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## Media Release 14.2.2023

### ACN mobilises 770,000 AUD for immediate aid to Syria

The pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will be providing at least 770,000 AUD of immediate aid to Christians in Syria in the wake of the devastating earthquake that killed more than 20,000 people in that country and in neighbouring Turkey.

Given the many years of war and the economic collapse of Syria, the organisation already had projects in place and partners on the ground in cities such as Aleppo and Lattakia, which have considerable Christian communities and were badly affected by the quake.



After the earthquake in Aleppo city - Syria, 7th February 2023  
Credit: Hope Center/ACN

A number of the relief projects already approved are small-scale and aimed at addressing immediate and short-term needs, according to Xavier Stephen Bisits, head of ACN's Lebanon and Syria section, who travelled to Aleppo immediately after the quake. "We are working with the Franciscans in Lattakia, who are providing blankets and food for displaced families; the Armenian Orthodox in Aleppo have prepared a project to supply medicine to displaced families; the Institute of the Incarnate Word wants to work with us on a project for the affected families and we also have a project with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to provide personal hygiene care for the elderly, many of whom have chosen not to leave their homes and are living alone."



After the earthquake in Aleppo city - Syria, 7th February 2023  
Credit: Hope Center/ACN

The most important project, however, has to do with helping people get back to their homes as quickly as possible. For this, however, it is necessary for the houses to be surveyed by engineers, to make sure there is no risk of collapse.

To make a donation or learn more visit [www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake](http://www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake)



After the earthquake in Aleppo city - Syria, 7th February 2023  
Credit: Aid to the Church in Need

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