

Türkiye, Earthquake Response

Local ETS Working Group Meeting

Date: 23/02/2023 Time: 14:00

All information related to the ETS in Türkiye can be found on the ETC website:

www.etcluster.org/emergency/turkiye-earthquakes

For more information or to be added to the contact mailing list, please contact:

Turkiye.ETS@wfp.org

Attendance

Chair (Gaziantep)

Omar Namaoui (ETS Coordinator)

FAO
Government of Luxembourg
IFRC

Yamac Sungar
Bram Kriepps
Bayram Kotan (*kindly translating the meeting into Turkish*)

International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Alan Mooney
Moayyed Fares
Bessar Farac
Egemen Metin Turan
Afsin Soyunmez
Serdar Okan

UNDP
UNHCR
UNICEF

Sonia Butris Ilias
Serhan Saridag
Oisin Walton
Elizabeth Millership
Muhammad Khaled
Khawar Ilyas
Halil Sengezer
Saeid Moghadam
Caroline Teyssier
Mosaab Al-Mawardi
Bishar Addas

Vodafone Group Foundation
WFP

Agenda

1. Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) updates
2. Interagency and partner updates
3. AOB

Minutes

1. Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) updates

- Since the [Flash Appeal](#) was launched on the 16 February, the ETS in Türkiye has established to support the government-led response, coordinated by the Government of Türkiye's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD). The ETS is coordinating with AFAD focal points to best support the government in its needs and to validate the sector plans.
- There are two ETS Coordinators in Türkiye—one is based in Gaziantep (Omar Namaoui) and the second is based in Ankara (Caroline Teyssier) to ensure coordination at both levels.
- The ETS Coordinator in Ankara is part of the Inter Sector Coordination (ISC) cell at the Ankara level that is ensuring different sectors are scaling up operations where needed in the regions affected and is also liaising with different officials as needed. The ISC cell in Ankara is temporary and will be absorbed into the Gaziantep coordination cell from 1 March.
- The Flash Appeal outlines the ETS mandate and planned activities. Further, the ETS is available to support common ICT services at the four planned humanitarian hubs, tentatively planned to be set up in Kahramanmaras, Hatay, Adiyaman, and Malatya. The location of these hubs may change in line with the needs of the response.
- The ETS conducted two ICT assessments in Hatay on 17 and 19 February to meet with local actors and partners operating there and to identify gaps for common communications services. Assessments will also be carried out in Malatya, Adiyaman, and Kahramanmaras.
- From assessments carried out so far, it was found that the telecommunications landscape is positive and the three Mobile Network Operators (MNOs)—Türk Telekom, Turkcell, and Vodafone—have rapidly recovered their services in the affected regions.
- However, there are clear issues and challenges with access to power for the affected populations staying in temporary settlements to charge their mobile phones and communications devices.
- The ETS is engaging with AFAD and the governors in the four most affected regions in Kahramanmaras, Hatay, Adiyaman, and Malatya to plan for the delivery of charging

stations for affected communities in the temporary settlements to enable them to access critical communications services and information.

- The ETS is also engaging with the Protection Sector and OCHA to support the possible dissemination of key messages on humanitarian assistance using a Chatbot solution on mobile phones.
- Of particular importance for NGOs operating in Türkiye for the earthquake response is the need for government accreditation to operate. The Protection Sector has provided guidance on the accreditation process which the ETS can share with local ETS Working Group participants, if needed. The ETS will ensure it engages only with accredited NGOs to deliver its planned services and activities.
- The ETS has invited all UN agencies who are part of the local ETS Working Group to join the dedicated ICT Working Group taking place on 24 February to discuss security communications services in Türkiye.

2. Interagency and partner updates

Government of Luxembourg

- There is one personnel from the Government of Luxembourg based in Hatay. He will remain in Hatay until 7 March with the emergency.lu VSAT terminal and will extend his mission if needed.
- The Government of Luxembourg requested support from ETS partners with equipment to install the wireless client access controls needed for their data connectivity services provided in Hatay.
- The ETS informed that a standby partner is arriving on 25 February and will bring multiple sets of equipment including access points and network distribution devices. There is also WFP equipment in stock in Gaziantep that could support this. The ETS will contact the Government of Luxembourg team in Hatay to support this initiative.

UNHCR

- UNHCR is planning to establish a working space for its staff in Hatay and will set up tents for this purpose in collaboration with the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC). UNHCR will provide internet connectivity for the staff in this working space via data cards or 4G modems.
- UNHCR has started distributing A/C power converters for staff in Hatay to charge their laptops via the vehicles.
- UNHCR is carrying out needs assessments and coordinating with partners to follow the movement of displaced people and to understand the needs on the ground.

International Rescue Committee (IRC)

- The Gaziantep office of the IRC team has been inaccessible since the earthquake. The team has identified a temporary space to operate for the next 2-3 months and will set this up over the next week. IRC may reach out to the ETS for support in setting up the temporary office.

3. AOB

- It was confirmed that no partners on the meeting have conducted an ICT assessment in Malatya yet.

Next meeting

The next Local ETS Türkiye Working Group meeting will take place on **2 March 2023**.

Acronyms

AFAD	Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
IRC	International Rescue Committee
ISC	Inter Sector Coordination
ISP	Internet Service Provider
MNO	Mobile Network Operators
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
UN	United Nations
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
UNHCR	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	UN World Food Programme

Minutes: Elizabeth Millership, ETS Information Management Officer (IMO)