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**THE GLOBAL BANK  
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
AND RECONSTRUCTION FUND**

*Public Affairs Section of the  
Global Bank*



## PRESS RELEASE

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**Global Bank Group President Ron Nechemia condolences to the people of Turkey and Syria**



**“Deeply Concerned”: Global Bank Group President Ron Nechemia Expresses Condolences to the People of Turkey and Syria Following a Devastating Earthquake of a 7.8 magnitude in Southern Turkey and northwest Syria.**

**Newport Beach, CA – February 6, 2023** — Following the terrible devastation caused by a major earthquake strikes in Southern Turkey and Northwest Syria, Global Bank Group’s President Ron Nechemia (@RonNechemia) remains deeply concerned for the tens of thousands of people affected by the devastating earthquake of a 7.8 magnitude which was followed by another large quake of magnitude 7.7, in Southern Turkey on Monday morning and again on Monday afternoon. He shared his deep concerns, **“Thousands of displaced**

**people living in rapidly deteriorating conditions in the worst-hit parts of southern Turkey and Syria after major earthquake strikes.”**

The President of the Global Bank Group, Ron Nechemia, extends his condolences on behalf of the Bank Group to all those in Turkey and Syria who have lost loved ones. We stand with the communities affected by the devastating impact of Turkey’s earthquakes.

The devastation in Turkey and Syria is massive. I suspect the final death toll will be in the tens of thousands. So far, two large earthquakes have struck. When earthquakes strike densely populated urban areas, especially where buildings were constructed hastily and with insufficient considerations for disaster preparedness, the human toll is typically high. Natural disasters are often more lethal when people are asleep (the first quake struck shortly after 4 a.m. local time). Add the difficulties of winter weather, the risk of exposure for those trapped in debris, and the difficulties of a war zone to an already vulnerable refugee population. All of this points to an extremely bleak outcome.

The President of the Global Bank Group, Ron Nechemia, was “**shocked and saddened**” by the outcome of Turkey’s earthquake, which was recorded as “**One of the strongest earthquakes to hit the region in a century.**” He has added, “The Global Bank Group and the Global Bank Disaster Risk Reduction and Reconstruction Fund — An Umbrella Trust Fund (GB-DRRRF) are stepping up their efforts to help the people left homeless and supports effective post-disaster reconstruction and recovery efforts.”

The Global Bank Group is working in partnership with the governments of Turkey and Syria, including the National Emergency Management Authority. While meeting lifesaving and life-sustaining needs, the Global Bank is also focused on laying the foundation for long-term sustainable development. The Global Bank framework calls for actions to not only protect populations and promote rapid recovery but also to prevent new risks, such as those caused by unplanned urban growth in areas prone to earthquakes, flooding, landslides, and the effects of climate change.

Global Bank technical experts have been collaborating with other partners to compile information from the models on the affected areas and assess the extent of the devastating Turkey earthquake impact in Turkey and Syria. Global Bank anticipates that this information will aid in a timely response and provide a better understanding of the current situation.

### **Support Syria and Turkey’s Humanitarian Response and Recovery**

We will continue to monitor the situation as it develops, and our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Syria and Turkey. For more information on how the public can support the Global Bank Group disaster relief efforts, please visit The Global Bank Disaster Risk Reduction and Reconstruction Fund — An Umbrella Trust Fund website at <http://www.gbdrfff.org/>.

### **YOUR DONATION IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE**

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### **About GB-DRRRF**

The Global Bank Disaster Risk Reduction and Reconstruction Fund – an Umbrella Trust Fund (GB-DRRRF), established in 2017, is a multi-donor partnership and grant-making financing mechanism. Its purpose is mainstreaming climate change into development to help achieve the [Sendai Framework targets by 2030](#) - a decade-long plan to help make the world safer from disasters caused by natural hazards, to support the implementation of the [Global Climate Agreement in Paris](#), and prevent disasters undermining progress on the [Sustainable Development Goals](#). The rapid and flexible support offered by the [Global Bank Disaster Risk](#)

[Reduction and Reconstruction Fund](#) makes it a central pillar of the [Global Bank Group](#) agencies' humanitarian response architecture.

More detailed information can be found on the GB-DRRRF's website <http://www.gbdrfff.org/>

### **About Global Bank**

[Global Bank](#) is the Global Bank Group's long-term sovereign lending institution. As a development bank with an agenda driven by G-7/G-8 and G-20-priorities, its leading priority is to promote global economic and social development. Unlike the multilateral development banks (MDBs), Global Bank is not restricted to operating only in developing countries.

The Global Bank Group represents, develops, and supports the collective interests of the Global Bank and its business interests globally. Global Bank is a full-fledged private sector global development bank, in formation, – the *world's second global development bank* – positioned next to the *World Bank Group* and next to the preeminent regional development banks. It combines the characteristics of a multilateral development bank with those of a private financial institution. The primary objective of the Global Bank is to reduce poverty in middle-income countries and creditworthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development. To this end, Global Bank finances primarily public sector infrastructure projects and sustainable development through the provision of sovereign loans to developing countries. Global Bank's financial objective is not to maximize profit, but to earn an adequate income to ensure its financial strength and to sustain its development activities.

For information about the Global Bank, please visit [www.global-bank.org/](http://www.global-bank.org/)

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