ARMENIA
18 October 2023

Key figures:

100,632 refugees have arrived in Armenia

Situation Update
Among the 100,632 people who have arrived in Armenia since 24 September, the government has registered 99% of arrivals. According to the government’s data, some 80% of arrivals have been provided with temporary accommodation, mainly in hotels, non-residential facilities, and vacant apartments or houses. 26% of refugees have been registered at primary healthcare centers, while 40% of children have been enrolled in schools.

UNHCR’s Emergency Response
Protection:
• So far, UNHCR has conducted protection monitoring in 33 humanitarian coordination centres, and 79 households in various provinces in Armenia. Among most urgent needs, refugees highlighted the need for accommodation, winter clothing and footwear adequate for colder temperatures. UNHCR also observed a need for enhanced living conditions in non-residential facilities.

Cash and non-food items (NFIs):
• UNHCR provided some 550 vulnerable refugee families (approx. 1,350 individuals) with NFIs such as blankets, mattresses and hygiene kits. The refugee population is highly mobile, while the majority of families are concentrated in Yerevan, Ararat, Syunik, Kotayak and Armavir provinces. So far, 17 out of 29 trucks have been delivered with NFIs.
• As co-chair of the Cash Working Group, UNHCR is supporting the Government of Armenia to roll out the targeted cash assistance programme based on vulnerability assessments. UNHCR has committed to reach 5,500 refugees with cash to support rental costs for the upcoming winter season.

Coordination
On 17 October, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNHCR jointly launched the Armenia Interagency Refugee Response Plan (RRP) with some 100 participants from the government, embassies, UN agencies, NGOs and refugee-led organizations in attendance. The RRP emphasizes emergency protection and assistance, while at the same time also focusing on inclusion, resilience, and solutions, targeting both refugees and host communities. On the same day, the first Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) was convened by the Deputy Prime Minister to discuss the short, medium, and long-term response. UNHCR is part of the government-led RCF, and is working to support the government response by providing guidance, technical advice and other support.

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