

Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) Co-Chairs mobilise over 200 actors from public institutions, civil society, and the donor community

The Inter-Agency Coordination platform organized a networking and partnership fair that brought together authorities, NGO, and the international community to sustain support for refugees and members of the host community.



UNHCR Representative Ms. Angela Li Rosi, along with the participants, at the networking and partnership fair organized by the Inter-Agency Coordination team.

Highlights

- On 15 December, the Turkish Minister of Interior **announced** that 590,000 Syrians have voluntarily, returned from Türkiye to Syria since 8 December 2024, and that a total of 1,330,000 Syrians have returned voluntarily between 2016 and 2025. Since 8 December 2024, UNHCR has monitored over 70 per cent of all voluntary returns.
- On 4 December, UNHCR and UNDP jointly convened a Networking & Partnership Fair in Ankara and brought together over 200 actors from civil society (including refugee-led organizations), public institutions, UN agencies, donors, and sector coordination teams to boost visibility of partners' contributions, and foster Inter-Agency coordination of the humanitarian response for refugees and host community members within the scope of the 3RP.

The event featured an opening session with distinguished speakers, including Ms. Angela Li Rosi, Representative, UNHCR in Türkiye, Mr. Miodrag Dragisic, Deputy Resident Representative, and Officer-in-Charge, UNDP, Mr. Tom Delrue, Head of Office, UN Resident Coordinator's Office, and Ms. Jin Dawod, Founder of Peace Therapist, and 2024 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award Winner for Europe.

The opening session was followed by an exhibition of 25 information stalls operated by 20 partner organizations across the five 3RP sectors. The event became a platform for humanitarian partners to connect with each other and showcase their work to prospective donors.

For more details, please visit the event [website](#).

Recent Developments

National

An [amendment to the Temporary Protection Regulation](#) was published in the Official Journal on 28 November, activating the implementation of the previously unused 2019 provision on “contribution fees” for health services received by temporary protection beneficiaries (Syrian refugees). As of 1 January 2026, Syrians under temporary protection may be required to pay a contribution fee for the health services they receive, similar to international protection applicants. The amendment introduces safeguards for those identified as unable to afford the fee, through a process coordinated by the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS) and the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM). Such individuals will be reimbursed by the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations, with related costs covered from the Social Assistance and Solidarity Incentive Fund.

Regional

On 11 December, UNHCR published a regional report titled “[Coming Home: One Year into Syria's Transition](#)”, compiling updates from the countries neighbouring Syria, including Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt. Syria's political transition on 8 December 2024 marked a historic turning point, ending 14 years of conflict and renewing hope for resolving one of the world's largest displacement crises. The response from Syrians in the region to this new political reality was immediate. As of mid-December 2024, a spontaneous and gradual return of Syrians across land borders was evident, with others arriving from North Africa, the Gulf, and Europe, transiting through some neighbouring countries. One year into the transition, UNHCR has recorded the return of over 1.2 million Syrians from abroad (with almost half of them from Türkiye) and 1.9 million people who were displaced internally within Syria. This report contains UNHCR's observations of the emerging situation, protection situation inside Syria and the voluntary return trends in the neighbouring countries.



Global

On 2 December, donor governments [pledged US\\$ 1.161 billion](#) to UNHCR to provide life-saving protection, assistance, and solutions in 2026 to millions forced to flee. This is slightly above the amount pledged last year for UNHCR's operations in 2025, which was an all-time high. However, this pledged amount does not yet cover 20 per cent of the overall need for 2026.



GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM PROGRESS REVIEW
**PLEDGE STOCKTAKING
 REPORT**
 DECEMBER 2025

The [Global Refugee Forum Progress Review 2025](#) was held from 15 to 17 December in Geneva. The forum brought together nearly 150 member states and over 250 people with lived experience of displacement or statelessness. It served as a platform to share the updates on the pledges made towards achieving the objectives of the [Global Compact on Refugees](#). During his opening remarks, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Filippo Grandi, emphasized that Syria remains central to discussions on solutions to forced displacement, noting that developments over the past year have enabled large-scale voluntary returns of over 3 million Syrians, including 1.2 million refugees. Ahead of this occasion, the [GRF Pledge Stocktaking Report](#) was also published, offering a global overview of progress since previous Forums, highlighting 15 strategic takeaways that will feed into the official GRF Progress Review outcome document.



Protection-Assistance & Advocacy

Protection and Access to Services

UNHCR Türkiye launched the updated information platform [Help Page 2.0](#), becoming one of five country operations globally to migrate to the upgraded interface, which offers a more user-friendly design, improved accessibility features for persons with disabilities, enhanced mobile compatibility, and a faster, more intuitive search function. It also includes a simplified contact form that directs queries to the appropriate UNHCR teams and expands language options to ensure clearer, more accurate information for diverse audiences.



UNHCR maintains regular communication with refugee communities and keeps them informed about authentic sources of information that impact their lives.

From January to November, UNHCR Türkiye Counselling Line responded to 185,441 calls from 81 provinces (39 per cent Syrians, 37 per cent Afghans, 15 per cent Iranians, 5 per cent Iraqis). The main line of inquiry was resettlement (51 per cent), followed by legal assistance (14 per cent) and Financial Assistance (12 per cent).

Between 1 January and 30 November 2025, a total of **8,844 individuals** benefited from UNHCR-supported health services. Most of them were Afghan nationals (6,554), followed by Iranian (747), and other nationalities (1,543). Furthermore, 1,763 individuals received medication support, including 1,437 Afghans, and 308 Iranians. These interventions collectively ensured access to medical care, essential medications, and transportation. The overall profile of individuals referred for support includes survivors of gender-based violence, children with medical conditions, and individuals in need of urgent psychosocial support.

Access to Territory and Asylum Procedures

On 25 November, UNHCR's partner SGDD-ASAM provided interpretation support for a group of 17 people rescued by the Mordoğan Coast Guard Command as their boat was sinking while trying to reach Europe irregularly through sea route. The group included people from Guinea, Cameroon, Yemen, Mali, Siera Leon, Somalia, Azerbaijan, and Senegal. One person sadly died during the risky journey, while one person is still missing.

On 30 November, UNHCR completed the 47-month project titled 'Reinforce Effectiveness of National Asylum Procedures', achieving significant progress in strengthening international protection status determination and resettlement procedures, establishing a sustainable quality assurance system, enhancing safeguards against misconduct and fraud, and advancing gender mainstreaming across all related processes. The project helped establish a remote interviewing system, process nearly 290,000 cases of international protection, develop 25 learning modules and facilitate training for 3,410 PMM and PDMM staff. It circulated 250,000 posters and brochures to reach over 1,000,000 asylum seekers and minimized vulnerability to misconduct and fraud.

Legal Aid and Legal Assistance

On 12-13 December, UNHCR organized an in-person capacity-building training session on International Refugee Law and International Protection Procedures for lawyers registered in Trabzon (Northern Türkiye, Black Sea region). The training session, attended by 50 lawyers registered in the Bar Association, covered fundamental principles of international refugee law, international protection, and temporary protection procedures in Türkiye.

From January to November 2025, six legal clinics operated in partnership between UNHCR, and the Union of Turkish Bar Associations (UTBA) provided legal assistance to **7,030** refugees and asylum-seekers for **11,103** cases. In addition, from January to November 2025, the legal clinics reached out to **1,385** people, including refugees from Syria and Afghanistan, through awareness-raising sessions.



Support for Solutions

Voluntary Returns

UNHCR continues monitoring returns at 25 PDMM offices in 22 provinces and at six border crossings in the south-east. UNHCR is present at İstanbul and Sabiha Gökçen Airports, and at Esenboğa Airport in Ankara, and also conducts ad hoc monitoring of voluntary returns from Adana Sarıçam and İstanbul Arnavutköy Temporary Accommodation Centres. In December, UNHCR continues the cash assistance for voluntary return under the programme funded by the EU and implemented in partnership with PMM.

Resettlement to a Third Country

In 2025, UNHCR submitted 3,627 resettlement applications from 1,373 Syrians and 2,254 refugees of other nationalities), to Australia, Canada, France, Norway and Sweden. A total of 3,535 refugees departed on resettlement this year (1,954 Syrians and 1,581 from other countries).

Education, Livelihoods, and Economic Inclusion



UNHCR Representative at the Core Hub in Istanbul.

UNHCR, in collaboration with its partner, Core Istanbul Business Hub, is providing vocational and leadership training for young refugee women. Core Business Hub is one of the refugee-led organizations that received UNHCR grants in 2025. On 28 November, UNHCR Representative visited the Core Istanbul Business Hub and observed the ongoing cooperation on youth entrepreneurship and refugee economic empowerment. The programme included a briefing on Core's services, observation of

training activities, and exchanges with beneficiaries. Core presented the outcomes of 2025 programmes, including UNHCR-supported vocational and women's leadership initiatives, and outlined its 2026 plans to scale up training and incubation activities, noting the need for sustained funding and strengthened partnerships.

External Relation

On 15 December, UNHCR Türkiye signed the second EU-funded project under the 2024 programming of the [EU Facility for Refugees in Türkiye](#). This multi-year (36-month) project titled "Supporting Türkiye's International and Temporary Protection Processes" will aim to support enhancing Türkiye's international and temporary protection processes with improved access to protection and services.

On 12 December, UNHCR Representative and the Swedish Ambassador, H.E. Ms. Malena Mård, signed an agreement finalizing a contribution from the [Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency](#) to UNHCR in Türkiye. This contribution will help UNHCR sustain targeted protection activities and community engagement efforts for refugees in 2026, including case management, child protection interventions, and tailored support for individuals with specific needs. This will also enable UNHCR to offer small-scale grants to refugee-led organizations.

Funding Information

UNHCR is grateful for generous contributions from its donors, who have provided both earmarked and flexible funding to support its operations in Türkiye (as of 30 November 2025).

US\$ 280 million

UNHCR requested for the operation in Türkiye for 2025.

