Supporting higher education access for refugees: Higher Education Preparation Programme
Higher Education as part of a refugee response

- Builds **human capital** (personal and communal returns on higher education investment)
- Enhances **community resilience** – skilled people to rebuild country on return. Increased earning potential.
- **Protection** – positive engagement of youth in activities focussed on building their futures
- Opportunity to build **social ties** with peers in local community
- Students have the potential to be **leaders** and **contribute** to their communities.
Typical pathway followed by refugee students to enter Higher Education in Turkey

1. **High school certificate (TEC/TPS/Syria)**
2. **Equivalency document from PDNE**
3. **Language proficiency proof**
   - Examination
   - Proficiency proof
4. **Available quota in desired faculty**
5. **Provisional admission to university**
6. **Faculty acceptance**
7. **Registration (Active student)**
Comprehensive Higher Education Support Programme

- Enable refugee students meet **language proficiency requirements for admission**
- Promote **enrolment** of refugee students by providing scholarships
- Promote **retention** through providing support and advice to students

Implemented in partnership with YTB
Higher Education Preparation Programme

- Addresses language as a key barrier to accessing higher education
- Preparation programme offers:
  - **9 month** certified Turkish language programme
  - **960 hours** of instruction
  - **700 TL/ mo** stipend (conditional)
Over 8000 beneficiaries over a 3 year implementation period

- TAC: 1281
- Urban: 7058

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency
Geographic Coverage

- 21 cities
- 27 universities
- 42 TÖMER institutes
Reflections and lessons learnt

- Intensive programme requiring commitment
- Success rates lower in TAC
- Standardisation of courses
- Regular monitoring and quality assurance
- Long pathway to entering university (Language + YOS). Enrolments take place up to 2 years after completion