UNHCR

3rd November 2016

Damla Taşkın

UNHCR Turkey

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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- Established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly.

- The agency is mandated to **lead and co-ordinate** international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide.

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The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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- Headquarters in Geneva, more than 9300 staff in 123 countries
- The mandate is based on the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees

The key legal document in defining:

- Who is a refugee?
- The rights and the legal obligations of states.

Mission of UNHCR

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Primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees

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Mission of UNHCR

Strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the **right to seek asylum and find safe refuge** in another State, with the option to:

- return home voluntarily
- integrate locally
- resettle in a third country.

UNHCR in TURKEY

- Established in Turkey in 1960.
- Country office in **Ankara** and field offices in **İstanbul, Van, Gaziantep, Hatay ve Şanlıurfa**
- **370** staff members
- **Some specialized units:**
  - Refugee Status Determination
  - Policy Development
  - Protection
  - Resettlement
  - Livelihoods
  - Education

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Livelihood Programs

Enabling refugees to improve their living conditions, to live with dignity and create a better future for themselves and their families

Current Challenges

- 10% live in camps
- 90% live in cities

Current Challenges

- Desperation, no possible solution
- Difficult living conditions
- Lack of sufficient humanitarian funds
- **Income and education**

Priorities for Turkey Operation

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- Access to Education
- Access to livelihoods
- Inclusion in social safety nets

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Approach

What is Livelihoods?

- Livelihoods are activities that allow people to secure the basic necessities of life such as food, water, shelter and clothing.
- Livelihoods implies the transition from relief to self reliance.
- Income generation is key
- Wage employment or self employment

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Strategic Priorities of Livelihoods

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Promote the **right to work** and the **right to development**

All the advocacy and networking with the Government and the private sector

Strategic Priorities of Livelihoods

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Enable people to **preserve and protect their productive assets** as well as meet their immediate consumption needs

Start-up Support, cash grant, support to entrepreneurs

Strategic Priorities of Livelihoods

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Develop and expand proven and innovative ways of supporting peoples' **economic self-reliance**

Vocational training, access to information, access to financial services

Strategic Priorities of Livelihoods

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Improve planning, learning and practice on **successful approaches to livelihoods** development and their **impact on self-reliance.**

Minimum criteria compliance, research projects, strategic planning

How do we do these?

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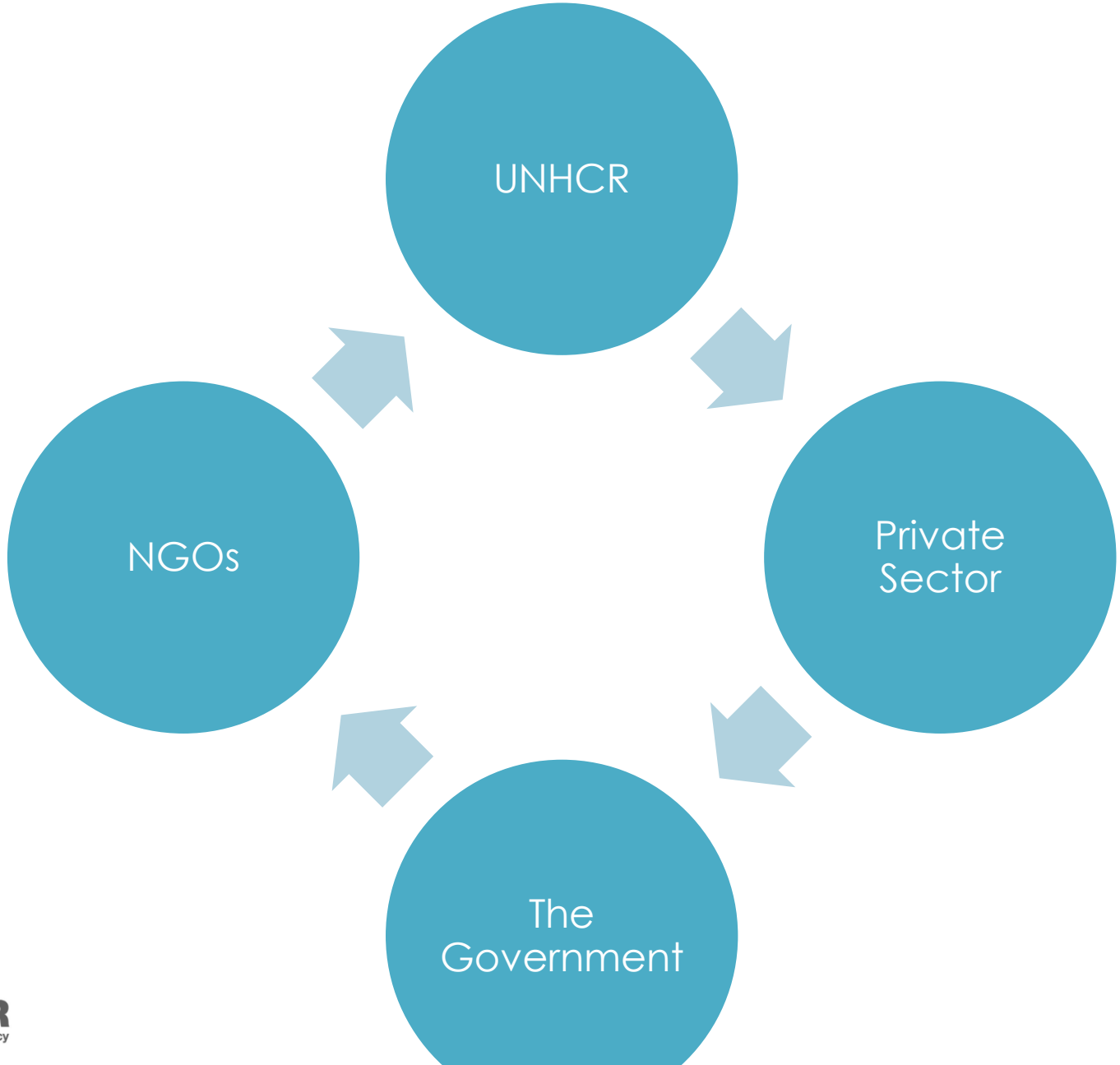

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Vocational Training

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PROFESSIONS	TOTAL OPEN JOBS	%
Unskilled Workers	**70,022**	**40.8**
Other Professions	28,837	16.8
Salesman	11,122	6.5
Security Guard (Private)	6,064	3.5
Office Staff	5,061	3
Waiter	4,390	2.6
Call Center Representative	3,358	2
Accountant	3,248	1.9
Cashier	2,839	1.7
Sewing Machine Operator	**2,565**	**1.5**
Truck/Trailer Driver	2,187	1.3
Welder	**1,911**	**1.1**
Electrician	**1,876**	**1.1**
Secretary	1,712	1
Bellboy	1,521	0.9
Cook	1,304	0.8
Garment Worker	**1,264**	**0.7**

Current Employment – Syrian Refugees

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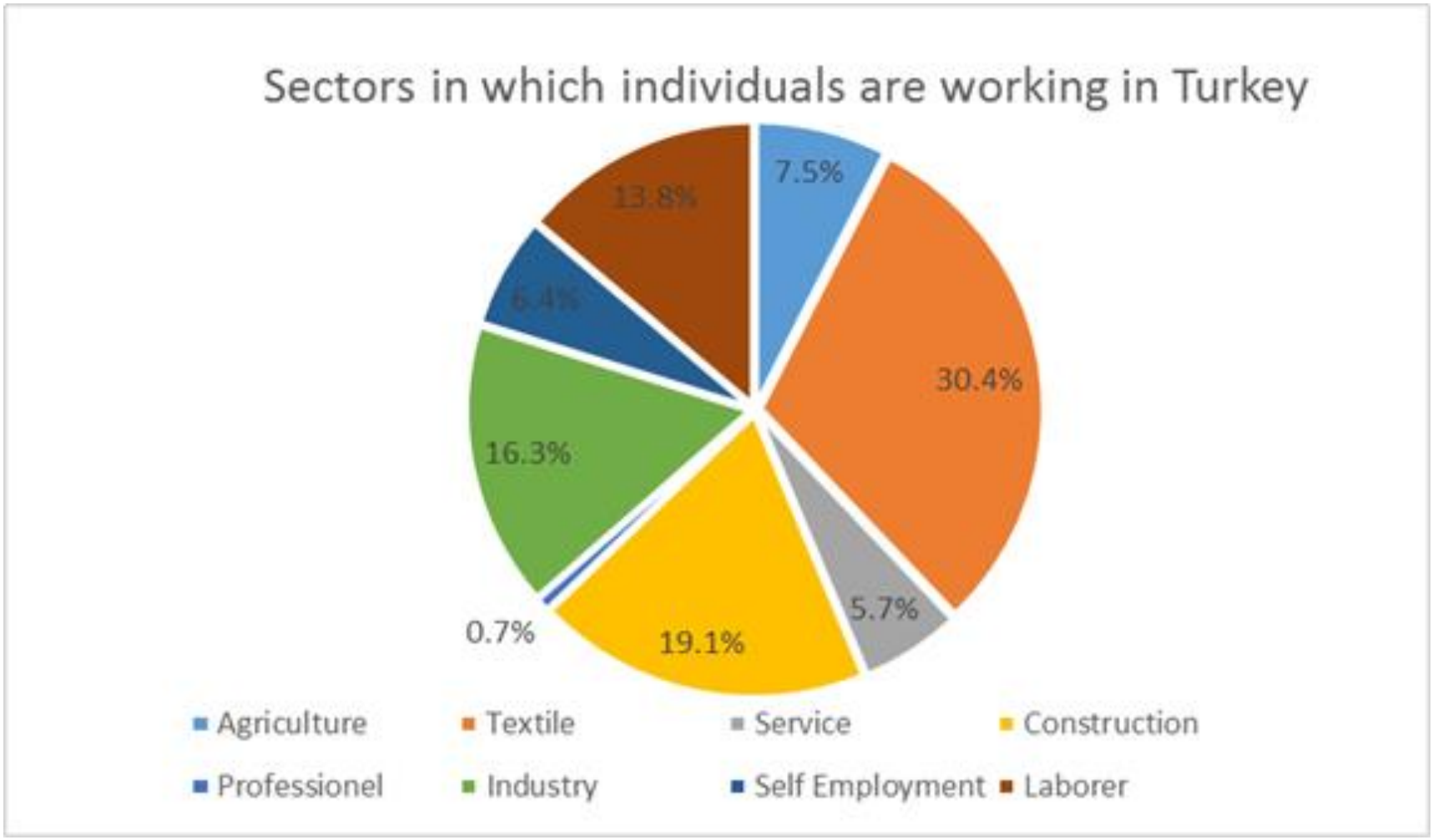

Highlights from the Region

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Turkey

The Legal Framework

- Came into force on the 15th January 2016
- All TP beneficiaries are obliged to obtain a work permit to work in Turkey.
- Those working informally and their employers will be liable under the provisions of the Law no 4817 on Work Permit for Foreigners.
- Application for work permits are allowed 6 months after the registration date.

Highlights from the Region

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Turkey
The Legal Framework

- **Self-employment:** Syrians fulfilling the criteria for issuance of independent work permit can apply for the permit personally.
- Those Syrians who will be working in the seasonal agricultural work and livestock are covered under the scope of work permit exemption subject to possible limitations.
- Health service providers and teachers need preliminary permission from MoH and MONE.

Highlights from the Region

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Turkey

The Legal Framework

- No restrictions on specific provinces
- Work permits will be issued for the cities where TP beneficiaries are permitted to reside.
- The number of foreigners working at one workplace cannot **exceed 10%** of the number of Turkish employees
- Employment quota for foreigners may be implemented flexibly
- No payment under below minimum wage

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Turkey - Current

- **Livelihoods Centre in İstanbul:**
- Start up training programme
- Fairs/events for career counselors, job skills training sessions
- Incubator inside the centre
- SAP Refugee Coding Week

CODING IS A NEW LANGUAGE. EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO BE FLUENT.

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Refugee Code Week 23-24 May 2016

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Turkey - Current

Livelihoods Centre in İstanbul:

August Training Programs

- Business Development
- Sales and Marketing
- CV Preparation x 2
- Mentorship network mobilized

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Turkey - Current

- **Vocational Training in Hatay**
- **1000** individuals will be provided with skill-building activities to help strengthen their self-reliance and resilience in a new society

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Turkey - Current

- **Work Permits Outreach Programme:**
  - 13 cities of Turkey
  - Istanbul, Bursa, Ankara, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Mersin, Hatay, Kilis, İzmir, Kocaeli, Konya, Kayseri Adana
  - Leaflets, animated movie, help desks
  - Chambers, associations, private companies
  - Capacity Strengthening of Government
  - 3 events: Ankara, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa

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Ankara 23rd March 2016

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Ankara 20th April 2016

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Şanlıurfa 2nd June 2016

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Gaziantep 27th July 2016

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Support for Refugee Owned Businesses

- 5000 companies established by 2016
- 700 in Gaziantep
- Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce
- Support programmes for Syrian entrepreneurs
- One Syrian employee
- Business Turkish
- Shoe Design and textiles
- Food Safety Training

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Entrepreneurship Programs:

- 14 cities of Turkey
- As of August
- Business Idea generation, business planning
- Financial training, legislation

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Vocational Training

- Auto Parts Industry – Ankara, Bursa, Urfa
- Bursa Municipality Vocational Training Centre
- Ankara Women's Business Centre

Harran Subgovernorate :

- Gastronomy Centre and its related training programs
- Support to the existing community centre of the Governorate

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Nizip, Kırıkhan and Konya

- Textiles, Printing
- Painting Techniques and Technology
- Knitting Socks, Straight Knitting
- Catering, Pastry-Making, Cooking,Food Services Accountancy
- Graphic Designer
- Patient Care Technician

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Şanlıurfa, Hatay, Kilis

- Registration in İŞKUR
- Job Placement
- Plumbing
- AC Repair
- Turkish Classes
- Grants for home based businesses

The Future

- We cannot do it without you!

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Thank you

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