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Since the World War II, today we have witnessed the greatest human suffering of history; as of 2018, there are more than 65 million people who have been forced to leave their homeland.

While 41 active wars still continue in different geographies around the world, every single minute, 20 people have to leave their country. Bearing in the mind that the responsibility imposed on the shoulders of the history, Turkey hosts the highest refugee population in the world. Thus, Turkey also continues the humanitarian activities in order to support people in need without a distinction and to mitigate the negative effects of the migration to the host communities. As Turkish Red Crescent, we are making every effort to get some of the burden that our country is struggling with.

As Turkish Red Crescent, The KIZILAYKART - ESSN Programme has gained worldwide reputation among other programmes in the humanitarian aid sector. With the KIZILAYKART-ESSN Programme, one of the largest cash-based assistance programme implemented so far, 1.3 million beneficiaries target have been achieved since November 2016.

Thanks to this programme, we think it is a great achievement for the Turkish Red Crescent, we have had valuable experience in field applications, coordination, coordinated work and planning processes. The Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations, the Ministry of the Interior; governorships, district governorships, Directorate General of Population and Citizenship Affairs, Directorate General of Migration Management, Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), General Directorate of European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Assistance (ECHO) and World Food Program (WFP);



the most valuable partners and supporters have worked with us in this process shoulder to shoulder. As Turkish Red Crescent, we will continue to support the humankind with all our possibilities and operational capabilities we have; in all areas of battlefields, natural disasters; wherever the remedy is necessary.

We hereby extend our gratitude to donors and programme partner institutions / organizations for their support in implementation of the programme.

Dr. Kerem Kınık Turkish Red Crescent President

## **ESSN Reached The Target**

KIZILAYKART- ESSN, cash-based assistance programme designed for the foreigners living in Turkey under international/ temporary protection which is funded by ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection) has passed beyond its target of 1.3 million beneficiaries.



KIZILAYKART-ESSN, one of the largest cash-based assistance programmes in the world, is coordinated from the joint management cell in Ankara under the partnership of Turkish Red Crescent and WFP (World Food Program). The KIZILAYKART-ESSN Programme, a programmethat brings together the experience and sensitivity of the Turkish Red Crescent and WFP on vulnerable groups, is continuing successfully. Programme is providing cash-based assistance to more than 1.3 million beneficiaries from over 60 different nationalities mostly composed of Syrians, Iraqis, Afghans and Persians.



When the demographic characteristics of the mostly war-ravaged, vulnerable beneficiaries are examined; it draw the attention that the cash-based assistance have hit the target. %84.1 of beneficiaries are consists of: children, women, people with disabilities and people over 60 years old. According to data from June 2018, ESSN beneficiaries were 824.114 children (0-17 years), 39.526 elderly (over 60 years), 274.784 adult women (between the ages of 18-59) and 6.860 adult male disabled people (between the ages of 18-59).

1.145.284 out of the 1.361.343 beneficiaries equal to %84.1, are comprised of vulnerable groups. 1.361.343 of the 2.155.941 applications were found elegible for beneficiary criteria which were taken over 1,000 SASF's operating throughout Turkey and the Turkish Red Crescent Service Centers. The application criteria set out in the process to play an important role in achieving the vulnerable groups identified as the target of the ESSN Programme.





#### AN INNOVATIVE PRACTICE IN THE HUMANITARIAN AID SECTOR: Cash-Based Assistance

'Cash-Based Assistance', which is an innovative practice in the humanitarian aid sector, refers to programmes in which cash payments are provided directly to the beneficiaries. The term, in the context of humanitarian aid refers that providing the cash transfers or coupons to individuals, households or communities instead of governments or other state actors. Cash-based assistance programmes that provide freedom of dignified choice to the people in need of assistance, supporting them to purchase what they want in line with their cultural praxis; are remarkable with its' cost-effectiveness and market-based structure.

## CLOSE-UP

#### Partners of ESSN in the Field; Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF)



Following up on the footsteps of the ESSN, Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations will be on our focus which continue their work in close contact with the beneficiaries and the beneficiary candidates under the umbrella of the Ministry of Family and Social Policy. SASF's, established in 1986 are operating in all provinces and districts of Turkey which are subject to private law legal entity. You will find our impressions on our pages as a result of the visits we made to 4 different SASF's from different regions of country.



We followed many valuable practices on site during our visits to Mersin- Akdeniz, Hatay- Kırıkhan, Batman- Merkez, Kayseri- Hacılar SASF's. Before touching on the details of these visits, we convey the considerations of the General Manager of Turkish Red Crescent, Dr. İbrahim Altan regarding SASFs.

Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations which are assuming heavy responsibilities, operating in all districts of Turkey ensuring the social cohesion of vulnerable groups after an unexpected wave of international migration towards our country.

KIZILAYKART-ESSN Programme is carried out in support and partnership of many institutions/ organizations which provides cash based assistance to more than 1.3 million people in need of assistance living under international / temporary protection, forced to migrate to Turkey due to force majeure. As Turkish Red Crescent, we work with many partners and supporting institutions/ organizations both nationally and internationally. Besides our international project partnerships; The Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, Directorate General of Migration Management, Directorate General of Population and Citizenship Affairs, governorships, district governorships and mukhtars which are Turkey's native official values supports the programme with their experience and knowledge. Our culture, which is nourished from a rooted humanitarian tradition, displays a model of hospitality with the contributions of the ESSN Programme. In this respect, it is necessary to address the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF), which make valuable contributions to the implementation of the ESSN Programme and to the support of the people in millions in need. Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations which are assuming heavy responsibilities, are operating in all districts of Turkey ensuring the social cohesion of vulnerable groups after an unexpected wave of international migration towards our country.

The SASFs are in the process of submitting applications to the KIZILAYKART Programmes; post-application support, referrals to other services and control processes. We encounter the effects of positive works of SASFs in every region of Turkey.



Dr. İbrahim Altan Turkish Red Crescent, Director General

The strengthening of these valuable institutional structures, which have experienced many innovative projects in the extent of their opportunities, will be a great achievement for our country.

As Turkish Red Crescent; we wish to be together in many different projects with the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations which are continuing their activities successfully under the umbrella of Ministry of Family and Social Policies and in coordination with our governorships and district governorships. Ramazan Özdağ, Deputy General Manager of the Directorate General of Social Assistance, Ministry of Family and Social Policies where SASFs are affiliated, mentioned the social role of foundations and their contribution to social cohesion.

#### What kind of structure does SASFs have, can we say that they are autonomous?

SASFs' are established according to the Turkish Civil Code. Some of the members of the board of trustees are composed of public officials; some are elected people and some are public representatives. SASFs take their own decisions and apply them. We determine the general framework of the assistance to be provided by the SASFs, but the implementations have been made by them.

## Can you talk about the social role of Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations?

Our foundations know the target groups best as they are touching to the people in need of assistance in the field and also they represent the public authority. We receive this feedback from governors, district governors and citizens. When we think that the target groups are the most vulnerable elements of community, we can better understand the services provided by our foundations. These are the people who are in a difficult situation; victimized people who can be misdirected. We are constantly in contact with these people

## What is the function of the SASFs in the international migration movement towards our country?

The first institution that meets with immigrants come from abroad to our country is the DGMM. In the following period, SASFs supply all the needs of refugees except the in camp programme beneficiaries from housing to nutrition. Within this period, the foundations use both own resources, civil aid and donations. At the same time; SASFs assist people who come to our country through immigration to have access to other public services such as education and health.

#### How do you evaluate the ESSN Programme?



Ramazan Özdağ Directorate General of Social Assistance Deputy General Manager

ESSN plays a very important role in terms of supporting the social cohesion and welfare of refugees. A person, even when moving from one city to another, has many difficulties; these vulnerable groups are compulsorily leaving their countries. We managed social cohesion with ESSN. In this respect, sustainability of ESSN is very important; ESSN should continue. The Conditional Cash Transfer for Education Programme which is also funded by ECHO, is also very important. We also refer refugees for application to the CCTE Programme.

#### How are SASFs coordinating with other institutions in the implementation of the ESSN Programme?

Our contact with all the institutions/ organizations contributing to the implementation of the ESSN is very good; we have continuous information exchange from the past. The main implementing actors of ESSN are; The Turkish Red Crescent, World Food Program (WFP) and the Ministry of Family and Social Policies. As a ministry, we are not in direct relationship with the World Food Programme. We carry out many practices; from data sharing to payment lists through Turkish Red Crescent. We are working in harmony with the Turkish Red Crescent as a single institution. We also want to see the Turkish Red Crescent in the second phase, which has successfully carried out the ESSN Programme in the first phase through the use of the funds provided by the European Union General Directorate of Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO).

MERSIN Akdeniz Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF)

Mersin/ Akdeniz SASF Director Selim DAYDAŞ

The SASFs, whose names are mentioned in many innovative projects, are the field representatives of the ESSN Programme. Mersin- Akdeniz SASF Director Selim Daydaş, who described SASF as the 'main element' of the ESSN Programme, answered our questions.

## How do you evaluate the ESSN Programme and the coordination between the institutions?

The ESSN Programme is carried out in cooperation with many institutions. We had intensive contacts with the DGPC during the programme's first period. We removed most of the problems thanks to the cooperation with the DGMM. WFP regularly comes to our foundation and exchanges opinions. Turkish Red Crescent is an institution and we are constantly in cooperation with them.

#### How do you evaluate the contribution of ESSN to the Akdeniz district?

We communicate with the families of the children on the streets and warn them. As a result of these warnings, there has been a great decrease in abuse of children and women. At the moment there is no intensity on the ESSN application. According to my assessment, we brought %90 of the refugee population in Mersin- Akdeniz district together with ESSN as an applicant or beneficiary. As Akdeniz SASF, we mainly carry out field activities and are making household visits. Our target group is comprised Syrian refugees. In our district; %30 of the people we meet at the streets are Syrian. For instance we have a street named 19'Th Street; %80 of tradesmen are of Syrian origin.

country.



Within a short period of time, the ESSN Programme has accomplished important tasks. At this point, I should underline the valuable support of the Turkish Red Crescent. If we consider the scale of the programme, the seriousness of the work done will be more visible. We may encounter problems during the implementation of the programme, but these are not issues that cannot be overcomed. This is a successful programme that provides cash assistance that is vital to the families who have to leave their

#### What are the problems that you face while implementing the programme?

The people who apply to us consist of the most problematic families in economic terms. As the beneficiaries relocate frequently, there was a period of problems regarding the ESSN eligibility criteria. Mersin- Akdeniz is agricultural workers' district; a person works here for 3 months, then moves to Adana for 2 months. Mersin- Akdeniz is a district formed by internal migration in the past. Throughout the Syrian War, our district faced the second wave of immigration. In our opinion, the cut-off of assistance should be the result of the improvement of the welfare of beneficiary. The aid should not be cut off due to criteria such as relocation. *Another issue; SASF - Board of Trustees should be supported with allowance. Part of the programme budget should be transferred to the SASFs, and the board must be authorized to make decisions. Some of the budget should be submitted for SASF usage regardless of criteria. This is very necessary in context of Turkey. For instance, a family may receive the ESSN assistance according to eligibility to the criteria; but the people who need it more cannot benefit from ESSN in some occasion due to their ineligibility against the criteria.* 



The only criteria within the scope of ESSN should be the vulnerability of the household.





SASF Director Abdullah Karaman explained the success of the programme at the tolerance city Hatay's Kırıkhan district, where we encountered with the best examples of social cohesion targeted by ESSN Programme.

#### Did you achieve social cohesion in Kırıkhan?

Population of Kırıkhan is 35 .113.000 thousand of registered Syrians are living in our district. At first steps, we had problems in terms of social cohesion but in time we achieved social cohesion in Kırıkhan. The provision of this social cohesion has the effect of language ties and cultural proximity between the Turkish citizens residing in Kırıkhan and the Syrians refugees. For example, there are 4 neighborhoods and 8 villages of Arabic origin in Kırıkhan.

#### Would you assess the impact of the Emergency Social Safety Net?

I find the contribution of ESSN Programme to the community as positive. A Syrian person who owns a profession in his own country; can be a lawyer, engineer, teacher; had to migrate due to war. People are experiencing a serious trauma; without this programme, they might consider illegal ways. People can pay their rent with the help of this programme, they can afford their kitchen expenses.

## What kind of practices do you have regarding ESSN Programme in Kırıkhan?

We organize monthly Syrian Coordination Meetings under the presidency of our district governor. We evaluate the situation regularly with the participation of; Gendarmerie, Police, District Health Directorate, NGO's that help the Syrian population in the district. We picked up representatives from 16 Syrian neighborhoods in our district. A local representative (like a kind of mukhtar) tells us about that neighborhood. They bring us the latest news such as; access to the assistances, the problems of the neighborhood, social cohesion.

#### What are your views on ESSN Programme?

In our view, assistance should continue as long as the Syrian population is here. It is extremely important for people to be supported with cash assistance for the later period of their life, when a new life begins after the trauma they experienced.

We conveyed our thoughts on social cohesion to Syrian representatives participating in our Syrian Coordination Meetings. In particular, we have made significant practices on issues such as the prevention of child marriage and violence against women, adaptation to modern clothing standards of Turkey.



#### BATMAN Central Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF)

Batman/ Central SASF Diretor Beşir ARSLAN

The Batman city, hosting one of the most crowded immigrant population in the region, is known for the possibilities offered to immigrants and the innovative practices implemented through Batman Central SASF. We listen to the practices of Batman Central SASF making a difference in

the region/ in the country and the perspective of assistance in dignity for those in need in the form of best practice, from the director Beşir Arslan.

#### What is Batman's activity in the recent migration movements in our country?

Batman is one of the two cities that receive migration along with Diyarbakır in our region. We estimate that the population is over 500 thousand by the influence of internal immigrants from the neighbor cities and the Syrians. With the development in industry, agriculture and construction sector, our city has become an important center in region. We can see the effects of internal and external migration on our city. We have followed the things happened in Syria with sorrow, that should be an example for us. We have to protect our country.

"We have followed the things happened in Syria with sorrow, that should be an example for us. We have to protect our country."



#### **Coordination Practices for Social Cohesion of the Syrians**

Our dialogue is very good with the notable people from Syria who settled in this city. Among them, there are people who were academicians, lawyers and doctors. We exchange ideas with them. We received assistance from various ethnic and religious groups when we were establishing data base for Syrian immigrants. We have 2 schools for Syrian children in the city and we also have coordination with school managements. We also include/record on our list when a child is registered at school for the first time. Approximately 2000 Syrian children have been transported to school by shuttle.



We always give this message to the families:

"You can receive Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) assistance beside ESSN assistance under the condition of your childrens school attendance."

#### A Model for Turkey; SOCIAL MARKET

As Batman SYDV, we have a "Social Market" where we deliver clothing assistance to people in a need two times a year. The clothes that are received from various clothing brands and one of the most famous clothing brand in Turkey are exhibited in this Social Market. Clothing assistance is being delivered to the people in a need in summer and winter seasons. Not used or second hand clothes, but totally new and packaged. Families in need which are determined according to eligibility criteria is contacted, given appointment and have been transported to Social Market. 150 TL shopping budget is given to each family member. People can choose clothes according to their preference. We bring them to their home as soon as their shopping is completed. We have delivered clothes to 25K family through Social Market so far. There is no discrimination such as Turkish citizen or foreigner which is very important for social cohesion.



#### Are there problems during the implementation of the Programme?

In our opinion, a solution must be found about criteria. This seems to be a problem. People come here and ask why they were excluded from Emergency Social Safety Net Programme due to the demographic criteria.

Recently, A Syrian Woman came here crying and asking "why did my assistance cut off? What will I do?" You cannot tell the criteria to a person in this situation. In this respect, SASF Allowance is important.

KAYSERI Hacılar Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF)

Kayseri/ Hacılar SASF Director Mehmet GÜNEK

Social cohesion between the local population and immigrants is established in Hacılar, a small district of Kayseri. District SASF Director Mehmet GÜNEK replied our questions.

#### How do you evaluate the social cohesion in Hacılar?

Social cohesion was established between local population and immigrants in Kayseri/Hacılar. Implementation of the programme and establishing the cohesion was easy since our district is a small residential area. For now, out of 122 applicants, 64 families benefited from the programme. In addition to this, 129 kids are benefiting from

#### Could you give us some information about the services you provide for immigrants?

We didn't want immigrants to cluster in one place. We aimed to facilitate their integration with local people by distributing them in whole district and ensured the attendance of immigrants' who settled in our district to language courses. Public Education Center provided remarkable support. In the process, we also organized courses which is determined according to the needs of the people. You may find this interesting; we even organized a stove firing course in regards of the fires which were originated from stoves.

#### What are your suggestions regarding ESSN Programme?

We think that authorization should be granted to the board of trustees as one of the most active institutions in the field. SASFs also should be authorized in order to determine the level of neediness except the criteria. For example; a family with 4 children could be ESSN beneficiary because of the criteria; which sometimes is arguable about the neediness level of the family; father and 2 child works unofficially. On the other hand, 2 parents in their 50's cannot be eligible for the assistance.



## **HUMAN STORIES**

Gaziantep city, hosting more than 150K ESSN beneficiaries, became the second home of the refugees who migrated from their country because of the Syrian War. This time, our household visit is to 14 membered Yusuf Family, which has been chosen among more than 150 K beneficiaries and 25K household.

Beside Huseyin Yusuf's family consisting of 8 people (6 kids and parents), there are also 4 sisters and Huseyin's Yusuf's father lives with them. The family lives in a ground floor of -3floored apartment in slum. They pay TL 800 rental fee monthly for this house.

They are greeting us with a rush in our household visit. Outside of the house had been recently washed. There are 6 little kids at the house, 3 of them at school age. They are looking at our team with shiny wide eyes. Then we notice that one of the kid's back was wrapped up in a nylon pochette. But a while later we realized that the pochette was used instead of a baby diaper.

## All of the Yusuf Family's livelihood burden is on Hüseyin's shoulders.

Hüseyin tells us that when they first arrived to Turkey from Aleppo, they experienced a lot of difficulty. He could not perform his former job as barber like he used to do in Syria, so he worked in temporary jobs such as factory worker in a cartoon factory.





We had our own barber shop. My sisters worked in a novelties shop. Our livelihood was good. When the war started, we all thought that it will end soon; but we had to leave everything behind and immigrate when the conflicts reached to our neighborhood in Aleppo. After he told their migration story he looks down, holding his tears.

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We first notice the emptiness of the house in our household visit. There were no house belongings/furniture at the house. Only belongings they seemed to have consist of mattresses which lay all over the house randomly. Yusuf starts telling, "Our economic situation was good in Aleppo.



#### Yusuf family has been receiving the KIZILAYKART-ESSN assistance for 9 months.

Yusuf tells us that their life changed after they started receiving the ESSN assistance. He also adds that nothing is very bad anymore and they can buy their basic needs thanks to KIZILAYKART.

We see market bags at the entry of the house. He points the market bags and tells us "Thanks to ESSN Programme.



They insist us to stay for the dinner while we are about to go. They do not refrain from sharing their limited resources despite all of their hardship. But we kindly decline their invitation.

Hüseyin Yusuf

Turkey has done lot for us. We never saw any discrimination among them. We are mostly welcomed here. Therefore we are full of gratitude toward Turkey and KIZILAYKART. Our kids are very young and they are not aware of everything but we miss our country very much. We will return to Syria when the war ends.

# **NEWS**

#### **Turkish Red Crescent President Dr. Kerem Kınık visited KIZILAYKART**



Turkish Red Crescent President Dr. Kerem Kınık visited Cash Based Assistance Programmes Coordinatiorship, Joint Management Office where ESSN-KIZILAYKART Programme is executed. President Kerem Kınık received information about the KIZILAYKART activities with Turkish Red Crescent Deputy General Manager Alper Küçük and Turkish Red Crescent Immigration Services Manager Bayram Selvi from KIZILAYKART Cash Based Assistance Programmes Coordinator Orhan Hacimehmet and reviewed the kiosks where statistical information about the ESSN Programme is published.

#### **Turkish Red Crescent; 150 Years of Humanitarian Assistance Tradition**



The Turkish Red Crescent, which has delivered assistance to millions of people with the support of its donors since June 11 ,1868 celebrates its 150'Th anniversary.

President Dr. Kerem Kınık hosted an iftar program in Istanbul for the 150'Th anniversary of Turkish Red Crescent's establishment. Non-governmental organizations, bureaucrats, media representatives and the Turkish Red Crescent representatives participated to the event. TRC President Dr. Kerem Kınık said, " This humanitarian organization is making an effort to ease the pains of humanity in all over the world for 150 years." Dr. Kerem Kınık stated that, as an international mission, Turkish Red Crescent is working in different geographies of the world and is carrying out activities in 4 continents and 35 different countries to reach 10 million people during Ramadan.

TRC President Dr. Kerem Kınık reminded his role as the President of Europe& Central Asia Region of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and stated that "We will strive to be a model for the international humanitarian movement."



#### "Let's Share Ramadan under This Crescent"

Turkish Red Crescent's goal is to reach 10M people in Ramadan



Kızılay launched a new aid campaign with "Let's Share Ramadan under This Crescent" slogan which assisted hundred thousand people with Kızılay's own resources. Kızılay will show with its deeply roots one more time by reaching 10M people in need with the humanitarian aid activities in Turkey and other countries. "Turkish Red Crescent President Dr. Kerem Kınık commented "We are planning to touch 10M people's lives in 30 countries by prioritizing the people in need in Turkey. This is a great goal. We appreciate our volunteers who encourage and support us to expand this goal. I hope, we can touch the lives of 10M people together at the end of Ramadan and talk to you how we relieved the pain of 10M people."

President Kınık stated that; food packages and aid was planned for 200 thousand family within the country and they planned to deliver this food assistance to 1M people during Ramadan. "We will help 30 countries". Kınık also reminded that; Everyday 30K people leave their home because of the conflicts around the world, leaving 66M people as refugees. We will not forget the people during Ramadan who had to leave their homes. Kınık said that they would continue their efforts to reach people in need in countries such as Syria, Palestine, Rakhine and Iraq.

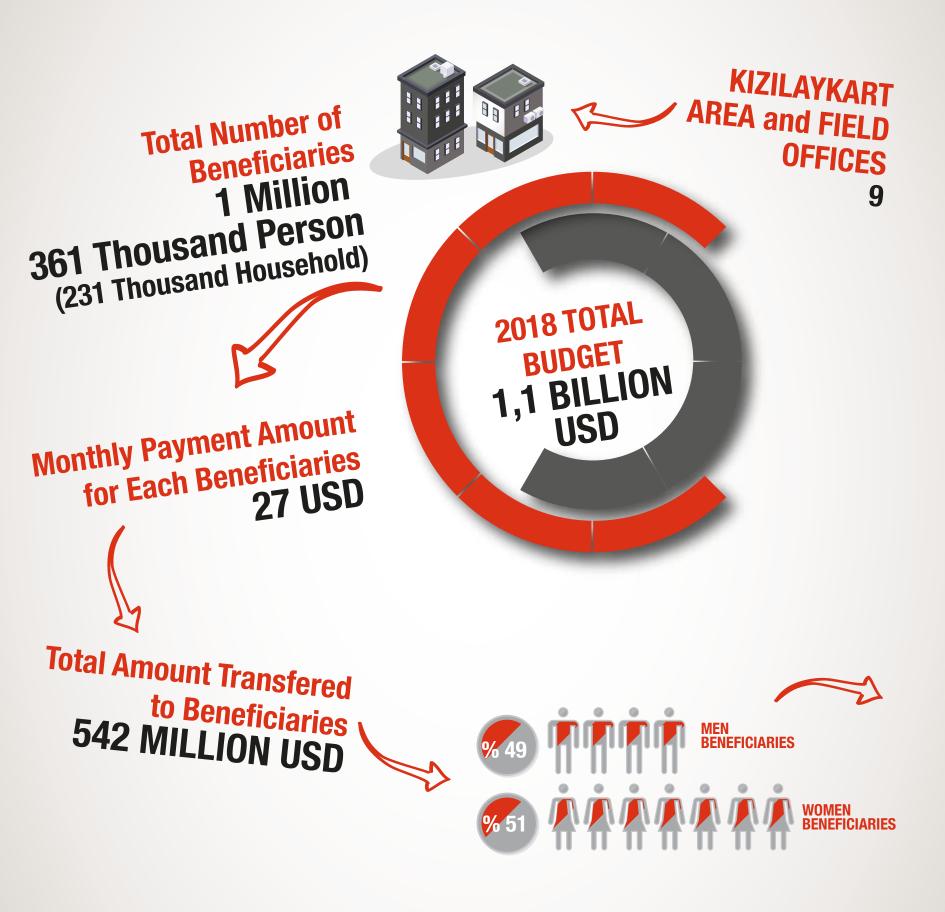
#### **KIZILAYKART Launched New Area and Field Offices**



KIZILAYKART-ESSN Programmes has launched new area and field offices in 6 cities. ESSN Programmes has launched new area and field offices in order to identify people in need who are under international/ temporary protection in Turkey; communicate and include these people in programme and improve the programme for existing beneficiaries according to the received feedbacks.

### New Office launch plan includes İstanbul Area Office; Izmir, İstanbul-Anatolia, Samsun, Erzurum, Hatay and Van Field Offices.

Improving cooperation with local and central authorities, communications with the partner institutions, outreach and sensitization activities, monitoring and evaluation of the field is aimed through the new offices.



# KIZILAYKART Statistics



While you were reading this post, 10 people had to leave their country!



65 Million people are seeking a home for themselves...



## www.kizilay.org.tr