

Armenia

July 2020

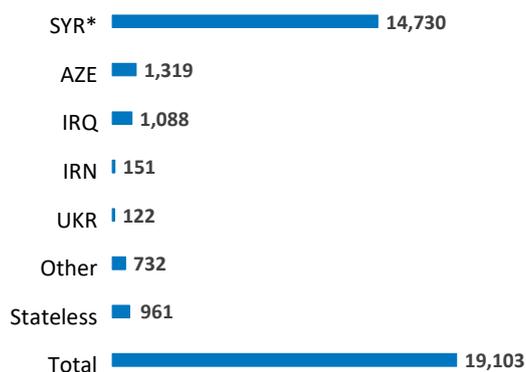
In response to COVID-19 outbreak, UNHCR Armenia ensured emergency humanitarian support to **507 most affected refugee households** and families displaced from Syria.

Around **200 displaced persons benefitted** from state-funded social and economic assistance packages aimed at mitigating the consequences of COVID-19 emergency. Advocacy efforts are ongoing.

The consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency may have **profound negative effects** on the extremely vulnerable displaced population facing acute protection and integration challenges in Armenia.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Refugees, asylum-seekers (by countries of origin) and stateless persons

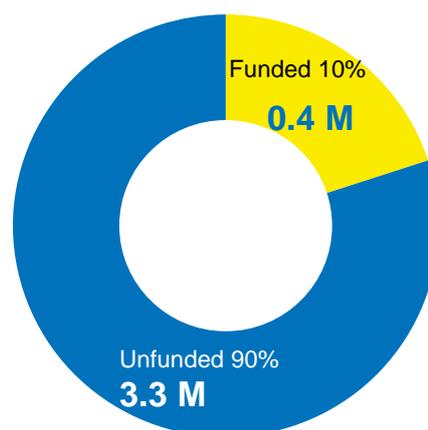


* Refugees, asylum-seekers and persons in refugee-like situation
(Source: Government, 1 January 2020)

FUNDING (AS OF JUNE 2020)

USD 3.7 M

requested for Armenia



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 14 Local Staff
- 2 International Staff
- 4 Affiliate Workforce

Offices:

- 1 Country Office in Yerevan



A refugee girl at a social house, Darbnik village

Working with Partners

UNHCR Armenia cooperates with state and non-state stakeholders, including the Migration Service, Human Rights Defender's Office, Public Defenders Office, line ministries, the judiciary, the Parliament, the Police, municipalities, as well as diaspora-based, financial and faith-based organizations, the civil society, media and academia. UNHCR is a member of various inter-agency coordination platforms and mechanisms.

Project Partners:



Armenian Red Cross
Society



Mission Armenia
NGO



KASA Foundation



FAR Children's Support
Center Foundation

Main Activities

- **Mitigation of COVID-19 emergency impact on persons of concern:** UNHCR has strengthened its partnership with line ministries and Yerevan Municipality to ensure that displaced persons are duly included in the national assistance and development projects and schemes.
- **Protection-Sensitive Entry Systems:** UNHCR, in cooperation with the Armenian Red Cross Society, systematically monitors ports of entry to ensure asylum-seekers' access to the territory and asylum procedure; provides capacity building and technical assistance and supports institutionalization of refugee law courses for border guards and entry officials.
- **Reception conditions:** UNHCR, in collaboration with different actors, supports the Government to enhance reception conditions and address the basic needs of the most vulnerable persons of concern; monitors reception facilities for asylum-seekers and refugees and provides individual legal, psychological, medical, and social assistance to persons with specific needs.
- **Quality of asylum procedures:** UNHCR, in partnership with Mission Armenia, monitors the administrative and judicial asylum procedures; assists the Government to enhance the quality and efficiency of asylum procedures; provides legal counselling, ensures representation and interventions in strategic cases. UNHCR also provides training for the Migration Service staff, judges and lawyers, supports the enhancement of the judicial system through specialization of judges on asylum related issues.
- **Statelessness:** In the frame of the #IBelong campaign, UNHCR advocates for improvement of statelessness-related legislation and practices, and promotes systematic data collection on the stateless population. UNHCR also supports the Government with development of a fair, effective and efficient Statelessness Determination Procedure; advocates for universally accessible and simplified documentation procedures and facilitation of naturalization of stateless persons. In addition, UNHCR promotes introduction of Convention Travel Documents for stateless persons compatible with the International Civil Aviation Organization standards.

- **Advocacy:** UNHCR continues advocacy with national authorities aimed at durable solutions for persons of concern pertaining to integration particularly health, education, legal status and livelihoods. UNHCR supports the Government in the improvement of asylum and migration related legislation and practice to ensure its compliance with international standards.
- **Integration and Self-reliance:** In support to its state counterparts, UNHCR provides targeted assistance to persons of concern to facilitate their inclusion in the host communities. Parallel to psychosocial, legal and medical assistance, refugees benefit from vocational and language courses, business training, income generation tools and different livelihood projects that aim to promote their self-reliance and bonds with host communities.
- **Community mobilization and women empowerment:** UNHCR has successfully launched a Refugee Coalition and a Youth Coalition in Armenia, as well as women empowerment fora to ensure meaningful participation of persons of concern in national processes and community-based activities affecting their integration in Armenia.

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to the major donors in 2020

United States of America | Canada | Slovakia | Sweden | Norway | Netherlands | Denmark | United Kingdom | Germany | Switzerland | Private donors - Republic of Korea |

CONTACTS AND LINKS

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