

Capacity & Vulnerability Assessment

September 2021



What is AGORA?



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Context & Rationale



Intended Impact

- This Capacity & Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) intends to inform the integration of the humanitarian-development nexus in addressing the aftermath of the 2020 shocks in Armenia, through providing evidence to support targeting the recovery efforts led by UNDP Armenia and the programming of the Early Recovery Working Group
- The information on services access gained from household (HH) level and service providers aims to support context-relevant programming in the specific regions that experienced the heaviest influx of people in refugee-like situation
- The institutional focus of the CVA is geared toward informing interventions aimed at longer term structural change to ensure service provision for all people residing in Armenia

Context & Rationale



Background

- Due to hostilities in and around Nagorno-Karabakh (NK) 90,000 people fled to the Republic of Armenia, of which an estimated 36,989 remain displaced
- Those residing in Armenia have had considerable humanitarian needs ranging from shelter, food, health, education, and livelihoods
- Host communities have experienced stress in their capacity to provide basic services such as energy and utilities, education, healthcare, security services, etc.
- Compounded by the COVID-19 epidemic in Armenia, the displacement crisis added additional stress on government, host communities and institutions and their capacities to address the essential needs of host communities and people in a refugee-like situation

Specific Objectives



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To identify capacity gaps in the provision of public services in the following eleven sectors:

- ➤ Housing
- Energy and Utilities
- >Waste Management
- Education
- > Healthcare
- > Employment
- >Administrative Services
- Social Services
- Security and Justice Services
- Emergency Services
- Social Cohesion and Peacebuilding

Methodology: Household Survey



AHP

- Two structured surveys were developed: a HH level survey on access to services and a service provider key informant survey to assess service provisions
- ➢ For HH surveys, a total of 1807 (1202 host and 605 refugee-like situation) surveys were accomplished through a stratified random sample
- The research was stratified by both geographic and demographic strata, including urban and rural host communities, as well as refugee-like populations

Methodology: Key Informant Survey



- In total, the key informant survey covered 318 purposefully sampled service providers across the 11 assessed sectors
- The key informant surveys consisted of two parts: general cross-sectoral questions and sector-specific questions
- Cross-sectoral questions provide indicative descriptions of the trends, behaviours, experiences/ opinions of the respective service providers across sectors; sector-specific data are indicative and summarize these findings per sector

Methodology: Geographic Scope





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Gender of the head of HH



Demographics



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% of Host HHs reporting having at least one member with one of the following vulnerabilities







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% of refugee-like HHs reporting having at least one member with one of the following vulnerabilities







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Current living situation for host & refugee-like HHs



Host HHs

- We own our apartment/house
- We rent our apartment/house
- Other

Refugee-like HHs



- Staying in rented/paid accommodation
- Staying in own house
- Currently residing with hosting households
- Currently residing in a collective center (or hostel/hotel, etc)

Host Community Access to Utilities

% of host HHs reporting that COVID-19 and the hostilities in and around NK did not affect their access to utilities



COVID-19 NK

Refugee-like HHs Access to Utilities

% of refugee-like HHs reporting having had access to utilities since arriving in Armenia, by region



Waste Management: Service Providers

According to those service providers who reported challenges with waste disposal service provision (83%), the reasons for these challenges are



■ Kotayk ■ Syunik ■ Yerevan

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Reported effects of COVID-19 on access to education, by % of host HHs reporting their access to education had been affected (25%)





Reported effects of the hostilities in and around NK on access to education, by % of refugee-like HHs reporting their access to education had been affected (23%)





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Education: Service Providers

% of education service providers (n=47) reporting the following main challenges in the field of education, per region:

Kotayk (n=23) Syunik (n=16) Yerevan (n=8) Overall

Lack of qualified staff	30%	56%	50%	43%
Limited availability of technological equipment	65%	63%	75%	66%
Limited quantity of pupils/students	52%	31%	38%	43%
No challenges faced	0%	6%	0%	2%
Student/teacher ratio	26%	6%	25%	19%

Healthcare: Host HHs



Reported effects of COVID-19 on access to healthcare (March-June 2020), by % of host HHs

Circumstances not affected				
Did not use healthcare services				
Fear of contracting COVID-19				
Borrowed money for medical bills				
Not enough hospital beds				
Could not afford medical support				
Could not access COVID-19 testing/ treatment				
No access to ambulance	1			
Lack of medical personnel	1			
Corruption				
0)%	20%	40%	60%



Effect of NK of healthcare provisions

Reported effects of the hostilities in and around NK on access to healthcare (September-December 2020), by % of host and refugee-like HHs



■ Refugee-Like ■ Host



% of healthcare service providers (n=37) lacking the following resources in healthcare facilities, per region

	Kotayk (n=20)	Syunik (n=12)	Yerevan (n=5)	Overall
Ambulances	5%	8%	0%	5%
Lack of qualified staff	20%	58%	80%	41%
Medical supplies	65%	42%	80%	59%
Medicine	5%	8%	60%	14%
Nothing	5%	0%	0%	3%
Personal protective gear (PPG)	10%	8%	20%	11%
Doctors	10%	8%	20%	11%
Hospital beds	5%	0%	20%	5%
Medical personnel	20%	0%	20%	14%



Effect of NK on employment status



% of host and refugee-like HHs reporting that the hostilities in and around NK impacted their main employment status



Administrative Services: Service Providers



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No Yes

Social Services: Refugee-like HHs

% of refugee-like HHs reporting having needed the following social services in the 30 days prior to data collection, per region





% of refugee-like HHs households reporting needing the following types of security & justice services in the 30 days prior to data collection





Emergency Services: Host Communities

% of host HHs reported the following disasters to be a risk for their household and livelihood, per region

	Kotayk Rural	Kotayk Urban	Syunik Rural	Syunik Urban	Yerevan
Don't know	9%	13%	15%	16%	3%
Climate change related hazards	43%	21%	25%	29%	30%
Anthropogenic hazards	21%	13%	15%	18%	39%
Conflict escalation	73%	47%	60%	50%	46%
COVID-19	62%	54%	46%	47%	78%
Natural hazards	60%	63%	71%	58%	89%



Emergency Services: Refugee-like HHs

% of refugee-like HHs reporting considering any of the following disasters to be a risk for their household and livelihood, per region

	Kotayk	Syunik	Yerevan
Don't know	13%	16%	4%
Climate change related hazards	25%	24%	25%
Anthropogenic Hazards	14%	11%	33%
Conflict escalation	63%	54%	54%
COVID-19	50%	44%	84%
Natural Hazards	54%	60%	86%



Social Cohesion: Community decision-making

processes

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Social Cohesion: Service Providers

Reported key issues causing tensions in local communities, by % of service providers per region



- There are no social tensions within my community
- Lack of trust towards authorities
- Competition over socioeconomic opportunities (e.g. employment, housing)

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Political disputes

Social Cohesion: Service Providers



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Reported types of resources needed for better community engagement, by % of service providers per region

	Yerevan	Syunik	Kotayk
More coordination with provincial authorities	0%	15%	6%
Unaware of better community engagement resources	0%	8%	6%
More coordination with national authorities	14%	23%	0%
Support to develop/improve interactive communication tools	14%	38%	28%
Gender inclusive trainings	29%	8%	6%
Training for facilitating electoral processes	29%	8%	17%
Training for conflict resolution/peacebuilding	43%	15%	22%
Training for efficient public expenditure/budgeting	43%	8%	22%
Training for civic engagement mechanisms	43%	31%	50%

CVA Recommendations



CVA Recommendations

Employment Opportunities for Conflict-Affected People

- Livelihoods for refugeelike HHs in view of existing skills and capacities (agriculture)
- Benefits to both hosting and refugee-like populations to avoid exacerbating tensions

Inclusive Basic Services during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Access to remote learning including creative technological solutions to bridge digital divide
- Basic healthcare resources and capacity

Inclusive Governance and Response

- Capacity building for Local communities and service providers to prepare, protect, and prevent area-specific hazards
- Enhanced existing community engagement mechanisms for both host and refugee-like HHs with a gender lens

AGORA: 4 pillars





Pillar 4. Technical assistance for civil society or local institutional actors







THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

