

Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

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BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Turkey	EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	P171489	
Project Name	Socio-economic Inclusion of Refugees Transitioning from Temporary Accommodation Centers in Turkey		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
«PRACTICEAREA»	Investment Project Financing		9/30/2019
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Ministry of Treasury and Finance	Directorate General of Migration Management, Turkish Red Crescent		

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The proposed development objective is to support socio-economic inclusion of refugees transitioning from temporary accommodation centers and host communities in Turkey.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	0.80

B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

The project will provide socio-economic support aimed at facilitating the transition of refugees from TACs to independent lives amongst host communities. This will be achieved by (i) rapid needs assessments in the target location, (ii) development and delivery of a comprehensive support package to support the transition of refugees to community living, and (iii) project management, communications and monitoring and evaluation. The activities will be tailored to specific needs of refugees and refer beneficiaries to mainstream social and economic services. The project



is expected to generate operational knowledge for projects/agencies working in transition from humanitarian support to mainstream government systems and working with vulnerable refugees.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Project location(s) and salient characteristics relevant to the ES assessment [geographic, environmental, social]
The project will pilot the delivery of socio-economic support packages aimed at facilitating the transition of refugees from temporary accommodation centers (TACs) to independent lives amongst host communities. The project aims to target four to five camps located in Adana, Hatay, Kilis and Hatay with an overall population around 57000 refugees, but a subset of this population will be targeted in this project. The activities will be tailored to specific needs of refugees and refer beneficiaries to mainstream social and economic services.

The project's target provinces are known to host the largest numbers of refugees in urban settlements. With the immediate influx, provinces have encountered (i) capacity problems in municipal infrastructure such as increased amount of waste and hence, undercapacity of treatment plants, (ii) rising social tensions because of competition in labor market, especially in the informal job market and also due to lack of social cohesion. Although the region is familiar with the Arabic language and culture due to long trade relations with Syria and other middle-eastern countries, the unexpected high numbers of influx has caused some interruptions in public services and amenities which the host communities could not immediately cope with in the beginning of the refugee crisis. Through government's expansion in support to the provincial administrations and municipalities, with international organizations, local stakeholders and NGOs' facilitation the situation is being managed diligently and in high-capacity of governmental bodies.

The TACs are protected zones with security personnel but people accomodating there have the mobility to leave the TAC between 6:00 AM in the morning till night time, 11:30 PM. They have multiple-entry right but have to turn back to the TAC, otherwise they are reported to gendermarie. The team will work with the client to future ascertain if any additional measures are needed, prior to appraisal, to insure compliance with GIIP. TACs accommodate the most vulnerable refugees, most of whom have been living in accommodation centers or camp-settings since 2013 and mostly dependent to humanitarian support and social aid, mainly the ESSN (Emergency Social Safety Net). Women and youth constitute the majority of TAC residents, with more than half being below the age of 18, and close to 20 percent of camp-based household headed by women. The majority of refugee women in camps are not economically active. The government's intention is to gradually phase out from the TACs in 2019-2020. DGMM has closed three tented facilities, and assisted the vulnerable population within to socio-economically integrate into Turkish communities or transferred some of them to other TACs. The exit from TACs is voluntary basis at the moment. In general, refugees in camp settings lack psychological readiness, knowledge of accessing available services, and life skills to cope with independent living. They also have limited access to training and counselling to enhance their livelihoods skills and effectively pursue independent socio-economic inclusion in Turkish society.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The implementing agency for the proposed project is Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) and hence, the PIU will be established within the TRC. TRC is subject to Turkish national laws and regulations. TRC is considered high capacity institution and have experience in delivering similar interventions in Turkey and abroad. TRC is a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and has been a leading humanitarian organization



providing a wide range of services (protection, health and psychosocial support, livelihoods and social cohesion) to Syrian refugees, other migrant and refugees, and Turkish citizens. TRC is also an active organization in responding to displacement crises in other countries (i.e. Bangladesh, Somalia and Syria). TRC has field presence in all refugee hosting provinces in Turkey. It is also the implementing entity of the ESSN program, providing cash payments to more than 1.5 million Syrian refugees.

TRC activities include national disaster management, blood services, international support, social services, health services, first aid, education and youth services and migration and refugee services. Some of these services are established with international certification. These include, OHSAS 18001:2007 and ISO 9001:2008 certifications for mineral water operations management, ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 10002:2014 for blood services, and ISO 9001:2015 for hospital services. There is a Code of Conduct, jointly regulating the IRC and TRC, together with internal OHS procedures in place as part of their HR policy. TRC also has a well-established feedback procedure for beneficiaries of TRC aid and services.

This proposed project will be the first operation that TRC will implement under World Bank operational policies and ESF. Therefore, close preparation and supervision support will be required to build up internal institutional capacity regarding World Bank procedures in procurement, financial management and safeguards, especially in managing social and environmental risks, which are overall rated as Moderate.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

Environmental Risk Rating

Low

The environmental risk is rated as low. The project activities mainly include conducting training on social integration of the refugees into the host communities and workshops. Therefore, its potential adverse risks to and impacts on human populations and/or the environment are likely to be minimal or negligible.

Social Risk Rating

Moderate

The social risk is rated as Moderate due to the following reasons: (i) the project will not involve any land acquisition and involuntary resettlement resulting in loss of assets, livelihoods or restriction in access to natural resources (ii) labor, community health and safety, cultural heritage related risks and impacts are low (iii) the activities funded and supported are within the TRC’s managerial capacity and the project will build on ongoing activities in the TACs, which serve around 57000 refugees but a subset of these beneficiaries will be covered, that is not known at this stage (ivi) Any potential tensions resulting from arrival of refugees from TACs to urban settlements are expected to be mitigated by providing social cohesion activities to refugees and host communities by TRC , (v) overall the project will have positive social impacts as it aims to improve the basic life skills of refugees to help them become self-resilient and self-reliant.

B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1. General Assessment



ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:

At the concept stage, the project will target four to five camps located in Adana, Hatay, Kilis and Hatay which serves approximately 57000 refugees. The project activities are focused on training and workshops that would support the socio-economic inclusion of the refugees into the host communities. Therefore, no adverse environmental risks and impacts on human populations and/or the environment are anticipated. The project will exclude any activities that are outside the specified activities in the project description. As a result, no project specific environmental assessment studies are required. Whereas, on social side, since the project will not involve any land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement the social risks are moderate and pertained to potential social cohesion matters between the refugees and host communities in urban settlements, which would necessitate good stakeholder engagement and a good beneficiary feedback system among the refugee and host communities.

Although at this stage, the estimated number of beneficiaries are not known, as explained above, the social risks are moderate and manageable by the DGMM and TRC, as the transitioning from TACs to urban settlements is ongoing on a voluntary basis. However, there might be a group of people who do not want to transition to urban settlements and prefer staying in the safe zone, TACs. The project will only focus its activities on those who have opted to leave the TACs and are in transition to urban settlements. During the site visit to a TAC in Cevdetiye (Osmaniye province) and Altınözü (Hatay province), it was recorded that most of the refugees are informed about the transition program and expecting to transition to urban settlement at some point of time. The project has positive impacts as it will provide a package of services in a holistic manner in order to support the refugees' to start their livings in new urban settlements. These services aim to increase the self resilience of refugees by providing them psychological counselling, basic life skills training, and trainings on women's and children's rights, gender-based violence, health and nutrition, legal rights, and job search counseling. During their transition, TRC in coordination with governmental authorities will carry out necessary health and safety checks for those who want to transition out from TACs and settle in urban areas. Influx from TACs to host communities is not a significant issue as large influxes took place from Syrian border when the crisis erupted after 2011. The project will only focus on four to five TACs which will cover a limited number of beneficiaries who are mostly vulnerable. Since the project beneficiaries are the vulnerable groups of the refugee communities special support mechanisms and feedback procedures will be established in order to allow their participation to the project activities and measures will be taken in line with their specific needs, such as women and girls may necessitate special designated areas to receive the training/support services within the TACs. Similarly, for refugees with disabilities the project will ensure that there are specific measures taken to support their livelihood enhancement.

There are no associated facilities related with the project.

Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:

No areas are considered to be used for Borrower's framework.

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

TRC will prepare a project specific Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which will include engagement for both project affected parties (PAPs) and other interested parties (OIPs). SEP will describe the timing and methods of engagement



with stakeholders, identify stakeholders and plan for an engagement process in accordance with ESS10. The main stakeholders identified at this stage are: Syrian refugees in TACs, host communities, provincial governorates, local municipalities in receiving towns, local NGOs, ISKUR, local health and education services providers. TRC has special feedback procedures defined where beneficiaries are supported to submit any feedback or demand, or grievances, including in an anonymous way, if requested. TRC will have targeted communication and a stakeholder engagement plan in order to carry out the project activities in a participatory manner. TRC is already running its activities in these TACs with various information channels accessible to these refugee groups. For this project, in the stakeholder engagement plan, TRC will assess whether any special conditions take place which may need special information and communication channels to inform or receive feedback from beneficiaries. TRC will utilize its own beneficiary feedback procedures which are compliant with the Bank’s GRM standards. TRC will ensure that the project related grievances and requests are logged and can be tracked from its existing database.

B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.

ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions

The project workers are defined as the direct workers who are TRC employees. Those are full time employees and contracted workers. TRC restricts any type of child and forced labor in its HR policy.

TRC is bind to the Turkish Labor Code. TRC’s HR policy indicates that there is a worker’s representative dealing with employee related problems, issues. There is also internal OHS procedures in place and a Code of Conduct which is jointly prepared and implemented to both ICRC and TRC employees.

Turkey is party to a multitude of ILO conventions, including but not limited to conventions on: equal treatment of employees, gender equality, child labor, forced labor, OHS, right of association and minimum wage.

TRC will prepare labor management procedure which will also include grievance mechanism for workers engaged in the project.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Not relevant as the project components do not include any project activities triggering this ESS.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

This standard is not relevant as community health and safety risks and impacts associated with project activities are not foreseen. The TACs environment is routinely checked for potential health risks. Refugees transitioning from TACs to urban settlements are also routinely checked for communicable diseases and other health risks.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement



The project activities will not involve any type of land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement. Therefore this standard is not relevant.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Project activities triggering biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources will not be eligible for financing within the scope of the project. Therefore this standard is not relevant.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

The project does not involve any indigenous groups. Therefore this standard is not relevant.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

Project activities having significant impacts on cultural heritage will not be eligible for financing within the scope of the project. Therefore this standard is not relevant.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

Not relevant as the project will not be implemented through financial intermediary.

Public Disclosure

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways No

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered? No

Financing Partners

None.

B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:



The project does not require preparation of any environmental assessment document. However, it is required that a labor management procedure and a stakeholder engagement plan is prepared by TRC before appraisal.

Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):

Implementation of the SEP

Hiring a public relationship expert for communications and stakeholder engagement

C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS

30-Aug-2019

IV. CONTACT POINTS

World Bank

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

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Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: Directorate General of Migration Management

Implementing Agency: Turkish Red Crescent

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s): Murat Fatin Onur

Practice Manager (ENR/Social) Sanjay Agarwal Recommended on 30-Jul-2019 at 16:49:35 EDT

Public Disclosure