



Basic Needs Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Date & Venue	4 April 2024, Hybrid Meeting
Meeting Chair	Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR)
Minutes prepared by	Büşra Seray Düzyol (UNHCR), Umay Atik (UNHCR)
Participating Organizations	
AHCSA, Aile ve Sosyal Hizmetler Bakanlığı, Buca Belediyesi, Building Markets, CARE International, Dünya Doktorları Derneği, Eksi 25 Derneği, Elaf, GIZ, MUDEM, Qatar Charity, SARD, SGDD-ASAM, Türk Kızılay, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, Violet Organisation, Yaşamak Sosyal Alan ve Dayanışma Derneği	
Meeting Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Welcome & IntroductionsAction Points & AnnouncementsProgram Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">Presentation of SSN updatesProgramme updates by partnersSectoral Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">Presentation of Basic Needs sector Indicator Guidance MaterialPresentation of WASH sector updates concerning standard WASH kitsPresentation on Shelter/NFI sector updates concerning standard kits/interventionsPresentation of winterisation support updatesPresentation of MPCA guidanceAoB	
Action Points	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Sharing updates on WASH kits (BNWG & WASH Sector)Partners willing to work on standardization and strengthening Livelihoods – Basic Needs connections to contact BNWGPartners to suggest agenda topics for the upcoming meeting	
Documents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BNWG ToR – 2024BNWG WorkplanBN Sector Indicator GuidanceMPCA Guidance	
Program Updates	
<u>SSN Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SSN Program, funded by the European Union, refers to the ESSN IV and C-ESSN II programs under a framework agreement. As of March, there were 707.929 applications under ESSN and C-ESSN, with a total of 1.579.931 beneficiaries. The monthly assistance amount totaled 903.425.100, and 10,441 cards were distributed in 2024.➤ Transfer amounts increased as following effective from February 2024: ESSN from 300 TL to 500 TL, C-ESSN from 450 TL to 700 TL, and heavy disabled assistance from 1250 TL to 2400 TL. The increase in transfer amounts is justified by three main reasons: the calculation of the minimum expenditure basket, economic variability	



and inflation, and the gap between income and expenditure of beneficiaries. The adjustment in the transfer amounts aims to meet international humanitarian standards in assistance provision.

Eksi 25

- Eksi 25 will not be continuing provision of food, hygiene and stationery kits that previously was funded by GIZ.

Sectoral Updates

Updates on BN Sector Indicator Guidance Material

- The presentation on Basic Needs Sector indicators guide material was shared by the BN Sector IM.
- BN partners are using Activity Info to report progress towards goals. Aiming to facilitate understanding of indicators and improve accurate reporting, an indicator guide material has been created to ease comprehension and enhance proper reporting. In the upcoming days, standards developed across sectors (such as distribution standards) and relevant guidance will be added to this interface. The guidance is available online.

Standards WASH Kits created by the WASH Sector

- The WASH sector has established standardized WASH kits. BNWG plans to calculate cash versions of these kits per person. Detailed information will be shared in the next meeting.

Updates on Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) Sector

- Updates and current/planned programs in the Shelter/NFI sector were presented. Nearly 1 million beneficiaries have been reached under Shelter/NFI sector. Partners are encouraged to begin planning for summer interventions to ensure timely and adequate assistance. It is emphasized to consult local authorities (governorship, AFAD, district governorship, etc.) for planning and conducting needs assessments together with these authorities for summer interventions. Additionally, individuals affected by earthquakes should be included in the planning phase. Recommended assistance for winter interventions at the end of 2024 includes conditional/restricted cash-based assistance. Cash support should be provided multiple times and at different intervals throughout the winter, with support for basic needs assistance provision in rural and remote areas. Discussions are ongoing regarding selection criteria and the amount of cash support. [Registration link](#) provided for the mailing list of the Shelter/NFI sector.

Updates on Winterisation Assistance

- The Winterisation Task Force Chair shared updates on winterisation programs conducted during winter 2023. Introduction of the calculation formula for winterisation cash assistance was provided. The transfer amount is calculated considering whether beneficiaries receive multi-purpose cash-based assistance.
- Ten organizations have submitted their progress and programme outcomes reports, targeting 65,000 households. As of March 31, the implementation period has ended, and data collection processes are ongoing.

AoB

MPCA Guidance

- The Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance Guidance, created by the Cash-Based Assistance Technical Working Group, was presented. An increase in non-sectoral cash assistance has been observed alongside earthquake interventions. This type of assistance is typically provided to bridge or minimize the gap between beneficiaries' incomes and the minimum expenditure basket. Due to the removal of the "emergency" status and the potential security risks and the need to provide assistance at levels appropriate to market conditions, a new guide has been developed for earthquake interventions. The MPCA Guidance is accessible online.



- When calculating the recommended transfer amount of assistance, considerations include the minimum expenditure basket and the average rents of currently available housing in the market. It is suggested that assistance be provided at least three months based on household size.
- Recommendations have also been made for organizations that will need to provide equal amount of assistance to each household in camps and for organizations capable of providing one-time assistance. The review of the calculation is planned for July to keep the guidance up to date and meeting the needs.
- The next BNWG meeting will be held in June. Partners who want to recommend agenda points can contact BNWG.