

National Office Kyrgyz Republic

Supporting the Government to strengthen the **national asylum system** and **protect forcibly displaced people**

Advocating for **refugees access to due rights and services**, including **local integration**

Promoting **prevention of statelessness**, and accession to the **Statelessness Conventions**



Photo: UNHCR/ The Kyrgyz Republic

Like his older brother, Lemar is a promising cyclist, and a refugee. The brothers train under a national coach and have already won several competitions. Their shared wish is to become citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic so they can compete internationally for the country.

Key Figures (as of 01 January 2024)



1,457

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

including from Afghanistan (398), Syria (70) and Ukraine (35).



21

known Stateless Persons

with more cases being discovered.



The Kyrgyz Republic operation is coordinated by the UNHCR Representation to Central Asia. In 2024, UNHCR requires \$10.03 million to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people across Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. As of 31 January 2024, the operations are 18% funded.

With thanks to our donors

UNHCR is grateful for contributions directly to the Kyrgyz Republic National Office, as well as donors of unearmarked and flexible funding, including: Australia | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America



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Protecting Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

UNHCR supports authorities in the Kyrgyz Republic to recognise, protect, and integrate refugees – serving both 'mandate' refugees (118 people recognised as refugees under UNHCR's mandate), 'convention' refugees (139 refugees recognised by the State), and asylum-seekers.

In December 2023, the Kyrgyz Republic made five [Global Compact on Refugees](#) pledges, including:

- To provide refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people with access to free State-provided legal aid
- To provide refugees with equal access to higher education opportunities
- To improve Refugee Status Determination data collection.

In collaboration with partners, UNHCR supports implementation of these and past pledges, advocating for effective asylum procedures and access of refugees to due rights and services.

In 2022, UNHCR submitted comments on six draft laws to promote alignment with international standards and ensure refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people in the Kyrgyz Republic can access due rights, including health, education and employment. As of end-2023, 16 out of 29 UNHCR proposals had been accepted, including providing refugees access to **health services** equally with citizens, and ensuring **birth registration** of all children – fulfilling two 2019 pledges. Legislation advocacy work continues regarding non-refoulement guarantees, access to asylum from detention, access of refugees to education equally with citizens, prevention of statelessness and access to naturalization, and issuance of travel documents of refugees and stateless persons.



Download the [UNHCR Analysis of the Kyrgyz Republic's National Legislation on Statelessness](#)

Working with Partners

Government partners include the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Labour, Social Security and Migration; Digital Development; Justice; Health; Education; Interior; and Emergencies; Statistic Committee and the Border Service. UNHCR works in partnership with the Public Foundation Legal Clinic "Adilet".

As an active member of the UN Country Team and its Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, UNHCR engages with UN and development partners, international financial institutions and other stakeholders to ensure that refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people are not left behind in the Kyrgyz Republic's achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the UN Country Team of the Kyrgyz Republic submitted a country-level pledge, and endorsed the UN Common Pledge 2.0, committing to support host countries' efforts to include refugees and stateless people in national systems, such as health and education, and to boost refugees' access to decent work.

Addressing and Preventing Statelessness

Encouraged by the global [#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness](#), in 2019 the Kyrgyz Republic became the first country in the world to resolve all its known cases of statelessness.

UNHCR and partners support the Government to implement its remaining 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness pledges – including to adopt regulations for determining the legal status of a stateless person, and to study the experience of State parties to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions on Statelessness – and to prevent current and future generations from becoming stateless.

In 2023, the Kyrgyz Republic pledged to ensure all children have access to secondary education, regardless of the legal status of their parents or their registration.

Preparing for Emergencies

UNHCR engages with the UN Disaster Response Coordination Unit (DRCU) and UN Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) to ensure a protection-sensitive approach in national, regional and interagency emergency preparedness and response efforts.

In 2022, as part of the DRCU response to the internal displacement emergency on the Kyrgyz-Tajik border, UNHCR led the Protection Sector and contributed to the Shelter and Non-Food Item Sector.

UNHCR supports the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to enhance emergency preparedness and build national response capacities for situations of forced displacement.