我國與非政府組織「美慈組織敘利亞分部」(Mercy

Corps Syria)合作賑濟敘利亞震災計畫

# 113年度第一季執行報告摘要

- 一、報告期間:112年12月1日至2月29日。
- 二、執行情形:本案於報告期間計嘉惠 21 萬 3,447 名災民, 各子計畫執行情形如次:
- (一) 「供水、消毒暨衛生」(Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, WASH)計畫:提供1,578 個家庭,9,461 名災民(每人每天 35 公升)乾淨用水,並於災區進行3,640 次水質檢測及74 次水中含菌量檢測;為1,578 個家庭,9,461 名災民提供 垃圾清運服務,為514 個家庭,3,440 名災民提供淤泥清 運服務;另於14 個災民收容中心設置179 座水塔,共嘉 惠294 個家庭,2,124 名災民,並協助營運及維護4 座供 水設施,共嘉惠6,350 個家庭,32,550 名災民。
- (二) 「庇護所」(Shelter)計畫:規劃建置122戶庇護所,並已 展開前置準備工作,另為一座收容201戶災民之收容中 心進行防洪準備工程,並協助修繕47個庇護所,及完成 修復2座醫療院所,預計每月可嘉惠15,900名就診災民。
- (三) 「糧食安全及生計」(Food Security and Livelihoods)計畫: 重建2座麵包坊,並提供7座麵包坊生產所需的40%麵 粉及酵母等原料,另遴選第四批30家青年創業的中小企 業,提供營運補助、商業訓練及營運輔導;本計畫至報告 期間,已提供122個商家40小時專業訓練,110個商家 營運補助。
- (四) <u>「多目標現金援助」(Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance)計畫</u>:

分別於1月及2月提供1,163個及1,159個符合受援資格 之受災家庭,共5,757名災民現金援助。





With support from the people of Taiwan, dignified shelter units were installed for earthquakeaffected households.

# Taiwan's Support to the Northwest Syria Earthquake Emergency Response Plan

# **Summary Report**

14 March 2024

PREPARED FOR: Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Taiwan - Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Jordan
PROJECT LOCATION: Northwest Syria (NWS) - Earthquake Response
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 December 2023 - 29 February 2024

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# Background

On February 6, 2023, a 7.8 earthquake struck Turkey and Northwest Syria (NWS). In Syria, the initial quake and aftershocks killed around 8,500 people and displaced 300,000 more.<sup>1</sup> Within days of the earthquake, Mercy Corps had launched its emergency relief response. With the financial support received from the people of Taiwan, over the last nine months, Mercy Corps has designed and implemented programming to respond to immediate needs and build longer-term recovery and resilience of earthquake-affected families and communities. This report details activities undertaken from 1 September 2023 to 30 November 2023 funded by the people of Taiwan.

# Context update

During the reporting period, despite fluctuations in frontline activity, the core dynamics of the conflict in Greater Idlib remained unchanged. In January 2024, a total of 544 frontline attacks were documented, averaging 17 attacks per day within the Idlib region. The most significant incident occurred on January 15, when the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps fired four "Kheibar" long-range ballistic missiles at locations in the outskirts of Idlib, including Taltita town. This attack resulted in two civilian injuries and the destruction of a defunct medical facility. Additionally, there were two incidents involving the use of incendiary ammunition by forces of the Government of Syria in Idlib city. These incidents targeted the Hettin and Hijaz neighborhoods on January 6th and 7th 2023, respectively.

Regarding the internal Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham (HTS) dynamics, on January 28, 2024, HTS officially concluded investigations into the "collaboration" case, centered on allegations of espionage targeting members of its security apparatus. This resulted in the arrest of hundreds of members, including high-ranking officials. Moreover, the month of January witnessed a report indicating a proposed public morality law, enforced by a "Public Morality Police", which operates under the Ministry of the Interior within the Syrian Salvation Government. The law echoes previous attempts by HTS to enforce a strict interpretation of Islamic law in Idlib, reminiscent of the historical "Hisbah".

#### **Project achievements**

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps served 213,447 individuals<sup>2</sup> (104,546 men and 108,901 women) with life-saving humanitarian services and early recovery in the areas of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), Shelter, Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL), and Cash Assistance.

#### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Water trucking

**Target**: Provide 5,077 individuals (1,015 households) with 35 liters of water per person per day for 9 months.

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps continued to provide safe trucked water to 1,578 households (9,461 individuals) residing in the seven camps previously served by Mercy Corps through local contractors. During the quarter, Mercy Corps distributed 135,506 water barrels in those seven camps that have been served by Mercy Corps since April or early May.

In January 2024, Mercy Corps started delivering water to three additional camps that were previously served by Mercy Corps with WASH services through other funding sources (until the end of December 2023), reaching an additional 402 households and 2,250 individuals. Mercy Corps continued delivering water to a school in an IDP camp with 502 students (130 from outside the camp but from communities affected by the earthquake). As part of its water quality control protocols, during the reporting period, Mercy Corps conducted 1,924 Free Residual

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation Situation Report 20 (April 2023)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The total number of individuals reached under each sector: WASH (9,461 individuals), Shelter (15,900 individuals), FSL (182,329 individuals), and MPCA (5,757 individuals).



Chlorine tests at the household level with a result of all 1,924 being above or equal to 0.2mg/l and 1,716 tests at the water truck level with all 1,716 above or equal to 0.5mg/l. Mercy Corps also conducted 74 bacterial tests where all the samples were not contaminated. The tests' results meet the standard requirements for testing water quality.

Garbage collection and desludging

**Target**: Provide 1,000 households with services for 9 months.

**Garbage collection:** During the reporting period, Mercy Corps provided garbage collection services through local contractors on a weekly schedule in the ten camps reaching 1,578 households (9,461 individuals). Mercy Corps also continued to serve these camps with garbage collection services.

In coordination with local councils, garbage was moved safely to pre-identified dumpsites. Mercy Corps also conducted weekly spot checks on contractors' garbage disposal to ensure their commitment to disposing of garbage in approved landfills; no illegal disposal was captured by Mercy Corps during this period.

**Desludging:** Additionally, during the reporting period, Mercy Corps provided emergency desludging services through local contractors in seven of the ten above-mentioned camps<sup>3</sup>. 619 septic tanks were desludged, transported, and disposed of in approved locations, reaching 514 households (3,440 individuals). These desludging services are conducted based on existing pits/septic tanks that are shared by several households.

In parallel, Mercy Corps conducted weekly spot checks on contractors to ensure the disposal occurred in locations approved by the local council; no illegal disposal was found by Mercy Corps during this period. Through its casual laborers, Mercy Corps ensured that all wastewater was chlorinated by inserting chlorine directly into the septic tanks or pits.

Distribute water tanks Target: Install 200 water tanks.

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps distributed 179 water tanks (1m<sup>3</sup>) to 294 households (2,124 individuals) in 14 camps.

#### Rehabilitate water and sanitation infrastructure

As mentioned in the annual report, this activity was completed by the end of October 2023. The rehabilitated water station and network now benefit 8,550 individuals.

#### Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of water stations and boreholes

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps continued to provide the four water stations with regular O&M support, benefiting 6,350 households (32,550 individuals).

In January, Mercy Corps procured and provided water stations with mineral oil for diesel engines, filters for diesel engines, and chlorine in order to be able to operate normally. During the provision of fuel, Mercy Corps conducted several quality tests and checked fuel color, density, sediments, and smell. Quality control tests were conducted in Mercy Corps' laboratory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The desludging services are provided based on needs. 3 of the 10 camps did not require such services during the quarter.



Shelter
Installation of dignified shelters<sup>4</sup>
Target: Build 166 dignified shelter units for 166 households.

The installation of the 122 dignified shelter units, benefiting 122 households, started in December and is expected to be completed by the end of March 2024.

# Site preparation

Target: Provide site preparation services to 300 households.

Previously, Mercy Corps completed tent insulation in five camps, benefiting 518 households (3,108 individuals) with road graveling services, including 138 households (678 individuals) that benefited from tent insulation.

From December 2023 to February 2024, Mercy Corps selected one additional camp to also benefit from the site preparation activity. This camp was selected based on assessments conducted by Mercy Corps, which included selection criteria and a scoring mechanism. The selected camp is considered one of the most in-need camps concerning flood prevention activities.

- In December 2023, Mercy Corps received the approvals from the local authority to commence with the participants' registration in the selected camp.
- In December 2023, Mercy Corps completed the selection of the contractor responsible for the site preparation activities.
- In January 2024, after agreeing on the workplan, work details, and monitoring of activities needed, Mercy Corps handed over the camp to the local contractor to commence with the implementation. The implementation works have started and are aimed at enhancing the accessibility of the camp's residents (about 201 households) to various services, preventing tents from being affected by floods through road graveling and tent insulation.

# Shelter rehabilitation

Target: Rehabilitate 200 shelters.

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps selected one community to benefit from a shelter rehabilitation activity. The community was selected based on severity levels as this community had been significantly affected by the earthquake. After conducting a full technical assessment in the area, Mercy Corps identified 47<sup>5</sup> shelter units that had small to medium earthquake-related damage to benefit from the activities. Based on the assessment's findings, Mercy Corps prepared a bill of quantities and launched the procurement process in December 2023. The rehabilitation process started in January 2024, and the handover process is expected to take place in March.

# Rehabilitation of three schools and three health facilities

**Target:** Provide WASH & Shelter rehabilitation in three schools and three health facilities.

In February, Mercy Corps finalized the rehabilitation of two additional hospitals and handed them over to the Syrian American Medical Society. Mercy Corps had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the organization to clarify the organization's roles and responsibilities throughout the rehabilitation process. As per

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Target will not be reached for this activity due to challenges encountered on the ground (identification of locations, which was undermined by specific issues related to: Housing, Land, and Properties (HLP) constraints; securing landowners' permission; social tensions amongst residents within the camps; and identification of camps from a technical and security perspective). Savings from this underachievement will be allocated to rehabilitation of additional schools and health facilities (Activity #4 under the Shelter).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> As shared in the previous summary report and annual report, Mercy Corps rehabilitated 155 shelter units. By the end of the project, the total number of rehabilitated shelters will be 202 units.



the hospital's records, the average number of individuals benefiting from the two rehabilitated health facilities monthly is 15,900 individuals.

# Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Rehabilitation of three bakeries **Target:** Rehabilitate three bakeries. During the reporting period, and in early December 2023,

Mercy Corps handed over the two bakeries to their owners after completing rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation and handover timeline for bakeries					
Bakery	y Work started Handover				
1	October	December			
2	October	December			

Provision of wheat flour and yeast to three bakeries **Target:** Provide wheat, yeast, and flour to three bakeries.

Following the bakery rehabilitation, on December 7, Mercy Corps began providing seven bakeries with 40% of their monthly flour and yeast needs to cover all targeted locations.

# Subsidized bread distribution for three communities

**Target:** Provide subsidized bread distribution for three communities.

As per the MoU set-up with the bakeries, on December 7, 2023, Mercy Corps started providing wheat flour, yeast, and salt to the selected seven bakeries. In return, the bakeries are selling subsidized bread through various selling points located in the serviced 85 communities to ease the purchase process. The bread is sold at 30% of the original price, and served to around 182,207 individuals, daily. Mercy Corps is monitoring the targeted bakeries to ensure they follow the terms agreed upon within the signed MoU, including the subsidized percentage, bread quality, and fair distribution plan.

Mercy Corps will support this activity from December to the end of March 2024. Hence, subsidized bread will be provided to the served communities for four consecutive months.

# Support 60 vendors with cash grants, business training, and coaching

**Target:** Support 60 vendors with cash grants, business training, and coaching, with an average of \$1,500 cash grant per vendor.

In January 2024, Mercy Corps announced a fourth call for expression of interest to mobilize local vendors interested in benefiting from Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) support training. Around 451 applicants submitted their interest to Mercy Corps. Accordingly, Mercy Corps set up a selection committee to select participants. 30 vendors were selected based on transparent selection criteria focusing on young women and men who are willing to use new technologies in their projects.

**Training:** To date, four rounds of training have been conducted, benefiting a total of 122 vendors, each of whom attended 40 hours of training.

The training was conducted by a third-party company hired by Mercy Corps and covered the following key topics: Entrepreneurship; Communication skills; Investment concepts; Business terminology; Problem-solving; Introduction to small business management; Basics of small business management strategies; SWOT analysis; Feasibility study; Marketing plan and tools; Accounting and financial management; Market study; Financial Study; Competition Analysis; SMART goals; and Write a complete business plan. At the end of each round of training, participants developed and submitted their business plans to Mercy Corps. A selection committee and team members evaluated these plans and conducted field visits to the businesses.



**Cash Grants:** Following the completion of the training and analysis of each vendor proposal, Mercy Corps initiated the provision of cash grants in February.

- Between December 2023 and January 2024, Mercy Corps distributed first and second installments to 90 vendors (total amount for rounds 1 3: 129,400 USD), followed by coaching to the vendors who have been selected to receive cash grants.
- At the end of February, Mercy Corps distributed the first installment for 20 vendors and is planning to distribute a second installment in March. The expected total for the fourth round amounts to 30,000 USD.

**Coaching:** After distributing the first grant installment to the 20 vendors and the second installment in March, Mercy Corps is launching and carrying out a follow-up coaching process with the vendors to support them in their businesses as well as guide them to maximize the benefits of the grants now.

# Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

**Target:** Distribute MPCA to 1,000 households for six months.

During the reporting period, Mercy Corps distributed two rounds of MPCA, reaching a total number of 5,757 (2,979 females and 2,778 males) unique individuals:

- **Round 5:** In January 2024, Mercy Corps planned on assisting 1,171 households with MPCA. However, only 1,163 households could receive their assistance.
- **Round 6:** In February 2024, Mercy Corps planned on assisting 1,168 households with MPCA. However, 1,159 households received assistance.

Mercy Corps investigated the decrease in households receiving MPCA and found that since many people could not come to the distribution day for different reasons such as sickness or residing further from the distribution location during distribution day. Mercy Corps is running community validation to make sure that these people are still living in the same communities. For those who confirmed that they are still living in the same communities, Mercy Corps will conduct a catch-up round in the second week of March to ensure every beneficiary received the support and no one was left behind.

MPCA participant numbers receiving distribution, per round							
Location	Round 1 (Jun) # households	Round 2 (Aug) # households	Round 3 (Sep) # households	Round 4 (Nov) # Households	Round 5 (Jan) # Households	Round 6 (Feb) # Households	
1	470	540	490	523	525	524	
2	102	93	96	113	113	111	
3	43	54	50	51	51	51	
4	58	65	64	64	60	61	
5	0	206	210	210	210	207	
6	0	0	0	0	204	205	
Total	673	958	910	961	1,163	1,159	

# The table below shows the number of participants receiving MPCA per round of distribution:



# **Measuring Results**

#### Accountability and Monitoring and Evaluation

Mercy Corps implemented various monitoring activities to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities implemented, as well as to ensure accountability to participants.

#### WASH

<u>WASH services post-intervention assessment</u>. During the reporting period, the team interviewed a sample of 291 participants (58% females and 42% males) who live in areas targeted by the project to conduct a WASH post-intervention assessment during the implementation of the main emergency WASH response services. Key findings from the survey results were as follows:

- All 291 households confirmed they received water trucking services. The interviewed respondents were highly satisfied with the water quantity and quality. However, 2% showed dissatisfaction with the quality of water due to its bad taste and chlorine smell.
- 93% of the 291 households confirmed they live in an area where the desludging service is available and expressed satisfaction with the service.
- 100% of respondents benefited from the waste management service, and all were satisfied with the service provided.

# **MPCA**

<u>MPCA distributions monitoring</u>. During the distributions of MPCA, the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) team was present on site and conducted distribution monitoring assessments with 20% of female and male household members who attended the distribution and received assistance. The distribution monitoring focused on monitoring the safety of the distribution, difficulty in using the e-vouchers modality, and staff accountability towards the affected people during the distributions. The distribution's monitoring findings in addition to the program's distribution learning outcomes were used by Mercy Corps to refine the distribution plans and procedures that were updated and improved throughout the distribution's rounds.

<u>MPCA Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM)</u>. Mercy Corps conducted 100 cash PDM surveys during the reporting period, with 100 participants (66% males and 34% females). The PDM aimed at measuring the quantity and quality of the MPCA. General key findings from the PDMs were as follows:

- All the interviewed participants in the PDM confirmed that they received the allocated cash amount.
- All confirmed that they are satisfied with the E-Cash assistance modality.
- 15% of the interviewed respondents found the cash amount sufficient, while 85% found it insufficient, indicating an increased need for cash.

#### FSL

<u>Subsidized Bread post-implementation monitoring</u>. Mercy Corps conducted 344 surveys for postimplementation monitoring (PIMs) of the subsidized bread assistance during the reporting period. General key findings from the PIMs were as follows:

- All the interviewed participants in the PIM confirmed that they are aware of the subsidized bread assistance provided by Mercy Corps and the bakeries that offer subsidized bread in their living areas.
- 100% confirmed that they benefited from the subsidized bread assistance.
- All participants were satisfied with the subsidized bread quality.
- On the impact of the subsidized bread assistance on the households, 99.9% (343) of the participants confirmed the contribution of the subsidized bread to their financial savings to the coverage of their overall bread needs and nutritional value of the bread, with contribution levels varying from significant to minimal, and one participant reported no impact at all.



• On the overall assistance provided by Mercy Corps, 99% of the interviewed respondents reported satisfaction, while 1% (4) reported dissatisfaction, citing insufficient amounts of bread.

<u>Bakery assistance monitoring surveys.</u> In February, Mercy Corps carried out monitoring surveys with owners of eight bakeries that received assistance through their bakery support programs. These programs included bakery rehabilitation services and the provision of baking essentials. The survey revealed that:

- One bakery owner reported benefiting from the bakery rehabilitation service only.
- Two owners received both types of support: rehabilitation services and baking essentials, including wheat, yeast, and flour.
- Five owners confirmed their bakeries benefited from the provision of baking essentials alone.

Bakery rehabilitation service (three bakeries):

- The bakery's owners who reported their involvement in identifying their bakery's needs were all strongly satisfied with their bakery's rehabilitation results. They reported an improved supply rate of quality bread and speedy bread production. The rehabilitation work has effectively resolved issues that their bakeries faced including humidity, dust, dirt, and leaking roofs. Moreover, they mentioned that the installation of new machinery improved the efficiency and quality of bread production. As mentioned by one of the owners, the rehabilitation work was crucial for their bakeries to improve bread production, particularly after the damage caused by the earthquake.
- When asked about the improvement in the bread supply rates after the bakery's rehabilitation, the owners mentioned an increase in bread supply rates between 20%-50%.

Baking essentials support including the provision of wheat, yeast, and flour (seven bakeries):

- All the bakery owners confirmed a very positive impact of the baking essentials support on the quality of the bread they produce.
- Six bakeries confirmed an increase in the supply of bread after receiving the bread essentials support, while one reported no change in the supply of bread, citing a need for an increase in flour support.
- As per the feedback provided by the bakery owners, the reduced costs of supported bread have enabled the camp's residents to purchase larger quantities of bread, adequately covering their families' needs. As mentioned by one of the bakery owners, participants have been buying more bread than before, influenced by the lower cost per bundle. Another bakery owner mentioned that he received positive feedback from one of the participants who mentioned that his household expenditures were reduced as a result of the subsidized bread assistance.

# Community Accountability Response Mechanism (CARM)

Under this program, CARM was mainstreamed in the implementation of multi-sectoral activities, mainly by conducting CARM awareness sessions (to the served communities) and distributing CARM flyers. These flyers provide information about the available CARM channels and how to use them, including WhatsApp voice and text, feedback boxes, face-to-face interactions with the CARM field staff, and email during the reporting period. Mercy Corps received a total of 263 feedback and complaints, with 198 from males, 62 from females, and 3 from individuals of unknown genders.

Feedback and complaints received during the reporting period fell into the following categories:

- Category (1): Mercy Corps received 62 instances of positive feedback, 11 requests for information, and 5 suggestions.
- Category (2): Mercy Corps received 120 requests for assistance. Requests included cash assistance, extension of the cash assistance project, and rehabilitation of dignified shelter services from individuals not selected to benefit from this service. Mercy Corps made it clear to those sending in requests that the project follows the selection criteria to guide decision-making. 31 of the requests were for services



out of the project's scope (for example: food kits, dignity kits, and Non-Food Items). Mercy Corps emphasized to the informant that this service is out of the project scope and that their requests will be taken into consideration if any related future activities occur.

- Category (3): Mercy Corps received 54 minor dissatisfactions from community members. This feedback mainly came from:
  - Individuals who were not eligible to receive cash assistance, where Mercy Corps explained to them that the project follows specific selection criteria.
  - For community members whose tents were not selected to benefit from the tent insulation activity, Mercy Corps also explained to them that the project follows the selection criteria.
  - Subsidized bread recipients expressed dissatisfaction about the opening hours of the bread selling point. Mercy Corps contacted the seller points to adjust their start time to 8:00 am.
  - Some of the participants expressed objection due to not being selected to support the business operator activity. Mercy Corps explained to them that their projects were not eligible based on the rating scale used by Mercy Corps.
- Category (4): Mercy Corps received 11 major dissatisfactions:
  - Objection to our shelter activities from participants who were ineligible for shelter rehabilitation and tent insulation activities. Mercy Corps is conducting catch-up visits to make sure the complaints are valid.
  - Complaints about some sellers points who are selling the subsidized bread and not adhering to the quantity and time agreed upon led to a percentage of participants being unable to obtain bread. Mercy Corps connected with the seller points and conducted spot-check visits to follow up and ensure this would not happen again.
- All feedback during the reporting period was closed by the relevant Mercy Corps focal point.

Feedback and complaints received during the reporting period							
Category number	Accountability input category	Total	Male	Female	Unknown		
Category 4	Major Dissatisfactions	11	11	0	0		
Category 3	Minor Dissatisfactions	54	36	17	1		
Category 2	Requests for assistance	120	86	32	2		
Category 1	Requests for information	11	5	6	0		
	Positive feedback	62	55	7	0		
	Suggestion	5	5	0	0		
	Total	263	198	62	3		

# The table below shows the number of feedback and complaints per category and gender.

# **Challenges and Responses**

- WASH exit from camps: As of April 2024, no other WASH actor will be able to take over the ten camps Mercy Corps is currently serving with daily WASH services (water trucking, garbage collection, desludging). This means that 9,304 individuals will stop receiving daily WASH services moving forward. Therefore, Mercy Corps has conveyed this gap to the WASH Cluster.
- **Site preparation:** The need for such intervention in NWS is still very high compared to available funds.

# Activities Planned in the Next Reporting Period

The following activities are planned and will be carried out until the end of the project:

• WASH:



- <u>Water trucking, garbage collection, and desludging</u>: Until the end of the grant (March 2024), Mercy Corps will continue to provide trucked water to the ten targeted camps with 35L/person/day, as well as collecting and removing wastewater in the ten camps targeted.
- <u>Water stations' O&M</u>: Until the end of March 2024, Mercy Corps will continue providing the four served water stations with operation and maintenance.
- <u>Water tanks</u>: Mercy Corps will continue to procure and install water tanks in camps to support camp residents with water storage systems.
- <u>Garbage bins</u>: Mercy Corps will distribute 72 metal garbage bins (half a barrel per ten households) in the seven camps.

# • Shelter:

- <u>Dignified shelters:</u> Mercy Corps will continue the implementation of 122 dignified shelters until the end of March 2024.
- <u>Shelter unit rehabilitation:</u> Mercy Corps will continue the shelter unit rehabilitation until the end of March 2024.
- <u>Site preparation</u>: Mercy Corps will continue to provide road graveling and tent insulation services until mid-March 2024.
- FSL:
  - Provision of wheat flour and yeast to bakeries for the sale of subsidized bread: Mercy Corps will continue to provide the bakeries with wheat flour and yeast until the end of March to sell subsidized bread through their selling points. Continuous monitoring will be in place to ensure strict adherence to the MoU, covering aspects such as the subsidized percentage, bread quality, and the fair distribution plan.
  - <u>Support to MSMEs</u>: During March, Mercy Corps will provide cash grants to the selected vendors who attended the fourth round of training. Mercy Corps will also offer coaching and support to the vendors to ensure the successful operation of their businesses.
- **MPCA:** The main distributions ended in February 2024. However, a "catch-up" round will be conducted in March to cover all the participants who missed their assistance in the previous rounds (around 345 households).
- **Coordination:** During March, Mercy Corps will continue engaging with the relevant NWS coordination fora and mechanisms; through Clusters as well as the NWS NGO Forum. Additionally, Mercy Corps will inform the relevant clusters about the ending of the project to hold space for other organizations (if applicable) to support the same communities.
- **MEL:** Mercy Corps will continue monitoring the activities implemented until the end of March.
- **Reporting**: The final report will be submitted on April 30, 2024.

# About Mercy Corps

Mercy Corps is a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible. In disaster, in hardship, in more than 40 countries around the world, we partner to put bold solutions into action — helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within. Now, and for the future.

# CONTACT

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