Basic Needs Working Group

National Meeting Minutes

21 April 2026, Online Meeting

Chair: Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR)

Minutes Prepared by: Umay Atik (UNHCR) & Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR)

Participating Organisationd: **Buca Belediyesi, GIZ, GOAL Türkiye, IOM, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM, STL, Türk Kızılay, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP**

Partners' Programme Updates

- **UNFPA:** An emergency funding proposal has been submitted to strengthen preparedness processes under the **Iran** humanitarian response. Through the secured funding, **500 hygiene kits** will be procured, including equipment aimed at mitigating gender-based violence risks. In the absence of a refugee influx, these kits will be distributed within the broader refugee response or to women and girls in earthquake-affected areas.
  - Additionally, under the **women and girls' safe spaces project** implemented with **KAMER** in **Adıyaman**, it is planned to integrate **cash and voucher assistance** into case management processes.
  - All activities are currently at the preparedness stage and will be implemented gradually throughout the year.
- **IOM:** Under an ongoing project, **household-level improvements and basic infrastructure upgrades** are being implemented in **containers at the İslahiye camp** as part of the **WASH** component. The implementation phase is nearing completion.
- **WFP: In-camp e-voucher activities** implemented in cooperation with the **Turkish Red Crescent** will continue until the end of the year.
  - **In-kind food assistance at border crossings** continues in cooperation with the **Turkish Red Crescent**, targeting individuals undertaking voluntary returns through **Cilvegözü and Öncüpınar** border gates.
  - Under the **cash assistance programme in the earthquake-affected region**, **refugees who have left container camps** and are residing in **Hatay, Adıyaman, and Kahramanmaraş** are targeted. Approximately **18,000 individuals** receive **monthly support of 1,000 TRY**. The programme is planned to continue **until the end of May**. Further continuation would be subject to the availability of additional funding.

Update on the 2025–2026 Winterisation Response

- **IOM:** A total of **384 beneficiaries** (75 Turkish nationals and 309 Syrians) were reached through a wintersation intervention in **Hatay İskenderun Yıldırımtepe Camp**, funded by **ECHO**.
  - Subsequently, **521 beneficiaries** (35 Turkish nationals and 486 Syrians) were reached through similar interventions in **Kırıkhan (Hatay), Bahçelievler, and Opet camps**, also supported by **ECHO**.
  - The final round of **Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)** is expected to be completed in **May**.
- **Save the Children:** A winterisation intervention targeting **208 beneficiaries** was implemented at the **Bebek Temporary Accommodation Centre in Adıyaman**, funded by **ECHO**. Targets were met by the end of **February**.
- It was proposed to conduct a general evaluation with partners during the **Winterisation Task Team closure meeting concenring 2025-26 response planned for May**.
  - In this context, it is planned to review existing or planned **Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM)** exercises to consolidate findings on assistance utilisaiton patterns, coverage of needs, and overall impact, with the aim of informing more effective planning for the following year.

3RP 2026 Update

- 3RP 2026 draft report and the **integration of feedback from public institutions** have been completed. In the current context, where voluntary returns continue, technical meetings will be held with public institutions to address the importance of focusing on the needs of refugees who will remain in Türkiye and the associated funding

requirements. Following these discussions, the plan is expected to be finalised and ready for publication.

SSN Programme Updates

- **Turkish Red Crescent** shared updates on Kızılaykart programmes, including revised transfer values effective as of the January payment cycle and data for the March payment cycle *(see presentation slides for details).*
  - **SSN (Social Safety Net):** Transfer value increased **(500 TRY → 750 TRY)**.
  - **C-SSN (Complementary SSN):** Transfer value increased **(700 TRY → 1,050 TRY)**; severe disability top-up increased **(2,700 TRY → 4,050 TRY).**
  - **CCTE (Conditional Cash Transfer for Education):** Transfer values increased:
    - Primary (Grades 1–8): **Boys 90 TRY → 270 TRY / Girls 100 TRY → 300 TRY**
    - Secondary (Grades 9–12): **Boys 130 TRY → 390 TRY / Girls 150 TRY → 450 TRY**
- Partners observed an increase, particularly in **Istanbul**, in **households losing address registration due to urban transformation processes**. This may lead to temporary exclusion from programmes, especially for C-SSN beneficiaries unable to register at alternative addresses of their relatives due to household size constraints.
  - Changes such as address updates or household composition are treated as **"information updates"** and should be processed through service centres which also processed the application, with reapplication required where relevant.
  - During **periodic address verification exercises by the Presidency of Migration Management**, temporary exits from the programme may occur; however, **households are able to re-enter after completing updates** following **awareness and outreach efforts.**
- Under the SSN programme, eligibility is assessed based on a **dependency ratio derived from the household's demographic composition**. The current threshold is **≥2.5**, with the calculation taking into account demographic factors such as the distribution of women, children, and adult individuals within the household. C-SSN additionally considers disability status.
- Criteria may be adjusted over time, and **eligibility is automatically reassessed by the system on a monthly basis accordingly**. Households excluded due to changes in criteria are not required to reapply. **Reapplication is only necessary in cases of changes in household composition or updates to key information.**
- Household visits conducted by the **Ministry of Family and Social Services** and the **Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASFs)**, which may also include SSN beneficiaries, are carried out as part of their verification, monitoring, and evaluation activities in line with their respective planning. The frequency and scope of these visits may vary at the local level.

SSN Programme Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)

- **Turkish Red Crescent** shared updated information on the **MEB** *(see presentation slides for details).*
  - In recent months, **CPI** has increased by approximately **30%**. While the rate of increase has slowed compared to 2024, inflation remains positive. Accordingly, MEB values continue to increase periodically, with **rent and food** remaining the largest expenditure components.

Presentation on Mapping of Municipal Support (2022–2025)

- Findings from the **third round of the mapping exercise (2022-25)**, which analyses support provided to municipalities, were shared (see presentation slides and Power BI dashboard). Key takeaways include:
  - Municipalities are positioned as key actors in the refugee response by simultaneously undertaking roles as implementers, coordinators, and service providers across many projects. This demonstrates that designing support through municipalities increases the potential for scalable and sustainable impact.
  - Mapping findings make visible gaps in the geographical distribution of support and enable more balanced, evidence-based programme design.
  - Programmes are largely single-sector in nature, indicating that strengthening multi-sectoral approaches could lead to higher and more comprehensive impact.
  - While support has largely focused on emergency assistance and basic needs in the post-2023 period, this trend is not considered permanent, with a shift towards more sustainable intervention models observed.
  - Findings indicate that approaches focusing on capacity-building and model transfer to municipalities, rather

than solely service delivery, aim to generate more lasting and transformative impacts.

- The mapping exercise provides an important opportunity for understanding macro-level trends and analysis. However, sharing measured project impacts and assessing intervention effectiveness remain critical for scaling good practices and strengthening evidence-based programming.

- Mapping exercise will be finalised following final feedback from institutions and disseminated through broader stakeholder consultations.

AOB

- **SSN 3rd PDM** findings are planned to be presented by the **Turkish Red Crescent** at the **CBI TWG meeting on 12 May.**
- The next meeting is planned for June or July.