



## WFP Türkiye Country Brief October 2023

### Operational Context

Türkiye hosts the highest number of refugees in the world - four million people. Around 53,000 of the most vulnerable of them live in eight camps in the southeast, while the majority live in cities and villages throughout the country. The Government of Türkiye has demonstrated leadership and generosity in hosting this large number for close to a decade. Since June 2014, a temporary protection regime has granted Syrian refugees access to basic services such as healthcare and education. Refugees from other countries continue to benefit from International Protection status. WFP re-established a presence in Türkiye in 2012, in response to the Syria crisis. Following the twin earthquakes that struck south-eastern Türkiye on 6 February 2023, WFP stepped up its assistance and launched an emergency response operation to respond to the most urgent needs of affected populations.

WFP Türkiye's new [Country Strategic Plan \(CSP 2023-2025\)](#) which was approved in November 2022 seeks to assist refugees in camps and provide services to humanitarian and development partners. The CSP expands sustainable livelihood programming to build the self-reliance of vulnerable Turks and refugees alike. [The CSP has been revised](#) to integrate the earthquake emergency response including food and multi-purpose cash assistance to refugees and Turks alike, as well as logistics and telecommunications services for partners in the earthquake-affected regions.



**Population:** 84.7 million

**Poverty Rate:** 28.7% living below the national poverty line (TUIK)

**Income Level:** Upper middle

**Human Development Index 2021:** 48 out of 191

### In Numbers



**54,719 people** received cash assistance in October 2023 (estimated).

**USD 0.57 m** distributed through in-camp value vouchers and **USD 0.1 m** through livelihoods cash assistance (estimated)

**USD 5.3 m** six-month net funding requirements (November 2023 – April 2024)

### Operational Updates

- Under the e-voucher programme WFP co-implements with Turkey Red Cross (TRC) in eight refugee camps, 52,663 beneficiaries (11,440 households) received Turkish Lira (TRY) 300 (USD 11) per person monthly. The Presidency of Migration Management (PMM) announced that Kilis camp – assisted by WFP – would be closed by December 2023. Vulnerable households with special needs will be moved to the Adana camp and the rest will be provided with cash assistance to support their movement to other cities (except for Istanbul) or back to Syria by PMM. So far, 103 households have left the camp, including 46 households with special needs who were moved to Adana camp and 18 households who opted to move back to Syria.
- WFP's livelihoods activities under the umbrella of the Socioeconomic Empowerment and Sustainability (SES) Programme continued in October in nine provinces (Adana, Ankara, Bursa, Istanbul, Izmir, Kayseri, Konya, Mersin and Sanliurfa). Some 2,056 people benefited indirectly from the programme through the participation of 514 trainees in the vocational training courses in a variety of sectors (Barista, Chef Assistant, CNC Operator, CNC Wood, Control and Measurement Instruments Technician, Corporate Communication Support Staff, EMPACT, Machine Maintenance and Repair, Pastry Chef Assistant, Shoe Making, Welding).
- The SES Programme has been providing vocational and applied training to refugees and members of host communities with the aim of enhancing livelihoods opportunities, fostering economic self-reliance and advancing sustainable development. The Early Recovery component of the SES Programme, co-initiated by WFP and the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants (ASAM) in April was completed on 30 September. The initiative provided livelihood opportunities to 600 earthquake-affected people by placing them in jobs in various sectors for three months in Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Malatya and Sanliurfa.

**Photo Caption:** A beneficiary of the SES Early Recovery initiative working as a cook in a soup kitchen in Hatay reported that she was happy to embark on her first work opportunity since the earthquake, resuming her professional journey from where she left off. ©ASAM

## Country Strategic Plan (January 2023- December 2025)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
<b>177 m</b>	<b>113 m</b>
2023 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (November 2023 – April 2024)
<b>108 m</b>	<b>5.3 m</b>

### WFP Türkiye 2022 Annual Country Report

#### Strategic Outcome 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

**Country Strategic Plan Outcome 1:** Refugees and other crisis-affected populations can meet their basic needs, including nutritious food, all year round.

##### Activities:

- **Act 1:** Provide food and non-food assistance to refugees living in camps.
- **Act 5:** Provide emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to shock-affected populations.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

#### Strategic Outcome 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

**Country Strategic Plan Outcome 2:** Refugees and vulnerable populations have access to labour market opportunities in order to meet their basic needs, all year round

##### Activities:

- **Act 2:** Provide innovative livelihood trainings, private sector internships, grants and other opportunities to vulnerable refugees and host community members to improve their access to the labour market.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

#### Strategic Outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

**Country Strategic Plan Outcome 3:** Vulnerable groups, including schoolchildren, benefit from enhanced national capacities on social protection including school feeding by 2025.

- **Activity 3:** Provide technical assistance and support to the Government to enhance the national school meals programme and other programmes, policies and systems as needed.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

#### Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

**Country Strategic Plan Outcome 4:** Vulnerable populations in Türkiye benefit from improved humanitarian and development assistance all year round

- **Activity 4:** Provide on-demand common services to partners, including United Nations agencies.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

## Assessment

- Preliminary findings of the Needs Assessment in WFP-assisted Refugee Camps were shared. WFP RBC continues to support detailed analysis to inform targeting discussions and transitional programme design. Initial findings demonstrate that one third of the in-camp residents are highly vulnerable, half of them rely on WFP assistance as their main source of income, and the high

majority do not have any plans to leave the camps.

## Partnerships

- In October, WFP published a call for proposals on UN Partnership Portal for organizations to submit project proposals aimed at the restoration and revitalization of the food and nutrition sector in the earthquake-affected areas by enhancing the capacity of food value chain actors.

## Monitoring

- Market Price Monitoring, On-Site Monitoring, and Protection Report Q3 2023 is published in October. The report indicates that **annual inflation and food inflation reached 61.5 percent and 75.1 percent respectively in September 2023**. In line with overall price increases, the cost of the food basket for Syrian refugees has increased by 17 percent between Q2 and Q3 and reached TRY 803 (USD 29) per person per month in September 2023. The food basket for Ukrainian refugees costed TRY 740 (USD 27) in the same period. Overall, beneficiaries and retailers are satisfied with the e-voucher programme but some challenges were raised by a limited number of respondents. The number of complaints increased in this quarter primarily due to delays in placing the “Point of sale” machines in the Apaydin camp markets.
- The In-camp On-site Factsheet, covering August-October 2023, was published in October. WFP field teams conducted 31 field visits and carried out surveys with 46 beneficiaries during the reporting period. Malfunction of POS machines and cold storage units, unavailability of price tags in either Turkish or Arabic, spoilage of some products due to power outages, issues with cleanliness and freshness of fruits and vegetables were noted by the field teams in some contracted shops. Findings are being addressed by WFP for necessary action.
- The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) cost representing the minimum amount required to meet essential needs (food, NFI, health, education, accommodation, communication, and transportation) has reached TRY 2022 (USD 73) per person per month in October 2023. Similarly, the earthquake MEB, tailored based on profiles of earthquake affected population, is estimated to cost TRY 2172 (USD 78) per person in the same period. The MEB values continue to be utilized by WFP and wider humanitarian actors operating in Türkiye to inform cash response design in and out of the earthquake region.

## Donors

Canada, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Norway, Private Donors, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, UN CERF, United States.