

UNHCR in Türkiye

April 2025

2,500 refugee children identified as facing various risks. **500** of them are **below the age of 5 years**.

369 children at risk and caregivers received child protection services from UNHCR and its partners in the first quarter of 2025 (3,534 in 2024).

Prevalent risks children with serious medical conditions, children with disabilities, children not attending school, children with special education needs and children marginalized from society or community.

8 best interest determination cases comprising **13** children completed in 2025.

169 personnel trained on child protection and rights in 025 (408 in 2024).

Context

Conflict and displacement often expose children to a wide range of risks, despite the support received in the host country. The experience may have a lifelong impact on the lives and development of children – from infancy and childhood to adolescence and adulthood. UNHCR works with authorities and NGO partners to enhance the protection of children through a holistic approach that includes prevention of risks, case management, decisions based on best interest and provision of supplementary services, and inclusive child protection systems. This is done through various capacity enhancement activities, and promoting child-friendly communication. In the context of voluntary returns to Syria, UNHCR continues to work with public and civil society stakeholders to ensure accurate information flow on child protection issues and risks.

Working in Partnership

UNHCR works in partnership with the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS) for system-strengthening efforts and continued inclusion of refugee children into the national child protection system. Furthermore, UNHCR works with four local NGO partners (ASAM, WALD, MSYDD and STL) for supplementary child protection services and community-based child protection activities.

Key Response

Best Interest Procedures: UNHCR and partners identify, assess, and refer children at risk to national protection services - where the children at risk and their caregivers receive specialised services, such as psychosocial support and counselling services and referrals to national health, education and social services. UNHCR chairs the Inter-Agency Best Interest Determination (BID) Panel jointly with UNICEF, ASAM, and HRDF. The efforts and expertise of the panel contribute to ensuring the protection and well-being of children in the context of durable solutions.

Community-based Child Protection and Awareness Raising Activities: UNHCR and partners contribute to improving the protection environment for children through community-based child protection activities, awareness-raising sessions and information dissemination on prevalent child protection issues. Furthermore, partners organize sports, arts and recreational activities for children and their caregivers

Capacity Development: While UNHCR continues its engagement with the Directorate General for Child Services of the MoFSS at the national level, at the provincial level, UNHCR Field Offices continue their engagement with stakeholders, including with Provincial Directorates of Family and Social Services, Health, Education, and Migration Management, to improve the protection of children at risk and their families. In 2025, UNHCR and its partners trained 169 personnel on child protection and child rights.

Coordination

Within the framework of the [Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2023-2025 \(3RP\)](#), UNHCR, jointly with UNICEF, co-chairs the national and sub-national Child Protection sub-Working Groups under the Protection Sector. At the national and sub-national level, Child Protection coordination meetings took place in the first quarter of the year focusing on child protection issues in the newly evolving context of voluntary returns to Syria. The coordination platform focuses on several key priority areas, including compiling and updating standard child protection guidance, tools, and resources; evidence generation and advocacy at the national level; child protection mainstreaming; capacity building; and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

Learn more: [Web Story 1](#) | [Web Story 2](#) | [Web Story 3](#) | [Web Story 4](#) | [Web Story 5](#)

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the refugee response. UNHCR in Türkiye is also thankful to donors who are contributing to 2025 programmes. For more details: [UNHCR Türkiye Funding Update – 31 March 2025](#).



UNHCR and partners are working with refugee children to improve their social and problem-solving skills.

