

# TÜRKIYE IMPACT REPORT



## CONTENTS

Türkiye	3
READ Foundation Türkiye	4
Temporary Learning Centres	5
Case Study: Ali	6
Permanent Learning Spaces	7
Child Friendly Spaces	9
Case Study: Amal	10
Emergency Response	11



# TÜRKIYE

**Türkiye hosts the largest number of refugees worldwide; tens of millions of Syrian refugees have left their homes in Syria due to more than a decade of conflict and 3.6 million of them alone have sought refuge in Türkiye.<sup>1</sup>**

Enduring unimaginable hardships, the Syrian people have been forced to abandon their homes and their livelihoods in search of a better life. Many now live in camps in Turkish controlled Syria, in the NW of Syria, facing issues such as overcrowding and lack of resources. Education is just one of the many services to suffer in the face of overcrowding and lack of support. 6.6 million people are in need of educational assistance, 18% of school age children are out of school, half of whom have never been enrolled. Schools are

damaged or destroyed, used for military or IDP bases and are often hard to get to safely.

The devastation and destruction following the earthquakes on 6th February 2023 was immense and millions of Syrian refugees along the Turkish border then had to deal with the aftermath of the region's worst natural disaster in a century.

In 2023 we completed a wide variety of projects, with a particular focus on education, psychosocial support and emergency relief. Our work is contextualised to the needs of those we serve, based on rigorous needs assessments and developed with the input of the communities we are serving throughout the process.

<sup>1</sup> Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Turkey – UNHCR Türkiye



# READ FOUNDATION TÜRKİYE



• We have helped **8,336 students** access quality education.



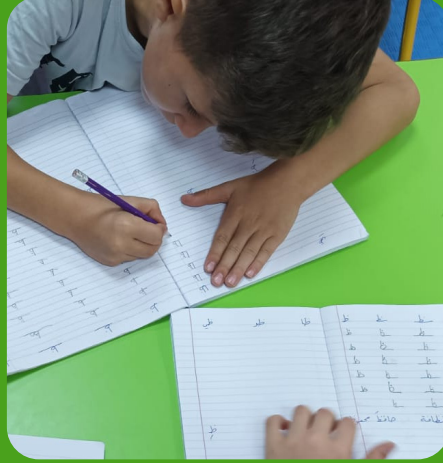
• We have provided **4,696 children** with psychosocial support.



• We have provided **9,483 people** with emergency assistance.



# TEMPORARY LEARNING CENTRES



- 60% of our students graduated into mainstream education.



- 347 orphans accessed quality education in our TLCs.



- 98% of our students improve by at least one level in Arabic, English and Maths.

Our Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) in Türkiye, which run for 7 months per cycle, provide out of school refugees access to quality non-formal education in English, Maths, Arabic and various other subjects such as art and science with the aim of graduating learners into mainstream formal education.

To maintain high educational standards, we conduct comprehensive training for all our teachers in key pedagogical areas such as classroom management, lesson planning, and providing education during emergencies. This includes essential training in psychosocial support and safety and security measures. Additionally, we offer monthly incentives to our educators and staff, countering the trend of teachers leaving the profession due to inadequate pay and the need to support

their families. Our project-based incentives ensure our educational team is well-supported, enabling them to dedicate their attention to the students.

This year our Al Salam Centre reached the end of its second cycle, with 60% of our students graduating into formal education. The centre will now continue for a new cycle and has expanded to enable more students to attend. Our Atma Centre has reached the end of its first cycle, providing 100 children with non-formal education and a course in robotics skills, while our SanliUrfa Community Centre has provided refugees and host families a space to meet and engage, in addition to the non-formal education and legal services provided.



# CASE STUDY

**Ali's\* father died in an airstrike in 2016 in Syria, and since then his mother has had to move Ali and his three siblings repeatedly to find a place of safety to live.**

For Ali and his family, grappling with the essentials of day-to-day survival meant that education took a backseat. After enduring years of displacement and instability, Ali was left feeling distressed, and his mother, despite her best efforts, could not alleviate his unhappiness.

Ali's participation in lessons about child protection and children's rights at the Al-Salam Center has been transformative. These lessons have empowered him to learn how to avoid harm and danger. Ali reflects, "At Al-Salam Center, I found everything I needed, including education and fun activities. It's a place where I can play with other kids, make friends, and discover my passions like drawing. It has also given me a space to express myself and share my difficult experiences of displacement with my friends." These experiences have inspired Ali to become a doctor, driven by a desire to provide children in circumstances like his with free access to healthcare.

\*Name changed for confidentiality.

# PERMANENT LEARNING SPACES



- **748 students** were taught in our permanent learning spaces this year.



- Both our permanent learning spaces have been handed over to the Turkish government.

After over a year of successful operation, our two permanent learning spaces have concluded their services and have been transferred to the Turkish government for ongoing management.

This project consisted of building classrooms, administrative rooms and toilet blocks for between 300-400 students in each centre, aged between 6 and 10 years old. We provided all furniture, teaching and learning materials, established a parent-teacher association, trained teachers and set up a referral system for students with healthcare or social support needs that were beyond the scope of the project.

Now that we have handed these spaces over to the Turkish government, Syrian refugee children will continue to have access to quality education with the aim to transition into formal schooling.





# CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES



• **2,600 children** have been learning and being supported in our CFSs since the earthquake.



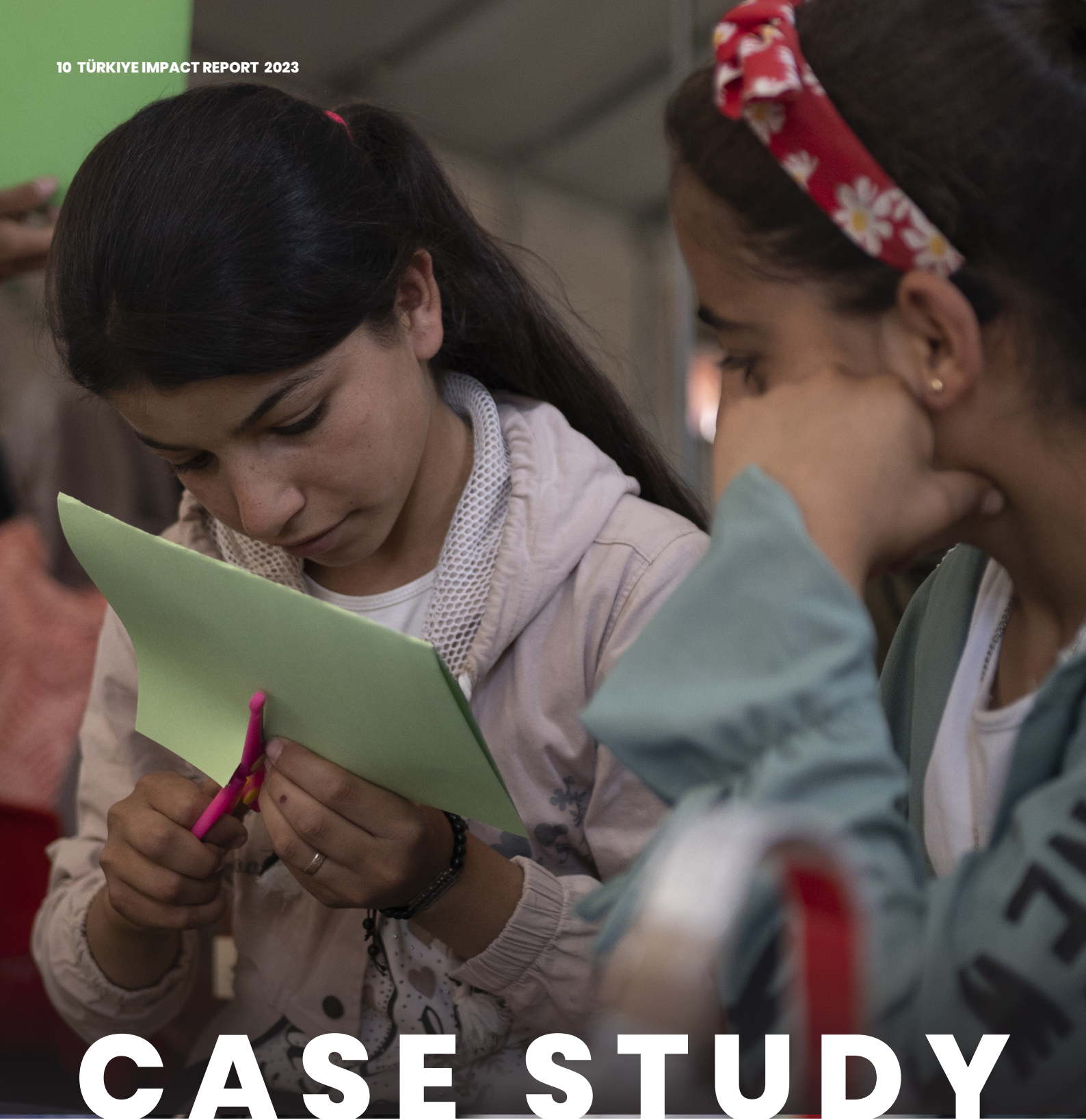
• We have expanded our project to **3,300 children and 2,200 adults.**

After the initial emergency response to the earthquake in February 2023, READ Foundation shifted its focus to early recovery and rehabilitation through the provision of child friendly spaces for learning and psychosocial support.

Working with IKEA donated prefabricated buildings, we opened 6 centres across Türkiye and the Euphrates Shield area to provide access to nonformal education and psychosocial support to students who were out of school due to the earthquake. These centres provide reading and writing lessons, life skills training such as first aid, psychosocial support, counselling, recreational activities and staff training. The centres are equipped with solar panels to supply electricity and snacks are provided throughout the day to the children.

Initially supporting 2,600 students for 6 months, we have since extended this project for another year, expanding our reach to 3,300 children and 2,200 adults. We are continuing to provide the same activities but are also now offering awareness sessions on child protection issues, parental skills sessions and community events.





# CASE STUDY

**Amal's\* mother was killed in the earthquake, while her brother was severely injured.**

Living with relatives, Amal felt like she had lost part of herself. When her aunt took her to the centre to register, Amal took an immediate interest in the life skills training, in particular the first aid course and effective communication. Through the life skills training Amal is now able to better express her thoughts and feelings and knows how to deal with stressful situations. She is more confident and has made friends at the centre and now loves to use drawing to express her feelings.

\*Name changed for confidentiality.

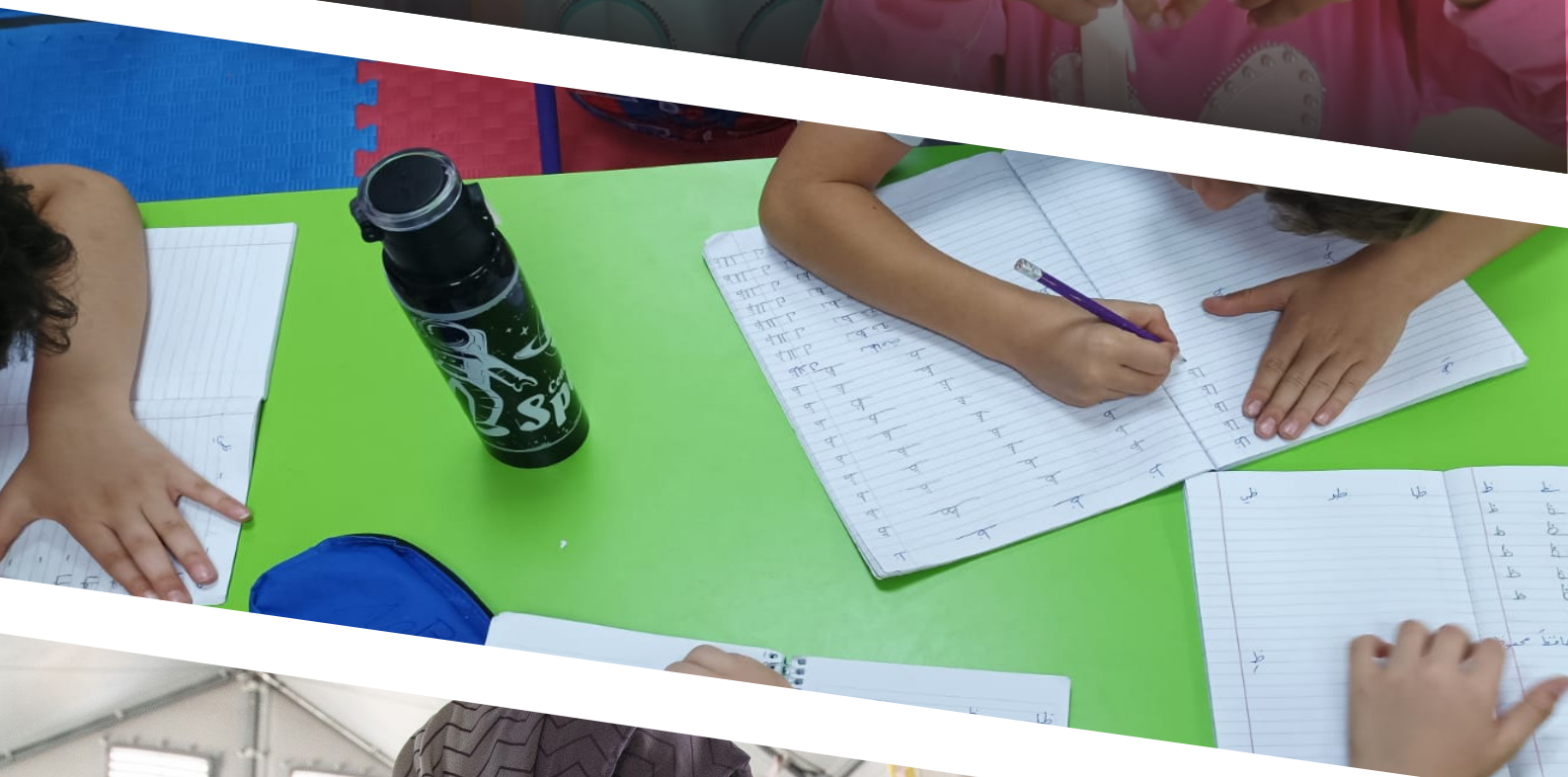


## EMERGENCY RESPONSE



- We helped over **9,000 people** to access food, fuel, blankets, and warm clothing in the aftermath of the earthquake.

In response to the devastating earthquakes that hit Türkiye and NW Syria in February, READ Foundation provided life-saving assistance to over 9,000 affected people in some of the worst hit areas of Türkiye, including Gaziantep, Sanliurfa and parts of Turkish-controlled Syria. We provided emergency relief such as food, fuel, blankets and warm clothing in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, before exploring long-term solutions such as temporary learning centres.







## GET IN TOUCH

☎ 03000 121 121

✉ [INFO@READFOUNDATION.ORG.UK](mailto:INFO@READFOUNDATION.ORG.UK)

🖱 [READFOUNDATION.ORG.UK](http://READFOUNDATION.ORG.UK)

READ Foundation, Victoria Court, 376 Wilmslow Road, Manchester, M14 6AX  
READ Foundation is a company limited by guarantee (company no: 09195667) and a charity registered in the U.K.  
with the Charity Commission (1160256) and Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (SC052632).  
If you have any further enquiries about the organisation please call 0161 224 3334