

EMERCOM of Russia



RUS-01

EMERCOM of Russia responded to the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye on 6 February 2023. EMERCOM deployed urban search and rescue teams (INSARAG classified and non-classified 110 people in total and 7 search dogs), Emergency management team (11 people) as well as Emergency Medical Teams (EMT), aerial firefighting services (Be-200 aircraft), drones and over 750 tones of humanitarian aid to the disaster area.



On 7 February 2023, BoO of EMERCOM of Russia was established in Kahramanmaraş at a location provided by AFAD. Continuous search and rescue operations were conducted with 3 shifts of rescuers at 3 worksites simultaneously. A small search and rescue team also deployed to Hatay. EMERCOM trucks handled transportation of mobile groups. ASR were completed at 44 buildings. More than 9 thousand q. meters of debris were cleared. 6 people were rescued, 100 bodies extricated.

During the night of 13 February 2023, an injured man was successfully rescued from the debris after more than 160 hours underneath. This rescue was made by Russian rescuers in close cooperation with SAR teams from Belarus and Kyrgyzstan. The entire operation took over 4 hours, with teams working at night with a high risk of building collapse. Medical specialists from EMERCOM's EMT treated the injury before the victim was passed to an ambulance and escorted to a hospital by EMERCOM's medical staff.



Canine search was arranged using two methods:

- 1) Canine search groups working together with rescue groups.
- 2) Canine search groups working with mobile search groups who also employed technical search equipment and UAV drones.

Both methods were effective for different working conditions. No dogs were injured during search and rescue operations.

SAR teams faced logistical issues such as roads blocked by debris or heavy machinery. Russian mobile search groups operated at night as well when roads were more passable.

On 14-15 February 2023, after SAR operations were completed, EMERCOM teams arrived back in Moscow.

