

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TUR_D_1.1

Women and girls have improved and equal access to resources, opportunities and rights, and enjoy a life without violence and discrimination

There has been some progress against the achievement of the outcome in the reporting period. Local and central government institutions, civil society organizations, UN agencies, and private sector companies took concrete actions to ensure that women and girls have better and equal access to opportunities and services, also encompassing the humanitarian response after the Kahramanmaraş Earthquakes on 6 February 2023. The Government of Türkiye included in the new 12th National Development Plan (NDP) 2024–2028 for the first time, provisions on mainstreaming of gender equality in plans, policies and budgets and temporary special measures, such as quotas on increasing women’s participation and representation in decision-making at all levels. UN Women actively engaged in the preparation of the 12th NDP and chaired the sub-committee on Economy, Education, Climate Justice and Participation to Decision Making Mechanisms under the “Women in Development” Technical Committee that contributed to development of the NDP. Four Metropolitan Municipalities – Istanbul, Eskisehir, Edirne and Adana – with a collective population of almost 20 million people – have started using new interactive data collection and mapping tools in Istanbul and Eskisehir, and launched Local Equality Action Plans in Adana and Edirne. This will contribute to women and girls’ improved access to gender responsive and data driven municipal services. These were achieved as result of UN Women’s close collaboration with each municipality, capacity development efforts and technical support in the design of the tools and plans. 44 women’s rights CSOs, including 34 grassroots-level ones, improved their capacities to exercise their agency in a more robust way as result of UN Women’s civil society support mechanisms including small grants. They developed new organizational tools and communication skills as well as gained physical capacities. They served 3438 women and girls, providing various support, from counseling to climate change education. CSOs also strengthened their partner networks and solidarity, engaging in dialogues with public officials on key women’s rights issues facilitated by UN Women. In 2023, 90 new private sector companies signed the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs) and committed to advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment, marking a 20 % increase and reaching 540 WEP signatories nationwide, which is the second-highest globally, the use of female voices in the commercials reached a historic high of 38% (up from %24 in 2021) as per the Effie Gender Equality Research, covering 228 advertisements. UN Women played a crucial role in these accomplishments by collaborating with the advertising industry leaders and creatives under Unstereotype Alliance’s National Chapter, and by developing capacities of companies for WEPs implementation. Following the devastating earthquakes on February 6th which affected 11 provinces and close to 10 million people, disaster-affected women and girls’ rights and needs were at front and central in the humanitarian and early recovery response as UN Women redirected its operations and inter-agency coordination efforts to ensure this. Over 5500 women and girls gained access to legal and psycho-social counselling, awareness raising on safety and protection, skills development, and essential hygiene items delivered by UN Women’s CSO partners. More than 30,000 women and girls received clothing and personal hygiene items as UN Women leveraged its close partnerships with the private sector and local authorities. Ministry of Family and Social Services with support from UN Women refurbished two damaged Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers, serving 65 women daily. Women’s access to justice was increased by enhancing their post-earthquake legal literacy in partnership with the Union of Turkish Bar Associations. Koc Holding, Foundation for the Support of Women’s Work and UN Women established the Women’s Empowerment Hubs in two temporary settlements targeting over 5000 women and girls with services and support to empower them to

be resilient. Women entrepreneurs and cooperatives from the affected region gained access to Türkiye's biggest e-commerce platform through the partnership of Hepsiburada and UN Women. Partnered UN agencies under inter-agency structures, used sex- and age-disaggregated data in programming documents and included actions targeting women and girls with a gender sensitive approach not only in the protection sector but also in the economic empowerment, cash assistance and WASH programmes. Local women's organizations also accessed to the humanitarian structures that elevated their voices and priorities with facilitation of UN Women. The country strategy and theory of change for this outcome are largely still applicable. However, considering the ambition of the outcome, the country context and the impact of devastating earthquakes on women and girls, bold actions targeting gender equality and women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming in recovery programmes are necessary to preserve and build on the achievements.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TUR_D_1.2

By 2025, Persons under the Law on Foreigners and International Protection are supported towards self-reliance.

There has been some progress towards achievement of the outcome. Earthquake affected refugee women and girls have access to multi-sectoral services and referrals, with UN Women's support, as well as income through the continuation of innovative income generation models, namely the SADA Cooperative in Gaziantep. This was done under UN Women's Refugee Response Programme (RRP - which was completed by 31 March 2023), which mainstreamed the rights and needs of refugee women under other programmes in line with the protracted nature of the Syria crisis and by leveraging its coordination mandate. UN Women has ensured the sustainability of actions under its RRP by transferring the services of its women's centers to the respective local authorities or local CSOs in Gaziantep and Izmir and by expanding business networks and connecting women to national and international private sector companies for sustained income generation. Additionally, two grassroots organizations, Tomorrow's Women and Eve Women Committees, played an active and crucial role in using the skills and knowledge they gained in leadership and participation under the RRP project to communicate the needs of women survivors under temporary protection to the public administration and civil society organizations in the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes on February 6 th . Despite some advancements, the overall context in the country and the devastating earthquakes from February 6 th has led to increase in multi-dimensional poverty and the erosion of gains made in the past, affecting refugee and migrant women and girls disproportionately. In the remaining two-year period of its Strategic Note (SN), UN Women will continue to integrate the LNOB principle in its entire country programme and will intensify cooperation with other UN agencies to ensure gender mainstreaming under the Türkiye chapter of the 3RP (Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan). In line with the strategic direction of the CO following the Mid-Term Review of its SN in 2023, this Outcome will be inactivated in the remainder of the SN period.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TUR_D_1.3

By 2025, governance systems are more transparent, accountable, inclusive and rights-based with the participation of civil society, and quality of judicial services is improved.

There has been progress against the achievement of the outcome both at national and local level in the reporting period. Government of Türkiye further instituted the gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) approach into the planning and budgeting cycle at national level to promote the empowerment of all women and girls. Recently announced 12th National Development Plan of the Government for the 2024-2028 period introduces a specific policy on mainstreaming of women's empowerment in development and

implementation of all plans and policies with measures on data, analysis, budgeting and indicators. Presidency of Strategy and Budget highlighted the GRB approach for the first time in the Investment Programme Guideline and in the Citizen's Budget Guideline. Based on the improvements in the performance budgeting frameworks and capacities, OECD included Türkiye in 2023 for the first time among the countries having successfully introduced gender budgeting. The line ministries also made greater use of gender responsive budgeting tools in their plans and budgets taking into consideration of the specific needs and priorities of women and girls. The number of gender sensitive indicators in the budget performance documents has increased from 39 in 2022 up to 59 in 2024. Ministry of National Education made budgetary allocations for improvements in infrastructure of hostels for secondary school, meeting the specific needs of girls, following a gender needs assessment and UN Women-supported trainings. Additionally, The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Turkish Employment Agency included dedicated targets with budget estimations and gender sensitive indicators in their Strategic Plans for 2024-2028 for supporting women's economic empowerment and employment. At local level, four pilot municipalities - Edirne, Eskisehir, Gaziantep and Kocaeli - started to make improvements in their youth, sports and public transportation services and data management systems to be more gender responsive based on the GRB analysis conducted with a participatory approach in 2023. These concrete actions include but not limited to establishment of new communication channels, increasing the number of buses as per the feedback received from female and male passengers during the analysis, integration of sex-disaggregation in data systems, a new scoring system for cash support to amateur sports clubs in order to encourage more women and girls to participate in sports and to provide more inclusive services. National and local level institutions made improvements in national and local level budget performance framework and public services as a result of UN Women's capacity development and advocacy efforts. 699 staff from 35 central institutions acquired knowledge on GRB tools through technical trainings conducted by UN Women since 2022. As per the post training monitoring survey conducted in March 2023 between 9-12 months after the trainings, 37% of the respondents reported that they have taken action in their daily work after the trainings for applying the skills they have gained. Improvements in service delivery, data collection, indicators, project management and personnel related issues were listed as the top 5 areas where the trainees implemented GRB tools. Similarly, 29 senior level officials including 12 MPs and 474 public officials gained insight on GRB in 2023 through UN Women seminars. 4 local level sectoral gender analysis, facilitated by UN Women, provided insights and recommendations to the municipalities and decision makers on gendered aspects of public services. Ministry of Family and Social Services as the key partner of UN Women coordinated and supported these initiatives with gender perspective and Presidency of Strategy and Budget as the oversight and coordinating institution of budgets provided technical expertise in the process. The Theory of change in relation with this outcome is valid and it is expected to have further improvements and long-term achievements in upcoming years in systematic integration of gender responsive budgeting as good budgeting by public institutions at central and local level as the interventions in this field continue. These achievements will contribute to addressing needs of women and men equally and ensure women's and men's equal access to opportunities and resources in line with national and international commitments and frameworks.