



Basic Needs Working Group

Meeting Minutes

Date & Location	11 June 2024, Online Meeting
Chaired by	Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR)
Minutes Prepared by	Büşra Seray Düzyol (UNHCR)
Participating Agencies	
ACTED, AHCSA, Aile ve Sosyal Hizmetler Bakanlığı, ASAM, Buca Belediyesi, Care International, Eksi 25 Derneği, EL-BİR, Elaf, GIZ, IFRC, IOM, Qatar Charity, SARD, Türk Kızılay, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, Violet Organisation, WFP, Yaşamak Sosyal Alan ve Dayanışma Derneği	
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Welcome & Introductions2) Review Action Points and Announcements3) Programme Updates<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Inter-sector Summer Response Plan (UNHCR)b) SSN Updates (MoFSS&TRC)c) Minimum Expenditure Basket presentation (WFP&TRC)d) Program updates by partners4) Basic Needs Sector Response Capacity Overview5) Discussion on transition from basic needs assistance to livelihoods opportunities6) AoB	
Action Points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WASH kits updates to be shared• Partners to share agenda points for the coming meeting	
Relevant Documents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Needs Sector Response Capacity Overview for 2024• From Aid to Self-Reliance Revisiting & Reviving Discussions on Transition to Livelihoods for 2024	
Programme Updates	
<p><u><i>Inter-Sector Summer Response Plan</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A report has been created identifying needs related to high temperatures, water scarcity, waterborne diseases, fire risk, and lack of sun protection.➤ Official temporary settlements were prioritized, focusing on enhancing water supply, distributing hygiene kits, providing shading kits, and distributing refrigerators/coolers to individuals living below certain standards.➤ A total of \$30.5 million is needed to support 650,000 individuals living in temporary settlements, with a funding gap of \$25.8 million.➤ The final report will be shared with ABC members and donors, with interventions expected to continue until the end of September. 24 Basic Needs Sector partners made an appeal for 2024, targeting provinces that are	



metropolitan areas, have high concentrations of Syrians and other beneficiary groups, were heavily affected by the earthquake, and their surrounding provinces.

SSN Updates

- Updates on the projects under KızılayKart by Turkish Red Crescent and the Ministry of Family and Social Services were provided, including the initiatives Collective Kindness and Children First started after the February 6 earthquakes.
- SSN is funded by the EU, encompassing ESSN IV and C-ESSN II programs. As of May, 710,000 households have applied, with monthly assistance totaling approximately TRY 717 million under SSN and TRY 303 million under C-ESSN.
- 62% of ESSN beneficiaries are women due to changes in criteria, while 4.4% of C-ESSN beneficiaries are severely disabled, and 9% are over 60 years old.
- In-Camp Food Support Program is ongoing since 2012, supporting over 42,000 individuals unable to meet their basic needs, with an updated camp in Elazığ especially for the population from Ukraine.

Minimum Expenditure Basket

- WFP shared details on the minimum expenditure basket, inflation rates, and other economic indicators.
- May inflation was 32.19%, with a year-end expectation of 38%. The food index increased by 20% compared to the previous year.
- MEB is designed for the EQ response calculated for 13.5 million people living in the earthquake region, with a household size of five. As of May, the per capita basket was TRY 2867 and per household was TRY 14,333. Rent (39%) and food (35%) make up the highest shares.

Basic Needs Sector Response Capacity Overview

- A summary note has been prepared based on the communication with 24 partners appealed for funding through 3RP, with feedback from 18 partners. The summary note prepared by BNWG is accessible via [this link](#).
- High inflation and increased minimum expenditure basket have made it difficult for people to meet basic needs, increasing demand for support. Lack of sufficient funding impacted all partners in 2024, yet activities continued with partial progress.
- Increased demand for basic needs support, housing rehabilitation, rent, and cash assistance was observed. Beneficiaries prefer flexible and unrestricted cash assistance mechanisms.
- Identified need for sustainability of hygiene kits continued supply in 2024. Informative sessions on transitioning to livelihoods were conducted but progress stalled due to funding shortages. Institutional support projects for municipalities and public institutions show positive momentum.
- Funding shortages and low referral capacities of institutions were major challenges. Emphasis on active and participatory information sharing under TİÇG, communication with donors, prioritizing the most vulnerable, preventing duplication, and focusing on transition to livelihoods.

Discussion on transition from basic needs assistance to livelihoods opportunities

- A summary note on the transition to livelihoods for beneficiaries of basic needs assistance was prepared and presented by BNWG. The summary note is accessible via [this link](#).
- Refugees can access employment and support under the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, although it remains a challenging issue for both host communities and refugees. According to the Inter-Agency Protection Needs Analysis



Round 7 report, 28% of respondents (both refugees and host community members) are unemployed, with 72% employed (59% informal and 13% formal).

- Next steps and activities include filling gaps in basic needs support, developing a standardized transition and self-sufficiency guidance package, and facilitating referral processes using platforms like Services Advisor, with an emphasis on advocating for filling support gaps, developing standardized transition packages, and easing referral processes.

AoB

Next BNWG Meeting will be held in August in Ankara with hybrid modality. Partners can contact BNWG for recommending agenda points for the future meetings.