

For immediate release

Widespread death and devastation from earthquake - Syria Relief/Action For Humanity

Action for Humanity, the UK based-parent charity of Syria Relief, are reporting 'widespread death and devastation' following the 7.8 magnitude earthquake which hit the country in the early hours of Monday morning.

Othman Moqbel, the Chief Executive of Action For Humanity, Syria Relief's parent charity, says:

"We are deploying an emergency response immediately to help our colleagues and friends impacted in Syria and Turkey. The epicentre was near Gaziantep, where we have one of our offices as this is a hub for many NGOs like ourselves who work crossborder in Syria. With such widespread death and devastation, we are still assessing the impact on the people we exist to serve and our operations.

"Action For Humanity/Syria Relief are scaling up our capacity to respond and we call for emergency donations via www.actionforhumanity.org in order to enable us to save as many lives as possible. Currently people are using their bare hands to clear the rubble of destroyed buildings away, as they do not want to use machines to clear the damage in case they crush people.

"This is another traumatic event which will impact the lives of children and families in Syria, who have already endured 12 years of brutal conflict. Our colleagues in Lebanon, who felt the impact believed there had been another blast similar to the August 4th 2020 explosion. This is another tragedy to tear through people who have already lost more than most of us could ever imagine.

ENDS

Notes to editors

Action For Humanity provide aid and assistance to people affected by natural and man-made disasters. We are the parent charity of Syria Relief, the UK's largest Syria-focused humanitarian aid organisation. As an NGO we are guided by our drive to help others, not profit. When emergencies strike, we act to ensure to save lives and protect the vulnerable. When the emergency is over, we stay and help restore lives. In 2021, Action For Humanity supported a remarkable 3.5 million people across the Middle East and South Asia.

Representatives from Action For Humanity are available for interview. For more information please contact Head of Communications and Marketing, Maryam Ahmed, maryam.ahmed@actionforhumanity.org +447849993453