

"Seeds for Solutions" – preventing and reducing statelessness in Kyrgyzstan through registration and documentation of stateless and undocumented persons Progress Report

18 May 2015

Results of the project

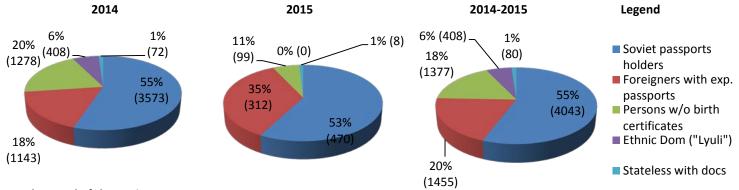
The following table provides snapshot information on the cumulative number of persons who have been registered and assisted under the project with citizenship determination and Kyrgyz citizenship acquisition:

"Seeds for Solutions" project results 2014-2015 (total)					
	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Total (all regions)	7,363	6,459	3,160		

"Seeds for Solutions" project results 2015					
Persons	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Batken province	489	245	3		
Chuy province (5 districts)	335	278	40		
Talas province (4 districts)	65	31	17		
Total	889	554	60		

"Seeds for Solutions" pilot project results 2014					
	Persons identified	Applications submitted	Cases resolved		
Jalalabad province	3,022	2,675	1,173		
Osh city and province	2,835	2,674	1,436		
Chuy province (3 districts)	617	556	491		
Total	6,474	5,905	3,100		

Individuals registered by target groups



Background of the project

In February 2014, UNHCR Solutions Steering Group selected Kyrgyzstan as one of the pilot countries for the "Seeds for Solutions" initiative. The initiative encouraged UNHCR country offices to seek meaningful and measurable ways to reduce and to prevent statelessness. UNHCR Kyrgyzstan received funding to carry out a pilot project that would offer durable solutions to stateless and undocumented persons.

In June 2014, UNHCR, jointly with its governmental and non-governmental partners, launched a pilot registration and documentation exercise in Osh city, Osh, Jalalabad, and Chuy provinces. Twenty-eight mobile multifunctional teams were created, comprising NGO-hired lawyers, self-governance officials, and passport desk officers. These teams travelled to the designated areas of the country in order to provide legal aid to beneficiaries, and to assist them in filing for citizenship determination or acquisition. The target groups of beneficiaries include Soviet passport holders, foreigners with expired passports, and persons without birth certificates.

Following the successful completion of the 2014 pilot project phase, the work continues this year in Bishkek city, Batken, Talas, and Chuy provinces. In 2015, UNHCR expects to assist 4,000 beneficiaries. In 2016, the teams will cover the remaining two provinces of Issyk-Kul and Naryn, and expect to assist additional 3,000 persons of concern. By the end of 2016, the teams will have covered the entire territory of Kyrgyzstan.

As nationality acquisition procedures take time, UNHCR is also establishing residual mechanisms that enable continuous monitoring of each individual case beyond the three-year operations of the field teams. For that purpose, the project partners have developed a project database which allows tracking and updating individual case progress for each beneficiary.