



Inter-Agency
Coordination
Turkey

Basic Needs Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Time & location:	18 April 2019, UNHCR Country Office, Ankara
Chaired by:	Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR) and Hiba Hanano (WFP)
Participants:	Özgür Savaşçioğlu (UNHCR), Gonca Savaş (WFP), Caner Yener (ASAM), Şahnur Soykan (WFP), Belma Beyaz (ASAM), Ali Aytaç Emecen (ASAM), Hanen Çiftdoğan (ASAM), Ömer Çağrı Tecer (MSYD), Sara Şimal Çakmak (MSYD), Sait S. Takar (Akdeniz Mül-Der), Ceylan Tunca (UNFPA), Sevgi Kelly (UNHCR), Mazen Aboulhosn (IOM), Hanifi Kinaci (TRC), Hakkı Ersoy (UNICEF), Livio Mercurio (UNHCR), Faruk Acar (WFP), Sertaç Turhal (UNDP), Emre Hakyemez (UNDP), Melike Kuş (DKM)
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome & Introductions2. Action Points from the Previous Meeting3. Environment and Basic Needs4. AOB<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Finalized BNWG Priority Plan 2019 and ToRb. Review: Basic Needs and Livelihoods Joint Meetingc. Evaluation Survey Results of IM Training Sessionsd. Discussion on FGD compensation and harmonizatione. Discussions on access/barriers to language training



AGENDA POINT	DISCUSSION	ACTION POINTS
Welcome and introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNHCR & WFP chairs welcomed working group members ▪ The meeting agenda was introduced and accepted without changes. 	
Action Points from the Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A BNWG ToR link will be shared with members – <i>ToRs are revised in February, 2019, endorsed to STF on March 2019 and shared with all members In April 2019</i> ▪ A BNWG ToR in Turkish will be shared with members – <i>Turkish-English version of ToR is shared with members in April 2019</i> ▪ Links for all relevant 2018 documents will be shared – <i>Done ✓</i> ▪ Members prepare handouts for sharing with members – <i>Pending – Due June</i> ▪ Request «information sharing spot» from coordinators – <i>Pending – Due June</i> ▪ Members reminded to keep data up to date on Services Advisor – <i>Continuing</i> ▪ Members to share capacity development and training needs – <i>A survey will be conducted to identify capacity development needs of members</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Online capacity development needs survey to be conducted → Members to nominate their organisation for information sharing agenda item in June meeting
Environment & Basic Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In compliance with the priority plan 2019, BNWG meetings had a thematic focus on environment mainstreaming in April cycle. Two organisations were on board: Natural Preservation Center - DKM (setting the scene regarding mainstreaming), and UNDP (presenting infrastructure projects which aims to support and strengthen municipal services). Coordinators wrapped up by sharing the highlights of discussions from previous meetings and introduction of STF questions. 	



- **DKM** made a presentation regarding a framework for integration of environmental factors into humanitarian aid activities, and integrating environment into the refugee response.
- DKM blended different methodologies to make the review and analysis, brought planning and assessment approaches to identify sources of data, impacts of refugee influx and response, and aimed to provide **multi-criteria decision making**.
- Negative environmental impacts have long term outcomes and irreversible. Humanitarian response given in emergency situations often fails to consider environmental impact.
- Number of refugees increased the urban population substantially in Turkey. This resulted in water consumption, waste production and increased use of natural resources. Such impact is not easy to measure, yet there is significant statistical data regarding increased waste production and water consumption.
- DKM did an assessment for all 6 sectors. Under Basic Needs, mitigation of environment impacts involves several actors, including municipalities.
- For instance, impact of waste management facilities (which on its own is a mean to mitigate negative impact on environment) have the potential to have negative impacts on biodiversity, fauna, flora, soil, water, air and global warming.
- There are several key environmental issues that concern BN sector. Analysis of data collected through literature review, consultations and workshop brought out such issues as:
 - Increase in **solid and liquid waste generation** due to increased population or distribution activities.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Water and soil pollution associated with poor wastewater and sewage management- There were several examples where due to lack of resources of technical capacity, environment was negatively impacted from wild dumping (due to landfills exceeding their capacity) and decharge of waste water without treatment.- There are cultural practices that act against effective use of resources, and reduction of waste. However, overall impacts is resulting from increased and unplanned for population.- Pressures on water resources associated with water provisioning.- Public health risks associated with poor environmental sanitation- Increased housing demand indirectly impacts the environment since in it increases demand for construction of new houses in medium and long term. Production of construction materials and constructions themselves have known and inevitable negative impacts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ DKM briefed the logic and relevance of conservation-utilization balance. A major part of biodiversity is located in the areas used by human beings such as agricultural lands, grasslands, forests and prohibition of use and entrance to conservation zones do not work effectively. Instead, use of these zones should be regulated.▪ Scientific studies and participatory management of natural resources based on these studies can bring out approaches that can help establish such balance. This can be mainstreamed in decision making, planning and implementation in humanitarian field. Such studies require access to current or production of non-existent data.	
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- **UNDP Environmental Engineer** presented that UNDP had been putting projects in place to support municipalities of Eastern Turkey cities with management of environmental impact of the crises.
- UNDP has an approach of Coping, Recovering and Transforming. Coping is the immediate response which includes provision of equipment/infrastructure support. Recovering involves introduction of new service delivery methods and technology. Transforming helps increase efficiency and also access to resources and external funding by Optimization of Project Management Systems.
- Currently UNDP implements in 4 cities; Şanlıurfa, Gaziantep, Kilis and Hatay.
- Completed project have supported waste management, waste water management and also with vehicles such fire trucks and backhoe loaders
- Ongoing project again targets supporting waste management, waste water management and technical capacity improvement.
- Coordinators shared the highlights from previous discussions in Istanbul and Gaziantep.
 - Cash-based interventions can be considered **environmental friendly**
 - We have or can access tools but we being «shy» in Environment
 - Raise awareness on **zero waste**, climate change, natural resources etc.
 - Provide facilities to enable **waste collection and separation.**
 - Minimize **water loss**, we are not a water rich country
 - Prefer environment friendly, durable and sustainable materials
 - Support mechanisms that enable community members to **raise concerns to authorities** about environmental sanitation conditions.
 - Include sustainable consumption practices during **hygiene awareness activities.**



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider energy needs and exposure to pollution when supporting household shelter and WASH activities. - Preference procurements of durable and sustainably-sourced materials for use in household shelter and WASH activities. - Advocate for sustainability and environmental considerations when support municipal counterparts. 	
Inter-sector Consultation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sector coordinators briefed the inter-sector consultation process and introduced the five consultation questions. Members expressed their preference to discuss the questions and populate the answers internally, back at their organisations, following the meeting, 	→ Members to respond consultation questions, which will be sent via email following April cycle.
AOB - Finalized BNWG Priority Plan 2019 and ToR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sector coordinators briefed members on purpose of revision and finalisation of ToR, and introduced Turkish-English ToR. ▪ Sector coordinators briefed members on the finalised BNWG Priority Plan 2019 	
AOB - Review: Basic Needs and Livelihoods Joint Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Basic Needs and Livelihoods working groups held a joint meeting on transition on 20 March in Ankara, which aimed to take stock on the ongoing and joint sectoral activities that will support transition, and referrals on the way forward. ▪ Main point of the meeting was presentation from MoFLSS on the “Exit Strategy from the ESSN Program”. It can be accessed from here. ▪ Coordinators set the scene by giving a quick recap of sector priorities and figures, which followed by outlaying purpose of transition, and challenges associated with it. ▪ Lead agencies present their work that they have undertaken to support the process of transition. Meeting provided in-depth understanding of the exit 	



	<p>strategy of MoFLSS and a platform for members to raise issues, and address questions to relevant actors of transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ MoFLSS presentation brought out that clear timeline is not set, social assistance will not be stopped rapidly, process should be regarded as a graduation rather than transition, and that FRIT II will bring more clarity to future planning.	
AOB - Evaluation Survey Results of IM Training Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ IM presented findings of IM Training Sessions Evaluation Survey. 53% of the participants responded to the evaluation. Overall evaluation was positive, feedbacks were noted by IM.	
AOB - FGD Compensation and Harmonization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Members agreed on the previous discussions regarding FGD harmonization. Money should not be given to FGD beneficiaries since it is expected to be a voluntary process. It is an acceptable and common practice to provide snacks, and depending on the situation, compensate cost of transportation (preferably in-kind).▪ Making daily payments to refugees for FGDs would make management of these consultations difficult, such as inflated demand for FGDs etc. which might jeopardise the will behind the attendance.	
AOB - Access/Barriers to Language Trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Members agreed that there still are barriers against acquiring Turkish language for refugees and there are several different reasons.▪ There are several actors that provide Turkish courses; however, there is high drop-out rates in intermediate/ advance levels.	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Provision of quality language courses is limited and expensive. Courses with provision of hourly/daily stipends are believed to increase success and decrease drop outs.▪ Duration and timing of the courses are flagged as an issue. Course duration is not feasible and it does not address different needs.▪ Collecting feedback to establish a deeper understanding on why refugees drop out or do not benefit from language courses.▪ Although Arabic is not common outside Sout East Turkey, refugee families survive without learning the language by getting assistance from their children, who are growing up in Turkey and speak Turkish.	
	Next meeting: 13 June 2019, TBD, Gaziantep	