



# TURKEY PROGRAMME

## CASE STUDY FOR PROTECTION PROGRAMMING

Aysha was internally displaced due to Syrian conflict and her husband's death. With her four children, two girls and two boys, Aysha left her home-town, moved from Manbij to Idlib. "My situation was getting worse in Idlib," she said "I thought it would be better if I cross the border and go to Turkey." She arrived to Nizip, district of Gaziantep in 2019, and she lived in a mosque almost for three months with her children. Then, she met a woman who accommodated them in her own house for a while. After that, she had to move two more times before settling in Gaziantep center where she has been living for 8 months.



Before receiving assistance from CARE, Aysha did not know anything about Turkish Refugee Law and regulation, she needed for a guide as a new comer: "I do not know anyone, where to go? I don't know anything in Turkey, I came as a woman who is lost." She felt unsafe and vulnerable to different protection risks. She was even afraid of seeking for assistance as she did not know her rights. "I did not have TPID [Temporary Protection Identification Document], even I could not walk in the street, I could not register my children to school. [...] Some people scared me, they said if I apply for ID cards they [Turkish authorities] will deport me from Turkey back to Syria, so I was afraid of being deported. [...] I do not want to back to Syria [...] I do not have any relative in Syria, I have nobody." Syrians in Turkey cannot be granted by international protection status as refugees; rather they can be protected under Temporary Protection Regulation. This regulation covers a range of basic rights, services, and

assistance, like health services, education, social assistance, psychological support, access to the labor market, and protection against forcible returns to Syria. Aysha's experiences clearly show how a crucial role TPID plays in securing most crucial rights and access to services.

CARE's Case Management Project has a household approach, where the protection and basic needs of all individuals within the household are met. "After involving CARE's program, many things changed in my life," Aysha said

**"Thanks to CARE's case management support, I receive TPID. Now, if I go to hospital I have TPID... If I register my children to school I have TPID... If go to anywhere I have TPID. Even when I am walking in the street I have TPID. I feel like no one can hurt me, it is a kind of protection for me."**

"At first, in Turkey I was not able to go to hospitals for treatment. I was afraid of being deported. [...] CARE staff accompanied me to hospital two or three times, they supported me to receive treatment in the hospital even without TPID." As a widowed mother, Aysha tries to be strong for her children and create a better future for them. CARE's case workers also supported her for school registration of her kids. "After receiving TPID, I registered my children to school," Aysha said "I could not buy anything for my children like school kits. CARE provided school kits for them and thanks to CARE they are still using these kits."

CARE also supported Aysha to apply for ESSN (Emergency Social Safety Net) which is an EU funding programme launched for providing monthly cash support to the most vulnerable asylum seekers in Turkey for meeting their most

vital needs such as food, medicine, and rent. "We receive 600 TL [every month] ... this house's rent is 500 TL. ESSN and shopping cards support me a lot. Ask to my neighbors, before receiving those, my child was crying even for a piece of bread...I did have nothing to offer him," Aysha said. In addition to that, CARE Case Management Team provided Aysha with core relief items that she was in need for; like blankets, mattresses, carpets, clothes for all family, and A101 cards, which is provided to the most vulnerable families identified by CARE's case workers for meeting their basic needs through an agreement between CARE and a local market.

Aysha is only one of the millions of stateless people who are seeking for shelter in Turkey and overall in need for assistance. With CARE's Case Management Project, she received humanitarian assistance in line with her exact needs. As a refugee and widowed woman who is a new arrival in Turkey, Aysha was suffering from not being able to access even to the most basic needs: core relief items, food, financial support, rent; access to education and health. To survive, she utilized different coping strategies to be able to overcome her problems to protect her children. However, in a foreign land, each coping strategy posed a different protection risk for her and her children, such as living in a mosque accessible to public, living in a ruined house even though she felt under risk as an alone woman, living in a stranger's house with her young daughter including non-family male members, sending her school aged son to work to have some income. All of these coping strategies made her and her children vulnerable to risk of being subjected to different kind of violence, human rights violation, and exploitation. Even if she is still in need for more sustainable solutions for her and her children's well-being, now she has a significant improvement in her life in terms of removal of most of these threats. "Thanks to CARE's support, changes in my life occurred [...] my situation was too bad [...] CARE's support affected my life in terms of my needs, urgent needs, real needs; they supported me in providing the things that I am in need for" Aysha said thankfully.