

MAPPING OF MUNICIPAL SUPPORT BY PARTNERS

Basic Needs sector published this document to share a summary of findings of the Mapping of Municipal Support by Partners in 2021, along with background information and purpose (Annex A) and inter-sectoral follow-on points for 2022 (Annex B). Further findings of mapping, and detailed project information can be accessed through the online public dashboard, available in [English](#) and [Turkish](#) languages.

Overview: Mapping of Municipal Support by Partners captured information of 410 projects providing support to municipalities, and these projects composed of 583 activities in total, supporting 133 municipalities. Budget of the projects reported by 27 organisations amounted **USD 84.24 M**¹. The second round of municipal mapping **captured more projects** compared to the first round during (between 2014-2019), and number of reporting agencies increased. This indicates that the number of municipal support projects are increasing and engagement of actors supporting municipalities with inter-agency coordination has strengthened.

Considering the **geographical coverage** of the municipal support, mapping brings out that majority of the municipal support projects target cities in southeast Türkiye, Aegean and Marmara, whereas number of support projects are limited for central Anatolia and eastern Türkiye. Municipal support by partners mostly targets cities that host the highest number of refugees in Türkiye; however, analysis show that targeting is **not necessarily correlated** with municipalities in need due to the number of refugees they host.

Sector breakdowns indicate that many municipal support projects **fall under more than one sector**. The sectors with the highest number of projects are **Basic Needs** and **Protection**, followed by Livelihoods. Analysis shows that municipal support has had an increasing focus on Protection; however, Covid-19 pandemic has changed this trend to increasing basic needs assistance to and through municipalities. Support projects under protection sector has the largest geographical coverage in Türkiye compared to other sectors, most of which only focus on SET provinces, Istanbul, Izmir, and Ankara. Mapping shows that municipalities in central Anatolia and eastern Türkiye are the least supported by partners.

Based municipal support per **Areas of Responsibilities** (Annex D), mapping shows that **SET** provinces receive the highest number of support projects. Projects in SET provinces constitute a significant portion of all projects in Türkiye under basic needs, approximately half of projects under education and livelihoods sectors, and around 40 percent of the projects under protection sector provide support to municipalities of provinces in SET. As partners across sectors support municipalities in SET, the **significance of coordination of municipal support** is even more emphasized in this context.

Beneficiary Group – Host Community: Findings show that **all of the projects in Türkiye** across sectors **are inclusive of Syrians**. On the other hand, other nationalities have significantly lower inclusion: Iraqis, Afghans, and Iranians are included in **approximately 30 percent** of the municipal support projects. Regarding the nationality breakdown of beneficiaries across sectors, projects under Protection and Livelihoods are more inclusive of nationalities other than Syrians, whereas only around **10 percent of projects under basic needs** sector includes nationalities other than Syrians. This is marked as an important gap, and a significant area of improvement as assistance should be accessible to all nationalities.

Findings show that 94 percent of the support projects are inclusive of the host community, indicating that 3RP partners work with significantly higher host community inclusion rate when working with municipalities; and thus, prevent possible tension of providing services to only one part of their population.

¹ This is the approximate total budget of projects, noting that some organisations refrained from sharing their project budgets.

Targeting: Mapping provides an insight to how partners target municipalities for providing support. According to the mapping, need for support is identified by a joint assessment between partner and the municipality in 33 percent of municipalities, and organisation identified the need through its own needs assessment in 25 percent of projects. For the remaining 42 percent, need is identified by local authorities/actors, refugee/local communities, and coordination platforms, which gives an idea about level of engagement with stakeholders in targeting other than municipality and supporting partner. This, in turn, gives ideas about level of participation and representation of other actors in these decision-making processes. Although some projects consult a variety of stakeholders, organisations in Türkiye significantly depend on their assessment. Moreover, another important finding is that when supporting provincial and district municipalities, other stakeholders are consulted at a higher rate, compared to metropolitan where joint assessments and organizations' own assessments account for 72 percent. Thus, whether targeting is less participatory when working with metropolitan municipalities might deserve further exploration.

Breakdown of Support to Municipal Services and Responsibilities: This part provides an analysis of which services and areas of responsibilities are supported in Türkiye and as per different AoRs. Support to municipal services and responsibilities are grouped under four categories: Support to social services, support to municipal facilities, support to governance, policy development, strategic planning, and coordination, and lastly, support to basic municipal services (including infrastructure, equipment, and vehicles).

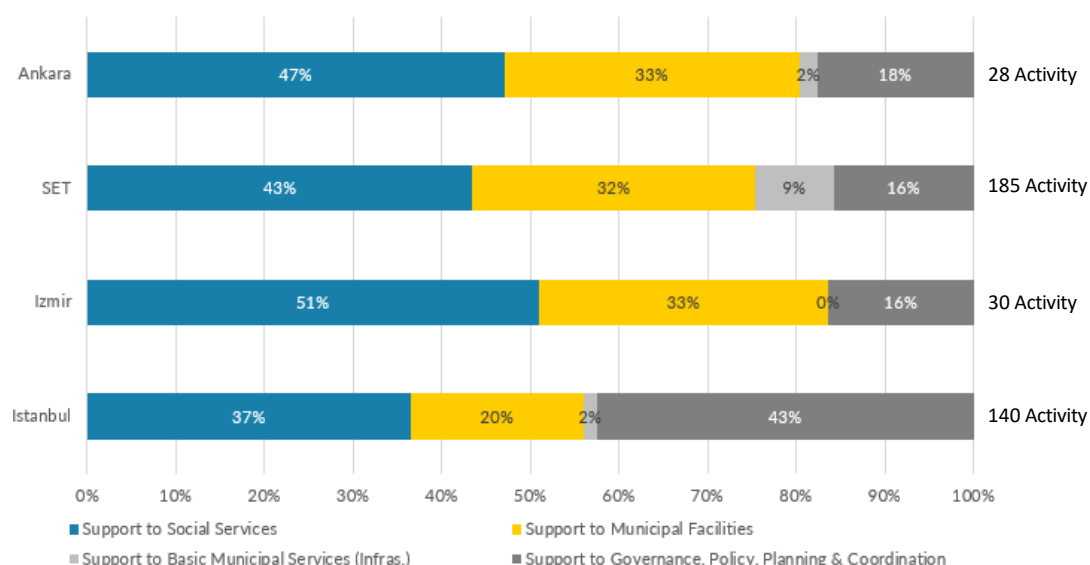
Social services are the most supported municipal responsibilities with 43 percent among all support activities. Support to social services includes support to services of social cohesion, social assistance, protection, and livelihoods, respective of their ranking. Mapping brings out that when actors provide support to municipalities, they always target social cohesion in parallel with their sectoral activity. However, analysis brings out only some part of the support projects directly target social cohesion through their activities; therefore, how actors support social cohesion with municipalities is not clarified in this mapping and requires follow-on work. Supporting social assistance services in municipalities follows support to social cohesion, with support activities being predominantly being provided under basic needs sector, followed by protection and livelihoods. This finding support sectoral discussions around increase in providing social assistance to and through municipalities, specifically following the Covid-19 pandemic. Support to protection services and livelihoods services follow these support activities.

Support to municipal facilities is the second most supported municipal responsibility with 28 percent, and majority of the activities target supporting livelihoods/vocation training and career development centres, and community service centres. Municipal facilities that are specialised on creating livelihood opportunities for refugees and host community are widely support across sectors. This indicates that partners see the added value of working with municipalities to support self-reliance of refugees, and benefit from the abilities and capacities of municipalities for skills development and job placement. Mapping brings out increasing collaboration with municipalities to support community service centres, providing opportunities for sustainability and continuity in providing social services to persons of concern through these centres. Soup kitchens follow these two general categories as an intervention to increase employability of refugees and host community and provide food assistance to vulnerable individuals in collaboration with several different municipalities. Support to other public facilities such as parks and sports facilities continue yet they mark a decreasing trend.

Municipal **support to governance, policy, planning & coordination** was captured in the second round of the mapping; consequently, commenting on trends between rounds and validating whether projects captured in first round of mapping supported governance, policy,

planning, and coordination cannot be done based on the collected data. Nevertheless, mapping brings out that significant number of projects support this municipal responsibility with 23 percent. Analysis shows that supporting or facilitating coordination and targeting refugee inclusive planning, policy development and service provision is the new direction of supporting municipalities across sectors as more partners observe the positive impacts of this type of **strategic** interventions, which do not heavily rely on funding compared to more conventional modalities of support such as providing goods, equipment, constructing facilities. Activities that support to coordination, policy dialogue use institutional know-how and human resources to create sustainable positive impact. Supporting this area of responsibility have been component of many support projects in Istanbul, İzmir and SET, and improvement is expected in Ankara AoR. On the other hand, among all projects supporting coordination, working with municipalities in policy development for **inclusion of refugees in municipal services seems** to be calling for immediate improvement.

General discourse in the last couple years has been that **support to basic municipal services especially support to infrastructure** would no longer be through 3RP, as funding of these support projects moved to IFIs; however, mapping shows that even though large-scale infrastructure projects of the first round did not replicate, partners still provide support in this area. Support of IFIs to municipal infrastructures are captured in detail in the IFI mapping, which is available on the public dashboard of municipal mapping (please see Tab 6).



Graph 1: Breakdown of municipal services/responsibilities supported by AoR

Focusing on the support provided to municipalities per AoR, analysis shows that **SET** receives the highest number of support projects, and it receives the highest level of infrastructure support, but number of projects supporting governance, policy, planning and coordination are limited in number. Projects in **Ankara and Izmir** AoRs support social services predominantly yet has limited focus on governance and coordination. In particular, number of support projects in Ankara AoR is limited compared to large number of cities in its coverage. In Izmir AoR, there isn't any project to support municipal infrastructures, and this requires further exploration. Support activities in Istanbul AoR are significantly target support to coordination and governance, and although percentages suggest less support to social services, this result from number of large numbers of coordination interventions rather than lack of social services supports.

Modality of the Support: This part analyses “how” partners provide support to municipal services and responsibilities through activities under their support projects. These activities may use one or multiple modalities to achieve project targets. Providing a different perspective of analysing the support that goes to municipalities, this analysis aims to bring out the most common modalities rather than focusing on areas of service and responsibility.

Provision of supplies & equipment is the leading modality with being used by 20 percent of the municipal support activities; and majority of them being under basic needs sector, including material support to and through municipalities. Analysis shows that importance of providing supplies and equipment as a support modality was a common approach at the beginning of the refugee response but also gained importance once again in the second quarter and onwards in 2020 to respond needs arising from Covid-19 pandemic.

Training & skills development is the second most used modality of support with 16 percent; composed of various activities targeting capacity development of municipal service providers in areas of protection, livelihoods and education in project which targeted including but not limited to removing access barriers to social protection, child protection, nonformal education, skills development, and increasing access to livelihood opportunities and self-reliance. Comparison between rounds show that municipal support projects increasingly include the training, technical capacity development and skills development component.

Parallel to providing supplies and equipment; **construction and rehabilitation of facilities and infrastructures** is amongst the most preferred modality of support with 14 percent. A great variety of project activities use this modality to construct new community and service centres, enhance and rehabilitate public spaces, parks, playgrounds and sports areas, and large-scale infrastructural facilities including water networks, wastewater treatment and solid waste collection facilities. Analysis shows a significant difference between two rounds of mapping, showing that project activities including construction and rehabilitation of facilities and infrastructure was the prime modality at the beginning of the refugee response, yet this situation changed in the last three years and use of this modality dropped from first to sixth in ranking.

Facilitation of coordination & policy dialogue between municipalities/local authorities is at 13 percent in support activities, being the fourth most used modality. Deeper analysis brings out the underlying increasing trend for this type of support modality across projects. In fact, projects under Protection and Livelihoods sectors it is the top modality and is the second most prevalent for projects under Basic Needs.

M&E, Complaint Mechanisms and PSEA: Second round of mapping captured the situation of Monitoring and Evaluation, Accountability to Affected Population & Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in municipal support projects. Findings show that around 94 percent of the support projects have an M&E mechanism in place. Although this finding is satisfactory, M&E products of municipal support projects are kept internal to organisations and they are not made available in inter-agency platforms. **Partners are encouraged to share their M&E findings and lessons learned in IA platforms.** PSEA finding shows that integrating PSEA mechanisms/safeguards in contractual agreements is not necessarily coming automatically yet with 29 percent of projects reported to have such mechanisms in place. This area is flagged as requiring further attention and support if identified during discussions of municipal support with partners. Lastly, the finding related to complaint mechanisms is at rather satisfactory level overall with 82 percent of the projects, employing several different methods.

Annex A. Background

Municipalities have significant abilities and resources to provide a wide range of services including social protection, skills and language trainings, livelihoods opportunities, social cohesion in addition to basic and municipal services, and they respond to variety of needs of their communities by cooperating with different stakeholders across sectors.

In Türkiye, nearly 98 percent of refugees are settled in urban areas, and all provinces host refugees. This has greatly increased the demand for the services of municipalities as refugees in Türkiye utilize all public and municipal services similar to the host community. Inclusion of refugees in current services is a challenge for municipalities as their infrastructure and institutional capacities were not designed to absorb the added population. Nevertheless, refugee population requires specialized services which further increases demand.

Consequently, service provision has been over-stretched to a great extent on the side of municipalities. Despite such challenges, municipalities have demonstrated great resilience to meet the additional demand for services since the beginning of the crisis. Partners of 3RP have been supporting capacity development of municipalities in identifying and addressing needs since 2014. Although funding of large infrastructure projects has been appealed outside of 3RP in the last couple of years (Graph 1), 3RP support to municipalities continues to be significant, increasingly strategic, and not limited to material support.

To increase effectiveness of provided support, avoid overlaps of assistance and advocate for mobilization of further funding; inter-agency coordination is invested in enhancing the coordination of municipal support by partners. Basic Needs sector identified the **increasing need of information around the support that went to municipalities** from partners in an expanded meeting with participation of partners across sectors in December 2020. To address this need, action point was set to update the “municipal mapping” which captured over 200 projects by 3RP partners across sectors between 2014 – 2019 March. The second round of mapping aimed to include mapping of support to municipalities by IFIs, considering their large contribution to development of infrastructure and facilities.



Graph 1: Value of Support – Number of Projects

The purpose of the municipal support mapping is to enhance the coordination of support provided to municipalities by identifying current activities in place, closing information gaps, providing a public, easy-to-access coordination tool, and to analyse gaps based on data. In this context, the expected users of the mapping tool are inter-agency coordination, partner organizations (field and national levels), municipalities, Union of Municipalities in Türkiye (UMT), donor organizations and IFIs. Inter-agency aims to utilize the tool for increasing the collaboration with municipalities which have been less supported by 3RP partners. Overall, the purpose of this mapping exercise is not only to gather information but also to feed that information into coordination platforms.

Data collection was conducted between April and May 2021 with participation of 27 organisations composed of UN agencies and I/NGOs.

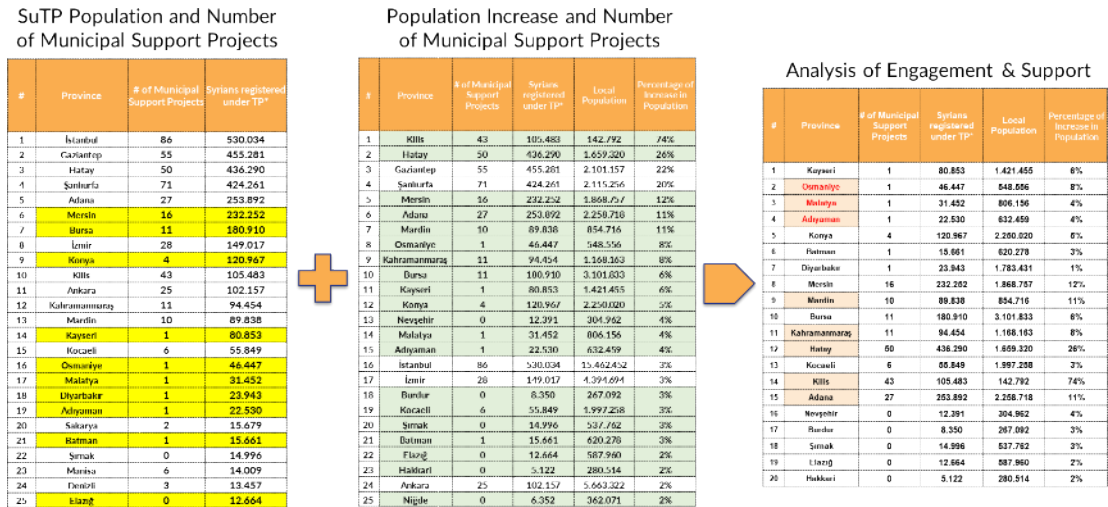
Annex B. Key Notes: Municipal Support & Coordination

Findings were presented in national and field coordination platforms to and key discussions and notes from these several meetings are summarised as below:

- **Engaging municipalities which have been less supported by partners:** Mapping shows limited support to cities in central Anatolia and eastern Türkiye, whereas existing supports in SET provinces do not meet the pressing needs. In parallel with expanding the geographical coverage of municipal support, enhancing, and strengthening the coordination capacity to ensure complementarity and prevention of overlaps between 3RP and IFI projects becomes even more crucial. In this respect, inter-agency needs to continue working on mainstreaming coordination into municipal support projects nation-wide.
- **Influencing further funding and programming by advocacy with donors and supporting partners:** Mapping aims to provide an evidence-base to what has been achieved so far, and which areas remain as gaps. Further evidence-based assessments, monitoring findings and impact assessment are needed to support continuous advocacy with relevant actors for increasing funding.
- **Providing opportunities to share good practices with potential/partner municipalities:** In collaboration with all relevant actors including Union of Municipalities in Türkiye, inter-agency should continue to create opportunities to increase awareness and support capacity development of key municipal actors.
- Encouraging municipalities and partners in consulting with wider range of stakeholders in targeting
- Supporting partners in increasing their inclusion of refugees other than Syrian nationals in municipal support projects.
- Immediate provision of technical support and guidance to partners for increasing integration of PSEA mechanisms and safeguards in their municipal support projects.

Annex C. Analysis of Engagement

An analysis conducted to understand engagement of partners with municipalities which are expected to be impacted the most due to hosting high number of Syrian population. Analysis considered the host community population, populations of Syrians under Temporary Protection (SuTPs), ratio of these two populations, and numbers of municipal support projects by partners. Provinces with high ratios are expected to be more impacted since their municipalities would need to serve more people with a budget accounted for the host community.



The list includes provinces such as Kayseri, Osmaniye, Konya, Malatya, Adiyaman, Batman and Diyarbakir where refugee population is high and municipal support projects are very few. List also includes cities where partners provide support to municipalities, but based on the high number of refugees, further support might be necessary. This simple analysis does not provide insight on the scope and extend of support projects and higher number of support projects does not guarantee that support needs of municipalities are met; however, lack of any support project does indicate lack of engagement with municipalities which may benefit from partners interventions. Tool can be used for further in-depth analysis to identify areas of support.

Annex D. Area of Responsibilities (UNHCR)

