



The Food Security Sector in partnership with WFP and TRC launched a pilot programme for off-camp assistance to the most vulnerable Syrian families in Gaziantep, Hatay, Sanliurfa and

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

The Food Security Sector continues to provide support to Syrians in 11 camps. Monthly transfers to beneficiaries are approximately US\$3 million.

A pilot programme has also been launched for off-camp assistance to the most vulnerable Syrian families in Sanliurfa and Kilis, in addition to Gaziantep and Hatay. Beneficiaries are assisted through the same E-Food Card modality as in the camps and receive a 50 TL entitlement. The Food Security Sector reached approximately 264,448 beneficiaries in December 2015, thereby exceeding its total target of 574,914 by 25% (200,000 beneficiaries) by the end of the year.

Nine partner agencies have reported e-voucher activities in the following fourteen provinces: Adana, Adiyaman, Diyarbakir, Düzce, Edirne, Elazig, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Kilis, Malatya, Mardin, Osmaniye, Sanliurfa. One new activity was reported by a partner in December 2015, where an additional 1,375 beneficiaries will be reached through e-vouchers in Hatay (Khirikhan) by March 2016.

The Food Security Working Group is co-chaired by WFP. The group meets in Gaziantep on a monthly basis. REACH/IMPACT Initiatives has tentatively agreed to Co-Chair the FSWG, as per discussions held at the last meeting on 11 January 2016.

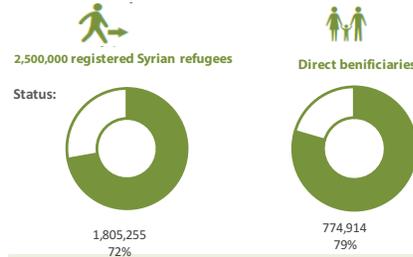
The Vulnerability Sub-Working Group and Cash-Based Interventions Technical Working Groups have discussed the Draft Terms of Reference at Gaziantep level and will proceed to presenting the ToRs to inter-agency counterparts at the Syria Task Force during the first week of February.



Syrians supported by WFP and TRC's e-food card programme shopping in the camp markets. UNHCR /N.Boase

Key Figures:

Planned Sector Response:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- As no formal comprehensive needs assessment of the urban-based Syrian population exists, it is difficult to quantify and identify most vulnerable populations and to determine most appropriate larger-scale assistance programmes to implement in cooperation with the Government. With resources stretched to a maximum and as the number of Syrians living in urban settings increases and their food-security deteriorates over time, the need for a unified and efficient system to identify and serve only the most vulnerable non-camp populations will be vital in 2015-2016. Therefore, priority needs include a joint needs assessment with the Government and a harmonized approach to cash assistance among partners.

- Ensuring non-discriminatory access to food for the most vulnerable is critical in mitigating protection risks and vulnerabilities faced by the refugees. The food security working group made some progress towards harmonizing the vulnerability criteria targeting Syrian families living in urban areas; the criteria include women and children, the elderly, and those with disabilities. In addition, a harmonization of the food security assistance value, (when implementing cash and voucher support programmes), is underway.

-Enhancing small scale and family farming production; improving agricultural production through climate smart programmes; and promoting micro-gardening initiatives are also priorities which need to be addressed given the lack of comprehensive responses in these areas, as noted in the graphs below.

TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: December 2015

