

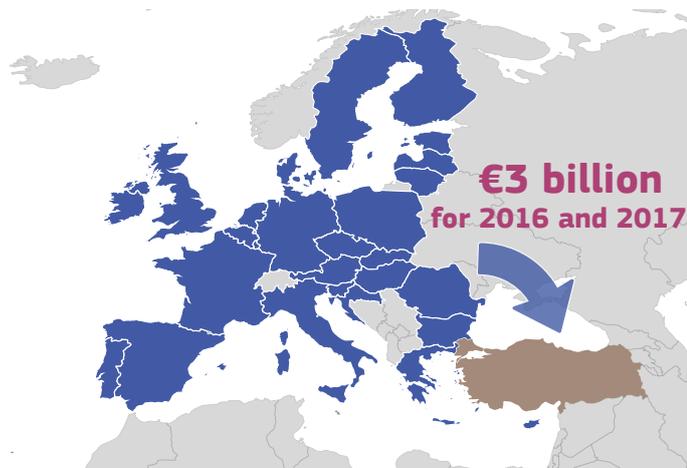


EUROPEAN UNION

MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

THE FACILITY FOR REFUGEES IN TURKEY

Turkey's geographical position makes it a first reception and transit country for many refugees and migrants. As the result of an unprecedented influx of people seeking refuge, the country currently hosts more than 2.7 million registered Syrian refugees and is making commendable efforts to provide them with humanitarian aid and support. The EU is committed to assist Turkey in dealing with this challenge. The European Commission is providing humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable refugees who have fled violence in their country, in particular those living outside of camps and in need of immediate aid, and those requiring health assistance and access to education.



THE FACILITY

The Facility for Refugees in Turkey is the answer to the EU Member States' call for significant additional funding to support refugees in the country. The Facility is designed to ensure that the needs of refugees and host communities are addressed in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Facility for Refugees in Turkey focuses on humanitarian assistance, education, migration management, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support.

The Facility has a budget of €3 billion for 2016-2017. This is made up of €1 billion from the EU budget, and €2 billion from the EU Member States.

HOW DOES THE FACILITY FUNCTION?

To ensure the coordination, complementarity and efficiency of the assistance, the Facility Steering Committee provides strategic guidance on the type of actions to be financed, with what amount, and through which financing instruments. The Steering Committee is chaired by the European Commission and composed of EU Member State representatives, with Turkey sitting in an advisory capacity. Projects are selected according to a needs assessment, and following the procedure of the financing instruments mobilised.

TOTAL SUPPORT THROUGH THE FACILITY TO DATE

Of the overall €3 billion, **€2.239 billion have so far been allocated**, for both humanitarian and non-humanitarian assistance. Of the €2.239 billion allocated, €652 million have been contracted. Of these €652 million contracted, €467 million have been disbursed to date.

TIMELINE

8 September 2016: The European Commission announces the:

- **Biggest ever humanitarian aid programme worth €348 million.** The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) will be rolled out by the World Food programme in partnership with the Turkish authorities to address the everyday needs of as many as 1 million refugees.

28 July 2016: The European Commission adopts:

- A **Special Measure worth €1.415 billion** to support refugees in Turkey in the areas of education, health, municipal and social infrastructure, and socio-economic support.
- A series of **humanitarian aid projects** in Turkey, worth **€74million**, bringing the **total humanitarian assistance** in Turkey delivered under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey for 2016 to **€164 million**.
- In four months, the European Commission has mobilised support of **more than €2 billion** to support refugees in Turkey.

3 June 2016: The European Commission publishes the:

- **Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) for Turkey**, mobilising **€505.65 million** of the budget of the Facility.

26 May 2016: The European Commission announces additional projects under the Facility:

- **€20 million to support the Turkish Coast Guard** on search and rescue operations to save lives and enhance the protection of migrants and refugees and tackling irregular migration and trafficking.
- **A further €27 million** to facilitate access to education to refugee children, young Syrians (skill trainings and university education), and to assist local communities.

12 May 2016: The second Steering Committee of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey meets in Brussels:

- To endorse the fast-track strategy for the Facility and agree on the main priorities the Facility will focus on in the immediate and medium term, including **humanitarian assistance, migration management, education, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support**.
- To agree on the priorities and practicalities of how support through the Facility will be accelerated in the months to come.
- To discuss the findings of an independent needs assessment prepared by experts contracted by the European Commission, which provides valuable guidance for further Facility intervention.

19 April 2016: The European Commission announces that:

- A further **€60 million** will be used to cover expenses for food, health care and accommodation for migrants who have been returned from Greece to Turkey.
- Contracts have been signed for a further **€50 million in humanitarian aid**, which will be used to address the immediate needs of refugees in Turkey.

4 March 2016: The first contracts for the Facility are signed and the first payments take place shortly thereafter:

- **€40 million** in humanitarian aid was provided to the World Food Programme in order to contribute to support 735,000 refugees over the next nine months.
- **€37 million** was allocated through UNICEF to get an additional 110,000 refugee children into school. This built on existing EU programmes which already support education for 200,000 children.

Further information is available on the **Facility website** at:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/news_corner/migration/index_en.htm