



Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group

Türkiye

CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

28 February 2023

Gaziantep

Chaired by:	UNHCR & TRC
Venue:	Gaziantep (Hybrid)
Minutes:	Busra Seray Duzyol (UNHCR), Ahmet Unver (UNHCR)
Participants:	CALP Network, CARE, Concern Worldwide, DRC, DG ECHO, IFRC, IOM, JCCP/REALs, PRM, Relief International, Save the Children, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, SGDD-ASAM, Syrian American Medical Society, TRC, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHH, WFP, World Vision

AGENDA:

- 1) Welcome & Introductions (*all partners, 15 mins*)
- 2) Review: Action Points from the Previous Meeting (*IA, 15 mins*)
- 3) Review: Existing/Announced Cash-based Interventions (*IA, 15 mins*)
- 4) Updates from KızılayKart Programmes & TRC Assessments (*TRC, 30 mins*)
- 5) Wrap-up: CBI TWG information needs/tasks/solutions (*all partners, 15 mins*)
- 6) Any Other Business (*5 mins*)

New Action Points from the Meeting:

1. Update on operational financial service providers in impacted cities (banks, PTT etc)
2. Partners share market assessments until coming meeting
3. Coordination team prepare an analysis of market situation based on MIRA

I. Review Action Points from the Previous Meeting

- Operational financial service providers in impacted cities (banks, PTT) were compiled as an Excel document with to serve the purpose of understanding feasibility of CBIs in different locations by the coordination team. The updated document will be shared with members.
- TRC announced their co-lead status for the CBI TWG as the local NGO; UNHCR & TRC will co-lead.
- Non-member participants of the ad-hoc meeting should share their registration in Türkiye to become member of CBI TWG. Organizations should also be registered to provide assistance in Türkiye.
- Available data on market assessment and MEB calculations by TRC, WFP and IFRC will be compiled and shared with members.

Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessment

- Three areas of information collection in MIRA can be useful for CBIs in the EQ affected provinces.
- The first area is access to NFIs and availability of them in the market. When the MIRA is geographically tagged information regarding NFIs and market situation will be available.
- In MIRA, questions regarding market situation for food will enable CBI partners to evaluate feasibility of cash assistance in the district to access food.
- The last set of questions aim at assessing economic situation. These can give an idea about current economic activity in the district.
- A workshop on MIRA was held in Ankara, 28 February. The outputs can be shared in the next CBI TWG meeting.

II. Review Existing/Announced Cash-based Interventions

CBIs announced by the Turkish Government

- CBIs announced by the Turkish government and authorities, FAQs regarding these assistances and some eligibility criteria were presented. Detailed information can be found between *Slides 8-11*.
- One-off hardship/basic needs support in the amount of TRY 10.000 is being distributed by AFAD since Feb 17, 2023. Field observations suggest that individuals with 99 ID numbers also receive this support given that they are eligible. This information is need of official confirmation by the government.
- The information provided in this part is obtained from AYDES website and participants can visit the website via [this link](#) for further information.
- New rental support to renter is announced as TRY 3.000 by Minister Murat Kurum.
- News on the media highlight that the money deposited to the accounts can be withdrawn by claimants if the beneficiary is in debt, such as electricity fee, phone bill, etc. However, there is no information on mortgage debts and if the money will be withdrawn for mortgage payments.

Sectoral and MPC CBIs per Flash Appeal

- Under Multipurpose Cash & Social Protection, 2 million beneficiaries are targeted.
- For Emergency Shelter & NFIs, short-term support is expected. Rehabilitation of damaged houses and cash support will be provided.
- For Food Security and Livelihoods, food packages and vouchers besides unconditional cash for revitalizing rural livelihoods will be provided.
- For Early Recovery, cash for work will be provided. Moreover, there will be cash programmes using current UN systems in coordination with MoFSS. The Appeal document gives reference to strong social protection systems in Türkiye.

Alignment & Complementarity with Government Programs

- In Türkiye, there are examples of cash programs working in harmonization with government such as ESSN and C-ESSN.
- As an alignment between several agencies: In 2020 COVID-19 one-off basic needs cash support was provided by MoFSS to Turkish citizens. PMM reached out to UNHCR and IOM to extend this basic needs support to people benefiting from TP and IP, and same amount of payment was extended. TRC and IFRC also aligned their one-off top-up and aligned with government and UN programs. This harmonisation aimed to avoid inequalities and discrepancies between beneficiaries and to prevent social tension.
- For detailed information please see Slides 15-16.

III. Updates from KızılayKart Programs

- TRC, has been conducting cash assistance under 3RP and the scope of the interventions will be expanded to respond the earthquake.
- The current nation-wide programmes are expected to continue without any interruptions. The assessments will be conducted as usual and when updates from the government are received the adjustments will be made.
- As a quick response to the EQ, sweepbacks will be postponed for six months for all of the programs.
- TRC also noted that the EQ response will not be limited to 10 provinces as many beneficiaries are leaving the affected provinces.
- In terms of TRC Service Centers, the Antakya Service Center was heavily damaged. Apart from Antakya, others listed are operational. People recently start visiting service centers to get information.
- At the same time, TRC has communications with its contracted FSP, Halkbank. Beneficiaries used to receive their cards in the cities that they are residing. After conversations with FSP, people can get their KızılayKart from any of the Halkbank branches. Therefore, people move out of the city can still reach their cards.
- People who have been resettled in TACs after the earthquake will receive the TRC-WFP In-Camp Assistance in the amount of TRY 2.500 along with the former residents.
- TRC-IFRC also initiated **voucher assistance as A101 cards**. The idea is to support affected population who are moving from the EQ zone.
- Joint Cash Consortium started with TRC, IFRC and WFP. The group coming up with the solutions to make the response efficient. Now the consortium is expanding thanks to UNICEF and Save the Children and other possible NGOs are under discussion as potential members.
- The aim is to provide MPC for people who are able to reach markets and ATMs. A TWG will be established to analyze market conditions and cash provisions, FSP branches, supply chain, etc. The main aim is to come up with a joint proposal together with those partners for a quick response. This complementary Consortium will aim to cover needs that are not covered by government assistance.

Field Updates

- TRC Field teams are visiting especially 3 provinces to see weekly basis developments. Excluding the most affected 3 provinces, markets are seem to be operational and ATMs are functional. However, for 3 provinces there is a need for reconsidering targeting and methodology. Cash assistance might not be ideal while in-kind can still be valid.
- TRC utilized their latest dataset to determine needs right before the EQ. Based on this, TRC tried to define the vulnerability of target group and according to results very poor shelter conditions observed.
- in the first week of the disaster, TRC conducted communication with communities with more than 2000 participants. The report and dataset are also feeding MIRA process.
- TRC also constantly continued identification of earthquake related basic needs through its teams on the field and through incoming calls to the TRC 168 Call Center and make referrals accordingly. Moreover, M&E teams in the field conduct assessments regularly.
- For more information you can visit TRC's database platform via [this link](#).
- Social markets are also established in the affected area and two more are upcoming.
- At this stage of response, TRC emphasized needs around in-kind assistance and services but also stated their direction would be towards cash-based solutions.

IV. CBI TWG Tasks/Solutions

- UNFPA showed interest in joining and supporting MEB calculations to ensure inclusion of the special needs of women and girls in the basket.
- For MEB calculations, TRC stated that the basket was calculated with multiple scenarios. Now that the intention is to provide MPC, TRC is trying to align all of those scenarios into one. The aim is to have one MEB inclusive of sector specific needs.
- UNICEF is planning a MPC to support families with 0-5 years old children. Cash assistance and messaging on health, nutrition and protection sector linkages will be provided. The aim is to cover 1.2m children and the budget is approximately USD 45 M.
- UNFPA is planning to scale up their cash-based interventions. They started provision of cash support and scale up cash intervention to support women and girls further.
- Save the Children asserted that they will incorporate lessons learned from the Ukraine crisis into their response. In terms of MEB, a child-sensitive approach should be adopted and STC remarked that they can provide this as they have longstanding partnerships with TRC and Child Services of MoFSS.
- DRC indicated that small vendors should be approached for multisectoral vouchers. DRC aims to align its transfer value with ESSN and provide assistance considering that household size as 6 people (6 times ESSN TV). DRC will start such an initiative in Kilis and Şanlıurfa in the coming weeks. DRC has already submitted the request and will switch to cash assistance when they get the written approval from GoT.
- SENED already implemented the first stage of the project on 27-28 February in Gaziantep. The targeted beneficiaries were 3000 families (50% Refugee and 50% host communities). The transfer amount is calculated as following:
 - 1-3 family member - 4 BIM card, each have TRY 2000 (in total TRY 8000)
 - 4-6 family member - 5 BIM card, each have TRY 2000 (in total TRY 10000)
 - More than 6 family member - 6 BIM card, each have TRY 2000 (in total TRY 12000)

AOB. Next meeting will be held next week, date will be announced.