



## IOM RESPONSE

### HEALTH AND MHPSS

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the **mobile health clinics have now reached 14,047 refugees and vulnerable community members** with direct healthcare services and **2,837 referrals** for complex or more specialized assistance. Of them, **3,235 were treated symptomatically and 1,328 received psychological counselling.**

In partnership with the Seda Ghazaryan Mental Health Foundation, an additional **1,641 refugees have been provided with group and individual psychological services.** In particular, IOM has expanded activities supporting children and their teachers, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

Over the last two months, IOM's [Ասկւեղծ սասած \(Frankly Said\) page on Facebook](#) has grown to **8,800 followers** who receive regular, expert-designed information focused on their health, MHPSS, and wellness, as well as encouragement for their integration into Armenian health systems and communities.



Children participate in mixed-method group therapy sessions using drama and music. Credit: Seda Ghazarian Mental Health Foundation, March 2024.

As the co-lead of the Health Sector, IOM has continued to foster the coordination of **60 health-related partners** and is now working on the transition period of the RRP to the UNSDCF.

### SHELTER AND NFIs

In Gyumri city, the building previously has been a medical facility for treating patients with infectious diseases but after centralization of the medical facilities in one location in the Gyumri city, it has been serving different needs of the

community. In September 2023, it hosted **43 single displaced people**, the majority of whom are elderly with no families and relatives at all. As it has been envisaged, these people stayed in the facility longer than the winter months and the chances they will ever be able leave the facility and settle in a separate place are minimum.

The lack of separate toilets for men and women, poor sanitation and hygiene conditions of bathing facilities as well as lack of separate designated area for kitchen has been challenging the daily needs of the new residents. The situation became even worse when they started experiencing frequent power outages due to wiring faults and electric cable issues.

IOM is currently rebuilding a new sewage system for the building: an external part of **250m long main pipeline** as well as water and sewage pipeline system for the entire 2-storey building. At the moment, IOM also renovates the existing 3 toilets and bathrooms by doubling them to have overall 6 new toilets and bathrooms as well as 2 new kitchen areas for joint use.



Rehabilitation works are being undertaken on a former medical facility in Syunik marz. The facility has been repurposed to accommodate recently arrived refugees. Credit: IOM, March 2024.

### LABOR MARKET INTEGRATION

In close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and IOM's humanitarian and development partners,

## IOM RESPONSE (continued)

### Labour Force Assessment among Forcibly Displaced Persons

is nearing completion. Remaining in alignment with ILO’s standards, the questionnaire was adjusted based on the labor force questionnaire that the State Statistical Committee periodically uses for the host population. 1,050 households were targeted in all regions of Armenia. The data collection process is finalized and the IOM technical team is undertaking the data cleaning phase, followed soon by analysis, validation, and then publication. This assessment will be the basis for designing refugee-related policies and programmes across Armenia.

Additionally, IOM is ramping up livelihoods opportunities, including **business grants, vocational training, and supporting to facilitate job placements.**

### PREPAREDNESS

In close coordination with the Rescue Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, IOM has visited 10 border communities and discussed the current situation and the needs related to the early warning systems including

the equipment and the expertise. There was identified that Syunik province is working on their regional early warning system which would be connected to the existing centralized system, which still needs some upgrade and improvements. IOM initiated a meeting with the responsible personnel of the region to gain insights and recommendations for future considerations.

Currently IOM is discussing prioritization with the Rescue Service for the selection of the communities or settlements to support with a system upgrade and equipment, also considering the experience and the lessons learned shared by Syunik region during the meeting.

### DATA ANALYSIS AND REFUGEE REGISTRATION

In support of the Migration and Citizenship Services’ refugee registration process, IOM is providing **electronic signature pads** and supports required system upgrades. This will allow for registration using digital forms instead of paper-based forms, thus saving time, paperwork, as well as improving the Government’s digitalized knowledge management systems.

