

**Armenia**

3 November 2020

SITUATION

On the morning of Sunday the 27 September 2020, the region of Nagorno Karabagh in the entire line of contact with Azerbaijan, was attacked by Azerbaijan army using heavy artillery, tanks, aircraft and missiles. Peaceful towns and villages were bombed, including the capital city of Stepanakert. This attack was unprecedented in the size and scope of the military arsenal engaged. Azerbaijan army specifically targeted the civilian population in gross violation of international humanitarian law and with absolute disregard for the call by the UN Secretary General for a worldwide ceasefire given the COVID-19. The geography of the fighting widened, several drones were shot in the air of Armenia close to capital Yerevan, Vardenis region of Armenia was bombed. 47 civilian is death and 135 wounded, while 90.000 people has to seek refuge. The military operations may expand beyond the conflict zone, resulting in serious atrocities and a humanitarian crisis in the region, exacerbated by the situation related to the coronavirus outbreak. This situation is undermining regional security and peace, significantly raising the risks of a full-fledged war. In response to the clashes, Armenia and Karabagh introduced martial law and total military mobilization. European Union, numerous countries and the United Nations strongly condemned the conflict and called for resuming negotiations without delay. On September 28 World Council of Churches and ACT Alliance on October 7 issued Statements on the situation: <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/general-secretary/wcc-statement-on-the-escalation-of-conflict-in-the-disputed-nagorno-karabakh-region> and https://actalliance.org/?post_type=act_news&p=15325

NEEDS

The armed conflict have put the state in a state of crisis. The 90000 affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to food, shelter, clothing, including for cold season, footwear, blankets, pillows, bedding, sanitation and hygiene items, stationery for schoolchildren, technical means for on-line classes, payment for utilities.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sufficient food
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe shelter and basic non-food items
<input type="checkbox"/>	basic health services and facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	livelihood activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	protection services
<input type="checkbox"/>	adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the 2000 affected people with vulnerabilities. More specifically for woman and girls who left their homes and moved to safer places from the borders of Armenia, because of increasing threat of attacks from Azerbaijan side. Many settlements in Karabagh are under regular attacks and bombings, so women and children have to leave their villages and towns to find refuge in Armenia. About 90,000 are currently hosted in hotels, camps, vacant buildings and families. They are without food, clothes, warm clothes in view of the coming winter, sanitation and hygiene items, household supplies, funds to pay for utilities, especially in winter time, etc. These circumstances will undoubtedly escalate coronavirus cases, as people could not follow all sanitary requirements now. Total funds needed to cover at least urgent needs and food for 3 months for 2000 people stands at \$150.000. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	A headquarter for social and material assistance to victims of the hostilities, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development, Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UNHCR
<input type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	No information
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military presence	Total military mobilization
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Mission Armenia
<input type="checkbox"/>	Civil society groups	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Faith based groups	Armenia Round Table, Caritas Armenia, World Vision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Philanthropy groups	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	Regions of Armenia and Yerevan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Affected communities	

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by Headquarter for social and material assistance to victims of the hostilities. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (ART participates in emergency coordination regular meetings with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and with UNHCR) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

ACT Alliance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance has been working in Armenia since 2010, now helping/planning to help people affected by the war and displacement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the influx of IDPs and refugees, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid need assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT forum has identified a gap in food security, safe shelter and basic non food items and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide food, shelter and basic non food items to ensure that the 2000 affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to food, shelter and basic non-food items .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing food, shelter and basic non-food items to 2000 affected persons in the coming weeks.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Furthermore, ACT Alliance will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the influx of IDPs and refugees are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Finance Officer, Marjorie Schmidt (marjorie.schmidt@actalliance.org) with a copy to Dragana Levicanin (dragana.levicanin@actalliance.org)

For further information please contact:

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Core Humanitarian STANDARD The ACT Alliance Secretariat's continuous improvement in the application of the Core Humanitarian Standard is independently verified by HQAI

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