



One UN Impact Fund for I.R.Iran

One UN response to Khoy earthquake

Interim Report for Programme Implementation – 2023-24



Back to education in UNICEF-supported school rehabilitation program, GOGERD SADEGH village, Khoy (Iran), Credit: Mehdi Sayyari (UNICEF Iran, December 2023)



I. Introduction

On 28 January 2023 at 21:44, a 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck Khoy in West Azerbaijan province of Iran. The earthquake occurred at a depth of seven kilometres and followed two other strong quakes in the same region that were registered on 5 October 2022 (1,308 injured) and 18 January 2023 (252 injured) with 5.4 magnitude. Since the first earthquake in October 2022, more than 500 aftershocks between 3 to 4.8 magnitude were registered in Khoy.

In response to a letter from the national authorities requesting international humanitarian assistance from the United Nations on January 30, 2023, under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator (RC), the UN launched an earthquake response effort coordinated by OCHA and the UN Disaster Management Team. This resulted in an integrated response based on the needs of the affected population and the comparative advantage of UN agencies in the country, complementing the existing government relief mechanism.

A multi-agency assessment mission led by the UN team in Iran swiftly identified the immediate needs of those most severely affected by the disaster. This assessment enabled the UN system to rapidly engage in resource mobilization including from a global mechanism such as the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and nationally established pooled fund - One UN Impact Fund for Iran (OUIF) – and donor funding raised individual UN agencies, as depicted in the Funding Section.

The allocation of the One UN Impact Fund for Iran allowed the UN to address the most urgent, life-saving needs of the people affected by the Khoy Earthquake. Multi-purpose cash assistance enabled families to immediately meet their basic needs, while the focus on health ensured urgent medical assistance to the most vulnerable. The funding ensured that protection needs, including gender-based violence and child protection were addressed, ensuring the safety and well-being of women, children, and the most vulnerable groups.

To date, the UN response has reached over 122,663 affected people and aims to assist a total of 246,669 by the end of 2024. A total of \$3,040,750 has been mobilized through different UN funds to support response activities implemented by seven UN agencies.

Key interventions included the provision of emergency food assistance to 9,780 people, cash transfers benefiting over 6,644 individuals and families, rehabilitation of damaged schools and mobile health clinics providing services to over 57,022 people. Essential relief items such as blankets and hygiene kits were distributed. Support was also provided to strengthen Government response capacities in areas such as disaster risk reduction training and water quality testing. While progress has been made, recovery needs remain high. Continued humanitarian support coordinated with national authorities will be critical to ensure affected populations fully rebuild livelihoods and community infrastructure impacted by the series of earthquakes in Khoy.

This consolidated report outlines the strategic initiatives undertaken by UN agencies that were allocated One UN Impact Fund grants and the impact of their interventions.



One UN Impact Fund for I.R. Iran

Project/programme title (short):	<p>The “One UN response to Khoy earthquake” programme consisted of five projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing self-reliance through TVET upskilling among the earthquake affected youth and adolescents in Khoy county (led by UNESCO) 2. Enhancing the availability of medical equipment in the earthquake affected area of Khoy (led by WHO) 3. Supporting the access of earthquake affected populations to safe and inclusive education and health services during the recovery phase (led by UNICEF) 4. Building women’s and girls’ resilience to shocks by focusing on health and well-being, including mental, social, sexual and reproductive health: An innovative nexus approach (led by UNFPA) 5. Emergency assistance to vulnerable people affected by the earthquake in Khoy (led by IOM)\
MPTFO Project ID, Agency, Start date, planned end date, total budget as per ProDoc:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 00140234, UNESCO, from 22 June 2023 to 30 April 2024, 110,000 \$ 2. 00140161, WHO, from 30 May 2023 to 29 April 2024, 65,000 \$ 3. 00140160, UNICEF, from 30 May 2023 to 30 April 2024, 220,000 \$ 4. 00140159, UNFPA, from 06 June 2023 to 23 May 2024, 295,500 \$ 5. 00140158, IOM, from 30 May 2023 to 31 December 2024, 220,000 \$
Implementing Organizations:	<p>Lead Implementing Organization / Convening Agent</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNESCO 2. WHO 3. UNICEF 4. UNFPA 5. IOM

	Implementing Organization:	Report approved by:	Position/Title
1.	UNESCO	Ieng Srong	Resident Representative a.i, UNESCO Iran
2.	WHO	Dr Syed Jaffar Hussain	Country Representative and Head of Mission, WHO Iran
3.	UNICEF	Dr. Robin Nandy	Resident Representative, UNICEF Iran
4.	UNFPA	Ms. Ayna Seyitlieva	International Programme Coordinator, Officer in Charge, UNFPA Iran
5.	IOM	Lalini Veerassamy	Chief of Mission, IOM Iran

Annual Highlights

1. UNESCO:

Empowering Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) Graduates for Sustainable Livelihoods: The graduates are equipped to start businesses, driving economic progress in Khoy province. Their success inspires others, creating a community-wide impact.

Building Tomorrow’s Leaders: Through life skills and entrepreneurship training for student,



young minds are being prepared for the challenges of the future. As they develop into informed and empowered individuals, they'll play a pivotal role in shaping their communities and driving sustainable development.

2. **WHO:**

The procurement of medical equipment is in the process of completion. The remaining items are in the pipeline.

Arrangements for delivery and distribution have been made in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MoHME) and Khoy college of medical sciences.

3. **UNICEF:**

Between October and December 2023, UNICEF established two mobile health posts in *Takhtepol* village, assisting 8,631 individuals with primary healthcare. This effort is part of a larger initiative to provide eight mobile clinics for immediate healthcare access in earthquake-affected areas, enhancing local health system resilience.

With local partners and Khoy's Directorate of Education (DoE), UNICEF is nearing completion of rehabilitating 12 earthquake-affected schools, enhancing education for 659 primary students. Despite funding constraints reducing the target from 14 to 12, this initiative emphasizes UNICEF's dedication to quality education access.

4. **UNFPA:**

In a three-day workshop, 30 midwives from 18 public health posts and one Khoy hospital gained disaster and emergency preparedness skills, equipping them to deliver vital reproductive health services in emergencies. This training ensures the welfare of mothers and infants in difficult conditions. Concurrently, the UNFPA, in collaboration with Tehran University's School of Public Health, is conducting studies to enhance mental health and social harm systems. These studies, drawing from successful practices and disaster response lessons, will produce policy advice and briefs to improve women and girls' mental and social health in disaster settings, and develop guidelines for families headed by females.

5. **IOM:**

IOM provided Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to 4,236 individuals from 1,313 households in Khoy post-earthquake, facilitating a more effective recovery by enabling families to prioritize their needs. This inclusive approach, coordinated with local and national government counterparts, prioritized people with disabilities and significantly boosted the local economy. IOM also trained 43 male representatives from the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) in disaster risk reduction, emphasizing region-specific strategies and flexible, beneficiary-centered financial mechanisms. Beneficiaries' needs and experiences were assessed via a phone-administered survey, primarily conducted in Azerbaijani, ensuring a tailored approach to assistance.



II. Risk Framework for Project/Programme 4 and 5 (Updated as of April-2024)

Specify the key risks that could threaten the achievement of results within the chosen strategy and describe treatment measures (current and/or proposed) using the table below.

Category of Risk	Risks	Risk Level for project/ programme	Implications for project/ programme	Implications for the Fund	Treatment
Institutional	Impediment of implementation due to lack of formal basis of collaboration with government/partners: At the start of the project period, UNFPA faced a high risk of not having a formal basis of collaboration with the government/partners due to having embarked into a new programme cycle, which required IP agreements to be resigned. By the end of 2023 UNFPA and the government reached consensus on the new operations' modality. However, emergence of new layers of governmental controls (e.g. population headquarters needs to clear all work plans) has created a new challenge.	Risk Level: High Trajectory: Decreased	Significant delays in the implementation of the project; Possible change in implementation modality of the project, which may result in revised activities; Not all output indicators/targets of the project will be achieved;	A second No Cost Extension (NCE) may be required; A portion of the fund may remain unspent;	UNFPA is engaging in regular meetings and negotiations with the relevant ministries and offices which has led to a consensus on the operations' modality by December 2023. During 2023, UNFPA has proceeded with direct implementation modality for some of the activities under this project to mitigate the delays. In 2024, UNFPA will continue strengthening its relations with the relevant ministries and offices (including the Population HQ) to expedite signing the work plans and ensure timely implementation of the activities. Furthermore, a No-Cost Extension (NCE) request was submitted to the fund, requesting an extension of the project time frame until 23 August 2024, which will allow for some extra time for the implementation. Additionally, UNFPA has come up with alternative implementation options for the case that the challenges remain.
Institutional	Authorities do not collaborate to provide access to and list of relevant beneficiaries	Risk level: Low Trajectory: no change since last assessment.	The project would not be able to use funds allocated under component 5 (MPCA)	The overall benefits would not reach beneficiaries and funds might be returned to donors	Engagement with authorities since project's inception, joint development of selection criteria
Institutional	Authorities require shift of project funding in response to other similar disasters	Risk level: Low Trajectory: increased	Such requirement could lead to a reallocation of resources away from the initially planned activities and might compromise the effectiveness of the response in Khoy	Fund's reputation could be affected by appearing to be reactive rather than strategic in its allocation of resources.	Engagement with authorities since project's inception, donors' funding criteria explained
Programmatic	Increased sensitivities putting protection activities on hold: Since the start of the project in May 2023, existing sensitivities from the government side towards activities related to women and girls, particularly in the area of protection and	Risk Level: Medium Trajectory: Decreased	The increased sensitivities could lead to the protection activities being put on hold.	Protection activities may need to be reprogrammed.	UNFPA is maintaining proactive and transparent communication with the relevant ministries and offices. In collaboration with these entities, UNFPA is adjusting the language of the content of training packages considering national priorities, existing guidelines and policies, while maintaining the purpose and content of the material.



	<p>sexual and reproductive health have increased, resulting in a risk of putting the protection activities under this project on hold.</p> <p>The protection activities of the project are currently awaiting the clearance from the Population HQ.</p>				<p>Thanks to these mitigation measures, the activities have been cleared by IPs and MFA, currently awaiting the clearance from the Population HQ - the new control mechanism).</p>
Contextual	<p>Companies being reluctant to sell devices and equipment due to the impact of the elections, New Iranian Year, inflation and exchange rate fluctuations:</p> <p>Due to the elections and the New Year in March 2024, companies are reluctant to sell devices and equipment before the end of the election process. Furthermore, inflation and fluctuations in the exchange rate are additional factors that may prevent timely execution of the procurement process.</p>	<p>The risk has increased since the last assessment and is currently medium.</p>	<p>The reluctance of companies to engage in the procurement of the necessary devices and equipment may delay the procurement process. Furthermore, this may lead to challenges related to the increasing exchange rates, which could result in UNFPA needing to either decrease the number of devices and equipment based on the available and agreed budget, or change the type of devices provided.</p>	<p>A portion of the fund may not be spent by the project end date.</p>	<p>UNFPA is regularly following up with the partners to expedite the procurement process, by using the partners' budget for a fast-track transaction (and UNFPA will reimburse the partners, which usually takes between 5 to 15 working days).</p> <p>Furthermore, a NCE was submitted to the fund, requesting an extension of the project time frame until 23 August 2024.</p>

III. Results Framework						
UNESCO						
Outcome 1.1: Earthquake-affected youths are better prepared for employment and business start-up through TVET training and upskilling.						
		Baseline (2023)	Target (April-2024)	Current Status (March-2024)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	1.1a Number of youth and adults with relevant skills for employment, decent jobs, and entrepreneurship has been increased.			On Track (business start-up grants will be distributed once the training has been completed)	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
Output Indicators	1.1.1a Number of TVET graduates who received entrepreneurship and life skills training.	0	84	65	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
	1.1.1.b Number of TVET graduated who benefit from the business start-up grants	0	20	0	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
Outcome 1.2: The earthquake-affected adolescents are better prepared to deal with post-disaster trauma and get the necessary skills to increase their employability in future						
		Baseline (2023)	Target (April-2024)	Current Status (March-2024)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	1.2a Number of Beneficiaries from Life Skills and Entrepreneurship Training Programs			On Track	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
Output Indicators	1.2.1a Number of adolescent students who benefitted from the life skills and entrepreneurship training	0	160	0	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
	1.2.1b Number of local trainers receive on-the-job training	0	10	0	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
Outcome 1.3: TVET Institutes managers and trainers will be trained in post-disaster recovery and emergency response planning						
		Baseline (2023)	Target (April-2024)	Current Status (March-2024)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	1.3 Number of TVET Managers and Trainers Engaged with knowledge and skills related to Post-Disaster Recovery and Emergency Response has increased			On Track	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO
Output	1.3.1a Number of TVET managers and	0	80	60	Interview and partner report.	UNESCO

Indicators	trainers benefited from the post-disaster recovery and emergency response planning training course.					
WHO						
Outcome 2.1: Medical equipment is provided in the earthquake affected area of Khoy						
		Baseline (YY)	Target (Apr-24)	Current Status (Mar-10)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Output Indicators	2.1 Health facilities are supported with equipment as planned	0	12	On Track Procurement of medical equipment is almost completed. Following receiving the remaining items, the package will be delivered to the end user.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution list of donated items is prepared by Khoy college of medical sciences. Delivery receipt of donated items is issued by the health facilities in Khoy. 	WHO
Outcome 2.2: Earthquake affected children and their families have access to safe and inclusive education and health services						
		Baseline	Target	Current Status (12-23)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	2.2 Affected children and their families receive effective relief and life-savings assistance disaggregated by age, sex, disability (UNSDCF Indicator 4.2.2.a)	0	15,880	On track to meet the adjusted target of 9,290 people	Implementing partners' reports, UNICEF field visits	UNICEF
Output Indicators	2.2.1a Learning spaces and/or centers established and/or rehabilitated	0	14	On track to meet the adjusted target (12 schools)	IP reports	UNICEF
	2.2.1b Functional Health facilities are supported with equipment	0	2	Achieved	IP reports	UNICEF
UNFPA						
Outcome 3.1: Quality of sexual and reproductive health services for vulnerable groups especially women and girls in Khoy is enhanced						
		Baseline (2023)	Target (2024-05)	Current Status (2024-02)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Output Indicators	3.1 The % of targeted facilities/mobile clinic(s) with at least one trained midwife who can provide integrated health services for vulnerable groups especially women and girls has increased.	0	80	95 The targeted facilities were 18 health houses/posts and 2 hospitals (out of a total of 26 health houses/posts and 2 hospitals in Khoy). The 30 trained midwives are now working in 19 of the targeted facilities (in 18 health houses and in one hospital).	List of participants Site visits of selected health facilities	Khoy Medical University
	3.1.1a The % of targeted facilities/mobile	0	70	0	Distribution list/plan	Khoy Medical

	clinic(s) equipped to provide integrated health services for vulnerable groups especially women and girls have increased			The procurement is ongoing but not yet distributed.		University
Outcome 3.2: Quality and access to mental health and social harm services for vulnerable groups especially women and girls in Khoy is improved						
		Baseline (2023)	Target (2024-05)	Current Status (2024-02)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Output Indicators	3.2 Number of women and girls who benefit from the quality counseling services, provided by the UNFPA trained counselors, in the SWO counseling facilities in Khoy	0	2,200	0 The activities under output 2 did not start in 2023.	List of participants in training Direct beneficiaries using MISP calculator	Office of Counseling, SWO
	3.2.1a. % of targeted facilities equipped to provide mental counseling and other social harm related services for vulnerable groups, especially women and girls.	0	70	0 The activities under output 2 did not start in 2023.	Distribution plan/ list	Office of Counseling, SWO
Outcome 3.3: Mental health and social harm related systems are strengthened						
Output Indicators	3.3 Number of policy recommendations/ briefs on reducing social harms and improving mental and social health of women and girls in natural disaster situations produced.	0	2	0 The activities under output 3 are well under way and the target will be reached in May 2024.	Final Report	Tehran University of Medical Sciences
Outcome 3.4: Female headed households in socially vulnerable situations are empowered						
Output Indicators	3.4 Number of Female Heads of Households who received vocational and life skill training.	0	650	0 The relevant activities under output 4 did not start in 2023.	List of participants in training	Technical and Vocational Training Organization
IOM						
Outcome 4.1: Capacities of people in the area of disaster resilience, risk reduction and preparedness are enhanced (Intermediate Outcome 4.2 of the DRRM JWP) ¹						
		Baseline (YY)	Target (MM-YY)	Current Status (MM-YY)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	4.1 Proportion of most at risk male- and female-headed households provided with required awareness and skills to reduce the risk, prepare for, and respond to disasters	To be provided by NDMO in collaboration with other responsible organisations	To be provided by NDMO in collaboration with other responsible organisations	On Track	Official report of NDMO in collaboration with the Plan and budget Organisation	IOM
Output	4.1.1a Number of people receiving multi-purpose cash	0 (2023)	4,997 (12-2024)	On Track: A total of 4,236 individuals received Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), comprising 2,085	Project records, bank	IOM

¹ Since the IOM project document did not include outcomes, Outcome 1 for this project has been aligned with Intermediate Outcome 4.2 from the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Joint Work Plan 2023-2024, under the related pillar of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

Indicators				females (1,405 women and 680 girls) and 2,151 males (1,431 men and 720 boys). As part of the current project, these beneficiaries received top-ups to previous assistance, leading to the average amount given being smaller than initially planned. Consequently, it is anticipated that the number of supported individuals will exceed the original target.	transfers records	
	4.1.1.b Total value of multi-purpose cash distributed in USD	0 (2023)	\$167,400 (12-2024)	On Track: A total of USD 68,995.85 (41%) was provided to beneficiaries as MPCA.	Project records, bank transfers records	IOM
Outcome 4.2: Disaster risk reduction is integrated into development planning and programmes, and institutional capacities for effective disaster preparedness, response and recovery are strengthened (Intermediate Outcome 4.1 of the DRRM JWP) ²						
		Baseline (YY)	Target (MM-YY)	Current Status (MM-YY)	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicators	4.2 Percentage of the government organizations with risk-informed development planning and adjusted organizational structures according to National Disaster Management Law.	To be provided by NDMO in collaboration with other responsible organisations	TBD	On Track	Official report of NDMO in collaboration with the Plan and budget Organisation	IOM
Output Indicators	4.2.1a Number of trainings conducted on DRR topics and the management of equipment	0 (2023)	1 (12-2024)	Achieved: One two-day training was conducted on 31 October and 1 November targeting 43 officials from NDMO. The management of the equipment was not part of the training sessions due to the reprioritization of the equipment donation.	Project records	IOM

² Since the IOM project document does not include outcomes, Outcome 2 for this project has been aligned with Intermediate Outcome 4.1 from the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Joint Work Plan 2023-2024, under the related pillar of the UNSDCF.



Earthquake-affected families receiving critical primary health care services in UNICEF's mobile clinics, TAKHTE POL village, Khoy (Iran), Credit: Dr. Ordoukhani (Khoy Medical University, March 2023)



IOM staff conducting a field visit to gain a better understanding of the situation in earthquake affected areas of Khoy



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30 midwives from health facilities in Khoy benefited from training on disaster and emergency preparedness during a 3-day workshop titled “Reproductive Health in Disasters”, organized by UNFPA. The hands-on training was designed to empower midwives with the tools and expertise required to deliver effective reproductive health services in the face of emergencies, ensuring the well-being of mothers and infants in challenging circumstances.

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