

Armenia

1-31 October 2020

On 27 September, clashes erupted along the line of contact of **Nagorno-Karabakh (NK)** resulting in deaths of many civilians and driving tens of thousands from their homes.

While **no official request for assistance** was received from the Government, UNHCR/UN team in Armenia were authorized to provide humanitarian assistance to 10 municipalities across the country.

As of 27 October, UNHCR, in cooperation with partners, has conducted **rapid needs assessment missions in 10 municipalities** to prepare to efficiently respond to the needs of spontaneous arrivals.

90,000 persons displaced*

60% of the NK population

Spontaneously arrived in Armenia and displaced within Nagorno-Karabakh

* Information from [the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia](#)

Women, children and elderly

constitute the vast majority of arrivals.

Non-Food Items (NFIs) procured for 10,000

spontaneously arrived persons and delivered to municipalities



PROTECTION

Protection Working Group chaired by UNHCR, includes over 24 organizations, representing civil society and UN agencies.

Key Protection Concerns include

(i) needs related to mental health and psycho-social support for the spontaneously arrived persons; (ii) issues related to documentation of persons who arrived without identity documents; (iii) full and meaningful access to education; (iv) lack of information among arrivals on available services.



SHELTER AND NFI'S

Shelter and NFIs Working Group chaired by UNHCR coordinates activities related to accommodation and basic needs of spontaneous arrivals.

The sector has identified the following key challenges: (i) winter-related concerns, including needs for warm clothes and payment of utility fees; (ii) overcrowdings in shelters; (iii) lack of accommodation capacities at the municipal level.



© Children playing hide-and-seek at the reception centre for spontaneous arrivals. Photo by Anahit Hayrapetyan, UNHCR Armenia

Key Highlights

- **Government** is responsible for the overall provision of assistance to the spontaneous arrivals from Nagorno Karabakh and has delegated the immediate responsibility for the accommodation and distribution of assistance to local self-governance bodies.
- The Government has directed the UN interagency team to complement the assistance in **10 selected municipalities**: Echmiadzin, Dilijan, Hrazdan, Yeghegnadzor, Jermuk, Kapan, Sisian, Goris, Martuni and Ranchpar. The needs identified initially by the municipalities are mainly in the areas of food, non-food items (including hygiene items, heaters, personal protection equipment, school materials and technological tools), health services and medicines, education and psychosocial support, especially to children.
- **Working Groups**: Coordination at the UN level is conducted primarily through working groups. The following WGs have been activated: Protection (led by UNHCR; sub-groups on Child Protection and Education chaired by UNICEF), Shelter and NFIs (led by UNHCR; sub-group on Cash Assistance co-chaired by UNICEF and UNHCR), Food Security and Nutrition (led by WFP; sub-group chaired by UNICEF), and Health (led by WHO). Early Recovery, led by UNDP, is mainstreamed through all WGs.

Financial Information

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