

International Rescue Committee Turkey: Strategy Action Plan

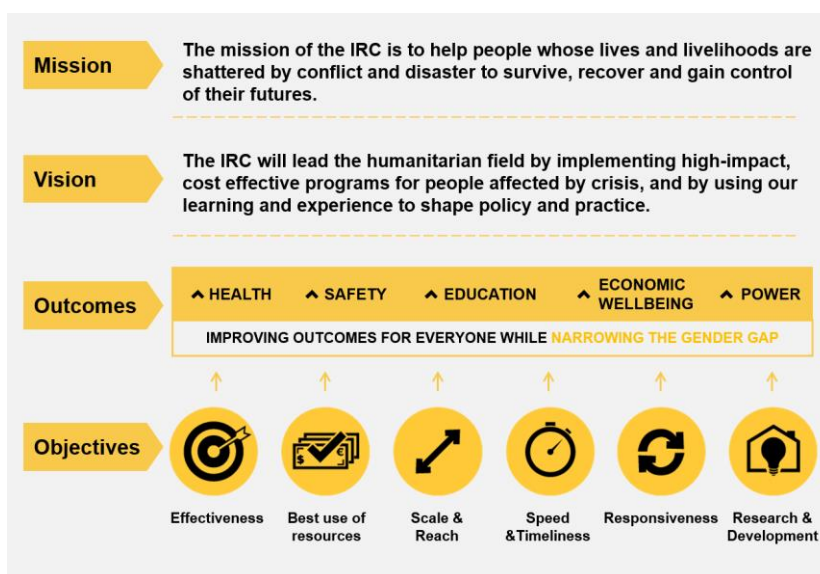


Issued March 2016



IRC2020 GLOBAL STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The International Rescue Committee's (IRC) mission is to help the world's most vulnerable people survive, recover, and gain control of their future. The aim of the IRC2020 strategy (shown at right) is to make measurable improvements in health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and power outcomes for the people we serve. To turn strategy into action, the IRC will make investments to improve program effectiveness, use resources more efficiently, reach more people more quickly, and better respond to clients' needs.



TURKEY OVERVIEW

As a result of the conflict inside Syria, Turkey currently hosts the largest refugee population in the world. The Turkish government has responded by opening 25 refugee camps and creating a legal framework for refugees to access services. However, over 80% of Syrian refugees in Turkey live in urban areas where they are at risks of exploitation, isolation, and violence (UNHCR, IISP).

Cultural, language, and capacity constraints have limited refugees' access to services and lack of employment has left many unable to meet their basic needs. Women have disproportionately limited access to services and children infrequently attend school. Scant economic opportunities for refugees have led to increased domestic violence, child labor, and high-risk migration to Europe.

In 2012, the IRC in Turkey began providing humanitarian assistance to refugees fleeing violence in Syria. As the conflict continues and refugees remain at risk inside Turkey, IRC's work is more critical than ever. The IRC's new strategy illustrates its commitment to improving the safety and education of people affected by conflict in Turkey.

IRC'S STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING

Currently, the IRC in Turkey is implementing programs in Hatay Province on the border with Syria. These programs focus on psychosocial support for youth, legal consultations and advocacy, and formal and informal education.

From 2016 through 2020, IRC's new strategy in Turkey will prioritize improving outcomes in **safety** and **education** (see Figure 1). A major barrier to refugees accessing protection services in Turkey is that they are unaware of the rights and services available to them. To improve awareness, the IRC will conduct protection outreach, provide rights trainings, and refer clients to local services. Teams will also provide direct assistance to women experiencing gender-based violence and psychosocial trauma.

In order to address the educational needs among refugees, the IRC will support temporary education centers. The centers will provide basic education and special age-appropriate services to Syrian children residing in urban areas. Education programs will also target parents to ensure that they are aware of the services available for their children.

To achieve these goals, the IRC is **investing in evidence-based decision making, supply chain systems, security risk analysis, and staff capacity strengthening**.

Through a focus on safety and education, the IRC in Turkey aims to reach Syrian and other refugees, and vulnerable host communities.

Figure 1: Priority Outcomes and Future Programs

	Priority Outcomes in Turkey	Future Programs
SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > People are safe in their communities and receive support when they experience harm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Open a new IRC Women and Girls' Community Center in Osmaniye to provide services and support for survivors of abuse and trauma at a new
EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 6 - 14 year olds have literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional skills, according to their developmental potential > 15 - 24 year olds have high levels of market-relevant livelihoods skills, literacy and numeracy skills, and social and emotional skills, according to their developmental potential > Girls and boys enroll in and attend safe, functioning and responsive education services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Design language and computer skills classes tailored for Syrian women > Provide university exam prep and social support to help Syrian youth adapt and excel in Turkey > Partner with local schools to provide Syrian students with quality education programs
<p>The IRC Commitment to Gender Equality</p> <p>We strive for equal outcomes for women and girls, and men and boys.</p> <p>To narrow the gender gap, the IRC will incorporate gender-focused activities into all programing.</p>		

COMMITMENTS FOR IMPACT

In order to maximize impact, the IRC in Turkey is making new investments to improve program effectiveness, use resources more efficiently, reach more people, and be more responsive to clients and communities. The IRC made the following commitments to strengthen programming and deliver improvements for the people we serve in Turkey.

Figure 2: Commitments to Ensure Impact



Effectiveness

- > Generate unique evidence for priority outcomes and apply to program design



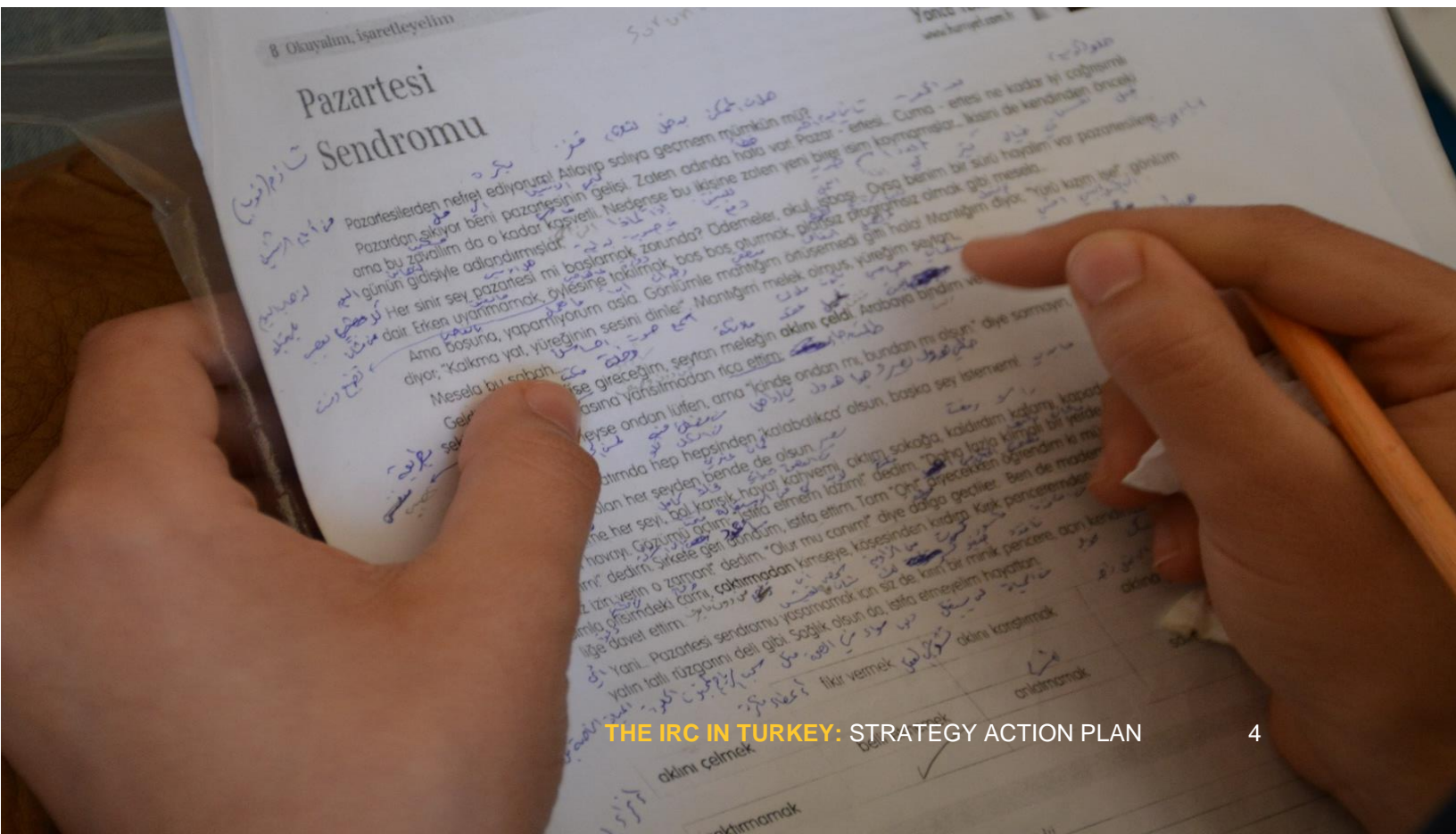
Best Use of Resources

- > Conduct comprehensive cost effectiveness and efficiency analysis for specific program activities and measure against comparable regional programs to incentivize improvement
- > Strengthen linkages between program teams and finance teams to improve budget design and procurement planning



Responsiveness

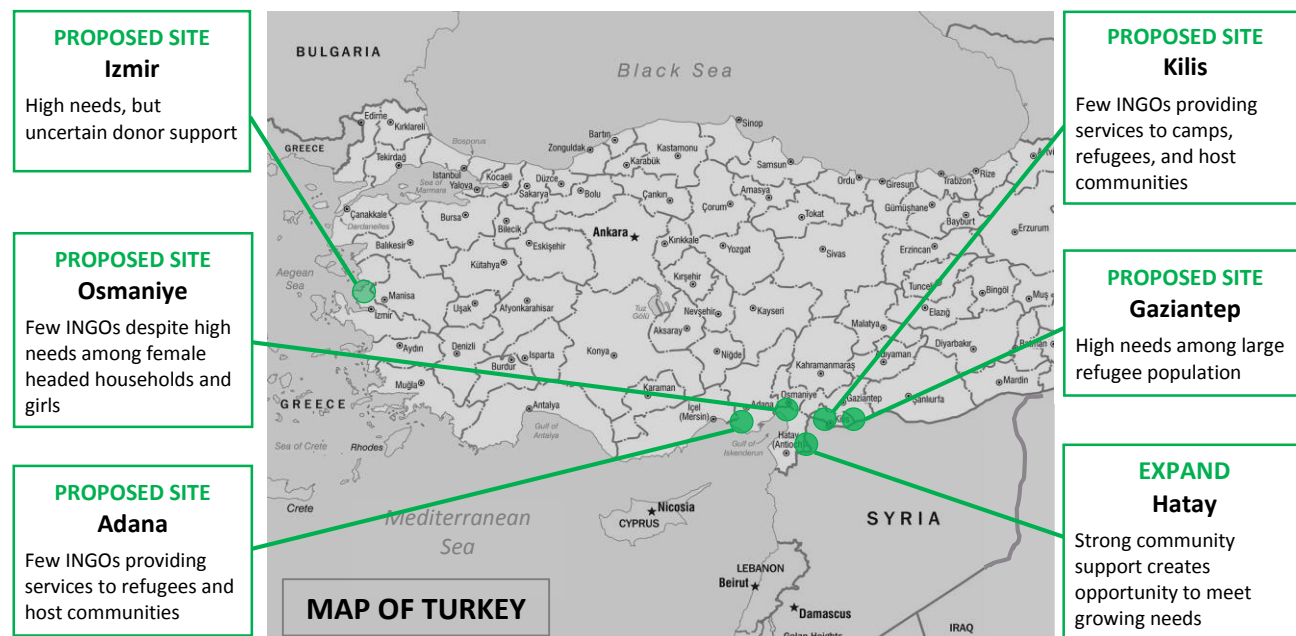
- > Strengthen client feedback and complaint mechanism and use to inform decision making
- > Create a context appropriate, evidence-based client response system



IRC'S STRATEGIC PRESENCE


As the number of refugees in Turkey continues to increase, the IRC has decided to expand its presence. Based on an analysis of where the greatest need is, the IRC will open **five new locations** in Turkey and expand its current operations in Hatay along the southern border with Syria.

Figure 3: The IRC's Geographical Transitions in Turkey





The IRC in Turkey

 Frank McManus, Country Director
Frank.McManus@Rescue.org

 [Rescue.org/where/Turkey](https://www.Rescue.org/where/Turkey)



INTERNATIONAL
RESCUE
COMMITTEE