The school transportation project uses a multi-faceted approach to increase access to education.

Launched in 2014 in southeastern provinces hosting the largest number of refugees and migrants, the project provides basic needs and protection for Syrian refugees and migrants under temporary protection in Turkey, as well as Turkish students from low-income host communities. Turkish students make up 25% of the project’s beneficiaries.

The school transportation project aims to provide safe, efficient and reliable daily school transportation services to make access to education possible for those it might otherwise not be, supporting the integration of Syrian children into the Turkish public school system.

Working together with the Ministry of National Education, IOM identifies which provinces are in the most need of school transportation assistance, conducts an in-depth needs assessment of schools, and launches a tendering process. Both enrolment and attendance numbers have significantly increased after school transportation has been provided to students.

Transportation fees, even for public schools, pose a significant barrier for families sending their kids to school.

This is especially crucial for younger children who are not able to walk to school or use public transportation, and for female students who have safety concerns while walking to school in winter when it gets darker earlier in the evening.

To date, IOM has provided school transportation to schools in 13 provinces.
STRENGTHENING CAPACITY AND COOPERATION
IOM works in direct coordination with the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) to ensure coherent provision of school transportation services. A joint Protocol was signed to formalize this partnership in November 2017. This means all school transportation activities and requests must be received through and coordinated with MoNE.

PROTECTION
IOM provides trainings to all drivers and bus attendants on “Prevention of Sexual Exploitation & Abuse and Human Trafficking”.

REPORTING AND MONITORING & EVALUATION
IOM distributes Monitoring & Evaluation leaflets, suggestion boxes, brochures on rules for school transportation to all schools, students and families.
IOM teams conduct bi-weekly monitoring visits to all schools to assess:
- Monitoring forms are filled for monitored vehicles.
- Meetings with students and teachers are held to gather feedback.

Monthly reports are sent to provincial MONEs on the number of schools and students assisted by IOM. Schools submit monthly data on students assisted and any increase in student enrolment since transportation assistance began at their school.

OPPORTUNITIES
After four years, IOM Turkey continues to run the school transportation project in order to meet continuous demand. This project is also an extension to IOM’s efforts to expand the provision of integration assistance for all refugees and migrants in Turkey.

Funded by

IOM TURKEY'S
SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT HAS HELPED
APPROXIMATELY
30,000
SYRIAN STUDENTS TO GET TO SCHOOL.

IN 2019, A QUOTA OF 25% low income Turkish students, HAVE BEEN INCLUDED TO RECEIVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

FROM 2014 TO 2018
9,520
STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH DAILY TRANSPORTATION TO 82 SCHOOLS DURING THE 2018 – 2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

STUDENTS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED TO RECEIVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

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