



WFP Türkiye

Country Brief January 2024

Operational Context

Türkiye hosts the highest number of refugees in the world – 3.7 million people. Around 63,000 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. Asylum seekers 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 and transitioned its programmes from basic needs assistance to livelihoods support as the needs of the target population evolved over time. WFP Türkiye's [Country Strategic Plan \(CSP 2023-2025\)](#) seeks to continue assisting refugees in camps, provide services to humanitarian and development partners, and implement sustainable livelihood programming to build the self-reliance of vulnerable Turks and refugees alike. [The CSP has been revised](#) to integrate the recovery efforts following the devastating earthquakes of February 2023, focusing on restoring and revitalising the food value chain in the earthquake-affected regions.



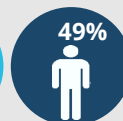
Population: 85.3 million

Poverty Rate: 29.7% living below the national poverty line (Turkstat)

Income Level: Upper middle

Human Development Index 2022: 48 out of 191

In Numbers



44,226 people received cash assistance in January 2024 (estimated).

USD 443,159 distributed through in-camp value vouchers and **USD 105,763** through livelihoods cash assistance (estimated)

USD 3.4 m six-month net funding requirements (February–July 2024)

Operational Updates

- Under the e-voucher programme, WFP and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) provide assistance in seven refugee camps. In January, a total of 43,499 beneficiaries (9,902 households) received Turkish lira (TRY) 300 (USD 10) per person per month.
 - WFP is currently exploring options to include Malatya camp into the e-voucher programme with the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), the main government body responsible for refugee camps.
 - WFP presented to PMM the findings of the comprehensive needs assessment study finalized in October 2023, which aimed to identify vulnerability profiles among the in-camp population.
 - In October 2023, PMM announced a new camp decongestion strategy which entails the closing of some camps and resettlement of residents in cities or voluntarily movement back to Syria. Camp residents wishing to move out of the camps receive one-off cash assistance from PMM, while the most vulnerable households with special needs are being transferred to the Adana Saricam camp.
- To mark the one-year anniversary of the deadly earthquakes which affected 13.5 million people across 11 provinces in southeast Türkiye, WFP staff observed a minute of silence on Tuesday 6 February. WFP is currently preparing for the implementation of the **Earthquake Recovery Programme** which aims to support the restoration and revitalisation of the food sector through targeted investments that enhance access to markets, and the functionality of the most strategic value chains, namely fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy, livestock, and wheat. In this respect, WFP signed field level agreements with four cooperating partners across three provinces (Adiyaman, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş).
- Around 2,995 people (42 percent of them being refugees) will be directly targeted in the coming 12 months with comprehensive recovery support. Scale up in Malatya, Islahiye and Nurdagi districts of Gaziantep is planned for the second half of 2024.

Country Strategic Plan (January 2023- December 2025)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
187 m	114 m
2024 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (February – July 2024)
41 m	3.4 m

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:

- **Activity 1:** Provide food and non-food assistance to refugees living in camps.
- **Activity 5:** Provide emergency food assistance through food or cash-based transfers to crisis affected populations.
- **Activity 8:** Provide transfers, assets and/or technical support to food value chain actors in crisis-affected areas.

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:

- **Activity 2:** Provide innovative livelihood trainings, private sector internships, grants and other opportunities to stimulate the local economy and enable 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.
- **Activity 6:** Provide coordination, information management and logistic services in support to the Government of Türkiye and humanitarian actors to strengthen their capacity to support crisis-affected populations.
- **Activity 7:** Provide emergency telecommunication services to the humanitarian community to enhance their support to crisis-affected populations

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

WFP Türkiye 2022 Annual Country Report

- Under the **Socioeconomic Empowerment and Sustainability (SES) Programme**, 105 participants attended vocational training (VT) by getting enrolled in chef assistant, welding, shoemaking and computer numerical control (CNC) operator courses in Bursa and Sanliurfa in January, while 456 participants took part in the applied training programme (ATP) in December 2023. ATP places VT graduates into jobs in exchange for minimum wage, allowing them to put the skills they acquired in vocational training into practice as they become acquainted with the sector and get work experience. WFP's partners for the SES Programme include the Turkish Employment Agency (ISKUR), Support to Life (STL), International Migration and Solidarity Association (UGDD) and chambers of commerce and industry in the targeted provinces. Since 2021, the programme has trained 5,855 people, and so far 62 percent of VT graduates found employment.
- Amendments to the existing field level agreements with existing partners were signed to increase targeted participants - with Gaziantep Chamber of Industry targeting 170 participants, with STL for Adana and Mersin targeting 200 participants, and with UGDD for Adiyaman, Kahramanmaras and Malatya targeting 380 participants. All amendments are valid from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Monitoring

- The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) cost in refugee-populated areas increased by 6.6 percent since last month and reached TRY 2,326 (USD 77) per person per month in January 2024. Similarly, the Earthquake MEB cost, calculated in the area affected by the February 2023 earthquakes, has increased by 6.8 percent since December 2023 and reached TRY 2,506 (USD 83) per person per month. The monthly increase rate has been lower than 5 percent since July when the highest increase (10.2 percent) was recorded. The surge in prices of goods and services with the new year might have triggered this increase.
- WFP received Gaziantep Chamber of Industry's SES progress report for the second half of 2023-2024. A spot check visit was conducted at Adana Chamber of Industry as part of the financial and programmatic audit on 10 January. WFP Istanbul Area Office team supported the Monitoring and Evaluation unit to complete the SES endline surveys, which are used for measuring programme outcomes.
- WFP Türkiye Country Office RAM team provided a three-day capacity building training on monitoring activities to field staff in Istanbul, Izmir and Bursa. The feedback survey results indicate that the training content was well received.

Donors

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