



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

January 2021

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 website and social media
330 older people and people with disabilities received psycho-social support, food and hygiene parcels, 250 received also PPE against COVID-19
324 Syrian Armenians received individual counselling
276 Syrian Armenian families supported with case management
537 Syrian Armenians participated in group based integration support events

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

226 most vulnerable Syrian Armenian families supported with monthly rental subsidies: currently case management done by phone due to COVID-19
Sustainable housing concept paper: study of social-economic conditions and potential of Syrian-Armenians residing in Armenia finalised Phase III in December

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

IRIS Business Incubator Foundation since Jan. 2020:
1st Cycle 44 IRIS BI residents have received financing (141,000€ grants/66,000€ loans) are participating in business incubation phase 2, receiving coaching and mentorship for 6-9 months.
2nd Call for business ideas November/December: 457 applicants, 172 selected for BMC- and pre-pitch trainings and pitchings
85 Syrian Armenians and local Armenians participated in traineeships, out of which 68 have permanent employment afterwards

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

224 teachers, partners and state stakeholders trained in Psychological First Aid: next PFA trainings planned to start in March.
6,020 Syrian Armenian and local children (6-9 yrs.) participated in Tolerance Education classes: currently ongoing for ~2,500 pupils in 9 schools, to be completed by April.
229 children and youth (6-18 yrs.) participated in children rights and integration activities: CRP classes currently ongoing in other schools with children from NK as they are the most in need of PSS and peer-to-peer support.
194 youth mobilized for creative projects regarding tolerance building and social inclusion: 26 project proposals submitted in December.

