AZERBAIJAN FACT SHEET

Azerbaijan

September 2023

UNHCR works with the government to foster **durable solutions** for internally displaced people (IDPs), refugees, and stateless persons present in Azerbaijan.

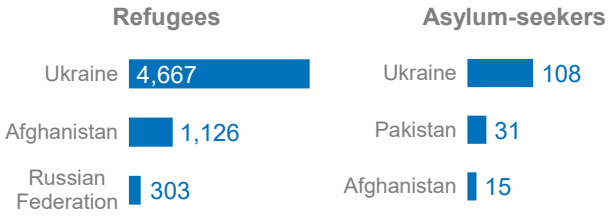
In addition to the interventions aimed at promoting **self-reliance of internally displaced communities**, UNHCR supports community mobilization and legal and social aid programs.

UNHCR's interventions are aligned with the humanitarian and **sustainable development** priorities reflected in the UN 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact on Refugees.

UNHCR POPULATION STATISTICS (as of mid-2023)*

Refugees	6,277
Asylum-seekers	158
Stateless people	3,585
Internally displaced people	658,793

Top three countries of origin*



**UNHCR 2023 Mid-Year Trends and UNHCR data finder*

UPDATE ON THE GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM (GRF)

5 pledges registered for Azerbaijan since 2019

in the areas of education, livelihoods, sports and recreation activities, energy and infrastructure, and statelessness.

Issuance of Biometric travel documents for refugees in Azerbaijan

Starting from 2020, recognized refugees in Azerbaijan became eligible to receive a machine-readable biometric travel document which enables them to travel internationally. By obtaining the Travel document, refugees and their families are able to fully enjoy their right to freedom of movement, thereby improving their overall resilience and well-being. UNHCR provided support to the State Migration Service, which conducted intensive technical consultations between relevant government bodies.

HIGHLIGHTS

38,188 internally displaced persons (IDPs)

attended mine awareness sessions organized as part of UNHCR-funded project in 2023.

A Regional Conference on Statelessness

was organized by UNHCR and the State Migration Service with the participation of high-level officials and experts from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, and Türkiye.

2,852 internally displaced and other vulnerable people

benefitted from vision aid by the Japanese Fuji Optical in May 2023.

1,556 refugees

had their records verified through a verification exercise conducted by UNHCR between May – July 2023.

'THE WAY TO CITIZENSHIP'

UNHCR produced a short video 'The Way to Citizenship' together with the State Migration Service, highlighting success stories of former stateless persons by demonstrating how their lives were positively impacted after they obtained citizenship. The video was displayed during the Regional High-Level Conference on Statelessness held in Baku on 6 July 2023, and broadcast through national TV channels.

Key Priorities

- **Supporting internally displaced communities:** In close collaboration with the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs Affairs, the Mine Action Agency, and other stakeholders, UNHCR works with internally displaced communities on mine awareness, community mobilization, legal and social aid, and women empowerment programs.
- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** In 2023, UNHCR supported six community empowerment projects developed by the internally displaced communities in Goranboy, Mingachevir, and Yevlakh, with 30 young men and women engaged in vocational training. In addition, training sessions were organized for 114 Community Paralegals and Gender Educators.
- **Legal and social assistance:** More than 3,000 IDPs benefitted from legal aid and social counselling project in seven cities and regions. UNHCR also provided legal aid and counselling to over 1,100 refugees and stateless persons in 2023.
- **Access to territory:** UNHCR jointly with the State Migration Service and the Ombudsman's Office organized five training sessions for law enforcement officials, and conducted six border missions, during which a referral mechanism was put in place in line with international standards.
- **Refugee integration and inclusion:** Refugees and asylum-seekers have access to the labour market, education, and health services. In 2023, nine refugees obtained formal employment. UNHCR supported over 60 refugee students to pursue tertiary education through the DAFI Scholarship (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) Programme or by covering their annual tuition fees. Two refugees attended the "Win the Wind" marathon, initiated by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation in May 2023.
- **Engagement with refugees and stateless persons:** UNHCR conducted a participatory assessment with refugees and stateless individuals in May 2023. Refugee community volunteers organize various skills training courses at the Refugee Community Centre in Baku.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with government counterparts and civil society to improve the protection space for forcibly displaced and stateless persons.
- **External engagement**: UNHCR engages with the private sector and development actors to identify projects and opportunities beneficial to forcibly displaced people and their host communities. UNHCR organized an event with the Government and the UN Country Team to mark World Refugee Day to promote the theme "Hope away from Home: A world where refugees are always included".

Statelessness

- Azerbaijan has acceded to both the 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions on Statelessness. As part of the #IBelong campaign, around 2,000 stateless people have acquired nationality, while more than 6,000 persons' affiliation to citizenship was established.
- UNHCR continues to work closely with government counterparts in the reduction of statelessness. Having received legal aid, so far seven persons at risk of statelessness have acquired nationality in 2023.

UNHCR Presence in Azerbaijan

Staff:

24 National Staff
3 International Staff
9 Affiliated workforce

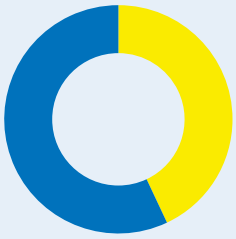
Offices:

1 Country Office in Baku

Financial information (September 2023)

Financial requirements

$ 7.4 M



Funded 47%
$ 3.5 M

Funding gap 53%
$ 3.9 M

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked, and earmarked funding:

Belgium | Canada | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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