

THIRD VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

3

DEVELOPMENT

1

HUMANITARIAN

2

PEACE

Armenia's 3rd Voluntary National Review will rest on three key pillars, which are strongly interlinked and mutually reinforcing and provide the comprehensive framework for the analysis of the country context, including the achievements, gaps and challenges in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.



HUMANITARIAN

01

Overview of evolving humanitarian situation since June 2020 (2 nd VNR)

- COVID-19
- Forcibly displaced refugees from NK and internally displaced persons in Armenia
- Persons with disabilities
- Populations stranded across the Lachin corridor

02

The impact of humanitarian situation on the implementation of SDGs

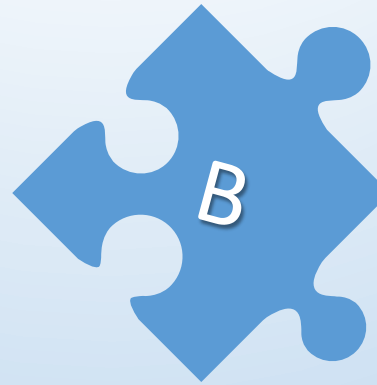
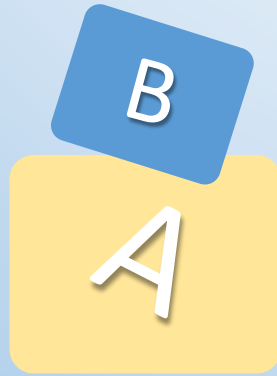
- Healthcare challenges
- Social protection challenges
- Poverty /Social impact
- Economic challenges

03

The humanitarian and emergency response

- Actions taken by the government and state institutions o
- Actions taken by the grassroots and civil society
- Actions taken by the private sector
- Overall effectiveness of the humanitarian response.

PEACE



Peace at home

- Institution building
- Fight against corruption
- Social justice and coherence



Peace in the region

- Initiatives for the normalization of relations with Azerbaijan
- Initiatives for the establishment of diplomatic relations with Türkiye
- Strengthening good neighborly relations with Georgia and Iran
- **Crossroads of Peace**

DEVELOPMENT



Environment and Climate Change

PHISICAL

Ensuring necessary environment for effective development of human capital and enhancing societal well-being and improving the quality-of-life conditions constitutes a strong precondition for the effective development of human capital and creation of opportunities for self-realization and self-actualization. Two major aspects of this section are :

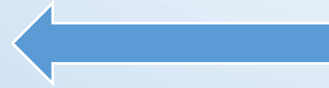
The primary component corresponding to SDG 13 focuses on the physical environment, specifically addressing climate change and environmental protection. Government activities in this regard follow a three-tiered approach:

REGULATORY

INSTITUTIONAL

PRACTICAL

**Social
Environments**



During the reporting period, several legal and institutional reforms were implemented in the field of the environment. These reforms aimed to:

Increase the efficiency of water resources management

e.g., improvements to the Water Code and water use system

Enhance the environmental impact assessment system

e.g., adopting new laws and by-laws, and strengthening the capacity of the institutional unit

Improve atmospheric air protection

e.g., adopting new laws and legislative acts, and creating new regulations on substances that deplete the ozone layer

Strengthen the environmental monitoring system

e.g., acquiring laboratory equipment, monitoring observatories, and measuring devices

Optimize the system of specially protected nature areas and forests

e.g., establishing an eco-patrol service, and carrying out reforestation and afforestation work).

Regulatory framework

01

The initial Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) submitted to the Secretariat of UNFCCC by the Government of Armenia in 2015, became country's first NDC for the period of 2015-2050, after the ratification of Paris Agreement in 2017. <https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=188713>.

02

National Action Program of Adaptation to Climate Change and the List of Measures for 2021-2025 (NAP)
<https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=160390>

03

The water Sector Adaptation Plan and its Program of Measures for 2022-2026 were adopted in November 2022.
<https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=170035>

04

Long-term (until 2050) Low Greenhouse Gas Emissions Development Strategy of the Republic of Armenia
<https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=188021>

05

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Procedure
<https://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=188713>



PROGRESS ON THE SDGs

ENERGY

The unprecedented investment in the renewable energy system is another major achievement, which has the potential of accelerating Armenia's green energy transition while ensuring its energy independence and security and climate justice for all. At the same time the biggest refurbishment and overhaul of the country's sole nuclear reactor in full conformity with the international nuclear safety and security standards has allowed to ensure the stability of the grid for the decade to come while allowing to project the steady growth of the energy sector.

ECONOMY

the economy of Armenia has been steadily growing with a year-on-year GDP growth from 7.18% to 9.65%, lifting hundreds of thousands of citizens above the poverty level. Thanks to the established rules of free market economy, strong macroeconomic governance and effective solutions, the financial system of the country remained stable and did not suffer many setbacks from the difficulties of the last four years, while global financial system including in many developed countries and major economies in our region were struggling to maintain their financial stability and avoid a default.

INFRASTRUCTURE

During the last four years in the Republic of Armenia more new roads have been built than within the last 30 years, in the meantime renovating most community roads, which has had a tremendous impact on the mobility of people and goods within the country while boosting its international transit capabilities.



REFUGEES

The ability to welcome with hospitality an unprecedentedly large number of refugees within a few days, to provide for their dignified and sustainable livelihood in the host communities, making sure that all refugees have access to housing opportunities, social benefits, job opportunities in a long run, while effectively addressing their short-term and immediate needs, such as food, shelter, sanitation, dignified conditions for continued education of children and students within the educational system of the country and provision of required healthcare services in the most organized and effective manner, have shown the strength and resilience of the country and its society as well as its ability to deliver on the promise of sustainable, just and dignified development for all while leaving no one behind.

REFORMS

Major reforms in the system of governance, social protection and education are gaining traction, while ensuring the social justice and cohesion of the society and its full trust in democratic institutions. Armenia has been consistent in prioritizing the protection and promotion of women's rights, involving more women in decision-making processes (including in executive and legislative bodies), achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls.

The unprecedented reforms in the judiciary, uncompromised fight against corruption and ensuring public accountability have further bolstered Armenia's progressive development, with reforms which are aimed to ensure just and peaceful society and go beyond the best international experience and the requirements of relevant international conventions and .

COOPERATION

The joint efforts of the international community, and especially the United Nations' system should be anchored in the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, to withstand the humanitarian crisis, while ensuring progress and development for the society and promoting a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. A strong emphasis on the humanitarian, social-economic and human rights issues of the most vulnerable, including those affected by conflict should be at the heart of it.



THANK YOU