NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

ILO held a "Labour Market Impact of Syrians in Turkey and their Employability" event discussed four field surveys that were part of a comprehensive ILO strategy for Syrians under Temporary Protection in Turkey. This will improve knowledge and produce reliable data on the impact of Syrian refugees on the Turkish labour market and will contribute to development of a comprehensive national policy.

Research entitled "Employers’ Outlook to the Employment of Syrians in Şanlıurfa" was completed with Harran University and Karacadağ Development Agency. The focus was the demand side of the labour market and will present the status of Turkish employers, their labor market expectations, and attitudes of Turkish employers towards Syrian participation in the labour force. A working group was convened to convene priorities in vocational, technical and skills training at Gaziantep Nizip Temporary Sheltering Centre by conducting local level supply and demand assessments. In collaboration with Directorate of National Education in Sultangazi district in Istanbul, ILO continues to support access to education for 300 Syrian refugee children. This helps reduce risks of child labour.

UNDP: Protocols were signed with key local stakeholders on 11 December 2015 with participation of the Minister of Development and representatives of UNDP, Southeastern Anatolia Development Project, Regional Development Administration; local authorities. This is a significant milestone for the project which will begin vocational education training in 2016. Tenders were launched to complete procurement of items and equipment to operationalize vocational education training centers. To improve the regional labor force market, a value chain analytical study is being undertaken for the main sectors in the region. The study will help establish a clear road map for the current project and upcoming livelihoods activities in the region.

UNIDO: Preparations for the Project on Vocational Training for Syrian Youth and Women within the refugee camps of: Harran, Ovacık and İlişkili are nearly complete. New vocational training equipment was installed and led to heightened excitement as the training will commence next month. There is high demand and numerous applications for vocational training and trainer positions were received. Next month, tests will be arranged to help select the first intake of refugee camp trainees who will participate in vocational training. The Ministry of National Education will appoint ministry trainers and the ILO Project Coordinator is now based in Gaziantep and will strengthen interactions with other livelihoods stakeholders.


LIVELIHOODS

TURKEY RESPONSE INDICATORS: JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2015

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

In the absence of an enabling environment for livelihoods for Syrians, job opportunities and services to improve employability are also limited. This situation impacts particularly women and youth, who are the most at risk to engage in exploitative and abusive work, and other negative coping mechanisms. In parallel, the jobs that Syrian refugees manage to find are usually informal and insecure, and facilitate-at times- child labour. Some sources report that the daily fees for seasonal work have reduced to one fifth of the previous levels, which were already unacceptably low for host communities before the crisis.

Additionally, the cost of living in the border provinces increased significantly for both communities as rental costs and commodity prices grew (in some cases more than 50 per cent increase). This economic hardship, along with other social issues, weakened the social fabric and undermined social cohesion between refugees and impacted communities, particularly in 2014.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS) developed the normative framework that will enable access to legal forms of work for approval by the Council of Ministers. This framework will be critical for designing employment support interventions. The 3RP partners will therefore support the GoT in these endeavours including child labour.

UNDP will focus on local strategies and initiatives that relate to livelihoods in order to strengthen job creation/labour demand and empowerment opportunities/labour supply. ILO together with the MoLSS, social partners and relevant 3RP partners will support policy development to ensure and enhance decent employment opportunities and livelihoods in host communities and address unacceptable forms of work including child labour. These interventions will be built on assessments of skills of Syrians as well as the labour demand with a view to design and implement employment services. Advocacy efforts will target Syrians for awareness raising on...