Inter-Agency Coordination Türkiye

# Cash-based Interventions Technical Working Group Türkiye

## CBI TWG Meeting Minutes

5 July 2022 Ankara, İstanbul, Gaziantep

**Chaired by:** Ahmet Unver (UNHCR)

**Venue:** Virtual (via Zoom)

**Minutes:** Umay Atik (UNHCR)

**Participants:** Al-Resala Foundation, CARE International, Concern Worldwide, DG ECHO, GIZ, GOAL, IFRC, ILO, IOM, İNGEV, JCCP/REALs, SEVKAR, SGDD-ASAM, TRC, UNHCR, Violet Organisation, WHH, WFP, WSA

### AGENDA:

1) Welcome & Introductions
2) Review Action Points
3) Programme Updates
4) Update: CBI in GBV Guidance Document
5) Update: PDM Guidance Document
6) Brainstorming: CBI TWG focus in the second half of 2022
7) Review of Household Expenditures
   a) Presentation: Market Bulletin 2022 Q1 *(WFP)*
   b) Presentation: IA Household Expenditures Review
   c) Discussions
8) Any Other Business

### New Action Points from the Meeting:

1. Members interested in the complementing technical advisor position to contact unver@unhcr.org
2. Invitation of an upcoming CBI in GBV TT discussion to be shared with interested CBI TWG members for their participation.
3. PDM Guidance Document to be shared after Eid break, partner inputs are expected, and will be reviewed in the next meeting
4. Partners to share suggestions on their preferred areas of focus to be prioritised in the second half of 2022 until the next meeting

### Documents

1. Presentation of the meeting
2. WFP 2022 Q1 Market Bulletin
3. Inter-Agency Monitoring Tools Repository
4. SET BNWG Meeting minutes and presentation (containing presentation of IOM PDMs for winterisation and cash for Covid19)

### I. Announcements Review of Action Points

*Sharing of CBI PDM Samples and Tools*

- Inter-Agency Monitoring Tools Repository aiming for more efficient and comprehensive evaluations of the quality and impact of the 3RP interventions was shared with the partners.
- Over 40 monitoring tools including evaluation questionnaires, post-distribution monitoring tools, pre/post-tests, and various surveys were collected from the 3RP partners that are active in different sectors.
- Please contact Levent Ekşi (eksi@unhcr.org), Özgür Savaşçıoğlu (savascio@unhcr.org) and Elif Eser Mooty

(mootye@unhcr.org) to request access to the repository as necessary.

- The interested partners can share their relevant monitoring tools through Inter-Agency Monitoring Tools Collection Form.

## II. Programme Updates

*UNHCR*

- UNCHR is currently conducting PDM exercises for their three cash for protection programmes targeting adolescents released from state institutions, trans-gender and inter-sex refugees and asylum-seekers and survivors and those at risk of GBV.
- The findings will be shared with the CBI TWG when the related analyses are finalised.

*ESSN & C-ESSN*

- In June, ESSN and C-ESSN transfer amounts increased from 155 TL to 230 TL per person and from 250 TL to 350 TL per person respectively.
- Under ESSN, a one-off top-up payment of 1,400 TL per household were disseminated in May.
- The amount of Severe Disability Payments under C-ESSN has not changed and is still 800 TL per person.

## III. Update: CBI in GBV Guidance Document

- The draft CBI in GBV guidance document is planned to be shared with the CBI TWG for feedback this week.
- The poll with the question "What should IA recommend to programme designers and decision-makers as 'the minimum quota for GBV survivors' out of an overall emergency cash budget?" was conducted. The total of 15 responses received were divided among the options as below:
    - There should not be a minimum quota. – (6/15) **40%**
    - The minimum quota should be 10 percent. – (6/15) **40%**
    - The minimum quota should be 20 percent. – (1/15) **7%**
    - Other – (2/15) **13%**

*Discussion*

- It was highlighted that if agreed upon, the quota would be related to the allocated emergency cash budgets and not the overall CBI programme budgets.
- The aim of the proposed quota is to ensure rapid and flexible response to the emergency needs of survivors and those at risk of GBV when needed without having to resort to lengthy referral processes etc.
- Participants suggested that the determination of the minimum amount of cash assistance for GBV survivors should be based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket guidance.
- Partners voiced different perspectives about the quota and percentage amount, CBI TWG to take those inputs to CBI in GBV TT meeting before finalising the guidance note.

## IV. Update: PDM Guidance Document

- The possible benefits of at least anonymised and/or partial sharing of PDM results in CBI contexts either publicly or at the inter-agency level were emphasised.
- The presentations of the PDM results related to IOM's cash assistance programmes on their Covid-19 and winterisation support delivered in the June SET BNWG meeting (which can be accessed here) can be good examples of how to relay PDM findings in an effective and discrete way.

## V. Brainstorming: CBI TWG focus in the second half of 2022

- Information on the relevant FSPs can be shared with partners upon request and be an area of focus in the upcoming meetings if needed.
- Participants suggested that the development of coordination and beneficiary checking mechanisms to avoid duplication can be an area of focus.
- Ad-hoc meetings on suggested topics to probe can be conducted as requested.

## VI. Review of Household Expenditures

### a) Presentation: Market Bulletin 2022 Q1 (WFP)

- Revising cash assistance transfer amounts based on comprehensive market analyses was recommended considering the high inflation rates mainly resulting from the increasing energy prices and the devaluation of TL against USD since the current downward economic trends are not expected to revert back to their previous levels in the coming quarters.

- The calculations of the Confederation of Turkish Trade Unions, known as TÜRK-İŞ for poverty and hunger limits may differ from the level of vulnerabilities and MEBs identified in the humanitarian context since the former focuses more on the access to a dignified living than the satisfaction of immediate basic needs.
- Please access the recent WFP reports on their quarterly in-camp PDM findings and market bulletins through the relevant links listed below:
    - Türkiye - WFP: In-camp Post-Distribution Monitoring Report Quarter 4—2021
    - Türkiye - WFP: In-camp Post-Distribution Monitoring Report Quarter 4—2021 - TR
    - Türkiye - WFP: In-camp Post-Distribution Monitoring Report Quarter 1—2022
    - Türkiye: WFP - Market Bulletin - Quarter 4/2021
    - Türkiye: WFP - Market Bulletin - Quarter 1/2022

### b) Presentation: IA Household Expenditures Review

- It was stressed that not updating previous transfer amounts of existing CBIs or increasing them by a fixed rate i.e. 10 percent, would not be enough to be able to fully address the current challenges since the rate of required increase depends on the specific needs of target populations along with the market assessment conducted in the area of implementation.

### c) Discussion

- Partners can reach out to the CBI TWG coordination team if they would like to discuss possible transfer amount increases in their CBI programmes.
- CBI TWG can advocate for greater flexibility in CBI programmes for increasing transfer amounts and top-up payments.
- The unspent programme budgets resulting from the devaluation of TL against EUR and USD can be counteracted either by increasing the numbers of recipients or the transfer amounts, the latter being easier since there are no added concerns related to the registration of new recipients.
- Partners were recommended to engage with their donors and/or FSPs early on, informing them on their contingency plans pertaining to the increase of their transfer amounts.
- The stimulation of exports due to the devaluation of TL may increase livelihoods opportunities for refugees in terms of increasing their employment levels, but also leading to the concern that refugees, especially women, would be the first to be laid off when the trend reverts back; further exacerbating their needs for cash assistance. Nevertheless, based on the elasticity of demand for labour, the adverse effects of a possible revaluation of TL would not be as dramatic as foreseen by such expectations.
- In addition, despite the devaluation, agriculture and construction sectors, which provide the highest number of employment opportunities for refugees, have been contracting.
- In the run-up to the elections in 2023, refugee employment as a sensitive topic may further be negatively influenced due to the negative political discourses.
- These may increase the need for CBIs, partners should work on contingency plans.

### d) AOB

- The next regular CBI TWG meeting will be on **23 August 2022**.