

Pompiers de l'Urgence Internationale



FRA-01

Following the catastrophic earthquake in Kahramanmaraş on February 6th, 2023, the swift response of the French USAR team FRA01 PUI underscored their dedication. Comprising 36 members and 3 search dogs, the team promptly assisted Turkey in a time of dire need.

Upon landing at Ankara Airport, FRA01 swiftly coordinated with LEMA at AFAD HQ in Kahramanmaraş. Urgency compelled their immediate deployment to the city center, driven by potential signs of life beneath the debris.



On the first day, FRA01's efforts were divided between two sites. Building #1 showed positive indications from search dogs and electronic devices, while the second team tackled the challenges of building #2, where dogs detected signs of life despite the collapse. Tragically, two fatalities were discovered.

FRA01's commitment proved pivotal. They successfully rescued a 16-year-old girl from the rubble at work site #2, offering a glimmer of hope. The team's resilience was evident as they saved a 62-year-old woman after an arduous eight-hour operation.

This dedication persisted into the second day. Two members bolstered the Search and Coordination Center in Kahramanmaraş, showcasing their collaborative spirit.

Over the following days, FRA01's operations spanned various city sectors. They employed drones for nocturnal searches, conducted assessments, and facilitated vital medical transport.



Seamless collaboration with other USAR teams markedly enhanced efficiency. Collaborative initiatives, including joint building assessments with SARAID, underscored international teamwork.

Ultimately, FRA01's unwavering efforts on 23 work sites led to the successful rescue of a 16-year-old girl and a 62-year-old woman. The team also contributed to the recovery of six bodies, offering solace to grieving families.



As the operation concluded, survivors rescued by FRA01 embarked on a journey to go back to France, bearing witness to the team's determination and skill. The endeavors of the French USAR team FRA01 during the Kahramanmaraş earthquake rescue operation stand as a symbol of hope and solidarity in the face of adversity.

[Link to Team Website](#)

