KIZILAYKART Programmes

KIZILAYKART is a cash-based assistance platform designed to enable the vulnerable individuals to meet their basic needs with dignity.

The KIZILAYKART was put into service for Turkish citizens for the first time in 2011. As of October 2012, the In-Camp Food Assistance Programme was implemented to meet the basic needs of Syrians living under temporary protection in the camps.

Within the scope of the KIZILAYKART Platform, where humanitarian aid, private and public sectors come together, programmes on basic needs, education, vocational training and protection can be implemented with different donors and stakeholders.

5 programmes are currently being implemented under the KIZILAYKART which aims to increase the resilience of the ones in need and strengthen social cohesion.

Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) Programme

Starting Date of the Programme: November 2016
Sector: Basic Needs

ESSN is the world’s largest cash based assistance programme with regard to the number of its recipients and the continuity of its implementation period. ESSN enables people under Temporary Protection (TK), International Protection (UK) and Humanitarian Residence Permit in Turkey, who reside outside temporary accommodation centers and who meet the vulnerability criteria to have access to their basic needs in line with their own preferences. It is funded by the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and supported by the Directorate General of Population and Citizenships Affairs (DGPC) and DGMM. The Programme, which was carried out jointly with the Türk Kızılay (TRC), the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS) and the UN World Food Program (WFP) between November 2016 and March 2020, as of April 2020, is carried out with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) instead of the WFP.

You can access detailed information about the programme with the QR code.

Number of People Reached
1,609,765 People
273,603 Households

Total Social Assistance Amount
€ 2 billion

Gender Breakdown
%50 Female
%50 Male

Application
3 million People
671 thousand Households

#CardLoadedwithGoodness
Complementary Emergency Social Safety Net (C-ESSN) Project

Starting Date of the Project: January 2021
Sector: Basic Needs
The aim is to provide assistance to the most vulnerable individuals who are currently benefitting from the ESSN Programme, but who cannot be referred to livelihoods, by transferring them to the C-ESSN Project.

The agreement for the project was signed on the 17th of December 2020 among the MoFSS, the Türk Kızılay (TRC) and the European Commission Directorate General for Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). The project commenced in January, 2021. The first beneficiary payments will be made in July 2021.

Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) Programme

Starting Date of the Programme: May 2017
Sector: Education
CCTE Programme which has been implemented for children of Turkish Republic citizens since 2003, has been expanded to include needy foreign children residing in Turkey as of April 2017. The programme is funded by ECHO, Government of Norway and the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration Office (BPRM) of US and is being implemented with the partnership of Türk Kızılay (TRC), the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), MoFSA and UNICEF.

With the cash supports provided under the program, it is aimed that children can access school and attend regularly. Payments made under the Conditional Education Aid vary according to the school level and gender of the student and are conditional on students’ regular attendance at school.
In Camp Food Assistance Programme

Starting Date of the Programme: October 2012
Sector: Basic Needs

In-Camp Food Assistance Programme for foreigners living in 6 temporary accommodation centers in Turkey; it is carried out implemented with the partnership of Türk Kızılay (TRC) and United Nations World Food Program (WFP) with the support of Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM). The programme started in 2012, and as of October 2019, the personalized card application was provided. People receiving assistance receive e-vouchers for the monthly per capita aid that they can use for food and non-food shopping inside the camp via the KIZILAYKART.

The programme is funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Japan, Republic Korea and Norway.

Vocational Course Incentive (VCI) Programme

Starting Date of the Programme: April 2019
Sector: Livelihoods

Three different livelihood projects are carried out within the scope of the Vocational Course Incentive Programme. The target group of the projects are Syrians under the Temporary Protection, foreigners under the International Protection and Humanitarian Residence Permit, as well as the local communities. The project is funded by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) implemented in 15 cities (namely Adana, Ankara, Bursa, Gaziantep, Hatay, Istanbul, İzmir, Kahramanmaraş, Kayseri, Kiliş, Kocaeli, Konya, Mardin, Mersin and Şanlıurfa). Incentive payments are made to the trainees in line with vocational training they receive. In another project funded by the Japanese Embassy, individuals living in urban areas (Ankara, Gaziantep and Istanbul) are tried to be strengthened socioeconomically through the vocational training. In the project supported by German Development Bank as a back donor, the fund provider of Danish Refugee Council, it is aimed to contribute to the social and economic welfare of the communities living in Hatay through agricultural trainings.
This report has been prepared by the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC), Kızılaykart Cash Based Assistance Programmes. Contact for your iletisim.kizilaykart@kizilay.org.tr.