

## ESSN Task Force Ankara Minutes

- Objective**
- Provide an update on the ESSN,
  - Access the ESSN for Non-Syrians:
    - IP registration and satellite city procedure
    - TRC Assessment on Afghans and TRC assistance to the other nationalities
  - Updates on the CCTE
  - AOB.

**Date of meeting** 21 June 2018  
09:30 - 11:30

**Location** UNHCR Cinnah Office, Aziziye Mahallesi, Enis Behiç Koryürek Sk. No:15, 06690 Çankaya/Ankara

### 1. Action points:

Follow up issue:	Who will take action:	Deadline:
Provision of information on Severe Disability Allowance	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	ESSN TF meeting on 26 July 2018
Provision of more information on SASF Allowance	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Pending for the SoP to be finalized with MoFSP
Provision of more information on Household Verification SoP	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Pending for TRC to receive info from MoFSP
`Livelihoods` as a theme for ESSN TF meetings	TRC&WFP	BN-LW Joint Meeting on 26 July 2018
Bajram permissions for more than 90 days needs clarification	TRC&WFP to follow up with DGMM	On-going
LLE report: open discussions around the recommendations and move forward	ESSN TF Co-Chairs	Aug-Sep 2018

### 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 18 June, a total of 445,684 applications were registered; 1,519 applications were not assessed; 240,560 applications were deemed eligible and 203,605 applications were ineligible. Approximately, 37.73% of the applications were registered by TRC Service Centres. A total of 1,345,128 beneficiaries received ESSN assistance in May (51.38% female/48.67% male). Inclusion rate is 54%. Average household size is 5.82.
- DGMM announced the Bayram break for TP, according to this circulate, permission, rules, date and obligation are like below;
  - There are two separate travel periods
    - Ramadan break: 17 May – 14 June 2018
    - Kurban break: 24 June – 14 September
  - Obligation to return to Turkey before the end of the permitted periods
  - Not to merge these periods
  - Refugees are permitted for multiple entries
  - The returnees need to use the same border gate for exiting and returning back to Turkey

➤ ESSN assistance will continue

- Extension of the permission period for more than 90 days needs clarification from DGMM and ESSN Programme should seek for decision for those cases who will stay in Syria for more than 90 days.
- Based on the information provided by Ankara Area office (AAO):
  - In May, eight Focus Group Discussions (FGD) were conducted in five provinces: Ankara, Konya, Eskisehir, Bolu and Duzce.
  - WFP AAO shared a summary of the FGDs under theme of ESSN criteria, monthly assessment, family composition manipulation and HH visits. Some of the findings are:
    1. Participants were generally aware of the criteria.
    2. Most vulnerable families excluded by the criteria have 2 children, or 3 children with one (specifically female) who just turned 18 years old.
    3. Participants from smaller provinces/districts were more aware of the reasons of SASF staff household visits and monthly reassessment than participants from larger provinces.

### 3. Accessing the ESSN for Non-Syrians:

#### **IP registration and satellite city procedure (ASAM)**

- DGMM, which was established with the Law on Foreigners and International Protection (LFIP), became the sole authority responsible for receiving and registering applications for IP since 2013.
- The law maintains geographical limitation for seeking refugee but provides protection and assistance to all asylum seekers and refugees regardless of their country of origin.
- Asylum-seekers in Turkey, *except for the Syrians*, are registered by ASAM first and then referred to PDMM.
- ASAM started registration of newcomers in January 2013 on behalf of UNHCR. Registration with the Turkish authorities is the most important way of securing individual's rights in Turkey. It is also an important obligation for foreigners in Turkey as it forms the legal basis for individual's stay in Turkey and allows individual's access to public services such as health, education and protects against repatriation. ID (Kimlik) is also important and obligation to apply to ESSN.
- ASAM registration is performed in the ASAM HQ office in Ankara between 07:30-17:30 on a first come first served basis.
- Following registration, newcomers are referred to satellite cities for registration depending on to the list of open satellite cities by DGMM. Once they are registered by PDMM in the satellite city, the person gets the status of *international protection applicant*. Registration in ASAM does not mean to be registered by PDMM. There is no follow up after their registration and assigning to the satellite cities.
- In exceptional cases such as unaccompanied minors who can not travel alone, registration can be performed in ASAM and UNHCR Field offices.
- Regulations of satellite cities are directed by DGMM. They meet regularly to decide status of the satellite cities. The list does not change dramatically. For example, Antalya was never included in the list and is not planned to be included in the future.
- Humanitarian Protection applications are not accepted by ASAM. They are directed to DGMM for registration. ASAM offices are only providing counselling for those who are seeking Humanitarian Protection.
- TRC suggested to use SMS system of ESSN programme in order to disseminate necessary information such as registration, renewal of the PDMM applications, etc. to the refugees registered in 62 provinces only.
- Humanitarian and International Protection Applicants should renew their ID cards before the expiry date. In some provinces due to the lack of PDMM capacities, there are some delays and refugees should follow the procedure in order not to face any problem including assistance cut off.

#### **TRC Assessment on Afghans and TRC assistance to the other nationalities (TRC)**

- TRC has been tasked to determine and report the physical conditions and the service standards of 19 Repatriation Centers and 1 Reception & Accommodation Center operated by DGMM.
- Within the scope of protocol signed with DGMM, 3 meals and urgent needs are met during the period of irregular migrants detained by Law Enforcement Agency in Düzce, Bolu, Elazığ, Erzincan, İzmir, Kırklareli, Muş, Sivas, Edirne, Canakkale, Hatay and Ankara.
- Besides Afghan and Iraqi immigrants, TRC is providing support to Meskhetian Turks (Ahiska), Uyghur Turks, Egyptian immigrants. Aid activities are carried out in line with the needs of immigrants for both food and non-food items.

- Blood donation: The new Blood and Blood Product Law (law number 5624) brings important responsibilities to the blood centres about traceability. Blood donation cannot be accepted from a foreign person whom does not have a resident permit (identity number) with the intention of sustainability of the traceability principle. The requirements of the blood donations for the foreign people in Turkey are detailed in the National Guideline of Blood and Blood Products published by Ministry of Health with regard to the Regulation and Law of Blood and Blood Products to which Turkish Red Crescent is liable and responsible. According to that, an ID number is given to foreign people who have resident permit in Turkey. It is possible to donate blood with the ID number nevertheless the blood donation from the foreign people in the tourist status cannot be accepted for the reason of the unsustainability of the traceability.
- Regarding Temporary Accommodation Centers, these centers are governed by the DGMM. Last April, DGMM took the responsibility of them from AFAD. TRC provides nutrition facilities in those centers. TRC has responsibility to create child friendly spaces.
- Regarding the Repatriation Centers' conditions, TRC provides suggestions to DGMM periodically. DGMM is also working with different NGOs to make the conditions better. For example, there are child spaces, which DGMM is working with UNICEF.
- Regarding the referral mechanism for the in-kind assistance, NGOs can provide the needs assessments to TRC. NGOs can reach to TRC for collaboration.
- According to TRC call center data, we see that call center accept some calls rather than ESSN or CCTE with 2% ratio under type of "other", this type of calls mainly consist of referrals like this example. So for any in kind assistance, NGOs may call 168, call center will make necessary internal referrals
- TRC has the responsibility of the observing in the Repatriation Centers.
- Irregular Migration in Eastern Borders:
  - Why they are coming: Main reasons are ongoing instability, terror, unemployment in Afghanistan. Specific reason is the completion of the wall border. Propoganda by migrant smugglers is "this is last chance" to enter the country.
  - Main needs for effective managing of irregular Afghan immigration are capacity building of MoFSP and DGMM, psychological support for immigrants, hygiene kits (distributed in the police stations but it is not enough).

#### 4. Updates on the CCTE:

##### Cash Component:

- In May 2018, 272,031 beneficiaries were entitled for CCTE payment based on regular school attendance. After the May 2018 CCTE payment (which was the seventh payment under the scope of the CCTE for Refugees Program), the number of cumulative CCTE beneficiaries (children who have received at least one CCTE payment) stands at 356,611.
- As of 4 June 2018, 356,676 children had been accepted to the programme (92% of CCTE applications).
- The top five provinces with most of the beneficiaries are as follows: İstanbul, Hatay, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa and Ankara. Most of the CCTE beneficiaries are attending primary school (94.26%) and the majority of them (60%) are 1st to 3rd grade students.
- Most of the calls received by the TRC 168 Call Center about the CCTE programme are Information Requests (61.17%) while the rest are card related questions (38.08%), complaints (0.69%) and other (0.06%). Unlike the ESSN program, most of the calls are received from women (57.55%) compared to men (42.45%)
- In Ankara province, the cumulative number of CCTE beneficiaries as of May 2018 is 17,158 children.
- 7 provinces (13 TPSs, 4 TECs, 5 SASFs, 7 HBs, 1 CSO, 2 CCTE-CP Outreach Offices) were visited by UNICEF Field Monitors in Central and Eastern Anatolia regions since April 2018.
- School principals and teachers of TECs and TPSs visited in Ankara, and Konya are all of the opinion that percentage of refugee students in kindergartens is very low due to self-maintenance fee requested from the families
- During May 2018 CCTE Card Distribution Monitoring, it was observed that most beneficiaries were not aware of payment amounts and the difference between ESSN and CCTE programmes.
- It has been observed that refugee parents should be informed about the attendance conditionality of the program that is still implemented during Ramadan, contrary to some parents' or teachers' assumption that there is flexibility to the attendance conditionality during Ramadan.
- A decrease in the number of beneficiaries was observed from March to May payment period. Reasons for this drop are being investigated by the UNICEF and TRC teams, in consultation with MoFSP and MoNE. Results will be shared when available. (UPDATE: The problem that led to this decrease in beneficiaries in the May

2018 CCTE payment cycle has since been identified and resolved. Affected families will receive their missed payment along with the July 2018 CCTE payment.)

- It was stated by the WFP IAO official that in Samsun, Bolu and Duzce provinces, there were a large number of IPs waiting for appointments to receive their IDs. Especially in Samsun province, the number was around 6,000 as of January. During the last visit to Samsun in June, PDMM stated that they are planning to distribute all waiting cards as of June. They also confirmed that there are still newcomers to Samsun province.

#### Child Protection Component:

- Child Protection activities are carried out by outreach teams at 16 offices in 15 provinces. Osmaniye office is recently launched by Kızılay Staff of Community Centers. Child Protection Teams are composed of Case Workers, Translators and Protection Officer.
- Child protection process has three main phases: Identification, screening and response. In the identification phase, protection team identifies children who have not attended to school for a certain period of time from the list of MoFSP who were not found eligible for CCTE payment due to not meeting attendance conditionality. Children who did not receive payments or are at-risk of not receiving payments due to non-attendance are number one priority. In the screening phase, child protection team visits these children in their house and make a risk analysis. There are three levels of risks: high, medium, low/no risk levels. Protection team has to refer children with medium or high risk to MoFSP, which is a mandatory action. There are also three types of actions which are external referral, internal referral and on the spot elucidating.
- After the provided services, there is a follow up process. Turkish Red Crescent, MoFSP and sometimes both of these institutions are responsible from these follow ups. After the review of the case if there is no more risk, the team closes the case.
- Total number of reached children is 36,341 in whole Turkey and Ankara has 3,666 children. Majority of these children have no risk and this rate is 60.01%. As the risk level increases, the number of people decreases. Majority of the children are 6 to 9 years old.
- The most common case categories are education, child labour, PSS and economic problems.
- The process of identification of children is TRC CP teams receive the frozen list which is a list of children who have missed the school for more than four days. According to this list, CP teams are calling the families and conducting household visits.

#### 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. We will channel you with the M&E team if you would like to provide any contributions. Next months' subject will be on Social Cohesion and Solidarity.
- 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 on **26 July at the UN House, Advocacy Hall, 16th Floor Yildiz Kule, Cankaya Ankara.**

#### **Attachments:**

1. ESSN Task Force Istanbul Presentation (WFP/TRC)
2. Presentation on IP Registration and Satellite City Procedure (ASAM)
3. Presentation of TRC Migration and Refugee Centers Department
4. Presentation on Irregular Migration on Eastern Borders (TRC)
5. Presentation on CCTE Updates (UNICEF/TRC)