

UNHCR Armenia Emergency Humanitarian Response to families displaced from border communities in Gegharkunik, Vayots Dzor and Syunik provinces in Armenia

November 2022



UNHCR helps Vardenis municipality staff to arrange boxes of hygiene kits at a distribution point. Gegharkunik province, 20 September 2022. ©UNHCR/Arno Muradyan

Background

In September-October 2022, UNHCR Armenia provided humanitarian assistance to families displaced because of the military escalation along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border on 13-14 September 2022.

UNHCR was one of the first international organizations in the field to respond to the needs and reach out to communities that hosted displaced population, in line with the Government's recommendation. Through fact-finding missions and meetings with regional and municipal authorities in the affected provinces, UNHCR helped to identify the initial needs of the forcibly displaced people. Immediately after that, UNHCR has organized the delivery of assistance to complement the Government's efforts in mitigating the displacement challenges of the affected population and ease the burden on the hosting communities.

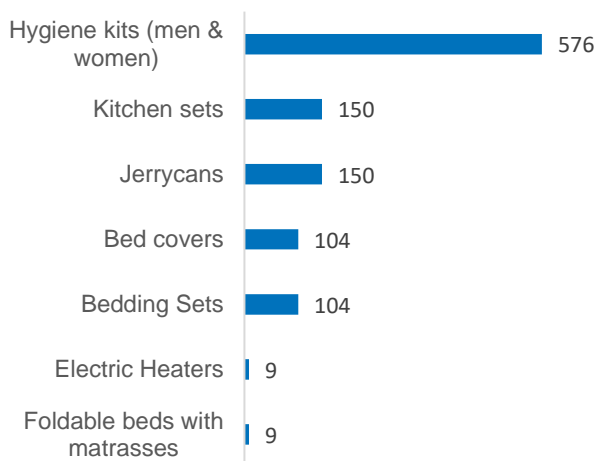
Figures at a Glance:



In total, UNHCR has delivered **1,102 non-food items**: hygiene kits for women, men, and children, including baby diapers, foldable beds with mattresses, bedding sets, blankets, electric heaters, kitchen sets and jerrycans. The assistance was delivered to **935 individuals (215 households)** who have found temporary accommodation in Vardenis (Gegharkunik), Areni (Vayots Dzor), Goris and Tegh communities (Syunik). The overall budget was around AMD 19 million (around USD 50,000).

The humanitarian response was accomplished in cooperation with UNHCR's NGO partners, following meetings that Government has called with the onset of the emergency - the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Territorial Administration. The assistance was provided in closest partnership with the regional and local authorities in the three provinces.

Items by Type



UNHCR is grateful to Gegharkunik, Vayots Dzor and Syunik regional governors' offices, Vardenis, Areni, Goris and Tegh municipalities and the Mission Armenia NGO for ensuring timely and transparent distribution of the assistance. The vulnerability criteria set by the municipalities for the internally displaced people included: single elderly people, individuals with physical and/or mental disabilities, women-headed households, refugees, and persons in a refugee-like situation. UNHCR is committed to continue efforts to provide support to the state authorities and displaced people within its mandate.

The UNHCR Representation in Armenia