



# In-camp card Programme

## Assisting refugees in camps in Turkey



### Assistance to refugees in Camps

Turkey continues to be the country hosting the greatest number of refugees in the world, almost four million people. Of these, 3.68 million are Syrian while the rest are from other countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, and Iran.

By June 2020, around 63,300 of the most vulnerable refugees, mostly Syrians, are housed by the Government of Turkey in 7 camps across the southeast region.

WFP partners with the Turkish Red Crescent (TK/Kizilay) to provide them with e-voucher assistance in camps. The programme started in 2012 when, for the first time, WFP used e-voucher assistance from the onset of an emergency. Each household received a card, topped up monthly with 100 Turkish Liras. These are redeemable in participating shops in exchange for food, giving beneficiaries choice and restoring independence to their lives.

Since 2012, WFP has injected over USD 233 million into the Turkish economy through the in-camp Card Programme.

### Objectives

WFP's assistance aims to:

- Ensure vulnerable refugees can consume enough food and have a diverse diet;
- Reduce or stabilize negative coping strategies such as lowering food intake or sending children to work instead of school;
- Enhance national crisis-response capacities.

### Achievements

Thanks to sustained assistance since 2012:

- 94 percent of households have acceptable food consumption;
- Refugees in camps generally have diverse diets;
- Women are involved in decisions on the use of assistance in 89 percent of households;
- A strong partnership has been built with the Government of Turkey and Kizilay.

### Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) Response

WFP will continue working with the Government to support assistance to refugees hosted in camps to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission in camps, where an outbreak would be catastrophic.

In April, WFP distributed **40,000** pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health workers in the camps, in response to a government request. In May and June, WFP distributed **15,000** hygiene kits to all camp residents to cover three months of use. This was particularly well-received by beneficiaries, as it was coincidentally transferred at the start of Ramadan. In April, WFP provided a one-off top up to the in-camp caseload valued at **TRY 1,000** per household, in line with a Government transfer to vulnerable Turkish citizens to counter reduced purchasing power. WFP together with Kizilay continue to sensitize the camp population about the importance of social distancing and changes to the programme due to COVID-19.

The camps also absorbed arrivals from Turkey's border regions resulting from the migration crisis. Before returning to their areas of registration, 409 **new arrivals** were placed in a 14-day quarantine in two camps. WFP supported these arrivals with a supermarket voucher valued at TRY 100 per person, as well as hygiene kits. As a **contingency**, WFP is prepared to provide an in-kind food basket in case of any COVID-19 outbreak, as requested by camp management. The basket includes immune-boosting foods and provides 2,300 Kilo-calories per person for the 21-day period.

COVID-19 has had a concerning impact on the economy. The first COVID-19 case in Turkey was confirmed in the first half of March. Analysis, assessments and monitoring activities are ongoing, adjusted to address challenges in mobility, such as expansion of remote data collection methods, to ensure continued visibility of the food security situation and the impact on vulnerable populations. WFP has shifted all ongoing monitoring activities to phone-based surveys in view of COVID-19.

Read about WFP's risk mitigation helping refugee families in camps during COVID-19 outbreak, [here](#).



	COVID-19 kit includes the following items	Quantity
	Bath Soap (100 g)	3
	Shampoo (400 ml)	2
	Wet Towel (pack of 90 pieces)	2
	Paper Towel (pack of 2 rolls)	1
	Hand Sanitizer (500 ml)	1
	Reusable Masks (pack of 5)	1
	Dishwashing Liquid	1
	Shaving Set (94 ml shaving cream, 5 disposable razors, shaving brush)	1

### Accountability to those in need

WFP and Kizilay constantly assess the quality of goods and prices in the shops where the e-voucher is redeemable. WFP field teams keep in contact with registered card users to hear their experiences, so that their voices can be heard and their views help inform adjustments that need to be made. Kizilay has helpdesks in camps which can provide assistance including replacing lost, stolen, or non-functional cards.

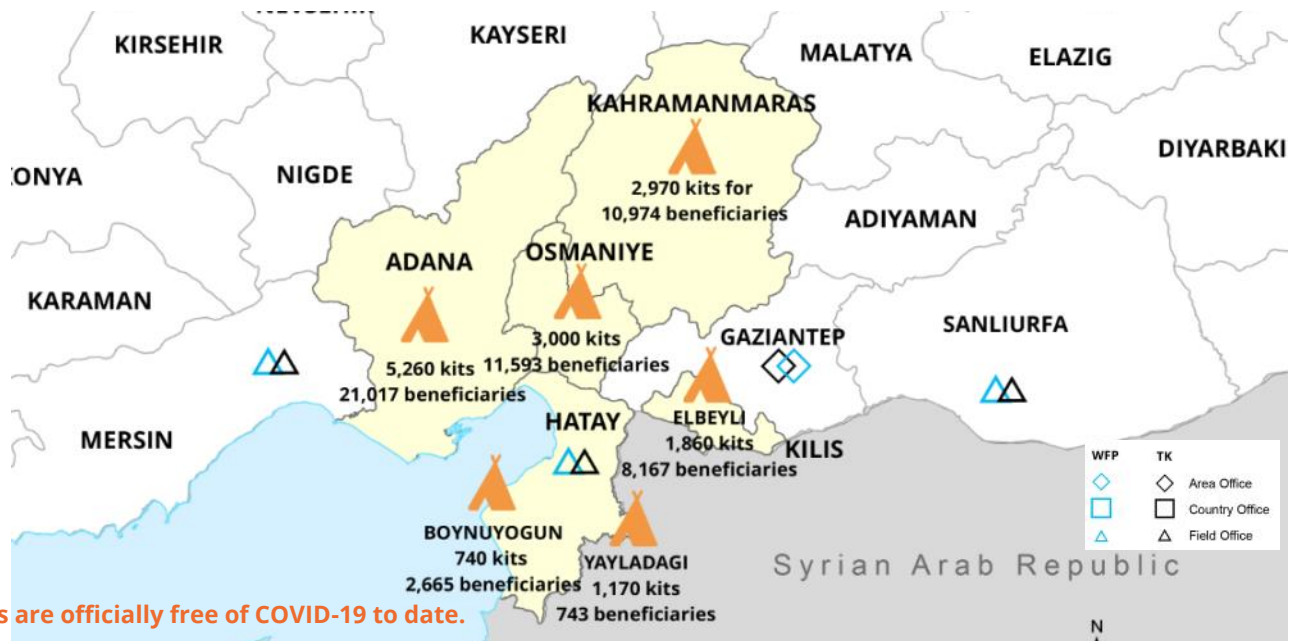
### How refugees cook in camps

Containers are provided with electrical stoves and utensils by the Government of Turkey, Kizilay and UNHCR. This means refugees can use their assistance to prepare wholesome meals for their families.

### Refugees outside of camps

More than 99 percent of refugees in Turkey live outside of camps in towns and villages. Many live in poverty. The most vulnerable of them are assisted by the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme, which provides monthly cash assistance to more than one and a half million refugees to help them cover their basic needs.

WFP's e-card programme is implemented in partnership with the Government of Turkey and Kizilay.



All camps are officially free of COVID-19 to date.

### Thanks to contributions from:

