

Turkey

February 2022

Turkey hosts the **world's largest refugee population** with 3.7 million Syrians under temporary protection and over 320,000 refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection. In 2021, PMM, the Presidency of Migration Management, registered 29,256 new IP applicants.

Legal framework: Turkey's refugee response is based on a comprehensive legal framework, in particular the Law on Foreigners and International Protection (2013) and the Temporary Protection Regulation (2014).

UNHCR co-leads with UNDP the **Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP)** coordinating partner support to Turkey's inclusive refugee response and chairs the UNSDCF Migration, International Protection and Harmonisation Results Group.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Syrians under temporary protection	3.7 million
Refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection	322,000

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

	Refugees		Asylum-seekers
Syrian Arab Republic	3,685,839	Iraq	162,760
Iraq	4,565	Afghanistan	125,104
Afghanistan	4,219	Iran	24,300

Data source: UNHCR 2021 Mid-Year Statistical Report and UNHCR [data finder platform](#)

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Inclusion: All populations are included in the national COVID-19 prevention, response and vaccination plans. UNHCR formed an internal vaccine task force to advocate for inclusion of refugees in vaccination campaigns and to reach out to refugee communities in the field with information.

Communication with Communities: UNHCR provides regular and timely information on COVID-19 in multiple languages, diversifying communication based on needs of refugees and asylum-seekers, adopting various digital means of communication and increasing its outreach through the Counselling Line, social media platforms, the Help site, Services Advisor, community sessions and phone calls.

Vaccination survey: UNHCR conducted a survey in 49 provinces in two rounds in July and September 2021 to monitor refugees' access to vaccination in Turkey. Key findings showed that over 72% of respondents were vaccinated at least once by the end of September and that vaccination rate of the refugee population largely corresponds with that of the general population in Turkey.

HIGHLIGHTS

72,184 households


were reached through UNHCR's COVID-19 Emergency Cash Assistance, in cooperation with PMM through service provider PTT. Due to volatile economic conditions in Turkey, UNHCR launched a top-up payment in December, also for 3,965 cash-for-protection beneficiary households.

12,270 refugees

were submitted for resettlement consideration to 14 countries in 2021 and close to 7,400 refugees departed to 13 countries. In 2022, 1,285 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration as of 11 February and 850 refugees departed to 8 countries.

58,500 calls

were answered through UNHCR's counselling line in January from 77 provinces, mostly enquiring about resettlement (54%) and financial assistance (22%). Some 3,500 calls were answered through the GBV line.



Knowledge is the best tool for self-development

Read [here](#) how Haysam combined his passion for online marketing with his academic studies through the Google Maharat min training programme.

Key Priorities

- **Protection:** UNHCR advocates for persons in need of international protection, access to fair and efficient national protection procedures, and for procedural standards and safeguards by working with PMM, law enforcement and Ministry of Justice. UNHCR supports 22 bar associations in cooperation with the Union of Turkish Bar Associations and 4 legal clinics providing legal assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers.
- **Strengthening access to protection services:** UNHCR focuses on child protection, prevention and response to GBV and social services for persons with specific needs. In October, UNHCR signed a Protocol of Cooperation with the Ministry of Family and Social Services. UNHCR supports various partners in identification, referral and response to vulnerable refugees; and provides cash-for-protection assistance.
- **Voluntary returns:** UNHCR works with PMM to enhance procedural safeguards for voluntary returns. In 2022, UNHCR observed voluntary return interviews of over 2,000 persons in 10 provinces. In 2021, UNHCR observed over 22,000 interviews.
- **Self-reliance:** UNHCR cooperates with national authorities, municipalities, chambers of commerce, partners and private sector to identify needs and facilitate access to employment and develop skills. UNHCR supports İŞKUR, the Turkish Employment Agency and Vocational Qualifications Authority, to strengthen refugee self-reliance, and works with the UN and World Bank for sustainable income generation through social entrepreneurship and cooperatives.
- **Promoting social cohesion and harmonisation:** PMM and UNHCR cooperate on interventions in line with the National Strategy on Harmonisation and the National Plan of Action to strengthen engagement between refugees, the host community, opinion leaders and service providers, and promote harmonious relations between the communities. Initiatives include dialogues with mukhtars, engaged

conversations with public officials and inter-cultural trainings.

- **External engagement:** Building on the legal framework, in line with the 3RP and GCR, UNHCR works through a multi-stakeholder approach enabling greater support to and protection of refugees. As a co-convenor of the GRF, Turkey attended the [High Level Officials Meeting](#) delivering a joint statement on behalf of co-hosts and co-convenors and providing updates on Turkey's progress. UNHCR registered 65 good practices from public institutions, organizations and stakeholders in Turkey on its [data portal](#).

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with ministries and public institutions, municipalities, NGOs, UN agencies, the private sector, refugees and the host community. For 2022, UNHCR signed 14 partnership agreements.
- The **Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP)** is the main strategy, coordination and fundraising platform for international support to the refugee response. The [2022 Turkey Country Chapter Update](#), was launched on 11 February 2022 with an appeal of USD 1.17 billion with 11 UN and 63 NGO partners.

Statelessness

- Turkey pledged at the GRF to accede to the 1961 Convention and implement it within five years. In 2020, UNHCR and PMM developed SOPs on statelessness determination, the first guidance material on statelessness in the national system, setting out principles and procedural safeguards.

UNHCR Presence in Turkey

Staff:

315 National staff
 63 International staff

Offices:

1 Country Office in Ankara
 5 Field Offices in Ankara, Edirne, Istanbul, Izmir and Van
 1 Sub Office covering Gaziantep, Hatay and Sanliurfa

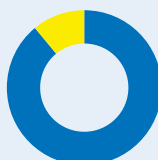
Financial information (22 February 2022)

Financial requirements:

USD 349.4 M

Funding gap
 89%

312.1 M



Funded
 11%

37.3 M

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the 2021 global programmes. Donors of USD 10 million or more are:

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European Union