

## ESSN Task Force IZMIR Minutes

<b>Objective</b>	To provide ESSN updates, CCTE updates, reports on PDM and Q1 Monitoring activities and AOB.		
<b>Date of meeting</b>	08 June 2018 10:30 - 12:30	<b>Location</b>	TRC Izmir Field Office Mansuroğlu Mahallesi, Ankara Caddesi No:47 Mavi Plaza Kat:1 D:107, Bayraklı, İzmir

### 1. Action points:

Follow up issue:	Who will take action:	Deadline:
Provision of information on Severe Disability Allowance	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Once the SoP is finalized with MoFSP
Provision of information on SASF Allowance	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Once the SoP is finalized with MoFSP
Provision of information on Household Verification SoP	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Once the SoP is finalized with MoFSP
`Livelihoods` as a theme for ESSN TF meetings (ISKUR to be invited)	TRC&WFP	Aug 2018
`Non-Syrians` as a theme for next meetings	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Aug 2018
Request for gender breakdown in Call Center sub categories	TRC will include it to the ESSN updates presentations	Starting as of June meetings

### 2. Updates on the ESSN:

- The Co-Chairs World Food Programme (WFP) and Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) provided an update of the ESSN to date noting that as of 6 June, a total of 443,856 applications were registered; 2,513 applications were not assessed; 237,504 applications were deemed eligible and 197,879 applications were ineligible. Approximately, 37,78% of the applications were registered by TRC Service Centres. A total of 1,345,128 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in May (51% female/49% male).
- Inclusion rate is 54%. Average household size is 5.82. The number of Syrian beneficiaries under TP remains quite high in comparison to other nationalities (1,199,467 Syrians under TP were eligible for ESSN in May)
- As of May, 5,677 people were detected that acquired Turkish citizenship. As it was mentioned earlier, if the head of household has acquired citizenship, the family can go and re-apply with a new head of household and may be eligible for the ESSN again based on demographic criteria.
- On 08 May, 1,075 accounts were swept back: 678 uncollected cards (3+ months) and 397 dormant accounts (6+ months). Beneficiaries are called to find out why they have not collected their cards. Please note that the accounts are only suspended; it can be reinitiated again. Regarding the dormant accounts, AAP and communication teams are tracking those cases.
- The theme of the Focus Group Discussions was `food access and expenditure issues` in April 2018. The external FGD report has been shared with the partners. Main highlights are:
  - Purchasing food items from bazaars, grocery stores and from neighbourhood shops
  - Monthly food cost per person in households from 100 to 200 TL
  - Food prices, esp. meat and poultry, are higher in Turkey, leading to reduction in the amount and diversity of food consumed
  - Purchasing food is the responsibility of women

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- Having family members, such as infants and elderly members, requiring a special diet
- Concerns that the children do not receive adequate nutrition for their growth and development, rendering them weak and more susceptible to diseases
- ESSN assistance for increasing the amount and quality of their food consumption, adding that the programme provided a significant relief for their basic needs
- About severe disability report, more details stressed for audience, severe means that a disabled person who can not perform his/her basic daily activities without someone else accompany. According to the ESSN criteria, all disabled individuals data is available in TRC and MoFSP database, all these disabled person are eligible for program so at first time, severe disabled assistance will cover these ESSN disabled beneficiaries but severe ones as under mentioned condition above. From Tubitak side all infrastructural preparations accomplished on system, SOP is drafted and being wait for endorsement. After endorsement, it is supposed that assistance will affect in July/Aug through Kızılaykart. In order to cover large scale of beneficiaries, assistance amount is determined as 600 TL per month per person by Ministry and once the decision is finalized, the SOP and the procedure will be shared with the partners.
- DGMM announced the Bayram break for TP, according to this circulate, permission, rules, date and obligation are like below;
  - There are two separate travel periods
    - Ramadan break: 17 May – 14 June 2018
    - Kurban break: 24 June – 14 September
  - Obligation to return to Turkey before the end of the permitted periods
  - Not to merge these periods or extend their returns beyond a period of 3 months (90 days)
  - Refugees are permitted for multiple entries
  - The returnees need to use the same border gate for exiting and returning back to Turkey
  - Refugees will lose their TP status and ESSN entitlements if they exceed 90 days
  - ESSN assistance will continue

### 3. Updates on the CCTE:

#### Cash Component:

- In May 2018, 272.031 beneficiaries were entitled for CCTE payment due to regular school attendance. After the May 2018 CCTE payment (which was the seventh payment under the scope of the CCTE for Refugees Program), the number of cumulative CCTE beneficiaries (children who have received at least one CCTE payment) stands at 356.611.
- As of 4 June 2018, 356.676 children had been accepted to the programme (92% of CCTE applications).
- The top five provinces with most of the beneficiaries are as follows: İstanbul, Hatay, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa and Ankara. Most of the CCTE beneficiaries are attending primary school (96.91%) and the majority of them (69%) are 1st to 3rd grade students.
- Most of the calls received by the TRC 168 Call Center about the CCTE programme are Information Requests (61.17%) while the rest are card related questions (38.08%), complaints (0.69%) and other (0.06%). Unlike the ESSN program, most of the calls are received from women (57.55%) compared to men (42.45%)
- In İzmir province, the cumulative number of CCTE beneficiaries as of May 2018 is 12.567 children.
- The rejection rate of CCTE applications coming from Buca SASF has been observed to be approximately 40% as of March which is very high compared to the national average. The Buca SASF applies a vulnerability criteria and does not process applications before verification visits.
- Information obtained through Konak SASF and schools indicates that some refugee parents send their children to TECs even though these children are registered in Turkish Public Schools. Since they are registered in the database of the public school rather than the TEC which they are attending, such children are likely to be missing out on CCTE payments.

- A decrease in the number of beneficiaries was observed from March to May payment period. In the Aegean Region a slight increase has been observed. Reasons for the fluctuations are being investigated by the UNICEF and TRC teams. Results will be shared when available.

#### Child Protection Component:

- Child Protection is being made by 16 offices in 15 cities by Kızılay Staff of Community Centers and İzmir is one of these cities.
- Child Protection Equipments are composed of Case Workers, Translators and Protection Officer.
- This protection process has 3 main parts: Identification, screening and response. In identification part protection equipment identifies children that did not attend to school from the list of ministry. Children whose payments are stopped or have risk of stop due to attendance are number one priority. In the part of screening, child protection equipment visits these children in their house and make a risk analysis. There are three levels of risks: high, medium, low/no risk levels. Protection equipment has to refer high and medium risky children to MoFSP which is a mandatory action. There are also 3 types of actions which are external referral, internal referral and on the spot elucidating.
- After the provided services there is a follow up process. Turkish Red Crescent, MoFSP and sometimes both of these institutions are responsible from these follow ups. After the review of the case if there is no more risk, equipments close case.
- Total number of reached children is 36.341 in whole Turkey and İzmir has 3410 children in this data. Majority of these children have no risk and this rate is %72,86. As the risk level increases, the number of people decreases. Majority of the children are 6 to 9 years old. These statistics are valid for both Turkey and İzmir.
- The most common case categories are education, child labour, PSS and economic problems.

#### **4. PDM & Q1 Monitoring Report's Findings:**

- Data collection of the Post-Distribution Monitoring 2 (PDM) were conducted by the TRC Call Center in Gaziantep. Comprehensive Vulnerability Monitoring Exercise 2 (CVME) were conducted face to face which helps to get more data than the phone interview.
- Small technical disclaimer: During the exercise, both beneficiary and non-beneficiary data are collected. Non-beneficiary data helps to understand what would have been happened without the assistance. Non-beneficiary data is used as a control group. However, the real impact of the measure requires Propensity Score Matching. World Bank is conducting a PSM, to allow for matching of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. The results will be updated later on.
- Non-applicants are mostly recent arrivals (within the last six months) which explains why they did not apply for the ESSN.
- Although there is a big decrease between CVME1 to CVME 2 (from 56% to 43%), not being registered with the DGMM is still the biggest barrier for applications. Not registered with Nufus is becoming a potential barrier as it is increased from 13% to 16% since the CVME1. ID registered in another city is increased 8%.
- Families who signed up for CCTE had higher school attendance rate at baseline, before any assistance is received; these families perhaps prioritise education more to begin with. Having CCTE only is not showing a big increase. Only together with ESSN and CCTE is showing a big improvement.
- Female-headed HHs are more frequently sending their boys to work. The other reasons are listed as children need to stay at home to help and families cannot afford to send children to school.
- In terms of seeking treatment or medical advice, non-applicants are lower than the other groups (eligible and non-eligible). This could be the result of not being registered and therefore not having access to government hospitals.
- Dietary diversity: Overall diets are very diverse. Assistance is allowing people to have more diverse diet.
- Food Consumption Scores: We see an improvement for non-beneficiaries. Much larger improvement is for beneficiaries.
- Consumption Coping Strategies: Beneficiaries have decreased frequency of all consumption coping strategies.

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- Reduced Coping Strategies Index: Beneficiaries have larger decrease in rCSI since PDM 1(51%) compare to non-beneficiaries (17%). This creates some concerns for the future as we will continue to provide assistance to beneficiaries, their status will improve where the non-beneficiaries' status will remain stable.
- Total household debt has decreased for beneficiaries. Overall, ESSN Assistance helped beneficiaries to reduce their poverty rate than the non-beneficiaries.
- As a result of household visits and application of "wealth index" exercise, we expect more extremely poor households to be covered by the programme. Our main concern are the ones who are extremely poor and not in the programme. That is why SASF Allowance is under discussion.
- During the HH visits, assessments are made on the general conditions, not only by income or assets.
- Regarding the child marriages, this will be covered in the CVME report in detail.
- Livelihood Coping Strategies were resorted by mostly smaller beneficiary HHs as smaller HHs are receiving less amount of assistance than the larger HHs.

## 5. AOB

- Please reach to us if you have any suggestions to the themes of the upcoming Focus Group Discussions. It is confirmed with the M&E team to share the questionnaire of the next external FGDs in advance with the interested ESSN TF partners for their inputs and comments to the questionnaire.
- Please remember to send any issues/challenges observed with as much detail as possible (location, date, etc.) to the ESSN TF focal points.
- For any briefing requests on up to date general information on CCTE/ESSN for the teams and field staff, please contact with ESSN TF team by indicating the language preferences of the briefing, time and venue and the number of participants.
- The next meeting will be held on **03 August 2018**. The agenda and venue to be announced later.

## **Attachments:**

1. Presentation on ESSN Updates
2. FGD Report - April: Food & Expenditure
3. Presentation on CCTE Updates
4. Presentation on PDM & Q1 Monitoring Report Findings