

ESSN Task Force Ankara Minutes

Meeting date & time:	17 October 2019	Location:	UNHCR Yildiz Kule- Ankara
	09:30 – 12:00	Meeting Co-Chairs:	WFP: Hiba Hanano TK: Hanifi Kinaci

Participants:	British Embassy, ASAM, ECHO, HRDF, IFRC, ILO, IGAM, MSYD, STL Global, TRC, UN Women, UNHCR, UNICEF, WATAN, WFP.
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Agenda:	Welcome and Introduction
	1. Updates on ESSN and its implementation in Middle Anatolia and Black Sea Region.
	2. Livelihood Mapping & Survey Results
	• Livelihoods Survey Results
	• Livelihoods Mapping Results
	3. Updates on Developments in Istanbul
4. Updates on CCTE	
5. AOB: ASAM - ESSN Experience Sharing	

Meeting Minutes:

1. Updates on ESSN and its Implementation in Middle Anatolia and Black Sea Region:

ESSN Updates:

- The Co-Chairs WFP and TK provided an update of ESSN implementation noting that as of 14th October 2019, a total of 2.802.311 individuals registered; 12.600 individuals are unassessed and 1.037.964 individuals ineligible
- A total of 1.689.937 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in September nationwide.
- A total of 94.288 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in Ankara.
- A total of 29.405 beneficiaries are disabled and a total of 7.584 are severely disabled nationwide, of those a total of 1.085 beneficiaries are in central Anatolia region.
- Nationwide eligibility rate is % 53 households and % 60 individuals.
- Information given on ESSN Criteria Breakdown covered four nationalities; %89.1 Syrians under Temporary Protection, %7.2 Iraqis, %3 Afghans and %0.2 Iranians under International Protection.
- The criteria of *family with four or more children*, has the highest acceptance percentage with % 57.6.

Ankara Area Office Update:

DHR/ÇÖZGER Monitoring

- All SASFs well understood the changes and follow the procedures to enter/update disability types and levels.
 - 9 SASFs mentioned that ISAIS became less user-friendly (report entry only) after the system developments.
- ##### Focus Group Discussions (FGD)
- IP ID should be renewed every 6 months; which might cause interruption as refugees might need to access health service while their IDs in PDMM for renewal.
 - It is difficult for refugees to establish business for having ID's valid only for 6 months.

2. Livelihood Mapping & Survey Results:

Livelihoods Survey Results

WFP and TRC developed the Livelihoods Survey to provide additional evidence to inform the design of the transition from basic needs assistance to more sustainable livelihoods opportunities for refugees in Turkey. The survey sample is drawn from the ESSN applicant pool and aims to assess the potentials of refugee integration into Turkish labour markets, as well as to identify key constraints. As such, the objectives of the survey were to:

- Create a detailed understanding of the education, skills and employment profile of refugees in Turkey.
- Gain insight into the labour market integration of refugees, including understanding catalysts, barriers and the additional support needed to enhance employment opportunities.

- Provide necessary evidence for the transition strategy and future of the ESSN programme, which will focus on increasing the employability and self-reliance of beneficiaries.
- Highlight information that can feed into a broader profiling of employment activities for refugees.

This information allows more accurate and evidence-based decision making in relation to livelihoods programming for refugees in Turkey. Please see survey findings within shared report, Livelihood Survey Findings.

Livelihoods Mapping Results

After the 8th year of Syria crises in Turkey, there is a need to shift the assistances from cash to more sustainable, more self-reliant and livelihood-based modalities. Persons of Concern with high capacity are subject to transition from ESSN to employability. In order to identify vulnerability of ESSN current beneficiaries, both WFP and TK have been conducting Comprehensive Vulnerability Monitoring Exercise (CVME), which ensures the future demand for Livelihood opportunities.

WFP initiated a Livelihood Survey-Mapping to see available livelihood opportunities on the field by both governmental and non-governmental organizations (Language course, Job placement, Vocational course, Agriculture employment etc.)- further detail are in the presentation.

3. Updates on Developments in Istanbul:

- DGMM experts shared updates related to the implementation of regulatory framework in Istanbul, highlighting certain deadlines starting with August 31st then extended to October 30th and provided information on the groups that are exempted from the current requirement of departure.
- DGMM reviewed situations of foreigners from all nationalities. Syrians who are registered in different cities but live in Istanbul are requested to return to the city of registration within one week once travel permit is issued.
- 52 provinces were designated for relocation. In this registration process, biometric and identification data will be collected and a city of preference will be selected. Persons of Concern would have to move to Oncupinar TAC in Kilis for the first thirty day ahead of their desired city.
- DGMM estimated that a total of 300.000 individuals are in Istanbul but registered in other provinces. Estimated number of people who are not registered and living in Istanbul is 65.000.
- Syrians who are unregistered and are apprehended by the law enforcement units will be transferred to the Temporary Accommodation Center in Oncupinar, Kilis for registration and referral process.
- Istanbul province is closed for registration. There are some exceptions that are highlighted below:
 - Students (with families) in the education system in Istanbul in 2018-2019-2020 academic year.
 - Family Reunification includes spouse, children and individuals who are over 18 years.
 - Syrians with work permits will continue to stay in Istanbul. Syrians who opened businesses informally have to formalize these businesses. Syrians who are working without a work permit and registered in different cities, have to return their city before the deadline and obtain a work permit.
 - Syrians Entrepreneurs will be granted a travel permit if their work required traveling to Istanbul.
 - There will be exception to Emergency cases and patients who were referred by state hospitals to receive treatment in Istanbul. Persons that accompany the patients can have travel permission.

4. Updates on CCTE:

Cash Component

- UNICEF CCTE Team updated participants that 445.757 beneficiaries were entitled for payment in September 2019. Among them, 12.299 beneficiaries only received additional and/ or motivational payments. 214.383 Kızılaycards have been uploaded with payment. 1.638.951 Turkish beneficiaries received September 2019 payment in the National CCTE Program.
- As of September 2019, the number of children reached with at least one CCTE payment has become 525.928 and the number of Kızılaycards uploaded are 254.283.
- As of 2 September 2019, 88 % are accepted CCTE applications and 64% applications were completed by SASFs.
- As of 30th September 2019, 122.915 calls were received about CCTE by TRC Call Centre. % 55 of the callers were women and top-call category %50.7 was information request.
- Having 6% of the total number of CCTE beneficiaries in Ankara, 28.941 children were reached by CCTE payments in Ankara as of September 2019. Out of these children, %63 are in primary education, %30 are in

middle school. Gender distribution is equal and the top five districts with the highest number of beneficiaries are Altindag, Mamak, Kecioren, Yenimahalle and Sincan.

- Lastly, 87% of CCTE applications were accepted and 13% applications were rejected in Ankara. Unlike the regular CCTE payments, ALP-CCTE beneficiaries receive fixed 60 TRY payment per month regardless of their gender and education modules. Additionally, CCTE ALP has 3 top-up periods in a year: May, September and January/February. As of 23th September 2019, number of CCTE applications accepted from ALP students in Ankara region (Ankara, Konya and Kayseri) is 262. ALP is operational in 5 districts of Ankara: Altindag, Cubuk, Mamak, Kecioren and Polatli.

New CCTE Motivational Payments for Secondary School/ ALP students

- To address the limited reach of CCTE to older refugee children (who were found less likely to be enrolled in school or to attend regularly), new CCTE top-ups have been introduced at the beginning of school terms. A top up for high school students was also introduced in the national CCTE program (September 2019-February 2020)
- The new top-ups in the CCTE for Refugees program will be applied from Grade 5 onwards as it was found that deterioration of regular school attendance and increased risk of dropping out begins in lower secondary school
- However, refugee children in Grades 9 onwards and ALP will get slightly higher top-ups (+150 TL) than refugee children in lower secondary (+ 100 TL) since the situation worsens for these children and the idea is to promote school completion up to 12th grade. While the primary school students (from kindergarten up to 4th grade) will continue to receive 100 TL additional payment at the beginning of each school term (September 2019 and January 2020); the lower secondary school students receive 100 TL motivational top-up; and ALP / high school students receive 150 TL motivational top-up on top of the 100 TL additional payment.

Child Protection

- UNICEF CCTE team provided a brief flow of the CP component of the programme and updated participants on the programme that as of August 2019, a total of 68.199 children have been screened since it was launched. Out of this number, 12.825 children have been assessed and identified with protection needs. 6.283 of them have been referred to specialized services in respective provinces.
- Ankara-specific data for August indicates 65 children have been screened by TRC outreach teams. The gender disaggregation reveals a ratio of %40 (F) to %60 (M). According to the age disaggregation, 10 - 13 year-old band has had the highest caseload with 20 cases and followed by 14-17 year-old band with 19 cases, and 0-5, 6-9 year-old, +18 aged children bands are similar in number of caseload.

5. Any Other Business:

ASAM ESSN Experience Sharing

- SGDD-ASAM provides social and legal support for the refugees and asylum-seekers in reaching their rights and services; psychosocial support. ASAM is also organizing courses and activities to ensure social integrating. Refugees are informed about ESSN during individual counselling. In case of problems, they are directed to 168 call centre, SASF or TRC. Refugees usually know the ESSN application process.
- Refugees are supported with a petition in case of exceptional situations. The usual process of application and referrals to ESSN continues.
- ASAM provided information regarding ESSN funding, eligibility and concerned partners. By conducting trainings for the refugee and host community/ institutions.
- ASAM holds focused sessions to change the false information, which the host community has about ESSN.
- The organisation assists refugees to receive DHR. And receive the additional allowance if applicable.
- ASAM's Mobil teams conducted house visits especially in the urban areas to assist refugees and provide needed guidance aiming to ensure them access to available services.
- **Proposed case: *WFP team have followed proposed case and results are below:***

According to the Ministry's data, the Nigerian lady who holds ID # (992022460**) is living in natural gas heated house at Atasehir Mahallesi with her 2 daughters; (7 and 4 years old).

She applied to SASF for ESSN on 17.07.2019. Then, SASF staff paid a HHV on 24th July (within one week) and was deemed eligible on the same day after Systematical acceptance/Board of Trustee decision.

This family has been benefitting from ESSN assistance since August.

Questions & Answers

1. **Q:** What measures DGMM will take addressing those who are not registered and yet have not presented themselves to PDMM offices? And What is the eligibility status to ESSN while they are in Istanbul?
A: DGMM has not shared the measures to be taken at any level. However, by law no.33 TP ID can be withdrawn from the holder if he/she stay outside the registered province.
2. **Q:** Regarding the information on employment in the livelihoods Survey results, are those interviewed people formally employed or informally employed?
A: Among the % 84 who is employed; only %3 are formally employed
3. **Q:** The listed vacancies do not align with the results listed in the ESSN Exit Strategy, do you have a justification?
A: The analysis we have conducted is for 5.332 people and the employment groupings according to the ILO's grouping. At the very end of the published document; they can find the categorization of occupations. The timeline of both (our report and the ESSN Exit strategy) is different; this is mostly the reason, the categorization can be different as well. On the other hand, vacancy list specified in Exit Strategy comes from the ISKUR nationwide vacancy list valid for that certain period.
4. **Q:** Is there a possibility to change the type of residency from IP to TP or Ikamet and what will be the eligibility?
A: Concerned individuals can approach PDMM/DGMM offices and apply However, there is no guarantee they will obtain it, because it is complicated process and includes many interviews. Moreover, each status has definition and each definition has some requirements which applicant need to have; otherwise, legally it is not possible to change residency type.
5. **Q:** Regarding employment sectors in the livelihoods mapping results, how were these sectors identified?
A: Sectors were not separately chosen or identified, they covered the sectors where interviewed companies and firms function or provided services through.
6. **Q:** Are individuals who are taking a livelihoods opportunity open to trainings?
A: If someone is formally or informally employed. He/ She can still participate in the vocational training or any other livelihoods activities. It is up to the selection criteria of each project.
7. **Q:** Do you know the percentages of those working formally among the total people who were interviewed?
A: 3% is the average of formal employment.
8. **Q:** ESSN Applications have increased to 100000 individuals, are there clear reasons for this number? And Is there a plan to analyse these numbers for the people moving from Istanbul to other provinces?
A: We have assumptions for this increase like Istanbul situation and TAC closure process. These figures come from ministry and cover the last two months. There will be a verification process then we will see exact increase number. Probably there will be a slight decrease. For upcoming meeting, we will have a better picture on application and the number of people on the move. (this number reflects individuals not applications)
9. **Q:** Regarding Istanbul situation. How many individuals are expected to benefit from ESSN, are there any measures to calculate? Since people can move between provinces and the household verification visits are not often conducted, so what is the process to identify people living outside their registered provinces? And what are the expected figures for this group of people?
*A: For **assumption of numbers:** According to DGMM, there are 550.000 refugees under both TP and IP registered in Istanbul. 370.000 of them applied to the program and 220.570 are eligible/ benefitting from the program. DGMM also estimated that a total of 365.000 refugees in Istanbul are either unregistered or registered outside Istanbul. Those cannot benefit unless they have formal registration in the same province, they live in.
*For **Verification part:** House-Holds visit are conducted by SASF, M&E and verification team whose activities are the main mechanisms that discovers mentioned individuals.**
10. **Q:** Are there clear reasons why CCTE rejection rate in Ankara is 13%?
A: Rate is normal to pervious rejection figures and there is no specific rejection reason peculiar to Ankara.

Attachments:

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| 1. ESSN Task Force Ankara Presentation | 3. CCTE Presentation |
| 2. ASAM Presentation | 4. Livelihoods Survey Results Report |