



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Türkiye

Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group EQ

Türkiye

CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

20 August 2024

Ankara

- Chaired by:** UNHCR & TRC
- Venue:** Online Zoom Meeting / UNHCR Ankara Yıldız Kule Office Meeting Room
- Minutes:** Busra Seray Duzyol (UNHCR)
- Participants:** ACHSA, CALP, CARE, Concern Worldwide, DRC, Elaf RD, GeniusTags, IBC, IFRC, IDA, IOM, Olive Branch, Orange, Peace Winds Japan, SARD, Save the Children, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM, SHAFAK, Support to Life, Takaful Alsham, TRC, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, Yaşamak Sosyal Alan ve Dayanışma Derneği

AGENDA:

- 1) Welcome & Introductions (5 mins)
- 2) Review: Action Points and Announcements (UNHCR/TRC, 15 mins)
- 3) Operational Issues (85 mins)
 - a. Presentation: Pre-Assistance Baseline
 - b. Presentation: Market Price Tracker
 - c. Guidance Document Updates
 - i. Targeting Criteria Document
 - ii. MPCA Guidance
 - d. Learning and Sharing
 - i. Partner CVA Updates
- 4) AoB

New Action Points from the Meeting:

1. CBI TWG to share final draft of Targeting Criteria for feedback
2. Partners provide feedback on the Targeting Criteria document
3. CBI TWG to publish MPCA Guidance
4. CBI TWG to share details on Core CVA Skills for Programme Staff Training once available

Documents

1. Meeting Presentation
2. [Market Price Tracker Dashboard](#)
3. [MPCA Guidance](#)

I. Review Action Points & Announcements

- The MPCA Guidance document has been updated by CBI TWG with an aim to meet current needs with a new transfer value recommendation. Partners are urged to provide MPCA for multiple rounds as a monthly assistance rather than one-off.
- The IM team conducted an ActivityInfo to enhance partners' skills in using ActivityInfo for sectoral reporting and Services Advisor for service coordination.
- Partners were asked to share their 2023-2024 PDM questions as it would be useful to have a repository for upcoming cash programmes. This issue will be focused on in a more structured way in the coming days.

- The geographical deduplication tool again for partners with planned/ongoing activities in Hatay can be reached via [this link](#). Partners are encouraged to fill the form in their earliest convenience.
- Members were reminded to register for Contracting and Working with Financial Service Providers Webinar which will be held on August 21 at 14.00.
- Core CVA Skills for Programme Staff Training in collaboration with CALP will be tentatively held in September and updates regarding the training will be shared with members once available.

II. Operational Issues

Presentation: Pre-Assistance Baseline

- TRC M&E team presented the Pre-Assistance Baseline that focused on socio-economic indicators, negative coping strategies and food security situation for ESSN, C-ESSN recipients and non-recipients. Data was collected on household level between September 2023 – January 2024 via out-bond calls. The study was conducted in 5 regions: Istanbul, Anatolia/Thrace, Aegean, Mediterranean and Southeast.
- In terms of **socio-economic indicators**, monthly median labor income without cash assistance of ESSN and C-ESSN recipients and non-recipients has no significant difference and there is almost one worker in per household. Worker per household ratio is highest in non-recipient households and lowest in the C-ESSN recipient households.
- Within these groups, ESSN recipients have the highest median household expenditure while food, rent and clothing are top three items in the share of expenditures regardless of target groups. Similarly, all target groups are mostly in debt to their friends and local shops mostly for food, rent and NFIs, respectively.
- **Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)** is an index often used as a proxy indicator for food security demonstrates that C-ESSN recipients have the highest level of vulnerability in Aegean, Istanbul and Anatolia regions while ESSN recipients have the highest level in Mediterranean and Southeast. Moreover, all target groups adopt buying less preferred foods and reduce meals as coping strategies. In addition, **Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)** indicate that C-ESSN beneficiaries are more vulnerable in Aegean, Anatolia and Istanbul regions comparison with ESSN recipients and non-recipients and ESSN beneficiaries in Mediterranean and Southeast are more vulnerable than other groups in terms of LCSI.
- **Food Security** analysis revealed that nearly three-quarters of the C-ESSN, ESSN, and Non-recipient households have acceptable food consumption scores. Over 20% of C-ESSN households almost never consume food items such as meat, fruits, milk and dairy product. This rate is seen at around 20% in ESSN households as well.
- For detailed information please see relevant slides.

Market Price Tracker

- This innovative tool is designed by IM focal point to monitor price fluctuations of items within the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), addressing the critical need for accurate market price tracking that has emerged over the past few years. It also aims to resolve discrepancies among sources regarding rate changes.
- Novel dashboard based on this automated data collection of prices was presented.
- Geographically bond data (such as the rent prices) is collected in the 10 provinces with largest Syrian population and items in the basket weighted accordingly to the MEB calculated by WFP and TRC. As of August 20, the MEB for 5-person household is calculated as TRY 22.004, shelter (rent) having the biggest share in the basket (%66).
- Dashboard also shows items included in the basket, the share of the items in the basket and respective websites the data was retrieved. Dashboard is available via [this link](#) and it will be updated weekly.

Guidance Document Updates

- **MPCA Guidance** was updated by CBI TWG and endorsed in the meeting. As it was mentioned in the MPCA Guidance, “CBI TWG aims to review the guidance bi-annually, unless sooner is deemed necessary by the group. Next date of MPCA Guidance update is set for July 2024.” With the light of this decision and the fact that the price increase is over %16 from January to June, CBI TWG decided to update the transfer amounts for MPCA.
- CBI TWG recommendation for the MPCA transfer amount for a household of 5 is TRY 9.463. The floor and cap transfer values are determined as TRY 6.496 and TRY 12.725, respectively. As in the previous guidance, the MPCA is recommended to be provided for a minimum of three months with an aim to cover 50% of total needs. Even though it is strongly recommended to adopt per capita approach, partners may provide monthly payment of TRY 9.463 if the context is not feasible for per capita approach.
- The MPCA Guidance will be applicable for new MPCA programs starting from August 2024 onwards and does not affect budgets approved before July 2024. Organisations with agreed and approved budgets prior to publication date of this MPCA Guidance can continue using the recommended transfer value from MPCA Guidance from February 2024.
- **MPCA Targeting Criteria** document is prepared by CBI TWG with an aim to help partners to determine appropriate targeting criteria for their programme in line with their intended objective, chosen cash transfer modality and mechanism and targeting approaches.

- It is a set of criteria that will guide partners to choose what fits best for their objectives. The guidance list of criteria is organized into the different categories, making it easier to identify and address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different groups identified based on vulnerability, negative coping mechanisms, economic status, access to basic services, geographical location, household size and composition and existing support.
 - The document will be endorsed after collecting feedback in the coming weeks and it will be published on the UNHCR Data Portal for partners' information and easy access.
- Learning and Sharing*
- **STL** completed first round of MPCA payments to 716 households in late July for Hatay (339 HHs) and Kahramanmaraş (377 HHs) and reached almost 100% withdrawal rate. Second and third installments will be in the end of August and September. Additionally, STL planned to have another CVA in the Adiyaman Bebek camp, however, necessary permits from AFAD could not be received. Instead, STL will conduct a one-off MPCA programme in Adiyaman province and 1400 HHs will be targeted and TRY 21.040 for a 5-person HH will be provided in line with the new MPCA guideline and figures. Cash for protection assistance in Hatay, Kahramanmaraş and Adiyaman will be started soon and updates will be shared accordingly.
 - **CARE** implements MPCA in Hatay and 583 HHs are already reached and 1500 HHs will be reached this month. The target will be 3750 HHs for this MPCA programme funded by ECHO. In Hilalkent camp, 1900 HHs are already reached with USD 150 and the project is ongoing. In addition, CARE carries out a cash programme targeting beneficiaries working in agriculture and husbandry in 6 districts of Hatay, reaching 400 individuals with grants between TRY 6.000 – 12.000 through ZiraatBank.
 - **IOM** plans to implement a MPCA programme in the EQ-affected provinces and currently the assessment process is ongoing and it is planned to be finalized until mid-September and around 3.000-3.500 HHs, mainly in Hatay and Adiyaman, will be reached in the beginning of October. It will be a one-off assistance and payments will be made through PTT cards.
 - **IBC** implements MPCA and education in emergencies programmes as one-off payment of TRY 25.000 and in Hatay, Kilis and Adiyaman since the last week of June. Payments will start in September and 375 beneficiaries in Hatay Kirikhan, 190 beneficiaries in Kilis and 368 beneficiaries in Adiyaman will be reached. In addition, 1500 students in the risk of drop-out or drop-outs will receive education support as USD 140 per student under a project funded by GIZ.
 - **SARD** implements programmes in rural Adiyaman, supporting 150 HHs regarding livelihoods, and also supporting 618 HHs with MPCA as a one-off payment and TRY 2506 per person is determined as transfer value.
 - **SGDD-ASAM** is currently identifying beneficiaries in Hatay and Malatya for their MPCA project aiming to reach Syrians under temporary protection and other HHs. The transfer value will be TRY 25.080 per HH and it will be a one-off assistance. They will also target children out of school and in the risk of being out of school for their cash for education assistance of EUR 140 per child under a project funded by GIZ.
 - **Sened** is working in Kahramanmaraş and Gaziantep in container sites and rural areas for the MPCA project funded by GIZ, both for the MPCA and education in emergency projects.
 - **UNFPA** informed that Sened has a women and girls safe space in Gaziantep and together with UNFPA as the implementing partner provides cash for GBV to GBV survivors. Sened also provides TRY 5.300 whether monthly or up to 3-months duration cash assistance to GBV survivors and people with disabilities or who are responsible for taking care of persons with special need. The budget is secured until the end of August and referrals are accepted for this project.

AOB. N/A