

Armenia

July - September 2022

Since the latest escalation of the situation along the Armenia-Azerbaijan state border on 13 September 2022, UNHCR has conducted nine **protection monitoring missions** to the affected areas in Armenia. UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP are conducting a **rapid assessment** of displaced persons' needs.

UNHCR conducted the annual **participatory assessment** with some 100 participants, in coordination with state and non-state partners. The exercise provided broader insight and analysis of the needs and challenges faced by displaced persons.

The first phase of the UEFA-funded "**Play Together for Integration**" project for displaced and local children, implemented by the Football Federation of Armenia and supported by UNHCR, concluded with a Solidarity Cup tournament held on the Football Academy pitches in Yerevan.

KEY INDICATORS

392 calls

from 263 individuals were received by the **UNHCR Hotline**, operated by partner - KASA Foundation. Main topics of concern related to access to the asylum procedure, shelter and housing, and cash assistance. UNHCR has received 157 emails and 16 letters and has counseled 21 individuals.

2,854 persons of concern

were provided with social and **legal services** by UNHCR partner - Mission Armenia NGO.

267 persons of concern

were provided with **livelihood support**; selected 84 of them received income generation tools (implemented by UNHCR partner - the Armenian Red Cross Society).



An internally displaced woman receiving UNHCR assistance at the distribution point in host community of Vardenis. September 2022. © UNHCR/ Anahit Hayrapetyan

FUNDING (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2022)

Financial requirements*

USD 13.8

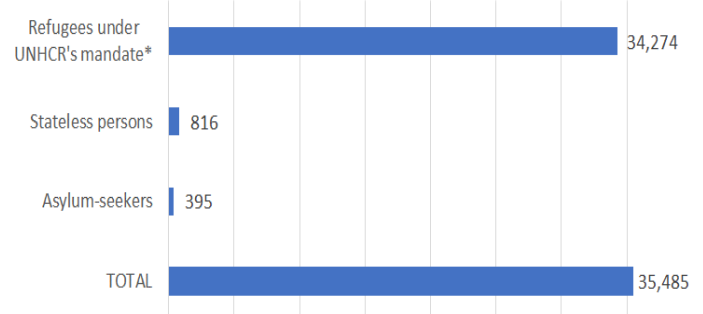
Funding gap
73%
10.1 million



Funded
27%
3.7 million

*The financial requirements for Armenia include requirements for the operation's regular programme and the Ukraine Situation

POPULATION OF CONCERN* AS OF JULY 2022



* Includes persons in refugee-like situations.
Source: [UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

Operational Context

Key protection activities

In 2022, UNHCR continues to contribute to the development of a comprehensive refugee legislation and building the capacities of the Migration Service, Border Guards, the judiciary, and lawyers of the Public Defender's Office who work with displaced persons.









- Under a project co-funded by the European Union, UNHCR, jointly with the Migration Service of Armenia, has established an inter-agency forum for the review of legislation on international protection. Since the inception, UNHCR has facilitated two meetings of stakeholders to discuss the existing gaps and provide recommendations.
- Access to justice for asylum-seekers was further strengthened through building the capacity of the judiciary on complex refugee law issues and launch of a multi-year partnership project with the Chamber of Advocates. With the increase of arrivals of asylum-seekers from Ukraine, UNHCR stepped up its expert support to the Migration Service and facilitated experience exchange with the Swedish Migration Agency on effective processing of asylum applications.
- On 24-25 September, UNHCR conducted a workshop on complex issues of refugee law for 12 administrative law judges.

Two Emergency Preparedness Workshops were held in Goris town (on 2-3 August) and Jermuk town (on 8-9 September). Representatives of administrations of Syunik and Vayots Dzor provinces, local authorities, line ministries and community-based, international and local organizations participated. Training sessions were conducted on the UNHCR mandate, protection mainstreaming in emergency situations, information management, risk assessment and psychological first aid.



International Youth Day celebrations featured a master class conducted by Areg Balayan, a famous photographer and animator, with an active participation by a diverse group of local and displaced children and youth residing in Hrazdan town, the 2022 Youth Capital of Armenia, 12 August 2022. Photo © UN Armenia Communications Group.

Figures: July – September 2022

	917 persons of concern have received various types of vulnerability-based cash assistance, such as rental subsidies, multipurpose cash grants, school attendance subsidies, and transportation grants).
	688 persons of concern have received health care services.
	420 persons of concern have received medical assistance.
	184 persons of concern have received legal counselling and assistance.
	20 displaced children and 15 survivors of gender-based violence were provided with specialized case management.
	27 displaced elderly persons and persons with specific needs were provided with specialized case management.
	81 persons of concern participated in psychological group events.
	84 persons of concern have received income generation tools by the Armenian Red Cross Society



PROTECTION

- At the request of the Migration Service, UNHCR is supporting the implementation of the Conceptual Framework of the State Management of Migration. UNHCR undertook a **comprehensive assessment of capacity gaps and needs in the asylum system**, which shall inform the development of the national programme on the management of migration flows.
- Government staff conducting refugee status determination benefited from **expert support in 18 asylum cases**. Considering the increase of asylum applications due to the situation in Ukraine, enhanced **country of origin information support** was provided to the Migration Service.
- UNHCR signed grant agreements with three **refugee-led organizations** (RLO) to support and build their capacity through grants of \$4,000 per RLO. The organizations represent displaced communities from Syria and Nagorno-Karabakh and will implement activities aimed at empowering displaced women and raising their awareness on **gender-based violence (GBV)**.
- In September, UNHCR met with authorities in local communities affected by the **latest armed escalation** and interviewed 26 households (127 individuals) displaced from the affected border settlements. UNHCR office continues conducting **missions** to other locations in the country, where displaced persons could arrive.



NFI NON-FOOD ITEMS

- UNHCR has distributed **560 hygiene kits** among displaced individuals in Gegharkunik and Syunik provinces, through the Armenian Red Cross Society.
- Supplies upon school enrolment** were provided to 111 displaced children through the Armenian Red Cross Society, while 122 persons of concern received other **non-cash assistance** through Mission Armenia NGO.

Working in Partnership

- Operating within the UN Country Team (UNCT), UNHCR is cooperating with state and non-state stakeholders, promoting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 in Armenia through the UNSD Cooperation Framework 2021-2025.
- In July, UNHCR, jointly with the Migration Service (MS), organised a [two-day workshop for journalists](#). The event was part of the ongoing UNHCR-MS-IOM *Media and Migration* project and was dedicated to World Refugee Day 2022. A group of 20 journalists and media experts attended, as well as two refugees from Congo and Iran who shared their life stories. The Head of the Migration Service led the introductory session. Other sessions included provision of information and data on the refugee situation in Armenia and worldwide, Q&A sessions, demonstration of information platforms and thematic videos, sharing of good principles of journalists' work with refugees.
- In July, UNHCR co-organized a [UN Country Team meeting in Goris](#) to gain in-depth understanding of the displacement situation and the community priorities in Syunik province. The two-day event included sessions with the Governor of Syunik and the Deputy Mayor of Goris, a visit to UN/UNHCR Goris Field Unit, and the Women's Development Resource Centre Foundation, which has benefitted from UN/UNHCR support. UNCT members also met with a group of local and displaced youth, women and entrepreneurs. As expressed by the UN Resident Coordinator a.i., the meetings allowed UNCT to review the impact of the ongoing programmes in Syunik and deliberate on ways to adjust current UN programmes to the needs of communities in volatile environment.

Financial Information

In 2022, UNHCR Armenia is seeking **USD 13.8 million** to respond to the needs of people in a refugee-like situation and to cover the regular annual programme.

UNHCR is grateful to the European Union and the United States of America for supporting its programmes in Armenia in 2022.

UNHCR also thanks donors who provided over USD 10 million of unearmarked contributions* to its 2022 global programme:

Sweden | Norway | Netherlands | Denmark | Private donors Spain | United Kingdom | Private donors Japan | Germany | France | Switzerland | Private donors Republic of Korea | Private donors USA | Belgium | Ireland | Italy | Algeria | Armenia | Azerbaijan | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Türkiye | Uruguay | Private donors

**Unearmarked contributions are funds without restrictions that allow UNHCR critical flexibility to reach populations of concern in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.*

For more information, please visit [UNHCR Operational Data Portal](#) and [UNHCR Armenia website](#)

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