



Decision Memorandum

Issuance date: 10.02.2023

Background Submission Note:

One month after operationalizing the CSP, two 7.7/7.6 magnitude earthquakes struck south-eastern Türkiye, also affecting north-west Syria, and were followed by 242 additional aftershocks and earthquakes. Initial reports from the Turkish Government indicate that at least 10 provinces have been impacted, where nearly 7,000 buildings have collapsed and over 8,500 people have lost their lives in the Republic of Türkiye.¹ More than 4 million people have been impacted,² and many hundreds of thousands displaced from their homes, are seeking shelter in public buildings, including schools, universities and hotels, and require food assistance.

Refugees living in camps and crisis affected populations have been heavily hit by acute inflation over the last 12 months. Prices are expected to rise further as national food systems are severely disrupted due to damaged infrastructure and subsequent access constraints, while supply chains struggle to respond to the increasing needs stemming from the earthquake. Reports from initial retail assessments provided by local authorities have raised concern about the capacity of supermarkets to accept e-vouchers due to damaged infrastructure.

Furthermore, opportunities for supplementary income, already minimal during the winter months, will be further diminished. While demands on coal and electricity for heating households remain extremely high under the harsh winter temperatures, adding to household costs.

International assistance has been requested through six Municipalities thus far for WFP to provide food to support vulnerable populations in need of assistance as a result of the earthquakes. It is anticipated that further requests will be received as needs emerge.

Given that the time required to undertake the necessary budget revision to the existing CSP could undermine WFP's overall effectiveness, and recognizing the urgency and reputational risks, the Türkiye Country Office requests the approval of the Immediate Scale-up Revision (ISUR), at a total value of **USD 50 million**, to establish a scaled response within 72 hours and enable the release of funds in WINGS, consistent with WFP's [Emergency Activation Protocol](#).

Given the criticality and urgency of the situation, this memo carries with it a recommendation to the Strategic Task Force (STF) to support the ISUR for the Türkiye Country Office, alongside an injection of funding from corporate resources on a "no regrets" basis, including but not limited to the IRA, under the overall approving authority of the Executive Director.

¹ Figures as of 08 February 2023

² WFP VAM Figures, as of 08 February 2023



Annex 1: Request for an Immediate Scale-Up Revision for the Republic of Türkiye

Justification:

In the early hours of 6 February 2023, two 7.7/7.6 magnitude earthquakes struck south-eastern Türkiye, and were followed by 242 additional aftershocks and earthquakes. Reports as of 8 February indicate there are over 8,700 deaths in the Republic of Türkiye and more than 4 million people have been impacted. The current Türkiye CSP does not include the capacity to provide in-kind crisis assistance beyond the existing CBT provided for refugees living in camps nor the requisite budget to provide an adequate emergency response. Therefore, to respond to this crisis, the Türkiye Country Office requires an Immediate Scale-Up Revision (ISUR) with a budgetary value of **USD 50 million**.

Due to the time-sensitive nature of the response, and weighing WFP's reputational risk if resources are delayed, it is recommended the ISUR be approved to support WFP to assist an initial 590,000 people affected by the earthquakes in the Republic of Türkiye, as outlined in the attached Background Supplementary Note and recommendation.

To enable a rapid response, Türkiye's CSP requires a budget revision to accommodate the increased humanitarian needs, as the current crisis response activity targets the refugee population only, and not crisis affected non-refugee populations. Further, the current CSP has insufficient budget space to implement the first phase of the proposed emergency response.

The Türkiye Country Office commits to develop and submit a budget revision for the response within the forthcoming 3 months.

Request:

- (a) Implementing** under the principle that it is better to act now to save lives rather than regret not having done so afterwards. The ISUR will enable WFP to stand-up a scaled-up response for **590,000 people** in the Republic of Türkiye by
- i) Expanding the scope of CSP Outcome 01 to cover the needs of *'other crisis affected populations'* in addition to refugees living in camps;
 - ii) Increasing the budgetary ceiling for CSP Outcome 1, where there is an existing crisis response Activity (01) – *'Provide food and non-food assistance to refugees living in camps. (Activity cat 1.2), (Modality: CBT, CS);*
 - iii) Creating a new crisis response Activity (05) under CSP Outcome 01 to respond to the emerging food needs of the crisis affected populations: *'Provide emergency food assistance to shock affected populations. (Activity cat 1.2) (Modality: Food, CBT), and*
 - iv) Under CSP Outcome 04, increasing the budget ceiling for Activity 04 *'Provide on-demand common services to partners, including United Nations agencies. (Activity cat. 2.4) (Modality: SD)'*

As identified in the table below, based on an initial rapid understanding of the evolving situation. WFP is requesting the approval of an ISUR for a total value of **USD 50 million**, not to exceed 3 months of requirements. The mix of activities and budgetary values are outlined in the table below.



ISUR Eligible Activity Types	Is the activity type requested as part of this ISUR (Y / N)	For Activities requested as part of ISUR			
		Activity Exists in CSP/ /LEO (Y / N)	If Activity exists, indicate WBS Code	Indicate Proportion the Activity (% of total ISUR budget)	
Emergency Food Assistance (URT) (Activity 5)	Y	N	N/A	Food	0.5 %
				CBT	82.8 %
				<i>Subtotal</i>	82.8 %
UNHAS				Service Delivery	0 %
Logistics Cluster				Service Delivery	0 %
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster				Service Delivery	0 %
On-Demand Service Provision* (Activity 4)	Y	Y	TR03.08.045. ODS1	Service Delivery	1 %
DSC					9.2 %
ISC					6.5 %
Total					100 %
TOTAL USD VALUE OF ISUR					50,000,000
*To Note: The % split for modalities (Food/CBT/SD) should be inclusive of implementation costs. All activities should be included as relevant.					

(a) Review Process

The ISUR is in line with pre-defined components established and approved by the IRM Steering Committee on 19 October 2021 and applies a streamlined review and approval process.

The ISUR's budgetary value exceeds the threshold (15% of the overall CSP Budget which equates to USD 14.2m) for the Member State five-day review and comment period. Approval of this Decision Memo carries with it a waiver of any prior review by Member States. The Operations Management Unit (OMS) will support to document this waiver following approval of the ISUR.

(b) Funding

In order to enable immediate response to provide assistance to **590,000 people** affected by the earthquakes in the Republic of Türkiye, the approval of the ISUR will include the exceptional authorization³ for the release of **USD 50 million** from the Immediate Response Account to the Republic

³ Pursuant to the 2022 Directive "[Immediate Response Account – WFP's Life-Saving Emergency Reserve](#)", the Deputy Executive Director has authority to release any amount from the IRA (up to the current IRA balance) without seeking endorsement from the Multilateral Allocation Committee.



of Türkiye, or other budgetary envelopes available to enable swift response.⁴ The immediate injection of funds will enable the introduction and implementation of emergency food assistance and the services required to enable the humanitarian response.

Approval of this Decision Memo carries with it a waiver of submission of the Advance Finance Request form and waiver of review by the Multilateral Budget Committee. All standard reporting on use of the IRA will be applied following the launch of ISUR.

Recommendation for Approval by the Executive Director:

In view of the magnitude and urgency of the response, and recognizing that standard clearances could delay WFP's capacity to timely deliver life-saving assistance in line with the organization's commitment,⁵ the Executive Director approves the following exceptional measures:

- Approve the application of the Immediate Scale-up Revision for the Republic of Türkiye.

- Authorize the release of corporate funding in the amount indicated in the Annex, to enable the implementation of the Immediate Scale-up Revision.

⁴ Not to exceed 3 months of operational requirements or USD 50 million (inclusive of DSC + ISC). Alongside the IRA, alternative budgetary envelopes such as Internal Project Lending (IPL) and Macro-Advance Finance (MAF) facilities could also be explored, so long as the timeline to secure funds would not impede timely response.

⁵ Standard clearances will be obtained through the formal BR or LEO within 3 months following the launch of the ISUR.