

SEVGİ VE KARDEŞLİK VAKFI

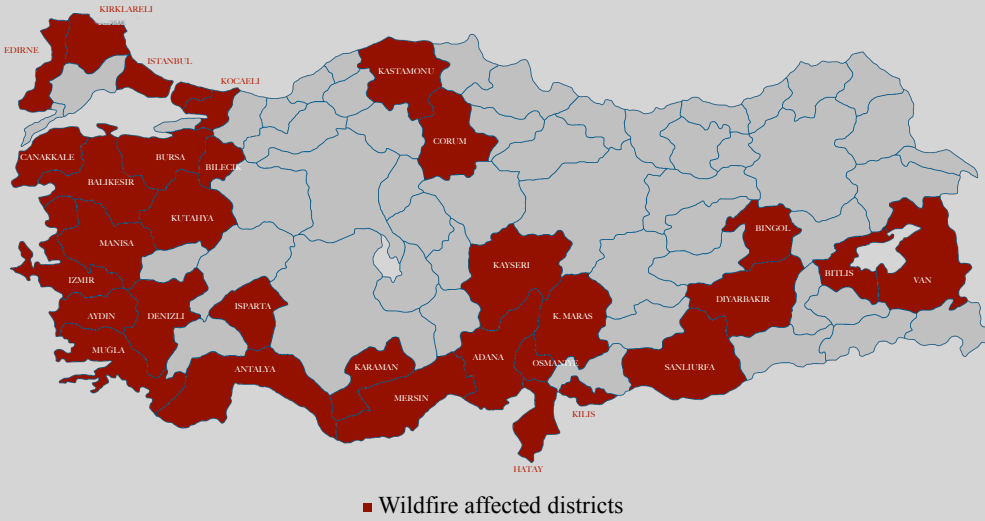
CHARITY AND SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION

SITUATION REPORT

EMERGENCY: Wildfires

LOCATION: Turkey

DATE: 05.08.2021



SEVKAR'S RESPONSE

Currently, a 4-people team from SEVKAR continues to monitor situation and coordinate with the local and national NGOs as the founder member of Afet Platformu (Disaster Platform). SEVKAR will provide support to wildfire victims if any need is observed. At the moment the wildfires are still active in various regions across Turkey. District municipalities are providing clean water, food and shelter. In case, SEVKAR observes a humanitarian support need in the field, it will be shared with partners.

In the midst of a severe heatwave and following months of draught, Turkey is face to face with the worst wildfires in years. Over the past 7 days, 163 wildfires have been reported across 32 provinces. As of now, 13 wildfires in 6 province still active. Most affected areas were Mediterranean and Aegean Sea coasts, several in resort areas around Antalya, Muğla, Bodrum and Marmaris. According to the satellite observations approximately 157.859 hectares (540 square miles) have burned, 1.397 buildings and 1.082 houses have been damaged and 5.922 people have been affected. 9 people including 2 fire fighters, have lost their lives in the wildfires. According to the Ministry of Interior; more than 10,000 people have yet to return to damaged homes, resorts and hotels evacuated.

On July 28-29, 2021; Wildfires broke into 4 different areas at costal town of Manavgat. Wildfires jumped to residential areas and agricultural fields, 3 neighborhood evacuated. Municipality officers reported that more than 50 people have been hospitalized because of burns and smoke inhalation. Same day wildfires jumped to Akseki area, 13 people stranded in the neighborhood. Residents evacuated from Akseki's Kepezbeleni neighborhood and Manavgat's Karavca, Saraçlı, Çeltikçi and Ulukapı neighborhoods. 3 people lost their life. Wildfires fueled with strong winds. Wildfires broke also at Adana's Sarıçam and Çukurova provinces (21 areas), Kayseri's Yahyalı provinces and Mersin's Aydıncık, Silifke and Gülpınar provinces, Osmaniye's Kadırlı provinces, Muğla's Marmaris and Fethiye district provinces, Kocaeli's Körfez provinces, Kahramanmaraş's Onikişubat provinces and Hatay's Kırıkhan province. In total 53 wildfires have been reported across the 17 provinces and 36 wildfires are under control.

On July 30, 2021; New wildfires broke into woodland at Istanbul's Bahçeşehir and Esenler provinces, Mersin's Yeşilovacık province, İzmir's Kiraz province. Fires in Istanbul brought under control in 2 hours with the support of government firefighters. Local authorities reported that Manavgat's Salur neighborhood completely burned down. 42 neighborhood out of 106 is affected from wildfires, 27 neighborhood evacuated and more than 2.000 buildings have been damaged.

On July 31- August 1 2021; Antalya, Muğla, Mersin, Adana and Osmaniye cities declared as official disaster area by Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD). A new wildfire broke into Tunceli's Hozat province and the total death toll from wildfires has risen to 4. In total 7 wildfires in 3 different province is still on going.

August 2, 2021; New wildfires broke in Afyon's Şuhut province and Marmaris's Seydikemer, Hisarönü, Kavaklıdere, Turgut and Turunç provinces. Asleep fires in Milas and Kavaklıdere restarted. Volunteers and firefighters reported that is challenging to intervene wildfires from land due to it's mountainous structure. Turkish Ministry of Forestry announced that field teams cannot start for damage assessment due to restarting wildfires.

August 3, 2021; New wildfires started at flood hit northern province Artvin's Yusufeli district province and 33 houses become unusable and affected families placed in student guesthouses. Residents in 5 neighborhoods (Çayhisar, Kavacık, Pınar, Zeytinaalanı, Akyaka, Taşdıbi) evacuated in Muğla's Köyceğiz provinces.

August 4, 2021; One new wildfire started at Hatay's Antakya province and fires at Marmaris's Orhaniye, Selimiye and Turunc provinces are still active. The wildfires in Milas, Bodrum, were approaching the thermal plant (Yenikoy Thermal Electric Plant), locals and firefighters were digging holes and cutting trees around the plant to provide safety. Farmers were pulling their animals out of burning barns and moving them to the beach to bring them to safety. Temperature above 40 degrees also caused a record increase in electricity consumption and leading to blackouts in affected areas and major cities like Ankara and Istanbul.

August 5, 2021; Fire reached the perimeter of the Kemerkoç Thermal Power Plant in Muğla's Turkevleri district. Local authorities had earlier stated that hydrogen tanks used to cool the station had been emptied and filled with water as the precaution. Mayor stated that there is a risk that fire could spread to the thousands of tonnes of coal inside. Region residents warned by municipality to stay at home and keep the windows close in case of toxic gas release.

Around 4,000 personnel, along with hundreds of emergency vehicles, have been deployed by government to help with the flames but most of the affected areas are difficult to reach via land routes. Firefighting planes from Spain and Croatia joined teams from Russia, Iran, Ukraine and Azerbaijan this week to battle wildfires, after Turkey requested European support. Villagers and volunteers coming from different regions are working together with firefighters to put off fires. Turkish Red Crescent and AFAD is providing food and clean water in various regions to the people who got affected from fires.

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People watch the fire raging over Antalya, Turkey 01.08.2021 - AP



Burnt woodland in Milas, Bodrum 04.08.2021 - Sevkar



Smoke billowing over a forest near the coast of Marmaris, Muğla 04.08.2021 - Anadolu Agency