

# Institutional Capacity

6 February 2023 Earthquakes in Türkiye

# Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)

- Main body to coordinate all-hazard and emergency related activities before, during and after an event by Law No. 5902 since 2009 under the former Prime Minister's Office.
- Former General Directorate (GD) of Disaster Affairs, GD Civil Defense and GD of Turkey Emergency Management had been unified
- Aim: To have a bottom-up, decentralized system
- In 2018, AFAD was connected to the Ministry of Interior.

# Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)

- All employees work with good intention for sure
- I was in contact with AFAD HQ colleagues since first hours of the EQ
- System became reversed and too centralized, top-down since 2018
- The community in all 11 provinces state that: there was a delay in response, especially in the first 3 days!

# Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)

- There are very valuable and knowledgeable colleagues at AFAD, the problem is with the administration teams as the President, Vice Presidents, Head of Divisions are appointed only for political purposes.
- Most of them do not have any disaster or emergency background and understanding such as one of the deputies were from the Religious Affairs Presidency, which is location-wise next building to AFAD HQ in Ankara!
- We need people with suitable background in these critical positions!

# Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)

- Turkey National Disaster Response Plan (TAMP)
- Turkey National Disaster Risk Reduction Plan (TARAP) with provincial documents IRAP
- Turkey National Disaster Strategy Document (2017)
- Turkey National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform
- National Earthquake Strategy Action Plan (NESAP) / Ulusal Deprem Strateji Eylem Planı (UDSEP) in Turkish
- National Earthquake Council (dismissed and trying to reestablish now!)
- National Risk Shield! Brand New in March 2023!

Thank you!

[bberna@metu.edu.tr](mailto:bberna@metu.edu.tr)