

"SEEDS FOR SOLUTIONS" — PREVENTING AND REDUCING STATELESSNESS IN KYRGYZSTAN THROUGH REGISTRATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF STATELESS AND UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS PROGRESS REPORT

26 OCTOBER 2015

Results of the project

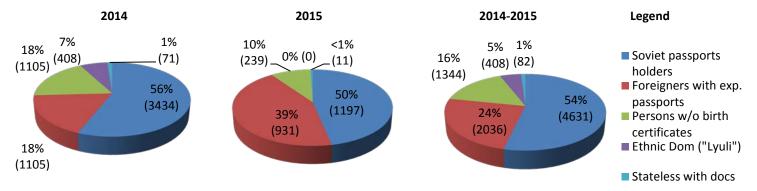
The following table provides snapshot information on the cumulative number of persons who have been registered and assisted under the project with citizenship determination and Kyrgyz citizenship acquisition:

"Seeds for Solutions" project results 2014-2015 (total)					
	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Total (all regions)	8,501	7,660	4,469		

"Seeds for Solutions" project results 2015					
	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Bishkek city	379	113	23		
Batken province	1,213	1,064	82		
Chuy province (5 districts)	586	509	324		
Talas province	200	180	146		
Total	2,378	1,862	575		

"Seeds for Solutions" pilot project results 2014					
	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Jalalabad province	2,784	2,618	1,856		
Osh city and province	2,740	2,629	1,565		
Chuy province (3 districts)	599	551	473		
Total	6,123	5,798	3,894		

Individuals registered by target groups



Background of the project

In February 2014, UNHCR Solutions Steering Group selected Kyrgyzstan as one of the pilot countries for the "Seeds for Solutions" initiative. The initiative encouraged UNHCR country offices to seek meaningful and measurable ways to reduce and to prevent statelessness. UNHCR Kyrgyzstan received funding to carry out a pilot project that would offer durable solutions to stateless persons and those at risk of statelessness.

In June 2014, UNHCR, jointly with its governmental and non-governmental partners, launched a pilot registration and documentation exercise in Osh city, Osh, Jalalabad, and Chuy provinces. Twenty-eight mobile multifunctional teams were created, each comprising an NGO-hired lawyer, a self-governance official, and a passport desk officers. These teams travelled to the designated areas of the country in order to provide legal aid to beneficiaries, and to assist them in filing for citizenship determination or acquisition. Target groups of beneficiaries include Soviet passport holders, foreigners with expired passports, and persons without birth certificates.

Following the successful completion of the 2014 pilot phase, the project continues in the remaining provinces of the country. By 2016, the teams will have covered the entire territory of Kyrgyzstan. As nationality determination and acquisition procedures take time, UNHCR is also establishing residual mechanisms that will monitor the handling of each individual case beyond the three-year operations of the field teams. A dedicated project database was developed for this purpose.

The project also allows the partners to identify legal and practical difficulties in handling documentation and civil registration claims. UNHCR brings these issues to the attention of the Kyrgyz government, along with suggestions for improvement. Adoption of these suggestions will contribute to the overall improvement of the documentation and registration system, and will serve as a legacy of the project.