1. Overview

Forest Fires in Turkey

Forest fires have been active in the Southern coast of Turkey since 28 July 2021. The death toll from the fires is officially reported as eight people killed in a total of 156 wildfires that have erupted in the last week.

Most of these fires have been contained, as reported by the Turkish authorities although fires are still blazing in Manavgat of Antalya as well as in Marmaris and Milas of Muğla.

Thousands of people in many villages, residential areas and hotels have been evacuated. Many fields and animals in the mountain villages have been affected.

Forest Fires in Manavgat

According to a declaration on 28 July 2021 by AFAD (Disaster and Emergency Management Authority of Turkey), the initial fires broke out at Yeniköy area of Manavgat district of Antalya province in Southern Turkey. Declarations that followed noted break-out of fires in a total of 4 areas. The second area where fire broke out was Sarılar, while the third was Dam Area and the fourth was Gebece.1 A total of 13 neighborhoods (Sekî, Kâlêmli, Bucakşeyhler, Oymapınar, Tilkiler, Evrenleryavuş, Saraklı, Asağıışıklar, Hocalı, Gebece, Hocalar, and Çardak) were partially affected. The total number of neighborhoods that were affected was 35. According to initial information received from local authorities, the total number of households that were affected from the fire was 200. Initial information received from SAKOM declared 3 people dead and according to statements given to the press on August 1st, 2021, the number of casualties rose to 7. In addition, according to initial detection of AFAD in its report dated July 30th, 2021, 320 cattle, 3000 small cattle, 22 banana greenhouses, 15 vegetable greenhouses, 360 bee hives, and 1.500 hectares of agricultural areas were damaged.2 Additionally, damage assessment studies by District Directorate of Agriculture were continuing as of August 1st, 2021. Result of this study is expected to provide a clearer outlook on damage the fire caused on livelihood.

Field Assessment

Support to Life conducted a field assessment in Manavgat on July 31st and August 1st. During the assessment, contacts were made with AFAD, District Directorate of Agriculture, Manavgat Municipality Coordination Center, Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey, and Ahbap Platform volunteers, which were coordinating

1 http://www.antalya.gov.tr/manavgatta-4-ayri-noktada-orman-yangini-cikti
distribution of materials at AFAD Coordination Center warehouse. Additionally, field visit were conducted to Dikmen neighborhood, which was affected from the fire, and an in-person meeting was organized the neighborhood Mukhtar. Phone calls were made to with Mukhtars of 21 neighborhoods that were declared to be severally and partially affected from the fire by AFAD (Dikmen, Tilkiler, Çardak, Aşağıışıklar, Hocalı, Evrenseki, Kalemler, Gebece, Hocalar, Sarılar, Çolaklı, Gündoğdu, Yavruoğlu, Çeltikçi, Şişeler, Yeniköy, Yukarıışıklar, Çayyazı, Salkım Evler, Üzünkale, and Sülek). As the fire continued in Hocalar, Gebece, and Çardak villages, detailed calls could not be made. Governor of Kalemler village was hurt in the fire and he could not be reached. During phone calls it was learned that a total of 180 households were affected by the fire. According to local authorities, the number of total households that were affected was around 200.

During discussions with the above-mentioned stakeholders and field visits, it was observed that immediate basic needs detailed by sectors below were met, in-kind aid sent to the area exceeded the needs, and other immediate needs were limited. Other than the immediate needs, a potential area of intervention for the upcoming period is identified as provision of non-food items (furniture) for families returning to their homes after fire is completely extinguished. In addition, it is observed that medium and long-term support could be needed to repair damage in agriculture and husbandry infrastructure, which are the main sources of livelihood for the affected population.

On July 31st, 2021 the Turkish Presidency declared areas affected as disaster zones. Public assistance to damaged areas will be followed, and additional aid provision could be needed to fulfill potential gaps.

### 2. Population Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Information Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Population in Manavgat / Number of Households</td>
<td>242,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Neighborhoods Affected from Fire</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Households Affected from Fire</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Casualties</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Small Cattle Perished</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Stocks Perished</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Banana Greenhouses Damaged in Fire</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Vegetable Greenhouses Damaged in Fire</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Beehives Damaged in Fire</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Agricultural Areas Damaged in Fire</td>
<td>1,500 Hectares</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Sector Based Intervention and Needs

**Shelter**

73 persons, whose houses were completely damaged in the fire or who were evacuated due to risk of fire, were placed in dormitories by AFAD. Many families did not want to stay in dorms so they moved in with their neighbors or family members in other region. STL found out that villagers who left their livestock at the
evacuated villages left the dorms early morning hours to return to their villages. Also, it was noted that in villages where fire was completely extinguished, AFAD set up tents where families could stay. In addition, it was noted that AFAD will allocate containers to families whose houses were damaged.

Non-Food Items

Observations indicate that families whose houses were completely burned needed non-food items. However, because the emergency is ongoing, there are no institutions currently working in this area. It is considered that after fires are completely extinguished and families return to their villages with allocation of containers by AFAD, need for non-food items will be more visible.

Food Aid

Many organizations and institutions were distributing food aid. It was learned that Turkish Red Crescent distributed 3 meals on a daily basis. It was observed that stores of AFAD and Manavgat Municipality Coordination Centers had more food items than needed. Also, during discussions with village governors, STL identified that there was an oversupply of food items. Some governors said they were working hard to distribute food items sent as aid before spoilage.

Duplication and accumulation were noted regarding aids that were received. Storage conditions of received food items were inadequate. Problems and shortcomings were observed with the cold logistic chain.

Health (including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support)

Health services are provided at public hospitals and are effective. According to declaration by AFAD, Ministry of Health dispatched 30 ambulances, 12 National Medical Rescue Team staff (UMKE) and 1 mobile command vehicle together with 136 health workers. Manavgat State Hospital was partially evacuated and 10 patients in intensive care unit were transferred to other hospitals.

No psychosocial support activities were observed on the field. It was learned that an specialized NGO was on the field and was planning a study. However, no discussion could be held with them.

WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

During discussion with Mukhtars, STL learned that there was power outage at Hocalı village due to the risk of sabotage. Otherwise, no problems were detected regarding infrastructure. Drinking water sent to area, and other aid items were being distributed by AFAD teams. Also it was learned that there were 500 hygiene sets that were prepared at AFAD coordination center storage and were to be distributed to people in need.

Means of Livelihood

Means of livelihood in Manavgat region is mostly agriculture, husbandry, and tourism. Fire broke in areas where mostly husbandry is practiced. Agricultural areas were also affected. During discussions with Mukhtars, it was learned that many animals were perish due to fire damage on stables and warehouses. Olive trees were also damaged in some villages that have agriculture as means of livelihood. Declarations by AFAD noted that 320 livestock, 3000 small cattle, 22 banana greenhouses, 15 vegetable greenhouses, 360 bee hives, and 1.500 hectares of agricultural areas were damaged. Additionally, during field visits it was determined that there were businesses partially or fully damaged in fire.

During discussions with District Directorate of Agriculture, it was learned that aid was sent irregularly and they were more than need. It was noted that there were no storages to place animal feed and fodder sent by persons and institutions, thus aid sent by many institutions were directly sent to villages. Many institutions that sent animal feed and fodder were informed that they could send more feed and fodder after the stocks at hand are
consumed. Additionally, District Directorate of Agriculture conducts damage assessment studies to determine extent of destruction.

Agriculture and husbandry are severely damaged due to fire. It was learned that animals were saved because they were at open plains but their stockyards in villages were destroyed. It was learned that 200 portable animal tents sent to District Directorate of Agriculture would be distributed to people in need to replace burned stockyards. In addition, it was learned that perished animals mostly belonged to older people while young people released animals and directed them to the woods. It is expected that damage assessment study conducted by District Directorate of Agriculture would reveal more clear information on the number of households that need stables and stockyards.

Protection

No activities were observed on protection. However, during discussion with governors it was learned that individuals with special needs are placed at relevant centers of Directorate of Family, Labor, and Social Services.

It was learned that older population is more concentrated in villages. No information could be found on any groups in risk of social exclusion. It is suggested that such issues would be followed in detail in case a needs assessment would be conducted.

4. Coordination

Following the disaster, two separate Disaster Coordination Centers were established by AFAD and Manavgat Municipality. In AFAD Coordination Centre there are AFAD, Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey, IHH, Volunteers of Youth Center, Yesevi Association, Vefa Social Support Line, Keşkül Assistance Association employees and Ahbap Platform volunteers.

It is observed that there was no communication between these two centers.

Some governors noted that aid was distributed irregularly which prompted some affected families to travel to other villages to receive aid, stop vehicles carrying fodder to benefit from the crisis and abuse the situation.

5. Security

Because fire extinguishing efforts are continuing, it is not possible to visit villages where fire was continuing. There is no risk of fire in city centers for the time being.

Additionally, according to declarations of Manavgat Mayor, some armed civilians established control points in cities and stop passer-by cars to check. Also there were gunshots in some neighborhoods through the night while no problems were observed during field visit. In addition, there are some visuals shared on social media about local people attacking persons trying to conduct aid efforts in villages damaged by fire, thinking they were arsonists.

Teams working on the field are suggested to avoid buildings damaged by fire, show caution when walking on ash covered surfaces, follow development of fire to be careful about choosing routes.

6. Maps and Photos
Google Map created based on declarations of AFAD and discussions with Manavgat Directorate of Agriculture about villages affected by fire could be accessed from the link below.

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1zjx23UucTsNUyiU_J1pmkBjm5Rv46ImM&usp=sharing

Photos taken during field visits:
7. Contact information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone No</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations Coordinator</td>
<td>Volkan PİRİNCÇİ</td>
<td>+90 506 306 39 00</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vpirincci@hayatadestek.org">vpirincci@hayatadestek.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Coordinator</td>
<td>Kamil YÜCEL</td>
<td>+90 549 839 40 63</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kyucel@hayatadestek.org">kyucel@hayatadestek.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety/Security Expert</td>
<td>Aytekin BATU</td>
<td>+90 505 266 03 13</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abatu@hayatadestek.org">abatu@hayatadestek.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Manager</td>
<td>Fatih KIYMAN</td>
<td>+90 543 772 87 66</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fkiyman@hayatadestek.org">fkiyman@hayatadestek.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Attachments

List of villages, contact information of village governors, and notes from discussions can be shared with relevant institutions upon request.