

ESSN Task Force meeting, Gaziantep Minutes

Main objective(s)	i) to provide an update on ESSN and CCTE roll-out; ii) to share the findings of the ESSN TF Performance survey.
Time & Date	14 December 2017, 9.00-10.30am
Location	UNHCR, Gaziantep
Chairs	TRC and WFP
Participants	UNICEF, UNHCR, WHH, ECHO, WATAN

1. Introduction and review of action points from the previous meeting

- Following a tour de table, the ESSN Task Force Co-Chairs, reviewed the status of action points from the previous meeting as follows:
 - ✓ ECHO to share further information on studies carried out on social cohesion at Hacettepe University. Status: **Completed (the links we shared with TF members)**
 - ✓ TRC and UNICEF to share the screening form that is used when absenteeism prompts a household visit from the TRC child protection team. **Status: Currently the Turkish version is available. Pending for English version.**

2. General update on the ESSN and update on ESSN implementation in SET

- TRC provided an update on ESSN, noting that, nation-wide, as of 8 December, 373,243 applications had been lodged, on the basis of which 196,487 households have been found eligible, 171,445 households have been found ineligible (the rest remain to be assessed). This brings the inclusion rate to 52,6 per cent. It was noted that TRC Service Centres have received and processed approximately 38,67 per cent of applications to date. For more information on implementation of ESSN both nation-wide and in SET in November, please refer to attached presentation.
- WFP and TRC highlighted several issues which had been observed in SET since the previous meeting. In particular, it was noted that:
 - More than 3,250 people have acquired Turkish citizenship in South East (according to latest Mernis information). SASF in cooperation with Nufus offices updates information of those acquired Turkish citizenship and excludes them from the programme.
 - As a result of field teams efforts more attention to informal housing from local authorities and partners is observed.
 - Reminder messages to collect cards from bank resulted in decreasing number of uncollected cards.
 - Focal Group Discussions are conducted each month on specific topics to feed programming with qualitative data. The last topic of FGD was livelihoods and showed that issues related to finding jobs, child labor, abuse of payments, and negative coping mechanism are among main concerns among refugees.
- Partners asked about further plans on sensitization and strategies adopted to ensure more active involving of women during the feedback processes, as well as to target some wrong perception about the project among the beneficiaries. TRC and WFP expressed that recently the sensitization for NGOs in Van was completed and plans are underway to expand the geography of these exercises.
- As one of the findings from their recent field mission in Sanliurfa and Hatay, ECHO noted that some refugees do not apply as they still think that a verified TP card needs to be provided for application. TRC noted that this issue is followed up and that ongoing verification exercise sometimes causes this misunderstanding too. The same issue became topic in Mersin field briefing meeting. There was a misunderstanding that TRC service

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centers do not accept EESN application without verified TP identification. TRC informed all 18 TRC SCs via phone, confirming accepting of application of all refugees under TP who fulfil application conditions disregarding old or verified TP identity card (as long as they have identity number starting with 99). In addition to this, TRC attends all UNHCR outreach session and highlights this topic.

3. Update on the CCTE

- TRC and UNICEF provided an update on the CCTE, noting that the November 2017 payment benefited 167,442 children. In total the program reached 188,444 beneficiaries. Hatay and Istanbul are the provinces with the highest number of beneficiaries followed by Gaziantep and Sanliurfa. In total, 266,531 children have now been enrolled in the programme.
- Since October 11 provinces/ 14 SASFs and 13 TRC Service Centres have been visited in the SET region, during which no significant technical problems preventing CCTE applications were observed, despite some capacity constraints (in terms of number of staff and Arabic-speaking staff) cited in some SASFs (e.g. Suruc).
- Delays in ID card processes at PDMs resulting in delays in CCTE/ESSN applications processes reported by SASFs and TRC SCs in Gaziantep, Hatay and Urfa.
- During the field visits within the scopes of protection component of the program, 16 outreach teams in 15 provinces reached 20,021 children, who might be under potential concerns, such as child labour, early marriage, etc. Lack of addresses, changings of phone numbers, remote distances remain as main challenges while implementing field visits. For more information, please refer to the attached presentation.
- Partners asked about possible reasons of differences between the rates of beneficiaries in different provinces and the numbers of refugees actually residing there. UNICEF and TRC explained that many factors may stay behind and have an impact on it, such as accessibility to formal education, level of involvement of children to labour in different locations, influence of transition from temporary education centers, etc.

4. Presentation on findings of the ESSN Task Force performance survey

- WFP shared the findings of the ESSN Task Force performance survey carried out in November 2017. It was noted that the survey seeks the views of ESSN Task Force members and other UN, NGO, and CBO partners to assess and increase the effectiveness of the TF in achieving its core functions. A summary of findings is shared with Task Force members. 70 respondents including 12 respondents from SET ESSN TF completed the survey. The main findings were highlighted as follows:
 - ✓ High rate of participation of (I)NGOs and civil societies (more than 61% in total)
 - ✓ The average satisfaction rate (in general for all TFs, i.e. country level) varies between 71 – 85%, except on the efficiency of feedback (65%).
 - ✓ Statistics for SET ESSN TF are significantly low for such topics as satisfaction rates on relevancy of agenda (56%), language (67), frequency (63) and discussing complementary programme designs (62%). For other topics it is usually identical to average country statistics or higher.
- The outcomes of the survey will be further discusses in the next TRC and WFP joint coordination meeting to look at possible ways to strengthen the ESSN Task Force going forward. For more information, see the attached presentation.

Action Points:

- ✓ WFP and TRC to brief TF members on outcomes of the joint coordination meeting.

5. A.O.B.

- The presentation of the HH Verification SoP will take place on the next meeting.
- Next Meeting: 11 January 2018.