

## **ARMENIA FACT SHEET**

## Armenia

## September 2022

In May, as co-leaders of the **Emergency Inter-Agency Response**, UNHCR and the
UN RC's Office presented the final <u>Report</u>
on assistance in 2020-2021 to 90,000
persons displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh.

The UNHCR Hotline, a multilingual service for displaced persons launched in 2021, continued to offer information, guidance and referrals on social protection and legal issues.

Free legal aid: UNHCR partners with the <u>Chamber of Advocates</u> to ensure displaced persons enjoy improved access to and quality of legal aid services.

#### POPULATION OF CONCERN as of 30 June 2022\*

Refugees 3,466
Asylum-seekers 413

Persons in a refugee-like situation\*\* 30,817

Stateless persons 816

#### **TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN\***

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Azerbaijan	1,204	Ukraine	217
Iraq	1,103	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	72
Syrian Arab Rep.	763	Cuba	45

\*Source: UNHCR provisional mid-year 2022 data

#### **UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE**

As of 30 September, 489 persons displaced from Ukraine are currently present in Armenia as of 6 September 2022.

**346** asylum applications received by the Migration Service of the Republic of Armenia as of 12 September 2022.

**136** persons displaced from Ukraine have been recognized as refugees by the Migration Service as of 1 September 2022.

Refugee children: 91 school-age children are registered by the Migration Service as of 12 September 2022, 49 of them in secondary schools. UNHCR and NGO partners monitor the situation and assist with enrolment of refugee children in secondary education, together with national institutions.

Cash assistance: UNHCR Armenia has provided monetary assistance to all 135 Ukrainian households registered as asylum-seekers by the Migration Service, to help cover their basic needs.

**Child protection:** UNHCR and its partner, the Armenian Red Cross Society, identify children at heightened risk and refer them to relevant national child protection services.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **IOM-UNHCR** joint project

The <u>EU-co-funded project</u> "Strengthening Migration Management Capacities in Support of Government Reform Agenda in Line with CEPA" (February 2022 – December 2023) was launched in February to reinforce migration and asylum systems in Armenia.

### Football for solidarity #WithRefugees

On World Refugee Day, local and displaced children participated in a <u>football match and interactive events</u> organized by UNHCR and partners in the Syunik province.

#### **UNHCR** Armenia website

The first <u>UNHCR Armenia website</u> in Armenian and English was launched in February 2022.

### Protection monitoring

In January-September 2022, UNHCR conducted 2,292 interviews covering 10,788 individuals (of 26,725 registered as of December 2021) in communities with a high concentration of people in a refugee-like situation. The results inform programme response, early warning systems and emergency preparedness.

# DISPLACED CHILDREN BONDING WITH HOST COMMUNITIES OVER FOOTBALL



The Football Federation of Armenia and UNHCR concluded the UEFA-funded "Play Together for Integration" project. Please meet one of the beneficiaries, Katarina, 10.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes persons in a refugee-like situation displaced as a result of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.



## **Key Priorities**

- Protection: UNHCR continues extending expert support to the Government to seek durable solutions for all people of concern in accordance with international standards.
- Access to territory: UNHCR systematically monitors the points of entry to ensure that asylum-seekers can access the territory without hindrance, supports national capacities in the area of asylum, and provides refugee law courses for border guards.
- Asylum procedures: UNHCR, jointly with Mission Armenia NGO, monitors administrative and judicial asylum procedures and assists the Government to enhance the quality and efficiency thereof, inter alia, through a comprehensive assessment of capacity gaps and needs in the asylum system.
- Emergency preparedness: At the beginning of August a two-day training was organized in Syunik province to enhance the emergency preparedness of participating state and non-state agencies, including on protection mainstreaming in emergencies, information management and risk assessment.
- UNHCR is closely following the situation resulting from the latest escalation in September 2022 and its impact on the civilian population and stands ready to support the authorities in addressing the emerging humanitarian needs.

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR's key state counterpart, the Migration Service, will become part of the future Ministry of Interior, in line with a major reform of the Police.
- Jointly with the Migration Service, a workshop for journalists was organized on 7-8 July 2022, as part of the ongoing Media and Migration project and was dedicated to the World Refugee Day 2022.

- UNHCR met with the Human Rights Defender of Armenia to inform about UNHCR's gaps and needs assessment launched in 2022. By the end of 2022, the assessment results will be presented to the Government as part of UNHCR's support for the migration reform in Armenia.
- The UEFA-funded "Play Together for Integration" project for displaced and local children implemented by the Football Federation of Armenia in collaboration with UNHCR concluded with a Solidarity Cup tournament held in Yerevan on 30 July 2022.
- The International Youth Day was celebrated in Hrazdan town, the "2022 Youth capital in Armenia", with UN agencies' contributions. UNHCR's contribution was a master-class on street art for local and displaced art school students followed by a street art action carried out in the local park.

### Statelessness

- Armenia has acceded to both the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions.
- On 10 March, the Working Group on Statelessness Issues met within the framework of UNHCR's project "Provision of assistance in identification of undocumented persons and persons at risk of statelessness" implemented by Mission Armenia NGO.

### **UNHCR Presence in Armenia**

#### Personnel: Offices:

31 National Staff 1 Country Representation in

Yerevan

2 International Staff
1 Field Office in Goris

(Syunik)

## Financial information (September 2022)

Financial requirements

Funding gap 70% 9.7 million

Funded 30% 4.1 million UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

Australia| Austria| Belgium | Canada | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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