Schooling for Refugee Children



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Refugee Children

How can a host country increase the availability of high-quality education opportunities for refugee children without over-burdening their existing infrastructure?

30 million refugees in the world

42% of them are children

High drop-out rates, child labor, "lost generation"

There are over 1.2 M Syrian children in the compulsory education age (5-18).

There were also 450 thousand Syrian babies born in Turkey in 2019, which indicates a future increase in this number [7].













Actions taken by the Turkish Government



Regulations in Turkey give Syrian refugee children the right to enroll in Turkish State schools.

Temporary Education Centers

Temporary education centers (TECs), both inside of the refugee camps and in the parts of the cities where refugees are densely populated, were opened with the purpose of catching Syrian refugees up with Syrian syllabus.

Financial and Psychological Support Programs



- United Nations has funded 10 million for the schooling of Syrian children in Turkey and campaigns have been run to initiate families to send their children to school.
- Teachers who are trained in the language spoken and the socioemotional states of children are assigned to some selected schools.
- PIKTES, a project managed by the Ministry of Education to improve the access of Syrian kids to education has been initiated and applied.

Refugee Children Schooling in Turkey

- The crisis was assumed to be temporary, for years.
- Two schooling options supported by the Turkish Ministry of Education.

Central School Registration

- Transition/language requirements
- Lack of capacity
- Bilingual proper pedagogical training
- Fear of discrimination

Temporary Education Centers

- Follows the Syrian Syllabi
- Out-of-use buildings
- Rumors of closing since 2016 (Still not closed as of 2022)

Availability ≠ Accessibility

- Field reports and interviews illustrate that ease of transportation is crucial in maintaining children's attendance to education (Coskun, 2016),(Usta, 2018).
- We combine strategic decisions of location and assignment with transportation decisions in order to provide an accessible education system.

Selective Location Routing Problem





Refugee Children Schooling Definition



TEC s and Central schools

Opportunities of TECs

- Locations are initially selected to be close (2km -10km)
- Less worrisome discrimination/bullying

















• School bus routes

Operational Decisions

Selective Location Routing Problem



A New Selective Location Routing Problem

Location Routing

- Selection of central schools
- Assignment of districts to central schools
- Determination the transportation route
- Selection of TECs to transform

Location decision on the demand nodes

Selective Routing

Students may be walking to school

 The TEC in the district may be transformed

Create selectiveness for routing

Compulsory Selectiveness

Optional Selectiveness

Operational Dynamics

Based on Turkish Government's legislations

- Children closer than 2 kilometers must walk to school.
- > Children cannot be transported to a school further than 50 kilometers.
- Transformed TECs serve only the children in that district.

Based operational requirements

- Central schools have capacity limitations.
- School buses have capacity limitations.
- > A central school might have zero, one or more incoming school busses.

Parameters

Let:

- $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{C}$
- \mathcal{D} : set of districts
- $\mathcal C:$ set of candidate central schools

 $\pmb{\mathcal{E}}=\{\{i,j\}:i,j\in \pmb{\mathcal{V}}\}$

 ${\cal H}:$ upper bound on the number of central schools

 $K: \mathrm{upper}\ \mathrm{bound}\ \mathrm{on}\ \mathrm{the}\ \mathrm{number}\ \mathrm{of}\ \mathrm{tTECs}$

 L_{ij} : distance between nodes $i \in \mathcal{V}$ and $j \in \mathcal{V}$

 γ : allowable walking distance between a district and a central school

 θ : allowable bus travel distance between a district and a central school

 $M: \operatorname{number}$ of school busses available

 $P_i:$ population of refugee children in district $i\in\mathcal{D}$

QS : capacity of central schools (number of children)

Q: capacity of school busses (number of children)

 $\gamma_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{distance between nodes } i \in \mathcal{D} \text{ and } j \in \mathcal{C} \text{ is less than } \gamma \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$s_{i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if a district is included in the bus route } i \in \mathcal{D} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$f_{i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if there is a tTEC located in district } i \in \mathcal{D} \\ \text{et is included in the bus route } i \in \mathcal{D} \end{cases}$$

a tTEC located in district $i \in \mathcal{D}$

te school $j \in \mathcal{C}$ is selected as a central school

travels from node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ to $j \in \mathcal{V}$ to reach nool $k \in \mathcal{C}$

in district $i \in \mathcal{D}$ walk to central school $k \in \mathcal{C}$

ol bus when it travels from node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ to $j \in \mathcal{V}$ ool $k \in \mathcal{C}$ de $i \in \mathcal{V}$ to $j \in \mathcal{V}$ to reach

3 index formulation with school index to represent assignments

Omitted assignment decision variables and reduced vehicle indices for a tractable formulation

 ${\mathfrak O}$ walk to central school $k \in {\mathcal C}$

ravels from node $i \in \mathcal{V}$ to $j \in \mathcal{V}$

		a successive and the second
$\min \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} L_{ij} \cdot y_{ijk}$	Minimize the weighted distance t	ravelled by school busses
i.t. $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{ijk} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	
$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{jik} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	Routing constraints
$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} x_{ijk} = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{V}} x_{jrk}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}$	
$s_i + f_i + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ik} = 1$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	Assign every district to a schooling option
$1 - \gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge s_i + f_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Compulsory selectiveness: children in the walkir distance must walk to school
$\gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge n_{ik}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{O}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Allowable walking distance

$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{ijk} \le M$				School busses
$\sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} z_k \leq H$	Budget	Constraints		Central Schools
$\sum_{i \in D} f_i \le K$				Transformed TECs
$x_{ijk} \le z_k$	$\forall i,j \in \mathcal{V}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Flov	w only into	o central schools
$x_{ijk} = 0$	$\forall j,k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall i \in \mathcal{D}, j \neq k$	lf th towa	e flow is n rds a centi cannot ei	ot directed ral school, it nter it
$y_{ijk} \ge x_{ijk}$	$\forall i,j \in \mathcal{V}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$			Only on used edges
$y_{kik} = x_{kik}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, i \in \mathcal{D}$	Flow Constra	aints	Initialization
$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} y_{ijk} = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{V}} y_{rik} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} P_i \cdot x_{ijk}$	$orall i \in \mathcal{D}, orall k \in \mathcal{C}$			Flow balance 21

$x_{iik} \cdot L_{ik} \le \theta$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{V}, \forall k \in \mathcal{V}$	<i>e</i> Allowable bus tra	avel distance
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Allowable bas the	
$y_{ijk} - x_{ijk} \le Q \cdot x_{ijk}$	$\forall i,j \in \mathcal{V}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$		School busses
$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} (y_{ikk} - x_{ikk}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} P_i \cdot n_{ik} \le QS$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Capacity Constraints	Central Schools
$z_k + \sum_{j:L_{ij} > L_{ik}} n_{ij} \le 1$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Nearest assignment constraints for walking	For improved accesibility
$y_{ijk} \in \mathbb{Z}^+$	$orall i,j\in\mathcal{V},k\in\mathcal{C}$		
$x_{ijk} \in \{0, 1\}$	$\forall i,j \in \mathcal{V}, k \in \mathcal{C}$		
$n_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, k \in \mathcal{C}$		
$z_k \in \{0, 1\}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}$		
$f_i, s_i \in \{0, 1\}$	$orall i \in \mathcal{D}$		22

Shortcomings of SLRP:

Infeasibilities in further scarcity of resources

Not tractable for tight instances

A maximum covering model: Maximum Covering SLRP (MC-SLRP)

$$\max \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} P_i \cdot x_{ijk} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}} P_i \cdot n_{ij} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} P_i \cdot f_i$$
(5.25)

s.t. (5.2) - (5.4), (5.6) - (5.24)

$$s_i + f_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ij} \le 1 \qquad \forall i \in \mathcal{D} \qquad (5.5^*)$$

\min	$\sum \sum \sum L_{ij} \cdot y_{ijk}$	Minimize the weighted distance tra	avelled by school busses
	$i \in \mathcal{V} \ i \in \mathcal{V} \ k \in \mathcal{C}$		
s.t.	$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{ijk} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	
	$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{jik} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	Routing constraints
	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} x_{ijk} = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{V}} x_{jrk}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}$	
	$s_i + f_i + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ik} = 1$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	ssign every district to a schooling option
	$1 - \gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge s_i + f_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{O}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	ompulsory selectiveness: children in the walkin distance must walk to school
	$\gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge n_{ik}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{O}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Allowable walking distance

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min	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} L_{ij} \cdot y_{ijk}$	$\max \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} P_i \cdot x_{ijk}$	$+\sum_{i\in\mathcal{D}}\sum_{j\in\mathcal{C}}P_i\cdot n_{ij}+\sum_{i\in\mathcal{D}}P_i\cdot f_i$
s.t.	$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{ijk} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	
	$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} x_{jik} = s_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}$	Routing constraints
	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} x_{ijk} = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{V}} x_{jrk}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall j \in \mathcal{V}$	
	$s_i + f_i + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ik} = 1$	$s_i + f_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ij} \le 1$	ssign every district to a schooling option
	$1 - \gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge s_i + f_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	ompulsory selectiveness: children in the walkir distance must walk to school
	$\gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge n_{ik}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Allowable walking distance

Data



Kilis: The most refugee-dense province of the Turkey: 47% of Kilis population is Syrian Refugees



Real locations of high schools in Kilis	Candidate Central Schools	15
Real locations of villages and refugee camps in Kilis	Refugee Districts	42
Randomly generated population	Children population in each district	462

Performances of SLRP and MC-SLRP

Central Schools	tTECs	Bus Travel Distance (km)		Expected Attendance		Solution Time (secs)	
Central Sendors	ULC5	SLRP	MC-SLRP	SLRP	MC-SLRP	SLRP	MC-SLRP
7	10	210.5	752.2	76%	63%	36.1	15.8
7	7	239.5	879.5	81%	52%	36.0	23.0
7	5	265.7	1096.9	79%	49%	110.2	19.3
6	10	220.6	752.2	82%	63%	28.0	16.9
6	7	239.9	879.5	80%	52%	44.8	23.9
6	5	279.3	1021.5	78%	51%	184.2	20.7
5	10	224.5	752.2	82%	63%	38.7	18.2
5	7	267.6	977.7	79%	52%	289.7	41.4
5	5	303.3	1091.3	77%	47%	1099.9	19.7
4	10	266.8	752.2	82%	63%	161.0	16.9
4	7	288.0	1115.1	80%	53%	1180.4	37.4

Performances of SLRP and MC-SLRP

Central Schools	tTECs	Solution Time (mins) $ $		Gap		
	01205	SLRP	MC-SLRP	SLRP	MC-SLRP	
4	5	180	0.32	no integer solution found	0%	
4	3	180	2.78	no integer solution found	0%	
3	10	180	0.29	6.63%	0%	
3	7	3.12	93.54	infeasible	0%	
3	5	1.27	35.29	infeasible	0%	
3	3	1.51	27.99	infeasible	0%	
2	5	0.86	180	infeasible	0.68%	
1	5	0.33	1.15	infeasible	0%	

Differences of solution times increase even more when these bounds are tighter. For majority of the instances, CLPEX cannot find an optimal solution for SLRP.

Performances of SLRP and MC-SLRP

Central Schools	tTECs	Bus Travel Distance (km)		Expected Attendance		Solution	Solution Time (secs)	
	1205	SLRP	MC-SLRP	SLRP	MC-SLRP	SLRP	MC-SLRP	
7	10	210.5	752.2	76%	63%	36.1	15.8	
7	7	239.5	879.5	81%	52%	36.0	23.0	
7	5	265.7	1096.9	79%	49%	110.2	19.3	
6	10	220.6	752.2	82%	63%	28.0	16.9	
6	7	239.9	879.5	80%	52%	44.8	23.9	
6	5	279.3	1021.5	78%	51%	184.2	20.7	
5	10	224.5	752.2	82%	63%	38.7	18.2	
5	7	267.6	977.7	79%	52%	289.7	41.4	
5	5	303.3	1091.3	77%	47%	1099.9	19.7	
4	10	266.8	752.2	82%	63%	161.0	16.9	
4	7	288.0	1115.1	80%	53%	1180.4	37.4	

Expected attendance rates considers the distance between each district and its assigned school.

Expected attendance diminishes with increasing distance

Attendance-based SLRP (A-SLRP)

How to incorporate "attendance" behavior into SLRP

A model that considers attendance rates of children with respect to distance:

Attendance-based SLRP (A-SLRP)



Subject to max cover model constraints

Attendance-based SLRP (A-SLRP

Gradual Decay Functions: to represent children's behaviour of attending their assigned schools Uniform Decay:

 ϕ_{ik}^{w} : Attendance rates of children in district $i \in \mathcal{D}$ when they walk to school $k \in \mathcal{C}$

$$\phi_{ik}^{w} = \begin{cases} 1, & L_{ik} = 0\\ (\gamma - L_{ik})/(\gamma), & 0 < L_{ik} \le \gamma\\ 0, & \gamma < L_{ik} \end{cases}$$

 ϕ^b_{ik} : Attendance rates of children in district $i\in\mathcal{D}$ when they take the school bus to school $k\in\mathcal{C}$

$$\phi_{ik}^{b} = \begin{cases} 1, & L_{ik} = 0\\ (\theta - L_{ik})/(\theta - \gamma), & \gamma < L_{ik} \le \theta\\ 0, & \theta < L_{ik} \end{cases}$$





Attendance-based SLRP (A-SLRP

Gradual Decay Functions: to represent children's behaviour of attending their assigned schools Step-wise Decay:

 ϕ_{ik}^{w} :Attendance rates of children in district $i \in \mathcal{D}$ when they walk to school $k \in \mathcal{C}$

$$\phi_{ik}^{w} = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le L_{ik} \le 0.5 \\ 0.4, & 0.5 < L_{ik} \le 1 \\ 0.2, & 1 < L_{ik} \le \gamma \\ 0, & \gamma < L_{ik} \end{cases}$$

 $\phi^b_{ik}:$ Attendance rates of children in district $i\in\mathcal{D}$ when they take the school bus to school $k\in\mathcal{C}$

$$\phi_{ik}^{b} = \begin{cases} 1, & \gamma < L_{ik} \le 10 \\ 0.6, & 10 < L_{ik} \le 25 \\ 0.4, & 25 < L_{ik} \le \theta \\ 0, & \theta < L_{ik} \text{ and } \gamma > L_{ik} \end{cases}$$





2-Stage Approach for A-SLRP



Routing

VRP for each central school: single depot, non-selective demand points

2-Stage Approach for A-SLRP



2-Stage Approach: Location Allocation

	$\max \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{O}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{O}} \phi_{ik}^b \cdot P_i \cdot \overline{x}_{ikt}$			$\sum_{k \in \mathcal{O}} m_{kt} \le 1$	$\forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	(5.37)
	$+\sum_{i\in\mathscr{D}}\sum_{k\in\mathscr{C}}\phi_{ik}^{w}\cdot P_{i}\cdot n_{ik} + \sum_{i\in\mathscr{D}}F$	$P_i \cdot f_i$	(5.27)	$\overline{x}_{ikt} \le m_{kt}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	Assignment
Location	s.t. $s_i + f_i + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} n_{ik} \le 1$	$\forall i\in \mathcal{D}$	(5.28)	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{Q}} P_i \cdot \overline{x}_{ikt} \le Q$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	(5.39)
Location	$1-\gamma_{ik}\cdot z_k\geq s_i+f_i$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	(5.29)	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{O}} P_i \cdot \overline{x}_{ikt} + \sum_{i \in D} P_i \cdot n_{ik} \leq$	$\leq QS \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	Capacities
Assignment	$\gamma_{ik} \cdot z_k \ge n_{ik}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	(5.30)	$\overline{x}_{ikt} \in \{0, 1\}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, k \in \mathcal{C}, t \in B$	(5.41)
Budget	$\sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} z_k \le H$		(5.31)	$n_{ik} \in \{0,1\}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, k \in \mathcal{C}$	(5.42)
	$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} f_i \le K$		(5.32)	$m_{kt} \in \{0,1\}$	$k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in B$	(5.43)
Assignment of	$\sum_{k \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{B}} \overline{x}_{ikt} = s_i$	$\forall i\in \mathcal{D}$	(5.33)	$z_k \in \{0,1\}$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}$	(5.44)
Districts	$\overline{x}_{ikt} \leq z_k$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	(5.34)	f _i , s _i ∈ {0 1} Arbitrar	ry district-bus	(5.45)
Assignment of buses	$\overline{x}_{ikt} \cdot L_{ik} \le \theta$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}, \forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	(5.35)	assig	nments for	
	$m_{kt} \le z_k$	$\forall k \in \mathcal{C}, \forall t \in \mathcal{B}$	(5.36)	second stage feasibility		

for each $k \in \mathcal{C}$ with $z_k = 1$, solve the sub-problem:

Routing

min	$\sum_{i\in\mathcal{N}_k}\sum_{i\in\mathcal{N}_k}L_{ij}\cdot u_{ij}$			(5.48)
s.t.	$\sum_{j\in n_k} u_{ij} = 1$	$\forall i\in \mathcal{D}_k$		Non-selective sub-problem
	$\sum_{j\in n_k} u_{ji} = 1$	$\forall i\in \mathcal{D}_k$		(5.50)
	$\sum_{j\in n_k} u_{j0} = m_k$			Predetermined number of school buses
	$\sum_{j\in n_k} u_{0j} = m_k$			(0.02)
y_{ij}	$_{j} \ge u_{ij}$	$\forall i,j \in \pmb{n}_k$		(5.59)
y_{0}	$_{j} = u_{0j}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}_k$		Flow based formulation
$\sum_{j \in I}$	$\sum_{n_k} y_{ij} = \sum_{r \in n_k} y_{ri} + \sum_{j \in n_k} P_i \cdot u_{ij}$	$\forall i \in \mathcal{D}_k$		(5.55)
y_{ij}	$_{j} \leq Q \cdot u_{ij}$	$\forall i,j \in \pmb{n}_k$		New district-bus assignments
u_{ij}	$j \in \{0,1\}$	$\forall i, j \in \mathcal{N}_k$		(5.57)
y_i	$i_j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$	$\forall i, j \in \mathcal{N}_k$	(5.58)	

Performance of 2-Stage Approach

Central Schools	tTECs	A-SLRP Exact N	ſodel	2-Sta	ige Approach	
	11205	Solution Time (mins	s) Gap	First stage Solution Time	Second stage Solution Time	Gap
7	7	<1	0%	<1	<1	0%
7	5	180	0.29%	<1	<1	0%
6	7	180	0.04%	<1	<1	0%
6	5	180	1.47%	<1	<1	0%
5	7	180	0.98%	<1	<1	0%
5	5	3.23	0%	<1	<1	0%
4	7	6.68	0%	<1	<1	0%
4	5	180	2.03%	<1	<1	0%
3	7	180	0.18%	<1	<1	0%
3	5	180	0.28%	<1	<1	0%
2	5	29.41	0%	<1	<1	0%
1	5	1.04	0%	<1	<1	0%

CLPEX cannot find an optimal solution for A-SLRP with the exact model, for many of the instances. 2-Stage obtains optimal results within less than a minute for every instance and provides a practical beneficiary-oriented tool for reinforcing schooling accessibility for refugee children.

Performance of A-SLRP



Summary

MC-SLRP	 Benchmarking model. Short solution times with CPLEX. Performs poorly in terms of both accessibility and cost
SLRP	 Combines three levels of decisions Performs well in terms of both accesibility and cost. Considers the interests of beneficiaries, MoNE, and refugee children. Cannot be solved by CPLEX for tighther instances. Yields no solutions in the scarcity of the resources.
	 Considers attendance rates of children with gradual

- Considers attendance rates of children with gradual decay functions.
- Performs well in terms of both accesibility.
- Decomposable and 2-Stage Approach finds optimal solutions in less than a minute.

What Else?



COVID 19 Applications

Vaccine Logistics

Vaccine Logistics

Joint work with Çağla Dursunoglu Oya Karaşan Özlem Karsu Manoj Dora



 The percentage of people who received the first dose of vaccine is 93.18%, and the percentage of people who received the second dose of vaccine is 85.48% in Turkey by May 24, 2022.¹



¹Source: "COVID-19 Aşısı Bilgilendirme Platformu." Covid-19 Vaccination Information Platform, covid19asi.saglik.gov.tr/siteagaci. Accessed 24 May. 2022.

Vaccination Strategies:

- Fixed Centers
 - Generally hospitals and health centers
 - May require travel for vaccination
 - May exclude vulnerable part of community
- Drive Through Vaccination Centers
 - Accessible to car owners
 - Limited accessibility and availability
 - Exclude a large proportion of community living in high-density urban centers and areas with high transmission rate
- Walk-in vaccination sites (Local Vaccination sites)
 - Fixed sites providing access to vaccines within walking distance
 - Aims to increase availability by reaching disadvantaged areas
- Mobile Vaccination Clinics
 - Mobility provides flexibility for vaccination services
 - Prioritize accessibility of vaccines to those facing mobility or transportation barriers.



• Three cases can be considered within the context







Home-care Service by Small Mobile Units

 Only home-care visits are considered and there is no changing vaccination potential.



Possible Operational Dynamics of Case 1:

- ✓ Total time spent (service + travel) shouldn't exceed a pre-determined time
- ✓ Small mobile units only serve to a point at a time and moves to another one
- ✓ All vehicles return to the central health center/hospital at the end of each shift.
- \implies "Selective" Distance Constrained Vehicle Routing Problem





Half-Mobile Facility Service

- A predefined number of mobile vaccination centers departing from central vaccination center
- Mobile vaccination centers stay at certain points
- Mobility is an option during day time





Possible Operational Dynamics of Case 2:

- High vaccination potential when mobile vaccination centers arrive in the district
 - It may diminish after a certain time
- People in the neighborhood of a visited district can walk for vaccination
 - For convenience: if a district is covered rather than visited, the vaccination is expected to be less since vaccination potential may be less
 - There is a correlation between the willingness of patients in covered districts to reach mobile centers and the distance to the visited district.
- ✓ All mobile centers return to the central health center/hospital at the end of each day.
- \implies Case 1 + Coverage aspect
- \implies "Selective" Distance Constrained VRP + Coverage aspect



Tent and Half-Mobile Facility Service

- A predefined number of temporary fixed centers
- Temporary fixed centers are located at certain points
- A predefined number of mobile vaccination units departs from temporary fixed centers.
- Mobile vaccination units dynamics same with Case 2 (Half-Mobile Facility Service)





Possible Operational Dynamics of Case 3:

- For Temporary Fixed Locations:
 - ✓ Temporary fixed centers are also located to dispatch half-mobile vaccination units (mini-location)
 - ✓ People in the neighborhood of a temporary fixed centers can walk on for vaccination
 - ✓ Operates one shift (8 hours)
- For Half-Mobile Facilities
 - ✓ All vehicles return to the temporary fixed centers at the end of the shift
 - ✓ Same dynamics with Case 1 (Half-Mobile Facility Service)
 - Diminishing vaccination potential with respect to time and coverage.
- \implies Case 2+ Location
- \implies "Selective" Location and Routing Problem

- An interesting and different application
- Location of stopping points
- Routing

An interesting additional decision and challenge

• Accessibility...

Duration of stay

• Fairness...

