Basic Needs Working Group

National Meeting Minutes

Date & Location	19 November 2020, National Virtual Meeting
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Participants

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Agenda

1. Welcome & Review Action Points
2. Sector Achievements
3. Reviewing Sector Appeals for 2021-22
4. ESSN Programme Updates
5. Highlight: Sixteen Days of Activism
6. AoB
    a) Brainstorming 'Support to Municipalities'
    b) CBI mapping announcement
    c) Recommendation to Sector for Emergencies

Action Points

1. Partners review and give feedback to CBI Mapping survey form (to be distributed).
2. Partners provide feedback related with the ad-hoc meeting about working with municipalities

Documents

Basic Needs Quarterly Dashboard
Q1 https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/76668
Q2 https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/78905
Basic Needs Interactive Dashboard
https://data2.unhcr.org/en/dataviz/31?sv=4&geo=113
Basic Needs Working Group Turkey (all documents)
https://data2.unhcr.org/en/working-group/74?sv=4&geo=113

Welcome & Introductions

The meeting agenda was introduced, reviewed and accepted without changes.

Sector Achievements

- The sector IM colleague has delivered a presentation on sector achievements so far in 2020, based on the Basic Needs sector dashboard for September 2020. The sector has reached more than 3.1 million beneficiaries as of September, reported through 17 partners.
- The updates included achievements based on an indicator breakdown per output, as well as the number and percentage of beneficiaries reached with the individual interventions.

- The increase in core relief items in April is due to the Edirne situation and April being the reporting month, whereas the increase in food assistance is related to the COVID-19 needs.
- A significant increase is recorded for persons benefiting from gender-appropriate hygiene dignity or sanitary items due to COVID-19. The numbers have been very high in September, as they've been recorded retroactively in September so the monthly breakdown will be updated.
- Progress against municipal targets is significantly higher this year, compared to that of last year.

Reviewing Sector Appeals for 2021-22

- The Basic Needs sector coordinator has shared a review of the sector appeals for 2021-22, collected with increasing number of appealing partners. The revised outputs under the sector monitoring framework have been shared with partners.
- The COVID-19 response has been mainstreamed in the narrative and response of the sector. As a next step, the narrative will be shared with the Government of Turkey for their reviews. Once the feedback received from the Government is consolidated, the plan will be endorsed in the High-Level Stakeholders Meeting on 30 November, and will be shared with the region once endorsed.
- The Basic Needs sector appeal figures per agency have been shared. The appeal numbers reported for 2022 are lower due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on partner activities and appeals.
- A comparison of partners' expectations for 2021 targets was made. The expectations in 2019 were compared to the expectations recently surveyed. Majority of the appeal targets have increased, with a decrease only for shelter due to lack of funding and in-kind/cash food assistance. A significant increase is observed in CBI and gender-appropriate hygiene, dignity and sanitary items.
- A significant change in appeal numbers have been observed over the years for the Basic Needs sector, especially with the ESSN no longer appealed for through the 3RP. However, the needs remain and are responded to outside of the 3RP. Under the resilience component, the support to municipalities has a significant coverage.
- Decreasing appeal trends are expected in the coming years as well, with basic needs interventions further embedded in other sectors.

ESSN Programme Updates

- In the October Payment Cycle, %65 of the applicants have been found eligible, and this rate corresponds to the 1.789.603 individuals (315.458 HHs) who received monthly payment.
- Almost %90 of the recipients are Syrian, followed by Iraqis, Afghans and Iranians. Families with four or more children remain the top among the criteria with %55 rate.
- For the Central Anatolia Region, the number of recipients is 233.299 and 97.936 of them from Ankara. 11 Provinces in Central Anatolia are shown with details in the attached presentation.
- Following the data received by the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Services, as of 16th of November, the total number of the applications to the ESSN Programme is 590.704 and %5 of them have been received from Ankara. (32.258) Monthly application figures have been duly increasing, and radical changes have not been observed.
- The number of people with disabilities benefiting from the ESSN Programme is 31.450, and 10.475 of them are severely disabled ones. There are 17.058 people with disabilities in Central Anatolia, and 1.875 of them reside in Ankara.
- MoH announced that Disability Health Reports would be counted as up to date until a second circular. Thus TRC informed recipients with disabilities not to go hospitals or renew their DHRs.
- TRC AAP & IFRC CEA Teams about to lunch Rumour Tracking and Managament system under the ESSN, the aim of the tool to monitor ESSN related rumors through the regular communication channels. The team are

currently working on the report, the report will be shared with intersectoral working groups in the upcoming weeks.

- The Referral and Outreach teams continues its activities to support the beneficiaries against the obstacles they encounter while accessing to the ESSN. Within the scope of R&O field activities; 29 provinces, 96 districts, 242 institutions have been visited. 198 of the visits conducted within the frame of sensitization, 44 of the visits completed as an advocacy activity. For any outreach cases; access barrier, advocacy, sensitization, partners can refer their cases to KIZILAYKART R&O (Dış Erişim) Team via kizilaykartdiserisim@kizilay.org.tr
- Within the scope of M&E activities the teams conducted remote Focus Group Discussion activities in Ankara, Gaziantep, Hatay, İstanbul & İzmir provinces. The theme was Livelihood and Woman. In total 10 session with the participation of 59 person completed. TRC and IFRC M&E teams also took part of card distribution activity. Main objective of activity was to monitor card distribution in terms of COVID-19 rules in Halkbank branches and its mobile branches set in TRC Service Center. 4 province 12 Halkbank points were monitored in Ankara, Hatay, İstanbul and İzmir and Gaziantep provinces. More detailed separate FGD report will be soon shared with partners.
- There have been 26.092 calls received during September and October regarding the ESSN Program. Most of the calls have come from İstanbul and South-East Turkey; Ankara and Konya are also in the top ten provinces by call numbers.
- In September and October, 816.000 SMSs has been sent to ESSN beneficiaries, %77 of them regarding the payment uploads.
- There have been more than a thousand questions answered on ESSN Facebook page and website.
- Kızılaykart Beneficiary Cross-Check Mechanism has been active since 2017, and 9.8 Million Individual have been cross-checked so far. 2.4 million individual only in pandemic period and 1.3 singular person data was cross-checked up to now. Results showed that %52 of this number is eligible for ESSN. This mechanism does not constitute any action against TPDP Law. Partners can send their lists at the last week of each month to **suyveritakip@kizilay.org.tr** or **essndatacheck@kizilay.org.tr**

Discussion

- TRC operates the cross-check mechanism using the data within the MoFLSS database. This data is available for cross-checking as a result of a written agreement between MoFLSS and TRC. The data is not shared externally and is only used for cross-checking beneficiaries to prevent overlaps once other non-governmental organizations and UN agencies share relevant information on the beneficiaries they are willing to target. As per this arrangement, TRC's cross-check mechanism doesn't breach the Data Protection Law and functions as a reliable system.

Highlight: Sixteen Days of Activism

- The impact of gender to accessing basic needs is significant, and therefore should be increasingly addressed in the response planned under partner initiatives. This has especially become more relevant during the COIVD-19 period, which has led to an increase in GBV incidents and risks, creating the term `shadow pandemic`.
- As per basic needs, research shows that multi-dimensional poverty has remained above 60 percent for female headed households– almost twice that of male headed households. Women and girls face higher protection risks due to sub-standard housing and limited access to shelter, and Syrian women are either unable to access hygiene materials or don't have any idea about the related services.
- In line with these considerations, and complementing the UNHCR and UN Women presentations delivered earlier during field meetings, a presentation has been delivered by UNFPA under the theme of Sixteen Days

of Activism and focusing on collecting gender and age disaggregated data to improve referrals and access to services.

- The 16 Days of Activism is the period of activism to combat and address GBV, which starts on 25th of November and ends 10th of December. This international campaign unites individuals, institutions and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of GBV against women and girls.
- Under the UN, a multi-year effort has been launched in 2008 under the UNiTE name. This year's theme under UNiTE is `Orange the world: Fund, Prevent, Respond, Collect`, calling on relevant stakeholders to increase and prioritize funding to address GBV, especially under COVID, and follow up with preventative, response and monitoring efforts.
- As part of efforts to monitor these programmes, UNFPA collects disaggregated data under different criteria specific to vulnerable groups, which allows for monitoring of distinctive groups based on their specific characteristics. This allows for more a thorough and targeted approach in identification of gaps, referral mechanisms, capacity strengthening and awareness raising.
- Under the output indicator pertaining to persons benefiting from hygiene awareness sessions, UNFPA has three target groups: refugee and host communities in rural areas, refugee women and girls above 15, and youth centres serving both male and females. Disaggregation of gender, age, and province are carried out for all three groups, allowing for the adjustment of services.
- In the context of better access to protection services for vulnerable refugee groups, the data disaggregation is more complex and detailed, covering LGBTI individuals, sex workers, people living with HIV, and men and boys who are survivors of GBV, through disaggregation of gender identity and sexual orientation also.
- This disaggregation allows to improve referrals to financial support, livelihoods programs, health care services and legal services, as well as advocating for refugees' needs in emergency situations. This is complemented by a multi-level disaggregation analysis which is inclusive of information on nationality, province of operation, and health status – depending on the context.

AoB

Brainstorming: Support to Municipalities

- A dedicated ad-hoc Basic Needs meeting will be organized on support to municipalities in December. Although included in the sector workplan, this was delayed due to the Covid-19 response.
- Partner work on support to and through municipalities were shared with members, followed by possible suggested discussion points and possible action points for the outcome of the meeting. Partners have been called to make contributions towards structuring the coming ad-hoc meeting and can reach the sector coordinator for inputs. Draft ideas will be developed in the coming 2-3 weeks and partners are encouraged to reach out to the sector coordinator with their suggestions.
- Possible outputs of this meeting are to revive the Municipal Support Mapping and also have discussions on mainstreaming environmental awareness.

CBI Mapping Announcement

- The CBI TWG works on a mapping of CBI activities every year and a new information collection cycle is planned for December.
- This year the information on programs in Turkey has increased, as many partners have come up with ad-hoc programs due to COVID-19. A list of new programs have been collected through an excel sheet since March, which is when the initial mapping was finalized.
- The mapping exercise will be re-initiated in the coming month. Accordingly, the mapping survey has been revised and will be shared with all interested partners in the CBI TWG on November 24, and BN WG for

feedback on the survey. Partners can reach out to the coordinators to provide feedback. The online survey tool will be finalized during the last week of November and data collection will start in December. The mapping is expected to be complete in January 2021. The mapping exercise will allow partners to prevent overlaps/duplication of assistance and target different areas and groups.

- This will be an inter-sectoral effort and will be inclusive of non-3RP appealing partners.

Discussing Emergencies and Basic Needs Assistance

- The 3RP coordinators have closely followed the evolving events in Izmir following the earthquake. The coordination of UN response to emergencies rests with the Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group functioning under the UNCT, and the response is planned only when requested by the Government of Turkey.
- PDMM has highlighted the importance of coordination which in this case was done under AFAD and SASF.
- People are moving to safer neighbourhoods in Izmir with increased rent prices, which impacts refugee households. There is no dedicated emergency cash programme responding to the economic shock of the Izmir earthquake.
- Partners can share their expectations from the sector, under such situations.
- An initiative can be taken to map the contingency stocks of NGOs and UN agencies in order to manage future preparedness efforts.

Next meeting	The next meeting will be an ad-hoc meeting focusing on Support to Municipalities and the date will be shared with sector members.