

## ESSN Task Force Izmir Minutes

### Objective

To provide an update on ESSN (WFP/TRC), overview of the Household Verification SoP, presentation on Comprehensive Vulnerability Monitoring Exercise (WFP), presentation on basic findings of the on-line Social Cohesion Survey (WFP) and AOB.

### Date of meeting

03 November 2017  
09:00 - 11:00

### Location

Mövenpick Hotel Izmir  
Kültür Mahallesi, Cumhuriyet Blv No:138, 35210  
Konak/Izmir

### 1. Update of ESSN

- The Co-Chair, World Food Programme (WFP) provided an update on the ESSN to date noting that as of 30 October, a total of 363,312 applications were registered; 5,714 applications were not assessed; 188,463 applications were deemed eligible and 169,135 applications were ineligible. Approximately, 38,93% of the applications were registered by 18 TRC Service Centres. A total of 1,062,569 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in October (48.94% male/51.07% female). Majority of the beneficiaries are Syrian nationals (91.1%) followed by the Iraqi (6.3%) and Afghan (1.9%) nationals.
- ESSN reached more than 1 million people in 10 months. Eligibility Age breakdown of the beneficiaries as follows: 0-17 (61.47%), 18-59 (35.76%) and >60 (2.77%).
- Inclusion rate is 52%. Average household size is 5.95.
- In Aegean Region, majority of the applications are from Izmir, Denizli and Balikesir. In Izmir province, majority of the ESSN HHs are from Bornova, Karabaglar and Konak. As of 19 October according to the DGMM figures, 118,650 Syrians were registered under Temporary Protection in Izmir.
- As of 29 October 2017, TRC Call Centre received totally 405,856 calls that have been replied by 23 operators. Most of the calls have been received from Istanbul, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, and Hatay. Most of the calls are for information requests.

### 2. Presentation on the Overview of Household Verification SoP

- The household verification visit SOP is prepared based on the circular (ESSN Implementation Guidelines) circulated by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies in October 2016.
- The households which become **eligible** and started to receive the ESSN assistance should be visited in their residency within one year. These visits should be repeated once in a year in the following years.
- The guidance SoP is referring the visits only to the eligible beneficiaries, but some SASF offices also conduct visits to the ineligibles in order to assess their situation.
- This is a guidance document for the SASFs that makes suggestions in order set a standardised procedure during the implementation. The SASFs can still have their own methodologies depending on to their capacity. The SASFs may reach to TRC to seek for support regarding logistical and capacity related needs.
- The suggestion of the social worker is being endorsed by the Board of Trustee if there is no major hesitation to the decision suggested by the social worker.
- In case the family is rejected due to the household verification visit, the family can go and re-apply to ESSN.
- In case the household members were not found at home, the social workers leave a message that they have come for verification visit; but they do not provide the information when they will visit the household again. Thus, the families that receive the message are advised to go to SASF offices and inform them that they are residing at the address and available for another visit. The families that do not stay at home during the working hours are also advised to go and visit SASF offices to declare their situations.
- SASF assistance is linked to a specific district, so if beneficiaries move to a new district and change the Nufus address registration this will show up on SASF information systems. Once they apply / update their information at the new SASF office it could take 5-9 weeks to complete the assessment again and receive an SMS on eligibility. However, if the beneficiary is able to update all of the information (Nufus registration and SASF re-application) between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of the month then there should be a direct transition of assistance without a break. This is because the 25<sup>th</sup>

of the month is the cut-off date for the monthly MoFSP beneficiary list (after this point verification takes place until the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the following month).

### **3. Presentation on Comprehensive Vulnerability Monitoring Exercise**

- It was noted that the CVME represents an in-depth analysis of refugee vulnerability, which recognizes and addresses the limitations of PAB and PDM surveys. It aims to inform programme design and identify unmet needs, with a specific focus on targeting analysis and exclusion errors; barriers to application; and health, protection, shelter needs and gaps.
- In total, 3,555 individuals, or 600 households, were included in the sample. The exercise found that consumption is relatively good among refugee households, but there is a high reliance on negative coping strategies, with over half the sample population living below the poverty line.
- While ESSN-eligible households are in general poorer than ineligible households, ineligible households are still very poor and reliant on negative coping strategies. In general, non-applicants are the worst off, with more debt, greater reliance on emergency coping strategies, and worse food consumption scores.

### **4. Presentation on basic findings of the On-line Social Cohesion Survey (WFP)**

- Survey is conducted on-line with only Arabic and Turkish speaking refugees and host communities. Mostly young, male participants.
- Host (Turkish) community is more polarized. Whereas refugee community is very positive feelings about host community. Half of them are already speaking Turkish (51%).
- Provision of Assistance: Half of Refugee community think that their basic needs should be covered by the international community.
- WFP field offices also conduct focus group discussions in order to evaluate the relevance of the survey results.

### **5. AOB**

- Please remember to send any issues/challenges observed with as much detail as possible (location, date, etc.) to the ESSN TF.

#### **Attachments:**

1. ESSN Task Force Izmir Presentation
2. Presentation on CVME Results
3. Presentation on Online Social Cohesion Survey
4. ESSN Q3 Monitoring Report