HUMAN INTEREST STORY: A BEEKEEPER’S JOURNEY

Abdulkadir, who works as a beekeeper in Reyhanlı (Hatay province, the Turkish - Syrian border), tells us how a hobby can grow into a business when one has support and solidarity.

IOM Turkey’s operations during this period continued to focus on providing support to individuals and families affected by COVID-19. Multi-sectoral support for vulnerable migrants, refugees, and host communities included multi-purpose cash assistance, distribution of hygiene and non-food items (NFI), Protection, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services. IOM also supported local authorities’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic through the provision of cash assistance, distribution of hygiene and NFIS, Protection, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). Additionally, IOM’s Municipal Migrant and Community Centres (MMCCs) continued to operate via online and face-to-face modalities to provide beneficiaries with accurate information, legal and medical referrals, and counselling for specific needs in social support, livelihoods, and legal cases.

SUMMARY

239,600
BENEFICIARIES
ASSISTED
SINCE
THE BEGINNING
OF 2021

2,685,297*
BENEFICIARIES
ASSISTED
IN TOTAL
SINCE
2014

*This number includes host community members as well as beneficiaries who have received multiple services over the years from IOM, and approximately 40% are non-unique beneficiaries.
IOM, through its Psychosocial Mobile Teams (PMTs), conducted the 2nd round of the Protection and MHPSS focused Rapid Needs Assessment to further understand the impact of COVID-19 on beneficiaries, identify changes since the first assessment conducted in April 2020, and adjust programming in line with beneficiaries’ needs. The findings showed that there are still challenges in meeting basic needs due to loss of livelihoods and economic opportunities due to the pandemic. This, in turn, has caused further stress and anxiety in all life domains. IOM’s Emergency Case Management and MHPSS services reached 4,248 individuals through individualized and tailored support and individual and family empowerment activities.

During the reporting period, IOM’s Municipal Migrant and Community Centres (MMCCs) reached over 26,000 beneficiaries. IOM Turkey, in partnership with the Mersin Metropolitan Municipality opened the fifth MMCCs on 10 June 2021, which was subsequently visited by the Mayor. The Mersin Municipal Migrant and Community Centre joins municipalities in Adana, Ankara, Gaziantep, and Şanlıurfa in providing information on counselling and referral services for migrants and refugees in such areas as health, legal issues, vocational guidance, and organizes socio-cultural activities with the host communities to strengthen community integration. Lastly, the Gaziantep Municipal Migrant and Community Centres provided 50 internet access points to ensure wider access for students to online education.

In total 15,494 Hygiene Kits and 2,280 Food Kits have were distributed through local entities all over Turkey -- in addition to PPEs (sanitisers, masks, etc), tools, and equipment provided earlier.
REFUGEE RESPONSE OPERATIONS
MARCH – JUNE 2021

BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT

IOM supported 1,575 Syrian and Turkish families (8,081 individuals) with one-off unconditional and restricted cash grants to support their access to food and hygiene items. Households were able to use cards in one of the stores of the pre-selected chain.

COMMUNITY STABILIZATION:
LIVELIHOODS AND SHELTER SUPPORT UPDATES

- **Enterprise Development Fund (EDF):** IOM supported nine small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through EDF financing mechanism that provided SMEs with financial support for their recovery and/or expansion. With the increased access to capital, SMEs provided a clear plan to resume and grow economic activities and created over 45 jobs and investment opportunities.
- **Cash Grant For Small Business Start-ups:** IOM provided an in-kind grant to three individuals from Ankara, Gaziantep, and Hatay provinces, to establish small business start-ups in line with beneficiaries’ skills and needs.
- **Entrepreneurship and Innovation Training:** To support entrepreneurship among Syrian and host community youth, IOM, in cooperation with local universities and their technoparks, delivered Entrepreneurship and Innovation Training activities targeting women and men graduate and undergraduate students, as well as university alumni-from. In total, 35,189 individuals in Hatay province and 186 individuals in Adana province successfully completed training courses.
- **Promotion of Social Cohesion through Gainful Employment Project-Cash for Work:** In coordination with Kilis Municipality, IOM provided temporary job opportunities for 50 refugees and host community members.
- **Community Farming – Greenhouse and Solar Dryer Project:** IOM Turkey, in cooperation with local municipalities, established nine Greenhouse Solar Dryer Projects in Adana, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Kilis, Mersin, and Sanliurfa province. This initiative supplemented the already existing Greenhouse in Sanliurfa province. All ten facilities offer livelihoods to 286 women and their families from migrant and host communities. Moreover, the project offered agricultural training sessions to women cooperatives to equip them with relevant vocational skills to work in the greenhouses to supplement their income. Moreover, fruits and vegetables for drying and seeds for planting were delivered to the greenhouses.
- **Community Farming-Livestock Project:** In cooperation with Şahinbey Belediyesi in Gaziantep, IOM Turkey reached 40 households from migrant and host communities living in rural areas of Sahinbey. The project aims to support the economic and social welfare of individuals through providing ovines and sheep forage.
- **Shelter Rehabilitation:** 35 shelters were rehabilitated in Izmir, supporting 162 individuals.
- **Community Stabilization:** 13 projects were finalized in Adana, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis and Şanlıurfa, providing assistance to 81,199 beneficiaries.
### Geographic Coverage of IOM Turkey Refugee Response Activities Over the Past Quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>34 Provinces</th>
<th>173,223 Beneficiaries</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>53,897</td>
<td>111,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Needs</td>
<td>111,017</td>
<td>53,897</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>7,269</td>
<td>4,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
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<td>53,897</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<td>28,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>41,476 Beneficiaries</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** IOM Turkey (March - June 2021 Refugee Response Data)
**Baseline Source:** OCHA - UNHCR

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Cevhara is working in the Solar Dryer facility in Şanlıurfa regarding daily control of peppers.

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