

OPERATION UPDATE

Syria, MENA| Syria Earthquake

Emergency appeal №: MDRSY009 Emergency appeal launched: 07/02/2023. Operational Strategy published: 20/04/2023	Glide №: EQ-2023-000015-SYR
Operations update: 24-months update Date of issue: 23/06/2025	Timeframe covered by this update: From 07/02/2023 to 28/02/2025
Operation timeframe: 24 months (06/02/2023- 28/02/2025)	Number of people being assisted: 3.5 ¹ million people
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 100 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal CHF 200 million Federation-wide	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 2 million



Volunteers registering individuals affected by the earthquake to receive cash assistance. Source: SARC

¹ Accurately counting the unique number of individuals assisted has been challenging due to the scale and complexity of the response, as well as the multiple and overlapping needs of the affected population. To minimize the risk of double counting, SARC has opted to report a consolidated figure of 3.5 million people reached.

By the end of February 2025, 65.8 percent (which includes hard, soft, and in-kind contributions) of the Appeal's multilateral funding requirements had been covered. The IFRC kindly encourages increased donor support for the [IFRC Syria Unified Plan](#) and [Syria Crisis 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 vulnerable population.

This operation update provides information on the 24-month progress, while extending the implementation timeframe, to ensure expenditure of remaining funds and the completion of remaining planned activities by the end of December 2026 in response to the earthquake and its impact. The next operation update will be shared by December 2025 to report on the implementation in 2025.

If partners or donors have any objections or questions regarding the transition, please contact the IFRC within 30 days of this update's publication. In the meantime, activities will proceed as planned utilizing the remaining funds.

The interim financial report annexed to this Operations Update reflects a variance of approximately 5%. As this is an interim financial report, a final financial report will be submitted at a later stage to provide the complete financial picture.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

The devastating earthquake that struck Syria and Turkey on 6 February 2023 had severe consequences for an already vulnerable population. Prior to the seismic events, over 15 million people across Syria were in need of humanitarian assistance, an outcome of more than a decade of conflict, economic collapse, and infrastructure degradation.

The earthquakes, measuring magnitudes of 7.8 and 7.5, caused widespread destruction in Aleppo, Latakia, Tartous, Hama, and Idlib governorates, severely damaging homes, public infrastructure, and essential services in both urban and rural areas. According to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), 5,670 lives were lost, 11,774 individuals were injured, and over 8 million people were directly affected.

From the earliest moments of the disaster, SARC deployed over 4,000 staff and volunteers in a massive humanitarian operation. By 28 February 2025, with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Movement partners, SARC had provided wide-ranging, life-saving assistance across the affected regions.

In response to the earthquake, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal of CHF 200 million, aiming to reach 2.5 million people. This Federation-Wide appeal was developed in consultation with SARC and contributing National Societies, aligning sectoral strengths, operational priorities, and coordination roles under a unified strategy.

In December 2024, Syria faced a new wave of political transformative events that further deepened the humanitarian crisis. In response, the IFRC launched an [Emergency Appeal of CHF 130 million](#) on 20 December 2024, targeting 5 million people with critical support. The appeal focuses on food, shelter, health care, psychosocial assistance, cash support, and services for families searching for missing loved ones.

The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Syria has increased from 15.3 million in 2023 to 16.7² million in 2024—the highest figure recorded since the onset of the crisis in 2011. This sharp rise demonstrates the deepening humanitarian emergency and the growing vulnerabilities across all sectors.

Between 2023 and 2024, wildfires swept across Homs, Hama, Latakia, and Tartous, destroying homes, crops, forests, and natural reserves. In response to a request from SARC, the IFRC allocated DREF fundings to support emergency response and environmental rehabilitation.

At the same time, a water crisis intensified in As-Sweida, driven by reduced precipitation and deteriorating infrastructure. Approximately 80% of wells became non-operational due to a lack of maintenance and spare parts. The IFRC allocated additional DREF funding for urgent water system repairs to restore access to safe water for affected communities.

Meanwhile, the escalation of conflict in Gaza in October 2023 raised tensions across the region. Although spillover into Syria has remained limited, intermittent targeted strikes in southern and central Syria have disrupted recovery efforts and heightened humanitarian needs. In anticipation of broader regional impacts, the IFRC launched a [Regional Emergency Appeal](#) to strengthen the readiness and response capacities of National Societies in Syria, Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon.

More recently, regional conflicts have further impacted Syria's fragile humanitarian situation. Hostilities in Lebanon since September 2024 have displaced approximately 562,000 people into Syria—63 per cent Syrians and 37 per cent Lebanese or other nationals. Following a ceasefire, nearly 3,000 Lebanese refugees crossed back into Lebanon³. This influx has significantly strained essential services and available resources.

Simultaneously, Syria's economic crisis has worsened, characterized by soaring inflation, currency devaluation, and the surging cost of goods and services. Since 15 December 2024, a severe liquidity shortage has disrupted humanitarian programmes, resulting in suspended operations and delayed service delivery. Financial institutions and local suppliers have struggled to function due to a scarcity of Syrian pounds, further deepening the crisis.

Currently, 90%⁴ of Syrians live below the poverty line. Rising costs have pushed families to reduce spending on basic needs such as food, healthcare, and education. The cost of living—as measured by the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)—rose by 21 per cent in one year and has more than tripled over two years. The minimum wage now covers only 16 per cent of the food component of the MEB⁵, illustrating the deteriorating ability of households to meet their needs and the increasing dependency on humanitarian aid.

This prolonged economic downturn has also forced many families to rely on subsistence farming and animal grazing, often on lands known to be contaminated with explosive ordnance (EO), thereby increasing their exposure to injury or death.

Despite the grim outlook, SARC's dedicated personnel, supported by IFRC and Movement partners, remain a lifeline for communities across Syria, delivering food, water, health services, psychosocial support, and essential relief to those in need since the earthquakes' first moments.

² [Syrian Arab Republic: 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview \(February 2024\)](#)

³ [UNHCR Syria Emergency Response](#)

⁴ [The Impact of the Conflict in Syria \(February 2025\)](#)

⁵ [WFP Syria Price Bulletin of March 2025](#)

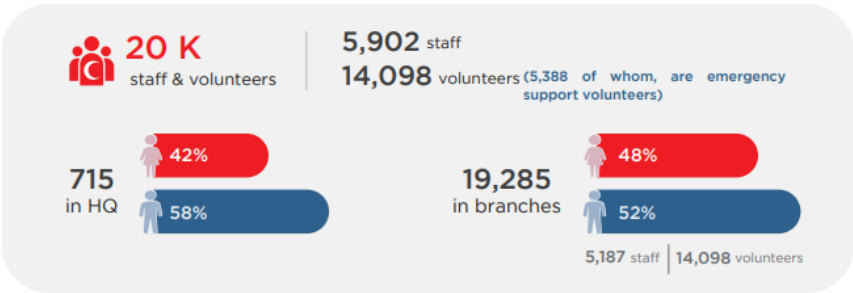
Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The **Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC)** has a proven track record in responding to both protracted conflict and sudden-onset disasters, making it uniquely positioned to address the complex and evolving needs of affected populations in Syria. Drawing on decades of operational experience, SARC’s sectoral expertise spans medical and healthcare services, food and non-food item (NFI) distribution, water and sanitation (WASH) interventions, psychosocial support, and family reunification services. This deep institutional knowledge and readiness have been critical in enabling timely, life-saving interventions that reach the most vulnerable communities.

SARC was established in 1942 by Presidential Decree No. 540 and has since maintained its role as a humanitarian auxiliary to the public authorities. This status was further reinforced through Legislative Decree No. 117/1966, which outlined its official mandate and recognized its privileges and legal facilities in carrying out humanitarian work. As the national coordinator for humanitarian aid, SARC plays a pivotal role in shaping and implementing emergency and recovery responses across the country.

The organization leverages an extensive and well-structured network comprising 14 local branches and 73 active sub-branches, supported by more than 5,902 staff and 14,098 volunteers. This wide-reaching presence is fundamental to ensuring strong community acceptance and access to underserved and hard-to-reach areas. Local volunteers serve as the backbone of SARC’s operations, delivering services and assisting affected populations directly on the ground.



SARC’s response is strategically divided into two key phases: Humanitarian Assistance and Early Recovery. This approach enables the organization to meet immediate life-saving needs while simultaneously working to strengthen the capacities of its local branches in partnership with affected communities for long-term recovery and resilience-building.

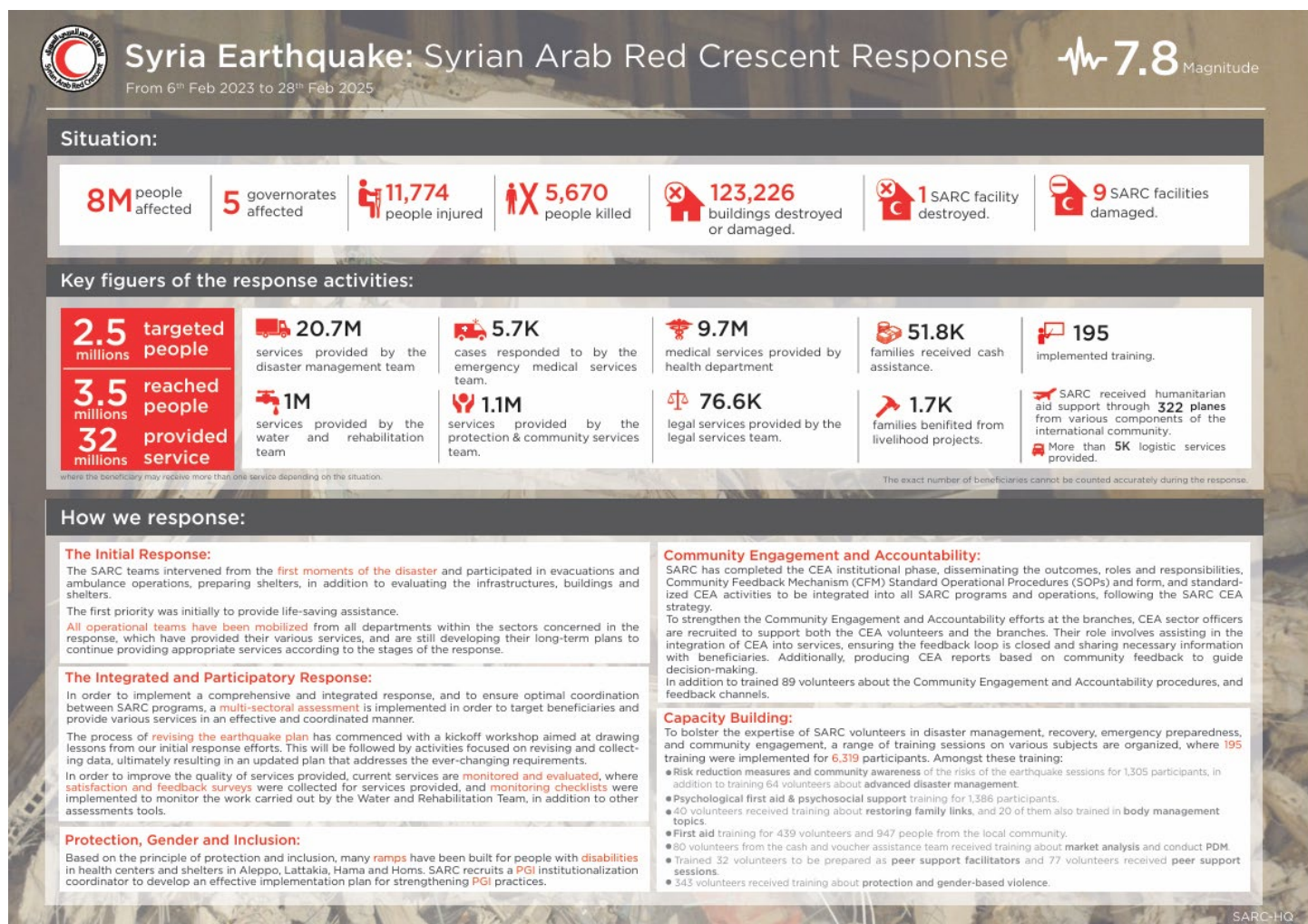
In addition to its operational footprint, SARC works closely with national authorities and international humanitarian partners to coordinate an effective and principled response. The organization plays a key role in various sectoral and inter-agency coordination platforms, serving as a co-lead or strategic partner in multiple humanitarian clusters to align efforts with national priorities. SARC has recently undergone through internal restructuring and change in procedures in light of recent changes within the government. Efforts remain ongoing to ensure continuity and maintain of their services and effective collaboration.

As of January 2025, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued two circulars that affect the operational framework of International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs): one addressing registration procedures and another covering access approvals. These circulars formalize the requirement that INGOs operate under the oversight of either the Syria Development Foundation or the Syrian Arab Red Crescent

To strengthen coordination further, a Humanitarian Action Coordination (HAC) Office has been established by the transitional caretaker authorities. HAC is tasked with overseeing humanitarian interventions and coordinating with local/national NGOs (L/NGOs), INGOs, and UN agencies. A designated HAC representative will be hosted at SARC

headquarters, ensuring streamlined communication and timely coordination between national structures and the broader humanitarian community.

The infographics below highlights the collective achievements of SARC over the two-year earthquake response, supported by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, UN agencies, and international NGOs.





Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

From 6th Feb 2023 to 28th Feb 2023

7.8 Magnitude

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 Idlib, 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, **4** shelters hosting **315** 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.
- 10,282,892** distributed items (including convoys' items).

Non-Food Items & shelters: 1,300,546 items	WASH: 4,007,656 items
Food & Agriculture: 4,047,364 items	Nutrition: 927,326 items

Protection and Community Services: **1,111,889** beneficiaries

Protection and Community Services provided different services, as follows:

- Provide awareness sessions and distribute posters for **439,521** 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 **36,061** beneficiaries especially for **children**, in addition to providing services in shelters such as recreational activities for **96,291** kids.
- Case management services and referral to medical, legal, and mental health services for all age groups to **18,392** beneficiaries.
- In addition to **452,637** structured activities for all ages, **68,519** education services, and **119** peer support activities.

Emergency Medical Services:

5,760 beneficiaries

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

254 bodies transferred	3,113 injuries transferred	2,393 cases treated at the place
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Water and Rehabilitation:

Assessment and Rehabilitation of Infrastructure:

Implement rapid assessment of water, sanitation, and electricity networks in affected governorates. Assessment were conducted for 310 houses, 32 SARC facilities, 55 central water tanks, and 2 hospitals in Aleppo. Additionally, 215 shelters, including schools, were assessed.

Rubble removal was carried out in collaboration with the Aleppo City Council and the ICRC.

Rehabilitation work includes 450 residential apartments, 43 shelters, 18 schools as shelters for IDPs, and SARC health clinic in Aleppo. Ongoing work includes the rehabilitation of 4 bakeries in Aleppo, with efforts focused on delivering renovated homes and building new shelters.

Emergency Services and Water and Electricity Services:

48 water tanks of various capacities have been installed, and 46 metal barrels, 6 water pumps, and 29 water heaters have been provided, in addition to rehabilitation and the addition of all accessories to 6 elevated water tanks.

A total of 15,025 m³ of water has been transported by cisterns. Distribution includes 119,460 water bottles, 11,472 jerry-cans, 246 bread portions, 55,575 hygiene kits, and 821,081 other items.

In terms of electricity services, 2 electrical transformers have been installed in shelters in Idlib, 14 electrical transformers in Aleppo and Hama, along with 6 batteries, 10 chargers, and 4 solar lamps. Additionally, 5 generators have been provided for bakeries, along with 14 generators, 29 batteries, 41 solar light, and maintenance for 2 collective kitchens.

Rehabilitation has also been carried out for water pumping stations and wells in Sheikh Issa, a photovoltaic energy system has been installed for the SARC Disaster Management Building, and 215 shelter kits have been provided.

Health Awareness:

The health promotion team conducted awareness sessions on cholera and hygiene, menstrual health management, and awareness of infectious diseases such as leishmaniasis and hepatitis.



Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

From 6th Feb 2023 to 28th Feb 2025

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Medical Services: 5,609,099 beneficiaries

The total medical services reached **9,708,747** services, as follows:

Program	Beneficiaries	Services
Mobile Health Units	281,433	562,866 consultations and medicines
Community-Based Health and First Aid	2,321,326 beneficiaries from awareness sessions including TBM awareness messages.	2,375,997 including distributing 54,955 items, and 10,321 referrals.
Physical Rehabilitation Program	97,406 included 20,322 beneficiaries with disabilities.	290,360 including 1,555 mobility aids, distributing 29,552 hygiene items.
Mental Health	6,696	8,679 including psychological support sessions for 460 volunteers.
Medical MobileTeam	180,545	404,163
Clinics	2,659,525	5,972,819
Nutrition	50,398	78,336 including distributing food supplements and vitamins
Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	11,770	24,602 including the following services:
	1,120 hospitalizations	4 intensive care unit.
	3,169 emergency cases	704 normal deliveries
		743 emergency surgical operations.
		288 cesarean sections.
	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: 65,500 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, Lattakia, and Idlib to **65,500** families.

Livelihoods: 3,241 beneficiaries

With a **participatory approach**, livelihood needs assessment has been conducted in Aleppo, Hama, and Lattakia 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.

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:

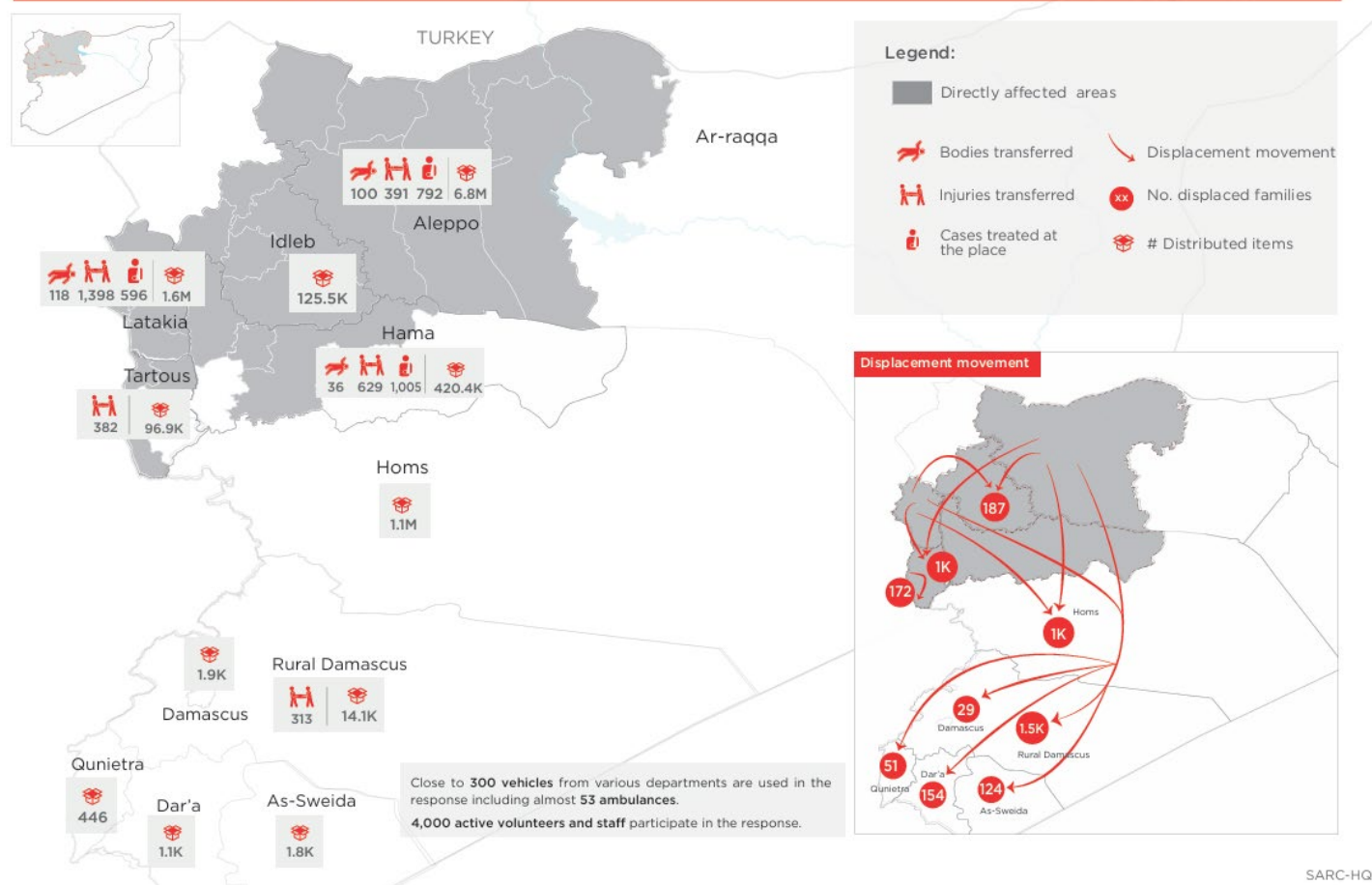




Syria Earthquake: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Response

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7.8 Magnitude



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 provide technical expertise and in-kind relief items to SARC and the membership, based on identified needs and requests.

Needs analysis.

The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), conducted a [Multi-Sectoral Assessment \(MSA\)](#) between January and February 2025. The assessment covered 52 areas across 13 out of 14 governorates. The assessment results highlight the growing challenges faced by the population, particularly in the areas of food security, water and sanitation (WASH), and healthcare services. Data from key informants indicates that communities are resorting to negative coping strategies, while large areas suffer from limited access to safe water sources and essential health infrastructure. Additionally, assessment teams encountered access difficulties in certain areas due to security and operational

challenges, underscoring the urgent need for a coordinated humanitarian response. This response should focus on delivering life-saving assistance and promoting sustainable solutions to support the most affected communities.

Current Humanitarian Situation

- Food Security: According to the Multi-Sectoral Assessment (MSA) conducted by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), 54% of key informants reported that their communities resort to consuming lower-quality food, while 36% have reported reduced meal portions, reflecting the worsening of the food security crisis.
- Water and Sanitation: The SARC MSA data revealed that the majority of areas in Syria lack functional water networks, while 41% of communities rely on wells as their primary water source. This increases the risk of waterborne diseases and directly impacts public health.
- Health: The assessment shows that 50% of health facilities are either partially operational or completely non-functional, significantly limiting communities' access to essential healthcare services, particularly in remote areas and displacement camps.
- Shelter and human settlements: Syria currently hosts 7.2 million internally displaced persons (SARC MSA, 2025), many of whom live in unsafe shelters with inadequate basic services, exacerbating humanitarian challenges and highlighting the urgent need for sustainable shelter solutions.

The following provides an updated overview of the sectoral impacts and needs, based on the situation as of 28 February 2025.

- *Shelter, Housing and Settlement:* The 2023 earthquakes inflicted an estimated \$5.1 billion⁶ in direct physical damages in Syria, with residential buildings accounting for nearly half of this amount. Approximately 10% of Syria's GDP was impacted by the destruction, affecting around 10 million people across four governorate. As of early 2025, millions remain displaced, facing severe winter conditions and immense challenges in rebuilding their lives. The reconstruction process is ongoing, with efforts focused on providing durable shelter solutions and supporting host communities.
- *Livelihoods and Basic Needs:* Food insecurity has reached unprecedented levels in Syria. As of early 2025⁷, 14.56 million people are food insecure, with 9.1 million experiencing acute food insecurity. The economic crisis, compounded by the conflict and earthquake aftermath, has led to soaring food prices and diminished purchasing power. The cost of the reference food basket has more than doubled over the past year, making it unaffordable for many families. Addressing these emergent needs—livelihood restoration, access to clean water and food—is critical, alongside tackling pre-existing vulnerabilities such as poverty, lack of healthcare access, inadequate education, and the absence of safety nets.
- *Health and Care:* The earthquake severely damaged Syria's healthcare infrastructure. The destruction has crippled the region's capacity to deliver essential healthcare services, leaving millions without adequate medical care. The lack of access to basic healthcare and medication continues to affect all Syrians, both in earthquake-affected and other areas. Food insecurity and nutrition remain challenges, especially for people with non-communicable diseases, the elderly, children, and the bedridden. The prevalence of persons with disabilities has increased, with many requiring specialized cares in the years to come.
- *Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):* The earthquakes caused significant damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Many water supply and sanitation systems remain unrepaired in the affected areas, leading to reliance on expensive alternatives like water trucking.

⁶ [World Bank](#)

⁷ [Food Security and Agriculture](#)

Top Priority Needs in the Communities:

Key Informants reported the following as the top priority needs:

(Multiple choices)



63%

Food



55%

Drinking Water



47%

Electricity



47%

Fuel

Food was reported as the most urgent need by Key Informants.

Operational risk assessment

The current context in Syria is marked by a shift in governing authority, initiating a transitional period. This change has led to notable population movements, including the return of Syrian refugees and returnees—particularly from neighboring countries such as Türkiye, Jordan, and Lebanon. However, approximately 6 million Syrians remain displaced abroad, while others continue to leave the country amid ongoing uncertainty. The situation remains fluid, with significant ambiguity surrounding governance structures, policy directions, and the overall security environment. This instability is likely to persist for the coming weeks or months unless further escalation occurs, which could intensify regional tensions and increase humanitarian needs.

Recent reports highlight a rise in hostilities, conflict-related violence, and movement restrictions, complicating both humanitarian access and operational planning. Arrests and security operations targeting individuals associated with the previous regime have increased, resulting in further uncertainty and constrained movement for civilians, humanitarian workers, and critical supply chains. Widespread infrastructure damage—particularly to roads and essential public facilities—continues to hinder access to affected areas.

Economic conditions remain highly unstable. The banking sector is severely affected, with soaring inflation, liquidity constraints, and cash withdrawal limits delaying payments to suppliers, staff, and volunteers. Financial Service

Providers (FSPs) face significant challenges in delivering cash assistance due to reduced cash availability. Additionally, fuel shortages and electricity rationing are severely impacting supply chains, service delivery, and coordination efforts. The water supply in major urban areas is critically low due to disrupted operations at water stations, often exacerbated by ongoing clashes and power outages.

Unexploded ordnance (UXO) contamination continues to pose serious risks. Landmines and UXO-related incidents have led to civilian casualties and restricted access to critical areas, further delaying aid delivery.

Key Operational Challenges

1. **Access to Affected Areas:** Insecurity and active conflict continue to limit access to several regions, especially in northern and southern Syria. SARC's ability to conduct needs assessments and deliver timely assistance is constrained by security risks, administrative barriers, and the presence of armed actors. These limitations affect both the accuracy of needs analysis and the reach of humanitarian services.
2. **Fuel and Power Shortages:** Persistent shortages in fuel and electricity are severely impacting operations. Health facilities are particularly affected, with disruptions to life-saving equipment such as dialysis machines and ICU systems. Dependence on fuel-powered generators is increasing operational costs and reducing service continuity.
3. **Financial Liquidity:** The unavailability of local currency and the operational disruptions within financial institutions continue to hinder SARC's ability to conduct local procurement, settle payments to suppliers, and maintain cash-based interventions. There was a circular from the Government that any funds received before 08 December 2024 were blocked, interbank transfers challenge.
4. **Funding Constraints:** Securing sufficient funding remains a key challenge. With increasing humanitarian needs and ongoing displacement, the resource gap is expected to persist, potentially affecting the scope and sustainability of SARC's response. Both the IFRC Syria Unified Plan and the Syria Complex Emergency Appeal remain critically underfunded each receiving less than 10% of the required resources, severely limiting the ability to meet the identified humanitarian needs.
5. **Supply Chain Disruptions:** The delivery of essential goods, particularly medical supplies and WASH materials, remains at risk due to logistical barriers and security constraints. Movement across conflict lines is especially difficult and unpredictable.
6. **Staff and Volunteer Safety:** Ensuring the safety and well-being of staff and volunteers is a top priority. Ongoing conflict and sporadic violence in certain areas continue to pose risks to personnel and affect overall operational capacity.
7. **Coordination with Authorities and Humanitarian Actors:** While collaboration with the government and international partners is ongoing, differing priorities, communication challenges, and operational limitations continue to pose coordination difficulties, particularly in rapidly changing environments.
8. **Warehouse facility incidents:** During the events of December 2024, a security breach affected the SARC warehouses, leading to the looting of humanitarian items. SARC conducted an assessment of the losses and is taking measures to reinforce warehouse security, protect essential supplies, and reduce the risk of similar incidents in the future to ensure operational continuity.

Response Measures

To address these challenges, SARC is:

- Strengthening coordination with Movement partners and other humanitarian actors;
- Enhancing community engagement to support needs identification and accountability;

- Expanding logistical capacity, including through international procurement and alternative supply routes;
- Reinforcing safety protocols for staff and volunteers;
- Advocating for improved humanitarian access and operational conditions.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The Earthquake Emergency Appeal concluded in February 2025, with the ongoing response activities integrated into the IFRC [Syria Network Plan](#) starting March 2025. Despite the formal closure of the appeal, the humanitarian and recovery needs among the affected populations remain severe. The operational strategy under the IFRC Syria Network Plan continues to prioritize multi-sectoral integrated assistance through the following pillars: Shelter, Livelihoods, Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, Health and Care, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Environmental Sustainability, Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), coordination and partnerships, and National Society Strengthening for Disaster Management and Operational Response Readiness.

The IFRC Secretariat will maintain its presence in-country and will continue providing support to SARC.

Elements of the Earthquake Response have been embedded within the corresponding Strategic Priorities and Enabling Actions of the IFRC [Syria Network Plan](#). A consultative process was conducted with all relevant departments of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) to ensure a smooth and appropriate transition of the earthquake response into the broader national response plan. This transition is grounded in the following key principles:

- **Lifesaving Emergency Assistance:** The response will continue to deliver humanitarian assistance to populations directly and indirectly affected by the earthquake. Emergency needs assessments remain critical to guide ongoing operations. Food, non-food items (NFIs), seasonal items, cash and voucher assistance and household relief support will be sustained, with increased emphasis on prepositioning for future shocks.
- **Sustained Multi-Sectoral Assistance and Resilience Building:** Livelihood and multi-purpose cash interventions will continue, alongside ongoing health support through community-based health services, Mobile Health Units, Mobile Medical Teams, mental health and psychosocial support, and physical rehabilitation for persons with injuries or disabilities. In the WASH sector, interventions will include safe water access, hygiene promotion, and rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems, including WASH facilities in schools. Reconstruction of houses affected by the earthquake. An integrated approach will be followed to optimize impact to the communities.
- **Consolidation of National Society Capacities:** Gains made under the Earthquake Appeal in logistics, information management, human resources, finance and administration, volunteer management, coordination, communications, PMER, and resource mobilization will be further strengthened and aligned with annual planning efforts.
- **Scaling Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Initiatives:** Early learnings and pilot efforts from DRR interventions will be expanded under the SCCP to strengthen community preparedness and resilience.
- **Sustained PGI and CEA Activities:** Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) initiatives will remain integral to the response, ensuring inclusive and accountable programming. The vulnerabilities related to gender and age will also be taken into account.

- **Transition of Technical Expertise and Right-sizing of IFRC Delegation:** Technical expertise from the IFRC Secretariat will be progressively transferred to relevant SARC departments and counterparts. This will allow the IFRC Syria Country Delegation to focus on its core mandate in National Society Development, Humanitarian Diplomacy, Movement and Membership coordination, and right-sizing its human resource structure.

Annex 1 of this report outlines the sector-specific activities scheduled as part of the transition from the Syria Earthquake Appeal to the Syria IFRC Network Plan, effective March 2025.

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.

	Indicator	SARC actual ⁸	IFRC actual ⁹	IFRC target
Key indicators:	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	28,875	31,950 ¹⁰

SARC mobilized its Disaster Management (DM) teams across branches to provide essential support to communities affected by the earthquake. These efforts included the distribution of **10,282,892 food and non-food items**, such as food parcels, hygiene kits, and blankets. In addition to direct distributions, the DM teams coordinated the delivery of relief assistance by other SARC sectoral teams. Relief convoys were dispatched to Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Lattakia, and Tartous, ensuring the timely provision of lifesaving supplies.

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, SARC teams also supported light rehabilitation and repairs in collective centers, addressing urgent needs such as the maintenance of windows, doors, water tanks, electrical panels, and cables. Since the onset of the response, More than 200 shelters have been served by SARC teams since the beginning of the response, and currently, 4 shelters hosting 315 people, are designated for response by the SARC, as services are being provided to them.

To strengthen targeting and improve the efficiency of aid delivery, the DM beneficiary database was updated to include factors such as geographic vulnerability, needs mapping, and host community capacity, particularly in the earthquake-affected governorates. This updated database has enhanced SARC's ability to identify and prioritize those most in need, ensuring the effective use of limited resources.

⁸ This is the achievement of SARC through funding support from the Movement, and other partners.

⁹ This is the achievement through IFRC-supported funding.

¹⁰ Includes households to be reached with tents, tarps, kitchen sets and jerry cans.

IFRC support SARC: In response to the earthquake in Syria, the IFRC provided critical support to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) in delivering assistance to affected communities. This included the provision and distribution of essential relief items such as kitchen sets, jerrycans, and tarpaulins, which played a key role in meeting immediate household needs and improving living conditions for those displaced or impacted by the disaster. The table below outlines the relief items provided with IFRC support and the corresponding number of households reached through their distribution.

Relief Item	Items Distributed	Households Reached	Males >18	Females >18	Males <18	Females <18	Total Individuals Reached
Kitchen Sets	4,671	4,671	4,284	6,307	4,943	7,137	22,671
Jerrycans	5,594	5,594	3,043	4,206	3,110	4,439	14,798
Tarpaulins	10,788	10,788	9,620	11,092	9,563	10,701	40,976

The IFRC supported SARC with emergency shelter items received in-kind from the European Humanitarian Response Capacity (EHRC) mechanism. On 26 February 2023, a cargo plane carrying relief supplies—including tents, stoves, tunnel tents, ropes, and tarpaulins—arrived in Damascus. This marked the first direct humanitarian airlift from the European Union to Syria since the onset of the crisis in 2012.

In-kind Support

The in-kind emergency shelter items were distributed to earthquake-affected and vulnerable households across the earthquake-affected governorates. Additionally, IFRC deployed shelter specialists during the initial phase of the response through its global surge mechanism. These specialists conducted assessments and provided technical recommendations to inform appropriate mid-term shelter solutions for displaced populations.

Facility Rehabilitation and Maintenance

SARC initiated activities for the light rehabilitation of schools and communities in Idleb governorate that were affected by the earthquake, with joint support from the German Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross, and the IFRC. The school rehabilitation component is now complete, with SARC successfully rehabilitating 18 schools. This work involved a range of maintenance and construction tasks, including cleaning and debris removal, dismantling damaged windows and security fences, installing iron tanks, protective fences, and metal doors, and conducting concrete, clay, block, and Tyrolean spray work to repair structural damage in buildings, fences, and bathrooms. The rehabilitation activities led by SARC in Idleb governorate have made a substantial impact on both education and community resilience. By restoring 18 schools, these efforts have ensured that 1,476 students now have safe, functional learning environments. This continuity in education is especially crucial for children in post-crisis settings, as it helps maintain their learning and development while restoring a sense of normalcy in their daily lives.

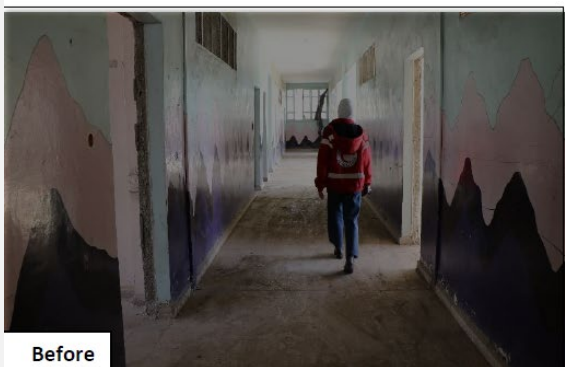
In addition to supporting education, rehabilitation has significantly improved the safety and resilience of school infrastructure. Structural repairs and the installation of protective features, such as iron tanks, fences, and metal doors, have strengthened these facilities, making them more secure and less vulnerable to future damage. This enhances the long-term durability of the schools, providing a safer environment for students and staff.

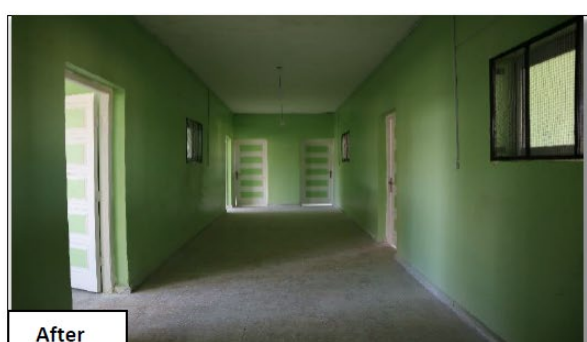
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS REHABILITATED



Name of school	Region	Number of Students
17 Nisan	Khan Shekhoun	200
Mzraat Jdaydh	Abu Al douhor	130
Abu Aldhour Al mouhdtash	Abu Al douhor	70
Al blesah	Abu Al doihor	50
Tal Al toufan	Abu Al douhor	110
Abu Aldhour Aiwsta	Abu Al douhor	55
Kraten Kber	Snjar	60
Abu Dafhh	Snjar	55
Shaart Alajayz	Snjar	50
Aom Moaylat Shmaleh	Snjar	50
Sarea	Snjar	140
Tal Al shekh	Moaret Al	55
Bahthh Ai badyh	Moaret Al nouman	80
Al aked	Moaret Al nouman	70
Total	1,476	1,476

Photos of the school rehabilitation





Following the conclusion of the Syria Earthquake Appeal, SARC, with IFRC support, will focus on recovery and preparedness efforts. Key activities include distributing seasonal household items based on identified needs, support in repair of houses, and implementing post-distribution monitoring when possible. Coordination with shelter cluster partners and local authorities will guide shelter strategies, while awareness sessions will promote safe use of repair materials and shelter practices. SARC will also replenish and pre-position critical stocks and enhance collaboration with communities and development actors to support long-term recovery.



Livelihoods

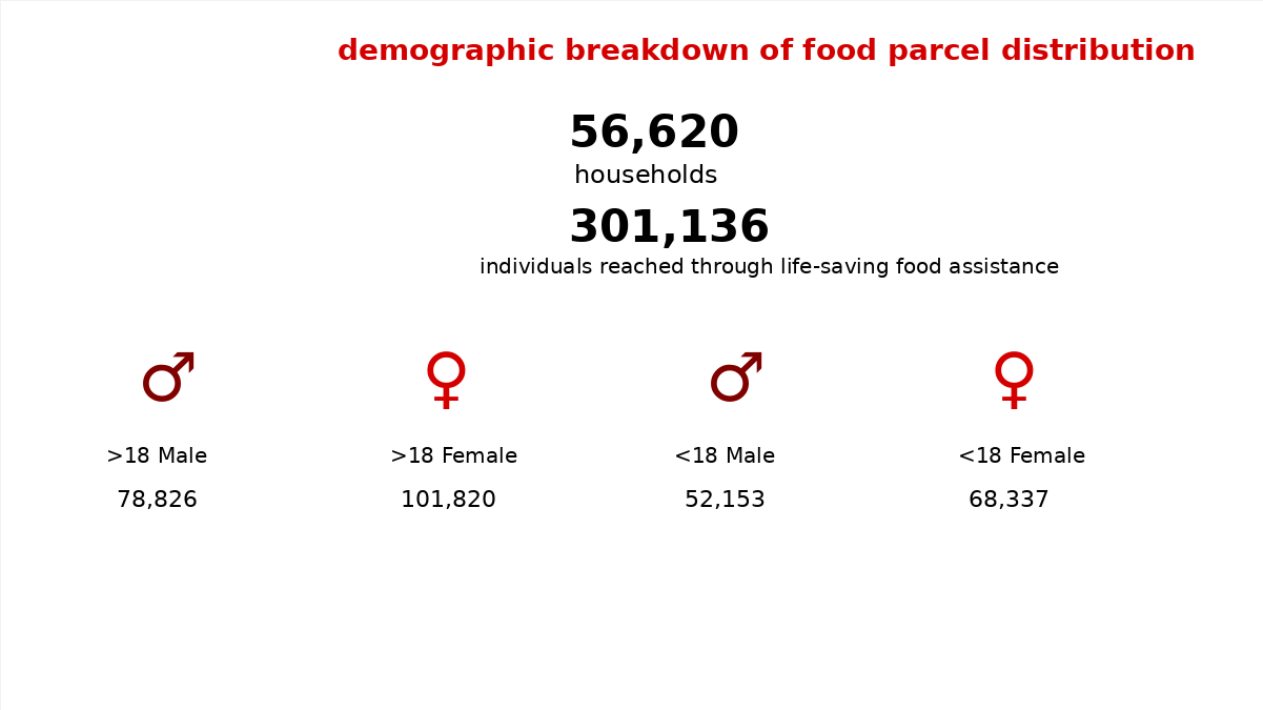
Objective:		Communities in crisis-affected areas and the displaced can cover their immediate food needs and protect and build resilient livelihoods.		
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	IFRC target
	Number of targeted households reached with food (in-kind)	315,620	56,620	126,110
	Number of households with damaged basic livelihood physical asset in targeted communities restored	3,241	448	3,015

In the aftermath of the earthquake, affected communities faced acute challenges, including displacement, infrastructure damage, and disrupted food supply chains. Food parcels served as a critical form of immediate relief, ensuring access to essential nutrition for households that had lost their livelihoods and homes. During the response period, SARC distributed a total of **4,047,364 food items** across the affected governorates of Aleppo, Latakia, Hama, Tartous, and Homs, reaching individuals in shelters as well as host and local communities.

The IFRC supported SARC in expanding its warehousing capacity to accommodate the increased volume of relief supplies. Through this collaboration, SARC successfully procured and distributed **56,620 food parcels** to an equal number of households, reaching a total of **301,136 individuals**. These food parcels were acquired under an

established framework agreement and underwent laboratory testing to ensure quality and safety prior to distribution. The intervention aimed to address immediate food and nutrition needs, providing a critical safety net for vulnerable families grappling with food insecurity. By delivering essential, nutritious food items, the assistance not only enhanced household food security but also alleviated financial pressure, enabling families to prioritize other urgent needs.

The infographic below presents the age and gender distribution of individuals reached through these food distributions.



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. Livelihood needs assessments were done in Aleppo, Hama, Idlib 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.

From February 2023 SARC supported approximately 3,241 households 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 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, SARC with IFRC support initiated a livelihoods project in 2023 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 started with needs assessments and consultation with authorities and local communities. A dissemination campaign was organized in the selected areas to inform the local populations. The application process was open for all with a specific deadline to give ample time to potential recipients. The target population voluntarily applied to join the programme based on specific eligibility and criteria set in the call for applications. The verification of the households who submitted the application forms was conducted, and the provisional list was set up. Following this, basic business management skills training was organized by SARC to help the recipients develop and present their business plan. The recipient list was finalized through an evaluation made by the program team.

Based on the steps of the implementation, 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 were as follows:

Mandatory criteria:

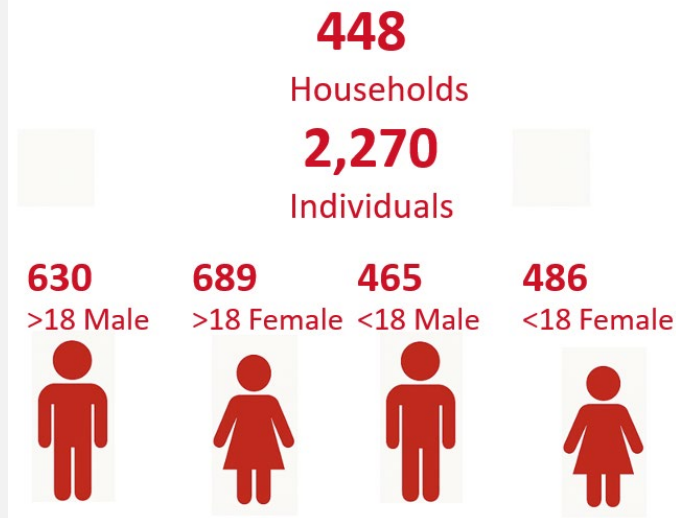
- Small business owners/income-generating activities (IGAs) who were affected by the earthquake and had lost their source of income.
- Not benefiting from any similar livelihood program with another partner after the earthquake disaster.
- The family had access to a suitable place to set up the project.

Conditional (vulnerability) criteria:

- Women breadwinners.
- Households with children under 5 years old.
- Households with pregnant women and the elderly.
- Households that included persons with disabilities (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.

IFRC Livelihoods support



The assistance was provided through conditional cash grants. Each family receives SYP 16,000,000 in two installments to restart their income-generating activity. The first installment was subject to attending the training and having the business plan approved while the second installment was conditional on having purchased the material detailed in the business plan.

In 2024, SARC continued supporting people affected by the earthquake and, with the support of IFRC, the livelihood program conducted and updated the assessments and followed the same steps as previous year (dissemination, verification, training, business plan presentation, final selection, and cash distribution) to support small business owners impacted by the disaster.

More than 1,000 families who met the selection criteria were invited to participate in the "Basics of Business Management Skills" course. These trainings took place between July and October in the earthquake-affected governorates of Aleppo, Hama, Lattakia, and Idleb. Following the completion of the course and the submission of business plans, 897 were selected: 261 in Aleppo, 261 in Hama, 225 in Lattakia, and 150 in Idleb.

Once the final list of the people to be reached was confirmed, coordination began with the SARC CVA team to initiate the process of transferring funds to the Financial Service Provider (FSP) and the beneficiaries. However, due to the events that took place in Syria in December 2024, which led to the suspension of all projects, and the ongoing liquidity crisis in 2025, the transfers could not be carried out as planned. SARC is committed to completing these transfers and providing planned support to the selected families in the coming months.

To ensure good planning and implementation of SARC's livelihoods projects through the Cash and Voucher Assistance modality, both teams maintained close coordination throughout the implementation. The majority of the people targeted through this intervention have previously been assisted by SARC during the emergency phase with multipurpose cash assistance to address their basic needs.

SARC branch livelihood staff, supported by 45 volunteers, established a comprehensive monitoring system—including baseline, post-distribution, and endline assessments—alongside Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) initiatives. These efforts aimed to strengthen communication with the affected population, enabling a better understanding of their diverse needs, vulnerabilities, and capacities. The approach also ensured mechanisms were in place to collect, respond to, and act on community feedback, while promoting meaningful participation in decisions that impacted their lives.

The provision of conditional cash assistance enabled households to renew, rehabilitate, or protect essential business equipment, supplies, and infrastructure—allowing them to restart income-generating activities. This support contributed significantly to the economic recovery and stability of families affected by the earthquake. Furthermore, beneficiaries participated in basic business management training, which was designed to equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage and sustain their enterprises effectively, with the potential for increased productivity and profitability.

Endline Assessment Summary – Small Business Support Project

An endline assessment was conducted between May and July 2024 to evaluate the impact of livelihood support provided to 448 small business owners affected by the earthquake. The assessment focused on measuring progress in business recovery, income generation, and the effectiveness of cash-based support.

Key Findings:

- 89% of beneficiaries reported their businesses were fully operational, while 5% were partially operational. Four individuals had not yet restarted due to illness or the seasonal nature of their business.
- 67% identified the small business as their primary source of income, supporting household needs and financial stability.
- **Use of business income:**
 - 57% for daily household expenses
 - 17% split between household and reinvestment
 - 16% for business reinvestment
 - 2% for debt repayment
 - 1% for savings
- 93% confirmed that cash assistance was an appropriate modality, with only 4% indicating the amount was insufficient.

Business Types Supported:

The project supported a diverse range of microenterprises, including groceries, tailoring, electrical repairs, cosmetics, carpentry, livestock, and more. A total of 102 businesses were categorized under "Others," covering activities such as greenhouses, construction, libraries, and small-scale food processing.

Faced with increasing economic difficulties and in line with the socio-political changes in Syria and natural crises, fear continues to grip millions of Syrians who have experienced conflict, displacement, and disasters caused by natural

events. Hence community resilience has diminished, and Syrian society is now grappling with the effects of a multifaceted crisis, incorporating all elements of family vulnerability.

In alignment with SARC's Resilience Strengthening Approach', IFRC plan to support SARC linking the immediate humanitarian assistance plans and the mid-to longer-term programming and ensure that all efforts contribute to strengthening community resilience in the earthquake affected areas and beyond.

Accordingly, the support for food security and livelihoods is essential and it has become increasingly important to invest in early recovery and resilience, and to identify innovative ways of including the population, as well as the private sector in securing income and longer-term job creation to foster socio-economic resilience building and facilitate participation in the rebuilding of the Syrian society and economy.

Livelihoods interventions will focus on restoring, protecting and strengthening the self-reliance of affected households while enhancing resilience to future shocks. As the situation evolves, SARC will conduct comprehensive livelihood assessments to identify recovery options and guide programming. Support will be extended to affected households to protect or restore income-generating activities, including the replacement of productive assets and, where feasible, the use of cash and voucher assistance. Livelihoods programming will integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation to promote long-term resilience. SARC's capacity will be strengthened through training of volunteers and staff, and sustained technical support to its Livelihoods Unit at HQ and branch levels. Coordination with the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, Movement partners, and the IFRC Livelihoods Resource Centre will ensure coherence and complementarity. Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) activities—including baselines, post-distribution monitoring, and endline assessments—will be embedded to ensure effectiveness and inform adaptive programming



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



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective:	<i>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.</i>			
Key indicators:	Indicator	SARC actual	IFRC actual	IFRC target
	<i>Number of households targeted with multi-purpose cash assistance</i>	65,500	12,977	15,000
	<i>Total spent for operation in CHF as multi-purpose cash transfer¹¹</i>	13,296,500	2,634,331	4,800,000

SARC's CVA team conducted a comprehensive registration of earthquake-affected populations across all impacted governorates. The data enabled the identification of the most vulnerable households, informed cash transfer targeting, avoided duplication with other partners, and supported broader sectoral responses such as livelihoods. The Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) transfer value—initially set at SYP 1,050,000 per month—was endorsed by the National Cash Working Group in March 2023, representing 60% of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). Due to rising living costs, the MEB increased significantly throughout 2024, with a 43% rise noted by August. Consequently, the transfer value was adjusted to SYP 5,275,000 in September 2024 to cover three months of essential needs. This revised amount was disbursed as a one-off payment to the final 2,000 families in the program, following approval from the Cash Working Group and inputs from evaluations and field coordination.

From May 2023, SARC distributed cash assistance in Hama, Aleppo, Latakia, and Idlib to **65,500 families (Reaching approximately 327,500 people)** with the support of the Movement and external partners.

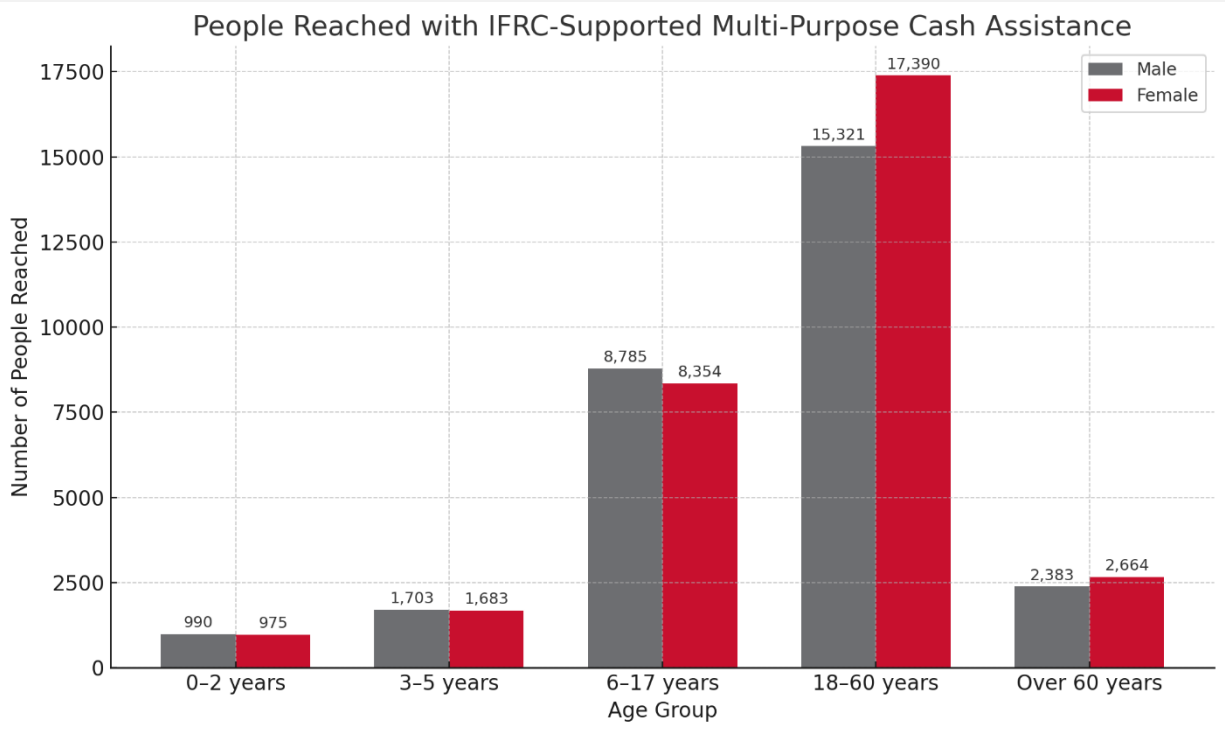
In addition, to support vulnerable families affected by the earthquake in meeting their essential needs—such as clothing, heating fuel, healthcare, and other necessities—during the 2023-2024 winter season SARC distributed to **11,110 families (Approx 55,550 people)** 3,000,000 SYP per family to cover their needs. This amount was calculated based on a market price assessment of standardized items for winter within the Cluster, conducted across the 11 governorates covered. This approach ensured that the assistance provided was aligned with the Cluster, the current market conditions and effectively met the needs of the beneficiaries. The selection criteria for families targeted for cash assistance for winterization are outlined below.

- Families whose homes were destroyed and were given a black code from Operation Room
 - Families who were issued evacuation orders and were given a red code from Operation Room
 - Families who have a member with special needs
- Families who suffer from one of the following vulnerabilities (loss of breadwinner, elderly, chronic diseases, children under five years old)*

Through the support of the IFRC, SARC distributed MPCA to **8,566 households (approximately 38,505 people)** and **cash for winterization to 4,411 households (approximately 21,743 people)**. The total people reached with

¹¹ The exchange rate from Syrian Pounds (SYP) to Swiss Francs (CHF) is provided for indicative purposes only.

IFRC support through MPCA and winterization was **12,977 households (60,248 people)**. This distribution accounted for **21% of the households** reached by SARC through MPCA and cash for winterization. The figure below shows the breakdown of the people reached through the IFRC supported multipurpose cash distributions.



Cash transfers were made through Al Fouad remittance company, with whom SARC has a long-term service agreement (aligned with IFRC procurement standards). Cash-out points were operational after the earthquake with a wide coverage in the affected areas. Once the final list of targeted households reached Al Fouad, the registered cash recipient received a text message that their money is available at the nearest agent or agent of their choice.

Field monitoring visits were 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.



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

SARC conducted an evaluation¹² to assess the impact of the assistance on households, which included a desk review, post-distribution surveys, focus group discussions and one-to-one discussions with cash recipients, focus groups with SARC volunteers, interviews with key stakeholders. The evaluation demonstrates that the assistance reduced the burden on households of supporting their members and enhanced their overall well-being. Cash assistance helped reduce the use of damaging coping strategies like taking children out of school, halting medical treatment, and increasing debt. Households were more able to meet food needs, access housing and afford education, and there was a general increase in access to health care and medicines. Including a wellbeing approach in the evaluation allowed a more holistic and deeper understanding of people's life and priorities.

Through this evaluation exercise, SARC aimed to document the impact of the assistance and learn how to increase the impact of cash assistance in future programmes.

The key findings were

1. **Restoring Dignity and Supporting Well-being:** Recipients reported that cash assistance restored their dignity and alleviated financial pressure, improving the overall well-being of family members. It prevented negative coping strategies (e.g., withdrawing children from school or using low-quality food) and enabled better financial planning. Beneficiaries preferred receiving one larger instalment rather than several smaller ones.
2. **Unprecedented Scale and Reach:** The operation marked the largest cash intervention targeting Syrian nationals and one of the largest within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. The cash distributions

reached over 200,000 people. SARC's community trust, volunteer network, and access were pivotal to the response.

3. **Timeliness and Coordination Challenges:** The first cash distribution began over three months post-earthquake due to coordination delays and reliance on civil engineering assessments. Once lists were approved, SARC took an average of 34 days to distribute assistance—longer than the 13-day timeline of the winterisation programme. Enhancing preparedness and streamlining approval mechanisms are needed for future emergencies.
4. **Towards a People-Centred Approach:** Feedback mechanisms were a core element, with SARC pioneering their use and encouraging others to follow. While people trust SARC and seek information informally, increasing community engagement and formal feedback channels will improve trust, transparency, and social cohesion amid growing needs and declining funding.
5. **Impact of Inflation on Satisfaction:** People targeted were served earlier in the year expressed higher satisfaction. Although the transfer amount remained the same, rising inflation eroded purchasing power, especially for those supported in late 2023 and early 2024. A coordinated, inflation-sensitive approach is needed to ensure adequacy of future assistance.
6. **Leadership and Capacity Enablers:** SARC's leadership, experience, and integration of cash assistance into its operational strategies enhanced the efficiency and reach of the programme. The ongoing Cash Preparedness Programme and alignment with broader National Society Development and Emergency Preparedness efforts provide an opportunity to further enhance speed, accountability, and scale.
7. **Effective One Movement Approach:** Cash coordination followed a successful One Movement model: SARC led implementation; IFRC coordinated membership engagement; and PNS (notably the British Red Cross) managed the technical working group. This division of roles allowed SARC's CVA Unit to focus on delivery while avoiding duplication and promoting efficiency.



Cash assistance came like
a drop of water in dry land.”

*Male focus group
participant*

Cash is good as it gave you
liberty to buy whatever you
needed.”

*Female focus group
participant*

The assistance was good, but
it is just assistance, and it is
not enough for all we need.”

Male focus group participant



The British Red Cross provided technical support and coordination for the CVA component of the earthquake response under shared leadership concept of RCRCM, shouldering the burden on the SARC CVA Unit by harmonizing a unified response, indicators, and reporting. Additional resources, such as a CVA Earthquake delegate and a CVA Earthquake Project officer, were allocated. Information management resources, coordinated with IFRC and the Netherlands Red Cross, were used to develop a deduplication system and a unified CVA database to enhance coordination and scale up humanitarian assistance.

In 2025, the cash and voucher assistance (CVA) programme will continue to serve as a key modality to meet the urgent and diverse needs of affected populations, while contributing to flexibility, dignity, and local market

¹² [Evaluation of the 2023 Earthquake and 2023-2024 Winterisation Cash Assistance Responses – Syrian Arab Red Crescent](#)

recovery. Multipurpose cash assistance will be provided to support basic needs, guided by ongoing coordination with the national Cash Working Group and harmonized with other actors to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication. Regular assessments of financial service providers (FSPs), market functionality, and liquidity will inform safe and effective delivery mechanisms. Efforts will be made to strengthen SARC's centralized registration systems to better target support and improve accountability. Monitoring and evaluation activities—including post-distribution monitoring (PDM) and endline assessments—will ensure quality and adaptive programming. Risk communication and community engagement will be fully integrated, helping affected people understand the assistance and enabling referrals to complementary services such as health and protection. Capacity building for SARC staff and volunteers, particularly on CVA operations and Rapid Market Assessments, will continue to support the scale-up of cash as an effective response tool.



Health & Care¹³

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

Objective:

Restored access of affected populations to essential health care services (emergency, primary, secondary, community/public health) including mental health and psychosocial support.

Key indicators:

Indicator

**SARC
Actual**

**IFRC
Actual**

Target

Number of people reached with primary health services

5,609,099

2,009,095

731,827

Number of local health facilities supported with staff, equipment and/or running costs for the provision of medical services in emergencies

132

57¹⁴

49

¹³ The data reported is what has been done by IFRC.

¹⁴ The data sums the Number of local health facilities through 1 ERU, 6MHUs, 28 MMTs, 16 Clinics, 3 Poly clinics, and 3 Hospitals

Over the two years following the February 2023 earthquake, SARC supported by the IFRC and Movement partners, sustained a comprehensive and multi-layered health response across the affected areas. Despite operational constraints—including widespread infrastructure damage, persistent fuel shortages, and disruptions in electricity—millions of individuals were reached with essential medical services through a coordinated and adaptable delivery model.

A total of **9,708,747 medical services** were delivered to **5,609,099 individuals** through a wide network of hospitals, static health facilities, mobile health units, mobile medical teams, physiotherapy centers and mobile teams, mental health and nutrition clinics, and the efforts of trained Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) volunteers. The continuation of health services across these platforms played a critical role in meeting both immediate and longer-term health needs in earthquake-affected areas.

Recognizing the centrality of health within the earthquake response, SARC and Movement partners intensified coordination efforts over the two years to enhance technical alignment and service quality. IFRC facilitated regular Movement-wide meetings where SARC, Partner National Societies (PNS), and the ICRC jointly reviewed progress, identified critical gaps, and aligned priorities. Several health technical working groups were established to harmonize approaches, promote results-based planning, and address budgetary and technical support needs.

CBHFA volunteers, who were among the first responders post-earthquake, provided immediate support, including evacuation, first aid, and psychological first aid. Over time, their role expanded to include sustained community engagement, health education, and support to people living with non-communicable diseases. IFRC facilitated training on Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) for 90 CBHFA volunteers.

In the early months of the response, an Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was deployed to Lattakia under the leadership of the Finnish Red Cross, providing comprehensive primary healthcare services and reaching 3,000 individuals. To reinforce national emergency capacity, IFRC procured two vehicles for SARC’s emergency response initiative, while the Canadian Red Cross provided technical and financial support.

Mobile Health Units (MHUs) began operations within days of the earthquake, targeting remote and underserved communities. Staffed by multidisciplinary teams, the MHUs delivered services including internal medicine, reproductive health, gynecological care, and diagnostics. IFRC supported seven MHUs until the end of December 2023, with a transition to the Unified Plan in 2024.

Medical Services:		5,609,099 beneficiaries
The total medical services reached 9,708,747 services, as follows:		
Program	Beneficiaries	Services
 Mobile Health Units	281,433	562,866 consultations and medicines
 Community-Based Health and First Aid	2,321,326 beneficiaries from awareness sessions including IFM awareness messages.	2,375,997 including distributing 54,955 items, and 10,321 referrals.
 Physical Rehabilitation Program	97,406 included 20,100 beneficiaries with spinal fits.	290,360 including 1,555 mobility aids, distributing 29,552 hygiene items.
 Mental Health	6,696	8,679 including psychological support sessions for 460 volunteers.
 Medical MobileTeam	180,545	404,163
 Clinics	2,659,525	5,972,819
 Nutrition	50,398	78,336 including distributing food supplements and vitamins
 Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	11,770	24,602 including the following services:
1,120 hospitalizations 4 intensive care unit. 704 normal deliveries 743 emergency surgical operations.		
3,169 emergency cases 424 incubator care. 288 cesarean sections.		
9,075 diagnostic services (lab test, Echo, X-Ray, medicine, bandages, and others).		

Mobile Medical Teams (MMTs) were deployed for consultations and health promotion. IFRC supported 27 MMTs, composed of medical professionals and volunteers providing both clinical and psychosocial support.

To maintain continuity in fixed health facilities, IFRC supported the operational and human resource costs of 16 primary health clinics, with a focus on maternal, newborn, and child health. This complemented support from UNFPA and UNHCR to SARC-run polyclinics.

To improve sustainability and address power disruptions, solar panel systems were installed in two SARC health facilities. This intervention ensured uninterrupted service delivery and aligned with environmental sustainability goals.

The Disability Inclusion and Physiotherapy Project, supported by IFRC, provided services to 96,124 individuals, including 25,483 persons with disabilities. Additionally, 1,401 assistive devices were distributed to enhance mobility. The project also expanded to include trauma kits and devices for conflict-affected individuals.

SARC's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) remained active, providing pre-hospital and first aid support. IFRC supported EMS volunteers with 1,765 uniform sets and helped develop a strategic EMS roadmap. EMS centers assisted 9,875 patients with medical referrals.

SARC, with Movement support, also expanded maternal, newborn, and child health services in hospitals. A total of 2,278 individuals benefited from services such as caesarean sections, neonatal care, and emergency surgeries.

To strengthen diagnostic and treatment capacity, IFRC and Movement partners procured essential medical equipment, including CT scanners, cardiac monitors, and endoscopy systems, much of which was installed and in use by the end of the reporting period.

The table below presents the number of individuals reached through the IFRC supported health interventions.

People reached through health interventions						
Intervention	>18 Male	>18 Female	<18 Male	<18 Female	Unknown disaggregation	Total
Emergency Response Unit (ERU)					3,000	3,000
Mobile Health Units (MHU)	10,936	4,596	16,706	5,259		37,497
Mobile Medical Teams (MMT)	15,518	17,784	16,249	72,507		122,058
Polyclinics	5,993	7,047	7,507	19,370		39,917
Primary Health Clinics	-	-	-	-	97,816	97,816
CBHFA	283,157	300,499	549,269	469,883		1,602,808
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)					9,875	9,875
Disability Inclusion and Physiotherapy Project					96,124	96,124
Grand Total	315,604	329,926	589,731	567,019	206,815	2,009,095

As the response shifts toward recovery and resilience, 2025 efforts will focus on strengthening health systems while maintaining essential service delivery. Primary health care will continue to be provided through SARC's fixed health facilities and mobile outreach services (MHUs and MMTs), supported by life-saving medicines and targeted expansion based on gap analysis. There will be increased investment in emergency medical services (EMS), including equipment, training, and digital systems, as well as in secondary healthcare through field hospitals and targeted cash assistance. Community-based health activities will be scaled up, with stronger links to epidemic preparedness and climate-related health risks. Advocacy for integrated health programming—such as maternal, child, reproductive health, nutrition, and epidemic response—will also be prioritized. Psychosocial support, case management, and health education will be delivered through community centers, shelters, and mobile teams. Services for persons with disabilities will be expanded to include physiotherapy, assistive devices, and peer

support. These combined efforts aim to build local capacity, ensure inclusive service delivery, and reduce long-term humanitarian dependency.

Success Story: A Journey of Hope: Jamal Hamad's Story

Jamal Hamad, a 70-year-old man, suffers from diabetic foot in both lower limbs, resulting in the amputation of his left limb below the knee and his right limb above the knee. Following the amputations, the physical therapy team intervened to prepare his lower limbs for prosthetic installation, providing sessions to prepare the limbs. Subsequently, Jamal was transferred to the prosthetics team and visited the centre multiple times over several months before the prosthetics were installed. Once the prosthetic limbs were fitted, the physical therapy team continued treatment, training him to use the prosthetics with a walker to increase his independence and self-reliance in all life activities. The rehabilitation and training sessions on the prosthetics totalled five sessions, after which Jamal could walk with his prosthesis and frame.



A physiotherapist practices walking with Mr. Jamal, who uses his two prostheses and a walking frame, in his house.

Success Story: Reaching the Unreachable through Mobile Health Services

Andraos*, a young man in his twenties from the Maaloula region, faced significant challenges due to his condition. Suffering from quadriplegia, he was unable to visit the mobile clinic in Rural Damascus for the care he desperately needed. Recognizing his situation, the mobile clinic team took the initiative to visit Andraos at his home, ensuring he received the necessary medical attention.

During the home visit, the medical team conducted a thorough examination, assessed his needs, and provided him with the appropriate medications. Understanding the complexity of his condition, Andraos was referred to the SARC polyclinic in Jaramana for specialized physical therapy services, offering him hope for better mobility and an improved quality of life.

This story highlights the key role of the Mobile Health Units in reaching vulnerable individuals in remote areas, ensuring that no one is left behind, regardless of their ability to access healthcare facilities. Through compassionate, proactive care, Andraos is now on a path towards better management of his condition.



A mobile clinic provides medical services. Photo credit: SARC



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective:

Reduce the risk of waterborne diseases and ensured the dignity of the affected population through the provision of inclusive WASH services.

Indicator	SARC Actual	IFRC actual	Target
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Key indicators:	<i>Number of people reached by WASH assistance</i>	Over 80% of Syria population	5.4 Million	936,267
	<i>Number of people reached with hygiene supplies</i>	4,007,656 items	418,911	463,996

SARC's WASH department conducted a Rapid assessment for water & sanitation infrastructure, and electricity networks across all affected governorate in the aftermath of the earthquake.

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

Through the support of IFRC, SARC conducted two epidemic control 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. The coordinators cascaded the knowledge to the other WASH teams at their respective branches.

Through IFRC support to SARC hygiene kits were procured and distributed. These kits helped restore dignity, improve personal hygiene, and support overall well-being in a time of acute need. Distributions were strategically coordinated with humanitarian partners through operational meetings at governorate and sector levels to prevent duplication and maximize coverage. This approach also reflected a two-year response strategy developed with Movement partners to ensure continued assistance after the departure of other actors. The strategy included phased deliveries aligned with evolving community needs. The hygiene kits significantly alleviated the economic burden on families by reducing their spending on essential hygiene items, many of which have seen dramatic price increases due to inflation. SARC distributed dignity and menstrual hygiene kits as part of the PGI intervention and reported them accordingly in the PGI section below.

The figure below presents the number of individuals reached through hygiene kits distributed with support from the IFRC.

HYGIENE KITS DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

 **80,632**
HOUSEHOLDS

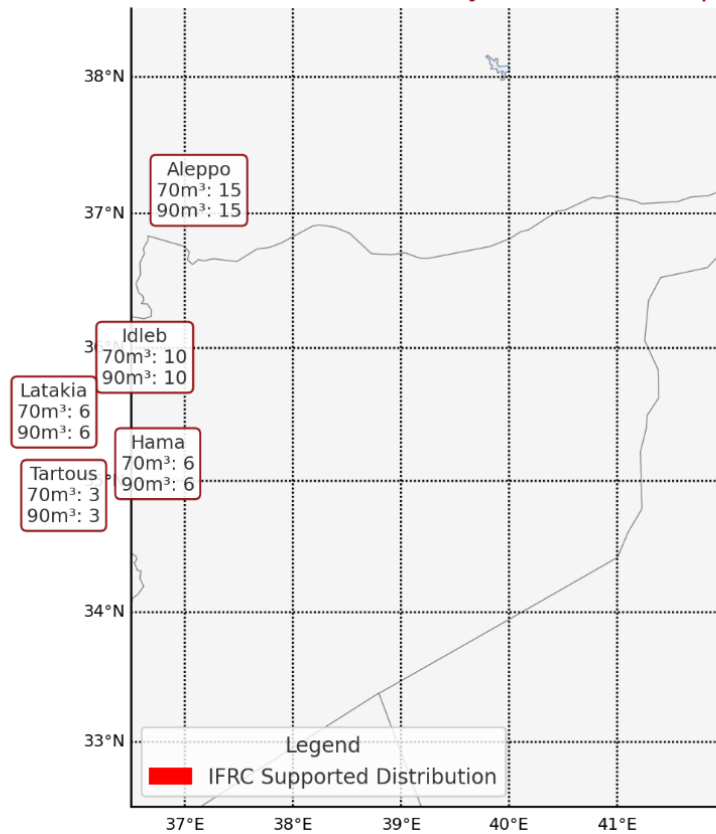
418,911
INDIVIDUALS

			
107,914	142,016	73,838	95,143
>18	>18	<18	<18
MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE

The IFRC facilitated the procurement of 1,200 plastic water tanks in various sizes (1m³, 2m³, 3m³, and 5m³), primarily intended for household use but also suitable for smaller public facilities such as schools and health centres. The water tanks were installed by SARC's water and rehabilitation department, which also monitored their utilization. A skilled team of Water and Sanitation Engineers from SARC oversaw the installation process, involved multiple site visits to assess specific requirements for safe and secure installation, ensuring the installation is completed effectively. The installation emphasized educating users about the proper usage, maintenance, and essential cleaning routines for the water tanks. This initiative aimed to enhance the sustainability of the tanks provided and maximize the impact of SARC's relief efforts in Syria. The water tanks serve as a reliable source of water for drinking, cooking, and sanitation needs. By enabling the storage and distribution of clean water, they will play a key role in preventing outbreaks of waterborne diseases that could further worsen the humanitarian crisis. Additionally, the tanks will promote access to clean water, encouraging better hygiene practices, including handwashing, bathing, and the cleaning of utensils and clothing.

The IFRC also supported SARC in the procurement of 80 Oxfam water tanks (40 tanks of 70m³ and 40 tanks of 95m³ capacity), now stored at SARC's central warehouse and ready for deployment in high-priority areas. These tanks will serve as reliable water storage solutions to support drinking, cooking, and sanitation needs in communities experiencing water shortages due to displacement, infrastructure damage, or drought. The installation was led by SARC's Water and Sanitation Engineers, with community orientation sessions and coordination with local authorities to ensure integration into existing water infrastructure. Additional items (anchor bolt kits, ladders, tools, and repair kits) were procured to enhance sustainability.

Distribution of Oxfam Water Tanks in Syria – IFRC Earthquake Response



The IFRC supported SARC in the procurement of 39 generators to power critical services across multiple sectors. These generators facilitated essential operations in healthcare, livelihoods, emergency response, and community infrastructure.

The process began with the identification of critical needs, conducted in close coordination with local authorities, who also confirmed fuel availability. Following this, agreements were established with recipient entities (e.g., local water boards), outlining their respective roles and responsibilities.

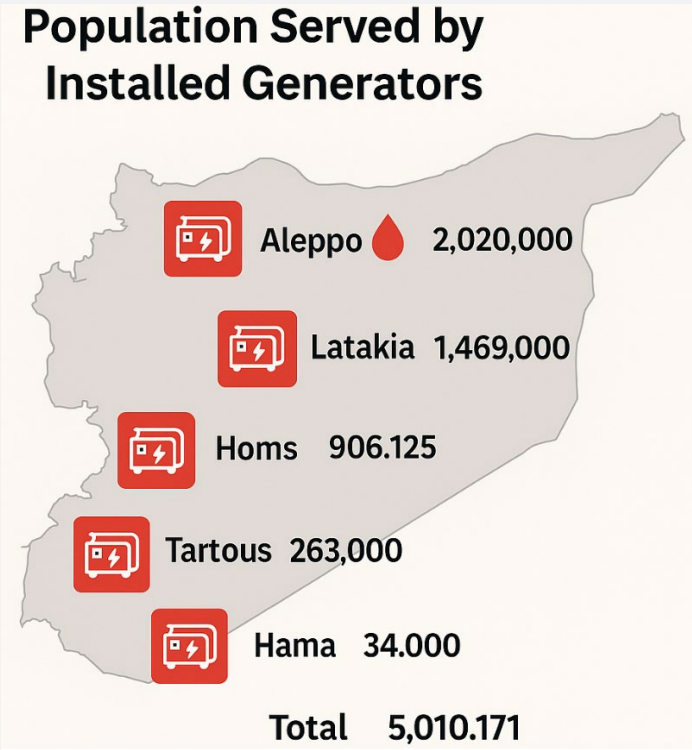
The installation was carried out by SARC's Water and Rehabilitation Department, comprising over 600 professional staff and volunteers, including engineers specialized in generator setup and maintenance. After installation, the generators were handed over to the relevant authorities, with SARC staff and volunteers remaining available to provide ongoing maintenance support.

The provision and installation of generators, while initially addressing WASH-related energy needs, had a broader, transformative impact that extended well beyond the water and sanitation sector. By restoring power to critical infrastructure, the intervention supported food security, healthcare delivery, agricultural productivity, livelihood restoration, and disaster preparedness. These generators played a pivotal role in enabling the continuity of services and stabilizing essential systems, especially in areas severely affected by the earthquake. Ultimately, the intervention contributed not only to immediate response efforts but also to the longer-term recovery and resilience of communities.

The following highlights demonstrate the cross-sectoral impact of the generators, showcasing how they supported critical functions and improved the well-being of affected communities.

- *Water Access:* Generators installed at wells and water stations ensured a reliable supply of clean water, even during prolonged power outages.
- *Agriculture:* Powering irrigation systems and agricultural maintenance workshops enabled farmers to restore and sustain their livelihoods, especially in earthquake-affected rural areas.
- *Food Security:* Generators supported uninterrupted operations at bakeries, ensuring steady production of bread, a staple food for Syrian households.
- *Emergency Services:* With backup power in maintenance workshops, teams were able to carry out urgent repairs to water and electrical infrastructure, maintaining continuity of critical services.
- *Healthcare:* In remote or underserved areas, generators ensured the continuous operation of medical equipment, improving the quality of care and enabling uninterrupted health services.
- *Disaster Preparedness:* The provision of reliable power backup enhances community resilience, allowing for quicker emergency response and better continuity of essential services.

The installed generators currently serve a population of over 5 million people across Syria. The table below presents the population distribution by governorate benefiting from this intervention.



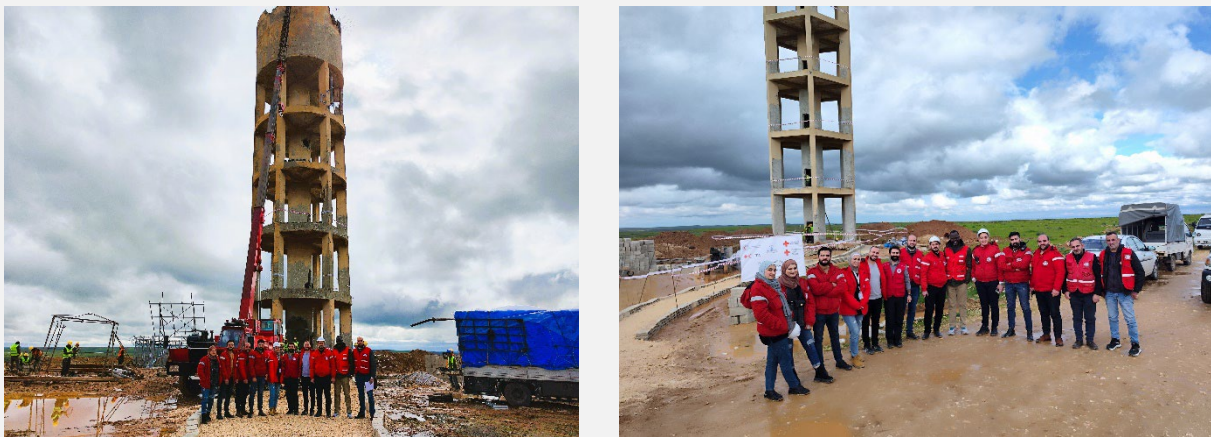
In Idleb, several elevated tanks were damaged or taken out of service. With funding contributions from the German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, and IFRC in partnership with SARC, a project aimed to rehabilitate six elevated tanks that were rendered non-operational by the earthquake was implemented.

In terms of quality, the works following the monitoring visits were found to meet the project's standards and specifications. The facilities are now in use, further confirming their structural integrity in performing their functions of water storage.



Rehabilitation of the elevated water tanks in progress

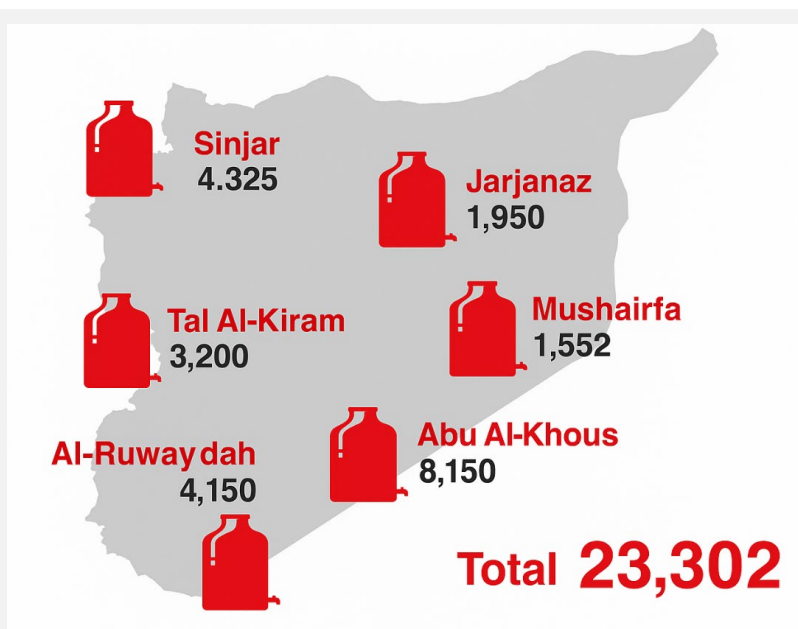
The Norwegian Red Cross, German Red Cross, and SARC conducted a joint field visit to various project sites. This visit was successful, with observations confirming that the contractor had fully mobilized the necessary equipment and personnel for project execution. The Water Board Engineers were also present on-site during the visit, as the project was scheduled to be handed over to them for operation and maintenance upon completion. Through its WASH team, SARC assessed and conducted all the engineering studies for this project. SARC engineers and volunteers were a cornerstone in the design, implementation, and follow-up leading to the successful closure of the project.



Joint field visit to the rehabilitated elevated water storage tanks

Regarding safety and work quality, the project upheld high standards, with workers consistently wearing hard hats and fluorescent jackets, although there were initial gaps in using other vital equipment like gloves, steel-toed boots, and dust masks. These oversights were subsequently rectified. The contractor also implemented safety features such as enhanced public safety. Security measures included the strategic placement of a team of 3-4 workers around the site during operations, and a first aid kit to handle emergencies. The overall quality of the work met the expected standards and specifications as established during the monitoring visits.

The people reached through the rehabilitation of the elevated water tanks are 23,302, as shown below.



Looking ahead, IFRC will continue to collaborate with SARC to expand and capitalize on its extensive expertise in water and rehabilitation, both within Syria and across the wider MENA region. Through this plan, tools and guidelines developed in Syria will be shared with other National Societies, enabling cross-regional learning and capacity building. Opportunities will be created for SARC to provide field orientations and specialized training, particularly in emergency WASH in urban contexts, and to contribute to WASH Emergency Response Unit (ERU) trainings.

The IFRC plans to support SARC to sustain critical WASH interventions to ensure continued community support and resilience. This includes the delivery of hygiene promotion activities to raise awareness on water-borne diseases and cholera prevention, and the distribution of essential WASH items such as hygiene kits, dignity kits, and culturally appropriate Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits¹⁵. Infrastructural efforts will focus on the repair, rehabilitation, and operational support of water supply systems, sanitation/sewage systems, and solid waste management. Additionally, IFRC emphasizes capacity enhancement for SARC staff and volunteers on emergency WASH topics, including assessments, hygiene promotion, and intervention approaches, through a variety of tailored training and learning modalities.

¹⁵ These are reported under the PGI Section



SARC WASH team installing and refilling the water tanks. 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	343	240	4,965

During the reporting period, SARC reached a total of 1,111,889 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 439,521 people. Additionally, 160

beneficiaries received in-kind assistance, and 189 focus group discussion sessions were conducted. Specialized psychological first aid services were provided to 36,061 beneficiaries, with a particular emphasis on children, complemented by shelter services, including recreational activities for 96,291 children. Additionally, case management services and referrals to medical, legal, and mental health services were extended to 18,392 beneficiaries across all age groups. The holistic approach continued with 159,146 structured activities catering to various age groups, 68,519 education services, and 119 peer support activities.

As part of its response, IFRC supported SARC's procurement and distribution of menstrual and hygiene kits targeting women and adolescent girls, addressing their specific health and hygiene needs. These kits play a critical role in promoting menstrual hygiene management (MHM), which is essential for safeguarding the dignity, health, and participation of women and girls during humanitarian emergencies. In addition, dignity kits were procured and distributed, contributing significantly to restoring personal dignity and well-being, particularly in a context where price inflation and reduced purchasing power made basic hygiene items inaccessible. The response also included the distribution of elderly diapers and hygiene kits for people with special needs, ensuring that vulnerable groups such as older persons and individuals with disabilities were not left behind. By providing these essential supplies, the intervention enabled affected individuals and families to meet their basic hygiene needs, preserve dignity, and promote health and inclusion, while empowering women and girls to manage their menstrual health with dignity, attend school or work regularly, and participate fully in community life.

The table below presents the IFRC supported Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) items distributed and their respective status.

Item type	Status
Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits	4,783 females and adolescents reached
Dignity kits	36,908 females and adolescents reached
Elderly diapers	37,593 procured and will be distributed in the coming months. ¹⁶
Hygiene kits for special needs	63,501 people reached

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 that 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

¹⁶ The distribution plan has been developed and shared by SARC. As at end of February 2025, a total of 2,000 kits had been distributed. The remaining items will be distributed under the Unified Plan.

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 2024, 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 with the support of 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, a Protection, Gender, and Inclusion delegate was recruited by the IFRC to work with SARC programs and support services on all the above.

The IFRC Model for SADD data was disseminated across SARC departments to be adopted as the standard modality for data collection, analysis and reporting. Such step allows the identification of the specific needs and trends for the most vulnerable, and the compliance with the movement approach.

IFRC provided technical support to the PNSs in the country for programmatic advisory and PGI technical support for fundraising efforts, including proposal writing.

IFRC Syria remained a part of the regional emergency response PGI team through the provision of technical input, the standardization of the information with respect to the local context, design of PGI material and collection of lessons learned. Regular meetings are conducted to ensure harmonization and adaptation of support.

In the coming months, IFRC and SARC plan to update PGI Plan of Action for SARC by carrying out an evidence based organizational self-assessment process. This process will be carried out in due consultation with all relevant departments to ensure the buy-in of all relevant units. Establishment of a technical working group involving all Movement Partners will be established to ensure timely implementation of PGI PoA. PGI induction and refreshers for staff and volunteers and PGI SOPs will be prioritized. . The members will work closely to maintain an interlinked and inclusive approach. For SOPS, additional technical departments of SARC will be consulted with respect to their field of expertise regarding certain components of the SOPs. SARC PGI SOPs will be the reference for the mainstreaming, integration, and application of PGI across the programmes in SARC in compliance with do-no-harm principle. It will provide technical practical guidance to the different sectors to ensure accountability and effectiveness. A Nexus friendly approach will be adopted to develop documents including PGI programming in Emergency context, recovery transition as well as regular day-to-day context.



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.

To strengthen the resilience of disaster-affected communities, SARC and IFRC implemented climate-smart, community-based risk reduction interventions informed by enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCAs) and early recovery planning. SARC's overarching Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) approach focused on empowering communities through multisectoral action based on localized risk analysis and community participation. These efforts formed a core part of both immediate recovery and longer-term climate adaptation strategies.

SARC conducted 50 DRR workshops across Syria with the participation of 718 volunteers and 334 staff, enhancing capacity in evacuation planning, community risk analysis, and earthquake preparedness and response. In collaboration with the IFRC MENA Climate and Resilience Team, SARC launched a pilot eVCA initiative in Old Homs City, prioritizing earthquakes as a key hazard. The assessment identified five high-priority resilience areas: risk management, health, infrastructure and basic services, food security and nutrition, and economic opportunities.

In alignment with its commitment to environmental sustainability, SARC, with support from IFRC, installed solar power systems in selected health facilities. These installations reduce reliance on fossil fuels, ensure uninterrupted access to essential health services during power outages, and contribute to greener, more resilient health infrastructure. The initiative demonstrates how recovery efforts can also address longer-term environmental and energy challenges in crisis-affected communities.

Where possible some of the items were procured locally to reduce carbon emmsion while in other cases they were procured internationally. Some of these items ere like the food parcels, and hygiene kits.

Moving forward, all the interventions will be focused on recovery and on sustainability. E.g. water rehabilitation of water supplying schemes with solar power.

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>	6,319	2,678	7,000

Throughout the earthquake response, ensuring the relevance, quality, and coverage of humanitarian assistance remained at the core of SARC's operations. With support from the IFRC and Movement partners, SARC enhanced the capacity of its affected branches, focusing on software and hardware improvements—including logistics, warehousing, fleet management—and on implementing activities prioritized through the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) approach. Key areas of support included volunteer management and development, dissemination of key institutional policies, and mainstreaming of sectoral preparedness such as Cash preparedness, framework agreements with suppliers and financial service providers, prepositioning of stocks, and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) in operations. SARC also received support to strengthen financial sustainability and strategic planning, including the development of a cost recovery policy in close consultation with Movement partners.

The IFRC MENA Regional Office (RO) played a central role in supporting SARC's institutional capacity by facilitating the Earthquake Planning Workshop (June 2023), guiding the review of SARC's volunteer management system, delivering EVC training, and leading Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCA) in Homs. The MENA RO and IFRC Country Delegation also supported the development of the operational strategy for the emergency appeal and the setup of PMER tools. The planning workshop brought together senior and branch-level leadership and Movement partners, resulting in a coordinated plan that integrated medium- to long-term recovery and resilience measures across all sectors.

With technical support from IFRC, SARC advanced its Volunteering Development Approach, addressing key gaps identified through SWOT and PESTLE analyses. This approach focused on improving the volunteer management cycle, both during emergencies and peacetime, while promoting community-based service delivery and leadership. Between 18–26 January 2024, working sessions were held with programme heads and branch leaders to standardize volunteer practices, review the volunteer policy, and initiate the development of a unified volunteer management framework.

As part of volunteer capacity-building, 579 volunteers were briefed using the “Welcome to SARC” guide and Code of Conduct, while 80 received CEA-specific training. In parallel, 913 staff and volunteers were trained in Psychological First Aid (PFA). The Global Learning and Development team supported SARC in designing a unified training toolkit, and consultations were held with branches and programme teams to tailor content based on field needs.

SARC achieved significant progress under its digital transformation initiative, funded through the IFRC Capacity Building Fund.

SARC successfully concluded its CEA institutionalization pilot, placing strong emphasis on enhancing community understanding and capacity at all levels. This initiative positioned local communities at the forefront of change, fostering inclusive, sustainable, and holistic action. A systematic and high-quality approach to engaging with and being accountable to communities was central to the pilot’s success.

While CEA is mainstreamed across all departments and sectors, technical guidance, training, and oversight are provided by the National Society Development and Strategic Partnership (NSD&SP) Unit under the Performance and Partnerships Support Department.

SARC adopted a participatory approach, ensuring that local communities were actively engaged throughout all phases of the response. Community feedback was used to adapt and improve interventions in real time. Standardized feedback channels were established across the affected governorates to receive and respond to complaints, questions, and requests related to response activities.

Regular monitoring visits by the SARC’s MEAL teams ensured oversight, tracked progress at the branch level, and supported the timely implementation of activities across all sectors in line with the requirements of the Earthquake Response Operations. These visits focused on monitoring the quality, relevance, and timeliness of interventions, including Health, WASH, Shelter, Livelihoods, Cash, and Community Engagement, while also facilitating course correction where needed to strengthen accountability and impact..

To enable more effective field operations, IFRC procured vehicles through the Global Fleet Unit to enhance SARC’s mobility and ensure timely implementation of humanitarian action. IT and telecom equipment for headquarters, branches, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) teams were also delivered, aimed at strengthening communications, coordination, and data protection. Despite delays due to sanctions licensing, specialized equipment for the Media and Information Management teams, along with EMS dispatch centers, was procured, enabling the production of high-resolution media and coordination of ambulance movements for first aid.

In support of frontline EMS volunteers, 1,765 full uniform sets—including jackets, trousers, vests, and boots—were distributed to ensure safety and identification during patient transport and emergency operations.

The next phase of National Society Strengthening will focus on consolidating and institutionalizing the capacities reinforced during the emergency response. Priority will be given to strengthening SARC's operational readiness across HQ and branches through investments in disaster management systems, logistics infrastructure, information management, and financial and administrative capacities. This includes the implementation of Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) branch plans, the establishment of robust contingency and business continuity systems, and the enhancement of digital solutions that link service delivery with community feedback and performance monitoring. Further emphasis will be placed on expanding volunteer management systems, reinforcing duty of care mechanisms, and supporting staff development. These actions aim to ensure SARC's sustained ability to respond effectively to complex emergencies and to transition toward longer-term resilience building.



Some of the vehicles procured through the IFRC for SARC.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:

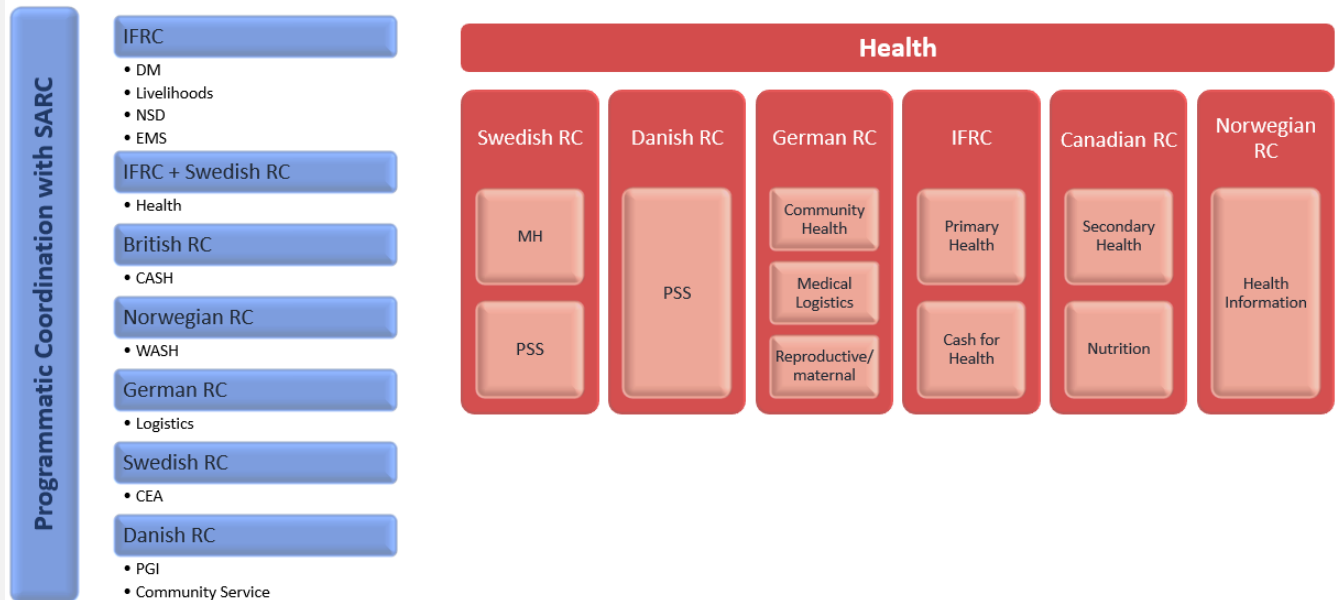
Ensure a well-coordinated emergency operation and availability of funding.

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

As previously reported, the Syria Earthquake Emergency Appeal continues to follow a Federation-Wide approach, coordinated under SARC's leadership, with technical and operational co-leadership roles assigned to in-country Partner National Societies based on their areas of expertise. As of February 2025, eleven Partner National Societies maintain an in-country presence (British, Canadian, Danish, French, German, Norwegian, Qatar, Swedish, and Swiss Red Cross Red Crescent Societies), supporting strategic and sectoral coordination. The IFRC, in its role as membership coordinator, continues to co-lead key coordination structures with SARC, facilitate resource mapping, and promote a unified approach across the Movement. For full details, please refer to the previous Operations Update.

SARC and IFRC Wide Coordination structure



SARC and IFRC Wide Coordination Structure for earthquake response

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 representation work, response, information sharing and collaboration , including support to make technical working groups more effective and predictable.,
- Establish shared MS Teams/SharePoint platform site for collaboration and archiving of essential documents. Promoting shared leadership in the use of the site by the membership to reduce the number of emails sent.
- 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.
- Advocating for shared resource mapping, planning, and progress updating to ensure supporting members are aware of gaps in coverage of SARC's priority response activities.
- Facilitating awareness of field movements of membership partners, including visits by IFRC, National Societies, and donors, to affected regions to reduce the burden of support from SARC on duplicate or potentially combined missions. .
- 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 in 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 co-lead 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.

The SARC Grants Management & Partnership Support Unit has successfully implemented an in-kind mobilization Table (similar to IFRC Mobilization 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.

Moving forward, the focus will remain on deepening coordination within the Movement and with external actors to ensure a harmonized and well-resourced response aligned with humanitarian priorities in Syria. The IFRC will continue supporting a Federation-wide approach, capturing and tracking both bilateral and multilateral contributions to SARC, while strengthening Movement coordination mechanisms and joint planning frameworks. Sustained engagement with international coordination platforms—including the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), country-level clusters, and UN-led mechanisms—will help identify operational gaps and enhance collective impact. Donor engagement will remain a core pillar, with reinforced attention to timely, transparent reporting and continued responsiveness to donor requirements. Looking ahead, IFRC will work alongside SARC to develop joint resource mobilization strategies and further integrate humanitarian diplomacy into ongoing operations, particularly to support access, response in underserved areas, and long-term collaboration with partners. These efforts will extend beyond the Emergency Appeal and form part of the broader strategy for sustained impact and resilience in Syria.



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 was 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, Disability Inclusion Delegate, and Health Delegate. The Finance and Admin Coordinator, Deputy Head of Delegation, and the Head of Delegation also provided key support to the operation.



Deployments through IFRC Global Surge Mechanism

Security and Safety

Security arrangements established specifically for the earthquake response, including minimum security standards, risk assessments, and contingency planning, remain valid. These measures continue to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and volunteers in earthquake-affected areas.

For full details on security protocols, please refer to the previous [Operations Update](#).

Resource Mobilization

As the Syria Earthquake Emergency Appeal enters a new phase, the focus is shifting toward long-term recovery, sustained partnerships, and aligned planning under the broader Syria Unified Plan. IFRC Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization (SPRM) teams, in close collaboration with SARC and regional delegations, continue to lead efforts to ensure strategic, impactful, and compliant donor engagement.

Ongoing Collaboration and Grant Management

SPRM colleagues have provided consistent support to SARC and IFRC teams in managing grants, ensuring compliance with donor requirements, maintaining effective communication with partners, and offering technical support to strengthen funding pipelines.

Support to Proposal Development and Strategic Planning

Efforts are underway to support SARC in identifying and developing quality project proposals aligned with evolving

humanitarian and recovery needs. A dedicated resource mobilization strategy has been developed, accompanied by donor mapping, to ensure targeted outreach to both Movement and non-Movement actors.

Towards Sustainable Resource Development

A key focus moving forward is the development of a resource development and sustainability strategy for SARC, which will guide future efforts in building resilience and financial independence over time.

Donor Engagement and Stakeholder Outreach

Ongoing engagement with a broad spectrum of stakeholders—including National Societies, governments, the private sector, and other humanitarian organizations—continues to drive interest and investment in SARC's long-term response.

Major engagement events to date have included:

- Joint Syria-Türkiye Partners Call and Permanent Missions Briefing (February 2023), launching the Emergency Appeal.
- Private Sector Update (April 2023), providing a situational overview.
- Recovery Conference and Mission Briefing (April 2023), focused on resilience and early recovery needs in Syria and Türkiye.
- To mark the 1-year milestone, a comprehensive resource mobilization plan was activated, including:
- Personalized appreciation outreach to top donors;
- Strategic dissemination of visual and narrative materials;
- Targeted engagement with embassies and private sector actors;
- A Partners Call (February 13, 2024) that provided a 12-month update, presented critical ongoing needs, and introduced the transition toward the Syria Unified Plan.
- Two Years of Impact – A Shared Milestone.

In early 2025, the 2-year mark of the Syria Earthquake response was commemorated through the release of an infographic summarizing the collective achievements enabled by donor and partner support. This visual update highlighted the total number of people reached across key sectors, including health, shelter, WASH, and livelihoods, and showcased the scale and diversity of services delivered by SARC. The milestone served not only to recognize the impact made possible through collaborative action, but also to reaffirm the importance of continued support as operations evolve toward longer-term recovery and resilience.

Looking ahead, the coming months will emphasize deepening partnerships, updating stakeholders on progress and future priorities, and ensuring that the Appeal's evolution reflects the needs of affected communities and the ambition of a unified, sustainable response led by SARC.

Supply Chain and Logistics

During the reporting period, IFRC continued to support SARC's supply chain through targeted initiatives. This included the organization of a customs clearance workshop in collaboration with SARC and the German Red Cross, as well as ongoing coordination with Partner National Societies for the procurement and delivery of in-kind donations. Several warehouse visits were conducted across Syria, and on-desk support and capacity building were provided to strengthen procurement processes across multiple donors and PNSs.

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. Both [SARC](#) and [IFRC](#) published content showing how the earthquake is a crisis on top of a crisis.

From 15 to 18 February 2023, 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.

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. The 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 regularly 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 February 2025, 65.8 percent (which includes hard, soft, and in-kind contributions) of the Appeal's multilateral funding requirements had been covered. The IFRC kindly encourages increased donor support for the

IFRC Syria Unified Plan and Syria Crisis 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 vulnerable population.

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

bo.ifrc.org > Public Folders > Finance > Donor Reports > Appeals and Projects > Operational Strategy - Standard Report

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INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

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Budget Timeframe	2023/2-2025/2	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 11 Jun 2025

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

Total Funding Requirements	100,000,000
Donor Response* as per 11 Jun 2025	62,240,462
Appeal Coverage	62.24%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Planned Operations / Enabling Approaches	Op Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	399,991	1,070,425	-670,434
PO02 - Livelihoods	0	4,299,467	-4,299,467
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	0	3,506,931	-3,506,931
PO04 - Health	5,456,249	2,862,187	2,594,061
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	10,271,498	15,203,933	-4,932,435
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	16,988	1,765,199	-1,748,211
PO07 - Education	0	0	0
PO08 - Migration	0	5,928	-5,928
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	27,995,684	15,472,839	12,522,845
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	6,318	4,978	1,339
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability	74	74	0
Planned Operations Total	44,146,800	44,191,962	-45,162
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	1,123,704	358,912	764,792
EA02 - Secretariat Services	4,661,781	3,080,274	1,581,507
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	1,071,845	850,439	221,406
Enabling Approaches Total	6,857,330	4,289,625	2,567,705
Grand Total	51,004,130	48,481,587	2,522,543

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2025/04

Opening Balance	0
Income (Includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	62,538,750
Expenditure	-48,481,587
Closing Balance	14,057,163
Deferred Income	132
Funds Available	14,057,295

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	2,000,000	Reimbursed :	2,000,000	Outstanding :	0
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V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Opening Balance						0
Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
ABB	192,370				192,370	
Accenture Inc.Foundation	371,524				371,524	
Airbus	38,205				38,205	
American Red Cross	3,937,336				3,937,336	
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	
Autohl Ltd	1,851				1,851	
Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society	2,000				2,000	
Belarus Red Cross	41,466				41,466	
Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)	948,590				948,590	
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	
Cyprus Red Cross (from Cyprus - Private Donors*)	5,046				5,046	
DELL Technologies	57,629				57,629	
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	12,890				12,890	
Finnish Red Cross	153,935				153,935	

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MDRSY009 - Syria - Earthquake

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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government*)	435,635				435,635	
French Government	3,828				3,828	
French Red Cross	479,690				479,690	
Freshfields Service Company	1,044				1,044	
GenDigital	176				176	
German Government	2,866				2,866	
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, Branch of the Red Cross Socie	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	
IOC (International Olympic Committee)	107,939				107,939	
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	1,391,209				1,391,209	132
Japanese Red Cross Society	6,488,213		114,622		6,602,835	
Japan - Private Donors	345				345	
Kao EMEA	3,431				3,431	
Kao Germany GmbH	3,889				3,889	
KPMG International Cooperative(KPMG-I)	55,632				55,632	
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	
Malaysian Red Crescent Society (from Malaysia - Priv	224,944				224,944	
Malaysia - Private Donors	9,000				9,000	
Maldives 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	96,260				96,260	
Monaco Government	49,760				49,760	
Motorola Company	76				76	
Motorola Foundation	20,814				20,814	
Nestle	160,164				160,164	
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	

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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
On Line donations	338,646				338,646	
Oracle Corporation	619				619	
PAG Consulting Ltd	380				380	
Pemira Foundation	2,201				2,201	
Qatar Red Crescent			10,787		10,787	
Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan	18,482				18,482	
Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran			133,061		133,061	
Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Kazakhstan	87,200				87,200	
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 North Macedonia	195,029				195,029	
Red Cross of the Republic of San Marino	27,113				27,113	
Red Cross Society of China	45,513				45,513	
Royal Bank of Canada	7				7	
RTI International	10,084				10,084	
Saudi Red Crescent Authority	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	969,891				969,891	
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	4,261				4,261	
Syrian Arab Red Crescent			22,863		22,863	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	324,430				324,430	
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 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 Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina	70,100				70,100	
The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (fr	24,480				24,480	
The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (fr	17,353				17,353	
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross	4,456,763				4,456,763	
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	
Vietnam Red Cross	707,114				707,114	
VISA	20				20	

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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Wiley Publishing Inc	1,320				1,320	
Yum Brands Inc	1,114				1,114	
Zendesk	36				36	
Total Contributions and Other Income	62,240,316	0	296,434	0	62,538,750	132
Total Income and Deferred Income					62,538,750	132

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

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Reference documents



Click here for:

- Revised Emergency [Appeals](#) and updates
- [Operational Strategy](#)
- [Operations Update #1](#)
- [Operations Update #2](#)
- [Operations Update #3](#)

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.

Annex – Ongoing Emergency Operations – Workplan 2025 - 2026 for Syria

This annex details the activities scheduled for implementation starting from January 2025 until December 2026.

Syria Earthquake Appeal

Appeal No.: MDRSY009	People to be assisted	The funding requirement
Operational Strategy	People affected: 8 million people	End date of the emergency phase and transition to longer-term response: 28/02/2025

Ongoing operations

	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.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
Activities - Conduct emergency needs assessments and multi-sectoral needs assessments to inform response options and strategies. - Coordinate rapid damage assessments with the authorities and qualified structural experts on key intervention areas and the SARC-supported collective centers hosting affected people. - Provide winterization and relief household items based on priorities identified such as thermal blankets, kitchen sets, and heating stoves/heaters, bedding units/mattresses, clothing for both winter and summer conditions. - Conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) surveys on the support provided when the situation allows. - Coordinate with shelter cluster agencies and governorate-level local high relief committees on shelter strategy/solutions and actions. - Raise awareness and train volunteers, staff, and affected populations in the best use of in-kind assistance (repair materials) and in safe sheltering practices. - Replenish and pre-position shelter and non-food items distributed from existing SARC stocks to maintain readiness to respond to crises and disasters. - Improve and increase collaboration with communities, development actors and coordination with local authorities in priority urban areas	

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	Livelihoods
Objective	Communities in crisis-affected areas and the displaced can cover their immediate food needs, and protect and build resilient livelihoods
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Provide food assistance in the form of ready to eat meals and standard food parcels. - Replenish and pre-position standard and ready to eat food parcels distributed from existing SARC stocks to maintain response readiness. - Undertake livelihood assessment to assess the impact of the disaster and the response options. - Enhance SARC capacity improving their skills and train the volunteers involved in the response in livelihoods programming. - Support affected households to protect their livelihoods and/or replace productive assets to recover their source of income (potentially through CVA assistance based on feasibility study). - Integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into livelihoods protection and strengthening interventions to build the longer-term resilience of the affected population. - Coordination with Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, Movement, and non-Movement partners and IFRC Livelihoods Resource Centre. - Conduct monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning actions that ensure effectiveness and relevance of the interventions such as baselines, post distribution monitoring and end lines. - Provide SARC Livelihoods Unit with resources and technical support at HQ and branch level to develop livelihoods interventions complementing SARC strategic priorities and wider humanitarian response.	

	Multi-purpose cash
Objective	The affected households are provided with unconditional multipurpose cash assistance to address their basic needs (lifesaving and longer-term) in an accountable and participatory manner
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Coordinate on national level with national Cash Working Group (CGW) and other humanitarian actors regarding CVA programming (transfer value, installment, etc.) - Continuous capacity assessment of Financial Service Providers' (FSP), market assessment and continues market monitoring (liquidity and resources in affected areas). - Support registration of affected population for centralized database to inform future programming and avoid duplication. - Distribute multipurpose cash assistance for the affected population to meet basic needs. - Monitoring and evaluation of CVA activities (PDM, endline). - Integrate risk communication and community engagement (key messages) with affected populations into CVA programming and facilitate referrals to other SARC services such as health and protection. - Build the capacity of SARC volunteers and staff on CVA and Rapid Market Assessment (RAM).	

	Health and Care
Objective	Restored access of affected populations to essential health care services (emergency, primary, secondary, community/public health) including mental health and psychosocial support.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Support and improve public health of the affected and host populations through targeted community-based health activities. - Provide primary health care services to displaced and host populations through medical outreach services, including through mobile health units (MHU) and outreach health care services - Provide primary health care services to the affected population through existing SARC health facilities and expand services and/or health centres based on needs and gaps assessment. - Support SARC health facilities with life saving medicine - National Societies adapt and expand their delivery of health services, and explore additional health programming to meet growing needs such as those associated with climate change - Advocate integrated health programmes (e.g., nutrition; reproductive, maternal and child health; and epidemic/pandemic-related health care services) to populations affected by the crisis. - Provide quality secondary healthcare services to all people in affected governorates via field hospitals or other modalities such as targeted cash and voucher assistance. - Improve the capacity of SARC Health facilities to provide specialized medical services with required medical equipment. - Improve capacity of SARC Emergency Medical Services and to deliver services in affected communities through training, equipment, hardware, and software. - Provide basic and focused psychosocial support services for men, women, boys and girls, including educational services to children and case management in community centers, in shelters, and through mobile teams. - Provide rehabilitation services (physiotherapy, psychosocial support, and other) for individuals with mobility disabilities including assistive devices and peer support and peer rehabilitation services will serve the persons with disabilities and their families.	

	Water, sanitation and hygiene
Objective	Reduced the risk of waterborne diseases and ensured the dignity of the affected population through the provision of inclusive WASH services.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Deliver hygiene promotion activities including raise awareness and sensitize affected population on water-borne diseases and cholera prevention. - Distribute essential WASH items including hygiene kits, dignity kits, cleaning kits, culturally appropriate Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits, and mosquito net - Repair, rehabilitate and provide operational support to water systems, sanitation/sewage systems and solid waste management systems. - Enhance capacities of SARC staff and volunteers on emergency WASH topics including assessments, hygiene promotion, and different WASH interventions via various capacity building modalities.	

	Protection, gender and inclusion
Objective	To 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
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
Activities	
- Carry out self assessment process and revise the plan as per the recommendations. - Disseminate SARC's policies to its staff and volunteers (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), Child Safeguarding, Code of Conduct) and support the application of PGI principles to respond to sensitive complaints during emergency response." - Conduct safeguarding assessments, PSEA assessments and Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis, and ensure referrals related to safeguarding allegations are survivor-centered, safe, and confidential through an updated referral pathway. - Provide essential protection services (such as case management, child protection, referral pathway mapping and restoring family links), to identify most vulnerable groups including child-headed households, unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities, and female-headed households. - Support all units/sectors to ensure actions are informed by minimum PGI standards in emergencies (incl. the Standardization of SARC PGI-related tools, e. g. DAPS), and that planning measures respond to protection risks among elderly, persons and children with disabilities, lactating mothers, women and girls of reproductive age, ethnic and religious minorities, children in street situations, unaccompanied and separated children. - Enhance SARC's coordination with other Protection actors to have a more synchronized approach and strengthen SARC's referrals systems.	

	Community engagement and accountability
Objective	To support SARC emergency response operations are built on a thorough understanding of needs, priorities, and context while 18 providing ways to collaborate closely with affected people by integrating meaningful community engagement, timely and transparent communication, and feedback mechanisms for effective response.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
Activities	
- Integrate the CEA approach across SARC response operations. - Improve the knowledge and capacity of staff and volunteers for effective engagement with affected people through trainings in CEA mechanisms, and digital feed-back solutions integrated with IM. - Establish a feedback mechanism (feedback desks, phone and internet-based channels) for the response operation in consultation with affected people, branch staff, and volunteer leaders. - Ensure a constant flow of information to the affected population through community committees, SARC staff and volunteers, about the response operations, plans, progress, activities, selection criteria, distribution processes, delays, challenges, and their entitlements. - Analyze, respond and act on feedback, adjust, and improve operations. - Update standard operational procedures for community feedback and management to guide CEA integration in the operations.	

- Involve communities in real-time and end-line evaluations.

	Risk reduction, climate adaptation and recovery
Objective	Strengthen resilience and capacities of disaster and crisisaffected communities through climate-smart communitybased risk reduction actions informed by enhanced Vulnerability Capacity Assessments and advanced planning.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Strengthen the capacity for Disaster Risk Management including disaster risk reduction, resilience building and climate change adaptation. - Engage with SARC in developing relevant scenarios to inform response/resilience planning and procedures, risk management, business continuity and preparedness plans/agreements. - DRR hazard, risk, and vulnerability assessment to inform response operations (with health, Shelter, PGI, and Ops) - Support and develop plans of disaster management and preparedness by enhancing early warning system and early action mechanism. - Analysis of hazard risk context and identifying high risk areas	

	Environmental sustainability
Objective	The environmental impact of the operation is reduced with a focus on greener supply chain practices and procurement of locally produced items, effective waste management and recycling, and environmental screening of longer-term sectoral interventions.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
- Procurement will priorities local purchase and production as much as possible, to reduce carbon footprint from transportation. Consideration will be given to reducing waste as much as possible, optimizing packaging and reducing single-use plastics.	

Enabling approaches

	National Society Strengthening
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Objective	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.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
SARC disaster management and operational capacity to respond to the emergency	
- Strengthen human (staff and volunteers), on finance, information management and logistics operational capacities of disaster management structures sub-branches and branches to ensure a timely and effective response. - Support communities and households by raising awareness about disaster management and preparedness and support for small-scale disaster risk reduction measures. - Strengthen and support SARC's disaster management and response capacities and take critical actions to enable immediate service delivery including establishment/support for the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and coordination. - Enable SARC to implement a branch Plan of Action based on Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) assessments, adjusted as needed to meet ongoing priorities of the emergency operation. - Strengthening preparedness and branch-level activities in coordination with local urban authorities (evacuation, site selection & site planning, EWEA) - Provide resources for critical DM needs across NS (HQ and Branch level) including systems and procedures equipment, and HR based on self-identified priorities and lessons learned from previous operations. - Support SARC HQ and branches to ensure contingency planning, business continuity, and scenario planning are reviewed/updated as needed and relevant to the operational context. - Contribute to re-building and equipping select branches.	
National Society Strengthening	
- Strengthen HQ and Branch capacities relating to infrastructure (repair and maintenance, assets, systems) and IT and HR/Telecom. Continue (SARC plans to include it in the second phase of CBF 2025-2026), support from PNSs - Support and strengthen the SARC's logistics capacity in terms of warehousing facilities and fleet, procurement, and overall supply chain management. - Support SARC to further strengthen its IM functions into comprehensive digitalized information management solutions that link services delivered and people reached with CEA and PMER. - Support SARC to produce accurate and timely analyses at various levels (internal, Movement-wide, partner-specific etc.) to inform decision-making and reporting through the production of maps, charts, infographics, etc. - Enhance financial management and reporting through necessary systems and trained personnel. - Support resource mobilization and donor engagement (Resource Mobilization strategy and plan, CRM system, core cost policy). - HR support to SARC support services (IM, MEAL, Finance & Admin.) and CEA, RM necessary for the response. - Establish and operate a centralized database for registration, targeting, capture of needs assessment findings and information management, and improved referrals for persons assisted to multiple SARC services based on their individual needs. - Develop an integration strategy for emergency response incorporating and adapting existing procedures to transition to resilience and aligning to the new SARC Strategic Plan 2023-2027. - Activate the business continuity plan including areas related to SARC IT capacities, policy/procedures and reducing infrastructure risks, and protecting organizational data.	
Volunteer Management	
- Recruit new volunteers as required and provide training including, Welcome SARC, CoC, First Aid, Safety and Security, PSEA etc. - Standardize the volunteer management system including reimbursement, online database, and training of volunteers. - Ensure volunteers' duty of care with insurance coverage, provision of equipment, protective clothing, and activation and expansion of volunteer solidarity mechanism.	

	Coordination and partnerships
Objective	Ensure a well-coordinated emergency operation and availability of funding.
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
Engage the IFRC membership in order to ensure a well-coordinated response to the earthquake. - A Federation-wide approach will be maintained throughout planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation. - Capture Bilateral and Multilateral support to SARC. Continue - Ensure the funding and implementation of the IFRC appeal and regularly produce information material, in close collaboration with IFRC regional Offices as well as Geneva Headquarters SEP department. - Strengthen existing Movement Coordination mechanisms - Development of Joint Resource Mobilization Plan, in coordination with IFRC MENA, Europe and Geneva offices. - Dissemination of key messages with international partners, media agencies, and through IFRC platforms in coordination with the communications surge to promote the Emergency Appeal. - Support SARC already existing engagement with country level coordination structures, including the Humanitarian Country Teams, inter-agency coordination mechanisms and various clusters / sector working groups that exist in order to ensure identification of gaps and facilitation of collaboration at the national level. - Engage with coordination structures for NWS response to inform assessments, gap analysis, and response. - Engage at Geneva and New York levels with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee structures to address operational constraints and promote collaborative action. - Ensure adherence with donor's requirements and conditions. - Responding to donors' queries and requests for clarification Continue and scale-up under accountability and agility. - Ensure quality and timely reporting to donors. - Through SARC collaborate with UN agencies and other international humanitarian actors to identify priorities and establish country level collaborations. Humanitarian Diplomacy - Support SARC to develop humanitarian diplomacy key messages containing components of influencing, negotiating, communicating, and advocating as an integral part of daily actions in and out of Syria. - Engage at Brussels, Geneva and New York levels with diplomatic missions to highlight needs and concerns and align across IFRC and with ICRC to coordinate and support effective humanitarian diplomacy by National Societies with their governments on the Syria crisis. - Make its utmost endeavors to support SARC for the Potential crosslines operations to deliver aid to NW regions assisting quake-affected people. - IFRC will support SARC to have humanitarian access to areas where its presence is limited. For years, the IFRC has made this point to clearly to all parties in Syria. IFRC continues to advocate for increased humanitarian access to match the needs for all Syrians in need.	

	IFRC 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
Priority actions	
Actions beyond the timeframe of the emergency appeal and covered through this plan	
HR - Ensure the staffing needs are met through timely and fast-tracked recruitment, immediate surge support, contract management and HR support to the delegation and operation. - Ensure the safety of IFRC personnel through acceptable and reliable protective measures and enhance access to affected persons and communities - Resource Mobilization - Coordinate a joint resource mobilization strategy to ensure that outreach to Movement and non-Movement partners, as well as the tracking of pledges and development of fundraising materials, is shared effectively and efficiently. Safety and Security - Based on SARC and IFRC security arrangements, update and ensure compliance with Minimum Security Requirements and Duty of Care, including specific security guidelines for select regions as needed. - Using SARC security guidance, provide adequate security for all personnel, assets, and operations under IFRC responsibility by ensuring safety and security risks are identified and treated. Administration and Corporate Services - Together with SARC ensure the effective and efficient provision of administrative and welcome services (transport, accommodation, visas, IT, and office facilities etc). Continue - Delivery of high-quality legal advisory services to IFRC Syria Country Delegation, and National Society, if needed, including Lebanon Delegation as needed as well - Oversee business continuity at IFRC Syria and Lebanon Country Delegations and facilitate advice to the National Society, as needed, including the support from the Regional Office as needed. Logistics and supply chain management - Ensure procurement of the items is done according to both National Society procedures and IFRC standards, in close coordination with IFRC Secretariat's Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management (GHS & SCM), utilizing if required IFRC GHS & SCM structures and existing regional arrangements. Communications - Contribute to, influencing, and leading advocacy in media and social media platforms about SARC's and the Membership priorities and challenges. - Enhance the capacity of SARC's communication team at HQ and Branch levels, through capacity-building (digital storytelling, media relations, strategic communications, etc.), and equipping them with the necessary equipment and means. Quality assurance, PMER, IM, RM, and CEA	

- Reports are timely shared with relevant partners, and donors and disseminated among relevant stakeholders for revisions, approvals and communication with donors and partners.
- Data collection is mainstreamed, knowledge is captured, and lessons learnt are well documented and communicated.
- Capture evidence-based good practices across several thematic areas and undertake real-time evaluations to inform adjustments to the response strategy.
- Risk management matrix and registers are created and updated regularly for the disaster, Syria, and MENA Region.
- Create a comprehensive digitalized monitoring system that links CEA, IM, and PMER with the use of data collection applications and analysis platforms to provide accurate and timely analyses to inform decision-making.