions. Source: SARC.



Health & Care¹⁴

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Objective:	<i>Restored access of affected populations to essential health care services (emergency, primary, secondary, community/public health) including mental health and psychosocial support.</i>			
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC Actual	IFRC Actual	Target
	<i>Number of people reached with primary health services</i>	4,514,557	1,755,776 ¹⁵	731,827
	<i>Number of local health facilities supported with staff, equipment and/or running costs for the provision of medical services in emergencies</i>	132	57 ¹⁶	49

¹⁴ The data reported is what has been done by IFRC.

¹⁵ The data sums the people reached through MHUs (include ERU), MMTs, clinics, Assistive devices, medical equipment and CBHFA

¹⁶ The data sums the Number of local health facilities through 1 ERU, 6MHUs, 28 MMTs, 16 Clinics, 3 Poly clinics, and 3 Hospitals

During the reporting period, SARC provided 7,026,896 medical services that reached 4,514,557 people. The medical services provided were through static health facilities, mobile health units, mobile medical teams, physiotherapy mobile teams and centers, mental health clinics, nutrition clinics, and CBHFA volunteers, in the affected areas.

As health is one of the main strategic pillars of the earthquake response, significant efforts have been made by SARC and RCRC movement partners to streamline coordination. Given the vast areas of expertise within the SARC Health Department and the health expertise of the various RCRC partners, several health technical working groups have been formed with the aim of harmonizing approaches, ensuring an integrated results-based approach, and identifying gaps in terms of budgetary needs and additional technical support. During the reporting period, IFRC supported organizing movement-wide meetings regularly where SARC, Partner National Societies (PNS), and ICRC were able to share the information and identify gaps and agree on ways to address these.

An Emergency Response Unit (**ERU**) was deployed in a mobile clinic configuration to the Lattakia governate under the lead of the Finnish Red Cross in coordination with the Canadian Red Cross, German Red Cross, and Japanese Red Cross, and with in-kind support from the French Red Cross and the Portuguese Red Cross. The mobile clinic provided comprehensive primary care services including maternal and child healthcare, infectious diseases care, non-communicable disease services, and treated 3,000 people. In addition to the above, IFRC is procuring two vehicles for SARC's "Medical Emergency Response Unit" (**MERU**). These units will also support SARC in establishing its own rapid response mechanism. Canadian Red Cross will provide the technical and financial support to help SARC build its own MERU capacity.

After the earthquake, Mobile Health Units (**MHUs**) started supporting earthquake-affected areas immediately. In the first few weeks, some MHU worked 24 hours with several medical staff working in shifts and overtime. The MHUs are mobile with their own vehicle, fully equipped teams that include a general practitioner, a nurse, an administrative person, and a driver that focus their services within shelters and rural areas, reaching out to beneficiaries who lack regular access to health care, 6 days per week from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. The core of the MHU provides first aid and internal medicine services, MNCH, gynecological services, and simple diagnostic services. In some cases, MHUs also provide referrals to secondary and tertiary care facilities. A total of 3 new MHUs were activated in Lattakia with the support of DRC. During the reporting period, 7 MHU teams operating in the earthquake-affected areas were supported by the IFRC till end of December 2023, then they will be transitioned to the Unified plan 2024. Those 6 MHU teams reached 37,497 people (4,596 Male children, 5,259 Female children, 10,936 adults males, 16,706 adult female). These people were reached through a total of 74,994 services.

Immediately after the earthquake, Mobile Medical Teams (**MMTs**) also provided medical consultation services in collective shelters, and health promotion messages to the people in need. The teams included a general practitioner or gynecologist, a nurse, and a midwife. Other team members in the MMTs included a social worker, who provided individual consultation services on psychosocial issues, and volunteers providing different services like health promotion and PSS sessions. IFRC is supporting 27 MMTs through the earthquake appeal. During the reporting period, 27 MMT teams reached 61,226 people (16,545 children, 7,622 adults male, 37,059, adult Female). These people were reached through a total of 95,595 services.

IFRC also supported the cost of employment for the internal medicine and pediatric clinics in 16 SARC **primary health clinics** till end of December 2023. This was complementary to SARC's partnership with UNFPA which is supporting the gynecological clinic and the operational costs of the clinics. In addition, IFRC supported 3 SARC **polyclinics** which were funded by UNHCR till the end of June 2023. IFRC supported from 1st July till 14th Sep 2023 through the earthquake appeal. During the reporting period, the above mentioned 16 primary health clinics and 3 polyclinics reached 97,816 people (21,044 Male children, 23,850 Female children, 9,260 adult males, 43,662 adult Female). These people were reached through a total of 71,369 services. It has been a challenging endeavor to run the clinics with unstable electricity which worsened by lack of available fuel for generators. At times, medical staff

find themselves having to treat patients using Mobile phones light. Through the support of IFRC, SARC plans to implement a solution by supporting the installation of **solar panels**. The installation of solar panels will offer a sustainable electricity-generating solution that can significantly ease the dependency on traditional power sources. The solar panels will enable the clinics to operate more efficiently, regardless of the availability of fuel or fluctuations in the grid power supply. This will enhance the quality of healthcare services and improve the working conditions for medical staff. Transitioning to solar energy aligns with broader efforts to promote sustainability and reduce carbon emissions, contributing to environmental conservation and easing the impact of climate change.

International procurement of **medical equipment** for SARC hospital and clinic is ongoing. This includes specialized instruments such as endoscopy and heart rate monitoring systems for improved and speedier diagnostics and treatment of severe illnesses. The equipment will be delivered and installed in several phases depending on the country of departure, delivery lead times and shipping. By the end of the reporting period, some equipment arrived at the hospital/clinic and started to be utilized. A total of 120 patients benefited (33 Male children, 5 Female children, 64 adult males, 18 adult female).

Through the Disability Inclusion and Physiotherapy Project implemented by SARC with support from the IFRC, a total of 96,124 people, and caregivers, received multidisciplinary medical and rehabilitation services at different shelters in Aleppo, Latakia, and Hama. A total of 25,483 people with varying types of disabilities (i.e., physical, visual, hearing, and psychosocial) received **Physiotherapy, Medical, and Nursing Services** with multiple service sessions. Additionally, 1,401 people with disabilities received several types of assistive devices, including wheelchairs, crutches, and walking frames, to improve the mobility of the affected individuals. The people were reached through a total of 287,439 services.

During the reporting period, SARC Emergency Medical Services (**EMS**) department continued to provide services and respond to different Health emergencies. IFRC supported EMS volunteers with 1,765 sets of uniforms consisting of a winter jacket, trousers, long shirt, a T-shirt, a vest and heavy-duty boots. These uniforms with the required SARC insignia are essential to provide protection and safety for SARC's EMS volunteers in their rescue and first aid operations. To support and improve SARC pre-hospital care services, IFRC supported the development of EMS roadmap and internal analysis of the EMS protocols and processes which lead to the development of the EMS strategy.

From the first hours following the disaster, the Community-Based Health and First Aid (**CBHFA**) teams were on the ground providing support to the persons affected, including evacuation from damaged buildings, support in setting up shelters, provide psychological first aid (PFA), and first aid services to those in need. In the following months, the teams worked closely with the people residing inside the temporary shelters by first establishing health committees, and then, providing sensitization sessions and tackling different health issues that were arising following the earthquake, including lice, scabies, and others. Support to people suffering from Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) was also continued. With the technical support of IFRC, SARC's CBHFA volunteers will be strengthened by training on the Epidemic Control for Volunteers (**ECV**). This training was designed to equip participants with an understanding of the common infectious diseases that cause outbreaks and how they are spread, as well as how to prevent and control them, actions to prevent epidemics, and how to assist during outbreaks at community level. During the reporting period, 90 volunteers (44 Female and 46 male) completed this training, and this effort is continuing. During the reporting period, 1,458,592 people (546,899 children, 409,282 adult male, 502,411 adult female) were reached with sensitization and health promotion activities. The people were drawn from Al-Hasakeh (266,228), As-Sweida (5,037), Damascus (17,556), Dar'a (87,179), Deir-ez-Zor (242,934), Hama (335,748), Homs (257,161), Idleb (4,456), Rural Damascus (28,292, and Tartous (214,001). The people were reached through a total of 1,492,944 services.



Cleaning activity led by CBHFA volunteers at shelter in Latakia. MMT team Health promotion session at shelter in Aleppo

Among the **CBHFA activities** conducted, **prevention and mitigation of AWD/Cholera** cases was one of the focuses for the teams. Sensitization sessions/messages were shared with whole communities, and suspected cases were identified and supported during home isolation. **Community-based management of AWD/Cholera** was also undertaken, and patients were followed up until their symptoms subsided, or referred to specialized service providers if the need was identified.

During regular visits to the Datour community in Latakia by CBHFA volunteers, Mrs. Nawal, 51years old, received awareness messages about cholera, symptoms, and prevention. One day, the lady's sister reported that Mrs. Nawal was suspected of being infected with cholera.

CBHFA volunteers went to the woman's house and the degree of dehydration was classified as moderate. The patient's caretaker was taught how to prepare and administer oral rehydration solution (ORS), and the patient was followed up for 4 days until she became stable condition. CBHFA volunteers also shared the knowledge of steps of home isolation to the patient's family, and there were no more suspected cases in the home and neighborhood.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective:	<i>Reduce the risk of waterborne diseases and ensured the dignity of the affected population through the provision of inclusive WASH services.</i>			
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC Actual	IFRC actual	Target
	<i>Number of people reached by WASH assistance</i>	665,166	270,091	936,267
	<i>Number of people reached with hygiene supplies</i>	215,055	270,091	463,996

During the period under review, SARC's WASH department conducted a Rapid assessment for water & sanitation infrastructure, and electricity networks across all affected governorates, 310 houses were also assessed, in addition to assessment for 32 SARC facilities, and an assessment of damages of 56 central water tanks, in addition, to implementing a need assessment of the SARC Children's Hospital and assessed Al-Razi Hospital in Aleppo. SARC installed 48 water tanks with different capacities, providing 46 metal barrels and 6 water pumps in addition to 29 water heaters, and supplying (15,025 m³) of water through cisterns. SARC distributed 119,347 water bottles and 11,472 jerry-cans in shelters, in addition to distributing 46,607 hygiene kits and 278,879 other items among displaced families and host communities.

SARC undertook light rehabilitation works in 43 collective centers in the immediate weeks after the earthquake. In-kind relief items comprising of hygiene kits, menstrual hygiene management kits, anti-lice shampoo, diapers, soap were distributed in the collective centers and to host communities.

In Lattakia, 5 electricity generating sets were allocated to bakeries, while Aleppo and Hama received 14 generators, 29 batteries (200A), 41 solar lights (100W), and 14 electrical transformers. The WASH department also played a key role in the maintenance of collective kitchens and bakeries. In Idlib the installation of two electrical transformers for shelters, the provision of six batteries, 10 electric chargers, 4 solar lights, and the installation of 17 water taps and 4 showers within shelters were undertaken. Rehabilitation efforts were also supported in one of the SARC clinics in Aleppo. The hygiene promotion unit raised awareness on topics including cholera prevention and hygiene practices. SARC has an instrumental role in rehabilitating the Aleppo water equilibrium line that is daily providing water to more than 2.5 million residents of Aleppo city governorates. This is a joint undertaking with several partners that has a significant importance for the people's access to clean water.

Through the support of IFRC, SARC conducted two epidemic controls for volunteer (ECV) trainings for WASH and health coordinators in the affected branches. The primary objective of the training was to equip the branch coordinators with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively handle epidemic control situations. It is expected that the coordinators will cascade the knowledge to the other WASH teams at their respective branches. One of the action items from the training is the development of an "Epidemic control plan".

A total of 46,607 hygiene kits, were distributed to the following branches in Aleppo, Lattakia, Homs, and Hama through the support of IFRC. The hygiene kits reached a total of 228,400 people. Additionally, IFRC supported the

distribution of menstrual and hygiene kits that reached 4,783 females and adolescent girls. The menstrual and hygiene kits specifically support women's health, ensuring that their unique needs are recognized and met. Ensuring access to menstrual hygiene management services and supplies in humanitarian emergencies is an essential component of dignity and health for women and girls. A total of 36,908 people were reached with dignity kits. The dignity kits play an important role on the dignity and well-being of the people affected by the earthquake. The high price inflation and decline in purchasing power make the dignity kits out of reach for the people affected by the earthquake. The dignity kits played a key role in enabling the people affected by the earthquake to meet their basic needs, preserve their dignity, promote their health and well-being, and empower the women and girls to manage their menstrual health with dignity, attend school or work regularly, and participate fully in community life.

During the reporting period, IFRC launched the procurement of 1,200 plastic tanks with a capacity of 1 – 3 cubic meters for household-level use. Additionally, IFRC is supporting SARC for the procurement of 80 Oxfam tanks. The international procurement of the Oxfam tanks was launched in December 2023. SARC's proficient team of Water and Sanitation Engineers will oversee the installation process. The installation process will include several site visits to determine site-specific requirements for the safe and secure installation to facilitate completion of the project. The installation plan will prioritize guidance to people, ensuring they are well-informed on usage, maintenance, and the essential cleaning routines for the water tanks. This will not only contribute to the sustainability of the tanks handed over but also increase the impact of SARC's relief assistance in Syria. Additionally, coordination will also be made with the entities operating the water stations or the Water Establishment Authority, and the site will be selected according to the evaluation carried out by the SARC WASH teams in the governorates, where the proposed site is evaluated until an alternative to the metal tank (a permanent tank) is constructed by the entities operating the water stations or the Water Establishment Authority

SARC initiated activities for the light rehabilitation of schools and community water towers affected by the earthquake in Idlib governorate through the joint support of IFRC, the Norwegian Red Cross and the German Red Cross. The rehabilitation of schools and water towers is currently halfway done. Currently, work is underway in 11 schools, where a range of maintenance and construction tasks have been done. This includes cleaning and debris removal, dismantling windows and damaged security fences, installing iron tanks, protection fences, and metal doors, and implementing concrete, clay, block, and Tyrolean spray works to address structural damage in buildings, fences, and bathrooms. Aluminum window installation has begun in Abdelkader Haj Bakri School, with measurements being taken for the rest of the schools. When completed the schools will be used by a total of 1,476 students. Excavation and inspection of the tanks' foundations have been completed, and efforts are now focused on strengthening these foundations by injecting Epoxy, reinforcement steel, and concrete. However, progress has been hampered by adverse weather conditions experienced in January 2024. Inspections of metal stairs and pipes have been conducted, and necessary measurements and drawings are being taken for replacement. When completed the elevated water tanks will benefit a total of 23,302 people with access to safe water and restore their livelihoods. During the period under review, a monitoring visit was done by the Norwegian WASH focal point to assess the progress and quality of the rehabilitation of schools and elevated tanks.

The delivery into Syria of special needs kits procured by the IFRC was completed. These kits are meant for adults and the elderly and contain diapers, soap, lotion and other hygiene articles. A distribution plan is currently under development. 39 generators of various voltages were delivered and will be installed to support the operations of boreholes and water pumping stations.



SARC volunteer supporting the distribution of hygiene kits. Source: SARC.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective:

Ensure that Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) is considered a safe and inclusive response, by strengthening SARC's PGI capacities, mainstreaming of PGI and safeguarding in relevant technical sectors, and strengthening of protection services.

Key indicators:

Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	Target
Number of people trained on implementing the PGI Minimum Standards	283	240	4,965

During the reporting period, SARC reached a total of 556,452 beneficiaries with Protection and Community Services in the earthquake-affected Governorates. Awareness sessions were conducted, disseminating crucial information on safety and security measures during earthquakes, panic management, childcare, grief and loss, and sessions addressing sex and gender-based violence to 268,365 people. Additionally, 160 beneficiaries

received in-kind assistance, and 189 focus group discussion sessions were conducted. Specialized psychological first aid services were provided to 34,157 beneficiaries, with a particular emphasis on children, complemented by shelter services, including recreational activities for 50,299 children. Additionally, case management services and referrals to medical, legal, and mental health services were extended to 14,710 beneficiaries across all age groups. The holistic approach continued with 159,146 structured activities catering to various age groups, 29,319 education services, and 107 peer support activities.

IFRC has provided significant support to Protection, Gender, and Inclusion as a core priority of the IFRC Earthquake Operational Strategy and the SARC Earthquake Response Plan, in line with Strategic Direction 3 – Protection and Inclusion under the Strategy 2023-2027, to ensure integrity and accountability at all levels of the National Society as a fundamental aspect of its humanitarian response. This backing signifies a commitment to providing relief and services which are not only relevant, of high quality, and efficient but, at the same time, aligned with principles prioritizing protection, gender sensitivity, and inclusion.

With support from IFRC, SARC conducted two workshops on minimum standards of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion, Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS), and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Psychosocial Support (PSS), and safe identification. SARC conducted awareness-raising events for persons with disabilities and their caregivers about opportunities, empowerment of persons with disabilities, and life/success stories linked to the overall programme on physiotherapy and disability inclusion in the affected governorates.

In addition, during the reporting period, SARC has enhanced the Movement partners' broader efforts towards mainstreaming Protection, Gender, and Inclusion in areas of their support. From 18 to 26 January, the IFRC regional and country staff held working meetings on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion with all programmes and support services at SARC headquarters and branch leadership, staff, and volunteer leaders in Damascus and Rural Damascus branches (in total, 30 participants) to develop the foundation laid by previous initiatives, highlighting existing challenges and identifying new opportunities to institutionalize and mainstream Protection, Gender and Inclusion aspects, and embedding the core principles across all SARC programmes and services. On January 18, IFRC regional and country staff held a meeting with in-country Partner National Societies to discuss the practices and plans in the area of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion and, at the same time, initiate bringing together the partners to align the technical and financial support in Protection, Gender, and Inclusion and Community Engagement and Accountability linkages (Swedish Red Cross), enhance safeguarding mechanisms (Canadian Red Cross and British Red Cross), Gender-based Violence Training for Trainers (British Red Cross), disability inclusion (Finnish Red Cross) and foundations and core concepts Protection, Gender, and Inclusion training (IFRC) and use this to complement and enhance SARC's programming and technical capacities in these areas.

Based on the findings and reflections of SARC programmes, branches, and PNSs, the draft report and Plan of Action for 2024-2025 was developed by the IFRC regional staff with the active involvement of the SARC's relevant units – National Society Development and Strategic Planning and Community Services and Protection Units, and IFRC country staff. The main focus is on institutionalizing the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion by developing the Policy and Standard Operating Procedures, strengthening competencies, and mainstreaming the principles in all programmes and services, which is built on existing practices and work SARC carried out through strengthening specialized protection services and mainstreaming in response operations and specific sectors such as Disaster Management, Cash and Voucher Assistance, Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene.

SARC's Earthquake response demonstrated specific vulnerabilities faced by certain groups and the need for attention to this through disaggregating data and tailored interventions such as ensuring safe shelter and child-friendly spaces, Gender-Based Violence risk mitigation in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, menstrual hygiene management, disability-inclusive response in addition to institutionalizing Protection, Gender, and Inclusion into SARC ways of working. But helping the National Society strengthen its systems and capabilities requires close

guidance and follow-up, which could best be achieved through a Protection, Gender, and Inclusion delegate to be recruited by the IFRC with support from the British Red Cross and the Canadian Red Cross to work with SARC programs and support services on all the above. The Job Description including terms of reference has been developed and agreed upon among all the parties.



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation, and Recovery

Objective:

Strengthen resilience and capacities of disaster and crisis affected communities through climate-smart community-based risk reduction actions informed by enhanced Vulnerability Capacity Assessments and advanced planning.

SARC's Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) overarching approach includes resilience building with communities based on vulnerability and capacity assessments undertaken in several governorate as part of SARC's ongoing programmes and operations. SARC aims to empower communities and build their resilience in the face of disasters, through collaborative efforts and a multisectoral approach.

Risk Reduction and Climate adaptation are expected to be central components of recovery planning. Currently, SARC with the support of the IFRC, its membership, and in coordination with other UN Agencies, is discussing plans for early recovery assessments to inform the subsequent planning.

The following activities will be prioritized, depending on funding:

1. Climate change adaptation training
2. Training on improvements and early action mechanism
3. Training on risk context and identification of high-risk areas
4. Community-based interventions

During the reporting period, SARC's Disaster Management team conducted capacity-building workshops to enhance SARC's staff and volunteer competencies in earthquake-related topics including evacuation plans and corrective actions before, during, and after an earthquake while working with the communities to understand the risks, mitigation, and adaptation. A total of 50 workshops related to disaster risk reduction have been conducted since the earthquake with the participation of 718 volunteers and 334 staff.

SARC has been working with the IFRC Climate and Resilience Team from its MENA Regional Office on community-based disaster risk reduction, specifically focusing on Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCA). Following the earthquake in February 2023, SARC's Homs branch initiated the implementation of eVCA, prioritizing earthquakes as a key hazard. IFRC technical focal person from its regional office and SARC conducted a field visit to Old Homs City to validate vulnerabilities and capacities within the community. Five key resilience dimensions were identified as high-priority areas for intervention: risk management, health, infrastructure, and basic services, food security and nutrition, and economic opportunities. During the visit, the community pinpointed various activities to address vulnerabilities and enhance capacities. This also involved delineating the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders

actively engaged in the community. This project serves as a pilot initiative, to be replicated in four other communities in Homs, with the overarching goal of scaling it up across Syria.

The replication and expansion of these initiatives will lead to the development of 14 governorate profiles based on individual vulnerability and capacity assessments and hazard mapping and analysis. This step will be followed by contingency planning, simulation exercises, validation, and operationalization of the 14 contingency plans in each governorate planned for 2024.

During the period under review, the IFRC MENA Regional Office convened a consultative meeting in hybrid format with SARC and key Movement members (Syria-based PNSs, regional PNSs, ICRC, some MENA NSs). The broad objective was to discuss critical resilience-strengthening interventions and existing challenges, as well as the way forward for creating an enabling environment for mid to long term resilience strengthening efforts to flourish and people to get back on their feet.

Enabling approaches



National Society Strengthening

Objectives:

*To reinforce SARC HQ and branch capacities to respond to the operation (repair structures) and enhance volunteer and staff competencies in preparedness and response and continued service delivery in an inclusive manner.
SARC responds effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and its auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well-defined and recognized.*

	Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>National Society has improved their preparedness, contingency and response plans as a result of the recommendations and evidence of the operation</i>	YES	YES	YES
	<i>Number of volunteers provided with equipment for protection, safety and support (e.g., PFA) appropriate to the emergency</i>	1,199	913	7,000

Ensuring the relevance, quality and coverage of humanitarian assistance and services provided to affected people has been at the core of the SARC Earthquake response operations. The National Society has received the necessary support in priority areas and sub-sectors, which entailed strengthening the capacity of affected branches through software and hardware support, including logistics, warehousing and fleet, implementation of branch activities prioritized by the PER approach-based assessments, strengthening volunteer management and development, dissemination of SARC policies, Code of Conduct, "Welcome to SARC" basic induction to equip branch staff and volunteers with sufficient knowledge and apply them into practice, mainstreaming Community Engagement and Accountability and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion in operations and services, and supporting SARC in strengthening financial sustainability. The IFRC MENA Regional Office has been key in strengthening the capacity of

SARC through facilitation of the planning workshop, review of the volunteer management system, ECV volunteer training, and Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCA) in Homs. The MENA RO was also instrumental in offering technical support to SARC and the Country Delegation in developing the emergency appeal operational strategy, and setting up the PMER tools for the response. Based on close collaboration and support from the IFRC Country Delegate and relevant Regional staff, NSD was included in the response and received significant funds.

During the reporting period, SARC improved the contingency and response plans and coordination mechanisms for effective response, building on lessons learned from previous emergency response operations. The National Society conducted the Planning Workshop (June 2023) to review and update the SARC Earthquake Response Plan, apply lessons learned and recommendations provided, and integrate medium- and long-term recovery and resilience measures into the Plan. The workshop, supported by the IFRC country and regional staff, brought together SARC senior and middle management, staff and volunteers from affected branches, and the Movement partners (IFRC, ICRC and PNSs), ultimately providing an opportunity for all programme sectors to harmonize, coordinate and plan core community-based interventions over the next two years and to integrate National Society Development and support services into planning and budgeting for emergency response and long-term programming, thereby forming the basis for helping communities recover and build resilience after the earthquake. The IFRC supported the SARC in developing the Resilience Approach in line with its Strategy for 2023-2027.

SARC, with technical support from the IFRC, continued to work on volunteer management and development priorities to address the challenges and gaps identified by the Political, Economic, Sociocultural, Technological, Legal, and Environmental, as well as Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis. SARC developed and endorsed the Volunteering Development Approach, focusing on improving the volunteer management cycle during emergencies and peacetime while at the same time supporting and encouraging community-based service delivery, giving the volunteers diverse opportunities for development and leading local action.

From 18 to 26 January, the IFRC regional and country staff held working meetings with all programmes and support services at SARC headquarters and leadership, staff, and volunteer leaders in Damascus and Rural Damascus branches (in total, 30 participants) to support the relevant departments and units of the National Society to standardize current practices and procedures for managing volunteers and supporting development initiatives by reviewing and developing the volunteer management cycle and initiating the development of the Volunteering Policy; all based on the findings and reflections provided by the programme heads and branch representatives during the meetings. The preparation of the mission report by the IFRC regional staff is in progress and will be submitted to SARC upon completion.

As part of the earthquake response, to reinforce the role of volunteers and the importance of communicating effectively and reliably with local communities, briefing sessions were provided to 579 volunteers on the SARC programmes and services using the "Welcome to SARC" guide and Code of Conduct in addition to 80 volunteers trained on Community Engagement and Accountability procedures and feedback channels to apply knowledge and skills while fulfilling their duties during operations and day-to-day work. Besides, 913 staff and volunteers from the affected branches received Psychological First Aid training conducted by the Community Services and Protection Unit.

The IFRC Global Learning and Development Team provided technical support and guidance to the SARC National Society Development team in designing and developing a unified training toolkit based on the proposal developed by SARC, with technical support from the IFRC country delegate. The "Welcome to SARC" induction guide has been reviewed based on the suggestions provided on the design and implementation of such an initiative from a learning perspective and to ensure that staff and volunteers are well prepared and aligned with the organization's values and

mission. SARC conducted the workshop with programmes and branch representatives to obtain their reflections on the training toolkit.

SARC developed the Open Data Kit (ODK) feedback forms to link services delivered to the affected people with Community Engagement and Accountability and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning teams by comprehensive digitized information management solutions. The National Society recruited 25 volunteers and trained them in Community Engagement and Accountability. Standard Operating Procedures were reviewed and updated. The Information Management team has transferred all questionnaires to the SARC server, integrating offline maps into a unified database platform. SARC completed the digital transformation project, funded by the IFRC Capacity Building Fund, as a first phase, under which SARC developed and endorsed the Digital Transformation Approach, determined the level of digital maturity of the whole organization through branch self-assessment in 13 branches using QuickScan (due to the unstable security situation, SARC was unable to conduct the assessment for Al-Hasakah branch), and developed and approved the Digital Transformation Roadmap to be used as a guiding document for the SARC digital transformation journey. The IFRC regional staff conducted the Information and Communication Technology Health Check Assessment as one of the requirements for successful digital transformation. SARC began implementing recommendations to address identified problems and gaps.

To integrate the SARC Community Engagement and Accountability Approach across earthquake response operations, SARC launched a feedback mechanism pilot with Disaster Management in four affected branches and with Cash in Aleppo and Hama. SARC continued to work on testing Community Engagement and Accountability institutionalizing tools in Disaster Management, Cash, Livelihood, and Health programmes to support them via the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning team with Community Engagement and Accountability-related cross-cutting activities. The local communities were actively engaged in all phases of SARC response operations by adopting a participatory approach to listen to community needs and use their feedback to improve and adapt response operations. SARC adopted standardized community feedback channels to collect complaints, questions, and requests in the affected governorates related to response interventions.

Regular monitoring is carried out by the SARC National Society Development and Strategic Planning teams through visits to affected branches to monitor progress and ensure timely completion of work per the requirements of the SARC Earthquake response operations.

The IFRC supported SARC in developing the cost recovery policy with the active participation of the concerned departments and units of the National Society and the Movement partners, based on active consultation with them. This initiative is part of the SARC Financial Sustainability Plan, which focuses on identifying core costs and mobilizing local resources to mitigate the risks of dependence on external funds and maintaining essential services.

To strengthen and support SARC's operations on the ground and the movement of SARC teams, IFRC procured from the Global Fleet Unit for SARC nine 4x4 vehicles. The procurement of IT and Telecom equipment for SARC has been finalized, including equipment for HQ and branches, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This strategic procurement aims to provide reliable and versatile transportation, ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of SARC's operations in response to the earthquake and related activities. The procurement of IT and Telecom equipment for staff and volunteers is essential in providing them with the required working tools for managing data in a safe manner, planning and reporting. The equipment for the EMS will improve the operation of radio room dispatch centers for the ambulances, making it possible to coordinate the ambulance movements and dispatch for lifesaving first aid services. Specialized equipment is also being procured for the Communications and Media team allowing the production of high-resolution audio-visual products, and the Information Management analysts who are handling, collating, and analyzing large quantities of data are also being supported with the purchase of softwares. Sanctions licenses for all the equipment and software are required before the procurement and this delayed the process. The EMS ambulance volunteers were also equipped with 1,765 sets of uniforms consisting of a winter jacket,

trousers, a long shirt, a T-shirt, a vest, and heavy-duty boots. These are essential in protecting the volunteers for the safe removal and transport of patients.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:

Ensure a well-coordinated emergency operation and availability of funding.

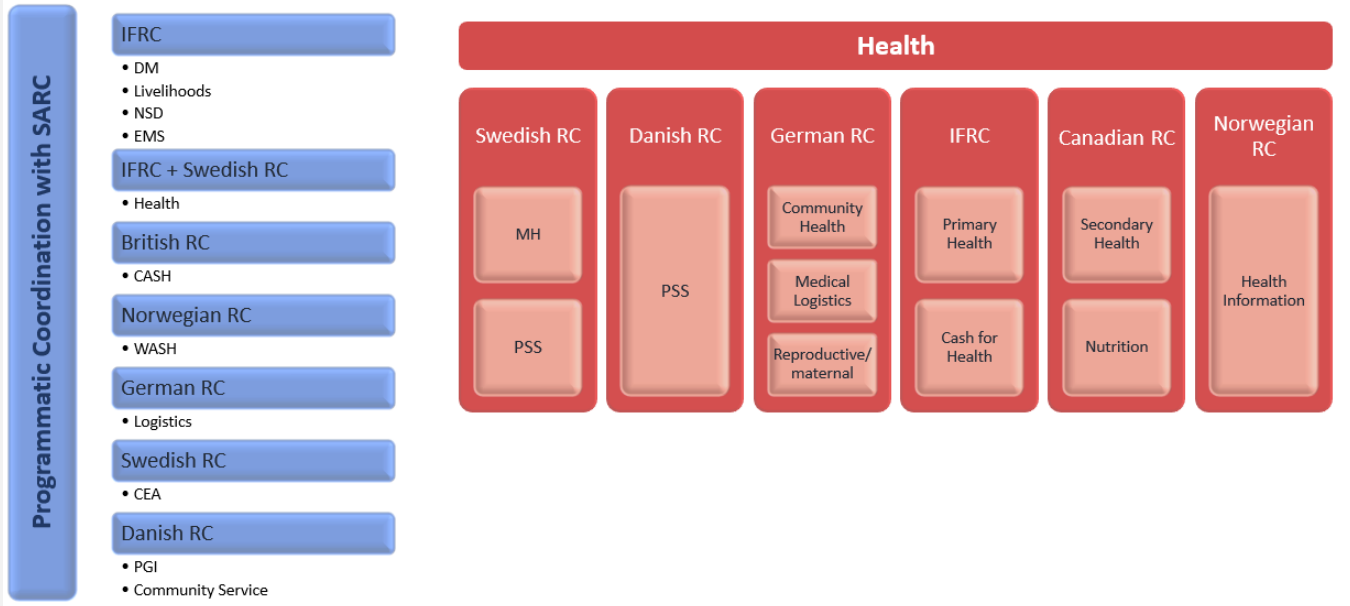
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	Target
	<i>Movement coordination meetings organized, and updates are provided to the Movement partners</i>	YES	YES	YES

IFRC Membership

The Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-Wide approach, based on the response priorities of SARC and in consultation with all the Federation members contributing to it, integrating holistic planning within the operational strategy. It takes into consideration the programmatic sectorial experiences of in-country Partner National Societies with SARC, and assigns co-lead coordination positioning, with SARC being the lead organization for strategic, operational and sectoral Movement coordination. The approach ensures linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities) and assists in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network, to maximize the collective humanitarian impact integrated under one plan. This process helped identify the need for surge personnel, avoided overlaps and allowed the wider membership to tap into and share technical resources.

Currently, eight Partner National Societies have in-country presence, based at SARC HQ, including the British, Canadian, Danish, French, German, Norwegian, Swedish, and Swiss Red Cross Societies. The IFRC supported SARC and the Membership in mapping each partner's areas of expertise and thematic areas were assigned for the respective partner with the task to support SARC in the Movement Coordination. Concretely, each programmatic area (e.g., Health and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, WASH & Shelter, Livelihoods, and Relief) is organized under one co-lead working as counterparts for the respective technical department within SARC to ensure coherence and consistency for partner input, and in turn, provide information to partners for reporting. The technical leads build on existing structures and capacities in-country, provided by each of the partners present. Support from SARC technical advisory functions in NSD, CEA, PGI, Cash, and Logistics is organized following the same principle of shared leadership, allowing for partners best placed to co-lead with SARC in these cross-cutting functions.

SARC and IFRC Wide Coordination structure



SARC and IFRC Wide Coordination Structure

In its role as membership coordinator, IFRC has been co-leading with SARC the structure for the overall operation, and ensuring relevant and timely technical, HR, and financial resources. The intent behind this approach is to have larger humanitarian impact from combined and coordinated resources and position SARC's critical role in the response.

Some of the ongoing activities include:

- Ongoing information sharing, inter alia in coordination at the technical working group level, on all activities by IFRC-membership partners.
- Feeding into a harmonized Federation-wide MEAL plan; including a logframe that aligns with the SARC response plan and the IFRC Operational Strategy for a coordinated approach to measuring the impact of the membership-wide response.
- Coordination of field movements of membership partners, including visits by IFRC, National Societies, and donors, to affected regions to reduce the burden on impacted persons, and SARC branch staff and volunteers.
- A unified voice vis-à-vis SARC with respect to approach, standards, and expectations (both technical and strategic).

Movement Coordination

IFRC coordinates with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Red Cross Red Crescent-National Societies for the support to SARC and the earthquake operation. Before and since the onset of the emergency, regular coordination meetings, led by SARC, have brought together Red Cross Red Crescent Movement actors to scale up actions in response to the earthquakes and other ongoing crisis and increase the collective impact of the Movement in Syria. Partners mobilized resources and reallocated in-country resources to support the SARC response plan. The best-positioned in-country Partner National Societies took on responsibility for supporting SARC with the coordination of specific thematic/sectors of their area of expertise and technical resources. For example, the Norwegian Red Cross

continues to carry an essential role is supporting the Movement coordination for Water and Sanitation infrastructure and rehabilitation.

In line with the Seville Agreement 2.0, SARC holds the role of convener for all aspects of the response and has the central role in co-creating, delivering, and coordinating the Movement's collective response, in accordance with its operational plans and capacity. In that spirit, a Mini Summit was held on 2 March between SARC, IFRC and ICRC, and a Joint Statement was issued that articulates the commitment, roles, and responsibilities of SARC, IFRC, and ICRC, thus strengthening existing Movement Coordination mechanisms. A collaborative approach to drawing up and disseminating guidelines and key messages related to the earthquake was also agreed upon during the mini summit. To foster coordination specifically for the earthquake response within the region, Partner National Society calls are being held monthly facilitated by the IFRC Operations Manager. Monthly Movement Partner meetings are convened by SARC, and IFRC chairs Membership Coordination meetings on a regular basis covering the overall Movement support and engagements in Syria including both strategic and operational aspects. With a decline in funding partners seek synergies and complementarities between regular programs and the various emergency operations including the EQ response.

Interagency Coordination

IFRC has been liaising actively together with SARC with country-level coordination structures, including the Shelter and Health Clusters, and the Cash Working Group, to ensure that gaps are identified and contribute to collaboration at the national level. Engagement is also ongoing for the response in hard-to-reach areas in northwest Syria, with support from the IFRC. Despite efforts to reach impacted people in NWS, SARC has not been granted regular access for the purpose of delivering humanitarian assistance.

Fundraising and Engagement with External Stakeholders

SARC with the identified technical national society participates in country-level inter agency coordination structures, including Livelihoods and Food Security and Health Clusters, and the Cash Technical Working Group, to ensure that gaps are identified and contribute to collaboration at the national level. SARC is an active member of the High Relief Committee, the highest body responsible for coordinating matters related to disasters and crisis in Syria, and the equivalent governorate level Operations Rooms. This has facilitated inter-agency coordination and set the direction of the response at an operational level. SARC, IFRC and ICRC also participate in the Humanitarian Country Team meetings in capacity of observers.

The SARC Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit has successfully implemented a mobilization Table (Mob Table) and a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), significantly improving our ability to track resources, allocate funds efficiently, and ensure transparency in operations.

Diverse Partnerships and Network Expansion: The Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit plays a vital role in the development and execution of concept notes, proposals, and agreements, ensuring alignment with organizational strategic objectives. To streamline and enhance this process, a dedicated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is currently in development.

Recognizing the growing need for resources, the unit has actively expanded its network of partners. While continuing to work with existing partners like the French Red Cross and the Austrian Red Cross, the unit has successfully initiated collaborations with the American Red Cross and the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Support. These new partnerships open up additional channels for support and resources, reinforcing the unit's commitment to effective grants management and partnership development.

Facility Mapping and Support Overview: To enhance coordination and provide stakeholders with a clear overview, the Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit has created a partnership map. This map visually represents the various facilities supported and aid provided in different locations, serving as a valuable reference.

Enhanced Accountability in Grants: The Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit has been diligently following up on both in-kind and cash grants to ensure effective and efficient resource utilization. This rigorous oversight guarantees that donors' contributions are allocated appropriately, enhancement of the reporting, and process efficient handling of documentation.

Empowering Fundraising Efforts: The Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit is currently working on enabling SARC to address funding gaps by enhancing fundraising efforts. This initiative involves utilizing a multi-language software platform developed by iRaiser to facilitate global online fundraising.

Humanitarian Diplomacy and Influencing

IFRC continues to play a crucial role in humanitarian diplomacy in response to the earthquake emergency in Syria, engaging with a range of actors, including governments, inter-governmental organizations, other humanitarian players, and the media, to ensure that the needs of those affected by the emergency are well addressed and met. The IFRC uses its humanitarian diplomacy efforts to engage with relevant actors to secure support for the response efforts and emphasize SARC's neutral, impartial, and independent position.

The key recommendations from the workshop "Community Resilience Strengthening in a Changing Syria" in July were to strengthen longer-term donor base and funding, equip SARC to better navigate a changing landscape while scaling up its resilience profile, have a unified position on strategic issues, increase capacity to navigate legal impediments to humanitarian response and community strengthening efforts. Together with the Membership, in particular the Swedish Red Cross, IFRC and SARC continue to strengthen humanitarian diplomacy and influencing efforts.



Secretariat Services

Objective:













The IFRC is working as one organization, delivering what it promises to National Societies and volunteers, and leveraging the strength of the communities with which they work as effectively and efficiently as possible. The Secretariat provides strategic orientation, facilitation, and coordination considering long-term positioning and further capacity development of the National Society. This will be done by building on existing structures for large-scale programming, toward strong guardianship and accountability for all programming. The IFRC Secretariat will facilitate channeling global resources to sustain the localized response and recovery efforts.

Human Resources

Since the beginning of the earthquake response, IFRC Syria Delegation has taken the following steps to ensure a coordinated response across the Membership:

- During the initial months of the response the IFRC surge mechanism was effectively employed to ensure the availability of human resources and trained personnel to areas where their skills and expertise were urgently needed thus reinforcing the capacity of SARC.
- Recruitment of key positions has been completed to provide continuing Secretariat services to SARC and the wider Membership in Syria, focusing on the specific value add of IFRC and the services and leadership

provided by in-country members. These include Operations Manager, PMER Delegate, Procurement Delegate, Security Delegate, Risk Management Delegate and a Health Coordinator seconded from the Japanese Red Cross.

<p>• Supply Chain Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (2 Months)</p> <p>British Red Cross</p> 	<p>• Communications Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (2 Months)</p> <p>Finnish Red Cross</p> 	<p>• Security Officer, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>German Red Cross</p> 	<p>• PRD Officer, Earthquake, Syria (based in Lebanon) (3 Months)</p> <p>IFRC Americas</p> 
<p>• Shelter Coordinator, 2nd rotation, Earthquake, Syria (2 Months)</p> <p>IFRC Asia Pacific</p> 	<p>• Head of Emergency Operations, 2nd rotation, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>• Health Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>IFRC Europe</p> 	<p>• Operations Manager, Earthquake, Syria (based in Lebanon) (3 Months)</p> <p>• Security Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (3 Months)</p> <p>• PMER Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (3 Months)</p> <p>IFRC MENA</p> 	<p>• Security Officer, 2nd rotation, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>• PMER Coordinator, 2nd rotation, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>Lebanese Red Cross</p> 
<p>• Medical Logistics Officer, Earthquake, Syria (2 Months)</p> <p>Norwegian Red Cross</p> 	<p>• Shelter Coordinator, Earthquake, Syria (2 Months)</p> <p>Swiss Red Cross</p> 	<p>• Head of Emergency Operations, Earthquake, Syria (1 Month)</p> <p>The Canadian Red Cross Society</p> 	<p>• PMER Officer, Earthquake, Syria (3 Months)</p> <p>The Netherlands Red Cross</p> 

Deployments through IFRC Global Surge Mechanism

Security and Safety

As part of Duty of Care in Safety and Security, a separate set of Minimum-security requirements document for Lattakia was established solely for the earthquake operations. Contingency plans are in place and this includes the medical evacuation plan, relocation plan and risk register for Lattakia. In addition to that the Security Delegate for Syria together with the SARC Security Focal point closely monitor the security situation at national and regional level. The wellbeing and safety of SARC staff and volunteers also remains a priority. IFRC drivers have been trained in the use of Armored vehicles. Field assessments were carried out to assess the conditions of roads in areas affected by the earthquake. Risk assessments were carried out for hotels in Lattakia prior to staff residing in them as the earthquakes and aftershocks to determine they were in condition for staff to reside in as infrastructure has been negatively impacted by the tremors.

Resource Mobilization

The main accomplishments have been:

- IFRC Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization colleagues have been working on grant management with SARC ensuring smooth communication with donor, compliance with donor requirements and providing technical support to IFRC teams.
- Support SARC in identifying and developing of project proposals.

- Develop a resource mobilization strategy and donors mapping to ensure outreach to Movement and non-Movement partners to seek financial support for the Appeal.
- Initiate and lead on developing the resource development and sustainability strategy exercise for SARC.
- Fundraising and Engagement with External Partners
- Interested donors and external partners, including RCRC National Societies, governments, the private sector, and other humanitarian organizations, have been solicited to bring together resources and expertise under the launched Emergency Appeal. The engagement has been ongoing and continues to generate interest and buy-in from stakeholders to commit funding toward critical components of the SARC response plan.
- Joint Syria and Turkey Partners Call and Permanent Missions Briefing in Geneva were held in February 2023 to launch the Emergency Appeal and seek support. A Private Sector update was organized in April 2023 to provide an overview of the situation and the ongoing operation. To discuss the needs for recovery and resilience building in Turkey and Syria following the earthquake, a recovery conference was organized in April for the IFRC network and a briefing on the same topic was held for the Permanent Mission in Geneva.
- Resource mobilization plan developed for the 1-year mark of the earthquake which included personalized thank you letters to top donors, strategic dissemination of marketing materials, proactive engagement with select embassies and private sector donors, alongside a Partners Call. The Partner Call, held on February 13, 2024, focused on providing a situation and operational update 12 months after the disaster, highlight the pressing needs in Syrian and seek further support for the appeal and the transition to Syria Unified Plan.

Logistics and Procurement

Since the beginning of the earthquake response, SARC has received shipments via air, road and sea, including cargo on 322 planes from various components of the international community to 21 warehouses used for the response. SARC has provided more than 5,000 logistics services including transportation of relief items through its own truck fleet or commercial companies. IFRC supported SARC with liquidity to run the operations from the DREF Loan granted immediately after the earthquake, essential in mobilizing the logistics resources for the receipt, warehousing (renting of warehouse facilities and rub halls) and movement of relief items to where they were needed the most.

In the continuous aftermath of the earthquake IFRC Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain management (GHS&SCM) operations and the IFRC country delegation team supported SARC supply chain efforts. Several initiatives have been undertaken to provide ongoing assistance to logistics and procurement within the IFRC country delegation team, further reinforcing support for SARC's supply chain endeavors. A collaborative effort involving SARC, GRC, and IFRC resulted in the organization of a customs clearance workshop in Latakia from October 22 to October 24, 2023 and additionally in the upcoming assessment of the internal workshop for vehicles' maintenance. IFRC has partnered with PNSs to coordinate the procurement and delivery of In-Kind Donations (IKDs) to Syria, leveraging SARC's infrastructure for diverse procurement activities. Several warehouse visits were scheduled across various locations within Syria. On desk support and capacity building to facilitate multiple procurement activities across multiple donors and PNSs. Vendor prequalification plan has been discussed and expected to be launched in 2024.

Communications

Since the earthquake struck, SARC and IFRC have continued working together on ensuring the communities have receive regular updates on [the humanitarian response](#), highlight [the needs](#) and showcase [the aid distribution](#) through social media, media, and other communications channels. March 2023 marked 12 years since the start of the Syrian crisis. Both [SARC](#) and [IFRC](#) published content showing how the earthquake is a crisis on top of a crisis.

From 15 to 18 February, Jagan Chapagain, IFRC's Secretary General, visited the massive earthquake response operation in Syria. During his visit, Mr. Chapagain met with Syrian Arab Red Crescent teams, volunteers and leadership, who are at the very heart of this response. In the aftermath of this visit, the IFRC MENA communications

unit organized a press briefing for the Secretary at the International Airport of Beirut, it went live on Al Jazeera. It generated a lot of media coverage (International, regional and local), and the SG gave three exclusive interviews to Associated [Press](#), MTV Lebanon, Al Maydeen tv etc. In parallel, the regional office has occupied the media space in collaboration with the global communications team in Geneva. We had 5 spokespersons from the region in English, Arabic, Italian, and Spanish. The average number of media interviews given daily during February and Mid-March was 7(The regional [director](#), head of communications, Head of HDCC etc. More than 100 in total, CNN, France 24, BBC, AFP, New York times, sky news, etc.)

Earthquake Response Key Messages have been developed and updated regularly. SARC Media and Communication Unit continues to support branch communications teams in the affected areas for content production. IFRC deployed a Communications Coordinator to support SARC, IFRC, and Movement Partners on communications, providing capacity-building and enhancing the coordination of communications. IFRC Communications Coordinator provided support both at the SARC headquarters as well as at the branches. IFRC has continued sharing content, produced by SARC, with the partners to be distributed and used in their [respective markets](#).

More than 100 social media posts were shared on IFRC MENA platforms, and a web story at IFRC.org showcasing the work of SARC, IFRC and NSs, and Op-ed [on Al Jazeera English website](#).

Over 60k media and social media mentions of the IFRC/ICRC/Red Cross /Red Crescent to the earthquake, between 6 and 14 February 2023 were counted.

During the period under review from December 2023 to February 2024, a Communications Delegate was deployed to Syria to support with the development of communication materials and key messages for the 1-year earthquake anniversary. The key messages provided an in-depth information on the complexity of the emergency response and recovery, as well the underlying causes and drivers of the multiple crises in Syria.

SARC's social media channels are reaching thousands of people every week. The National Society is active on multiple platforms, posting about activities implemented and risk information to inform the communities on safe behaviour. SARC's Media & Communications Department collects humanitarian stories and audio-visual content from the implemented activities, events, and relief distributions to strengthen the image of SARC as the main humanitarian actor in the country. The Media & Comms Department has also been maintaining media relations to showcase SARC's work both in local and national media. SARC channels: [Website](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Instagram](#) [Telegram](#) and [YouTube](#).

Below are some of the links to social media showcasing support through the IFRC.

- [SARC Head of Communication joined the IFRC's weekly 'X Space' to provide an update on One year since the devastating earthquake in Syria.](#)
- [Rehabilitation project for 18 schools and 6 elevated tanks in Rural Idlib](#)
- [Distribution of food parcels and hygiene kits in Rural Idlib](#)
- [Distribution of hygiene kits in Rural Homs](#)
- [Story of Abu Ibrahim](#)
- [Distribution of hygiene kits in the countryside of Idlib](#)

- The United Nations Information Service in Geneva chaired a hybrid briefing, which was attended by spokespersons and representatives of the World Health Organization, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Refugee Agency, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Office of the Special Envoy for Syria, and the IFRC. The press briefing can be accessed [here](#).

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER)

Since the earthquake struck, the Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning (MEAL) unit at the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) together with the IFRC Syria Delegation PMER has been making significant progress toward strengthening the MEAL/PMER component of the response. The team played a key role in supporting the operations team in designing the earthquake response plan. The MEAL unit took the lead in preparing the revised plan which brought together 130 SARC staff and volunteers, along with over 15 partners. The PMER team facilitated the revision of the earthquake appeal SMART indicators with each sector lead and the development of the MEAL logical frameworks, and Indicator Tracking Tools (ITT). The team has also been instrumental in the development of data collection tools used for PDMs, satisfaction surveys and monitoring in close collaboration with the IM unit. The team has also been working to ensure that monthly reports, operations updates are produced, and donor reports are submitted in line with the contractual agreements to strengthen accountability. The MEAL unit conducted field visits to ensure the following objectives: 1) Gain an understanding of the ongoing activities at the branch, encompassing both response and MEAL initiatives, 2) Engage in discussions regarding capacity and recruitment, addressing identified training needs priorities, 3) Evaluate equipment requirements and other pertinent considerations during these visits. The IFRC PMER at the IFRC delegation will continue to offer support to the MEAL team to ensure that the MEAL component of the appeal is strengthened. During the period under review a Real-Time Evaluation was done with the data collection phase done and the final report is expected to be ready by April.

Information Management (IM)

Since the earthquake struck, the Information Management (IM) unit has been working to collect, analyze, and disseminate critical data to enhance the response efforts. *Unified Data Collection tools:* The IM unit has been at the forefront of collecting response data from all sectors and departments at the headquarters. They have worked diligently to ensure that all relevant information is gathered and documented for analysis.

Infographic Reports: In both Arabic and English, the IM unit has been developing infographic reports with monthly updates on SARC's response. These visually appealing reports provide stakeholders with a quick and clear understanding of their activities.

The IM unit used a QR scanner to support the distributions. This was made to manage and track items in various distribution processes.

Federation-wide reporting: Standard Indicators are being aligned to SARC's response plan. IFRC PMER team has coordinated with each sector focal point to provide global indicators for Federation-wide reporting. Achievements against the indicator values will be collected on a regular basis to report on the Emergency Appeal and SARC's response plan. A Reporting schedule was established to provide Operations Updates as per the standard reporting procedures. SARC Performance and Partnership Department is producing Monthly updates to share the latest achievements in the operation with all partners. Donor reporting will be monitored to ensure timely reporting.

D. FUNDING

By the end of January 2024, 59 percent (which includes hard, soft, and in-kind contributions) of the Appeal's multilateral funding requirements has been covered. The IFRC kindly encourages increased donor support for this Emergency Appeal to allow the Syrian Arab Red Crescent to continue to provide support to the immediate and mid-to-long-term needs of the earthquake-affected populations through cash and voucher assistance, food security interventions, shelter, and health.

[Click here for the donor response](#) (only reflects hard and in-kind contributions).

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Syrian Arab Red Crescent

- **Operational coordination:** Tammam Muhrez, Head of Operations, email tammam.muhriz@sarc-sy.org, phone +963 953 666 635.

In the IFRC

IFRC Regional Office for MENA:

- Dr Hosam Faysal, Regional Head of Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises, email hosam.faysal@ifrc.org, phone +961 71 802 916
- Nader Bin Shamlan, Thematic Lead, Operations Coordination, email Nader.BINSHAMLAN@ifrc.org, phone +961 81 131 074

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- Yara Yassine, Acting Regional Head of Strategic Engagement and Partnerships, yara.yassine@ifrc.org, +961 05 428 410

For PMER support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting inquiries)

- **IFRC MENA Regional Delegation:** Nadine Haddad, Regional PMER Manager; phone +961 71 802 775; email: Nadine.haddad@ifrc.org

IFRC Syria Country Delegation:

- Mads Brinch Hansen, Head of Delegation, email: mads.brinch@ifrc.org, phone: +963 959 999 869.
- Sonja Veronica Bjorklund, Deputy Head of Delegation, email: SONJA.BJORKLUND@ifrc.org, phone: +963 958 001 729
- Ramzi Saliba, Operations Manager, email: ramzi.saliba@ifrc.org, phone: +963 943 077 785

IFRC Geneva:

- Rika Ueno Harada, Operations Coordination Senior Officer, email: rika.harada@ifrc.org, phone +81 90 3719 6570

For In-Kind Donations and Mobilization table support:

- Cornelis Dees, Head of Unit, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management (GHS & SCM), MENA, email cornelis.dees@ifrc.org

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Revised Emergency [Appeals](#) and updates
- [Operational Strategy](#)
- [Operations Update #1](#)
- [Operations Update #2](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/2-2024/1	Operation	MDRSY009
Budget Timeframe	2023-2025	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 02 May 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRSY009 - Syria - Earthquake

Operating Timeframe: 06 Feb 2023 to 28 Feb 2025; appeal launch date: 07 Feb 2023

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	555,000
AOF2 - Shelter	13,601,000
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	39,214,000
AOF4 - Health	10,863,000
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	5,964,000
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	1,715,000
AOF7 - Migration	75,000
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	16,935,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	214,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	214,000
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	10,650,000
Total Funding Requirements	100,000,000
Donor Response* as per 02 May 2024	61,112,601
Appeal Coverage	61.11%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	20,078,236	11,814,096	8,264,140
AOF2 - Shelter	399,991	400,022	-31
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	0	0	0
AOF4 - Health	5,456,249	320,266	5,135,983
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	10,271,498	6,231,547	4,039,950
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	16,977	0	16,977
AOF7 - Migration	0	873	-873
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	10,111,184	147,577	9,963,606
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	9,705	9,705	0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	943	943	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	4,659,349	1,310,425	3,348,924
Grand Total	51,004,130	20,235,455	30,768,675

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2024/01

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	57,375,719
Expenditure	-20,235,455
Closing Balance	37,140,264
Deferred Income	936,401
Funds Available	38,076,665

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	2,000,000	Reimbursed :	2,000,000	Outstanding :	0
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Emergency Appeal

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V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Opening Balance					0	
ABB	155,422				155,422	
Accenture Inc.Foundation	371,710				371,710	
Airbus	38,205				38,205	
American Red Cross	3,591,241				3,591,241	
Analog Devices Foundation	549				549	
Andorran Red Cross	9,007				9,007	
APPLE	1,046				1,046	
Arab Banking Corporation	920,164				920,164	
Arm	14				14	
Associazione Nazionale Magistrati	6,129				6,129	
Australian Red Cross	1,573,241				1,573,241	
Austrian Red Cross	980,781				980,781	
Austrian Red Cross (from Aldi Süd*)	237,142				237,142	
Austrian Red Cross (from Austrian Government*)	1,869,439				1,869,439	
Austrian Red Cross (from EVER Neuro Pharma GmbH)	48,571				48,571	
Austria - Private Donors	324				324	
Autohi Ltd	1,851				1,851	
Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society	2,000				2,000	
Belarus Red Cross	41,466				41,466	
Bloomberg	49,568				49,568	
Boston Scientific	71,590				71,590	
British Red Cross	2,238,009				2,238,009	
Bulgarian Red Cross	607,820				607,820	
ByteDance Ltd	898				898	
Canadian Government	205				205	
Canadian Union of Public Employees	10,376				10,376	
CAT International Ltd	2,104				2,104	
Celtic FC Foundation	3,363				3,363	
Ceridian	7,317				7,317	
China Red Cross, Macau Branch	45,974				45,974	
Cisco	134				134	
Cleary Gottlieb LLP	4,453				4,453	
Coloplast	32,305				32,305	
Condé Nast	747				747	
Croatian Red Cross	208,591				208,591	
Croatian Red Cross (from Croatian Government*)	102,008				102,008	
DELL Technologies	57,622				57,622	
Deloitte Global Services Limited	533,492				533,492	
Diageo plc	68,107				68,107	
eBay Inc	849				849	
Electronic Arts	95				95	
Eli Lilly Export SA	299				299	
Ergosign GmbH	303				303	
European Commission - DG ECHO	197,293				197,293	
F5	48				48	
FICO - Fair Isaac Corporation	2,806				2,806	
Fidelity	12,953				12,953	
Finnish Red Cross	153,935				153,935	
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government*)	435,635				435,635	
French Government	3,828				3,828	

Emergency Appeal

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MDRSY009 - Syria - Earthquake

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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Freshfields Service Company	1,044				1,044	
GenDigital	176				176	
Germany - Private Donors	1,009				1,009	
Gilead Sciences Inc	188				188	
Google	5,726				5,726	
Grand Paris Sud	2,937				2,937	
Guidehouse	218				218	
Heubach Colorants Germany GMBH	1,185				1,185	
Hewlett Packard Co. Foundation	2,459				2,459	
Hoffman-La Roche	380,000				380,000	
Hong Kong Red Cross	328,807				328,807	
Icelandic Red Cross	100,432				100,432	
IFRC at the UN Inc	43,655				43,655	
Intrepid Foundation	22,832				22,832	
Irish Red Cross Society	488,987				488,987	
Italian Government Bilateral Emergency Fund	743,865				743,865	
Italian Red Cross	1,060,477				1,060,477	
Italy - Private Donors	20				20	
Japanese Government	454,940				454,940	936,401
Japanese Red Cross Society	6,485,682		63,333		6,549,016	
Japan - Private Donors	345				345	
Kao EMEA	3,431				3,431	
Kao Germany GmbH	3,889				3,889	
KPMG International Cooperative(KPMG-I)	40,959				40,959	
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	1,873,040				1,873,040	
Liechtenstein Government	100,000				100,000	
LinkedIn	277				277	
Lithuanian Red Cross Society	37,937				37,937	
Logitech	100				100	
Luxembourg Government	148,883				148,883	
Malaysian Government	879,013				879,013	
Malaysia - Private Donors	9,000				9,000	
Maldivian Red Crescent	88,342				88,342	
Marriott International Inc.	36,763				36,763	
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	45,355				45,355	
McKinsey & Co	1,764				1,764	
Microsoft	94,560				94,560	
Monaco Government	49,760				49,760	
Motorola Foundation	19,087				19,087	
Nestle	160,462				160,462	
Netflix	2,858				2,858	
Netherlands - Private Donors	99				99	
New Zealand Government	286,677				286,677	
Nike Foundation	230,041				230,041	
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government*)	849,732				849,732	
Novartis	250,000				250,000	
Nutanix	13				13	
On Line donations	337,872				337,872	
Oracle Corporation	619				619	
PAG Consulting Ltd	380				380	
Permira Foundation	2,201				2,201	
Qatar Red Crescent			10,787		10,787	
RED CRESCENT SOCIETY OF I.R. OF IRAN			53,400		53,400	
Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan	18,482				18,482	

Emergency Appeal

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MDRSY009 - Syria - Earthquake

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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Kazakhstan	24,824				24,824	
Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan	4,711				4,711	
Red Cross of Monaco	135,882				135,882	
Red Cross of Montenegro	183,098				183,098	
Red Cross of the Republic of San Marino	27,113				27,113	
Red Cross of Viet Nam	181,320				181,320	
Royal Bank of Canada	7				7	
RTI International	10,084				10,084	
Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society	1,808,913				1,808,913	
Schroder Foundation	67,165				67,165	
ServiceNow	4,191				4,191	
Singapore Red Cross Society	322,561				322,561	
Slovak Red Cross	4,340				4,340	
Slovenian Red Cross	49,449				49,449	
Spanish Government	747,870				747,870	
Spanish Red Cross	1,963,462				1,963,462	
StoneX Group Inc	18				18	
Stryker	400				400	
Swedish Government	688,628				688,628	
Swedish Red Cross	1,019,657				1,019,657	
Swiss Government	1,000,000				1,000,000	
Swiss Red Cross (from Lindt & Sprüngli*)	69,750				69,750	
Swiss Red Cross (from Switzerland - Private Donors*)	109,209				109,209	
Switzerland - Private Donors	3,457				3,457	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	320,030				320,030	
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	211,147				211,147	
Thai Red Cross Society	25,940				25,940	
Thai Red Cross Society (from Thai Government*)	25,940				25,940	
Thai Red Cross Society (from Thailand - Private Donor	685,840				685,840	
The Canadian Red Cross Society	2,163,982		17,100		2,181,082	
The China Red Cross Foundation	45,513				45,513	
The Netherlands Red Cross	6,005,458				6,005,458	
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	3,842,111				3,842,111	
The OPEC Fund for International Development	635,627				635,627	
The Philippine National Red Cross	92,366				92,366	
The Red Cross of Serbia	356,979				356,979	
The Red Cross of The Former Yugoslav Republic of M	195,029				195,029	
The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina	65,383				65,383	
The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (frc	24,480				24,480	
The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (frc	17,353				17,353	
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross	3,105,233				3,105,233	
THERMO FISCHER	2,417				2,417	
TikTok Pte. Ltd.	574,840				574,840	
United States - Private Donors	9,086				9,086	
Veeva Systems Inc	177				177	
VISA	20				20	
Wiley Publishing Inc	1,320				1,320	
Yum Brands Inc	1,114				1,114	
Total Contributions and Other Income	57,231,098	0	144,620	0	57,375,719	936,401
Total Income and Deferred Income					57,375,719	936,401