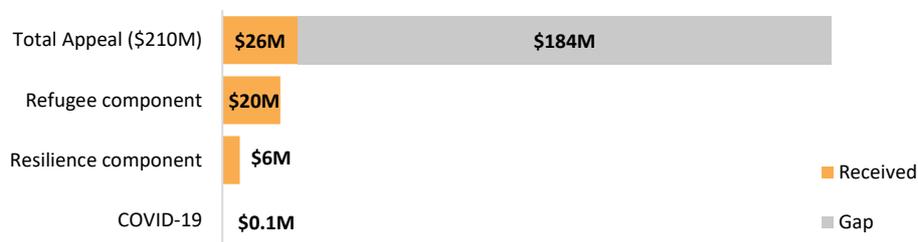


## 2021 MID-YEAR REVIEW

### Highlights:

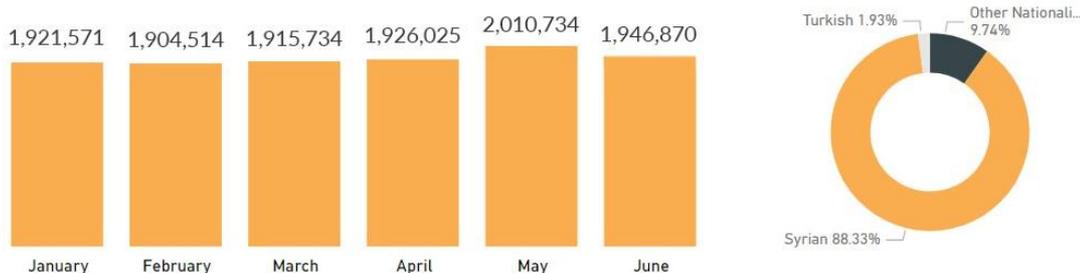
- Basic Needs sector is **the least funded at 12 percent** among six sectors by the end of second quarter.
- Only **5.23 percent** of targeted CBI beneficiaries were reached in the first half of the year.
- Complementary CBI programs reached only 40 thousand individuals with one-off cash assistance.
- Based on partner inputs, funding gap was identified for hygiene kits distribution, shelter, and WASH.
- Partners reached 75 percent of annual target for food assistance in the first half of the year.
- Programs targeting support to municipalities for their basic needs service delivery and infrastructure were either partially funded or did not receive funding.
- Underreporting was identified to be a major challenge for monitoring the progress in several indicators.

**Funding Situation:** Based on the total funding reported by partners as of 30 June 2021 to IA/IM, Basic Needs sector is the least funded at 12 percent amongst six sectors. Gap of funding is reflecting on the slow progress in refugee and resilience activities. Although rapid progress is expected in some of the activities in the second half of the year, underfunding of the sector is concerning considering the current context and pressing needs of the most vulnerable refugees.



Graph 1: Funding received and funding gap for Basic Needs sector as of 2021 mid-year.

**Mid-year Analysis:** In 2021, Basic Needs Working Group (BNWG) conducted a mid-year review in July, and partners assessed the level of progress regarding the sector targets. As the first step of analysis, sector reviewed the mid-year achievements based on partners’ reporting on ActivityInfo. In the second quarter of 2021, Basic Needs sector partners cumulatively reached 2.2 million refugees through cash-based interventions, shelter assistance, NFI distributions and food assistance. The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) program continued its support to refugees in meeting their daily needs through multi-purpose and monthly cash assistance and reached 1.85 million individuals. Basic Needs sector partners provided NFI items including gender-appropriate hygiene, dignity and sanitary items to over 250,000 individuals.



Graph 2 (left): Monthly Progress – Cumulative Number of Beneficiaries  
Graph 3 (right) – Nationality Breakdown of Beneficiaries

Appealing partners were requested to provide additional information about their mid-year progress of their activities and their funding situation, and expected achievement by the end of the year. Out of 16 appealing partners, 13 partners<sup>1</sup> were able to provide input to the analysis process. Benefiting from the provided data by partners, sector was able to cross-check and analyze most of the sector indicators, which were set for 2021; and the analysis was evaluated to be 90% sufficient for bringing out major issues in sector progress, despite missing input from 3 appealing partners. Findings were shared with partners in the ad-hoc working group meeting on 8 July 2021. The review helped identify the activities which were affected the most from underfunding situation under the main two sector objectives, and also identified underreporting issues.

<sup>1</sup> Organisations which participated in mid-year review by providing detailed feedback: CARE, IBC, IOM, MSYD, MWL, QC, UNDO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WATAN, WFP, WHH

**Objective 1: Improve living conditions of the most vulnerable Syrians under temporary protection, international protection applicants and status holders, and vulnerable members of the host community.**

Table 1: Analysis of responses of 13 out of 16 partners for Objective 1 outputs and indicators.

Outputs	Output indicators	Total targets of 13 partners (A)	Mid-year achievement of the target (#)	Mid-year achievement of the target (%)	Expected achievement of the target by year-end (B)	Expected achievement towards Target by the end of 2021 (B/A) (%)
<b>1.1 Vulnerable refugees have access to shelter solutions</b>	1.1.1 # of individuals benefitting from access to adequate shelter solutions	18,750	6,672	35.58%	12,920	<b>68,91%</b>
	1.1.2 # of individuals benefitting from transportation services	25,500	140	0.55%	500	1,96%
<b>1.2 Vulnerable refugees have access to essential goods (Food, Non-food and CRIs) and services in a safe, gender sensitive and dignified manner</b>	1.2.1 # of individuals benefitting from cash-based interventions	780,519	40,823	<b>5.23%</b>	649,388	<b>83,20%</b>
	1.2.2 # of individuals benefitting from Core Relief Items	132,200	14,343	10.85%	141,250	106,85%
	1.2.3. # of individuals receiving in-kind or cash food assistance	112,050	134,648	120.17%	167,768	149,73%
<b>1.3 Refugees have access to adequate gender appropriate WASH, hygiene and dignity items; and enhanced capacity to maintain WASH conditions</b>	1.3.1 # of persons benefitting from gender appropriate hygiene, dignity or sanitary items	717,600	126,271	17.60%	243,780	<b>33,97%</b>
	1.3.2 # of individuals participating in hygiene awareness sessions	30,250	10,788	35.66%	26,805	88,61%
	1.3.3 # of individuals receiving assistance to conduct household WASH rehabilitation	3,800	665	17.50%	1,515	<b>39,87%</b>
<b>1.5 Vulnerable refugees are supported to access livelihoods services in order to increase self-reliance and reduce dependency on Basic Needs support</b>	1.5.2 # of individuals received counselling/awareness raising on transition from basic needs support to livelihood opportunities disaggregated by sex, age and nationality	800	30	3.75%	791	98,88%

Considering progress per target, the mid-year achievements review based on ActivityInfo and partner inputs showed that only 5.23 percent of beneficiaries were reached through complementary cash-based interventions outside of ESSN (1.2.1), with approximately 50K individuals receiving one-off cash assistance. This indicated **significant slow progress in the first six months**. Based on various needs assessments by partners, there is still a great need for cash assistance on the part of refugees. Sector identifies significant gap in cash assistance in the context of pressing needs and decreased livelihood opportunities. According to the Inter-Agency Protection Sector Needs Assessment, around 85 percent of the respondents reported not being able to fully cover their basic needs.<sup>2</sup> Partners expected approximately 83.2 percent achievement of the annual target by the end of the year for CBIs, and only some of them pointed at underfunding. Nevertheless, considering the underachievement of cash assistance in the first half of the year, and observed slow progress in the third quarter, sector is urged to take immediate action to extend assistance to the most vulnerable, and advocate with donor organization to mobilize further funding.

Sector mid-year achievements review also showed that the progress on distribution of hygiene kits (1.3.1) and core relief items (1.2.2) were also **low** with 10.85 percent, and 6.95 percent respectively, and the rates were around one-third for both these indicators in relation to the inputs provided by 13 partners. Regarding distribution of hygiene kits, many programs were partially funded; consequently, a **funding gap was identified**. In addition, underreporting was identified to be a challenge for monitoring the progress in this indicator concerning the delivery of core relief items as there were significant differences between inputs provided for the review and partner reporting in ActivityInfo. In addition, underreporting was identified as an issue for counselling on transition to livelihoods (1.5.2) and food assistance (1.2.3) as well; however, the latter showed greater progress than planned overall and reached almost 75 percent of the annual targets.

Based on the review of sector mid-year achievements, shelter and WASH assistance reached almost 40 percent of the annual targets. Funding gaps were identified for the shelter (1.1.1) and WASH (1.3.3) assistance targets based on partner feedback, explaining that the expected year-end targets for these indicators were below the 2021 plan targets.

<sup>2</sup> UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Turkey: Inter-Agency Protection Sector Needs Assessment Analysis Round 3 - January 2021, 20 May 2021, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/86731>

**Objective 2: Support strengthening of local and national capacities to respond to the increased demand for public services.**

Table 2: Analysis of responses of 13 out of 16 partners for Objective 2 outputs and indicators.

Outputs	Output indicators	Total targets of 13 partners (A)	Mid-year achievement of the target (#)	Mid-year achievement of the target (%)	Expected achievement of the target by year-end (B)	Expected Achievement towards Target by the end of 2021 (B/A) (%)
2.1 Local authorities have increased technical and infrastructure capacity to deliver basic as well as municipal and other services in response to the increase in demand	2.1.1 # of municipalities with strengthened capacities for basic needs service delivery	31	20	62.9%	28	98.88%
	2.1.2 # of municipal infrastructures newly established to expand capacity for service delivery	50	10	20%	24	48%
	2.1.3 # of public institutions with strengthened capacities for basic needs service delivery	65	44	68,08%	65	100%
2.2 Local authorities supported in providing basic needs services through increased environmental awareness of communities	2.2.1. # of individuals received awareness raising/training on zero waste, recycling, and water conservation*	168,002	20,225	13.23%	72,002	42.86%

Under the Objective 2, mid-year review showed that sector activities relating to strengthening municipalities’ capacities for basic needs service delivery (2.1.1) were only partially funded and there was a funding gap related to establishing municipal infrastructures to expand capacity for service delivery (2.1.2). Lack of funding explains why the year-end expected achievements of responding partners for these were less than the initial targets set. On the other hand, analysis of partner responses with further detailed information showed that the progress related to the number of public institutions with strengthened capacities for basic needs service delivery (2.1.3) was on par with expectations of partners; thus, the expected year-end targets were not changed. For targets related to awareness raising/training on zero waste, recycling, and water conservation (2.2.1), under-reporting was identified, and the progress was slow, so the year-end expected targets decreased compared to the initially set ones.

**Conclusion:** Several action points have emerged for sectoral interventions in the coming period. The most pressing issue was identified as the slow progress related to **CBI support** provided to vulnerable households. As the needs underlining the necessity of CBI activities remain pressing in the context of the pandemic and the most vulnerable target population access support mostly through CBI programs, the sectoral interventions aiming to increase progress in CBI targets would have a highly positive impact and prevent refugees resorting to negative coping mechanisms. Modalities of refugee support other than cash-based interventions aim to meet the need of the most vulnerable, and significant underfunding in **hygiene kit** distribution is concerning considering the current pandemic context. Although food assistance is on track thanks to the continuation of programs including in-camp food assistance, sector identified the need to further explore needs and opportunities for increased food assistance in urban context.

Programs targeting development of **basic and municipal service** delivery capacities are underfunded. Mapping of municipal support by partners brought out that although there are several programs providing support to municipalities in metropolitan cities which are hosting large number of refugees, there are several other municipalities across Turkey, most specifically in central and east Anatolia, which do not receive any support. Infrastructure and institutional capacities of municipalities are not designed to address the needs of the added population, and high demand of services continue to over-stretch municipalities, which is considered to lead social tension between communities.

The review shows that improvement of sectoral **reporting** remains a pressing issue and steps to strengthen reporting would be highly beneficial and give the sector the opportunity to produce more reliable and evidence-based research and analysis. This, in turn, would help the sector to better strategize the way forward in line with its purposes and greatly contribute to advocacy efforts to overcome the challenge of funding gaps.

Finally, partners are encouraged to share pre and post assessments of their refugee and resilience basic needs assistance programs the BNWG platform; evidence-based findings of such assessments are considered to create opportunities for enhanced coordination, continuous learning, and advocacy.