

The Kyrgyz Republic

National Office

Working with the Government to strengthen the **national asylum system** and support **local integration of refugees**

Advocating for immediate **birth registration, prevention of statelessness**, and accession to the **Statelessness Conventions**

Partnering for efficient **preparedness and response to forced displacement emergencies**



After nearly 30 years of being stateless, Sharapat received her first Kyrgyz passport through the support of UNHCR NGO partner and the #IBelong Campaign. (Photo: UNHCR/Danil Usmanov).

Key Figures (as of 31 December 2021)



1,003
Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

from Afghanistan (522), Syria (81), Ukraine (18) and other countries.



600
known Stateless people

with more cases being discovered.



The operation in the Kyrgyz Republic is coordinated by the UNHCR Representation to Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In 2022, UNHCR requires \$8.8 million to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people across the four countries. As of 12 April 2022, the operation is 22% funded.

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Protecting Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

UNHCR supports authorities to recognise, protect, and integrate refugees – serving both 'mandate' refugees (people recognised as refugees under UNHCR's mandate), and 'convention' refugees (asylum-seekers recognised as refugees by the State).

In December 2021, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic made two [Global Compact on Refugees](#) pledges:

- To issue machine-readable travel documents for refugees and stateless persons recognized by the Kyrgyz Republic in line with ICAO standards.
- To ensure refugees and asylum-seekers have access to healthcare and social protection on par with citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In collaboration with partners, UNHCR supports the implementation of these pledges, promotes the naturalisation of 142 long-standing mandate refugees and the integration of convention refugees, including their due access to public services such as health, education, and employment.

Preparing for Emergencies

UNHCR engages with the UN Disaster Response Coordination Unit and UN Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team to ensure a protection-sensitive approach in national, regional and interagency emergency preparedness and response efforts.

UNHCR supports the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to enhance emergency preparedness and build national response capacities for situations of forced displacement.



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Addressing and Preventing Statelessness

Encouraged by the global [#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness](#), in 2019, the Kyrgyz Republic was the first country in the world which resolved all known cases of statelessness. By the end of 2021 the number of known cases of stateless, however, had again grown to 600, with more likely to be discovered.

To prevent the re-occurrence of statelessness, UNHCR and partners support the Government to implement its pledges made at the October 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness:

- To provide birth certificates to children who do not have birth registration
- To Align national birth registration legislation with international standards to ensure registration of birth of every child born in the Kyrgyz Republic
- To adopting regulations for determining the legal status of a stateless person
- To study the experience of State parties to the 1954 and 1961 Conventions on Statelessness.

Working with Partners

Government partners include the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Labour, Social Welfare and Migration; Digital Development; Justice; Interior; and Emergency Situations; and the Border Service.

UNHCR works through NGO partner, the Public Foundation Legal Clinic "Adilet".

As an active member of the United Nations Country Team and its Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, UNHCR engages with UN and development partners, international financial institutions and other stakeholders to ensure that refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people are not left behind in the Kyrgyz Republic's achievement of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).