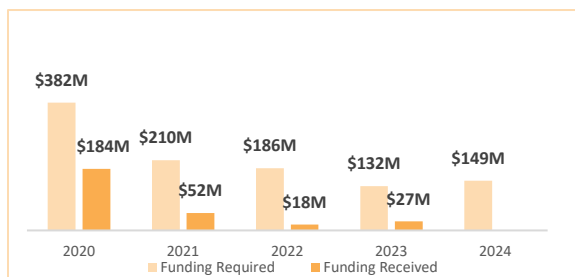


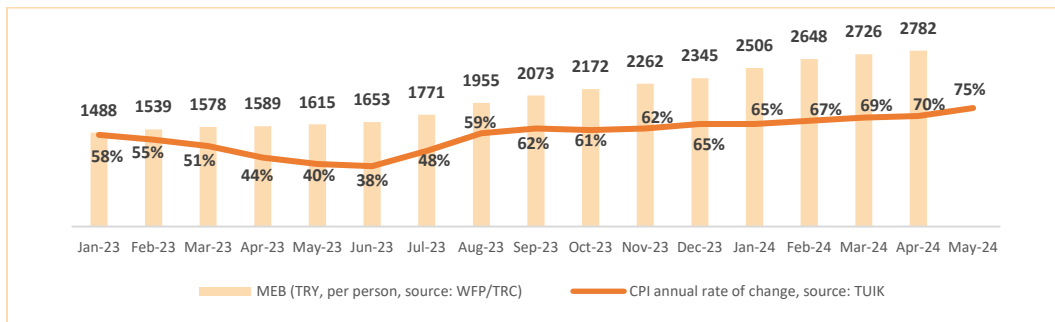
Basic Needs Sector Response Capacity Overview for 2024

This summary note is based on the insights gathered from progress updates shared and/or ActivityInfo reporting done by 18 out of 24 Basic Needs sector partners that appealed for funding under the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) Türkiye Chapter update for 2024.¹ The objective of the document is to relay the current trends concerning progress against sectoral targets, needs, challenges, risks and most saliently the funding situation in the context of the Basic Needs sector along with the resulting sectoral advocacy messaging and next steps for the way-forward.

Context



Basic Needs sector partners highlighted that the level of needs for basic needs assistance is still significantly high due to crucial gaps in assistance to address demands despite the protracted nature of the refugee crisis. High **inflation** rates and increasing costs of the **Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)** exacerbates the pressure of the demand for basic needs assistance (*graph below*). The **ongoing trend of decreasing funding received under the Basic Needs sector** (*left graph*) hinders partners’ effectively addressing basic needs gaps and start focusing more on **livelihoods** for resilience.



Sectoral Progress

Progress updates of the Basic Needs sector partners so far against their 2024 3RP targets per their humanitarian basic needs assistance (*Objective 1*) and institutional support for basic needs service provision (*Objective 2*) are summarised below. However, it should be noted that the response is not limited to the 3RP implementation outlined below as some partners also have active basic needs support programmes under the **earthquake response, outside of the 3RP**, with activities **cash assistance, shelter and WASH support, food assistance, and hygiene kit distribution**.

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.

Shelter Assistance

- Most of the sector partners with shelter assistance targets for 2024 either continue to provide support to target groups or completed their assistance programmes in early 2024.

¹ Basic Needs sector appeal analysis dashboard that can be accessed [here](#) provides further details on the sector partners’ funding appeals, planned activities, targets, and geographic coverage per sector indicator for each year of the multi-year 3RP Türkiye Chapter covering 2023-25.



- Annual targets may not be totally achieved in this area since the **lack of funding** affecting all partners makes it difficult to respond to all the shelter needs that immensely increased in the aftermath of **February 2023 earthquakes**.
- In particular, the demand for **shelter rehabilitation** support has greatly increased after the earthquake but partners whose projects target protection results cannot try to address all the needs since their coverage entails rather minor renovations related to mitigating protection risks.
- Ongoing shelter support programmes seem to continue **until around mid-year** and their continuance would greatly depend on the availability of further funding.
- Partners stated there should be further information sharing and coordination in relation to **shelter kits** including **summer** and **winter** kits.

Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

- Several sector partners have ongoing CVA programmes, but **inadequate funding** is a hindering factor for the achievement of the related targets since many are not expected to continue until the end of the year.
- Partners shared that target groups would rather receive cash assistance through **more flexible and less restricted mechanisms**. For example, beneficiaries prefer general market vouchers to item-specific ones such as clothing vouchers and they prefer multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to vouchers.
- Inability to secure required funding prevents responding to the formidable demand for **cash for rent**.
- **High inflation** rates and **volatile prices** negatively affect operation of cash assistance programmes, particularly in relation to the identification of **transfer amounts**.
- Partners informed that **accessibility of bank branches** may still be a concern in rural areas of the earthquake affected provinces such as Hatay.

Food Assistance

- The majority of the appealing sector partners with food assistance targets have not been able to embark upon their planned activities due to a **lack of funding**.
- Although the progress level of some partners currently active in this area is rather satisfactory, the overall achievement may fall short of the targets for 2024, considering that the **demand for food assistance significantly surpasses the existing support**.

Core Relief Items (CRIs) and Hygiene Kits

- Several partners provide in-kind assistance in the form of CRIs and hygiene items, along with providing hygiene awareness sessions; however, whether related targets can be reached in 2024 is uncertain due to **inadequate funding** affecting many partners.
- There is a need for more specific and targeted assistance such as the provision of **mother-baby kits, medical equipment** and **medicines for chronic diseases**.
- **In-kind assistance** such as hygiene kits provided by partners were mostly **procured** in 2023 and the possible inability to procure more in 2024 due to decreasing funding risks the continuation of such assistance.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Support

- WASH assistance is currently provided by few partners and some of the support projects already ended in early 2024. Ongoing WASH support depends on **availability of funding**.
- **Tent sites** accommodating the earthquake-affected populations still have immense unmet WASH related to the lack of sufficient latrines and waste management services.



Livelihoods Transition Support

- There was some progress with regards to efforts for **transition from basic needs assistance to livelihoods opportunities** in early 2024 with counselling sessions focusing on work and business procedures, legal rights related to working in Türkiye and risks of informal work in Arabic and Farsi to strengthen inclusivity.
- However, the **progress has practically halted** due to the **lack of funding**.
- Partners strongly emphasised the importance of focusing more on the necessity of transition from basic needs assistance to livelihoods in 2024, especially through **women's employment**.

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

Infrastructural and Capacity Support to Municipalities and Public Institutions

- Many partners have not received **funding** to initiate their municipal support plans, which may **thwart total achievement** of relevant targets by the end of the year.
- **Few partners** could secure some funding and continue to provide **infrastructural support** to several **municipalities**.
- Considering that institutional support projects usually take longer than humanitarian basic needs assistance and require greater funding, more progress was expected in 2024 compared to 2023. Hence, the fact that there is ongoing support since early 2024 is a positive development which may lead to satisfactory progress depending on the availability of funding in the remainder of the year.

Cross-cutting Challenges

Partners stated experiencing challenges when providing basic needs assistance, including the risk of **duplication** still being a concern requiring more effective coordination, increased adoption of **negative coping mechanisms** due to gaps between basic needs and assistance, increasing **xenophobia**, delays in getting field permissions and data collection restrictions in some camps and container sites. However, according to partner updates, the most salient challenges are **lack of funding** and **decreasing of overall response capacity**.

Funding Deficiency

- Lack of funding is **the greatest challenge** experienced by all sector partners, some of which have experienced further hardships when seeking funding for their basic needs projects compared to other ones.
- The long-standing challenge of securing sufficient funding is compounded by **changing donor priorities** due to competing humanitarian emergencies across the world, affecting partners' ability to plan and sustain long-term projects.
- Inadequate funding hindered continuous provision of much needed basic needs support by many sector partners, particularly with regards to **shelter** and **food assistance, cash assistance** and specifically **cash for shelter**, and **provision of livelihoods counselling**.
- Some partners have not received any funding for their 2024 targets under the 3RP. Some only provided basic needs assistance based on funding they received from donors bilaterally under the **earthquake response** and others have not started any of their planned projects since they did not receive any funding.
- Activities of many partners are expected to not continue in the **second half of the year** if the required funding cannot be secured by then, risking effective provision of highly demanded basic needs assistance.



Referrals

- Increasingly, partners (particularly local actors) cannot provide needed basic needs support to target groups due to lack of funding. They also experience hardships in referring cases they managed to other aid actors such as local NGOs because the **lack of funding** affects all partners.
- **Inadequate number of NGOs** in some provinces challenges the response capacity as well.
- Referrals are even more challenging for individuals without **identification** documents. Partners claim that there is a significant number of **unregistered** refugees which may be because of apprehensions for some cases due to address registration or documentation renewal.
- Referrals are also harder for individuals with **specific needs** for specialised assistance such as medical equipment.
- Partners stated they need more information on the available services in provinces and referral channels and highlighted importance of timely updates of the **Services Advisor** platform by all partners.
- Some partners are experiencing **staff shortages** and **contraction** of their implementation efforts, increasing the risk of **suspending** their activities.

Advocacy Messaging and Next Steps

Active Coordination and Effective Donor Engagement

- **Harmonising Efforts and Maximising Impact** → All stakeholders will be encouraged to **collaborate and coordinate closely** under the Basic Needs sector to **prioritize urgent needs and avoid duplication**.
- **Engaging with Donors to Highlight Positive Impacts and Showcase Success** → All stakeholders will be supported to actively contribute to analyses and **visibility efforts** such as this review to **effectively communicate** positive impacts of their implementations thanks to donor contributions.
- **Supporting Resilience by Meeting Basic Needs First** → As **resilience** starts with meeting basic needs, the sector will clearly communicate and engage with donors to show that basic needs **gaps** should be addressed to prevent resorting to **negative coping mechanisms** that would deplete productive skills and resources.

Livelihoods Focus

- **Focusing on Livelihood Opportunities for Transition from Basic Needs Support to Resilience** → In 2024, the sector will initiate and promote discussions and strategies focusing on **transition** from basic needs support to livelihood opportunities.
- **Developing a Standard Transition and Self-Reliance Referral Package** → The sector will work in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders including Protection and Economic Empowerment sectors to inform basic needs assistance beneficiaries on transition and self-reliance through **referrals**.

Streamlining of referral processes

- **Up-to-date Information Sharing to Support Referrals** → The sector will continue to stress the importance of regularly updating information on the existing services on the **Services Advisor** platform, through which others can see active service providers for their referrals in order to make the most of limited resources.
- **Strengthening Referral Linkages across Sectors** → The sector will continue to work together with other relevant sectors such as **Protection** and **Economic Empowerment** to forge and strengthen linkages for referrals.