



## UNDP IN TURKEY: MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF SYRIAN CRISIS ON HOST COMMUNITIES



50  
YEARS

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

Turkey's unique geographic position with a 911 Km border with Syria, and its standing as a land migration route to Europe has resulted in the country receiving a large influx of Syrian refugees. Since the crisis began, Turkey registered the largest number of registered Syrian refugees in the world, over 2 million with numbers predicted to increase to 2.75 million refugees by end of 2016. Turkey therefore shoulders a large proportion of the overall burden of providing the global public good of addressing the plight of Syrian refugees boosting, security and stability while meeting international refugee and protection obligations.

Currently, 300,000 Syrian refugees, live in 23 designated refugee camps, and nearly two million, 90% of the Syrian refugee, live amongst Turkish host communities in highly impacted provinces of: Gaziantep, Kilis, Sanliurfa, and Hatay. The Government of Turkey provided Temporary Protection to registered refugees with provision of protection, basic needs, health, and education services for refugees who benefit from the same services as Turkish citizens. It is estimated the Government of Turkey has spent \$US 8 billion addressing the refugee crises, but there has not been matching international support to share the significant challenges. Therefore Turkey faces the daily challenges of protracted displacement and increasing strains on: refugees, impacted host communities, and

local public service providers such as education, health, and municipal authorities. When refugees cannot be sufficiently supported within Turkey, many undertake the risks of onward migration to Europe with dangerous often tragic consequences as highlighted in the news over many months.

Within this context, UNDP's response to the impacts of the Syria crisis in Turkey, is through the Turkey Chapter of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) contributing towards Turkey's overall crises response in close partnership with Government and contributions of participating UN Agencies.

The main focus of UNDP's activities are resilience based approaches supporting highly impacted Turkish Municipalities to enable them to deliver local public services to both refugee and impacted Turkish host communities. In addition, UNDP applies a livelihoods approach, facilitating training that includes: vocational, employability, life-skills and entrepreneurship to maximize employment opportunities for adolescents, youth and adults of both Turkish and refugee communities. This preserves hope, and through livelihoods support and employment will ensure stability and peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities.



## KEY RESULTS TO DATE



2,000 people making a livelihood through the pilot project for Mitigation of the Syrian Crises on Host Communities through establishing an organic olive oil facility in Kilis.



120,000 refugees in six camps and host populations benefiting from improved municipal services in Gaziantep and Sanliurfa.



2 training centres will be fully operational in February 2016 in Gaziantep with a capability of training 1,200 Syrian refugees in the Service sector, and 600 in the Industrial sector. In addition, 3,000 refugees will gain life-skills to adapt to living in Turkey.



With waste management support, in Gaziantep and Sanliurfa waste segregation programmes in six refugee camps with two waste transfer stations constructed in Gaziantep and Sanliurfa.

## LOOKING AHEAD: FUNDING AND PROGRAMME PRIORITIES FOR 2016

**Helping municipalities deliver key services to Refugee and Turkish communities**, in provinces impacted by the Syrian crises. Will include waste management systems in camps and non-camp areas, construction and maintenance of community assets that contribute to community cohesion.

**Budget (2014-2016): \$40,000,000 | Funding received (2014-2016): \$ 5,377,000 | Budget gap: \$ 34,623,000**  
Required to benefit an estimated 907,500 people by end of 2016.

**Establishing Livelihoods, enabling Long-term Employment for Syrian refugees and Turkish communities**, with provision of rapid employability & vocational skills for 84,000 Syrian refugees. An estimated 60,550 beneficiaries' will gain entrepreneurship, business support, and income generation skills. The focus is on Youth for Refugee and Turkish host communities. Workforce analysis and joint assessments will maximize employment and business opportunities. Support to Vocational Educational Training Centre's will include provision of training equipment and technical assistance to ensure sustainability.

**Budget (2014-2016): \$32,250,000 | Funding received (2014-2016): \$3,250,000 | Budget gap: \$29,000,000**  
Required to benefit an estimated 144,550 Syrian refugees and Turkish host communities by end of 2016.

**Facilitating social cohesion, stability, and peaceful coexistence**, with resilience based support to local institutions to develop their capability to deliver community engagement and protection activities.

**Budget (2014-2016): \$13,000,000 | Funding received (2014-2016): \$ None | Budget gap: \$13,000,000**  
Required to support 24 local governmental partner governmental authorities by end of 2016.

# UNDP IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN ONE OF THE MOST VOLATILE CRISES IN THE WORLD



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It is a big day for you.

After years of petitions, meetings, and a heavy financial burden, you are about to open a sanitary landfill site to serve your community for the next 25 years.

You and your team are proud to make a lasting contribution both to the community and environment. You are reading about the events in neighbouring Syria but hopeful that the conflict will end soon.

Your heart is with them, as you think maybe of your distant relatives living in Aleppo.

Then they begin to arrive.

First in a trickle, then a flow, camps are erected, you do your best to fulfil basic needs, and cooperate with relevant government offices.

You feel a little bit tired, but satisfied knowing that you're helping out a neighbour in need.

Fast-forward four years.

There hundreds of thousands of refugees now residing in your tiny city – some camps now accommodate over 30,000.

Every day, you receive more and more complaints about municipal services. Waste and litter is everywhere, your few vehicles are constantly on the road, personnel are overwhelmed, the new landfill is full, and your wastewater processing facility is well over its capacity.

You can't help but notice now how your city is on the brink of a similar collapse. **You can't help but notice how much your community has changed.**

Commissioned by UNDP in Turkey to help create a waste management scheme for this present-day scenario, our team has – with support from the European Union and the United States – come up with a viable project to ease the burden on local authorities.

We will implement a recycling programme at select camps within Şanlıurfa and Kilis, installing waste transfer station equipment and supplying necessary vehicles.

The aim is to reduce the costs associated with the six neighbouring camps, which host over 113,000 people.

We also hope to assist the local host community lay the foundations of a modern and sustainable integrated waste management scheme.

After spending weeks in the field assessing the situation, I've met and spent time with people from all walks of life. From government and

municipal officials to cleaning crews, from camp administrators to refugees – jointly, we have managed to **create a working model** that will bring this unique range of stakeholders together.

Never before in my career have I seen just how important the human element will have to be for the success of a waste management scheme.

Never before have I seen a waste management project with greater potential for social good.

## AN APPEAL FOR URGENCY

UNDP Turkey in coordination with Government of Turkey advocates for the urgent need for Resilience Based Approaches, going beyond immediate, short term, crises needs, strengthening the capability of people and communities, responding to local public service authorities, and building capability to withstand the Syria crisis, adapt, and become more self-reliant. UNDP is ready to deploy Resilience-based interventions in coordination with Government of Turkey to maximize Livelihoods opportunities, improve local municipal services, and support actions to achieve long-term social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between local Turkish host communities and refugee communities coping with the Syria crisis in Turkey.