



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Türkiye

3RP Protection Sector

Recommendations for Scope and Content of Programming for 2026

This document outlines key recommendations for partners preparing appeals under the 3RP Protection Sector for 2026. It is based on data from **Community Pulse 2025** (previously known as Inter-Agency Protection Needs Analysis), inputs from the **3RP Protection Sector Consultation Meeting**, and findings from **Mid-Year (English and Turkish) and Year-End M&E (English and Turkish) meetings**. This document should be read alongside the **Guidance on Minimum Standards and Criteria for Protection Programming (English and Turkish)** and relevant national action plans¹. The suggestions below are **not listed in order of importance**.

- Programming is expected to align with key national strategic frameworks including [Civil Society Vision Document II. Action Plan \(2025-27\)](#), [National Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#), [2030 Barrier-Free Vision Document](#) and [Vision Document on Ageing](#).
- Strengthened advocacy efforts with public institutions should primarily aim for inclusion of individuals in national systems and services to ensure continuity of access to protection services following reduced funding. Partners are encouraged to promote sustained public institution engagement and resource allocation for inclusive, protection-sensitive service delivery within national systems.
- Actors are encouraged to maintain focus on individuals and groups at most at risk of being left behind, particularly following funding reductions and limited field presence. Priority should be given to provinces (including provinces affected by the February 2022 Earthquakes) where partner presence has declined, but protection needs remain high. Tailored interventions are encouraged for persons with specific needs, including persons with serious medical or health conditions, persons with disabilities, children with education and protection risks and single-parent households.
- Programming should also address the specific needs of individuals of nationalities other than Syrian, ensuring that protection and assistance efforts are inclusive across nationality groups. Interventions should be designed to promote equitable access to services, taking into account differing barriers faced by various nationality groups.
- Closer collaboration with livelihoods and social assistance actors to support integration of cash and protection linkages, reducing reliance on unhealthy coping mechanisms.
- Efforts should continue to ensure outreach and referrals for persons pending registration or documentation, promoting inter-sectoral collaboration with PMM, bar associations, and local authorities.
- Advocacy is needed to address barriers to health services, including implementation of the new directive on General Health Insurance for international protection applicants, while

¹ In addition to the national action plans listed below, relevant national strategies also include 2024-2028 Strategy Document and Action Plan on Empowerment of Women, available [here](#).



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information dissemination and interpretation/appointment support can be provided where possible.

- Greater investment is recommended in both traditional and digital information channels (e.g. social media, messaging apps, formal one-to-one counselling), ensuring that content is accessible, inclusive, and responsive to diverse community needs. Community and refugee networks should be further mobilized to disseminate verified, protection-sensitive information and collect feedback from affected populations.
- Legal assistance capacity needs should be strengthened to address cases related to legal status, documentation and registration issues, as well as matters concerning violence or abuse, custody, marriage, and divorce. Considering the funding constraints that have led to a reduction in specialized legal staff, partners are encouraged to explore alternative approaches to sustain legal assistance capacity. Organizations with multiple offices may consider establishing at least one dedicated legal assistance function at the regional level. Those with a single office are encouraged to maintain, where possible, legal officer position to provide consistent support to individuals in need. Where direct recruitment is not feasible, partners are advised to strengthen collaboration with bar associations and other NGOs providing legal assistance in the same province.
- Psychosocial support (PSS) should remain a key component of protection programming, reflecting increasing community stress and related risks. Partners are encouraged to enhance coordination, advocacy, and information-sharing to improve access to PSS services and strengthen referral pathways. Considering existing capacity and funding limitations, partners are encouraged to adopt flexible and sustainable approaches to maintain PSS service delivery. Organizations with broader geographical coverage may consider assigning dedicated PSS focal points at the regional level, while those with a single office are advised to retain, where possible, staff trained in basic psychosocial support and psychological first aid. Where specialized staff cannot be maintained, partners are encouraged to strengthen collaboration and referral mechanisms with public health services and other NGOs offering PSS in the same province.
- Awareness-raising on disability rights, entitlements and disability reports should continue, with greater inclusion of older persons and persons with disabilities in preparedness and mainstreaming efforts.

Self-Organized Returns

- **Important Note:** Strategies addressing self-organized returns should prioritize dignity, safety, informed decision-making, and voluntariness, while avoiding any push or pull factors that could lead to premature returns. **It is important to note that self-organized return processes are led by the Republic of Türkiye, and 3RP partners are expected to consult and coordinate closely with the PMM on all return-related initiatives.**
- **Important Note:** [The UNHCR 2024 Position on Returns to Syria](#) should guide all programming to ensure a rights-based, safe, and dignified approach.
- Programmes should prioritize addressing information and legal assistance gaps related to documentation, consent, custody, property, and return procedures. All such initiatives should



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be carefully designed to avoid creating any perception of promoting or facilitating voluntary return.

- It remains important to acknowledge that a considerable portion of refugees intend to remain in Türkiye. Therefore, programming to the extent possible should respond to their ongoing protection needs, particularly those with specific needs.

Child Protection

- During programming, partners should engage with key national strategic frameworks including [2023-2028 Türkiye Child Rights Strategy Document and Action Plan](#).
- Programming for child protection should include addressing the residual and highest needs vulnerabilities and risks experienced by refugee children, adolescents and caregivers in earthquake affected areas.
- Programmes should continue to prioritizing the early identification of child protection and GBV risks and ensuring complementary direct service provision and safe referrals, encouraging all actors to maintain a strong focus on children most at risk of being left behind, with particular attention to unaccompanied and separated children, children pending registration and documentation, out of school children, adolescent girls and children / adolescents affected by child labor, child marriage and adolescent pregnancy, and children with disabilities.
- Maintaining focus on holistic CP/GBV prevention and response services as well as cross-sectoral programmatic integration activities remains essential for ensuring a relevant, lasting and inclusive approach in addressing the needs of refugee children, adolescents and their caregivers.
- Partners should strive to cover in their appeals documented emerging child protection concerns/deliberately target particularly vulnerable groups of children/adolescents. These groups include unaccompanied and/or separated children/children on the move, children and their families whom are pending registration and documentation with PMM, children lacking birth certificates, children with disabilities and their caregivers, children working/begging in the streets/engaged in worst forms of child labor, children in conflict with the law (including due to being part of mixed movements or connected to crimes linked to substance selling/use) as well as victims or witnesses of crimes; children at risk of marriage/married/adolescent pregnant girls; LGBTQI+ children/adolescents and their families, as well as children caught in commercial sexual exploitation; children and adolescents with severe degree of trauma, stress and anxiety (especially in those areas with lack of/limited child specialized mental health and psycho-social support/treatment services); children out of school.
- Peer bullying is a major challenge in accessing/remaining in education as a significant factor in being/remaining out-of-school among refugee children and adolescents. Therefore, partners should initiate sustained and structured activities addressing peer bullying including through cooperation and collaboration with local schools, Provincial Directorate of Education and promoting positive peer-relations especially between Turkish and refugee children and youth and engage parents/caregivers from host and refugee communities to strengthen a supportive family and community environment².

² For more information, see the Education Sector Working Group's [Education Sector Needs Overview \(May 2024\)](#).



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- Child labor continues to be a persistent issue among refugee children. Stakeholders are encouraged to adopt tailored nationality and location-based approaches in child labour prevention, risk mitigation, and response activities with a focus on worst forms of child labor. All programmes related to child labour should include engagement with authorities both at central and provincial/local levels.
- Preventive and tailored programming and interventions to address child marriages should be implemented. Prevention approach targeting all children in a community, or specific groups of children identified with high-risk of harmful outcomes could be done depending on the locality. The key prevention activities and interventions of focus should include, but not limited to, targeted sessions on legal awareness, parenting initiatives, household economic empowerment, adolescents' life skills sessions while on the sideline of individualized responses to cases of child marriage.
- Overall child protection activities should have a prevention lense³ not just response; should aim to support parenting and care giving capacities of refugees in their networks through community-based child protection platforms, especially for households with children at risk. Programmes should support the empowerment of children, adolescents, and caregivers to strengthen self-protection and resilience. Partners should support good practices for adolescent/youth mobilization/engagement (including as related to mentorship, role modelling, leadership and volunteerism programmes, etc.).
- Due to the structurally complex nature of child protection concerns, child protection programmes should strive to have always have clear programmatic linkages/ connections with other cross-sectoral service components, e.g., as related to household economic empowerment, education, skills and employability, health, including MHPSS and adolescent health, gender and GBV programming, social norms change, access to legal services and justice, etc.
- Child Protection programmes should focus on complementarities and support to national child protection systems with a view to ongoing inclusion of refugee children and their families into the national child protection system and to the extent possible promoting strategies to further support/integrate into national services. Investments in partnerships/service complementarities between NGOs/statutory services/local authorities to ensure ownership, service transition and sustainability in a context of reducing funding in the country are highly recommended.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- During programming, partners should engage with key national strategic frameworks including [IV. National Action Plan on Combating Violence Against Women \(2021-2025\)](#).
- Organizations are encouraged to ensure safe and timely access to multisectoral GBV services, including case management, legal assistance, and psychosocial support.

³ See [Primary Prevention Framework for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action](#) and [INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children](#).



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- Nationwide awareness-raising initiatives⁴, including participation in international campaigns such as the 16 Days of Activism, should be implemented to promote prevention, reduce stigma, and encourage safe reporting of GBV incidents. Partners are encouraged to align advocacy campaigns with media and social media outreach to amplify visibility, strengthen public awareness, and enhance community engagement, ensuring survivors can access available support services.
- Partners are encouraged to engage in coordinated, ethical, and confidential GBV data collection to support response planning and service delivery. While GBVIMS data should not be used to estimate prevalence, it remains a vital tool to identify trends, improve coordination, and strengthen survivor-centered programming.
- Partners are encouraged to strengthen collaboration with Refugee-Led Organizations (RLOs), particularly within the GBV sector, to promote protection programming that is community-driven, inclusive, and sustainable.

⁴ [Inter-Agency Standing Committee and co-partners, Interagency GBV Case Management Guidelines, 2017.](#)