

HUMANITARIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (HIP) FOR TURKEY

The full implementation of this HIP is conditional upon the necessary appropriations being made available under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey

AMOUNT: EUR 505,650,000

The present Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) was prepared on the basis of financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2016/01000 (Worldwide Decision) and the related General Guidelines for Operational Priorities on Humanitarian Aid (Operational Priorities). The purpose of the HIP and its annex is to serve as a communication tool for ECHO's partners and to assist in the preparation of their proposals. The provisions of the Worldwide Decision and the General Conditions of the Agreement with the European Commission shall take precedence over the provisions in this document.

1. CONTEXT

The conflict inside Syria has resulted in displacement unseen in recent years with Syrians becoming the largest refugee population after Palestinians. To date, nearly 5 million Syrians have been registered as refugees in neighbouring countries, and close to 8 million internally displaced inside Syria. With over 3 million registered Syrian refugees and hundreds of thousands registered asylum seekers and refugees of other nationalities (mostly Iraqis and Afghan nationals), Turkey has become the largest refugee hosting country in the world.

Since the beginning of 2015, one million people, mostly Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan nationals, transited through Turkey in order to reach Greece and eventually other EU countries. More than 156,000 people have arrived in Greece in 2016 alone.

In order to increase the support and financial assistance provided by the EU to Turkey in the context of the refugee crisis, an EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan (JAP) was adopted at the European Council on 25 October 2015. The JAP is part of a comprehensive cooperation agenda based on shared responsibility and mutual commitments. On 24 November 2015, a Commission Decision on the coordination of the EU and of EU Member States actions established the Facility for the Refugees in Turkey (the Facility) with a view to assist Turkey in addressing the immediate humanitarian and development needs of the refugees and their host communities for an amount of EUR 3 billion for 2016-2017. The Facility is designed to ensure that the needs of refugees and host communities are addressed in a comprehensive manner and acts as a coordination mechanism with priorities being implemented through the existing relevant EU instruments, rules and procedures. As per the amended Commission Decision of 10 February 2016, the Commission acknowledged the expressed intentions of the Member States to contribute EUR 2 billion whilst EUR 1 billion is to come from the EU budget. The Steering Committee of the Facility, consisting of EU Member States, has agreed to allocate the budget towards the following priorities: humanitarian assistance; education; migration management; health; municipal infrastructure; and socio-economic support.

The EU-Turkey joint statement of March 2016 outlined the comprehensive steps to be taken to reduce irregular movement between Turkey and the EU. This joint endeavor has led to a substantial reduction in the number of arrivals to Greece since 4 April 2016. However, candidates for departure to Europe are still very much exposed to trafficking by smuggling networks. Moreover, continued violence in the neighbouring countries means that inflows to Turkey have not stopped despite Turkey enforcing stricter border management, also introduced out of security concerns.

ECHO's Integrated Analysis Framework for 2015 identified high humanitarian needs in Turkey. The vulnerability of the population affected by the crisis is assessed to be high.

2. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

1) Affected people / potential beneficiaries:

Out of the over 3 million registered Syrian refugees in Turkey, approximately 54% are children and a roughly equal number of women and men (approximately 23%). The Government of Turkey has established 26 refugee camps hosting over 260,000 registered refugees. The vast majority of Syrian refugees – over 90% - live outside of camps in urban or rural areas. Not all Syrian refugees living outside of camps are registered however and it is difficult to estimate their proportion. The exact geographical repartition of registered and unregistered Syrian refugees outside of camps is hard to establish with precision, given internal movements. They are however mostly scattered across all 81 provinces with nearly two-thirds of them living in 10 provinces in the Southeast: Adana, Adiyaman, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Kilis, Malatya, Mardin, Osmaniye and Şanlıurfa. Moreover, a clear trend of movement toward other areas of Turkey, especially main urban centres, seems to have emerged, with over 400 000 Syrian refugees registered in Istanbul alone. The concentration of refugee populations varies across locations within Turkey, with as much as a 100% increase in Kilis for example.

More than 8.5% of registered asylum seekers are estimated to be Iraqis or Afghans, with others coming mainly from Iran but also Somalia and a variety of other countries. Non-Syrian registered asylum seekers are believed to represent 60% – or less – of people entitled to seek asylum. The proportion of registered asylum seekers who may have left the country is unclear. The geographical repartition of asylum seekers is complex: dispatched to 62 ‘satellite’ cities across the country (excluding the three most populated cities of Turkey; Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir) with at times little incentive to stay, their exact location is difficult to determine.

It should be noted that the situation of an unknown number of unregistered Syrian refugees, Palestinian refugees from Syria, asylum seekers and refugees from Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and other countries, internally displaced persons (IDPs), among others are unevenly known.

The resumption of hostilities between Turkish security forces and the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) has also triggered internal displacement. Turkish authorities estimate that more than 350,000 Turkish citizens (as well as Syrian, Iraqi and other refugees) have been internally displaced in the provinces of Batman, Siirt, Urfa, Gaziantep, Van, and Mersin as a consequence of military operations in the Southeast of Turkey. Two-thirds of the IDPs are reported to be

living close to their areas of origin while the remainder has moved to various other cities across the country.

The safety, security and well-being of high numbers of newly displaced Syrians trapped at the border with Turkey are of grave concern. Syrian citizens are in principle still allowed to cross into Syria at official border crossings, but movements into Turkey are tightly controlled. The Turkish authorities closed border points with Syria on 8 March 2015. Exceptions were included for wounded persons and their medical escorts, deliveries of humanitarian goods, authorized trade and officially sanctioned trips. The Government of Turkey facilitates cross border assistance into Syria by humanitarian actors both within and outside of the remit of UN Security Council Res. 2165/2191. Restrictions on the transportation of humanitarian staff and supplies through border crossings to reach underserved populations in Syria are also of continued concern.

2) Description of most acute humanitarian needs:

Despite the progressive nature of the legal framework and the assistance made available for refugees under the leadership of Turkey, families often struggle to make ends meet. Their basic needs are mostly covered in camps, while the most acute and unmet humanitarian needs are outside of camps.

The living conditions of refugees, asylum seekers and other people of concern across urban and rural settings are still precarious at best. The majority of concerned families are still living in substandard and often unsanitary shelter conditions. This has worsened over time as savings and household resources are consumed and families have only limited access to sufficient incomes, or to consistent and meaningful assistance. Poverty engenders growing risk of exploitation, forcing families into negative coping mechanisms.

The difficulty to access existing services also weighs on the protection, health, and education needs of people of concern. Access is rendered difficult by a lack of means and information, language barriers, and by the different interpretations of the entitlements given by various service providers. Effective access often relies upon facilitation, while, the absence or saturation of services in some locations is also a limiting factor. There are also important geographical discrepancies across the country and within provinces themselves. In addition, there are gaps in the scope of normally available services or fields of intervention that need to be tailored to the specific needs of refugees and asylum seekers.

The limited availability of services is felt with regards to access to primary health care while mental health and physical rehabilitation provision is at best anecdotal compared to existing needs. In terms of protection-related services, gaps are even wider in terms of assistance for unaccompanied minors, victims of gender-based violence (GBV), case management, civil documentation, etc. Regarding education, protracted displacement, limited local capacities, language barriers, geographical distance as well as socio-economic barriers (sometimes leading to the recourse to child labour and/or early marriage) has led to that 74% of Syrian refugee children are still not enrolled in formal education, despite the right to school granted by the Turkish legal framework.

3. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

1) National / local response and involvement

The Government of Turkey has continued to demonstrate tremendous political and financial support as well as national ownership of the response to the regional refugee crisis and mixed-migration flows. The Directorate General of Migration and Management (DGMM) is responsible for matters pertaining to refugees and asylum seekers, including the registration of Syrian refugees under Temporary Protection and other nationals under the Law on Foreigners and International Protection (LFIP). The Turkish National Disaster Management Authority (AFAD), the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) as well as other humanitarian actors manage and provide assistance to 26 camps hosting some 260,000 refugees. In April, AFAD has been entrusted with the function of coordinating government bodies and Turkish institutions with regard to refugee affairs.

The Government of Turkey formally offers free access to its public education and health system for off-camp refugees, albeit with limitations. Efforts to integrate Syrian refugees are underway, but these still do not match the sheer scale and scope of the challenge. Municipalities at the provincial and district level offer key social services for refugees while local communities continue to host most of the off-camp Syrian population. Many Syrian and Turkish Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) support relief efforts without interference from authorities and often in partnership with international humanitarian aid agencies.

The Temporary Protection Regulation adopted in October 2014 includes since January 2016 the provision of work permits for Syrian refugees. In March and April 2016, a little more than 2100 work permits were issued. While a positive development, incentive structures to employ Syrian refugees are wanting and access to the labour market remains elusive for most including non-Syrian refugees.

2) International Humanitarian Response

The 2016 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) includes requirements of Governments, UN and NGOs for humanitarian aid and resilience programming with an overall budget of USD 5.77 billion for the Syria regional response. As Turkey leads the response and has already developed a rights-based national asylum framework, the overall country strategy of the 3RP response is to strengthen national capacity to ensure sustainability and national ownership of interventions. The Turkey chapter of the 3RP aims at providing direct assistance to 2,750,000 million refugees and 565,000 residents of host communities for a total of USD 807 million. By early June 2016, USD 223 million had been received or 28% of total budget requirements.

Coordination of the Syrian refugee response in Turkey has primarily been managed by the Government of Turkey and mostly focused on government programmes and national NGOs. UNHCR is leading the inter agency coordination for the Syrian Refugee Response mostly aimed at UN agencies and IOM. Sector coordination relies on working groups (Education, Protection, Health, Shelter, WASH, Food, NFIs). A variety of ad hoc mechanisms have been established to

coordinate between other interested organizations, including INGOs. Despite the existence of coordination fora, further efforts are needed to create a fully integrated, harmonized and streamlined response.

The Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Europe Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkans Route, includes USD 37 million to support the efforts of government institutions as well as non-governmental partners dealing with people on the move through the Mediterranean and western border of Turkey. Three main target groups include: 1) individuals apprehended at the sea and land borders and people rescued at sea, 2) people on the move transiting Turkey in an attempt to reach the EU, and 3) refugees and asylum-seekers already in Turkey.

3) Constraints and ECHO response capacity

The operating environment in Turkey has changed in the last ten months with increased threats of militant attacks, sporadic protests and demonstrations and tensions between various groups. Deterioration of the security environment might further compromise access to areas hosting refugees and other persons of concern.

Following the 7 June 2015 election, the peace process between the Government of Turkey and Kurdish representatives broke down. Nationwide protests and clashes followed, mostly targeting the security forces and government installations. Access to as many as 350,000 displaced persons, including Syrian, Iraqi and other refugees is severely limited in Kurdish areas.

Although the refugee population was concentrated in the Southeast of Turkey at the beginning of the crisis, country-wide movements, especially towards major urban centers and the Aegean coast, has significantly increased. Most of the UN and INGOs' humanitarian presence still remains concentrated in the Southeast, with major gaps in assistance and raising issues of equity across populations. Thus a priority for ECHO under this HIP is to rectify the imbalance between needs and response, by supporting organizations able to operate in underserved or otherwise neglected areas and for unassisted population groups. At the same time, the absence of comprehensive information on humanitarian needs and restrictions on the administration of assessments hinder evidence-based allocations.

The ability and capacity of ECHO partners to operate at scale in strategic partnerships with Syrian and Turkish NGOs and the Government of Turkey is another limiting factor. A sometimes inconsistent and poorly understood regulatory framework governing the presence and work of international humanitarian NGOs in Turkey remains a critical barrier to delivering a predictable effective humanitarian response in Turkey (and inside Syria from Southern Turkey). While the Government of Turkey and its numerous services are firmly in the lead of the humanitarian response, strategic partnerships with international NGOs, Turkish and Syrian NGOs and the Government of Turkey are still needed to address a huge task. Streamlined NGO registration, project approvals, work permit and residence procedures, among others will help facilitate operations described under this HIP.

4) Envisaged ECHO response and expected results of humanitarian aid interventions:

The total envelope for humanitarian assistance under the Facility would amount to at least EUR 1 billion out of the total package of EUR 3 billion. This represents a very important increase in funding by ECHO in Turkey, from EUR 71 million between 2012-2015 to up to EUR 600 million in 2016¹ alone and at least EUR 400 million in 2017. The budget for humanitarian assistance in 2016 includes EUR 165 million from the EU Humanitarian budget and up to EUR 435 million to ECHO through assigned revenues from EU Member States. In the immediate term, EU humanitarian assistance in Turkey has already been scaled up in 2016 through EUR 90 million contracted in April 2016 under HIP Syria Regional Crisis through existing partnerships and will be further strengthened through this HIP. In time, a systemic approach to assistance provision will be adopted to achieve country-wide coverage.

Under the Facility, the overall objective of ECHO's strategy for Turkey is to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable refugees (and other persons of concern²) in Turkey through predictable and dignified support addressing basic needs and protection. ECHO will continue to focus on neglected and underserved out-of-camp refugees with the dual aim of providing short-term humanitarian relief while also supporting social cohesion of refugees. ECHO follows a needs-based approach and will consider assistance to all persons of concern based on equivalent or equal vulnerability criteria and regardless of nationality or status. This proviso applies to every element of ECHO's response and expected results of this HIP.

In the same vein, ECHO encourages a "one-refugee" approach and will aim to support humanitarian interventions targeting all refugees in need of protection irrespective of their country of origin and to the same standards. Support to refugees residing in camps, given existing levels of support by AFAD and the Government of Turkey, will not be prioritized under this HIP although ECHO interventions to cover operational costs could be considered. Direct assistance to vulnerable host communities, is addressed under existing national, provincial and municipal plans of the Government of Turkey; access to these services may be facilitated by ECHO partners as appropriate and on a case-by-case basis.

All supported actions will have an overarching emphasis on cost efficiency and effectiveness, including, but not limited to: vulnerability targeting, the choice of the most appropriate transfer modality, reasonable level of overheads, improved coordination, information management, capacity development and partnerships. The ambition being to adequately respond to needs across the entire country on a wide scale with a clear focus on the following elements:

1. Support to a common, integrated and targeted approach to address basic needs at household level through the creation of the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN).
2. Provision of specialized protection services (as per identified gaps) for all populations of concern, including evidence-based advocacy, awareness and communication.

¹ The full implementation of this HIP is conditional upon the necessary appropriations being made available under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey.

² This could include, but is not limited to, unregistered refugees, asylum seekers, host communities, stranded migrants, etc.

3. Improving access to quality specialized health services that fall outside the minimum health package, in complementarity with medium- to long-term assistance.
4. Improving safe access to quality education through support to non-formal education and enabling education schemes, aimed to increase enrollment and improve attendance, in complementarity with medium- to long-term assistance.
5. Emergency response and preparedness, including contingency planning and first line multi-sectorial emergency response capacity.
6. Strategic coordination based on a common results framework and information management platform.
7. Great emphasis will be placed on ensuring visibility of all actions carried out under the Facility and through this HIP.

Underpinning ECHO's humanitarian strategy in Turkey is the necessity to capitalize on humanitarian expertise in partnership with Turkish actors to develop models that address gaps in or complement Government services. Actions that articulate pre-defined exit strategies for transition to development programmes or integration with government services will be favored. To that end, strategic partnerships with a capacity development component (as appropriate) for local Turkish NGOs, civil society and relevant Government departments will be privileged where possible as will operations that are aligned to the overall priority framework of the Facility.

1. The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN - Support to a common, integrated and targeted approach to address basic needs at household level

ECHO will support an Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) to allow an estimated 1 million vulnerable refugees to meet their basic needs in a dignified manner and at scale all over Turkey. The ESSN is a hybrid social assistance scheme anchored on and aligned with government systems and integrating crucial humanitarian safeguards.

Eligibility will be determined by socio-economic vulnerability criteria of the population of concern; most likely through criteria matched against, primarily the DGMM database ideally complemented by enriched evidence based data. The selection of beneficiaries will be based on existing vulnerability assessments, conducted in Turkey and elsewhere in the region. Special consideration will be made for unregistered refugees, where appropriate. Assistance to asylum seekers, migrants, host-communities and new arrivals can be integrated over time based on equivalent vulnerability criteria as appropriate and relevant.

The package of assistance will be based upon a minimum expenditure basket (MEB³), and transferred directly to beneficiaries on a monthly basis through unrestricted and unconditional cash transfers. ECHO will well retain the ability and flexibility to adapt eventual support depending on context-specific circumstances and the evolution of the situation over time through the most appropriate modality, i.e. in kind, cash or voucher or a combination thereof.

³ The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) is defined as what a household requires in order to meet basic needs – on a regular or seasonal basis – and its average cost over time. The actual value of transfer is based on the MEB but may also consider the ability of beneficiaries to contribute to overall needs (mainly income) as well as other factors.

The ESSN will build upon the existing architecture and expertise of the Ministry of Family and Social Policy (MoFSP) in partnership with the national implementation partner Turkish Red Crescent (TRC - Türk Kızılayı). The involvement of the MoFSP in the implementation of the ESSN is crucial to guarantee longer-term ownership, sustainability and integration into the national system. Importantly, the MoFSP has been willing to adapt some of its systems to facilitate its humanitarian objectives.

An overarching aim of the overall operation will be cost-efficiency and -effectiveness. The ESSN will thus be implemented through a single card system, employing the most cost-efficient Financial Service Provider (FSP), whilst being in concert with existing Turkish systems and regulatory framework⁴.

Another critical aspect of developing the ESSN, and part of its overall accountability framework, is the definition of roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders involved in the implementation of the ESSN. The principle of segregation of duties will be applied.

Upstream and downstream activities as well as referrals will require collaboration among a number of ECHO FPA/FAFA partners with proven expertise and existing networks⁵. To maximize accountability to ECHO and end beneficiaries, management of the resource-transfer component of the ESSN will be entrusted to a single ECHO FPA/FAFA partner with proven technical expertise, and robust administrative and financial practices equaled to the scale of the ESSN. The cost of delivery including the cost of overheads, will be paramount in selecting a partner for this component. Traditional humanitarian governance and assistance delivery by sector do not apply to the basic needs approach described here, although technical expertise could be brought to bear, where relevant, and in particular to complementary services described below. Support, including capacity development, to the TRC and the MoFSP will be organized on a country-wide basis to ensure coherence.

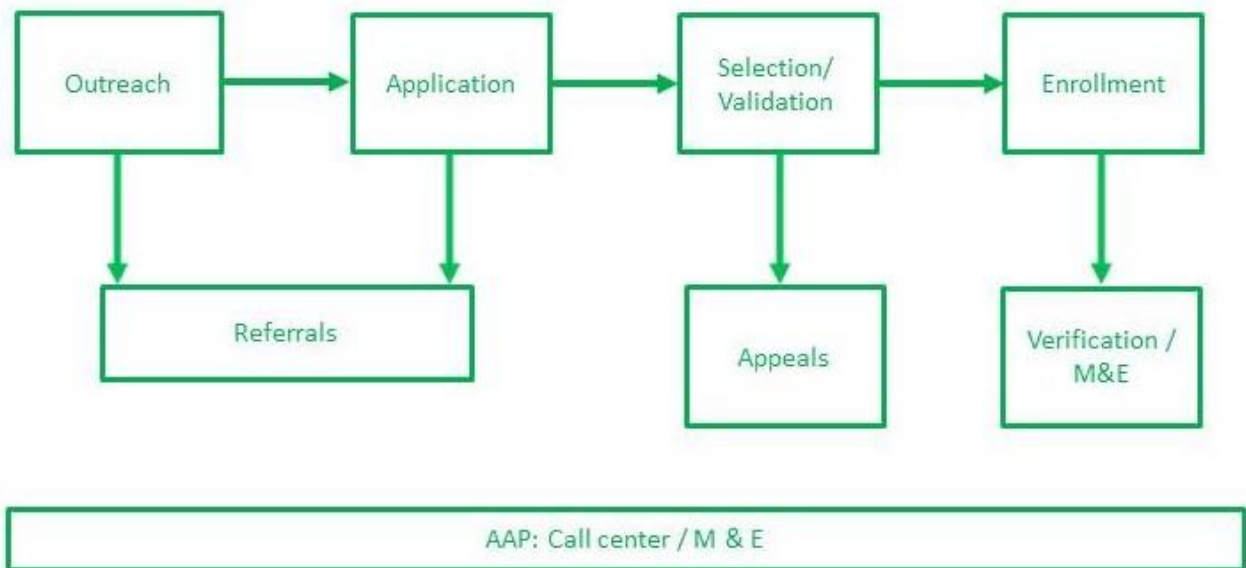
Diagram 1) Envisaged ESSN resource transfer going through one single ECHO partner through a single card system



⁴ See diagram 1

⁵ See diagram 2

Diagram 2) Architecture of the upstream and downstream activities of the ESSN



Crucial to the success of the ESSN are the humanitarian safeguards and complementary assistance schemes that will be its natural corollary, supporting and enhancing the overall humanitarian response in Turkey. Once the ESSN comes online, the humanitarian community will have better access to information on the current conditions of vulnerable groups as well as gaps in assistance and protection provision across the country. It is important to stress that the ESSN is one part of a wider, holistic approach to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable refugees and other persons of concern in Turkey. Referrals and counter-referrals will be the bulwark of the system and considered a minimum standard.

Safeguards (appeals, complaints, M&E) are designed to ensure overall humanitarian accountability and compliance with the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, enabling the MoFSP, TRC, ECHO and its partners to modify or improve the system during the implementation phase where needed. The ESSN will require the adoption of a common strategic framework by stakeholders. Two levels of coordination are envisaged: 1). a Steering Committee at central level with decision-making power, 2). decentralized coordination at operational level.

As a novel initiative, a comprehensive longitudinal study, by an independent third-party, capturing the impact of the ESSN over time and lessons learned that could eventually be applied elsewhere will be a priority.

The timeline/main benchmarks for implementation are as follows:

- September 2016: first monthly payment under the ESSN
- December 2016: ½ million refugees reached countrywide
- First quarter 2017: 1 million refugees reached countrywide

- 2017: Continued ESSN roll out and inclusion of new beneficiaries

2. Provision of specialized protection services

While a clear and comprehensive mapping of the existing services is still lacking, available evidence suggests that existing specialized protection services do not cover all the needs and need to be strengthened. Priority areas include (in no particular order):

- Comprehensive prevention of and response to violence, including GBV (awareness and sensitization, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), support to health facilities, Clinical Management of Rape (CMR), legal services).
- Child protection services (Case Management, Best Interest Assessments/Determinations, Family Tracing and Reunification, prevention and reintegration of Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups, Child & Family Services including actions enabling birth registration and the prevention of child labour and child marriage).
- Assistance to individuals with special needs.
- Legal counselling, legal assistance for registration and support to restoration of personal documentation.
- House, land and property rights including legal protection against forced eviction and support to security of tenure.
- Mine risk education and awareness.
- Community based protection.
- Information Management (protection monitoring).
- Information Dissemination and Awareness.
- Support to ESSN targeting through referrals.
- Preparatory activities linked to humanitarian admission, resettlement and other durable solutions, particularly when targeting extremely vulnerable cases will be considered on a case-by-case basis where EU MS or others are not already engaged.

To enhance access, outreach needs to be strengthened and enhanced through increased community mobilization including “soft” support, as appropriate, to the existing multi-service model (through community centers). Service mapping, information management, dissemination, referrals and counter referrals are paramount and should be clearly articulated. Partnerships with Government departments and services, Turkish and Syrian NGOs and civil society will be privileged. The development of scalable models that address gaps in Government services for transition and transfer is encouraged.

The integration of sound evidence-based advocacy to better inform policy and practice on key protection issues, such as protection space, asylum and registration, assistance to unregistered refugees, etc. is encouraged.

3. Improving access to quality specialized health services

The Turkish legal framework grants the right to healthcare to registered Syrian and Iraqi refugees. Health insurance is also supported by the Government. Emergency health care is

provided to both registered and unregistered Syrians. Still, despite enormous efforts of the Government of Turkey and the Ministry of Health, a large number of persons of concern face difficulties in accessing those services or are confronted with a lack of services as the demand for health services often outweighs the capacity of the Turkish public healthcare system. Health services that answer to the specific needs of the refugee population are still insufficient.

The Facility intends to assist the Turkish public healthcare system to expand its facilities and staff to cope with the high numbers of refugees through assistance provided under NEAR. In complementarity to this mid- to long-term assistance, humanitarian support through ECHO should continue where gaps exist through the direct provision of health services such as:

- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), favoring integration with primary health care;
- Assistance to war wounded, including post-operative care and rehabilitation.
- Removing barriers and ensuring access to health services, including sexual and reproductive health (i.e. outreach, facilitation, language, etc.);
- Assistance to Primary Health Care could also be envisaged under humanitarian assistance in order to bridge funding between NEAR and ECHO.

ECHO will not consider supporting the delivery of conditional cash top-ups for health under the ESSN framework.

4. Improving access to quality education through support to non-formal education and enabling education schemes

More than half of the total population of Syrian refugees in Turkey is school-aged children. Even though the Temporary Refugee status grants the right to education for children between 6 and 18 years in Temporary Education Centres (TEC) or in the formal Turkish schooling system, several barriers hinder the access to meaningful education for Syrian refugee children, resulting in a large number of school-aged Syrian children are not attending formal school. Similarly, access to education for other refugee children is also of major concern. The fact that many refugee children have been out of school for several years calls for increased access to non-formal (and informal education⁶) services including Accelerated Learning Programmes (ALP).

⁶ ECHO's definition for different types of educations: **Formal education:** An educational system with hierarchic structures and a chronological progression through levels or grades with a set beginning and end. Formal education usually takes place in an institution and involves some kind of assessment leading to a certificate of qualification (available at: http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Education_Field_Guide.pdf).

Non-formal education: A flexible approach to education using alternative modes of delivery outside the formal system. The content offered by non-formal education programs may be identical to that available in school or it may be different, as in the case of literacy programs and popular education initiatives that do not lead to certificates (Save the Children: http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Education_Field_Guide.pdf).

Informal education: A process of learning through everyday experiences and the transfer of knowledge, skills and attitudes through traditional culture, families, communities, and media (Save the Children: http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Education_Field_Guide.pdf).

Activities related to formal education will be addressed through other EU instruments under the Facility and will not be prioritized by ECHO. Issues related to improved quality of formal education should also be addressed to the appropriate EU instrument, although provisional support can be considered to limit breaks in funding.

Due to the mounting needs in terms of enabling access to formal education, ECHO will support non-formal education schemes and child protection actions that promote access to education for boys and girls currently out of school. The aim would be to foster an enabling environment that will ensure access to safe, high-quality, child-friendly, flexible, relevant and protective learning opportunities. If necessary activities need to be adapted to ensure equal access for boys and girls of different age groups, including for children with disabilities. Moreover, actions especially targeting meaningful education for children with special needs could also be covered.

While a normative framework for non-formal education is under development by the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), the development of effective models in non-formal education is further encouraged, especially with regards to ALP/catch-up classes to facilitate access to formal education. Issues of coverage and scale will be looked at carefully. The continued relevance of ECHO intervention in non-formal education once a normative framework is established will be assessed overtime in collaboration with the MoNE, UNICEF and other EU instruments.

In an effort to increase enrollment and improve attendance to education of the most vulnerable refugees and other persons of concern, ECHO will consider supporting the delivery of conditional cash top-ups for education particularly under the ESSN framework in partnership with the MoFSP. Conditional cash top-ups for education for families that are not categorized as vulnerable will not be supported by ECHO. Transport costs for vulnerable refugees and other persons of concern will be considered where other EU instruments are not providing support.

5. Emergency response and preparedness

The intensification of violence in the border areas with Syria, but also Iraq, might lead to high number of new arrivals to Turkey, should restrictions on entry be lifted. Continuous internal displacement due to the resumption of hostilities in the Southeast will remain an additional source of concern. Thus, ensuring the timely, adequate and appropriate provision of humanitarian assistance to newly displaced populations is a priority. ECHO will seek to support immediate emergency relief in a coordinated, harmonized and integrated manner. To that end, systemic and joined-up approaches that aim to cover specific geographic areas prone to or anticipated recurrent displacement are encouraged. Contingency planning and prepositioning in locations likely to receive new waves of displacement will be favored. Triggers for assistance and assistance packages able to cover the basic needs of newly displaced for a minimum period are to be defined with, and by, relevant Technical Working Groups. Multi-sectorial needs assessments should be mainstreamed in order to facilitate targeted follow up actions as required. Coordinated, harmonized and integrated emergency relief in close collaboration with all relevant authorities is expected.

6. Strategic coordination and information management

A coordination architecture that is fit-for-purpose and aligned with and complementary to the non-humanitarian pillar of the Facility, other donors and the Government of Turkey is required. This will take the form of a contextually appropriate coordination mechanism, capable of ensuring EU funds are utilized to the maximum benefit of refugees and other persons of concern, as well as providing timely accountability of the expenditure to EU MS and the Government of Turkey. This mechanism should take into account current operational and information management (IM) structures and capacity (both funded under the Facility and other sources as appropriate) to avoid duplication. Such a mechanism must link to existing coordination groups and Government of Turkey systems and should serve as a single system to bridge humanitarian and development activities. Given the specific nature of the planned response it is likely that the coordination will be organized around thematic lines.

In support to the implementation of the objectives defined above, IM is integrated in the ECHO operational strategy. An integrated information-operation approach is expected to contribute to the national/countrywide coordination mechanisms through the adoption of standard and harmonized information and analysis regarding the implementation of refugee assistance across the ECHO strategy.

Specifically, the IM component envisages two main objectives: firstly, to strengthen information services for refugees with up-to-date and timely information on rights, services and assistance in areas where they reside in Turkey; and secondly to provide those responsible for direct assistance and service delivery with the tools needed to link-up direct assistance and service delivery networks at the local level. The aim is to improve communication and information to populations of concern, with a feedback mechanism to ensure appropriate monitoring on the quality of assistance and service delivery.

7. Communication/Visibility

Partners will be expected to ensure full compliance with visibility requirements in accordance with the applicable contractual arrangements. This includes prominent display of the EU humanitarian aid visual identity on EU-funded project sites.

No absolute ceiling for Standard Visibility will be applied. The standard visibility budget can go up to 0.5% of the direct eligibility costs, even if this amount exceeds 8 000 euros. A detailed breakdown of planned activities and expenses will however be required.

Partners are encouraged to develop Above Standard Visibility communication projects, which could include full-fledged integrated communication campaigns, or videos, events, online campaigns, journalist visits, etc. Further explanation of visibility requirements can be consulted on the dedicated website: <http://www.echo-visibility.eu/>

4. LRRD, COORDINATION AND TRANSITION

1) Other ECHO interventions:

EUR 90 million has already been contracted by ECHO for the humanitarian response in Turkey under the Facility through the 2016 HIP Syria Regional Crisis for 2015 and 2016 for actions with an eligibility start date of 1 January 2016.

Under, the 2015 Children of Peace decision, ECHO is supporting 2 projects for emergency education of Syrian refugees in Turkey.

ECHO support to cross border operations from Southern Turkey into Syria will be addressed under the 2016 HIP Syria Regional Crisis and its technical annexes.

2) Other services/donors availability:

The EU has been leading the international response to the Syria regional crisis with over EUR 6.3 billion of total budget mobilized collectively, including humanitarian aid, stabilization and macro-financial assistance (Commission's humanitarian aid: over €1.4 billion). At the London Conference "Supporting Syria and the region" held on 4 February 2016, the EU collectively pledged 3 billion for 2016 out of which over EUR 1.1 billion was announced by the Commission.

Regarding the implementation of the Facility, a Steering Committee ensures the coordination, complementarity and efficiency of the EU assistance. The Steering Committee is chaired by the Commission and composed of EU Member State representatives, with Turkey sitting in an advisory capacity. It also provides strategic guidance on the type of priority to be financed, with what amount, and through which financial instruments. These includes the provision of humanitarian aid through ECHO and mid to long-term assistance through NEAR with the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) and Madad EU Trust Fund in response to the Syria crisis, the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace under FPI, in close coordination with the EU Delegation in Turkey. The complementarity between the humanitarian and long-term assistance is instrumental to the success and sustainability of the actions implemented through the Facility, especially with regards to the education and health sectors where close coordination is ensured between the different EU instruments and the EU delegation in Turkey to align actions.

To date, the total amount contracted under the Facility is close to EUR 240 million. EUR 90 million has been contracted for humanitarian assistance since the beginning of 2016. In addition, EUR 150 million has also been contracted for non-humanitarian assistance, through the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA), the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) and the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis.

3) Exit scenarios

Humanitarian actions supported by ECHO under the Facility have been and will continue to be developed in close collaboration with other EU instruments as well as with the Government of Turkey, whilst prioritizing the integration of humanitarian safeguards. As such, the assistance strategies described under this HIP aspire to develop workable models to address the basic needs and protection of vulnerable populations of concern that integrate their transition to development and government ownership.

To restate: pre-defined exit strategies for transition to development programmes or integration with Government services will be expected of all ECHO supported actions. To that end, strategic partnerships with a capacity development component (as appropriate) for local Turkish NGOs, civil society and relevant Government departments will be privileged where possible. This is especially relevant for the ESSN, where the involvement of the MoFSP is crucial to guarantee integration into the national system once humanitarian funding will phase out.