ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SECTOR (EE)

General Coordination Meeting Minutes

26th September 2023, from 13.30 -15.30 hrs.
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Chairs	Philippe Clerc - UNDP, Resilience Development Adviser Ertan Aktan- FAO, Portfolio Coordinator
Agenda of the Meeting	1. Intro/minutes review 2. EE Reporting, Sector Priorities, Partner Analysis 3. Program Updates: Transportation Issues, LVH in Containers, Private Sector Engagement Meeting, ESMAT (Earthquake Solutions and Mobility Analysis Team) 4. EE Hubs' Updates 5. FAO Presentation on Digital Meeting Point of Cooperatives "Hep Yerinden" 6. DITT Presentation on Protection Risks Between Persons with Disabilities and Persons without Disabilities Among Refugees in Türkiye 7. AOB
Link to see up-to-date EQ Economic Empowerment Sector Members	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bHax0cRGU04MN50EKBI8TwZmDXDE6LTAMc57Wxn8Ujs/edit#gid=1525459816
Attendees	**Name** — **Email** 1.Semiha Bal — semiha.bal@undp.org 2.Philippe Clerc — philippe.clerc@undp.org 3.KAPLAN GUL Ayse — akaplan@iom.int 4.Miki Takahashi — miki.takahashi@undp.org 5.Azize KAYA — azize.kaya@acted.org 6.Merve Es — es@unhcr.org 7.Merdiye Vatanandiran — merdiye.vatanandiran@coreresponse.org 8.YETISKIN Caglar — cyetiskin@iom.int 9.Işıl Sevilay Yılmaz — isil.yilmaz@tedu.edu.tr 10.Yalcin, Ismet (FAOTR) — Ismet.Yalcin@fao.org 11.Reiko Hirai — reiko.hirai@unwomen.org 12.Ammar Hasan Bek (RI/TUR) — ammar.hasanbek@ri.org 13.Tugba Hilaloglu Cin — hilalogl@unhcr.org 14.Arianna Sica — arianna.sica@un.org 15.Kubilay Karagoktas — kubilay.karagoktas@ifrc.org 16.Mevlut Ozen — Mevlut.Ozen@fao.org 17.Carla Trimmer — trimmer@unhcr.org

	18.Ayşen Toksöz Ünalan,	A.TOKSOZ@unido.org
	19.Monica Ferrari	ferrarim@unhcr.org
	20.Ece Beyazit Ozalp	ece.beyazit@undp.org
	21.Pelin Kolsuz	Pelin.Kolsuz@concern.net
	22.GORGUN Bengisu	bgorgun@iom.int
	23.Mohammed ALBAR	mohammed.albar@wfp.org
	24.Duygu Aslan	duygu.aslan_unwomen.org
	25.Aziz ERDEN	aziz.erden@wfp.org
	26.Feride YILDIRIM	feride.yildirim@wfp.org
	27.Eser Pirgan Matur	eser.pirgan@un.org
	28.Aktan, Ertan (FAOTR)	Ertan.Aktan@fao.org
	29.Kalintas, Erdinc	erdinc.kalintas@savethechildren.org
	30.Emrah Ezal	emrah.ezal@acted.org
	31.Hande Sogancilar (Konuk)	hande.sogancilar@ingev.org
	32.Sinem Capar Dirioz	scapar@unicef.org
	33.Ipek Cilgin	ipek.cilgin@concern.net
	34.Aya Mustafa	aya.mustafa@fieldready.org
	35.Faruk Karaduman	faruk.karaduman@un.org
	36.Ziyad Dede	z.Dede@elaf.ngo
	37.SPARK - Halil Can Emre	h.c.emre@spark-online.org
	38.Imren Arslanoglu	iarslanoglu@worldbank.org
	39.Hakan Kocakara	hkocakara@sy.goal.ie
	40.Fatma Mehtap Ozdemir	fozdemir@qcharity.org
	41.İlayda Takmaz	ilaydatkmz@gmail.com
	42.LWANGA Ivan	ilwanga@iom.int
	43.Dilan Özkan (NeedsMap)	dilan.ozkan@needsmap.coop
	44.Ahmet Unver	unver@unhcr.org
	45.Osman Albarri	Osman.Albarri@islamicrelief.org.tr
	46.SHKWANA Rafid Hameed	RSHKWANA@iom.int
	47.Sümeyye Batman	s.batman@elaf.ngo

1. Intro/minutes review

- The meeting began with a welcome to attendees and a presentation of the meeting agenda.
- Mr. Philippe Clerc from UNDP EE coordination team shared updates from the previous meeting, where partners were asked to populate a Google document with their input regarding **priorities and activities**. Participants were thanked for their input, which will help to better understand the sector's needs.

2. EE Reporting, Sector Priorities, Partner Analysis

Ms. Miki Takahashi from UNDP shared updates and analysis on EE Reporting, Sector Priorities, current partner situation.

- **Information Management and Reporting updates**
  - According to **the FTS (as of 9/25), US$531 million (53%)** has been funded.
  - The ER sector is funded at **US$20 million (14%).**
  - FTS reporting will continue under the earthquake response until the end of 2023.
  - Activity info reporting for the earthquake and 3RP. Earthquake and 3RP indicators were reviewed and streamlined. For example, SME/Cooperative supports, Vocational training, Employment services, and social cohesion programs have been merged.
  - The reporting framework will remain separate until the end of 2023.
  - Indicators related to debris management were removed.
  - Indicators related to the rehabilitation of community centers/public institutions and cultural heritage remain in the earthquake indicators.

    Actions points: The sector will check with FTS, where debris removal funding will be reported.
- **EES Priority Areas (Until the end of 2023)**
  - Based on the UN recovery framework document, needs identified during hub meetings and partners activities, the sector has identified the following priority areas: Assessing livelihoods needs, including in temporary sites and container cities.
  - Partners were requested to review the list of priorities and identify if they agree priority areas and any other areas to be addressed.
- **Partner Analysis: Mapping of partners' interventions in the EQ areas (end of 2023)**
  - 19 partners responded. Partners' activities mostly focused on:
  - SMEs/cooperatives; Agricultural support; Vocational training; Job referral and placement; Assessments; Cash for work
  - 7 partners face challenges in getting funding.
  - Majority of the funding ends at the end of 2023. 3 multi-year funding.
  - Partners Recommendation: Improve coordination for SMEs/cooperatives support in terms of which partners and type of support (financial or technical) are provided to avoid focusing on a few and not others.
  - Partner has asked if the sector plans to do advocacy to help partners as most partners funding will end as of end of 2023.

3. Program Updates: Transportation Issues, LVH in Containers, Private Sector Engagement Meeting, ESMAT (Earthquake Solutions and Mobility Analysis Team)

- **Transportation Issues:** The EE sector coordination team is monitoring the current situation of **transportation in the four most affected provinces**, Hatay, Maraş, Adıyaman and Malatya, and who is doing what to address it.
- The colleagues from various sectors and agencies, including education, health, as well as the private sector and IOM has been contacted to get a better update on what is being done. Mr. Clerc also asked to the participants if anyone in the group is currently engaged in any transportation activities or plans to do so, or if anyone has conducted any assessments.
  - **Action Point:** The EE sector coordination team with other sector part of the ABC will continue to gather information and coordinate with other sectors and the private **sector to address the transportation needs in the four most affected provinces**. The interested partners will contact of the EE sector coordination team to be part of this discussion and follow up.
- **LVH in Containers:** The EE sector coordination team is interested in exploring ways to support **income-generating activities in container cities** and tented cities.
- There are over 300 container cities in the affected areas, and more are expected to be established. Some people, such as women and people with disabilities, may not be able to access work outside of container cities or tented cities.
- The EE sector coordination team is trying to understand **how to bring more income-generating** activities inside container cities and tented cities.
- **UN Women** is also interested in this topic and is working to identify potential activities.
- **Concern Worldwide** is doing an assessment related to supporting small and medium enterprises in the earthquake-affected area. The EE sector coordination team would be interested in learning more about this assessment.
- **IOM** shared that the assessment and final **report on "Impact and Sustainability Analysis of The Production Sector in The Earthquake-Stricken Region"** has been completed. The report was prepared by Gaziantep Chamber of Industry with the support of IOM and was financed by USBPRM in the EQ Region The report launch ceremony will be held at 13:30 on **2 October Monday at TOBB, Ankara**. The ceremony will present the findings of the report, including short-term, mid-term, and long-term recommendations on the effects of the earthquake on the manufacturing sector, activities that can be done to mitigate the effects, and government policies that may need to be implemented in the region to support macroeconomic recovery.
- **Save the Children** is planning to conduct a **household economy analysis** assessment in one rural and one urban area in Turkey. The assessment is still in the preparation phase, but it is expected to begin data collection in late November or early December and to be completed in early 2024. The assessment will look at the household level to understand what kind of experience households have, income gaps, possible solutions etc.

- The **Field Ready** conducted an assessment in Nurdağı and Islahiye to understand the **technical challenges faced in the camps in the earthquake-affected areas**. The assessment was conducted in partnership with IOM. The assessment findings will be used to develop new innovative products for preparedness and response to earthquakes and other natural disasters.

  Action Points:

  - UN Women will be included in follow-up discussions and improvements about income-generating activities in container cities and tented cities.
  - Concern Worldwide will share a few bullet points about the details of their planned assessments on supporting small and medium enterprises in the earthquake-affected area. The EE sector coordination team will follow up on the process.
  - The EE sector coordination team will follow up on the IOM and Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce event and the report and will share the final version with partners as soon as it is ready to be shared.
  - Save the Children will share more information about their planned assessment and its results once they are available.
  - The EE sector coordination team will follow up with IOM and Field ready to see if their assessment report can be published and shared with partners.

- **Private Sector Engagement Meeting:** OCHA, UNDP, RCO in Türkiye, the Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation (TÜRKONFED), and the Business for Goals platform organized a meeting to reflect on challenges and good practices from **private sector engagement in the Türkiye earthquake response**. The meeting took place on **September 22, 2023**, at the Istanbul Marriot Hotel Şişli. 50 participants attended to the meeting.

- The meeting was an opportunity for the EE sector coordination team to meet with representatives from the private sector to discuss the challenges and opportunities for private sector engagement in the earthquake response.

- The private sector has great capacities, but that there is no sufficient coordination between the private sector, the UN, and the government.

- The involvement of the private sector is essential to the earthquake response, but that it is important to develop a strategic plan for this engagement.

  - **Action Point:** The EE sector coordination team will continue to follow up the engagement of the private sector and will keep partners informed of its progress. **The report that will be produced from the meeting will be shared** with the sector partners when it is ready.

- **ESMAT (Earthquake Solutions and Mobility Analysis Team):** Ms. Semiha Bal from UNDP shared information of the newly established analysis team, **ESMAT, co-led by IOM and UNHCR that aims to identify and promote evidence-based approaches** to ensuring that no one is left behind in the humanitarian response.

- The task team will be linked to the ABC (Area Based Coordination), which will ensure that its work is inclusive and benefits from the expertise of a wide range of actors. It will also track change in key indicators over time to enhance accountability and allow agencies and partners to review priorities with emerging evidence.
    - **Action Point:** An email introduction will be shared with the EE Sector members to introduce the platform in more detail.
    - PWDs issues will be raised at the next ABC meeting as ESMAT could support getting more data on PWDs which are missing to date.

4. EE Hubs: Priorities, updates

- The hub meetings under the **Economic Empowerment Sector are coordinated by UNDP, FAO and Needs Map again** and to follow the recent updates from the four EE hubs, please refer to the **attached Hub Updates** document detailed by Ms. Semiha Bal (UNDP) and Mr. İsmet Yalçın (FAO). Apart from that document, more detailed minutes (prepared by Dilan Özkan from Needs Map) from each hub can be found in the hub meeting invitation emails in Turkish and English.

5. FAO Presentation on Digital Meeting Point of Cooperatives "Hep Yerinden"

- Mr. İsmet Yalçın from **FAO** delivered a presentation on its **Cooperative Support Programme, which empowers women in agriculture through**: Agricultural cooperatives; Increased agricultural productivity; Enhanced market access; Access to credit and finance; Risk mitigation; Skill development; Policy advocacy.
- The presentation also introduced the e-commerce platform run by cooperatives supported by FAO, https://hepyerinden.coop/. The **platform provides a direct link between producers and consumers,** eliminating the need for middlemen. It also provides cooperatives with a platform to sell their products and services to a wider market.
- The FAO Cooperative Support Program is a valuable resource for women in agriculture. It helps them to overcome the challenges they face and to achieve their full potential. Please see attached presentation for more details.

6. DITT Presentation on Protection Risks Between Persons with Disabilities and Persons without Disabilities Among Refugees in Türkiye

- Mr. Ammar Hasan Bek (Relief International) from the **Disability Inclusion Task Team (DITT)** delivered a presentation on the protection risks faced by refugees with disabilities in Türkiye. The presentation focused on the main findings of a **survey conducted by DITT before the earthquake in Istanbul, Adana, Mersin, Gaziantep, Hatay, and Kilis.** The survey reached 218 people and used the Washington Group Short Set (WG_SS) questions to identify disability in adults and child function tools to identify disability in children (ages 5-17).
- The **study aimed to compare the protection risks faced by refugees with disabilities** and persons without disabilities in Türkiye, and to explore how these risks change with other variables such as gender, age, and location. Please see attached presentation for more details.
    - **Action Point:** The topic will discuss at the next ABC meeting and update provided at the next EE meetings.

7. AOB

- The 3RP/EQ EE sector online consultation meeting will be held on September 29th, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Ankara time), online.
- Upcoming EE hub meeting schedule:
  - Kahramanmaraş: September 27th, 2023, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
  - Adıyaman: September 28th, 2023, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
  - Malatya: October 3rd, 2023, 11:30 AM - 13:00 PM
  - Hatay: October 4th, 2023, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- **Useful Links**

Online Calendar Shows EE Meetings	https://teamup.com/ksau2n73iupkck5ftk
Links for Social Initiatives Maps – Prepared by UNDP Acceleration Lab	Airtable - Gallery TR Airtable - Hatay Listesi
Link for sharing ongoing/competed assessments.	Inter-Agency Assessment Survey Registry Tool/Kurumlar Arası Analiz Anketi Toplama Aracı (unhcr.org)
Link for UNHCR Türkiye Earthquake Response: Inter-Agency Assessment Survey Registry Tool	https://data.unhcr.org/en/dataviz/275?sv=4&geo=113
EQ Turkiye Economic Empowerment Sector (Email Group)	tr.economicempowerment@undp.org

*The minutes prepared by Semiha Bal (UNDP). Please contact her in case you identify an issue on the minutes.

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