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Discover the project!
Migrations along the Balkan route have assumed numerical significance since 2015. Since the signing of the EU-Turkey agreement in March 2016, the borders have been much more closed, causing many people to get stuck in countries with all the psychosocial difficulties that it carries (anxiety, depression, untreated chronic diseases, children out of school, etc). Despite border reinforcement and travel difficulties, migrants and refugees have not stopped arriving in these countries. Most of them come from Syria and Afghanistan. In this context, the countries of the route have come together to work on a common project that will allow them to have a greater and better impact and along with Caritas Italiana and Spain, have started to build the Eastern Border migration network (REMAP). The ongoing process aims to strengthen the capacities and networking of the National Caritas while supporting the projects to assist migrants in each of the countries. All of them have designed their proposals with the idea of moving from humanitarian action to a more sustainable strategy.

On the other hand, in this new phase of work, the REMAP has designed an itinerary of common training, which allows improving the service to the most disadvantaged.

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), there are more than 4.9* million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3.7 million of whom are seeking international protection. Caritas Turkey (CT) is actively working with the most vulnerable groups among migrants, providing basic services and support to ensure basic needs such as food, medical treatments, and housing. Furthermore, CT is working with a Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development approach (LRRD) to foster economic independence, access to education, and social integration for migrants. This step is essential since long-term migrants’ presence in Turkey is now a reality with families living for more than 10 years in the country, therefore a holistic approach should be taken into account when addressing the migration crisis.

The main gap identified is: the lack of access to basic services and the integration of migrants in Turkey. With REMAP Project CT is aiming:

- Improve the access to basic services and the integration of migrants in Turkey.
- Enhance the living condition and inclusion of 527 migrants in the provinces of Istanbul, Izmir and Anatolia in one year.
- Strengthen in two years Caritas Turkey’s staff capacities and know-how in promotion and advocacy of rights of migrants and their integration in the Turkey’s society.

Our activities in Istanbul Diocesan area
- Providing basic assistance like food, medical and essential needs assistance
- Promotion, cultural mediation and integration through community facilitators in listening center
- Organization of 3 training for the Caritas staff on methods of psychosocial support.

Our activities in Anatolia Diocesan area
- Providing basic assistance like food, medical and essential needs assistance
- Organization of Turkish-English language courses for migrants
- Implementation of internships for migrants during the summer months

Our activities in Izmir Diocesan area
- Providing basic assistance like food, medical and essential needs assistance
- Organization of Turkish-English language courses for women migrants
- Activities on children’s integration