

Georgia

September 2022

In Georgia since 1993, UNHCR has assisted populations displaced by conflicts in the 1990s, in 2008, and by the current war in Ukraine. UNHCR supports the Government in implementing

commitments to provide **international protection for refugees**. UNHCR and the government cooperate on the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy and on implementing Georgia's Global Refugee Forum pledges.

UNHCR, the Government and civil society work to ensure people of concern have full access to rights and services. UNHCR supports **IDP protection and self-reliance in Abkhazia**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN as of 30 June 2022*

Refugees	24,024
Asylum-seekers	1,160
Internally displaced persons	291,358
Stateless persons	530
Persons in refugee-like situation in Abkhazia	596

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	22,647	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	372
Syrian Arab Rep.	448	Türkiye	182
Iraq	377	Ukraine	113

*Source: UNHCR provisional mid-year 2022 data

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of 30 September, 139,091 Ukrainians entered Georgia, and **26,135** remained in Georgia. **444** Ukrainians have applied for asylum and over **308** have been granted humanitarian status. The temporary protection has not been activated.

Coordination with the Government: UNHCR supported the Government in its response to assist refugees from Ukraine, as it provided accommodation for new arrivals, financial assistance, emergency medical services and access to education.

Cash-Based Interventions (CBI): UNHCR assisted over 1900 vulnerable refugees with cash and will continue complementing the government's assistance, working closely with INGOs.

Support to the most vulnerable: UNHCR scaled up its support in protecting children, preventing gender-based violence and expanded the Network of Community Group Facilitators.

Coordination: UNHCR leads an inter-agency coordination team to ensure a coordinated response and assistance for refugees from Ukraine.

HIGHLIGHTS

Over 3,000 vulnerable persons

In Tbilisi-administered territory and Abkhazia were provided with cash/food assistance to meet basic needs (including Ukrainians). The CBI programme was scaled up in view of the influx of Ukrainian refugees. Continued support for jobs and livelihoods is helping about 400 people.

About 100,000 crossings

supported in 2022 for vulnerable persons living in eastern Abkhazia, including elderly persons, to cross the Enguri bridge using UNHCR's shuttle buses to access health care services, pensions, and disability benefits in Tbilisi-administered territory.

Over 2,500 beneficiaries

accessed various services supported by UNHCR. Legal consultations were provided to over 1000 individuals in Tbilisi-administered territory and Abkhazia. Over 1500 persons were assisted through social counselling/referrals.

UNHCR GEORGIA WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2022



#WorldRefugeeDay is an occasion to express empathy and show solidarity for refugees and others forcibly displaced from home. Solidarity Walks in the beautiful botanical gardens of Tbilisi and Batumi took place on 19th and 24th of June to show that we stand **#WithRefugees**. Watch the video [here](#).

Key Priorities

- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR works with the Government to maintain and strengthen fair and efficient asylum procedures and has facilitated an experience-sharing exercise with the Government of North Macedonia.
- **Improvement of reception conditions:** UNHCR supports the Government in the improvement of reception conditions for asylum-seekers with special needs and is coordinating partners responding to the needs of Ukrainian refugees to compliment the Government's assistance.
- **Language and education:** UNHCR supports improvements to State-provided language learning. UNHCR supports the GRF pledges of the Government to improve refugees' access to free of charge general and vocational education.
- **Community empowerment:** UNHCR expanded its Community Group Facilitator programme to reach the increasing number of Ukrainian refugees, thus facilitating communication and information-sharing to inform the Government response. UNHCR also maintained its IDP Volunteer network.
- **Support for livelihoods and self-reliance:** UNHCR expanded its cash assistance programme to address the needs of the most vulnerable Ukrainian arrivals, Support to refugees and asylum-seekers with accessing employment and skills training continues. In Abkhazia, UNHCR partners with Action Against Hunger and the Danish Refugee Council to promote livelihoods for farming households and entrepreneurial families and implements community support projects. UNHCR engages youth volunteers through its partner AMRA to support the most vulnerable elderly through provision of hot meals and psycho-social support.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with key Ministries, the judiciary, and several international and national NGOs engaged in

legal and social protection as well as the Public Defender's Office. UNHCR aims to enable direct communication between refugees and authorities through community networks and meetings.

- **External engagement:** UNHCR collaborates with UNCT and development partners in promoting the inclusion, protection, and integration of people of concern, including through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), 2021-2025. UNHCR also continues to facilitate asylum cooperation under the EU's Resilience Facility in a joint project with IOM.

Internally Displaced Persons

- **In Abkhazia,** UNHCR and partners support freedom of movement and access to rights for up to 50,000 IDPs, as well as enhancing self-reliance, livelihoods, and community-based protection. UNHCR works with partners in the Abkhazia Strategic Partnership.
- **In Tbilisi-Administered Territory,** UNHCR is engaged in protection monitoring and advocacy with the Government. Policy discussions continued with all key stakeholders, including a focus on housing programmes managed by the Government.

Statelessness

- UNHCR assisted the Government with providing EU best practices on eradicating statelessness, through experience-sharing with the Government of Spain. The Government also initiated its door-to-door exercise to provide identity documentation and/or citizenship determination possibilities for anyone undocumented on the territory of Georgia.

UNHCR Presence in Georgia

Staff:

24 National Staff
 6 International Staff

Offices:

1 Country Office in Tbilisi
 1 Field Office in Gali
 1 Field Unit in Sokhumi

Financial information (September 2022)

Financial requirements USD 6.9 M

Funding gap
 55%
 3.8 M



Funded
 45%
 3.1 M

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

[Australia](#) | [Austria](#) | [Belgium](#) | [Canada](#) | [Denmark](#) | [France](#) | [Germany](#) | [Ireland](#) | [Italy](#) | [Japan](#) | [Netherlands](#) | [Norway](#) | [Spain](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States of America](#)

As well as for the generous contributions from private individuals and the private sector.