

FACTSHEET:

National Office Kyrgyz Republic



Photo: UNHCR/Elyor Nemat

Suhaila was forced to flee with her family when she was just four years old. Through the DAFI Refugee Scholarship Programme, she was able to complete a degree in Business Administration. She is now working for a peace-building and conflict resolution NGO and has become a citizen of the 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 social protection and local integration

Promoting statelessness prevention, and accession to the Statelessness Conventions

Key Figures* (as of 01 January 2025)



2,007

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

including from Afghanistan (360), Syria (54), and Ukraine (51).



926

known Stateless people

including 875 people with undetermined nationality identified by the Government.

* Based on mass media reports, UNHCR estimates there may be up to 21,655 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.

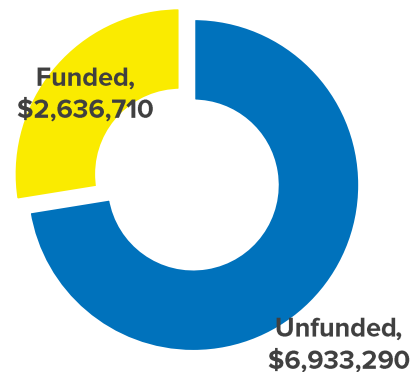
The Kyrgyz Republic is a State Party to the [Refugee Convention](#) and its [Protocol](#), and has an established Refugee Law and national asylum procedures.

In 2019 the Kyrgyz Republic became the first country in the world to resolve all its known cases of statelessness, but has not yet acceded to the [UN Statelessness Conventions](#). In 2024, the Kyrgyz Republic joined Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in adopting the [Ashgabat Declaration on Ending Statelessness in Centra Asia](#).

Reaffirming its commitment to protecting forcibly displaced and stateless people, authorities, academia, NGOs and the UN in the Kyrgyz Republic have made 14 pledges to the objectives of the [Global Compact on Refugees](#) since 2019 - four of which have already been fully implemented.

The UNHCR National Office the Kyrgyz Republic is based in Bishkek.

The Kyrgyz Republic operation is coordinated by the UNHCR Representation to Central Asia. In 2025, UNHCR requires \$9.6 million to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people across Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. As of 31 March 2025, the operations are 28% funded.



CONTACTS

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Protecting Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

UNHCR supports authorities in the Kyrgyz Republic to recognise, protect, and integrate forcibly displaced people – serving asylum-seekers, *convention* refugees (154 refugees recognised by the State), and *mandate* refugees (115 people recognised as refugees under UNHCR's mandate).

The Kyrgyz Republic's [Global Compact on Refugees pledges](#) include:

- Providing refugees and asylum-seekers with access to healthcare and social protection on par with citizens;
- Issuing refugees with machine-readable travel documents;
- Improving Refugee Status Determination through advanced collection of statistical data.

Together with partners, UNHCR collaborates with the government to implement these pledges, advocating for effective and fair asylum procedures and access of refugees to due rights and services.

Activities to protect refugees and asylum-seekers include:

- Providing [cash assistance](#) to support the most vulnerable to meet their basic needs;
- Providing [legal and social assistance](#), including ensuring feedback mechanisms;
- Conducting [trainings, seminars and workshops](#) for State institutions, civil society, academia and other partners on Refugee Status Determination, and application of international refugee and human rights law.

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.

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

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 | Germany | Ireland | Kingdom of the Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Ending Statelessness

Accomplishing its 2019 pledge, in early 2025 the Kyrgyz Republic adopted regulations for determining the legal status of a stateless person. To prevent current and future generations from becoming stateless, UNHCR and partners support the Government to implement its remaining statelessness pledges, including to ensure all children have access to secondary education - regardless of the legal status of their parents - and to study the experience of States party to the UN Statelessness Conventions.

Supporting Legal Amendments

As part of the Kyrgyz Republic's legal inventory, in 2022 UNHCR submitted comments on six draft laws to promote alignment with the Refugee Convention and international standards, and ensure forcibly displaced and stateless people can access due rights and services. As of end-2024, 16 out of 29 UNHCR proposals have 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.

Working with Partners

Government partners include the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Labour, Social Security and Migration; Digital Development; Justice; Health; Education; Interior; and Emergencies; Statistics 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](#).

UNHCR maintains email and phone 'hotlines' for anyone in need of information or consultation on refugee and asylum issues. People forced to flee can find key contacts and updated information on help.unhcr.org/centralasia.

