May snapshots

1,451,336 individuals reached with cash assistance

TRY 625,857,180 transferred to 235,547 households

TRY 7,545,756,560 transferred since April 2020

Highlights

Media visit in Gaziantep
Communications departments of IFRC and TRC in coordination with their field teams in the regional offices supported ECHO in coordinating a media visit on 31 May in Gaziantep, Turkey. Two journalists from Spain and Portugal were thoroughly briefed about the ESSN programme by Ruben Cano, IFRC Head of Delegation, and Meircan Han, Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) Kızılaykart Deputy Coordinator. The briefing was followed by a guided visit to recipients’ households for the journalists to have interviews and see the impact of ESSN programme for themselves.

Update to the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)
As an operational tool, Minimum Expenditure Basket identifies and quantifies, in a particular context and time frame, the average cost of the regular or seasonal basic/essential needs of a household that can be covered through the local market. Please refer to page four for more details. Also, you may visit our GO Platform to see more content related to not only MEB but also other programme-related information.

Sweepbacks: In May, TRY 547,322.43 was swept back in total, TRY 147,470 being swept back from 207 uncollected cards and TRY 399,860.59 from 1,255 dormant accounts. The total amount of funds swept back since April 2020 is TRY 22,905,963.45.
ESSN APPLICATIONS

- In May 2022, a total of 1,946 household applications were received by the SASF offices and TRC Service Centres.
- While 30.7 per cent of these applications were received by TRC Service Centres and 69.3 per cent at SASF offices.
- The total number of household applications received since the beginning of the ESSN III Programme reached 652,309, with 36.3 per cent of the total application having been received by the TRC Service Centres.

Province breakdown of ESSN recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number of Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>İstanbul</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>192,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankara</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>68,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bursa</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>58,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>İzmir</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>53,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mersin</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>97,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adana</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>74,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatay</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>123,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaziantep</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>203,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanliurfa</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>133,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>İzmir</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>53,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Konya</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>58,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of individuals

- 0 - 1,000
- 1,000 - 5,000
- 5,000 - 20,000
- 20,000 - 60,000
- 60,000 - 120,000
- 120,000 +

CRITERIA BREAKDOWN

- 56% households with four or more children
- 35% households with high dependency ratio (≥1.5)
- 5% single female

*4% of households (10,127 HHs) receive ESSN assistance within the scope of the SASF allowance.

1 130,963 households with four or more children; 83,467 households with a dependency ratio equal to or above 1.5; 10,990 single females.
IN NUMBERS: DEMOGRAPHICS OF PEOPLE WE SERVE

**Age breakdown** of ESSN recipients:
- 0 - 17 years: 1,110,736
- 18 - 59 years: 539,385
- 60+ years: 22,420

**Gender breakdown** of ESSN recipients:
- Female: 731,386
- Male: 719,950

**Nationality**
- Syrian: 1,316,730
- Iraqi: 70,598
- Afghan: 57,105
- Others: 6,903

Among the ‘others’ category are Iranian, Somali, Pakistani, Chinese, Palestinian and other nationals.

**SASF ALLOWANCE**

In May 2022, 10,127 households (40,364 individuals) received ESSN assistance via the SASF allowance across Turkey. The SASF allowance continues to play an integral role in minimizing exclusion errors and including vulnerable households into the ESSN.
MEB: MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET

Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) is an operational tool to calculate the cost of the basic needs of the target group. The MEB is considered as a monetary threshold called a poverty line. In this context, a household falling below this monetary threshold in terms of its expenditures is as poor. The tool provides a simplified calculation, thus it does not take into account the specific needs of people with chronic diseases, disabilities, and so on. In principle, there are two types of MEB; expenditure based and rights based, both of which the ESSN focuses on with a hybrid model.

Why update the MEB?

Taking into consideration the impact of COVID-19 on socio-economic life, resulting in fewer income-generating activities and rapidly increasing expenditure, three key changes were made to increase the accuracy of the MEB calculation:

- The coverage of the current MEB is increased considering how disperse the ESSN applicant population is. Moreover, additional weight by population density, which will be updated regularly, is applied to the commodity prices. Thus, comparison of expenditure-based MEB and rights-based MEB is ensured.

- The reduction in calculation of refugee MEB will not be used; new analysis indicated that the reduction no longer provides valid results to calculate the minimum expenditure.
PROGRAMMATIC HIGHLIGHTS

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):

• New reporting style is under construction for PD M14 and onwards. It will focus on monitoring results without come indicators.
• The report of Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM14) survey, a cross-sectional study, report has been completed and will be disseminated shortly while data collection process for PDM-15 has started.
• IVS-2 study is ongoing with supportive study which aims to double check the data collected. 641 surveys were completed in May.
• A total of 21 Halkbank Branches in 9 provinces were visited as part of the Card Distribution Monitoring.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

• In May, 731,026 SMSes were sent out within the scope of the ESSN Programme. Information provision SMSes were sent out to the beneficiaries regarding the one-time TRY 1,400 top-up payment. During this month, 1,051 households became eligible and received their first-time eligibility SMSes that include the bank branch address where they can pick up their cards. Application results of 1,780 households which were found ineligible for the programme were sent out. Additionally, informative SMSes were sent to recipients who were removed from the programme due to reasons such as address change, assistance reduction/not meeting the programme criteria, and not in need of the assistance any longer.
• Through Facebook and programme website, 236 programme-related questions were responded to. Besides the routine information provision posts regarding the important issues, address change warnings and criteria information posts are also published on Facebook frequently.
• 168 Kızılay call centre continue to provide its services in five languages (Turkish, Arabic, Farsi, English, Pashto). Within the scope of the ESSN programme, 13,315 calls were received and recorded by toll-free 168 Kızılay Call Center. 7,123 of these calls received from females callers, 6,192 calls are received from the male callers. 95.32 per tenth these calls were in Arabic.

Coordination:

• Within the scope of coordination activities that are conducted in line with several internal and external commitments, with 3RP as top priority, coordination unit participated in monthly Syrian Task Force meeting that was chaired by UNCHR on 18 May. As a follow up, education sector coordination unit also attended the SET education sector meeting and the protection workshop on 25 May. The coordination unit participated in a protection working group meeting on 26 May.
• As for the planning ahead, the coordination unit will attend a case management meeting planned to take place in early-June. The team will attend basic needs working group meeting for Gaziantep and Istanbul between 16 and 23 June, respectively.
• The ESSN Taskforce meeting is planned to be conducted late-June for Istanbul, and early-July for Gaziantep.

Referral and Outreach (R&O):

• In May, Referral and Outreach field teams conducted 375 visits in 39 cities within the context of raising awareness of local institutions such as NGOs, PDMMs and carried out advocacy activities through local authority visits to remove barriers of individuals who face challenges during ESSN application.
• During May, R&O took part in meetings with local municipalities in Istanbul region. In those visits, issues regarding municipality assistance to refugees were discussed. Municipalities informed that their assistance mostly consisted of in-kind items such as clothing and household goods since they were unable to provide cash assistance due to budgetary reasons. R&O teams conducted sensitization activities regarding the ESSN and TRC 168 call centre. Within the scope of this activity, it was shared with municipalities that refugees can acquire information about cash-based assistances which are provided under Kızılaykart Platform, via TRC 168 call centre.
• Based on SASFs' request for support within the scope of SASF allowance quota which the R&O teams provided them with sensitization activities. Consequently, it was observed that use of discretionary allowance increased by approximately two per cent in the last two months across Turkey.
• R&O teams were invited by GOAL Hatay to provide in-depth information regarding the ESSN programme. Additionally, opinion leaders were invited to the same meeting. Thereby, a sensitization activity was conducted in a broader context.

platform.kizilaykart.org/en
media.ifrc.org/ifrc/essn