

UNHCR Tajikistan

Fact Sheet | February 2012
Asia-Pacific Field Update

Operational objectives

- Improve the quality of asylum in accordance with international standards
- Prevent *refoulement* in this regard cooperate with authorities in the area of border management
- Provide refugees with access to appropriate durable solutions
- Assist the Government of Tajikistan in reducing and preventing statelessness, and advocate for their accession to the international statelessness instruments
- Ensure that refugee issues remain a part of the general human rights agenda in Tajikistan
- Maintain contingency plans and emergency preparedness and play an active role in the REACT disaster reduction and recovery mechanisms

Persons of concern

Population	Total Number	Assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	3323	2000
Asylum Seekers	2037	1500
Stateless	2745	-

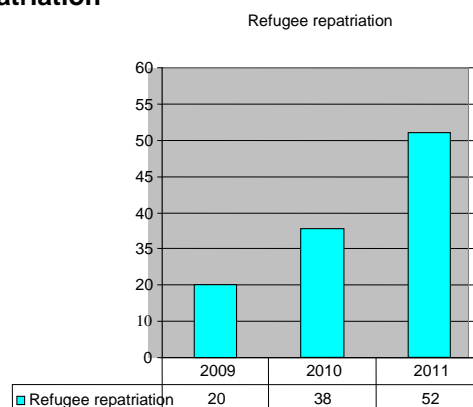
Legal and Institutional Framework

Convention	Dates of Accession
1951 Refugee Convention	7 December 1993
1967 Protocol	7 December 1993
1954 Statelessness	-
1961 Statelessness	-
ICCPR	4 January 1999
ICESCR	-
CAT	-
CEDAW	26 October 1993
CRC	26 October 1993
Who does refugee status determination?	Government

Durable Solutions Resettlement

Country	Submissions	Departures
Norway	5 persons	5 persons
Canada	17 persons	3 persons
USA	46 persons	

Repatriation



Working with Partners

UNHCR continues to advocate for closer co-operation and coordination with the Government, civil society and other UN agencies to provide protection and support to persons of concern.

Implementing Partners:

NGOs: Refugee Children and Vulnerable Citizens (RCVC), Rights and Prosperity (R&P), and Consortium Initiatives (CI)

Operational Partners:

Government: Department for Citizenship and Works with Refugees of the Passport Registration Service within the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, Ombudsman Office, Executive Apparatus of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Ministry of Justice

Others: UNDP, UNIFEM, WHO, OSCE, Focus and Red Crescent Society

Recent operational activities and highlights

Protection:

In January 2012 the Ministry of Interior (MOI) established a Working Group to amend the Refugee Law and to adopt internal instructions on asylum matters. UNHCR has been actively involved in the Working Group and expects to see positive developments during the course of the year. UNHCR continues to provide legal assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers ensuring their access to the national asylum system and preventing cases of detention and deportation of refugees.

Registration:

Registration/verification exercise of 2011 conducted with the Government was completed UNHCR plans to assist the Government with the development of a specialized database.

Assistance and community services

UNHCR provides material, financial, medical and/or social assistance to persons of concern in doing so UNHCR also works with refugee communities to mobilize self-reliance of refugees.

UNHCR supports refugee children to ensure their access to education (provision of books, school uniforms and enrollment in extracurricular courses, such as Cyrillic script and Tajik History). With the assistance from the German Government UNHCR runs the DAFI project assisting young refugees to pursue higher education in Tajik universities through yearly scholarships.

Durable solutions for refugees

UNHCR engages all three durable solutions in its operation in Tajikistan. Assistance is provided to mainly Afghan refugees who wish to repatriate to their country of origin. Resettlement is pursued for particularly vulnerable individuals. Finally, legal assistance is provided to persons who meet the requirements for naturalization under the citizenship law.

Government capacity building:

UNHCR assists the Passport Registration Service under the Ministry of Internal Affairs in establishing an adequate asylum system. In this regard, UNHCR participates as observer in the National Refugee Status Determination Commission advising and guiding the government on international standards and practices in the refugee status determination process. UNHCR also provides training and technical assistance to relevant government structures (Ministry of Interior, Prosecutor's Office, judiciary, lawyers, etc.)

Statelessness:

UNHCR is working in Tajikistan with relevant government partners on developing a national plan of action for identification of stateless persons and finding solutions to their situation. An important part of this work is to remove gaps in the national legislation and its procedures. UNHCR continues on advocate for the Tajikistan's accession to the Statelessness Conventions.

UNHCR presence



Offices comprise: Regional/Branch office (1).

Staff comprise: Regular national staff (8) and regular international staff (2)

2012 Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Population Group	Budget in USD
PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	1,732,569
PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	98,618
TOTAL BUDGET	1,831,187

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