

ESSN Task Force SET Minutes

Objective

To provide updates on the ESSN and its implementation in the SET, vulnerability profiling exercise, initial findings of the livelihoods survey and AOB.

Date of meeting 12 July 2018
09:00 - 11:00

Location UNHCR Gaziantep
Güvenevler Mahallesi, 29036. Sk. No:32,
27560 Şehitkamil/Gaziantep

1. Action points:

| Follow up issue: | Who will take action: | Deadline: |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| Provision of information on Severe Disability Allowance | ESSN TF Co-Chairs | Completed: 12 July 2018 |
| 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 | TRC&WFP | Completed: 12 July 2018 |
| LLE Report to be shared with the partners, the findings and move forward to be presented at the upcoming ESSN TF meetings | ESSN TF Co-Chairs | Mid Aug/late Sep 2018 |
| Detailed information on the HH verification process and exclusion numbers | TRC | Pending: TRC sent official request to MoFSP |
| Risk assessment form of the screening visits to be shared with the partners | TRC CTE Team | Pending feedback |

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 25 June, a total of 446,951 applications were registered; 2,015 applications were not assessed; 241,691 applications were deemed eligible and 203,245 applications were ineligible. Approximately, 37,71% of the applications were registered by TRC Service Centres. A total of 1,361,343 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in June (51% female/49% male).
- Inclusion rate is 53.6%. Average household size is 5.81. The number of Syrian beneficiaries under TP remains quite high in comparison to other nationalities (1,209,287 Syrians under TP were eligible for ESSN in June 2018)
- As of June 2018, 6,280 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 June, 1,130 accounts were swept back: 696 uncollected cards (3+ months) and 434 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.
- The theme of the Focus Group Discussions was `ESSN Processes` in May 2018. The external FGD report has been shared with the partners. Main highlights are:
 - No major problem while applying for the ESSN Programme
 - Most known criteria: having 4 children and having a disabled family member
 - Issues with ID registration at PDMM offices and obtaining DHR

- Many households have already been visited – no major complaining about household visits
- Approval for the reassessment process – notice period should be implemented
- **Severe Disability Allowance:**
 - A new assistance is available for ESSN beneficiaries with a disability level of 50% or higher and who are dependent upon someone else's care. A valid disability health report issued by an authorised state hospital which shows a disability level of 50% or higher and indicating the holder is "severely impaired" is required.
 - ESSN beneficiary households may receive assistance for each member of the family with a severe disability who has a valid disability health report and meets the other eligibility requirements.
 - Only ESSN beneficiaries who meet the eligibility requirements can receive this assistance.
 - If a refugee has already applied to the ESSN with a disability health report, his/her application will be automatically re-assessed by the SASF office or TRC Service Centre where he/she applied. If the refugee did not submit his/her disability health report at the time of application, he/she should submit this to the SASF office or TRC Service Centre where he/she have applied in order to be assessed.
 - The payment will be made on a monthly basis at the same time as ESSN payments and the first payment will be in August for 600 TL per person per month.
 - MoFSP shared with SASFs a draft referral letter for disabled refugees to the state hospitals in order to fasten and ease the process for obtaining DHR. The hospitals may ask refugees to pay the cost for the DHR. The IPA partners (funded by ECHO for individual protection assistance) and the agencies in the field may cover that costs.

3. **Vulnerability Profiling Exercise:**

By using the data from Pre-Assistance Baseline (PAB) survey that represents all the ESSN applicants, Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDMs) surveys as follow-up, and Comprehensive Vulnerability Monitoring Exercise (CVME) that provides information on food security and coping strategies implemented in the refugee households, WFP has conducted an exercise categorizing the refugees-in-need to target them effectively in 2019. The exercise has been developed based on three dimensions; (1) food consumption score that is either acceptable, borderline, or poor, (2) livelihood coping strategies resorted by the refugees as high-coping (e.g. sending children to work) or low/no-coping, and (3) economic vulnerability level that is either above or below the minimum expenditure basket (294 TRY). Additionally, the productive capacity of the refugees are also calculated in this exercise, in order to determine the refugees who have a higher potential to transfer to the livelihood programs while the ESSN program continues for the more vulnerable refugees with little or no productive capacity. Having able-bodied men in the household and/or household member with a high school or above degree are considered as indicators of productive capacity, whereas single parents are exempted. Among all applicants, 29% of the refugees are found less vulnerable, and 29% of the applicants are vulnerable yet have higher capacity to produce compared to others. 31% of the ESSN applicants are vulnerable and have limited capacity, and 11% are vulnerable and have no/little capacity for productivity.

The use of able-bodied men as a capacity criteria is not to exclude women; the qualitative data that has been gathered from focus groups and surveys indicate that men are the primary bread winners in the refugee households. Similarly, the capacity of the disabled for productivity is not ignored, yet there are additional programs that needs to involve in order to actualize this capacity by matching in specific employment positions. Taking these into account, it should be

kept in mind that the exercise had followed an operational approach for the entire refugee population and it has informative purpose for the decision makers.

4. Initial findings of the livelihoods survey:

- **2,113** HHs participated in livelihood survey in 7 provinces (İstanbul, Ankara, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Adana, Bursa, Kilis)
- 94.4% of the respondents are Syrian, 4.9% Iraqi, 0.7% others
- 56.2% of respondents ESSN beneficiaries (43.8% non-beneficiaries)
- **80.2%** of respondents male, **19.8%** female (Sample is chosen randomly from dataset of the head of households and survey conducted to the breadwinner of family. These two core elements led the male respondent percentage high.)
- %66.1 of the respondents stayed in Turkey for 4-6 years.
- %40 of the respondents have “Primary school” level education, followed by %19 “Secondary School” and %13 “Literate”. University level education percentage is 7.
- %43 of the respondents declares that they found job by friend and family while %42 found himself/herself.
- Within the scope of main challenges for finding work, which is multiple answer question, “**Language Barrier**” has the highest slice with %44, followed by “No Job Available” %33 and “No Information” %26.
- Length of time in Turkey and peoples Turkish level correlates, but no so well. People who stayed in Turkey for 1-2 years, only %7.5 have the enough Turkish level, while 7+ years has %21.8
- We can see that people started to work in Turkey, compared to the Syria. While salaried workers keep their workstyle, “Employers” seems to be lost their work status. If we look into the work status at Turkey, We see a significant accumulation of “Daily Workers”.

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 in September. The date, agenda and venue to be announced later.

Attachments:

1. Presentation on ESSN updates
2. FGD Report – June: Social Cohesion
3. Presentation on vulnerability profiling exercise
4. Presentation on the initial findings of the livelihoods survey
5. ESSN Q2 Monitoring Report
6. Social Cohesion Report