

Adıyaman Food Bank Project Final Report

31 October 2023 – 31 October 2025



Executive Summary

Following the devastating earthquakes of February 6, 2023, the “**Adiyaman Food Bank**”, implemented through the collaboration of **Cargill Türkiye, TİDER, and the Municipality of Adiyaman**, offered a sustainable solution to the humanitarian crisis in the region. The project introduced an innovative model in the post-disaster recovery period, moving beyond traditional aid distribution to establish a modern support mechanism grounded in the principles of food banking, ensuring dignity and freedom of choice for beneficiaries.

Over the two year operational period between **October 2023 and October 2025**, the project provided regular support to **1,500 unique households**. Taking into account varying household sizes and periodic assistance cycles, a total of **87,181 individuals** were reached over 24 months. In total, **20,646 shopping transactions** were completed, ensuring secure access to food, hygiene products, and textiles. With specialized sections such as “**Support Women**” and “**Baby Care**,” the project also addressed the specific needs of vulnerable groups through targeted solutions, including hygiene support and infant nutrition.

With its fully accessible physical infrastructure and established technological tracking system, the Adiyaman Food Bank became a reference model in the transition from emergency response to local development.

Support for local development extended beyond household consumption and also focused on strengthening livelihoods. With Cargill’s contribution, 33,600 kilograms of dairy feed were distributed to **21 producers**, helping prevent productivity losses in post disaster livestock production and enhancing the economic resilience of small scale producers in the region.

The project functioned not only as an in kind aid mechanism but also as a “social development hub.” Through the integration of the “**Support Human Resources (HR)**” initiative, beneficiaries who received assistance were employed within the system, transforming them into contributors who helped deliver aid. Individuals who regained economic independence exited the system, allowing new households in need to be supported. This cyclical model minimized the risk of dependency and strengthened social solidarity.

At the end of the two year period, the project—with its established operational system, supply network, and data infrastructure—was handed over to the Municipality of Adiyaman. This transition represents the evolution of the resources provided by **Cargill and TİDER** from temporary support into a permanent public service, breaking the perception of “one off aid” and transforming it into a reliable, sustainable mechanism. This report presents, with full transparency, the needs assessments, setup phases, experiences gathered throughout two years of operation, and the ways in which this public–private–NGO partnership has created lasting value through a robust solidarity model.

Assessment of Needs

On February 6, 2023, Türkiye experienced two devastating and highly destructive earthquakes: the first, with a magnitude of 7.7, struck at 04:17 (local time) with its epicenter in Kahramanmaraş Pazarcık; the second, with a magnitude of 7.6, occurred at 13:24 with its epicenter in Kahramanmaraş Elbistan. Recognized as the “disaster of the century,” the earthquakes affected nearly 14 million people across 11 provinces and resulted in the loss of more than 50,000 lives.

Among the 11 affected provinces, Adıyaman was one of the hardest hit. In addition to extensive destruction of residential areas, damage to transportation routes caused significant delays in delivering aid to the region. As a result, Adıyaman was among the provinces where search and rescue and emergency interventions reached the area later than needed. Due to these delays, the people of Adıyaman have had a greater and more prolonged need for external support compared to other impacted provinces.

Described by its residents as “the West of the East and the East of the West,” Adıyaman requires sustainable and long term solutions to address the ongoing challenges caused by the disaster.



The estimated number of individuals affected by the earthquake is 13,381,467.

Project Description



The term “**Food Bank**” refers to the implementation of the food banking model in a modern, dignity focused market format, as defined by the **Basic Needs Association (TİDER)**. Although food banks are often assumed to include only food items, this project offered a broad range of essential products, including hygiene supplies, household items, textiles, and clothing.

What distinguishes the Adiyaman Food Bank from other examples is the inclusion of Agricultural Development Support to strengthen the livelihoods of local producers. In this framework, alongside essential food and hygiene products, animal feed for livestock raising households was also made available on the market shelves.

The Adiyaman Food Bank, conceptualized in June 2023, was launched in October 2023 after a preparation period of only five months. Built on a one decare (1,000 m²) plot with a 308 m² indoor area, the market operated as planned until October 2025, providing regular monthly assistance to an average of 1,500 households throughout the project period.



Scan the QR code
to access
the TİDER website.



Project Phases



Preparation and Installation Phase

The preparation activities for the Adiyaman Food Bank project—carried out in collaboration with Cargill, TİDER, and the Municipality of Adiyaman—were completed in June 2023. The construction and installation processes were finalized within a short period of five months, and the market began operating as planned in October 2023.



Physical Infrastructure and Multi Purpose Design

The Adiyaman Food Bank was designed on a one decare plot with a 308 m² indoor usage area.

The market consists of seven distinct functional spaces, including: 1 storage area, 1 kitchen, 1 bathroom, 1 office, 1 clothing room, 1 market section, and 1 garden.

This multi functional structure reflects the project's design intention to serve not only as a "market" but also as a community hub. As part of the project's exit strategy, the handover of the facility to the local administration at the end of the second year was planned from the very beginning.

To ensure the sustainability of the investment, the building was constructed with the flexibility to be transformed from a market format into a **cultural and arts center** or an **event space**. This strategic architectural approach enables the local administration to repurpose the facility in the future according to evolving community needs.

Project Phases

Garden Use and Social Spaces

With its central location and completed landscaping work, a safe and actively usable garden area was created to support social interaction and community engagement.

Project Duration and Closure

The Adiyaman Food Bank successfully completed its two year operational period between October 2023 and October 2025, providing essential support to an average of 1,500 households per month, as initially planned. At the end of this period, the project was

formally handed over to the local administration.

Following the handover, the Adiyaman Municipality made a strategic decision to consolidate its resources by closing other dispersed aid distribution points across the city. The municipality opted to deliver all social assistance through a single centralized hub, utilizing the infrastructure of the Adiyaman Food Bank, ensuring that support is provided in a controlled, transparent, and monitorable manner.

This decision stands as the clearest indication that the efficiency and success of the established system have been formally acknowledged and validated by the local administration.

Accessibility and Inclusion:

Strategic Location and Ease of Transportation

When determining the location of the market, beneficiaries' transportation costs and ease of access were prioritized. The market, constructed in Adiyaman Altınşehir, was positioned within walking distance of densely populated residential areas. For households living in regions relatively far from the city center, transportation was no longer a barrier thanks to the land selection directly in front of a public transportation stop. When determining the location of the market, beneficiaries' transportation costs and ease of access were prioritized. The market, constructed in Adiyaman Altınşehir, was positioned within walking distance of densely populated residential areas. For households living in regions relatively far from the city center, transportation was no longer a barrier thanks to the land selection directly in front of a public transportation stop.

Barrier Free Design and Interior Layout

The project's architectural design followed the principle of "accessibility for all" unwaveringly for two years.

- **External Access:** An international standard accessibility ramp at the market entrance enables individuals with physical disabilities and elderly visitors to access the facility independently.
- **Interior Mobility:** The arrangement of shelves and aisle widths inside the market were designed in line with universal design standards, allowing wheelchair users and parents with strollers to shop comfortably and independently, without needing assistance. This ensures a dignified and comfortable shopping experience for all beneficiaries.
- **Ergonomic Product Placement and Staff Support:** Shelf layouts were planned to ensure not only horizontal but also vertical accessibility. To prevent wheelchair users from experiencing difficulties reaching upper shelves, high turnover essential items were placed on easily accessible levels. In exceptional cases where physical access was not possible, market staff provided support with sensitivity.
- **Special Needs Focused Aisle Planning:** Areas containing sensitive items such as medical pads, adult diapers, and women's hygiene products, as well as the "Women's Support Section", were strategically positioned within the general circulation flow while still ensuring visual privacy. This approach allowed beneficiaries to request or select these items without hesitation, contributing to a dignified and respectful shopping experience. This consideration has special importance for the people of Adiyaman.

How does it work?

- The beneficiary, who is contacted by the Food Bank team, is expected to come to the market on the designated day and time.

- The beneficiary can check the balance loaded to their Turkish ID number via the message sent to their phone.

- The beneficiary selects the items they need, just like in a standard shopping experience.

- At the checkout, the beneficiary does not pay cash; instead, they show the message received on their mobile phone. The cost of the selected items is deducted from their balance.

- They complete their shopping and leave, saving any remaining credit for future use. Meanwhile, they are directed to Support HR.

Who can benefit?

- The household must not receive a monthly income under the Social Security Institution system and must be below the poverty threshold.

- There must be no real estate registered under the applicant's name or the names of household members.

- There must be no car registered under the applicant's name or the names of household members that is model year 2005 or newer.

- The applicant must reside within the boundaries of Adiyaman Central District.

- The applicant must not have previously applied to the Adiyaman Municipality Directorate of Culture and Social Affairs.

- The applicant must not be receiving in kind or cash assistance from other institutions or organizations.

How are beneficiaries notified?

- The list of individuals screened and approved by the Adiyaman Municipality Directorate of Culture and Social Affairs is forwarded to the Food Bank staff.

- The Food Bank team contacts each person on the list individually and invites them to the market.

- Each family is assigned a specific day to visit the market. This system prevents overcrowding and allows all beneficiaries to shop comfortably.

Implementation process

Citizens who are able to access the market can shop directly; however, for beneficiaries who cannot visit the market in person (such as the elderly, individuals with disabilities, or those who are ill), the Food Bank team provides direct, at home service.

Support Human Resources

Support Human Resources

Support Human Resources aims not only to ensure that individuals in need benefit from food banks, but also to help them secure sustainable livelihoods by gaining employment and developing professional skills.

Who Can Benefit?

Individuals in need who shop free of charge at the Food Banks, as well as their family members and close relatives.

How are unemployed individuals reached?

Through applications, phone calls, or home visits, individuals within the household who are capable of working are identified.

How are candidates evaluated?

Candidates suitable for employment are interviewed, and their skills, work experience, and training needs are assessed.

Do candidates receive training?

When necessary, candidates are provided with Empowerment, Vocational Training, and On the Job training programs, depending on the requirements of the job. In some cases, direct employment opportunities are also offered.

Skill up as you are supported!

The individual placed in a job is monitored for six months, during which the necessary support and guidance are provided. If it is determined that the job is not suitable for them, the person is redirected to other fields.

In the context of the Adiyaman Food Bank, one beneficiary has been employed as a staff member. While continuing as part of the TIDER team, these individuals have strengthened their capacities through training received from other local civil society organizations.

Those who received training in sexual health and in maternal and child health were enabled to give effective and informed guidance to beneficiaries visiting the market.

An overview of the food bank



Project decision
(June 2023)



Groundbreaking
(October 2023)



Collaboration between
local government, the
private sector, and
NGOs



1-decare land



308 m²
usable area



A team of
4 people



HR support
employment for
project staff



Service to 1.500
families per month



66.210 kg
of food



40.563 kg of
non-food items



5.500
baby products



8.658
clothing items



550 units of
women's sanitary
pads

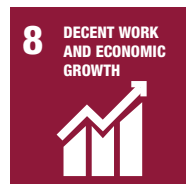


16.285 personal
hygiene products



Product support
valued at 6.5 million TL

Our project aims to directly and/or indirectly contribute to 7 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

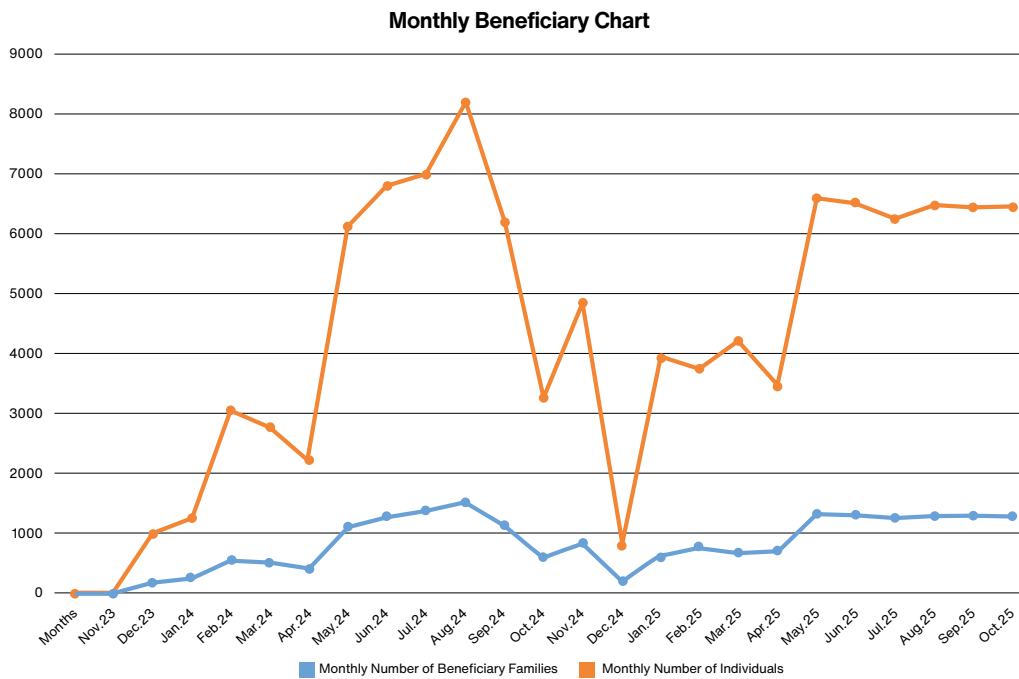


Food bank by the numbers

• As of 31 October 2023, Adiyaman Food Bank began providing services, and by October 2025, it had reached an average of 1,500 beneficiary families per month.

• As of October 2023, the monthly beneficiary trend chart shows that by the project’s 18th month, the program had begun to demonstrate a stable pattern. This stabilization in the data is a clear indicator that, over the course of 1.5 years, the people of Adiyaman have fully adapted to the food banking system.

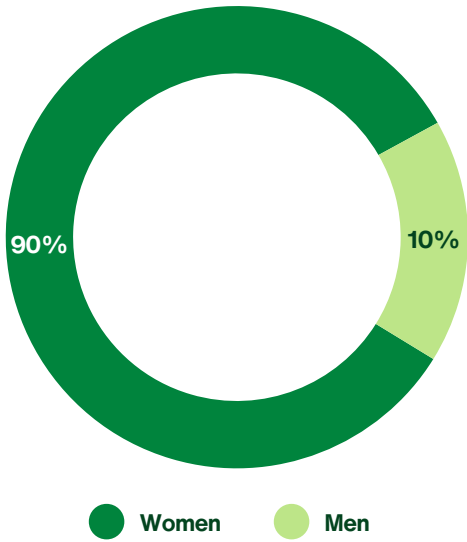
Before the establishment of the Adiyaman Food Bank, irregularities in accessing aid led to the perception of support as a “one time assistance” model. However, with the implementation of the project, continuity in humanitarian aid and social support has been ensured. This has helped embed a culture of receiving regular support among beneficiaries.



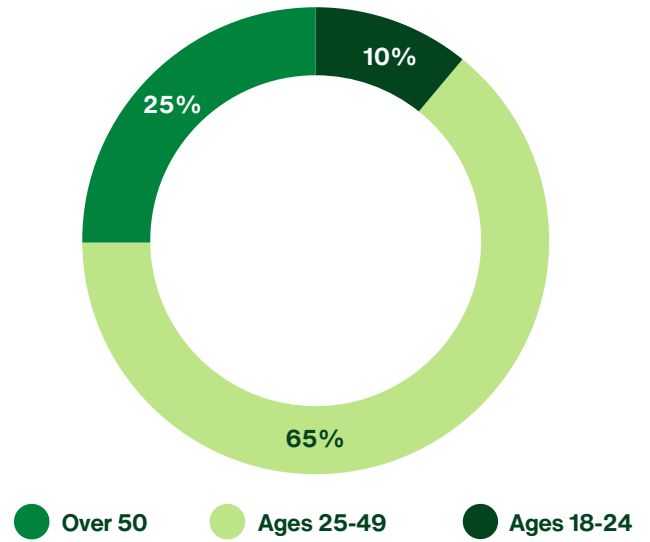
At the end of two years, the number of individuals we reached through 20,646 different shopping transactions is 87,181.

Food bank by the numbers

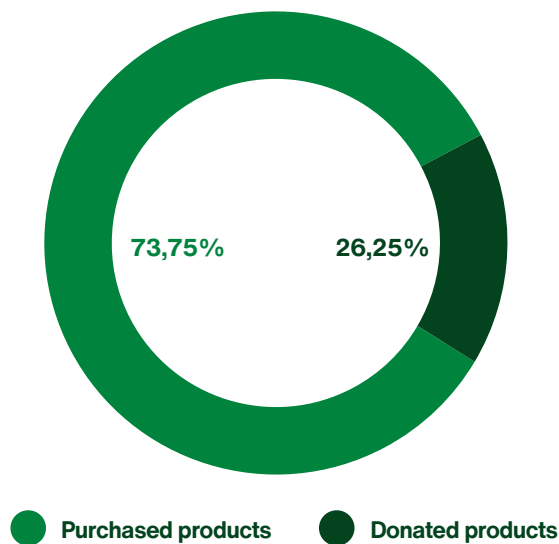
Gender distribution



Age range



Food Bank product details



Vulnerable groups

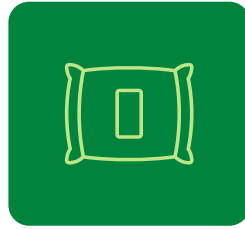
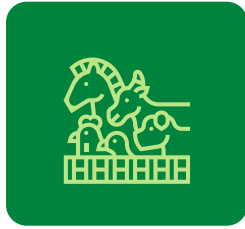
Out of **1,520** regular beneficiary families;

- **397** are women who are divorced or separated and solely responsible for the care of their children,
- **100** families are considered vulnerable groups, with at least one household member who has a mental or physical disability,
- **169** are families in which the father is currently in a correctional facility,
- **800** are families without any insurance or health coverage.



Animal feed support

21 Producer	41 Animal	Number of packages provided to one producer (1 package 50 kg)	Animal feed provided to one producer – kg	Total feed support amount – kg
		32	1.600	33.600



The Cargill logo is centered on a solid green background. It features a white, stylized wave-like graphic above the word "Cargill". The word "Cargill" is written in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the bottom right of the word.

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