COVID-19 RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER INTERNATIONAL AND TEMPORARY PROTECTION IN ZEYTINBURNU, ISTANBUL
INTRODUCTION

Turkey currently hosts 3,580,263 SuTP, along with approximately 400,000 individuals from other nationalities. Istanbul hosts the highest number of refugees in Turkey, with 496,695 registered. A rapid needs assessment was conducted with the support of beneficiaries of our current PRM funded project to identify the needs of the most vulnerable girls, boys, women and men in response to Covid-19. The location is Zeytinburnu Municipality.

Total Affected Population In the Assessment Location

At the start of the project, the number of SuTP was 23,737, and the number of individuals registered under IIP was 63 (DGMM, 2018). SC Turkey estimates the current figures to be above 30,000 Syrians, and 40,000 individuals from other nationalities where Afghan constitute the majority.

Basic Information About the Assessment

- **316** Sample Size
- **65% Women**
- **35% Men**
- **168 Afghan Households**
- **142 Syrian Households**
- **6 Others**

Basic Household Information

- **Household Size**
  - **6,5**
  - **6,5**
- **Number of Children Per Household**
  - **3,1**
  - **3,4**
- **Number of School Age Children Per Household**
  - **2,3**
  - **2,0**

How the Children Spend Their Day

97% of the children assessed spend their entire time at home playing, studying, drawing/painting and watching TV with WhatsApp being the major medium for staying in touch with friends. Less than 5% access other social media platforms. Parents however have much more frequent access as indicated below and this can help design targeted messaging as relevant.

- **57% use Facebook**
- **84% use WhatsApp**
- **26% use Instagram**
- **30% use YouTube**

Additional Information

SCI has introduced a remote psychological first aid (PFA) guidance derived from IFRC and WHO’s tools to the partner staff conducting the needs assessment. Assessment participants were offered remote PFA prior to the survey. In total 143 (62 Syrian, 81 Non-Syrian) accepted to benefit from the support.

ACCESS TO DISTANCE/ONLINE EDUCATION

Basic Information About Children In the Assessed Household

- **1051 Total Number of Children In the Assessed Household**
- **13% of the households noted that they have children with disabilities or chronic illnesses in their households, which constitutes a sizeable risk group within the Covid-19 context.**
- **669 Total Number of School-Age Children In the Assessed Household**
  - **86% of enrolled children have shifted to online/distance education, mostly through TV or the mobile app. 73% of the households find the setup productive for their children.**
  - **66% of enrolled children have shifted to online/distance education mostly through TV or the mobile app. 40% of the households consider the setup productive.**

Across both communities’ concerns were noted about children having a hard time understanding the content, language barrier difficulties, and insufficient lesson frequencies.

Households where the parents/caregivers reported that they could not make the shift cited various reasons including lack of; TV, access to TRT channel, wifi connection and computer/tablet. 41% of the households reported that they need additional education materials (i.e. stationary, course books, test books for exam preparation).

Access to Education

- **Online/Distance Education**
- **Cannot Access Online/Distant Education**
- **Out of School**
COVID-19 AWARENESS

Knowledge on Symptoms

The Afghan community constituted 78% of the households where the parent/caregiver was not informed of the symptoms. Additional symptoms cited include fatigue, headaches, sore throat, stomach-ache, running nose, diarrhea and itching.

Responses to the Main Symptoms Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptom</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breathing Difficulties</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know The Symptoms</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

77% Staying Home

43% Social Distancing

Precautions and Reactions

6% of the respondents, primarily Syrians, reported that they do not know how to protect themselves or their families. 21% stated that they partially know. Precautionary actions cited include staying home, social distancing, use of Turkish kolonya, not touching one’s face, covering mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. Overall, 16% of the households stated that they do not take any precautions when they leave the house, with 82% of this figure coming from the Afghan community.

Respondents had access to at least one of the following precautionary hygiene products:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to Mask</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Soap</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Turkish Kolonya</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Bleach</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Hand Sanitizer</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Gloves</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10% of the respondents noted that they do not have access to these items. Again the Afghan community constituted the majority who stated lack of access at 84%.

If they were to contract the disease, 54% of the respondents stated that they would approach a healthcare services, 19% stated that they would quarantine themselves and check on their health, and 10% stated that they would wait and see whether it is common flu. Other answers included consulting with their families, calling the hotline and contacting AKDEM².

PRIMARY NEEDS

Current Primary Needs

The top 3 priority needs are unconditional cash or material assistance, distribution of hygiene and food kits. While the proportion of the needs for each population group was similar, the Syrian community highlighted the need for psychosocial support to a greater extent.

Primary Needs of the Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Syrian Children</th>
<th>Afghan Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Support for Children and Youth</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconditional Cash or Material Assistance</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of Food Kits</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of Hygiene Kits</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Distant/ Online Education</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referrals for Access to Healthcare Services</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid-19 Awareness Raising for Children</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Future Needs If Current Restrictions Continue

Cash support for rent (84%) and for food (76%) will remain the top priority, hygiene kits (53%), clean water (20%), material assistance for medication (18%), along with other services including online psychosocial support, and support to cover the bills were also cited.

For further inquiries you may reach out: 
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¹ SuTP: Syrians Under Temporary Protection
² (DGMM, April 2020)
³ PRM: Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (US Department of State)
⁴ IP: International Protection
⁵ SC Turkey, 2019, Baseline Report: Strengthening the Protection and Resilience among Refugees by Host Community Children and Adults in Zeytinburnu, Istanbul.
⁶ AKDEM: Zeytinburnu Municipality’s Centre for Family, Women Support and People with Disabilities
⁷ The gender breakdown is proportional to the implementing partner: AKDEM’s current beneficiary pool, however it should be considered as an estimate due to shared contact information among the beneficiaries.