

UNHCR in Türkiye April 2025

844 refugees benefited from Turkish language courses so far in 2025 (10,000 in 2024). Nearly **1,500** individuals benefited from vocational training courses so far in 2025 (15,000 in 2024).

38 Public Education Centres across **twenty-one** provinces supported by UNHCR.

90 workshops enhanced with support from UNHCR enhancing refugees' skills on pastry and culinary arts, textile, hairdressing, jewelry-making, toy carpentry, dry-cleaning, ceramics, and pearl craftsmanship.



I came from Syria to Türkiye in 2014. I am a single mother with four children. I am skilled in physical therapy and other practices and have certificates from Syria. However, I could not work due to the language barrier. I took a sewing course from UNHCR's partner ASAM and started to take a Turkish language class. I failed the first two exams but I did not give up. I scored 100/100 in the third round. Now I am working with an organization to prevent child marriage. I am also able to support my family financially.

Ms Fatma, a Syrian refugee in Türkiye.

Context

Non-formal education is a cornerstone for fostering development and social cohesion, providing refugees of all ages with the skills and knowledge they need to rebuild their lives and contribute to society. Non-formal education enhances refugees' resilience by addressing educational gaps and offering opportunities for vocational and technical training, Turkish language learning, and personal

development. It also plays a critical role in driving sustainable development by empowering individuals to participate in local economies and strengthen community ties.

Aligned with UNHCR Türkiye's education strategy, the Global Compact on Refugees, and the Sustainable Development Goals, UNHCR Türkiye emphasizes inclusive and accessible non-formal education that supports the lifelong learning needs of refugee children, youth, and adults, paving the way for their integration and participation in social and economic life.

Working in Partnership

The Ministry of National Education (MoNE) leads and coordinates Türkiye's education response, encompassing formal and non-formal education for children and adults. UNHCR has supported MoNE in delivering Turkish language courses and vocational and technical learning programmes through MoNE's extensive network of **Public Education Centres (PECs)**, the largest providers of non-formal education. As part of its collaboration with MoNE, UNHCR supported the renovation of 90 vocational workshop facilities in 38 public education centres across 21 provinces.

These workshops, covering fields such as culinary arts, textiles, hairdressing, ICT, and shoemaking, were selected through a feasibility analysis conducted with MoNE and field actors, considering local labour market needs. UNHCR has also delivered capacity development training for PEC master trainers and managers, focusing on conflict resolution, protection, circulating capital management, marketing, and finance. These trainings equip PEC staff with the knowledge and tools to manage resources effectively and sustain the centres. Where possible, UNHCR also works with other line ministries, such as the **Ministry of Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS)** and **municipalities** to deliver PEC-certified language courses to refugees using their infrastructure and existing agreements with PECs.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the General Directorate of Youth Services of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, UNHCR supports Information and Technology Classes in 11 **Youth Centres** in 10 provinces, to enhance digital learning opportunities for both Turkish and refugee youth.

Learn more: [Short video \(PEC\)](#) | [Short Video \(Youth Centre\)](#) | [X Post on training \(ASAM\)](#) | [Web-story \(STL\)](#) | [Web-Story 1](#) | [Web-Story 2](#)



Participant of vocational training provided at the Public Education Centres in Türkiye.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the refugee response. UNHCR in Türkiye is also thankful to donors who are contributing to 2024 programmes. For more details: [UNHCR Türkiye Funding Update – 2024](#).

