

# SAFETY NETS AMONG CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT

REBEKKA GRUN,  
AFRAH ALAWI AL AHMADI ,  
MIREY OVADIYA &  
SIRMA DEMIR SEKER

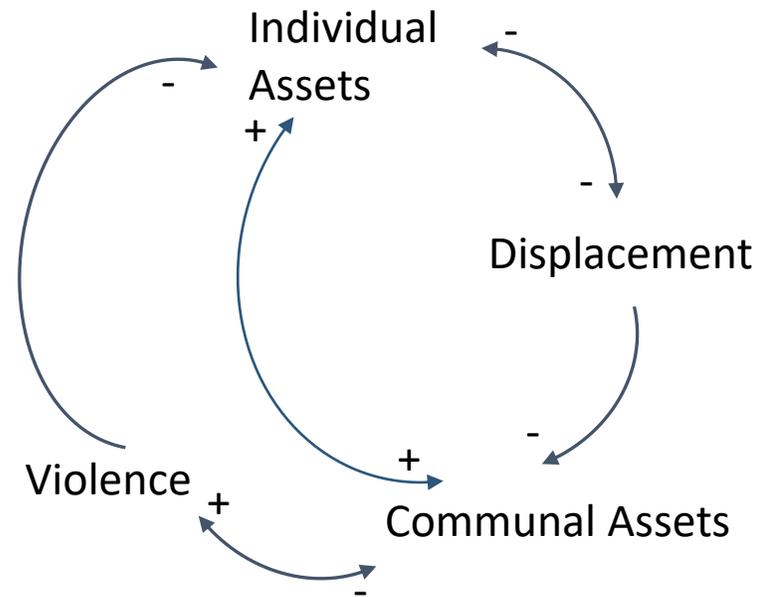


# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

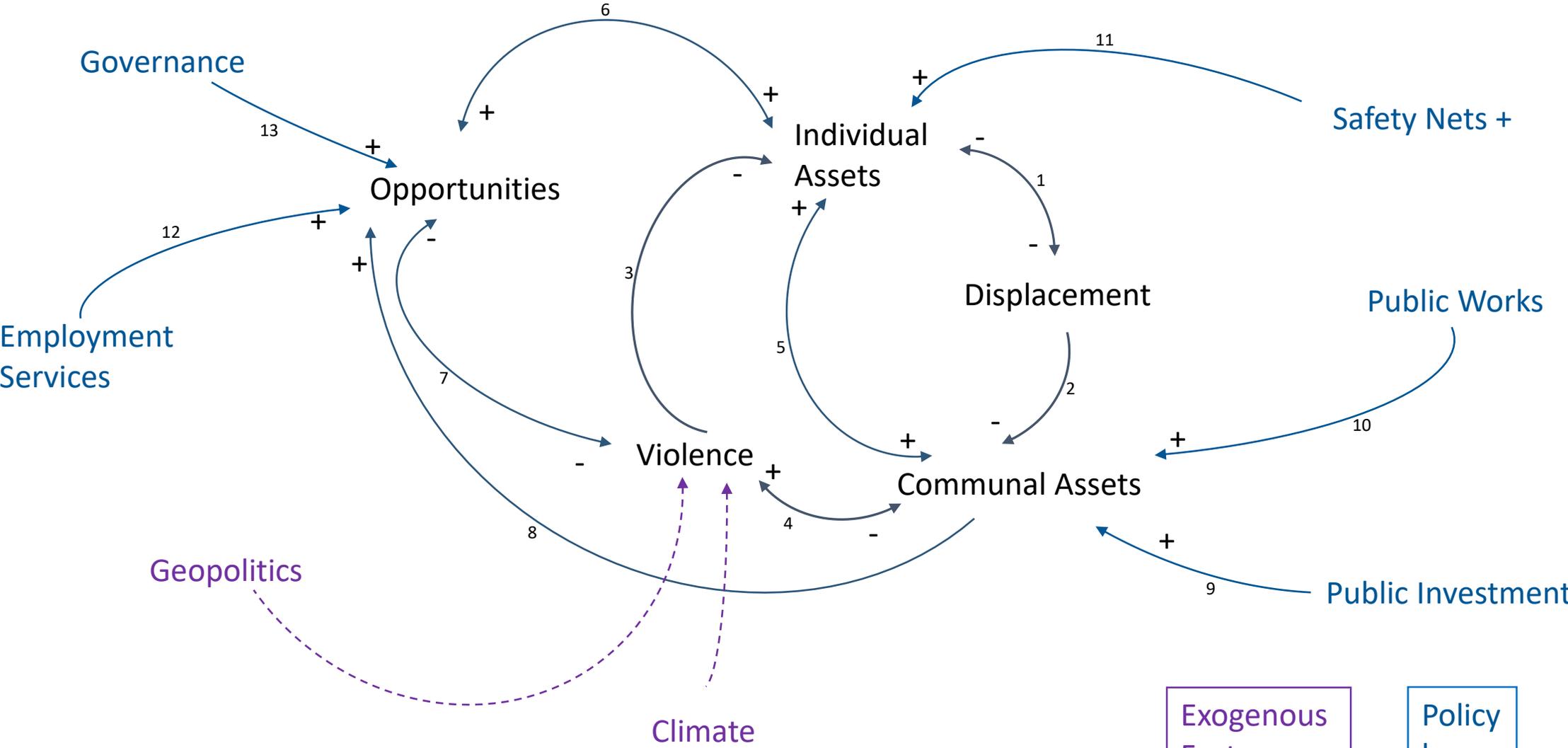
Exploring the relation between violence, displacement, assets and opportunities



# FORCED DISPLACEMENT: CORE PROCESSES



# WHAT POLICY LEVERS DO WE HAVE?

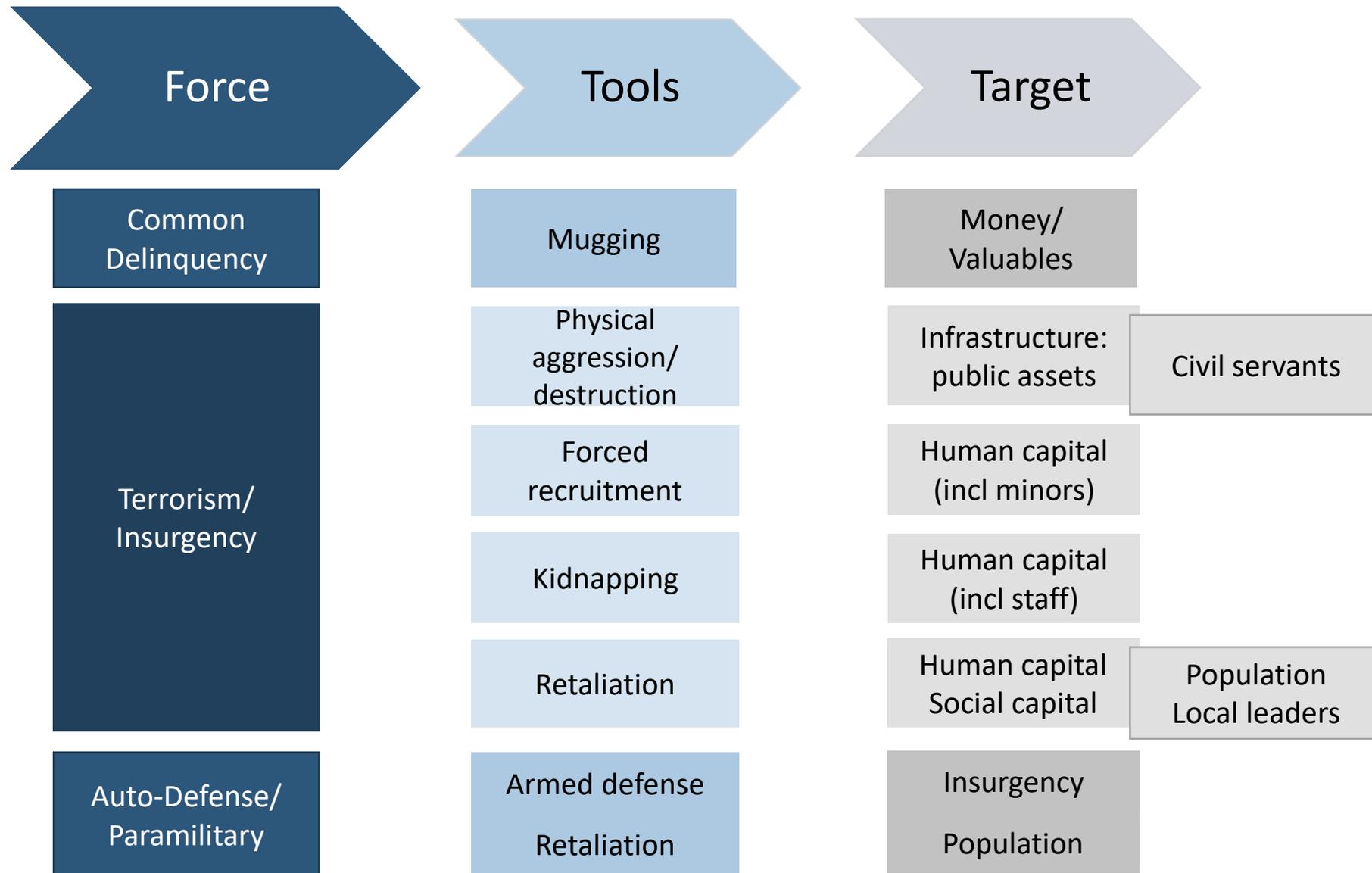


# GLOBAL TRENDS

Looking at the structure of violence, displacement and the displaced



# STRUCTURE OF VIOLENCE & OPERATIONAL RELEVANCE



# UNPRECEDENTED FIGURES (2018)

- **70.8 million forcibly displaced individuals** worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations.
  - 25.9 million refugees — highest ever
  - 41.3 million internally displaced people
- **1 person becomes displaced every 2 seconds**; so 30 people newly displaced every minute.
- 1 in every 108 people globally is either an asylum-seeker, internally displaced or a refugee.



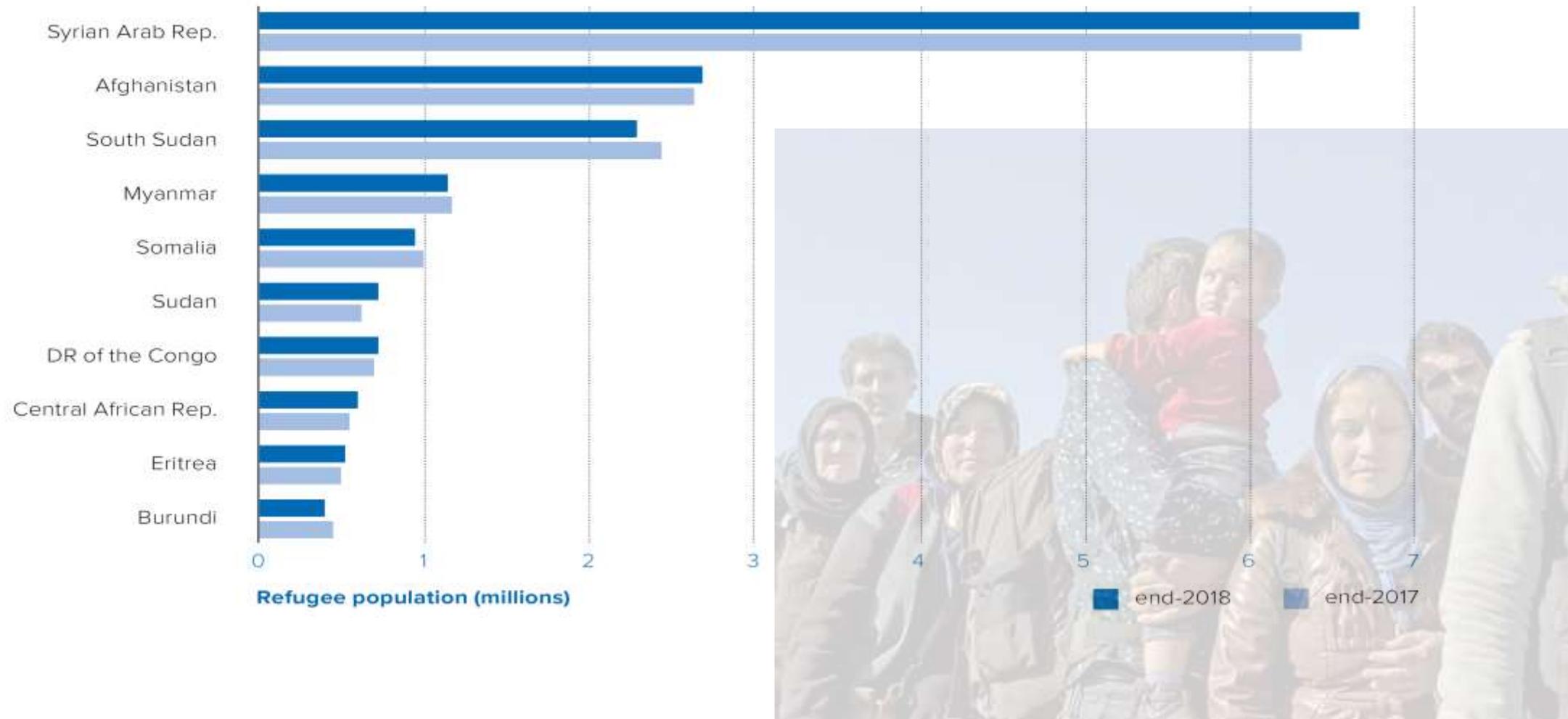
# REFUGEE POPULATIONS BY REGIONS (UNHCR)

UNHCR regions	Refugees (including persons in a refugee-like situation)		Change		% of total, end-2018
	Start-2018	End-2018	Absolute	%	
- Central Africa and Great Lakes	1,475,700	1,449,400	-26,300	-1.8	7
- East and Horn of Africa	4,307,800	4,348,800	41,000	1.0	21
- Southern Africa	197,700	211,000	13,300	6.7	1
- West Africa	286,900	326,300	39,400	13.7	2
<b>Total Africa*</b>	6,268,200	<b>6,335,400</b>	67,200	1.1	31
Americas	646,100	643,300	-2,800	-0.4	3
Asia and Pacific	4,209,700	4,214,600	4,900	0.1	21
Europe	6,114,200	<b>6,474,600</b>	360,300	5.9	32
thereof: Turkey	3,480,300	3,681,700	201,400	5.8	18
Middle East and North Africa	2,705,400	2,692,700	-12,700	-0.5	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,943,600</b>	<b>20,360,600</b>	<b>417,000</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>100</b>

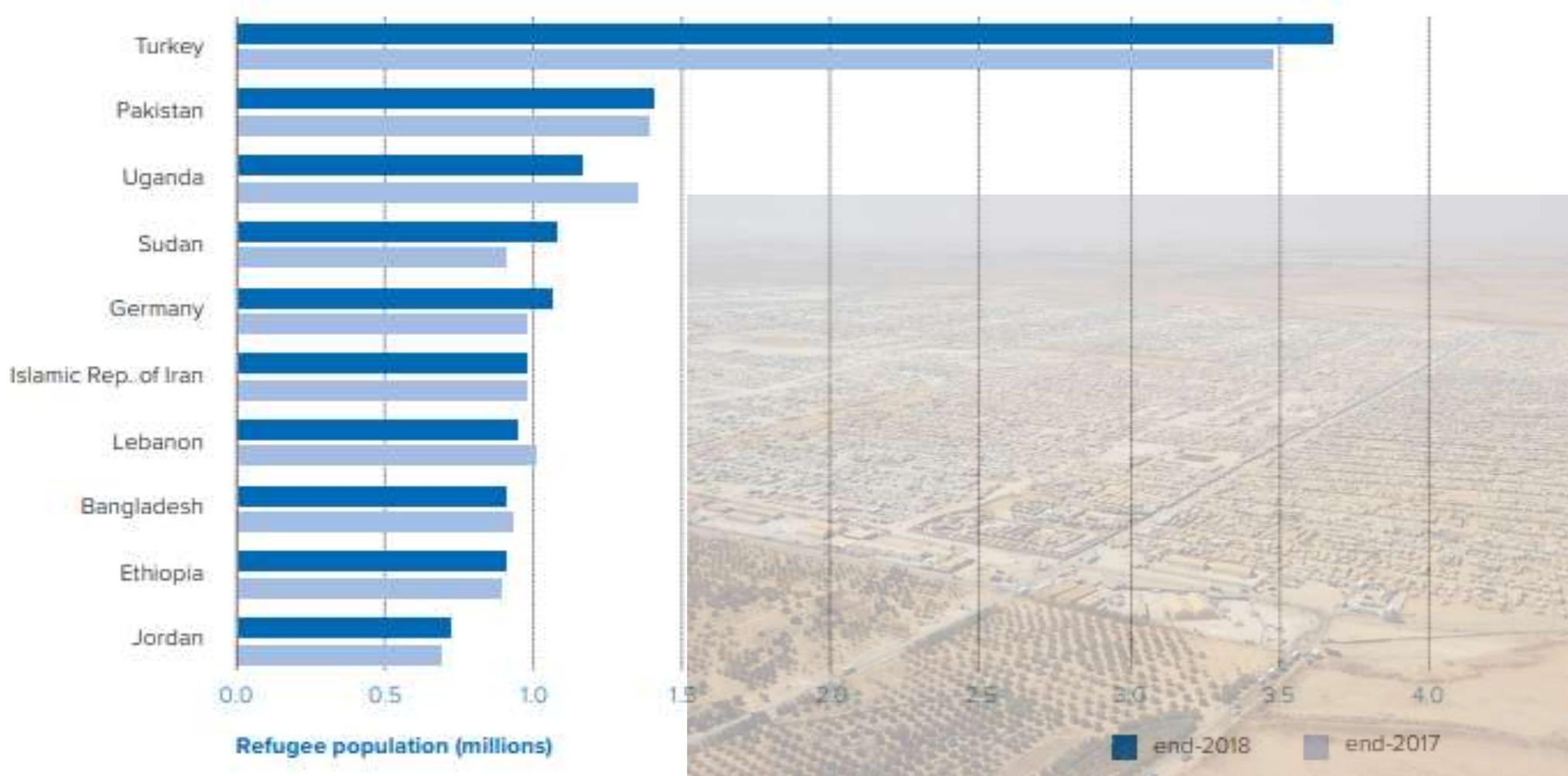
\* Excluding North Africa.



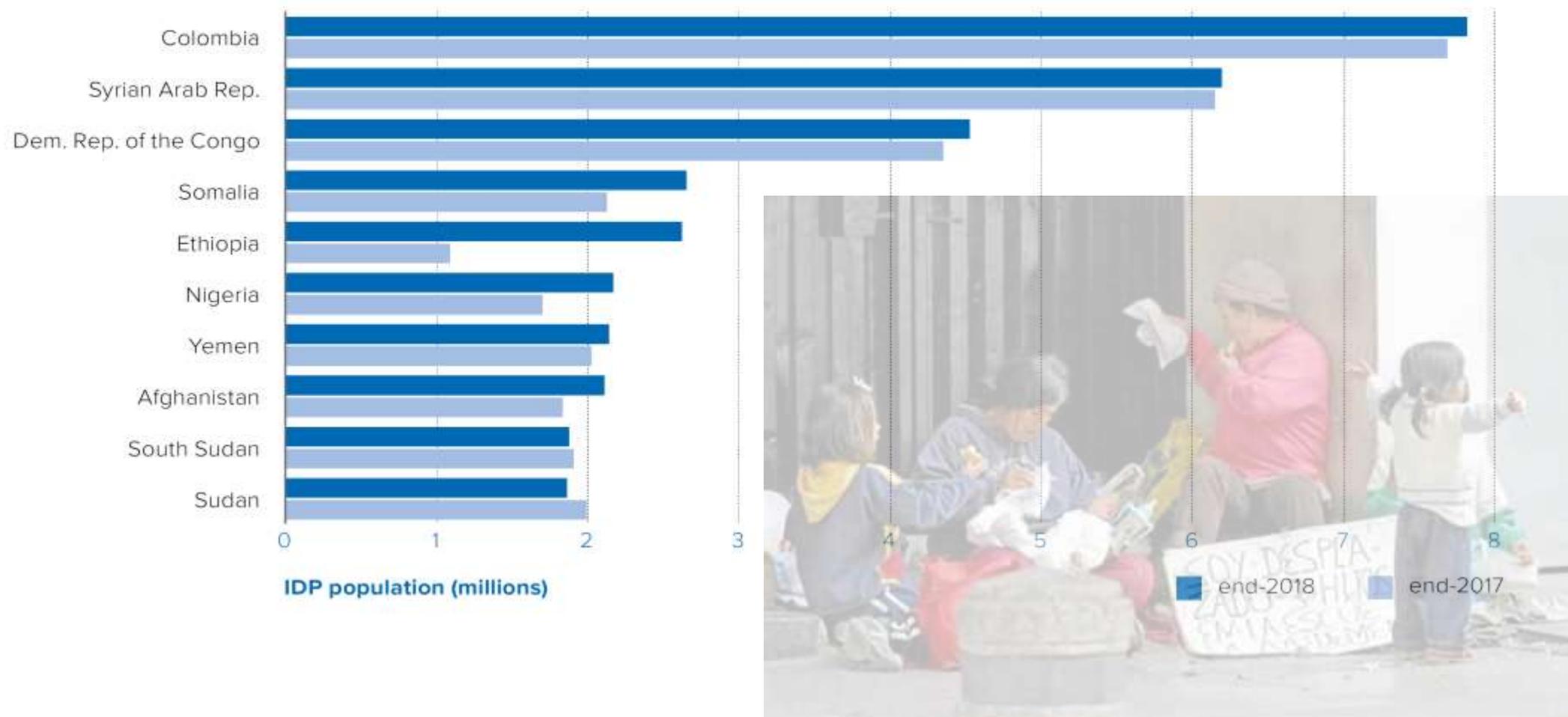
# MAJOR SOURCE COUNTRIES OF REFUGEES | END-2017 TO END-2018



# MAJOR HOST COUNTRIES OF REFUGEES | END-2017 TO END-2018



# TEN LARGEST IDP POPULATIONS | END-2017 TO END-2018 (STOCK)



# OPERATIONAL APPROACH

How do our operations need to adjust, given the structure of displacement and insecurity?



# IMPLEMENTING SAFETY NETS AND GRADUATION



## INSTITUTIONS

Humanitarian –  
development nexus and  
transition

Role government vs  
humanitarians

Role of local governments



## PROGRAM

Content of the package

How does the package  
change?

Mitigation measures



## IMPLEMENTATION

Adapting to risks

Partners, public and private

Payment delivery

Social workers

Targeting

Data



## SUSTAINABILITY

Development vs humanitarian  
approaches

Creating opportunity

Breaking cycle of violence

End fiscal drain

# Safety Nets in Conflict and Displacement Settings: Yemen case study

**Afrah Al-Ahmadi**  
**Sr. Social Protection Specialist**

**Social Safety Net Core Course**  
**November 5, 2019**



# NEAR 5 YEAR CONFLICT HAS RESULTED IN A LARGE SCALE HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENTAL CRISIS



- Wide spread armed conflict
  - Insecurity
  - Collapse of the economy
  - Collapse of state institutions
- 
- 80% of population in need of assistance
  - 40% of HHs lost primary source of income
  - 3.6 m internally displaced
  - 14 m experiencing acute food insecurity
  - Dramatic increase in poverty level (77%)



**Food insecurity is mostly a result of depleting purchasing power, as a result of spiking prices and loss of income.**

# SOCIAL PROTECTION LANDSCAPE AND IMPACT OF THE CONFLICT



## Pre-1995

- Energy Subsidies
- Food subsidies
- Pensions

## Post-1995 economic reforms:

- Energy subsidies (slow reform)
- Pensions (3 schemes)
- Targeted SSN programs:
  - Social Welfare Fund
  - Social Fund for Development
  - Public Works Project

## At conflict:

- Pensions (irregular)
- Social Fund for Development (significant scale down)



# IN A SITUATION OF PROTRACTED CONFLICT ..

A call for addressing the humanitarian-development divide ?



# ECRP: OPERATIONALIZING THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

Providing  
rapid  
response

Protecting  
human  
assets

Preserving  
institutional  
assets

Preparing for  
recovery and  
reconstruction



# ECRP: INSTITUTIONS

- Role of the Gov.
- Partnership with humanitarian agencies
- Role of local safety net and service delivery institutions
- Partnership with local private sector



# ECRP: PROGRAM



- Build on local capacity & Knowledge
- Preserve local SSN institutions
- Protect human capital
- Promote social cohesion

- UCT to the chronic poor
- Nutrition-linked CTs to mothers of children <5
- CfW for unskilled job seekers
- PWs for semi and skilled job seekers
- Cash for Services for the youth
- Support to MFIs to revive the industry and support SMEs

# ECRP: IMPLEMENTATION (ADAPTING TO RISKS)



political neutrality of delivery institutions

Conflict-sensitive resource allocations and targeting

Foster social cohesion and preserve local and community networks

Provide opportunities to members of host communities along with IDPs (especially youth) to collaborate around common objectives

Institute multi-layered monitoring and risk management

flexibility to respond to emerging needs and uncertainties





# ECRP: SUSTAINABILITY

## Individual/HH level

Protecting human capital and economic assets (e.g. livelihood, nutrition, skills)

## Community level

community—managed assets and social cohesion (infrastructure, community action)

## Institution level

Strengthening capacity and protecting their political neutrality

## National level

Contributing to readiness for recovery and reconstruction



## PROGRAM RESULTS ...

- 1.45 m HHs (9 m individuals) receiving CTs nationwide;
- Over 300,000 direct beneficiaries of wage employment
- 2.5 m people with access to community services
- Over 290,000 mothers and children U5 received nutrition services, with evidence of program impact
- 9 microfinance institutions supported and over 3000 SMEs revived

**However, w/o peace, sustaining these results is a major challenge !**



# **Safety Nets Response to Refugee Crisis in Turkey**

*Mirey Ovadiya*

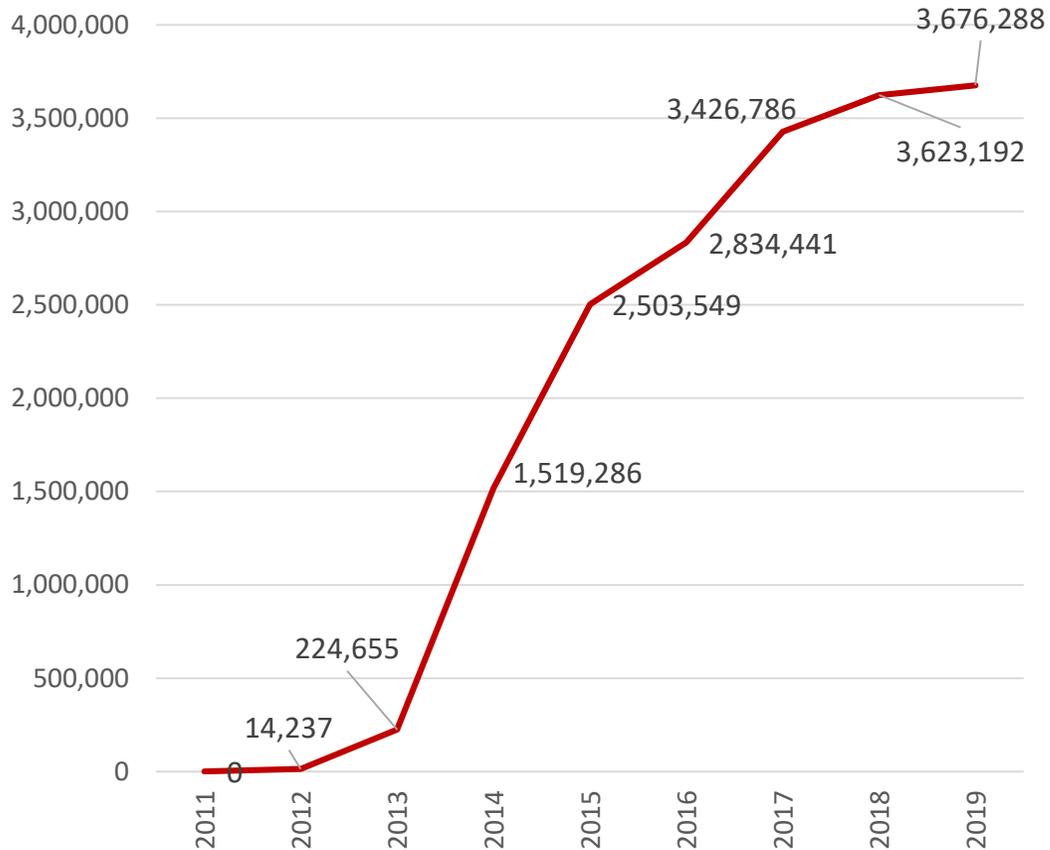
*Sirma Demir Seker*

*Washington DC*

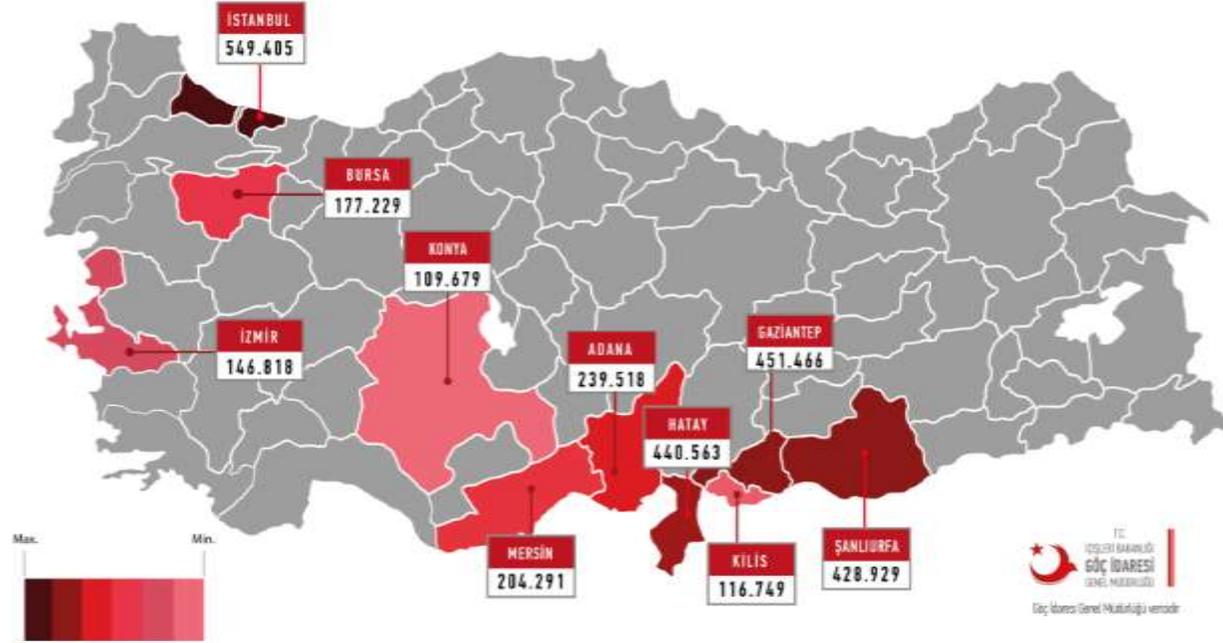
*October 2019*

# High influx of refugees over the course of 8 years

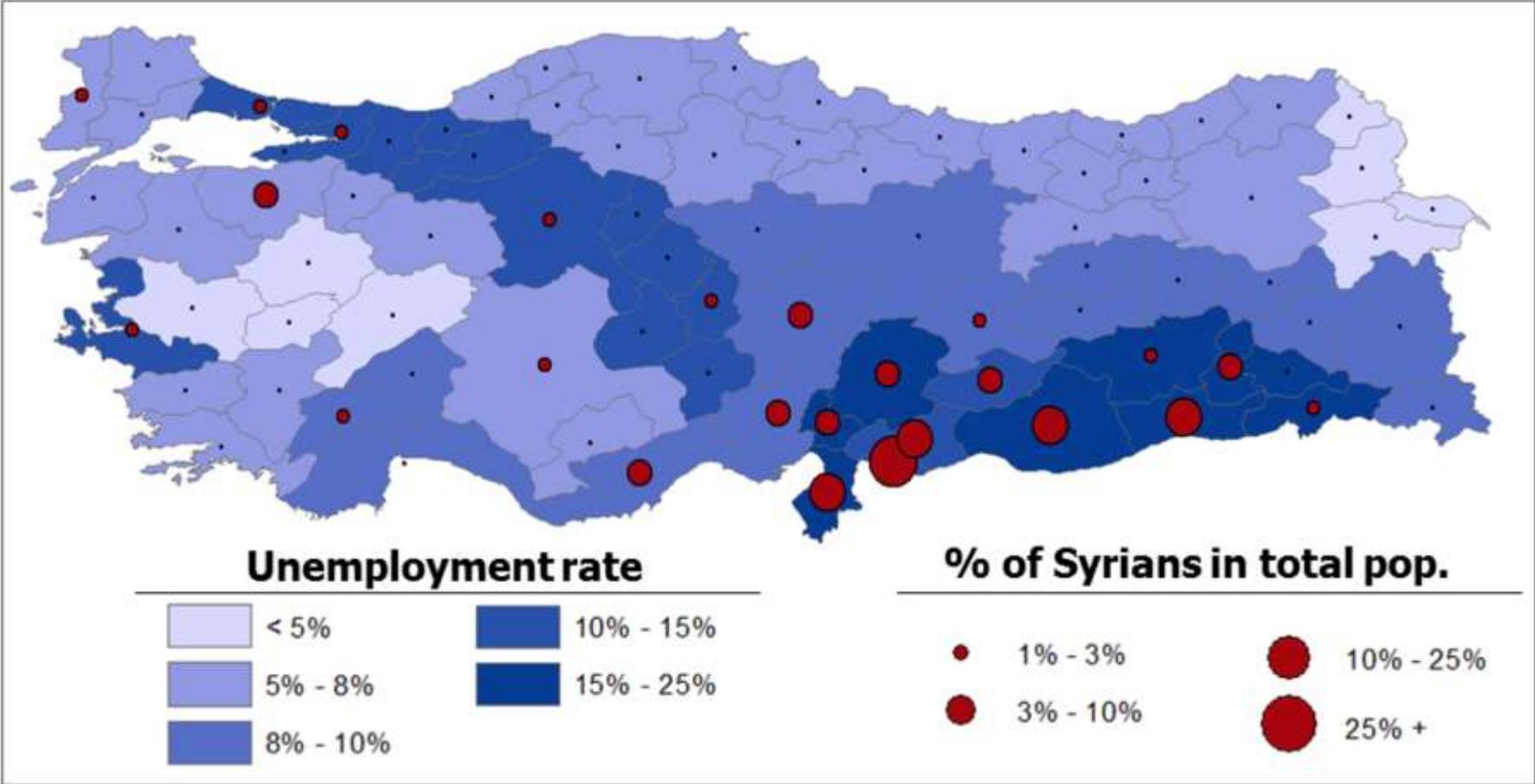
3.7 million Syrian refugees in Turkey  
and over 60% of them working age adults  
(aged 15-64)



10 provinces with highest number of Syrian refugees

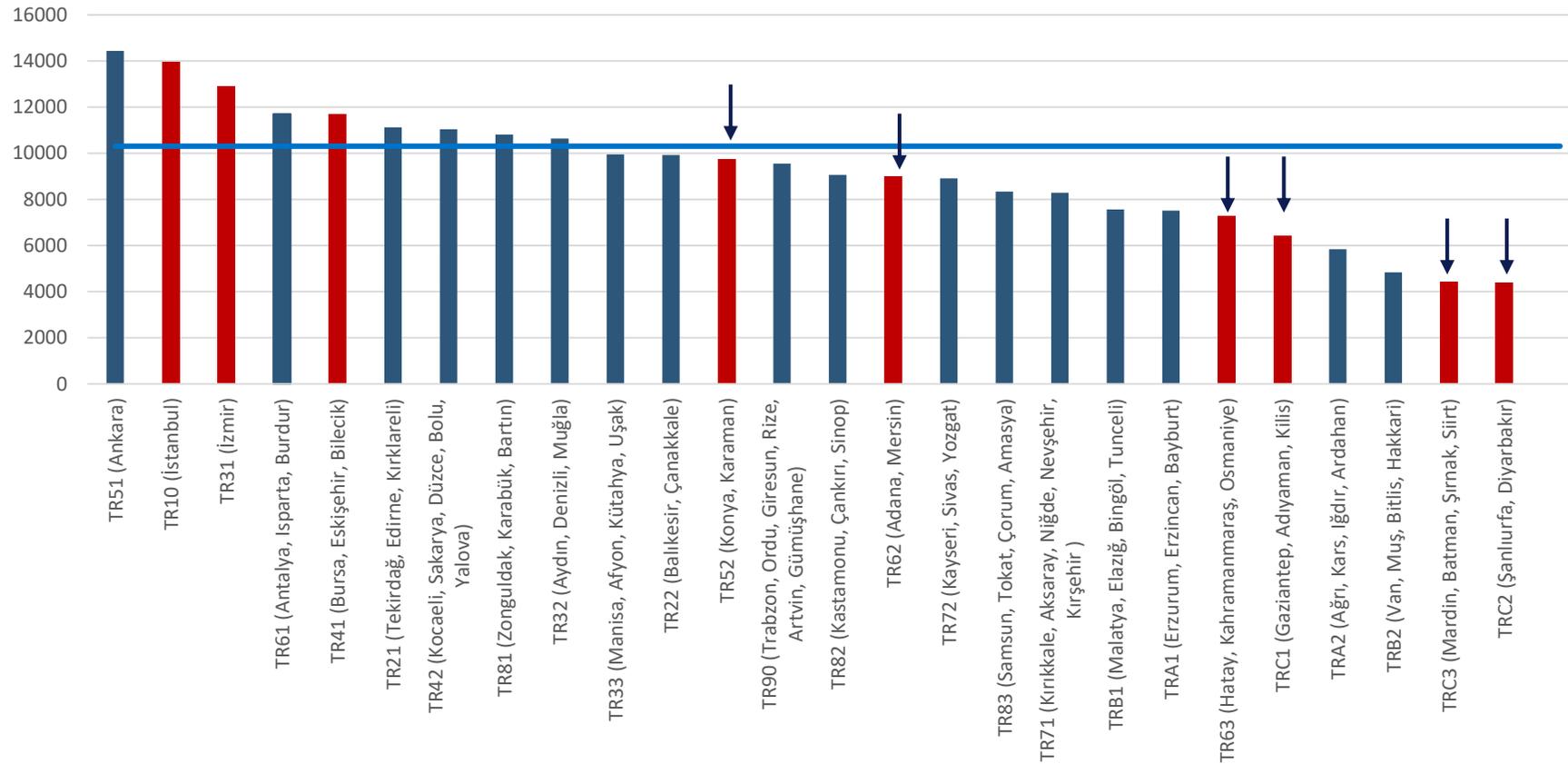


Syrians are living primarily in areas bordering conflict areas and those with economic difficulties...

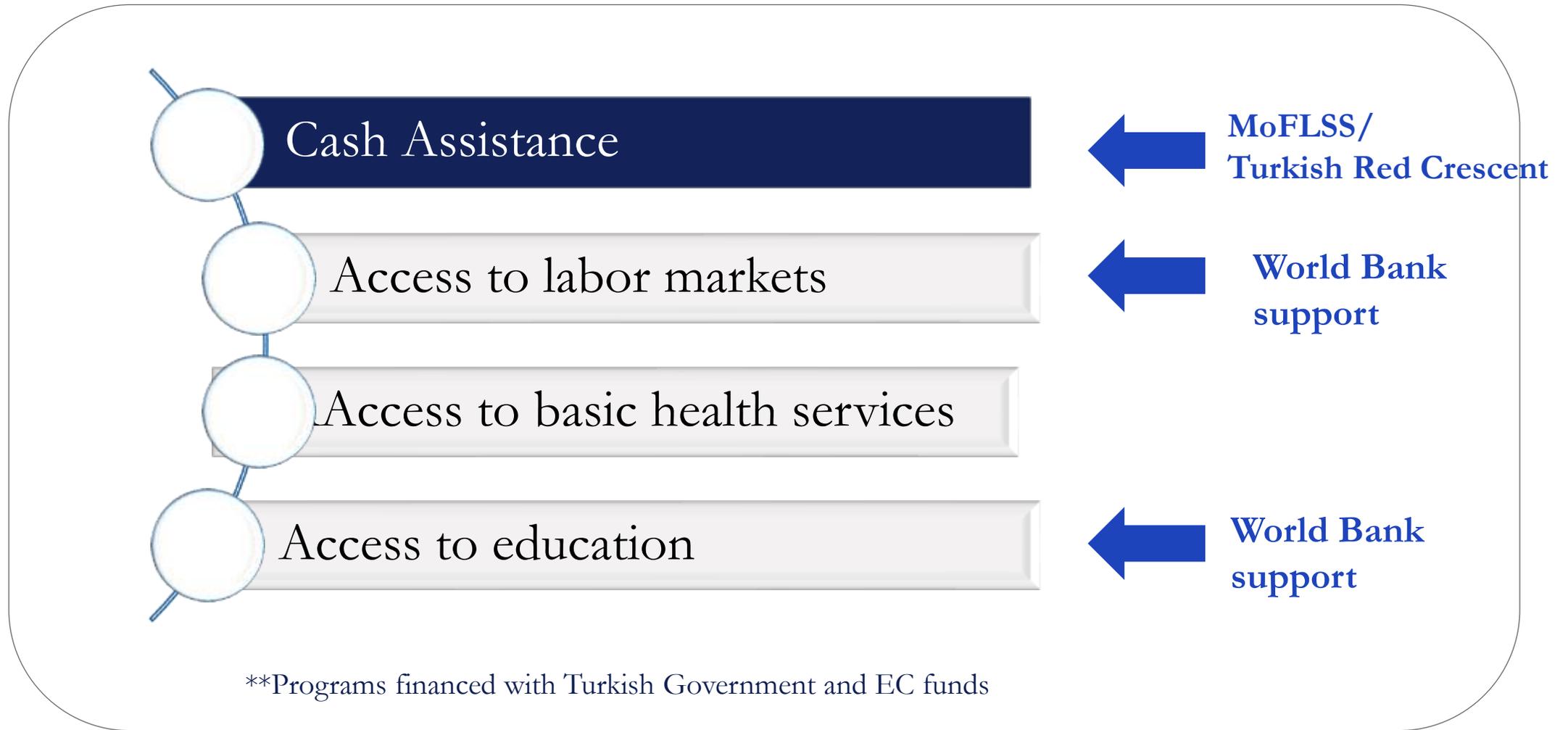


# Syrians are living primarily in areas bordering conflict areas and those with economic difficulties...

- Per capita household income by region



# Turkey's Response to Refugee Crisis



## Refugees can work formally in the Turkish labor market, but they face many challenges

### - Unfavorable labor market context

- High unemployment, informality rate etc..
- Labor market situation is even worse than national average in the provinces with high presence of Syrians (*lower density of formal firms, low net formal job creation, a less educated population, lower labor force participation, and higher unemployment rates than the national average*)

### - Mobility barriers to access and/or disincentives to seek formal employment

- Place where a refugee registers determines the location where that individual can seek formal work. A refugee needs to re-register in a new location before seeking/obtaining formal work
- Syrians working formally are not eligible for the existing emergency cash transfer program

### - Low education levels and unrecognized skills (no certification!)

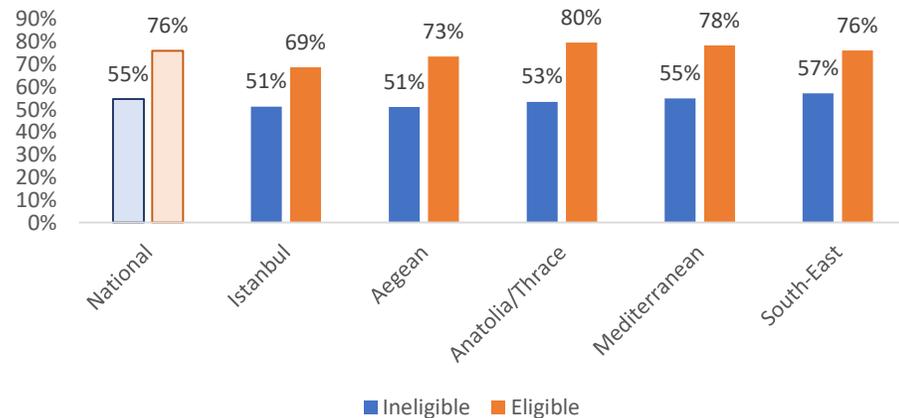
### - Language barriers

# EMERGENCY SAFETY NET PROGRAM FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES AND BROAD PROFILE OF REFUGEES WHO RECEIVE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

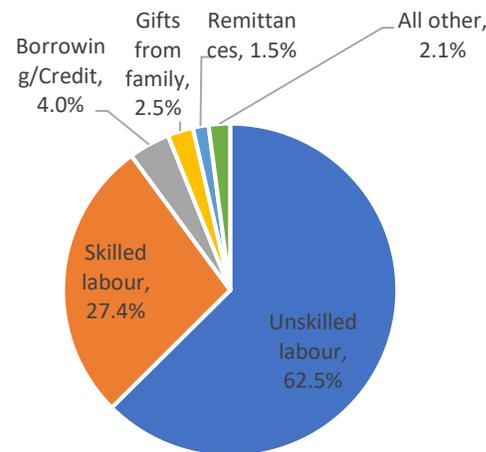
National program targeting Syrian Refugee Households and largest of its kind; in operation since 2016

- **Coverage:** Over 1.6 million individuals and 250,000 households
- **Eligibility criteria:** categorical depending on gender, dependency ratio, single/widowed parenthood, number of children, disability
- **Benefit amount:** 120 TL (20 USD) per person per month; top-ups depending on family size

## Poverty rate



## Income sources



## Demographics

% with male household head	60%
% with female household head	40%
Number of household members	6.8
Share of members age 0-17	58.4%
Share of members age 18-59	37.8%
Share of members age 60+	3.8%



## DELIVERY OF THE ESSN PROGRAM

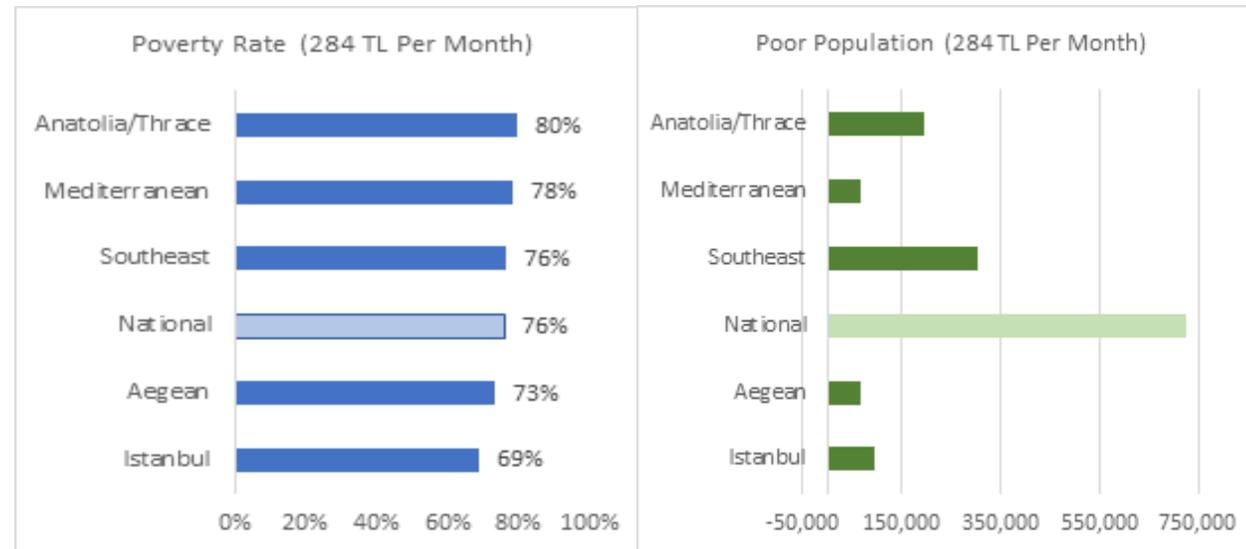
- **Anchored in the national social assistance system;** Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Services houses and coordinates the program
- **Kizilay, the Turkish Red Crescent** implements the program as the implementing arm of the Ministry
- **Ministry's Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation offices, Social Service Centers and Kizilay Service Centers** at the local level responsible for registration, home visits, certification/re-certification
- Households are registered, tracked and information collected under a separate module of the **National Integrated Information Management System (“Butunlesik”)**



## Emergency Safety Net Program for Syrian Refugees –Impact

Relative to other unconditional cash transfers across the world, ESSN achieves **significantly higher coverage of the poor, lower exclusion error, and higher adequacy and protection of the poor, though it allows higher inclusion error**

### Poverty rates among refugee population



Trade-off between **higher coverage, higher adequacy, lower exclusion error, higher inclusion error and accuracy** given the vulnerability of the refugee population and relatively significant share of refugee population around the poverty line

## FUTURE CHALLENGES FOR THE ESSN PROGRAM

- **Sustainability !...**
- **Funding source is FINITE**; the Facility for Refugees in Turkey (FRIT) of the European Commission. Funding cycle ends in 2021.
- **Turkish Government will have to assume responsibility** for a portion who require social assistance
- Government is working on a “**exit strategy**” to **graduate work-able refugees** from social assistance in a gradual manner and **better target** eligible households
- “**Activation**” by using **employment support, counseling and other auxiliary services** to improve access to labor markets and jobs



## TRANSITION OUT OF SAFETY NETS

### **Refugees and SA beneficiaries have access to ISKUR (Turkish Employment Agency) active labor market programs and intermediation services**

- SASFs refer work-able (refugee) SA beneficiaries directly/electronically to ISKUR; they can register themselves as well
- ISKUR contacts beneficiaries to initiate counseling/intermediation/placement on ALMPs (OJT, training and wage subsidy programs)

### **A series of new employment support initiatives in collaboration with the EU for Syrian Refugees and Turkish Citizens in host communities**

- Testing new models/programs to facilitate access of “harder to serve” groups to labor markets; special focus on SA beneficiary refugees and those who work informally
- Working through Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) and ISKUR to provide counseling and training support
- Providing individualized menu of services (using pre-screening and skills assessment tools)

## Focus of WB Support in Response to Refugee Crisis—Employment Support and Promotion



EU financing obtained for 2018-2023 to support analytical and operational work on labor markets and socioeconomic integration of refugees



**THANK YOU!**

---