



Inter-Agency  
Coordination  
Turkey

## Basic Needs Working Group

### Meeting Minutes

<b>Time &amp; location:</b>	21 February 2019, UNHCR Country Office (Cinnah) Meeting Room 1, Ankara
<b>Chaired by:</b>	Ahmet Ünver (UNHCR) and Hiba Hanano (WFP)
<b>Participants:</b>	Line Rindebaek (WFP), Lana Stade (DSP), Gozde Gurdal (UNFPA), Anastasiya Stelmakh (ASAM), Ozgur Savascioglu (UNHCR), Amina Arabi (GIZ), Kemal Pehlivanlı (IOM), Hanifi Kinaci (TRC), Emre Uysal (HRDF), Deniz Berber (WFP), Aysenur Ozcan (WFP), Şahnur Soykan (WFP), Mazen Aboulhosn (IOM), Zeynep Aydemir Koyuncu (UNWomen), Gonca SavaS (WFP), Elif Kalan (UNWomen)
<b>Agenda:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions</li><li>2. Action Points from the Previous Meeting</li><li>3. Quick Update on BNWG Work Plan 2019</li><li>4. Market Analysis Update: Q4</li><li>5. Gender &amp; Basic Needs<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Overview</li><li>- Needs Assessment</li><li>- Interactive session</li><li>- Open Discussion: Basic Needs and Gender</li><li>- Highlights of Istanbul and Gaziantep Discussions</li></ul></li><li>6. Services Advisor</li><li>7. Quick Update on Transition</li></ol>



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AGENDA POINT	DISCUSSION	ACTION POINTS
Welcome and introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ UNHCR &amp; WFP chairs welcomed working group members</li><li>▪ WFP Basic Needs WG Coordinator introduced herself, members were informed of the planned handover of WFP Basic Needs Coordinator in coming months. Contact information of both chairs was shared.</li><li>▪ The meeting agenda was introduced and accepted without changes.</li></ul>	
Action Points from the Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A BNWG ToR link will be shared with members – <i>ToRs are revised in February, 2019, a revised version will be shared with members after Feb cycle</i></li></ul>	→ Revised BNWG ToRs link will be shared with members



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A BNWG ToR in Turkish will be shared with members – <i>Once the revised version has been endorsed by BNWG and STF members, a Turkish translation will be shared with members</i></li> <li>▪ Links for all relevant 2018 documents will be shared – <i>After the February cycle</i></li> <li>▪ Members to share further feedback on 2018 with coordinators – <i>Done ✓</i></li> <li>▪ Members to share capacity development and training needs – <i>A survey will be conducted to identify capacity development needs of members</i></li> <li>▪ Members to share with coordinators expectations from BNWG Work Plan – <i>After February cycle, Work Plan 2019 will be shared with members for their review and comments</i></li> <li>▪ Members reminded to keep data up to date on Services Advisor – <i>Services Advisor training will be provided to increase awareness</i></li> <li>▪ Coordinators to arrange for an introduction to Services Advisor – <i>Done ✓</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ List of links to be shared with members</li> <li>→ Online capacity development needs survey to be conducted</li> <li>→ 2019 Work Plan to be shared with members after February cycle</li> <li>→ Comprehensive Services Advisor training to be provided to members</li> </ul>
<p>Quick Update on BNWG Work Plan 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members were introduced to “2019 Basic Needs Working Group Priority Plan”. For the planning of 2019, BN Coordinators have designed a plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Focusing and highlighting tasks with high priority</li> <li>– Setting tasks that will be covered by BNWG</li> <li>– Keeping the Work Plan for 2019 as flexible and strategic as possible</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The Priority Plan will be a guidance document for BNWG, and it will identify the strategy and key tasks for the WG.</li> <li>▪ Activities outside of the BNWG Priority Plan will continue to be the concern of the WG and its members. If the priority of any activity changes significantly, the WG will amend its strategy accordingly and the plan will be revised.</li> <li>▪ The BNWG Priority Plan is composed of 8 areas of focus:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 2019 BNWG Priority Plan to be shared with members after February cycle</li> </ul>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Basic Needs to Livelihoods – Transition</li><li>2. Municipalities</li><li>3. Shelter</li><li>4. Winterization</li><li>5. Thematic Focus</li><li>6. Capacity Development / Training</li><li>7. IM – Strengthened coordination capacity</li><li>8. Humanitarian Programme Cycle (3RP Process)</li></ol>	
Turkish Economy Q4 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ WFP presented the key highlights from the "Turkish Economy Q4 Report", prepared by WFP VAM:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– September: Government announced New Economic Programme: 2019 – 2021</li><li>– Annual Inflation: peaked in October (25%), decreased by end of year (20%)</li><li>– Gross National Product: annual growth decreasing trend (it reached 7.2% in Q1 and decreased to 1.6% in Q3. Q4 data will be developed by the end of March).</li><li>– Energy: decreasing prices (petrol, diesel and cooking gas) in Q4 compared to Q3</li><li>– Minimum Expenditure Basket: reached 338 TL per person per month (324 TL in Q3)</li><li>– Estimated gap in ESSN beneficiary ability to meet basic needs: 63 TL per person per month (Gap is calculated by having the minimum expenditure basket value <i>minus</i> ESSN transfere value <i>minus</i> Estimated income).</li></ul></li><li>▪ The full Turkish Economy Review Q4 report will be shared with the meeting minutes.</li></ul>	



<p>Gender &amp; Basic Needs: <i>Presentations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Given the thematic focus on Gender in the February cycle of BNWG meetings, UNWomen colleagues provided a presentation, composed of two sections.</li><li>▪ The first section was composed of the below shared topics:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Why is gender equality essential?</li><li>- What are UN commitments regarding gender equality?</li><li>- What is The Gender Handbook purpose and content?</li><li>- The IASC Gender Marker</li><li>- The Age &amp; Gender Marker</li></ul></li><li>▪ The first section highlighted that women and girls are disproportionately affected in cases of humanitarian crisis. For example, women and girls face:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- high risk of limited or no access to services, such as education or critical health care.</li><li>- face higher risks of child marriage, domestic work or sexual abuse</li></ul></li><li>▪ Between two sections of the UNWomen presentation, an interactive session named “Power Walk” was conducted with participation of members. Each member was given a role/identity and asked several yes/no questions, and after compiling number of answers; asked to explained why she/he was either very privileged or disadvantaged. The game aimed at bringing how social roles and gender attributions play a role in the way we access to basic services or we exercise our rights.</li><li>▪ The second section of UNWomen presentation introduced the “Needs Assessment of Syrian Women and Girls under Temporary Protection Status in Turkey”.</li><li>▪ The methodology and findings of the needs assessment was shared with members. The key <b>findings</b> were:</li></ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The needs assessment was the first comprehensive work on exploring needs of temporary protection beneficiary Syrian women and girls in Turkey.</li><li>- Language remains one of the most significant barrier: it is most pressing in health and education where communication is key.</li><li>- Women who said they were looking for a job were approximately 17% and reasons stated against looking for a job were: childcare responsibilities, cultural reasons, illness/disability, care of other dependents and housework.</li><li>- More than 17% of women stated their living space as sub-standard accommodation: such as basements with no sunlight and poor ventilation and shanty houses.</li><li>- Many women end up in shared housing or with relatives, leading to crowded conditions, lack of privacy and an increased risk for gender-based violence.</li><li>- 87% stated that their monthly income does not meet their basic housing needs.</li><li>▪ <b>Next steps</b> to be taken were introduced and discussed:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Comparing access to protection and support between women, men, girls and boys through Gender Analysis.</li><li>- In-depth analysis of occurring violence against women, girls, men and boys across different sectors.</li><li>- Analysis of differences/similarities between refugee and vulnerable host communities.</li></ul></li><li>▪ Some of the key findings from the round table discussions conducted as part of the UNWomen Ankara event were shared:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Female employment is generally low amongst temporary protection beneficiary Syrian women</li><li>- Almost a third of refugee households are headed by a woman which makes the household more vulnerable to poverty and abuse.</li></ul></li></ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mobility of women is limited</li><li>- Services for the refugees living in Turkey are too often gender-blind</li><li>▪ UNWomen colleagues shared that:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Data can be made available to any partner who wants to do deeper research.</li><li>- As stated in the next steps, new researches might be conducted. Annual or biyearly monitoring in the field might follow the needs assessment, and where applicable jointly with other partners.</li><li>- Findings of the assessment are to influence advocacy and program design, to become more gender responsive.</li></ul></li></ul>	
Gender & Basic Needs: <i>Discussions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Members in Ankara had the below shared discussions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Refugee and host community member women and girls can be provided with safe spaces (community centers).</li><li>- Also, <b>women-only centers/ and or activities should be prioritized to increase access to services and LH opportunities.</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Women-only spaces can be seen <b>as the first step</b> to overcome cultural barriers and encourage women to access services</li><li>- These centers are effective in supporting social cohesion, increasing access to services and increasing awareness of right and responsibilities.</li></ul></li><li>- Language barriers, limited access to services (such as transportation) are major barrier for women. <b>Transition phase should be mindful of these disadvantages</b> and livelihood opportunities should be created specifically targeting women with vulnerabilities.</li><li>- Organizations that implement livelihood training programs have seen high participation of women to their programs (as high as 60%). Yet, this rate drops drastically when seeking or landing at a formal job or for programs such as cash-for-work. <b>Cultural barriers exist for refugee</b></li></ul></li></ul>	



	<p><b>women to work outside of home, addition to lack of childcare services, safe and affordable transportation and care burden on women.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- For the transition to livelihoods phase to be effective and inclusive; partners need to not only provide livelihood opportunities for both men and women, <b>but also increase awareness</b> so that cultural barriers against women working outside of their home can be overcome.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Awareness raising on gender equality is not creating the desired outcome when it only focuses on women and girls. There is a need to target men for awareness raising.</li></ul></li><li>- Some of the current livelihood programs provide child care facilities for women with children. Provision of quality childcare facilities is essential for increasing the participation of women with children to LH opportunities, and also they have positive impact on development of children. <b>LH programs should budget for provision of quality child care facilities.</b></li><li>- <b>Syrian girls receiving higher education</b> from national universities all across the country should be supported for livelihood opportunities. <b>They can play a catalytic role within the refugee community in terms of transition and building self-reliance.</b></li><li>- <b>Gender equality is a very inclusive concept</b> and should be dealt as such. Vulnerabilities of men and boys and any vulnerable group should be taken in the consideration and there are areas where they can also benefit from gender equality. <b>By using gender responsive tools, programming can better address the SDG commitment on leaving no one behind.</b></li></ul> <p>▪ Members were presented with the highlights of “Gender and Basic Needs open discussions” in Istanbul and Gaziantep BNWG meetings.</p>	
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Services Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ UNHCR Inter-Agency Information Management Team member made a brief presentation on Services Advisor. Members were informed of planned, and more detailed services advisor training.</li></ul>	→ A comprehensive Services Advisor training will be provided to members during March
Quick Update: From Basic Needs to Livelihoods opportunities (ESSN Transition)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ WFP shared a brief update on ongoing transition related activities such as mapping, and facts and figures regarding the current ESSN programme. It was noted that Active Labor Market Programs will be mapped with the intention of using Services Advisor as the platform for compilation of this data. Developments regarding transition will be introduced and discussed in March, at joint BNWG - LHWG session.</li></ul>	
	Next meeting: <b>18 April 2019, UNHCR Cinnah Office, Meeting Room 1</b>	