



Turkey

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

Total number of registered Syrian refugees in Turkey:

Over 2.181 million

Number of non-Syrian registered asylum seekers inside Turkey (including from Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, Somalia etc.):

182,975

EU humanitarian funding:

European Commission humanitarian funding for Turkey since the start of the crisis:

€51 million for Syrian and Iraqi refugees

[Source:

Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: (+32 2) 295 44 00

Fax: (+32 2) 295 45 72

email:

echo-info@ec.europa.eu

Website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo>



* All the latest ECHO Factsheets:
bit.ly/echo-fs



Photo credit: EU/ECHO/UNICEF

Key messages

- The overwhelming influx of Syrian, other refugees and migrants into Turkey has reached startling levels, causing huge pressure on EU sea and land borders. **Nearly 2.2 million Syrian refugees have been registered** by the Government so far, and Turkey is now the largest host of refugees in the world.
- **Over 85% of Syrian refugees remain in urban and rural areas**, are often unaccounted for, and are surviving under very challenging circumstances: access to information, registration and to public services, including education and healthcare, is acutely limited.
- **The European Commission is supporting vulnerable refugees** in Turkey who have fled violence in both Syria and Iraq, **in particular refugees living outside of camps.**
- Assistance is provided to respond to the refugee crisis in Turkey through several EU channels, notably the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) and the Instrument for contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) as well as the Syria (Madad) Trust Fund.

Humanitarian situation and needs

Syrian and Iraqi Refugees

The Government of Turkey (GoT) estimates that the number of registered Syrians will rise to 2.5 Million by the end of 2015, with a potential for a further mass influx into Turkey from Syria. In the meantime sea rescues have been reported by Turkish Coast Guard to be on the rise by over 420% in 2015, in comparison with the previous year.

The GoT currently hosts over 261,000 refugees in 25 camps, with significant costs associated with the provision of health, education, food security and social and other technical services offered, estimating that it has spent **over € 6.5 billion** since the beginning of the crisis. Despite enormous efforts from the government as well as generosity from host communities, local municipalities and Turkish civil society organisations, many of the over **85% of Syrian refugees remain in urban and rural areas**, are often unaccounted for, and are surviving under very challenging circumstances. Access to information, registration and to public services, including education and healthcare, is acutely limited. Many off-camp refugees live in inadequate conditions or in open areas, with rents often causing great strain on their already depleted resources.

The European Union's Humanitarian Response

Funding

Since the beginning of the crisis the **European Commission has contributed €51 million** in humanitarian aid to assist Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Turkey. The majority of resources allocated early on in the crisis assisted refugees inside the camps, while since 2014 support has been primarily focused on off-camp refugees. Humanitarian assistance provided by the Commission is increasingly targeting people on the move, rescued from sea, stranded as well as the protracted caseload in the area.

The total funding provided by the EU to Turkey in response to the Syria Crisis since the beginning of the crisis, including the above humanitarian aid as well as longer-term assistance, **amounts to €176 million.**

The European Commission has been working closely with the Turkish authorities, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable among refugees, prioritizing:

- The **health sector**, especially physical rehabilitation/post-operative care for the war wounded, and primary health care services in acutely under-served areas. In partnership with the World Health Organization, the Commission is also supporting the training and integration of qualified Arabic-speaking Syrian doctors into the Turkish Healthcare system.
- Providing the most vulnerable refugee families across the provinces of Hatay, Kilis, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, Mardin, Diyarbakir and Batman with **paper or electronic vouchers** that enable them to buy basic assistance including food and non-food items.
- **In-kind relief and emergency household items**, including winterization assistance, especially for new arrivals and other vulnerable groups have also been a key area of assistance.
- Through the **EU Children of Peace initiative**, UNICEF, Concern International and People in Need have been allocated funds from the Commission in order to help prevent a lost generation of Syrian children, many of whom have been out of school for several years. Through the initiative, about 7000 Syrian children have access to quality education. These EU funded programmes also include psychosocial support and social cohesion activities, payment of incentives to about 350 teachers, refurbishment of schools as well as transportation for children that live far away from the schools.

