

TURKEY | DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES TO DISPLACEMENT

Context – Displacement Situation

Turkey hosts the highest number of refugees in the world, including over 2.7 million registered Syrians. Around 90 percent of the Syrian refugees live outside the camps amongst Turkish host communities. This has significantly affected the national and local labour markets and has created additional demand on service providers. Syrian refugees are mainly located in the Southeast Anatolia region bordering Syria, but, as the crisis is prolonged, the population has also expanded to other regions as well. Turkey's support for the Syrians has been exemplary, with the country providing them 'temporary protection' status. With the adoption of relevant legislation, this status entitles Syrians to basic services and the right to work.

UNDPs Main Thematic Areas of Work

The objective of UNDP's work in response to the Syrian crisis response in Turkey is to foster an enabling environment and opportunities for the Syrian refugees without risking host communities' quality of life. The main element of UNDP's response strategy is to invest in existing national and local systems to ensure they can adequately serve both communities. UNDP's approach is geared towards: (i) strengthening livelihoods opportunities for impacted communities; (ii) improving the municipal service capacities in the locations with concentration of Syrian refugees; and (iii) creating social and recreational zones to contribute to social cohesion and peaceful co-existence.



Livelihoods support to Syrian refugees and affected host communities (Photo: UNDP Turkey/ Guray Balaban)

RESULTS

More than 2,000 men and women are making a living through an olive oil factory, supported by a UNDP programme in Kilis.

Training centres supported by UNDP now provide vocational training to Syrians in the services and industry sectors.

With support from the European Union and the United States, UNDP is currently developing waste segregation programmes in six refugee camps as well as the construction of two waste transfer stations in Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa.

With planned support from the European Union, UNDP will be able to provide an additional 1,200 Syrian refugees with training in the service sector and 600 in the industrial sector. This support is also expected to enable 3,000 Syrian refugees to acquire life skills that will help them to adapt to living in Turkey.



Vocational Training Programme for Turkish host committees and Syrian refugees (Photo: UNDP Turkey)

Planned UNDP Programmes

UNDP is establishing vocational training centres in Şanlıurfa to provide vocational training to Syrian refugees, particularly in agriculture, industry and services sectors. UNDP is also working with the Turkish Employment Agency to strengthen their capacities to respond to the employment service needs of the new target population. On the employment demand side, UNDP will continue to work with local actors to design and implement local interventions that will increase job opportunities in sectors with high potential and high labour absorption capacity for the Syrian population.

UNDP will continue to support the short- to medium-term needs of local municipalities in Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Kilis and Hatay with the delivery of basic services.

UNDP will also develop specific programmes to integrate women and youth into society through adaptation programmes and livelihoods support building on ongoing programmes with Turkish and Syrian women's NGOs.

These programmes will be funded by the Government of Japan, along with the ongoing partnerships with the EU, USPRM and the Government of Kuwait.

Humanitarian Partnerships

UNDP, as the co-lead of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) and as the resilience coordinator, is responsible for ensuring that a strong resilience dimension is maintained in the Syrian crisis response. In undertaking this role, UNDP cooperates very closely with UNHCR. UNDP leads on the resilience component of the 3RP, while UNHCR leads on the refugee component. In Hatay and Gaziantep, for instance, UNHCR has provided legal support, language/life skills training and social activities to non-camp Syrians through community centres. UNDP has set up vocational training centres and used existing community centres for non-camp Syrians to implement a vocational and livelihoods training programme in Gaziantep. Other vocational training centres will soon be established in Şanlıurfa in the agricultural, industry and service sectors. In addition, all interventions addressing relevant chapters of the 3RP are implemented in close coordination with other UN agencies.

Contact

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