

1.1 Turkey Humanitarian Background

Disasters, Conflicts and Migration

| Natural Disasters | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--|
| Type | Occurs | Comments / Details |
| Drought | No | |
| Earthquakes | Yes | Turkey is a seismically active area within the complex zone of collision between the Eurasian Plate and both the African and Arabian Plates. Much of the country lies on the Anatolian Plate, a small plate bounded by two major strike-slip fault zones. The easternmost part of Turkey lies on the western end of the Zagros fold and thrust belt, which is dominated by thrust tectonics. The south-eastern region which is close to the Syrian borders is located on the continuation of the Arabian Platform. There is a significant risk of damaging earthquakes almost anywhere in the country. |
| Epidemics | No | |
| Extreme Temperatures | Yes | <p>Summers tend to be hot and extremely dry. Winters are bitterly cold with frequent, heavy snowfall. Villages can be isolated for several days during winter storms. Spring and autumn are generally mild, but during both seasons sudden hot and cold spells frequently occur.</p> <p>Gaziantep has a hot-summer Mediterranean climate with influences of a continental climate during winter with hot, dry summers and cool, wet and occasionally snowy winters.</p> <p>Hatay has a Mediterranean climate which has very hot, long and dry summers with cool rainy winters.</p> <p>Mersin and Adana have a typical Mediterranean climate, a type of subtropical climate with hot and dry summers and warm and wet winters.</p> |
| Flooding | Yes | Flooding cannot be ruled out as a natural disaster in Turkish south-eastern region, especially in light of climate changes, snow melting and sudden heavy rain falls. |
| Insect Infestation | No | |
| Mudslides | No | |
| Volcanic Eruptions | No | |
| High Waves / Surges | No | |
| Wildfires | No | |
| High Winds | No | |
| Other Comments | | |
| Man-Made Issues | | |
| Civil Strife | Yes | A few peaceful rallies were staged in the region, in support of the government after the failure of the military coup attempt in July 2016. |
| International Conflict | No | Hatay: Syria still considers it an integral part of its own territory. Syrians call this land Liwa' al Iskenderun rather than the Turkish name of Hatay. Official Syrian maps still show Hatay as part of Syria. Hatay has not experienced mass migration from other parts of Turkey in recent decades and has therefore preserved much of its traditional culture; for example, Arabic is still widely spoken in the province |
| Internally Displaced Persons | No | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|---|
| Refugees Present | Yes | Turkey continues to host the worlds largest refugee population with over 3.5 million refugees. (over 3.5 million Syrian, 145.000 Afghans, 140.000 Iraqis, 32.000 Iranians, 4.000 Somalis & 9.500 from other countries). More than 90 per cent of the refugees live outside of camps in urban and peri-urban areas. 70 per cent of refugees in Turkey are woman and children. Some of the camps in south-eastern part of Turkey: Kilis Oncupinar camp, Islahiye camp, Osmaniye camp, Nizip camp, Karkamis camp, Akcakale camp, Ceylanpinar-Telhamut camp, and Kahramanmara refugee camp. Those camps are being managed and funded by the Turkish government. The Government is currently upgrading some camps so most are now container camps, which sought to offer a higher life quality than traditional tent camps. Each resident family receives a total of TRY100 (~\$22) per person monthly via a "food card" system, which can be spent in the various shops operating in the camp. WFP supports residents of 10 camps with TRY50 (~\$11) per person per month with the Government providing an additional TRY50 to make a total of TRY100. In the remaining camps, the Government provides all assistance. |
| Landmines / UXO Present | No | |
| Other Comments | | |

For a more detailed database on disasters by country, please see the [Centre for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters Country Profile](#)

Seasonal Effects on Logistics Capacities

| Seasonal Effects on Transport | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Transport Type | Time Frame | Comments / Details |
| Primary Road Transport | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Secondary Road Transport | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Rail Transport | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Air Transport | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Waterway Transport | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |

No major interruptions because of weather conditions were witnessed recently in cross-borders operations, since Turkey has a sophisticated land transportation road network. The market is also well enriched with many land side transportation companies that have adequate number of trucks.

| Seasonal Effects on Storage and Handling | | |
|--|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Activity Type | Time Frame | Comments / Details |
| Storage | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Handling | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |
| Other | January | No effect or restriction applicable. |
| | December | |

Storage and handling are not being applied for the cross border operation, being implemented from the south-eastern region of Turkey to northern Syrian strip, as the commodities are being prepared in the suppliers' premises. No weather effects were registered recently that affected the dispatch and cross border operations.

Capacity and Contacts for In-Country Emergency Response

Government

The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey, AFAD, was established in 2009 under direct supervision by Prime Ministry, to take necessary measures for effective emergency management and civil protection nationwide in Turkey.

The presidency conducts pre-incident work, such as preparedness, mitigation and risk management, during-incident work such as response, and post-incident work such as recovery and reconstruction. AFAD reports to the Turkish Prime Ministry.

Amongst the Governmental, NGO and private institutions, the presidency provides coordination, formulates policies and implements policies. In a disaster and emergency, the AFAD is the sole responsible organization. Some of these responsibilities for people under temporary or international protection are currently transferring to the Directorate General for Migration Management (DGMM).

http://www.goc.gov.tr/icerik6/temporary-protection_915_1024_4748_icerik

AFAD currently has 81 provincial branches across Turkey in addition to 11 search and rescue units.

Notwithstanding its position as the sole authority on disasters and emergencies, AFAD cooperates with a range of government institutions and non-governmental organizations depending on the nature and severity of individual cases.

For more information on government contact details, please see the following: <https://www.afad.gov.tr/en>

Humanitarian Community

Within the Turkish government, responsibility for humanitarian assistance is located at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Prime Ministry's Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD). To a limited degree, the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) also implements humanitarian projects, although its primary mandate is development assistance.

The Turkish Red Crescent: Implementing through its own employees and maintaining close ties with the Turkish government, Red Crescent gives the government first-hand information about developments and operational challenges in the respective crises. At a time in which humanitarian assistance is marked by ever longer supply chains, the direct exposure of Turkish experts to field realities is certainly a comparative advantage.

Most UN agencies are operating in Turkey's southern region. OCHA supports cross-border activities. Also many NGOs (mainly domestic) are conducting relief programs to help Syrian refugees.