Northern Syria CBR TWG Meeting Notes
Antakya, ACTED
May 5, 10:30am

- Roundtable introductions (Group)
- CBWG lead recruiting update (Casey)
  o There will be no short-term Lead; however, a candidate has been identified and will hopefully be installed in the next one – two months (pending visa issues etc.)
- Interim CBWG lead for next month (Group)
  o Meeting will be hosted by NRC in Gaziantep, Nathan K. will resume interim lead role
- 4W report and discussion of template (Hosam)
  o Only five partners participated in the reporting, making a comprehensive report difficult
  o **Hosam** will respond to each reporting partner with errors made
  o Due to compressed timeline (reports received at the end of the month with the CBR TWG meeting less than a week later) there was not enough time for a proper analysis
    ▪ In response, meeting will shift one week later (2\textsuperscript{nd} week of June) to accommodate monthly reporting cycles
  o 113 cash projects/locations were implemented in the last month
    ▪ value voucher most common
- Organizational updates (Group)
- MEB discussion update (Nathan K)
  o Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket is still relevant and useful
    ▪ Group is determining what items will be adjusted based on feedback from members and beneficiaries
    ▪ Please provide any data collected from PMD or household expenditures to inform SMEB discussion
  o They are exploring ‘top-up’ basket costs by sector
    ▪ Will make sense to start with NFI kits as ‘New Arrival’ kits have been standardized by the cluster
- Besieged memo finalization (Nathan S)
  o Will be added to the DropBox and new
- REACH market reporting update and participation advocacy (Chris)
  o April was a volatile month in terms of markets, prices, and exchange
Rates
- Reports were provided from seven partners covering 28 sub-districts
- Prices and exchange rates
  - Exchange Rates
    - 514 SYP to 1 USD in mid-April
      - 30% increase since January
    - 180 SYP to Lira
  - Food prices extremely volatile
    - more than half of food items rose in price so much that they outpaced inflation rate
    - chicken, eggs, sugar, tomatoes most affected items
  - Fuel fell this month (down 20-100 SYP per liter)
- Data collection will be done the week of May 16th
- Market Assessment during Ramadan
  - REACH make call by Friday, March 13th whether or not to collect data during Ramadan
  - **PLEASE send in your preference whether or not staff will collect data during Ramadan month to Chris**
- Participation in market monitoring is trending down and will harm market-based responses based on the SMEB, which everyone finds useful
  - Down from 12 partners (1100 surveys), 44 sub-districts to 7 partners (500 surveys), 25 sub-districts
  - **PLEASE submit the data that you have.**
- Review of CBWG Annual Work Plan and progress report (Nathan S)
  - MEB by cluster (is this feasible? Which sectors → probably only NFI)
- AOBs:
  - REACH Market Assessment refresher course for data collectors (Chris)
    - Dates will be circulated for a training course in June
  - Emergency cash response: Who is active and has available funds
    - GOAL, SCI, (might be missing another) have funding to provide emergency response. This is a capacity that will be monitored by incoming CBR TWG Lead
  - Turkey Cash Based Working Group
    - Engagement is a good idea but will be handled by CBR TWG Lead
- Potential CALP 2 training in Antakya or Gaziantep
  - Will be circulated for August
- Updates to CBR TWG can now be found on the Humanitarian Response website: