

Azerbaijan

September 2024

UNHCR supports the Government in identifying **durable solutions** for, refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people (IDPs) and stateless people present in Azerbaijan.

In addition to interventions aimed at promoting **self-reliance of displaced people**, UNHCR supports community empowerment, legal and social assistance programmes.

UNHCR aligns with the **UN 2030 Agenda**, engaging with COP29 to **address climate change's impact on displaced populations** through awareness and policy initiatives.

POPULATION STATISTICS (as of mid-2024)*

Refugees	8,087
Asylum-seekers	224
Stateless people	513
Internally displaced people	657,749

Top three countries of origin*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	6,540	Ukraine	170
Afghanistan	1,106	Pakistan	49
Russian Federation	271	Jordan	4

*UNHCR Mid-Year Statistical Report and UNHCR data finder

Protecting forcibly displaced and stateless people in Azerbaijan

Support to COP29

UNHCR actively engages with COP29 through the UN Country Team, focusing on the impact of climate change on displaced populations. In collaboration with national and international stakeholders, UNHCR contributes to awareness-raising, policy dialogue, and initiatives that highlight the nexus between climate action and forced displacement, emphasizing the need for inclusive and durable solutions.

Technical assistance for capacity building

UNHCR collaborates with the Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service (JIPS) to support the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs Affairs with technical assistance and building local capacities. During and after the mission in June 2024, JIPS conducted a comprehensive quality review of the IDP Registry using a self-assessment approach based on the UN National Quality Assurance Framework (UN NQAF).

HIGHLIGHTS

2,084 IDPs benefitted from legal aid and social counselling projects in seven cities and regions in the first half of 2024.

155 **mine awareness** billboards were produced and installed with UNHCR's support.

40 **refugee youth were supported** to pursue higher education through the DAFI Scholarship Programme and by assisting with annual tuition fees in 2024.

21 **stateless people** acquired nationality in 2024 and additional individual requests for obtaining citizenship with UNHCR's support continued throughout the year.

3,263 IDPs and other **vulnerable people** benefitted from eye tests and free-of-charge eyeglasses by the Japanese Fuji Optical in May-June 2024.



Inclusive sports event in Baku @UNHCR Azerbaijan

INCLUSIVE SPORTS FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

As part of the World Refugee Day celebration, a football tournament was organized in Baku on 11 June 2024 highlights the critical role of sports in integrating displaced people into host communities, with strong participation from refugees themselves. The event aligns with COP29 goals, emphasizing inclusivity, resilience, and climate action, with advocating for the displaced amidst climate challenges.

[Click to read more.](#)

Key Priorities

- Access to services:** UNHCR monitors refugees' access to education, health, and employment, and provides financial support to the most vulnerable. In 2024, 682 refugees benefited from the government's health insurance (TABIB). Additionally, 252 refugees received emergency cash support from UNHCR for various healthcare needs. 162 vulnerable families received regular cash, and 52 families received one-time payments. UNHCR enrolled 140 vulnerable Ukrainians for assistance in 2024.
- Legal and social assistance:** In 2024, UNHCR provided legal aid and counseling to 2,084 IDPs across seven districts, legal aid to 69 refugees and asylum-seekers, to 146 stateless persons, arranged 183 legal counseling for refugees and asylum-seekers and 410 legal interventions for stateless persons, including naturalization applications for 64 individuals.
- Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance:** In collaboration with the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs Affairs, UNHCR has supported IDP community initiatives by providing materials for community centers in Aghdam and Baku.
- Empowering youth and women:** UNHCR's IDP youth and women empowerment project was expanded in 2024, fostering self-regulation and resilience. Sports, recreational activities, and a theatre group provided platforms for self-expression and leadership, benefiting nearly 100 individuals in 2024. Refugee youth and women participated in [community engagement](#) activities such as tree planting and economic opportunities, such as artisan fairs, to showcase their talents and expand their networks.
- Capacity development:** Six government officials and judges attended three Sanremo e-learning courses on statelessness and refugee law. Additionally, an official from the State Statistics Committee participated in the UNECE Group of Experts on Migration Statistics Meeting and the Workshop on International Recommendations on Statistics on Refugees, IDPs, and Statelessness in May 2024.
- Socio-economic inclusion of refugees:** UNHCR collaborates with the private sector, development actors, and authorities to support refugee livelihoods. In 2024, 37 refugees gained formal employment, including seven who secured taxi service permits. Additionally, 67 youth

and women participated in skills training with UNHCR's initiative.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR partners with government agencies, NGOs, and international bodies to enhance the protection of forcibly displaced and stateless people.
- In 2024, UNHCR participated in key events such as the Almaty Process and organized training with the State Migration Service and the Ombudsperson's Office. These efforts enhanced collaboration on refugee protection, statelessness, and climate action, and provided training for over 50 representatives from different Government agencies including Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Border Service, Ministry of Justice (Penitentiary Service), Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population.
- UNHCR is actively involved in the UN Country Team's efforts to support Azerbaijan in hosting COP29, focusing on climate change's impact on displaced people. As the interim chair of the UN Communications Group, UNHCR supports communications, branding, and coordination for the events, campaigns and other joint initiatives by the UN agencies.

Statelessness

- Azerbaijan has acceded to both the 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions on Statelessness since 1996. As part of the [#IBelong](#) campaign, over 2,000 stateless people have acquired nationality since 2014, and more than 6,000 people had their affiliation to citizenship recognized.
- In 2024, UNHCR supported the naturalization applications of 64 documented stateless individuals.
- On 29 March 2024, the Working Group on Statelessness led by the State Migration Service, which included the State Statistical Committee as a new member, and for which UNHCR is a member, held a meeting to discuss measures on reducing statelessness, addressing challenges, and exploring solutions.

UNHCR Presence in Azerbaijan

Staff:

- 22 National Staff
- 3 International Staff
- 9 Affiliated workforce

Offices:

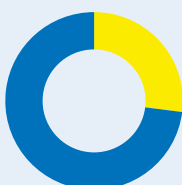
- 1 Country Office in Baku

Financial information (as of September 2024)

Financial requirements
\$ 8.0 M

Funded 56%
\$ 4.5 M

Funding gap 44%
\$ 3.5 M



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UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions from the private sector and individuals.