

Increased Resilience of Syrian Armenians and Host Population (IRIS) 2018 - 2021, Programme Factsheet

May 2020

PROGRAMME PROFILE

Overall objective

To contribute to the National Integration Policy that intends to guarantee a dignified life for Syrian Armenians in Armenia through full protection and integration

Specific objective

To improve social and economic resilience of Syrian Armenians and host population and to strengthen institutional capacities for economic growth in Armenia

Target groups

9'000 Syrian Armenians better informed on existing services | 1'100 Syrian Armenians and local Armenians to benefit from psychological and social well-being | 720 Syrian Armenians to benefit from housing support | 200 entrepreneurs supported with business plans and trainings | 3'000 children and adolescents reached with integration activities | 360 teachers trained in Psychological First Aid

Final beneficiaries

22'000 Syrian Armenian refugees and local host population

Duration

36 months, July 2018 – June 2021

Donors

EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (the 'Madad' Fund), Austrian Development Cooperation, Austrian Red Cross

Lead & Key partners

Austrian Red Cross (Lead), 'Armenian Caritas' Benevolent NGO, Armenian Red Cross Society, Centre for Coordination of Syrian Armenians' Issues, SME Co-operation Association NGO, Save the Children (Associate Partner)

INTERMEDIARY OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES – SUMMARY of achievements to date

1. **Improved access to health and social services**, including comprehensive information provision, psychological support and social services for Syrian Armenians and most vulnerable host population provided

9'000 Syrian Armenians regularly updated with respective information on available services for Syrian Armenians through brochures and social media
296 older people and people with disabilities received visiting services incl. food and hygiene parcels

216 Syrian Armenians received individual psycho-social support counselling

170 Syrian Armenian families supported with case management

427 Syrian Armenians participated in group based integration support events

2. **Improved housing conditions** for Syrian Armenians

195 most vulnerable Syrian Armenian families supported with monthly rental subsidies: currently case management done by phone due to Covid-19

Sustainable housing concept paper: methodology of 1st phase research developed by ADWISE Consulting

3. **Increased access to economic opportunities** including business development and employment support for Syrian Armenians and host population

IRIS Business Incubator registered as foundation by Armenian Caritas and SME Cooperation Association, first Board Meeting held end of Feb.

Out of 585 applicants, 148 pitched their ideas, 99 were invited to business modelling canvas trainings, 73 invited to IRIS Academy

Due to Covid-19, activities realigned into online mode, causing delays and revisions in training agenda and training academy planning

IRIS Academy started (online) end of April and will last until beg. of July

60 Syrian Armenians and local Armenians participated in traineeships, out of which 54 have permanent employment afterwards

4. **Improved integration and resilience** of Syrian Armenian and local Armenian children and youth

141 teachers, partners and state stakeholders trained in Psychological First Aid: new Trainings of Trainers postponed due to Covid-19

3'110 Syrian Armenian and local children (6-9 yrs.) participated in Tolerance Education classes: currently sessions are held online due to Covid-19

70 children and youth (6-18 yrs.) participated in children rights and integration activities: current activities postponed due to Covid-19

20 youth mobilised for creative projects regarding tolerance building and social inclusion: implementation of all 20 projects postponed due to Covid-19