

## ESSN Task Force Gaziantep Minutes

### Objective

- Welcome and introduction
- Action points from the previous meeting
- Updates on the ESSN and its implementation in SET
  - September FGD findings
  - Call Center Announcements
  - Disability Health Report Sensitisation
- Updates on the CCTE
- Q&A with MOFLSS
- AOB

### Date of meeting

08 November 2018  
09:00 - 11:00

### Location

UN House, Gaziantep

### Meeting Co-Chairs

**WFP:** Line Rindebaek **TRC:** Hanifi Kinaci

### 1. Action Points:

Follow up issue:	Who will take action:	Deadline:
Provision of information on SASF Allowance	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	SoP is finalized; further information to be shared in November
Detailed information on the HH verification numbers	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Completed: November 2018
Action plan for the ESSN TF to be finalized and shared with the partners	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Draft shared: 02 Nov 2018. A final version was shared with Basic Needs.
TRC Duplication Matrix Updates at the BNWG meetings	TRC	Completed: November 2018
<b>New Action Points from Meeting:</b>		
Age breakdown for SDA (esp. children)	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Included below (annexed).
TRC Outreach Team contact information to be shared	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Included below.
ESSN TF Members to share their ESSN related good practices	ESSN TF Members	Template recirculated with minutes. Deadline for partner inputs: 30 November 2018
Rejection reasons for CCTE Programme to be included to the next presentations	CCTE Team	December 2018 /January 2019

### 2. Updates on the ESSN:

- The Co-Chairs World Food Programme (WFP) and Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) provided an update of the ESSN to date noting that as of 30 October 2018, a total of 477,680 applications (2,425,234 people) were registered; 3,411 applications were not assessed; 259,170 applications were deemed eligible and 215,099 applications were ineligible. 37.02% of the applications were registered by TRC Service Centres.
- 248,640 households (1,447,841 people) received ESSN assistance in October. Inclusion rate is 52.90%. Average household size is 5.82.

- On 10 October 2018, 1,183 accounts were swept back: 672 uncollected cards (3+ months) and 511 dormant accounts (6+ months). There is no mechanism to close accounts but rather they remain dormant, because the accounts have been opened on the name of the refugees for this specific kind of assistance.
- It was clarified that, due to confidentiality, NGOs cannot call call-centres on behalf of the clients as per regulations. TRC is working on how to provide a platform for NGOs, SASFs to have direct contact with ESSN/CCTE Programme.
- or that specific type of assistance. That is why the next payment continues to be uploaded to the cards.
- Severe Disability Top-Ups:
  - Totally 4,949 beneficiaries received Severe Disability Top-Ups in October (59% male, 41% female). While 96% of the total beneficiaries have more than 70% severe disability level based on their valid disability health reports; 54% of them have more than 90% severe disability with a documented valid disability health report.
  - For the next meeting, it was agreed to provide an overview including a breakdown of the proportion of children.
  - It was noted that challenges are faced in some hospitals – e.g. in Mersin, there are a high number of refugees benefitting even though the province does not have the highest number of refugees and vice versa in other areas. There should be a direct correlation between the level of refugees and the level of people receiving the SDA.
  - The importance of renewing DHRs in order to eliminate lack of assistance due to lack of validity check was emphasised.
  - For very vulnerable cases, it was reiterated that these should call TRC call centres who will direct them to outreach team.

**ACTION POINT: It was requested that overviews include a breakdown of the proportion of children. For convenience, this has been annexed below to the minutes.**

- FGD Sept: Vocational Trainings & Employment Assistance: An overview of the findings from the focus group discussion on vocational trainings and employment assistance undertaken by TRC and WFP. The questionnaire covered current livelihood conditions, vocational training programmes and employment assistance programmes. The key findings included:
  - Turkish employers` refusal to apply for work permits due to increased tax costs
  - Females: Cultural norms and their household responsibilities are the main barrier for them in participating in the labor market or attending vocational trainings.
  - Language barrier: the main barrier to accessing the labor market.
  - The refugees having skilled labour jobs back in their home counties cannot find similar jobs in Turkey
  - Winter is the best season for participating in vocational trainings; multiple locations in large urban areas, and in the city centre in smaller cities and rural areas.
  - Females would prefer part-time jobs to be able to manage their household responsibilities; some would work in full time jobs if there are available day-care services for their children.
- TRC Outreach Activities: ESSN Outreach Activities are operational sensitization and advocacy activities that aim to: i) reach the goal of the program in the shortest time and in a most appropriate way by informing the target groups, local authorities and non-governmental organizations and facilitating the necessary procedural steps such as field or central level visits and official correspondences and ii) remove specific obstacles faced by applicants during their ESSN application/registration and card collection processes.
  - Since beginning of the program, %99 of the provinces have been visited with more than 4000 visits made to the local authorities.

- With the help of Gaziantep, İstanbul and Ankara Area Offices and 6 field offices located in Hatay, Van, İstanbul (Anatolia), İzmir, Erzurum and Samsun, outreach teams are able to get actions quickly and respond outreach related issues effectively.
- After registered in TRC's database, cases are contacted by dedicated 168 Call Center operators and followed by outreach teams at each location.

Referrals can be sent to [diserisim@kizilay.org.tr](mailto:diserisim@kizilay.org.tr) or 168 Call Center is also available for individual applications.

### 3. Updates on the CCTE:

- 341.482 beneficiaries received payment in CCTE September payment. Total number of beneficiaries received at least one payment reached to 376.326 as of 8th November.
- 170.823 cardholders received payment in CCTE September payment. Total number of cardholders received at least one payment reached to 190.059 as of 8th November.
- Next payment to be made at the end of November.
- Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) has started in 6 provinces (Ankara, Gaziantep, Hatay, Konya, İstanbul, Şanlıurfa) in May 2018 and ALP students are able to apply to CCTE since August 2018.
- ALP Learners was 399 among the 341,482 children paid in September 2018. 142 out of 399 ALP Learners are in Gaziantep.
- Application of ALP students to CCTE has been launched in August and applicants received only 100 TL additional payment in September 2018 CCTE Payment.
- CCTE for Refugees is owned by the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS) and TRC/UNICEF is facilitating the extension of national CCTE program to refugees, therefore, any potential increase in the monthly payment amounts would depend on the national programme and the MoFLSS as the owner of the program.
- Accelerated Learning Program Second Phase will start in October 2018. Provinces and districts information is as follows:
  - Bursa: Yıldırım, Osmangazi, İnegöl
  - Adana: Seyhan, Yüreğir, Karataş, Kozan, Ceyhan
  - Kayseri: Central PdoNE office, Melikgazi, Kocasinan
  - İstanbul: Bayrampaşa, Zeytinburnu, Başakşehir, Kağıthane, Şişli, Beykoz, Bahçelievler, Pendik
  - İzmir: Menemen, Buca, Torbalı, Karabağlar, Bornova, Foça, Menderes
  - Mersin: Mezitli, Akdeniz Karacaoğlan, Toroslar, Yenişehir
- For the next meeting, it was agreed to include reasons for rejections in the presentation where possible.
- The potential impact of CCTE on families' decisions to send children to school, was discussed. It was agreed to check with TRC-UNICEF Ankara teams if the initial outcomes of the ongoing Third Party Monitoring activity can be shared.
- The Ministry noted to the question of a planned increase, that there are more than 40 units of different assistance so even an increase in one of these would lead to a significant increase in cost. However, the 2019 plan includes a plan to encourage enrolment in high school (already implemented in 2015-16).

**ACTION POINT: A contracted Third Party has done a study in SET – TRC to ask if the presentation can be shared.**

**ACTION POINT: Rejection reasons for CCTE Programme to be included to the next presentations**

### 4. Q & A with MoLFSS:

- Two representatives from MoLFSS, Ms. Yasemin Comertoglu from ESSN Programme and Ms. Hulya Acar from CCTE Programme firstly provided brief information and updates about the two programmes by indicating that MoFLSS is the main implementer of the two programmes that enables them to cover the needs of the more vulnerable refugees and implement the programmes nationwide.

- TRC is the one that is supporting the Ministry directly and they have good communication and joint response for the activities of these two programmes. There is a good coordination for HH visits, Severe Disability Allowance and SASF Allowance which will hopefully be in place soon.
- There is available information on the HH verification visits, but the exclusion of the families may not be only due to the household verification visits while the ESSN Programme is holding monthly assessment for demographic criteria. Thus, the information of the household verification visits may not give a reliable data for the exclusion reasons.
- Nationwide so far, 149,086 household verification visits have been completed for the ones receiving ESSN assistance and 99,548 ineligible households have been visited as well.
- **SASF Allowance:**
  - SASF Allowance will allow vulnerable people not meeting the criteria to be allowed to access ESSN. Each SASFs will have their own quotas of people – it will be 5% of applicants based on the numbers of applications each SASF received in total)
  - The Ministry is expecting an official letter from WFP for further steps of implementing the SASF Allowance.
  - Based on the projections, in total 23,000 HHs expected to be eligible for such allowance (5% of the current number of applicants)
  - For example, if an SASF received 30,000 applications for ESSN, they will be able to reach to 1,538 HHs to be eligible for SASF Allowance)
  - The precondition for the SASF Allowance is a valid HH visit; time validity for HH visits is 1 year. If no valid visit, they will not get the allowance.
  - The only responsible entity to hold HH visits are SASFs. They will use their Integrated IM system and the decision support system (A-E Rating). Allowance only given to the A group – they will get a HH visit if no updated / valid / verified HH visit and they have to send an application to the board.
  - Will WFP/TRC/other organisations be able to send cases to foundations --- up to the discretion of the foundations to decide on vulnerability based on criteria.
  - There will be no mass communication to all refugees on this going out to avoid confusion.
  - The SASFs are independent entities, each has its own structure but referral from any other organization or Social Service Centers are possible. It is important to note that the referrals should be only at suggestion level; since SASFs are following their own vulnerability assessment, the final decision is at SASF level.

## 5. **Any Other Business:**

- **Good Practices Template:** ESSN TF members are encouraged share examples of best practices related to their ESSN experience. This is one of the important activities in our current ESSN TF Action Plan for 2018 (which is built on the recommendations from the Lessons Learned Exercise and subsequent discussions with you in recent meetings). A template was circulated on Tuesday, 6 November for this purpose. This will allow the co-chairs to properly capture these significant efforts to remove the barriers for refugees in accessing basic needs assistance, ESSN specifically, and to emphasize how we work collectively in this regard.

### **ACTION POINT: Partners to submit inputs by Friday 30 November 2018**

- **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held in January 2019. The venue, time and agenda will be shared accordingly.

**Attachments:**

1. ESSN Task Force Gaziantep Presentation
2. Presentation of CCTE updates
3. FGD Report September: Vocational Trainings and Employment Assistance

**ANNEX: Breakdown of DHRs - Proportion of Children:**

age	Male	Female	Grand Total
<b>18&lt;</b>			
0	4	2	6
1	26	21	47
2	65	36	101
3	64	82	146
4	102	69	171
5	89	72	161
6	76	74	150
7	106	74	180
8	119	54	173
9	116	87	203
10	93	79	172
11	95	65	160
12	68	43	111
13	65	58	123
14	73	61	134
15	63	57	120
16	69	69	138
17	77	40	117
<b>18-59</b>	<b>1302</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>2045</b>
<b>60&gt;</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>491</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2921</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>4949</b>