



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

TURKEY

Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan 2017–2018



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Acronyms and abbreviations

3RP	Regional Refugee Resilience Plan
AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
AFAD	Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency
CPF	Country Programming Framework
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
DGMM	Directorate General of Migration Management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
MFAL	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MoD	Ministry of Development
NGO	Non-governmental Organizations
SALT	Sloping Agricultural Land Technology
SEC	Subregional Office for Central Asia
SP5	Strategic Programme 5 (FAO)
SRRP	Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan
SuTP	Syrians under Temporary Protection
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Summary

The **Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan (SRRP) 2017–2018** is the guiding instrument for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to address the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis in Turkey. The SRRP enables FAO to provide a strategic response to the food security needs within the refugee communities and to facilitate, through sustainable livelihood-oriented approaches, the positive synergies that can support both Syrian refugees and host communities.

The development of the SRRP is based on the findings of missions undertaken in close cooperation with the Turkish authorities both at central and local levels, in particular with the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL), and the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), as well as the Ministry of Development (MoD), and the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM).

Additional analysis and review of available data and reports have been carried out by FAO Technical Officers in Turkey, supported by the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and FAO headquarters. The SRRP has also benefitted from FAO's presence and experience in the border region and its close relationships with the Government of Turkey and the international community operating in the cross-border humanitarian response, as well as informed contributions from the Food Security Working Group and bilateral discussions with the United Nations (UN), Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and resource partners.

The SRRP is structured around three pillars and designed as an integrated approach:

Pillar 1 – Food Security: Increase food security and nutrition through small-scale agricultural production and promote good nutrition

Pillar 2 – Livelihoods: Enhance rural livelihoods through vocational skills training to increase access to the local labour market and establish private sector partnerships to fill labour gaps

Pillar 3 – Coordination: Increase capacity and coordination among Regional Refugee and Response Plan (3RP) partners in the design, implementation and reporting of programmes

The SRRP will target eight provinces in Turkey. This includes the provinces with the highest concentration of refugees along the southern border with Syria, complementing FAO's existing cross-border programme and leveraging existing capacity. The southern border provinces are also major food producing and exporting regions, where potential opportunities for labour market absorption is high for both Syrian refugees and host community workers. Further activities will target the large population of Syrian refugees residing in the urban centres of Izmir and Istanbul, where scoping missions have highlighted both need and potential for labour force integration of refugees.

The first phase of the SRRP will be implemented over a two-year period (2017–2018) and requires USD 19.9 million to enable FAO to support 45 200 households (around 226 000 people), while enhancing the capacity of various organizations and institutions through information sharing, capacity building and coordination. The Plan will be updated along with the evolving developments of the 3RP.

2. Syrian refugee crisis

2.1 Regional overview

Displacement continues inside Syria, with some 6.5 million people displaced, including populations stranded near border areas in the north and south of the country. With the intensification of the crisis, food insecurity and poverty have drastically increased across all of Syria. It is reported that 9.4 million people are food insecure, while three in four Syrians are considered to live in poverty. The agriculture sector, which used to be one of the major drivers of the productive economy and a main source of employment in Syria, has been particularly affected by the conflict. Already, Syria has lost close to half of its livestock and crop production has plummeted. The violence has destroyed agricultural infrastructure, displaced farmers and disrupted regional food and agricultural input trade.

Despite worsening violence and internal displacement in Syria, the registered Syrian refugee population in the region has grown at only half the rate of 2015. Almost a quarter of a million refugees were registered in the first five months of 2016, but most of this increase was due to the registration of Syrians already in Turkey, illustrating the ongoing management of borders. In this context, 3RP partners continue to call for the protection of civilians in Syria and the delivery of humanitarian assistance in line with international humanitarian law as well as their admission to safety in neighbouring countries.

To address the regional nature of the crisis, FAO has designed a Subregional Strategy and Action Plan (2016–17), budgeted at USD 301.2 million, entitled “Resilient livelihoods for agriculture, food security and nutrition in countries affected by the Syria crisis”. With the aim to protect, restore and strengthen food security and livelihoods of vulnerable rural and peri-urban households and communities, and the agro-ecosystems on which their livelihoods depend, the Plan tailors short- and medium-term actions to address specific needs of the main groups affected by the crisis including internally displaced persons in Syria, affected populations, refugees, returnees, host communities, and national and local authorities.

The impact on the poverty, food security and resilience of communities throughout the whole Near East region has been significant. As a result, the region is currently witnessing social disturbances and a setback in the fight against hunger due to the disruption of food supply and access that is threatening to reverse the gains in nutrition, food security and poverty reduction made in the last decade.

2.2 Turkey overview

Turkey hosts the highest number of Syrian refugees globally, and as of January 2017, 2 854 968¹ Syrians were registered in the country. This is an increase of over 360 000 people from 2015. The Syria crisis is having a particularly strong impact on the agriculture and food sectors as they provide the main source of income for a significant proportion of the population hosting Syrian refugees, who are also among the poorest segments in rural areas and vulnerable communities.

With the continuing influx of refugees, the response to food security and livelihoods has not yet transitioned from medium- to long-term interventions. The increase of the scale and duration of the Syrian crisis indicates that the emergency humanitarian response needs to be complemented by more sustainable approaches to help refugees and host communities cope in the medium and longer terms.

1 <https://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

In April 2016, the Government of Turkey published a First Stage Needs Assessment covering the period 2016–2018 for Syrians under Temporary Protection (SuTP) status. The assessment concluded that response to the multi-sectoral needs of hosted Syrians requires more than USD 19.13 billion. Following the London Conference in February 2016, resource partners pledged USD 741 million towards the 3RP Turkey chapter. If materialized, this will be a substantial increase from the funding Turkey received in 2015. However, the unmet needs remain significant given that Turkey is hosting the largest number of refugees in the world.

Policy framework and legal context

Turkey has established a strong asylum framework through the Law on Foreigners and International Protection and the Regulation on Temporary Protection. The framework attempts to address the immediate humanitarian needs of refugees and plans to increase resilience of the displaced population by offering health care, education, and enabling Syrians to gain access to the labour market. Pursuant to the *Regulation on Work Permits for Refugees Under Temporary Protection*, issued by the Government of Turkey on 15 January 2016, refugees are granted work permit under certain conditions. These conditions include the issuance of an official work permit exemption for registered workers in the agriculture sector and a 10 percent cap on the percentage of registered refugees employed by any business enterprise.

3RP

The 3RP is a global first for the UN in terms of its response to crises. The Plan is an innovative approach that effectively harnesses the capacities, knowledge and resources of humanitarian and development partners to create a durable and multi-faceted, resilience-based response to the Syria crisis. The first initiative was implemented in 2014–2015 and focused primarily on addressing basic human needs of a growing population of refugees. The Government is a key interlocutor in planning and implementing all activities and will be the primary channel for technical support and assistance from the UN agencies and their partners. The 3RP response is coordinated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and includes FAO, the International Labour Office, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and their partners.

The 3RP for 2017–2018 was officially launched in Helsinki, Finland on 24 January 2017 and in Ankara, Turkey on 6 February. The updated version of the document places a stronger emphasis on the transition from humanitarian response to a sustainable livelihoods and socio-economic integration approach. FAO played a key role in advocating for this approach and for the inclusion of livelihood strategies, particularly for the agriculture sector which provides substantial potential to accommodate the new labour force. The new 3RP document reflects this joint focus on sustainable livelihoods, decent work and integration.

Refugee profiles in Turkey

Refugees are hosted both in camps and within host communities, mostly in the southeastern Anatolia region adjacent to bordering Syria. In the second half of 2016, with the intensification of hostilities on cities such as Aleppo, an increasing number of Syrians have fled across the border into Turkey, overwhelming the receiving host communities. The percentage of Syrian refugees living in camps under the protection of the Government is only about 10 percent. They are provided with food and non-food assistance and are completely dependent on aid. The volume of official aid is placing significant pressure on both the food supply chains and the local markets.

Refugees outside of camps are scattered throughout cities and rural areas, and are more prone to vulnerabilities and often exploitation. They carve out livelihoods depending on their meagre assets and capacities with the support of relatives, family or friends in the hosting community. A WFP food security report entitled, *Off camp Syrian refugees in Turkey* issued in April 2016, based on pre-assistance baseline data, revealed that the overall food security situation among the off-camp Syrian refugee households is concerning. The same study revealed a precarious food security situation among the off-camp Syrian refugee households, with almost 34 percent of households being food insecure and 66 percent being at risk of food insecurity. More than 90 percent of households were considered poor, as per the national living standards. Many refugees rely on informal, temporary employment as unskilled casual labourers on a seasonal basis, resulting in low, unstable income sources.

Common characteristics of the most vulnerable refugee households include those who were residents of poorer neighbourhoods and/or were worse-off at the origin of displacement; those who fled without assets; households with higher dependency ratios; women-headed households; household heads with lower educational attainments; and those who have recently arrived. Food insecure and vulnerable households cope with the situation at times through adapting to severe livelihood coping strategies that have a detrimental impact on lives and livelihoods and, in particular, on the well-being of the elderly, women and children. The 2017–2018 3RP places a stronger emphasis on analysing and understanding these characteristics for the development of appropriate, informed strategies.

The very low wages at which Syrian refugees engage in informal work (reportedly as low as a fraction of the minimum wage), and the fact that the search for employment opportunities is the main driver of the internal migration of Syrians within Turkey, are indicators of how high employment opportunities rank among their priorities. Furthermore, Syrian refugees interviewed to date, as well as the agencies which work with them, have confirmed that finding better employment opportunities is a high priority. Language barriers, unsuitable skillsets and the lack of formal work permits are some of the main constraints for work in the formal sector. In agriculture, for which a partial exemption of work permits is in place, few permanent or longer-term jobs, as well as poor employment conditions, are the main challenges faced. Secondary data and consultations indicate that most refugees are engaged as daily workers with uncertainty of income continuity, keeping them vulnerable and subject to exploitative conditions.

3. FAO's work in Turkey

FAO has been present in Turkey since the establishment of the country office in 1982. FAO's cooperation with Turkey is shaped by the FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF) 2016–2020 which was jointly prepared with the Government and other partners. The CPF reflects relevant priorities in key national development policies, including Turkey's five-year National Development Plan 2014–2018. It is also aligned with the 2016–2020 UN Development Cooperation Strategy for Turkey.

Two partnership agreements are ongoing between FAO and Turkey, namely, the FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme and FAO-Turkey Forestry Partnership Programme respectively, both with an initial period of five years (2015–2019). Within their framework, FAO will provide technical and operational support in the areas of food security and poverty alleviation, sustainable forest management and tree resources for countries in Central Asia and other countries of mutual interest.

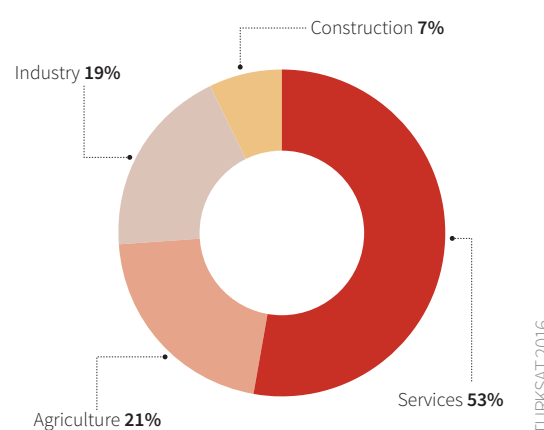
The establishment of the FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia (SEC) in Ankara in 2006 enhanced FAO's ability to respond to national needs as well as regional priorities of the countries in the subregion. The multidisciplinary technical expertise of SEC covers animal production and health, plant production and protection, fisheries, forestry, land and water management, rural investment and agricultural policy.

3.1 Agriculture labour market

Agriculture in Turkey is still dominated by small family farms. About 90 percent of those employed in agriculture consist of owner, producers and unpaid family workers. Economic development in Turkey has decreased the share of agriculture in the economy as well as the share of agricultural employment over decades. However, agricultural employment overall has been increasing in Turkey for four consecutive years since 2007. The significance of the increase in agricultural employment in Turkey is that the growth has been larger and has lasted for a more prolonged period than in other countries. Agricultural employment increased by 24 percent between 2007 and 2011, from 4.9 million to 6.1 million, and its share in total employment increased by 2.0 percentage points above its 2007 level to 25.5 percent.

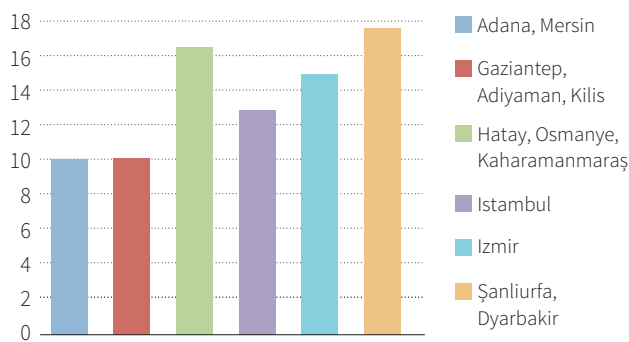
While the agriculture sector only makes up 21 percent of the labour market in Turkey – a number which is reducing due to higher growth trends in the service, construction and industry sectors – it employs many more women. Approximately 50 percent of the agricultural labour force are women compared with only 30 percent in services and 1 percent in the construction industry. This makes the agriculture sector a suitable intervention area for empowering rural women, and an overall entry point for low-skill and unskilled labour force workers. The problem of unemployment among women remains much more serious than that of men, particularly in the peak working age range of 15–24, at 22.2 percent and 16.5 percent respectively (figure 1).

FIG.1 EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN TURKEY, 2016

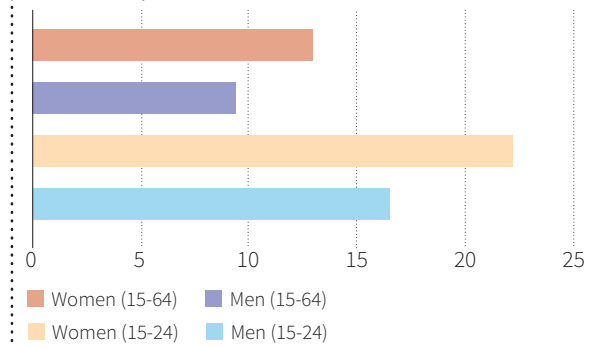


The level of unemployment in southeastern Anatolia, which is significantly higher than in other regions of the country, is an important consideration for livelihood programming. As shown in figure 2, unemployment rates in the five southern provinces and two major urban areas targeted are above 10 percent, and reach as high as 17 percent in Sanliurfa (figure 2). Increased Syrian refugee involvement in the labour market has the potential to cause competition for employment opportunities and therefore must be addressed from a community-based approach. A significant portion of the economy in the urban centres of the southern provinces, particularly Gaziantep, still relies on unskilled labour and often suffers from high turnover, indicating that competition issues may be less significant. However in Sanliurfa, the labour supply, particularly for low and unskilled labour, is anticipated to exceed demand, therefore targeting of both host communities and refugees for vocational skills training and job placement support will be vital.

FIG.2 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%) IN TURKEY BY PROVINCES, 2015



BY GENDER, 2015



Several studies have shown that SuTP skill levels are relatively low, and the majority of refugees have come from low-skilled trade backgrounds and have lower educational attainment levels². A key study conducted by UNDP in 2016 observed the most affected border provinces and recommends a cohesive approach to labour market development, to include: (i) infrastructure investments; (ii) skills development; (iii) attraction and careful matching of investment to key sectors; (iv) support for small and medium enterprises; and (v) an emphasis on corporate social responsibility. The cohesive strategy recommended by the report suggests that livelihood and resilience activities focused on the medium and longer terms must be increased in the overall efforts of the response.

FAO conducted extensive scoping missions in January and February 2017 to speak to local governments and stakeholders at the provincial level with the aim of identifying potential labour market gaps, challenges to employing Syrian refugees and skills most desired among the private sector. The missions found that the private sector for the agriculture market is very much in need of semi-skilled and skilled labour, particularly in the areas of livestock care and maintenance, orchard/plantation management and harvesting (citrus and olive), meat processing, greenhouse operation and maintenance (cut flowers and vegetables) and post-harvest processing and packaging. These private sector enterprises stated that the following challenges prevent them from taking on Syrian refugees:

- formalisation of the work permits and or exemptions;
- assurance of the required skills to care for valuable assets (livestock, machinery, etc.);
- work habit differences;
- lack of willingness to relocate to rural areas (livestock care and plantation maintenance); and
- language barriers.

Private sector managers expressed the willingness to employ refugees if they could overcome the challenges presented above, even stating willingness to pay both taxes and insurance and in some cases provide housing. Several also noted that they favoured the idea of an on-the-job training conducted with an aim to employ however did not have the linkages to training agencies. SRRP will provide the required linkages to overcome these issues and provide the mutual benefit for the private sector, host communities and the SuTPs.

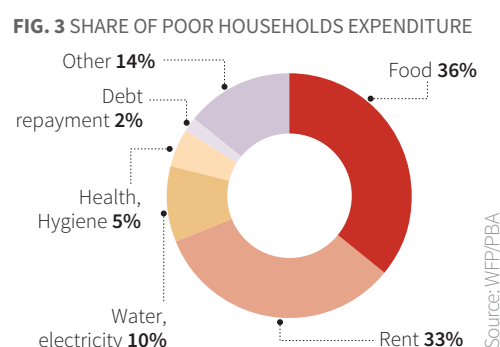
2 Absorptive Capacity and Potential of Local Labor Markets: The case of Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis and Şanlıurfa, UNDP 2016

4. Food security among the refugee population

Food security among the refugee population remains dynamic and difficult to analyse due to the lack of regular data. However, there are a few important characterizations which can be gleaned from studies conducted by FAO, WFP and other agencies working in the food security sector:

Off-camp refugees have limited food production capacity and are reliant on market purchases. Although the majority of Syrian refugees came from main agricultural production areas in Syria, only around 1 percent has the capacity for own production. Syrian refugees living outside of Government-run camps spend nearly 40 percent of household budget on food from markets. A high reliance on market purchases makes their food security status vulnerable to market developments, such as price hikes and income losses.

The price of wheat flour, the most basic commodity for refugees, has been trending upward since 2016. After relatively stable price movements in 2014 and 2015, the price of wheat flour increased by 7 percent in 2016. This indicates a potential reduction of household purchasing power. Syrian refugees living outside of camps spend a large share of their food budget on wheat flour which provides low cost sources of calories, resulting in low consumption of nutrient dense foods such as vegetables, fruits and dairy that provide a good source of protein and micronutrients.



Low dietary diversity is a key food security and nutrition problem among SuTPs. The results of a recent survey conducted by AFAD, the Ministry of Health and WHO reported low consumption of vegetables and fruits by SuTPs. Dietary quality may worsen during the winter season due to scarcity of labour opportunities and high prices of vegetables and fruits. Low intake of nutrients could jeopardise nutritional status in the long term, particularly among vulnerable household members. Of the Syrian refugees in Turkey, some 54 percent are children under the age of 18³. Furthermore, chronic undernutrition affects 24 percent of children under five years among SuTPs. Children raised with poor nutritional status are likely to academically underperform, exacerbating social disparity.

The refugee population possess the capacity and skills for food production. Before the crisis, Syrian refugees were generally farmers. However, due to limited information available, their specific skills are unknown. The lack of information presents a major problem for planning policy and programme interventions to support employment opportunities, while the growing agriculture sector in southeast Anatolia continues to absorb refugees as low-skilled temporary labourers. It is critical to utilize and expand existing skills to enable vulnerable households to earn a sustainable livelihood. In particular, the negative outcomes of unengaged youth could be poverty, food insecurity, social instability and radicalization.

3 Directorate General of Migration Management data.

5. FAO's response to the Syrian refugee crisis

5.1 Rationale

The majority of the almost 3 million Syrian refugees hosted in Turkey have been in the country for more than a year, with few options for sustaining their livelihoods. Many among them are fully reliant on humanitarian assistance while some are struggling through informal, low-productivity, irregular work across the country. Considering the context and prospects, the strictly humanitarian approach adopted throughout the past few years proves inadequate for the current situation.

FAO's scoping missions have confirmed the findings of various reports highlighting a number of Syrian refugees already employed as temporary labourers in the production of agricultural commodities, mainly in the south and southeastern region of the country. Ensuring that this work is monitored, decent and accessible to registered refugees is an area of ongoing development. For household production, some of the refugees rent small plots of land to plant vegetable crops to cope with food insecurity. Productivity of these activities at both levels could benefit from improved technologies and skills enhancement programmes.

Agriculture is a suitable entry point into the Turkish economic system for many refugees because of their background, the sector's importance in the affected areas and its flexibility. This has been recognized through the introduced exemptions policy as not only the most flexible sector in the country to absorb refugees, but also the sector experiencing the highest skills shortage and greatest demand for labourers in rural areas of Turkey.

It is important to consider the socio-economic structure of the region where most of the refugees have concentrated in the country and work to address some of the negative impacts the crisis could cause on agriculture, given it's a strategic entry sector to address and defuse some of the potential consequences. This includes: (i) increase in local prices (mainly food and rent); (ii) displacement of poor unskilled local workers; (iii) increased pressure on natural resources and services; and (iv) competition for low-skilled labour in a region with a high unemployment rate (with all the negative consequences foreseeable).

Supporting the agriculture sector in close cooperation with MFAL and other Turkish authorities, FAO will promote food security and enhance the resilience of refugees and their host communities through the establishment of sustainable livelihood and socio-economic integration activities that will allow safe and dignified work opportunities. This will also provide much-needed income, fill gaps in the labour market and improve household-level food security.

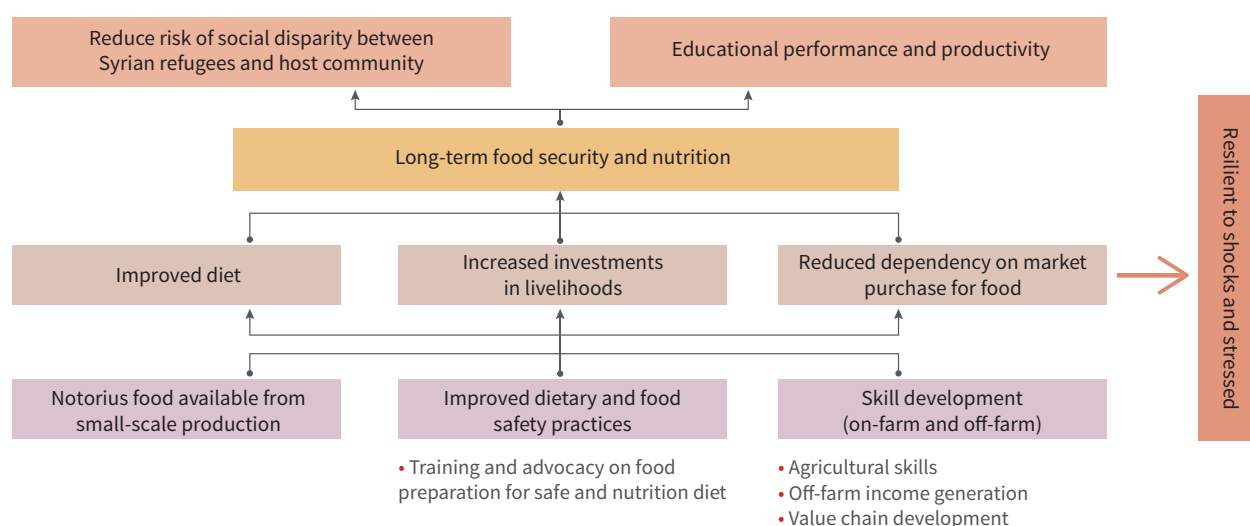
5.2 Approach: bolster resilience capacities

The SRRP considers the enhancement of resilience capacity at several levels. The programme activities will provide individuals with a range of skills and experiences which they can carry into future work and social scenarios. At the household level, incomes will be increased to allow families the possibility to return to a dignified, productive existence. At the community level, social cohesion will be established by directing programming at both host communities and refugee participants, and providing venues for joint learning and productivity. Lastly, the increased coordination will allow Government and civil society partners to more adequately serve their constituents through participatory programme and project design, enhancing coverage through increased efficiency.

5.3 Key approaches

- 1** Targeting the most vulnerable households in peri-urban, urban and rural areas already hosting SuTPs in southeastern Turkey that are behind in terms of development, infrastructure and household income and have high levels of unemployment.
- 2** Addressing the strain on services that the refugee crisis has entailed by enhancing the capacity of the local economy and local services, by strengthening the agriculture sector.
- 3** Mitigating the risk of friction and potential competition among communities by addressing potential conflict drivers (competition for labour and resources), consequently strengthening the opportunity component.
- 4** Placing emphasis on rural women and youth in order to mitigate the effects of unemployment on vulnerable groups (women, elderly and children) and counteract the youth-at-risk phenomenon.
- 5** Increasing knowledge of existing capacities and livelihood mechanisms to maximize potentialities in the socio-economic systems of the affected territories.
- 6** Promoting household income and livelihood diversification strategies by providing vocational skills training and job placement support to men and women in relevant areas, and facilitating the active participation of women by removing barriers where they exist (childcare, transportation, etc.).
- 7** Supporting governance and institutional capacity by providing coordination and technical support to key governmental partners as per request and by mandate.

The following **theory of change** denotes the anticipated longer-term changes and impacts at various levels to be achieved by focusing on the identified resilience capacities.



5.4 FAO strategic advantage

Since the establishment of the FAO office in Turkey, a strong and fruitful cooperation has been built with Turkish authorities, especially with MFAL , as well as various stakeholders, such as local authorities, Chambers of Agriculture, Chambers of Commerce, academia, research institutions, international and national NGOs and civil society organizations.

Throughout the years, the cooperation with Turkish authorities and stakeholders of the food and agriculture sectors has allowed for the development of various technical support capacities and expertise, among which are food security and nutrition and safety, sustainable management and use of natural resources, and support to institutional capacity.

The establishment of SEC in 2006, that covers seven countries in the subregion, allows FAO in Ankara to have regional specialists covering various sectors (such as crop production, environmental services, bio-energy, forestry, rangelands, etc.) at its disposal.

FAO also benefits from the expertise available at the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia in Budapest and FAO headquarters in Rome, in particular through the Strategic Programme 5 (SP5) team, whose role is to provide technical assistance to country offices and share FAO's global knowledge in building livelihood resilience in the face of threats and crises through accumulated experience developed worldwide and in similar situations.

In the context of the Syrian response, FAO's cross-border programme has been operational since 2012, providing humanitarian assistance through a variety of actions in the agriculture sector. A team of experts in livestock, agronomy and post-harvest production and processing are currently in the Gaziantep office.

6. SRRP framework

Goal

To enhance the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of refugees and affected communities through sustainable livelihood and socio-economic integration through income generating activities, job placement and access to labour market.

Objective

To improve food security and strengthen livelihoods to enhance the resilience among Syrian refugees and host communities.



Beneficiaries

45 200 households (around 403 000 people)



Duration

2017–2018



Budget

USD 19.9 million

Partnerships

MFAL, AFAD, DGMM, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS), other relevant ministries, development partners, private sector and NGOs.

Major activities

- (i) improved food security and nutrition through small-scale agricultural production (e.g. micro-gardening, greenhouses and horticulture production);
- (ii) improved livelihoods through vocational skills training and job placement; and
- (iii) coordination, capacity building and needs assessment in the food security and agriculture sector.

Pillar 1 – Food security: Increase food security and nutrition through small-scale agricultural production and promote good nutrition

Food security remains one of the critical issues for both in-camp and off-camp Syrian refugees in Turkey. The majority of the refugees have been in Turkey for more than a year, largely depending on external assistance and income from unskilled wage labour for their food security and nutrition. While cash-based interventions have been provided to cover their immediate needs, livelihood interventions are required to achieve food security, nutrition and resilience in a sustainable manner.

Outcome 1: Increased levels of food and nutrition self-reliance for Syrian refugees and host communities by protecting productive assets and restoring or creating income-generating activities⁴

Output 1.1: Small-scale family and community food production plots established

Key activities

- Provide nutrition-sensitive household-level agricultural training for 10 000 households
- Facilitate small-scale agriculture production training and input distribution for 10 000 households

⁴ Food Security Sector Objective 2

Output 1.2: Communities utilized Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) technologies

Key activities

- Provide technical support and materials for greenhouses and other technologies for 8 000 households
- Introduce new technology systems (conservation agriculture, nursery, reforestation or Sloping Agricultural Land Technology [SALT])

Outcome 2: Improved dietary and food safety practices among Syrian refugees and host communities⁵

Output 2.1: Household dietary practices (utilization, food safety and hygiene) and awareness improved

Key activity

- Disseminate awareness-raising initiatives on good nutritional practices and hygiene through targeted workshops for 10 000 households

Output 2.2: Standard food safety measures incorporated into food processing and marketing activities

Key activity

- Provide trainings on food safety and food processing and marketing (workshops and production of guidelines)

Pillar 2 – Livelihoods: Enhance rural livelihoods through vocational skills training to increase access to the local labour market and establish private sector partnerships to fill labour gaps

According to the study on the *Effects of the Syrian Refugee Crisis* on Turkey, increase in population has led to the stress and inadequate coverage of public services⁶. With the current crisis, many refugees will possibly remain in Turkey for years, but presently they have very limited access to formal and full livelihood and employment opportunities. This poses risks to both host and refugee communities, and can lead to community instability, social tension and concrete implications for refugees seeking opportunities beyond Turkey through irregular and dangerous routes. To strengthen food security, build the resilience of the refugees and host communities, it is important to create diversifying livelihoods and employment opportunities for refugees in the agriculture sector, which has ample scope of employment. FAO's focus will be to assess the need for qualified labour force, provide vocational skills training and job placement for refugees in different provinces in southeastern Turkey. An assessment of actual job qualifications and job profiles for each target areas is needed for the mitigation of negative impacts.

Outcome 3: Improved livelihoods through decent work opportunities for both Syrians and host communities⁷

Output 3.1 Vocational skills trainings carried out

Key activities

- Conduct provincial level scoping missions to identify public and private sector opportunities in the agricultural labour market.
- Identify and develop curricula in areas of labour market gaps for refugees and host communities
- Provide vocational skills training for 4 000 refugees and host communities in identified skill sets for labour market gaps

⁵ Food Security Sector Objective 3

⁶ Center for Middle Eastern Strategies Studies, report no. 195, January 2015

⁷ Livelihood Sector Objective 1

- Facilitate linkages through stakeholder meetings between local authorities and the private sector for access to labour market

Output 3.2: Sources of income for refugees and host communities diversified

Key activity

- Provide entrepreneurship, business start-up and cooperative trainings and workshops for 4 000 individuals and four cooperatives

Output 3.3: Job placement for Syrian refugees and host community training participants identified and secured

Key activity

- Information management for job matching mechanism development (database, job fairs and private sector arrangements) targeting 1 200 individuals

Pillar 3 – Coordination: Increase capacity and coordination among Regional Refugee and Response Plan (3RP) partners in the design, implementation and reporting of programmes

The third pillar both complements and supports the outcomes of the first two. Improved coordination leads to increased efficiency in the use of time and resources, the proliferation of best practices and the avoidance of potential pitfalls. As it has been the case since the beginning, government partners will continue to lead efforts to improve the lives and livelihoods of both Syrian refugees and host communities, with the harmonized and aligned support of the international community. FAO will continue to support the Food Security and Agriculture Sector Technical Working Group and provide leadership in the development of studies and research leading to the required food security and livelihood data to improve programmes. FAO will also continue to contribute to best practices and lessons learned of the Livelihoods Technical Working Group gleaned through its unique work in vocational skills training and job placement for the agriculture sector.

Outcome 4: Strengthened evidence base on food security and livelihoods through needs assessments and analysis for decision making*

Output 4.1: Assessment report on livelihood- and food security-related challenges for Syrian refugees and host communities finalized

Key activity

- Conduct agricultural livelihoods and food security assessments in programme areas in the eight provinces

Output 4.2: Assessment report on agriculture labour market gap analysis and opportunities finalized

Key activity

- Conduct labour market assessments in programme areas in the eight provinces

8 Food Security Objective 4 and Livelihood Sector Objective 1

Output 4.3: Coordination structure in place strengthened

Key activity

- Provide technical and coordination support to the Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group and Livelihoods Working Group

Output 4.4: Government partners' capacity at national and local levels for food security and livelihoods monitoring increased

Key activity

- Secondment of provincial level food security assessment and monitoring experts

7. Targeted population

7.1 Geographical location

The SRRP 2017–2018 will target eight provinces⁹, focusing primarily on the southern border regions of Turkey where the highest number of refugees are residing. Vocational skills training programmes will begin in Mersin, Adana and Sanliurfa provinces in early 2017 and roll out to further provinces over the following months. Further scoping missions with government partners are underway in the urban centres of Izmir and Istanbul to further develop programming with the significant populations of refugees residing in those areas.

The SSRP aims to reach Syrian refugees and host communities in both urban and rural areas at a tentatively target ratio of 70/30 respectively, however reaching a balanced ratio of participants based on the local need and context is the goal. The activities are not limited to only Syrian refugees, as refugees of any nationality are welcome to take part in the programme activities.

FIG. 4 SRRP TARGET PROVINCES



9 The provinces in Adana, Gaziantep, Hatay, Istanbul, Izmir, Kilis, Mersin and Sanliurfa.

7.2 Demographic

Major activities of Pillar 1 aims to reach both in-camp and off-camp refugees interested in participating in food production activities regardless of age, sex or nationality. The development of schools, clinic and community gardens are possible within the objectives of this pillar and will aid in reaching a broad spectrum of beneficiaries with diverse needs. Working closely with the Government, project activities will target men and women of working age in a variety of settings on private, leased or allocated land plots. Where there is potential greenhouse work and drip irrigation systems, system placement may be developed on a year-long basis.

Pillar 2 activities will reach those willing to acquire new skills or have demonstrated existing skills for the identified placement opportunities. In order to fill labour market gaps in more technical areas, the project will identify and leverage the existing skillsets of the target population. Skills data will be collected during the application process, entered into the programme database and verified on interview to ensure skills that match can be facilitated and shared with the National Employment Agency of Turkey and other partnering agencies. Language skills will also be considered, however all trainings will include measuring capacity building. A willingness to learn Turkish will be stressed in the application phase and all stages of the enrolment process.

Pillar 3 activities focus on the improvement of existing coordination mechanisms in both Ankara and Gaziantep, with the formation of new structures in other areas as needed.

7.3 Gender and youth mainstreaming

Given the agriculture sector engages more women than any other, the SRRP makes every effort to promote the involvement of women and provide them with opportunities to gain skills and job placement. FAO is already working with partners to build linkages in support of participation through the provision of childcare, transportation or other arrangements which facilitate the participation of women. Where illegal, underage youth employment is recognized it will be addressed and awareness information in this regard will be distributed and visibly placed at project sites. A specific survey to better analyse this issue will be designed with relevant partners to ensure joint efforts can be established to address the prevalence.

Despite the many opportunities posed, some of the challenges must be addressed rapidly as the informal mechanisms of recruitment, exploitation of the labour force, lowering of wages and recruitment of youngsters are creating issues that might have a long-lasting effect, the first being the reduction of local employment and wages, with ensuing increasing social tensions. This risk is particularly high for both women and children, and safeguards must be in place to prevent such occurrences and to generally lower exploitation throughout the sector.

8. Implementation

8.1 Institutional framework

The SRRP will be implemented within the framework of the Turkey chapter of the 3RP arrangements in collaboration and partnership with relevant line Ministries (MFAL, AFAD, DGMM and MoD), international and national NGOs, community-based organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.

FAO will build further partnerships with national institutions such as universities, research institutes, NGOs and private sector enterprises to devise efficient and effective means of the implementation of activities, focusing on the highest quality outcomes. FAO has an existing tool kit of agreement mechanisms, implementation safeguards and monitoring mechanisms to ensure the integrity of such arrangements.

8.2 Coordination and partnerships

FAO's long presence in the country and fruitful cooperation with MFAL and the other line ministries offers the Organization a unique insight into the potentialities of synergies at both central and decentralised levels with Turkish institutions.

Its position as co-lead of the food security sector, together with its technical mandate, naturally provides for ample scope for synergies with food security partners, including national and international NGOs, civil society organisations and local authorities. The leading presence of FAO within the food security sector allows for the structuring of partnerships with actors with proven interest and experience in the sector, adequate presence on the ground and with the necessary technical and logistical capacities to implement planned interventions.

Particular efforts will be made to establish partnerships and joint project work with UN agencies to build synergies between capacities. The 2017–2018 3RP design directs a more holistic approach to the crisis, where cross-cutting livelihood issues such as vocational skills training, decent labour (daily wage, working hours, women's participation), labour market inclusion and overall social cohesion play key roles in sustainable development. Through the existing Livelihoods Working Group, the Food Security and Agriculture Working Group and the Cash-based Initiatives Working Group, FAO will strive to establish multi-agency efforts wherever possible.

9. Resilience measurement

9.1 Monitoring, evaluation and learning

A monitoring system is in place that helps track all interventions being implemented in the country and links them to the FAO strategic framework. FAO will closely work with implementing partners to collect information on the performance of interventions and provide regular updates through the Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group and as per requirements of specific resource partners. The main stakeholders (including the Turkish authorities and resource partners) will be briefed and updated on the implementation progress in accordance with the FAO resource partner briefing schedule.

As part of the regular Country Programme Evaluation, SRRP will be reviewed against the identified indicators. Separate evaluations will be included within individual project proposals and reported against achievement goals as agreed upon with funding partners.

9.2 Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

FAO employs the AAP approach to all of its work and mainstreams this concept in all programme implementation. AAP mandates that FAO incorporates measures to ensure that the voices of beneficiaries at all levels are integrated from the design phase, implementation and through to the evaluation phase. Grievance mechanisms are an integral part of this system and will be incorporated along with checks to ensure accountability such as focus group discussions, spot checks on implementation and key informant interviews.

10. Communication, advocacy and coordination

The SRRP will be aligned with a communication and advocacy plan for enhanced coordination with resource partners, partners and other stakeholders on FAO activities and visibility. FAO Turkey coordinates with the SP5 team at FAO headquarters and regional offices for more coordinated efforts and guidance.

11. Key assumptions and risk mitigation

Assumption	Potential impact	Proposed mitigation
Absence of major population influx in the concerned period	High	Maintain organizational and resource capacity to handle potential influx and heighten coordination.
Refugee and host communities' relationship remain stable during the concerned period	Moderate	Improve monitoring and communication efforts, inclusion of social cohesion and community-based dialogue measures in each component of the programme
Availability of land for intensive crop production in the targeted camps and communities	Low	Individual project design will only be undertaken in areas where suitable land has been confirmed in advance by partners (government, private sector, etc.)
Prompt availability of funds and prompt procurement actions conducted in time for the agricultural campaign	High	Improved coordination and partnership development – outreach and visibility for the sector
Compliance with decent work regulation due to risk of exploitation of the most vulnerable population	Moderate	All job placements will begin with orientation to private sector partners as to decent-work standards. Monitoring and evaluation follow up will be scheduled.
Marketable agricultural products and skills are identified with realistic access to local market	Moderate	Ensure that proper market assessment data and value chain analysis is utilized in the design of any income-generating activities involving markets
Regulatory framework concerning SuTPs remains valid for the period concerned	High	Continued support to government partners in the development of policies and advocacy for policy actions benefitting the sector and communities
Food availability and accessibility (stable market access and prices) remain relatively stable during the period concerned	Moderate	Closely monitor market prices and food security among concerned populations and regularly share with the food security sector partners for action where required.

Pillar 1 (Food security): Increase food security and nutrition through small-scale agricultural production and capacity building					
OUTCOME 1 Increased levels of food and nutrition self-reliance for Syrian refugees and host communities by protecting productive assets and restoring or creating income-generating activities (Food Security Sector Objective 2)					
Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Target	Target groups	Requirement (USD)
Small-scale family and community food production plots established	Provide nutrition-sensitive household-level agriculture training	Number of targeted households benefitting from family production through micro-gardening activities and small-scale agriculture production	10 000 households	8 provinces in southeastern Turkey (30% women-headed households)	800 000
	Facilitate small-scale agriculture production training and input distribution	Number of targeted households benefitting from family production through agricultural training and production inputs	10 000 households	8 provinces in southeastern Turkey (30% women-headed households)	1 700 000
Communities utilizing improved technologies to increase production	Provide technical support and materials for greenhouses and other technologies	Number of Syrians and host community participants trained and receiving inputs	8 000 people	8 provinces (Refugees hosted in-camp and off-camp, and in host communities)	2 000 000
	Introduce new technologies (e.g. CSA, SALT conservation agriculture, nursery, reforestation, land reclamation)	Number of pilot projects on new technologies for sustainable natural resource management implemented in areas with high concentrations of Syrian refugees	20 projects	4 of the most suitable provinces (Refugees hosted in-camp and off-camp, and in host communities)	2 000 000

OUTCOME 2 Improved dietary and food safety practices among Syrian refugees and host communities (Food Security Sector Objective 3)					
Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Target	Target groups	Requirement (USD)
Household dietary practices (utilization, food safety and hygiene) and awareness improved	Disseminate awareness-raising initiatives on good nutritional practices and hygiene through targeted workshops and provision of household kits	Number of individuals (including women and children) trained in good nutritional practices and hygiene related issues	10 000 ppl	In-camp and off-camp refugees and host communities	800 000
Standard food safety measures incorporated into food processing and marketing activities	Provide training on food safety and food processing and marketing (workshops and production of guidelines)	Number of training sessions conducted for Syrian refugees and host communities on food safety measures	3 actions	In-camp and off-camp refugees and host communities	600 000
Subtotal for Pillar 1: USD 7.9 million					

Pillar 2 (Livelihoods): Enhance rural livelihoods through vocational skills training to increase access to the local labour market and establish private sector partnerships to fill labour gaps					
OUTCOME 3 Improved livelihoods through decent work opportunities for both Syrians and host communities (Livelihood Sector Objective 1)					
Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Target	Target groups	Requirement (USD)
Vocational skills trainings carried out	Provide provincial level scoping missions to identify public and private sector opportunities in the agricultural sector labour market	Provincial analysis reports and data for labour market employment gaps and private sector opportunities	30 participants/province interviewed	8 provinces in southeastern Turkey	68 500
	Identify and develop curricula in areas of labour market gaps for refugees and host community	Curricula developed for areas of highest job potential per province based on findings of provincial scoping	4 thematic training areas/province	8 provinces in southeastern Turkey and the cities of Izmir and Istanbul	380 000
	Conduct vocational skills training for refugees and host communities in identified skill sets for labour market gaps (theoretical and on-the-job practical components)	Number of men and women refugees or host community members participating in vocational trainings	4 000 people	8 provinces in southeastern Turkey and the cities of Izmir and Istanbul	6 200 000
	Facilitate linkages through stakeholder meetings between local authorities and the private sector for access to labour market	Number of consultation meetings arranged between government and private sector actors for review of evolving skills gaps, employment demand (current and future) and arrangements for customized skills training to facilitate job placement	16 events	Provincial directorates of MoFAL and MLSS, and private sector agricultural enterprises (dairy, fruit, beverage, food processing, cattle, etc.)	66 000

Sources of income for refugees and host communities diversified	Provide entrepreneurship, business start-up and cooperative trainings and workshops	Number of men and women (30%), refugees and host community members participating in entrepreneurship and business start-up support. Number of cooperatives engaged in income-generating activities	2 000 participants 40 supported IGAs	Off-camp refugees and vulnerable women	1 900 000
Job placement	Information management for job matching mechanism development (database, job fairs and private sector arrangements)	Number of male and female impacted community members placed in jobs	20 events (job fairs and private sector workshops)	Off-camp refugees	85 500
Subtotal for Pillar 2: USD 8.7 million					

Pillar 3 (Coordination): Increase capacity and coordination amongst 3RP partners in design, implementation and reporting of programmes targeting affected communities

OUTCOME 4 Strengthened evidence base on food security and livelihoods through needs assessments and analysis for decision making (Food Security Objective 4 and Livelihood Sector Objective 1)

Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Target	Target groups	Requirement (USD)
Assessment report on livelihood and food security- related challenges for Syrian refugees and host communities finalized	Conduct agricultural livelihoods and food security assessment in programme areas in eight provinces	Number of reports disseminated at stakeholder events	1 000 reports distributed	Government partners, UN agencies, development agencies, NGOs and the private sector	885 000
Assessment report on agriculture labour market gap analysis and opportunities finalized	Conduct labour market assessments in programme areas in eight provinces	Number of reports disseminated at stakeholder events	1 000 reports distributed	Government partners, UN agencies, development agencies, NGOs and the private sector	480 000
Coordination structure in place strengthened	Provide technical and coordination support to the Food Security and Agriculture Sector Working Group and Livelihoods Working Group	Number of organizations participating in working group meetings and joint activities conducted. Regular data on food security and agriculture activities available to 3RP partners*	12 organizations	Partners working in areas of food security, agriculture and livelihoods	335 000
Government partners' capacity at national and local levels for food security and livelihoods monitoring increased	Secondment of provincial level food security assessment and monitoring experts	Placement of seconded staff on one-year contracts within the MFAL for training and system establishment	8 provinces	Provincial level government partners	1 600 000
Subtotal for Pillar 3: USD 3.3 million					
SRRP total: USD 19.9 million					

*Available at www.activityinfo.com.

www.fao.org/emergencies | www.fao.org/resilience

CONTACT

Subregional Office for Central Asia | FAO Representation in Turkey | İvedik Cad. No 55, Yenimahalle, 06170
Phone: +90 312 307 9500 | Fax: +90 312 327 17 05 | E-mail: FAO-TR@fao.org | <http://www.fao.org/europe>