

# National Office Kyrgyz Republic

Supporting the Government to strengthen the **national asylum system** and **protect forcibly displaced people**

Advocating for **refugees access to due rights and services**, including **local integration**

Promoting **prevention of statelessness**, and accession to the **Statelessness Conventions**



Photo: UNHCR/ Elyor Nemat

Suhaila and her family were forced to flee from Afghanistan when she was just four years old. Through the DAFI Refugee Scholarship Programme, she was able to pursue higher education, completing a Bachelor and Masters of Business Administration. She is now working for a peace-building NGO and has become a citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic.

## Key Figures\* (as of 30 June 2024)



**2,754**  
**Refugees and Asylum-Seekers**

including from Afghanistan (408), Syria (53) and Ukraine (44).



**60**  
**known Stateless Persons**

with more cases being discovered.

\* Based on mass media reports, UNHCR estimates there may be up to 25,476 people in the Kyrgyz Republic in a 'refugee-like' situation who are outside their country of origin and face protection risks similar to those of refugees.



**The Kyrgyz Republic operation is coordinated by the UNHCR Representation to Central Asia. In 2024, UNHCR requires \$10.03 million to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people across Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. As of 30 September 2024, the operations are 58% funded.**

## CONTACTS

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## Protecting Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

UNHCR supports authorities in the Kyrgyz Republic to recognise, protect, and integrate refugees – serving *mandate* refugees (121 people recognised as refugees under UNHCR's mandate), *convention* refugees (151 refugees recognised by the State), and asylum-seekers.

In December 2023, the Kyrgyz Republic made five [Global Compact on Refugees](#) pledges, including to:

- Provide refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people with access to free State-provided legal aid
- Provide refugees with equal access to higher education opportunities
- Improve Refugee Status Determination data collection.

In collaboration with partners, UNHCR supports implementation of these and past pledges, advocating for effective asylum procedures and access of refugees to due rights and services.

In 2022, UNHCR submitted comments on six draft laws to promote alignment with international standards and ensure forcibly displaced and stateless people can access due rights, including health, education and employment. As of mid-2024, 16 out of 29 UNHCR proposals had been accepted. Advocacy work continues regarding non-refoulement, access to asylum from detention, access of refugees to education equally with citizens, prevention of statelessness and access to naturalization, and issuance of travel documents.



Download the [UNHCR Analysis of the Kyrgyz Republic's National Legislation on Statelessness](#)

## Addressing and Preventing Statelessness

Encouraged by the global [#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness](#), in 2019 the Kyrgyz Republic became the first country in the world to resolve all its known cases.

UNHCR and partners support the Government to implement its remaining 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness pledges – including to adopt regulations for determining the legal status of a stateless person, and to study the experience of State parties to the UN Conventions on Statelessness – and to prevent current and future generations from becoming stateless.

In 2023, the Kyrgyz Republic pledged to ensure all children have access to secondary education, regardless of the legal status of their parents or their registration, as well as to ensure 100% registration of birth through integration of automated information systems.

## Working with Partners

Government partners include the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Labour, Social Security and Migration; Digital Development; Justice; Health; Education; Interior; and Emergencies; Statistic Committee and the Border Service. UNHCR works in partnership with the Public Foundation Legal Clinic "Adilet".

As an active member of the UN 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.

At the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the UN Country Team joined the UN Common Pledge 2.0, committing to support host countries' efforts to include refugees and stateless people in national systems, such as health and education, and to boost refugees' access to decent work.

## With thanks to our donors

**UNHCR is grateful for contributions directly to the National Office the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as donors of unearmarked and flexible funding, including from:** Australia | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Kingdom of the Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | United States of America

**UNHCR appreciates the important contributions of private donors in:** Australia for UNHCR | España con ACNUR | Italy | Japan for UNHCR | Republic of Korea | UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe

## Preparing for Emergencies

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

In 2022, as part of the DRCU response to the internal displacement emergency on the Kyrgyz-Tajik border, UNHCR led the Protection Sector and contributed to the Shelter and Non-Food Item Sector.

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

