

# REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRESIDENCY



**AFAD**

**TUR-01**

## Earthquake

On February 6, 2023, at 04:17, an earthquake of 7.7 magnitude occurred in the Pazarcık district of Kahramanmaraş, and a 7.6 magnitude earthquake occurred in the Elbistan district at 13.24. It was felt intensely in 11 provinces, especially in Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Osmaniye, Adıyaman, Gaziantep, Kilis, Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır, Malatya and Adana. As Istanbul AFAD 1 (TUR1) Search and Rescue Brigade, our team was assigned to Iskenderun and subsequently to Antakya District



## Mobilization and Operations

At first stage 3 vehicles and 15 personnel landed at Adana İncirlik Airbase at approximately 1 pm. Afterwards, 42 more of our personnel were transferred to İncirlik airbase within the same hours. Some of our staff were transferred to the Iskenderun District by helicopter and some by road. Afterwards, a total of 110 personnel and 13 vehicles started to work in Iskenderun District. Our teams started search and rescue operations at the place called İnönü Mah. (PAC MEYDANI). On the other hand, our team organized and coordinated approximately 28 different Search and Rescue Groups/Teams and volunteers, including NGOs and Governmental Organizations coming to the region by converting the Shell gas station building in the same region into a coordination center.



## Key Findings

- Making request for international assistance very soon after the earthquake was important for quick decision-making for international teams.
- The fact that the disaster area affected 11 provinces caused many problems in coordination; distribution of teams, transportation of equipment and provide of accommodation during the mission, and etc., Our aim was to utilize our limited sources and to seek ways to enhance them.
- As of the time of the disaster, the coordination task was undertaken for the dispatch of our AFAD 1 Istanbul Team at full capacity and the dispatch of all official and non-governmental organizations from Istanbul to the disaster area in the first hours. By establishing an airway bridge, dispatches and transportation of the teams by road were coordinated.
- Istanbul Grand Airport (IGA) became a transfer point for international teams going to the disaster area, played an important role in the dispatch of international search and rescue personnel and equipment to the regions where they were needed, and all the coordination was provided by Istanbul AFAD 1 (TUR1) Team personnel.