

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CAUCASUS RESEARCH-RESOURCE CENTER ARMENIA FOUNDATION



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People

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARY SHEEHAN

BOARD CHAIRPERSON

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (RETIRED)

ANDREW COXSHALL

CHAIR OF FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

PARTNER KPMG (RETIRED)

HORTON BEEBE-CENTER

EURASIA FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT (RETIRED)

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UNICEF SUKHUMI, CHIEF OF FIELD OFFICE

ANNA OHANYAN

STONEHILL COLLEGE, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL
SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

DEANA ARSENIAN

CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK, VICE PRESIDENT

TALAR KAZANJIAN

AGBU ARMENIA, FORMER EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

YEVA AVAKYAN

SAVE THE CHILDREN US, ASSOCIATED VP, GENDER EQUALITY



People

TEAM

SONA BALASANYAN
Chief Executive Officer

LILIT YEZEKYAN
Research Director

RYAN MATTHEWS
Research and Development Officer

MARIAM ARAKELYAN
Research Expert

ARPINE ARAKELYAN
Office Manager

ASHOT KHACHATRYAN
Events and Fellowship Manager

ELLA KARAGULYAN
Program Manager for Data Initiative

ZARUHI SIMONYAN
Program Officer for Data Initiative

SATENIK GHAZARYAN
Research Analyst

ANAHIT HAKOBYAN
Fieldwork Coordinator

ROBERT HAMBARDZUMYAN
Research Associate

HRACHYA KHLGHATYAN
Research Assistant

ARUSYAK VOSKANYAN
Research Associate

IRINA YESAYAN
Research Assistant

ARTUR APRESYAN
System Administrator

ANAHIT HAKOBYAN
Domestic Assistant

SHUSHANIK GHAMARYAN
Communications Officer

HEGHINE MANASYAN
Director Emerita



THE FIGURES

15

**PROJECTS
COMPLETED**

7

**ONGOING
PROJECTS**

7

**TRAININGS
CONDUCTED**

IMPACT AREAS



HEALTHCARE



EDUCATION, SKILLS AND
RESEARCH CAPACITY



MIGRATION



ECONOMY & LABOR
MARKET



EVALUATION RESEARCH
& POLICY MAKING



GENDER STUDIES



CIVIL SOCIETY, HUMAN
RIGHTS, CIVIC EDUCATION



MEDIA

MAIN PROJECTS



Research of Current Socio-Political Developments

Funder: National Democratic Institute

Budget: \$ 76,836

Timeframe: 06/2020 – 09/2021

Objective:

The project pursues an overall Goal of promoting democracy-supporting institutions in their effort of boosting the democratization of post-revolutionary Armenia through targeted and data-driven capacity building activities, taking into consideration perceptions/estimations made by the constituency at large.

Specific objective #1: To map the expectations of constituents from the Government on most pressing issues e.g. health system operations, education system operations, government optimization and efficiency, local governance (community consolidation), economic, political, media, gender issues through FGDs.

Specific objective #2: To conduct in-depth interviews with ordinary citizens on the topics raised over the FGDs to acquire data at the subjective/individual level.

Specific objective #3: To acquire a nationwide realistic understanding/snapshot of the perceptions, concerns and estimations of the public on socio-economic and socio-political developments.

Activities:

- Development of research methodological tools (for online, qualitative and quantitative study) and sampling;
- Desk research, including secondary data analysis and online exploratory surveys;
- Focus group discussions (in two rounds; 12 FGDs for each) accompanied by mini-reports;
- In-depth interviews with ordinary citizens (around 15 after each round of FGDs)
- Nationwide representative survey;
- Data processing/analysis;
- Round table/validation discussion and meetings with stakeholders.

MAIN PROJECTS



Fighting Misinformation with Civic Discourse in Armenia

Funder: National Endowment for Democracy

Budget: \$61,600

Timeframe: 06/2021 – 05/2022

Objective:

Specific Objective 1: To reveal the nationwide perceptions and concerns of the Armenian public regarding political and socio-economic developments particularly within the post-war environment through a new wave of the Caucasus Barometer survey. **Specific Objective 2:** To explore and understand the differences in perceptions between Armenian journalists, academics, and general citizens regarding critical political and socio-economic issues facing the country with a focus on misinformation within the media.

Activities:

Component A (under SO #1) - Nationwide Caucasus Barometer (CB) survey in Armenia 2021:

- Finalize CB source questionnaire for the respective wave – 2021, sampling and translation of the questionnaire;
- Conduct questionnaire pre-test and finalize questionnaire;
- Training of interviewers; fieldwork;
- Clean data, finalize dataset and publish data on the Open Data Analysis (ODA) tool
- Host forum disseminating findings and discussing trends.

Component B (under SO #2) - Panel discussions with Armenian journalists, researchers, and citizens, and dissemination:

- Data Exhibition (DE); Panel Discussion (PD);
- Broadcasting and Promoting the Findings of DE and PD;
- Evaluation Report Development;
- “Coffee with Data” pamphlet developed and disseminated dispersed.

MAIN PROJECTS



Pre-election Public Opinion Poll

Funder: Management Systems International

Budget: \$9,869

Timeframe: 06/2021 – 06/2021

Objective:

Field a representative CATI survey with citizens of Armenia to better understand their attitudes and perceptions during the pre-electoral period. These data will inform the work and engagement of MSI, a Tetra Tech Company, regarding the situation in Armenia. Particularly, public perceptions about the pre-electoral political situation in the country, political participation, security and foreign policy issues will be revealed.

Activities:

Conducting 700 interviews throughout Armenia (gathering data representative at a national level) with exceptional attention to detail to ensure obtaining valid data.

- Draft a topline summary of the methodology (including margin of error) and summary of findings;
- Develop, pretest and finalize the CATI questionnaire;
- Recruit and train interviewers;
- Finalize the sample design and develop the sample and fieldwork plan;
- Conduct the fieldwork questionnaire via tablet and the CATI technique;
- Develop data collection report;
- Archive, clean, weigh and code the interview data;
- Preliminary analysis of the received data to prepare analytical charts and tables.

MAIN PROJECTS



Local Democracy School Evaluation

Funder: Communities Finance Officers Association NGO

Budget: \$20,000

Timeframe: 06/2021 – 01/2022

Objective:

The objective of the activity is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Local Democracy School.

Activities:

- Organize and conduct 4-5 interviews with the teams of the Communities Finance Officers Association NGO and Eurasia Partnership Foundation, as well as 1-2 interviews with representatives of the USAID, and 3-4 face to face interviews with representatives of the Local Democracy School (LDS) regional centre organizations;
- Conduct focus group discussions with representatives of the LDS regional centre organizations, trainers and monitoring experts of the LSD;
- At least 300 questionnaires completed by LDS graduates;
- Conduct 8-10 in depth interviews with graduates who have received small grants as well as with at least 5 young people who had left the school unfinished;
- Conduct at least 4 interviews with secondary beneficiaries;
- Data processing.

MAIN PROJECTS



WORLD BANK GROUP

Customs Administration and Perceptions Survey

Funder: The World Bank Group

Budget: \$24,536

Timeframe: 11/2021 – 03/2022

Objective:

The objective of the Project is to enhance the efficiency of the customs administration through selected interventions and to improve capacity and administrative procedures. The results will be used to inform Government officials, provide a focus for public-private discourse, and help guide the design of key elements of future Customs activities and strategy. The main addressee of the survey is the State Revenue Committee in the framework of the Consultancy Service for World Bank Armenia under Customs Administration Development project. The achievement of the objective will be based on the following outcomes: 1. Strengthened customs administration procedures; 2. Upgraded ICT system; 3. Enhanced analytical capacity.

Activities:

Around 600 survey interviews with at least 30% of women participation and five focus groups with around 55 participants were conducted. Two FGDs will be referred to customs brokers and transportation activity groups. Another three mixed groups will be formulated based on the baseline findings of the survey.

- Develop Research Methodological Tools;
- Questionnaire development and testing;
- Sampling;
- Questionnaire review and finalization;
- Interviewer training for fieldwork, fieldwork;
- Data cleaning, analysis and report writing;
- FG discussions, coding and report compilation.

MAIN PROJECTS



USAID Communications Survey

Funder: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Budget: \$7,486

Timeframe: 09/2021 – 11/2022

Objective:

Public opinion data was obtained through a nationally representative Telephone survey of Armenia that was designed to obtain the most accurate possible information about USAID programs awareness.

Activities:

- Sample Allocation;
- Respondent Selection and Callbacks;
- Pretest;
- Fieldwork;
- Data Processing.

MAIN PROJECTS



Public Perceptions towards Civil Society in Armenia

Funder: Open Society Foundations – Armenia

Budget: \$34,156 (EUR15,000 + AMD8,517,120)

Timeframe: 11/2021 – 05/2022

Objective:

This project aims to gain comprehensive insight regarding the public's perceptions of civil society in Armenia and what may be contributing to their views of civil society. This will be achieved through conducting both a representative public perceptions survey and focus group (FG) discussions. While the public perceptions survey will reveal the overall trends regarding perceptions of civil society in Armenia, the focus group discussions will explore questions that cannot be asked during the survey interviews regarding why people perceive civil society the way they do.

Activities:

- Questionnaire development, translation, confirmation, tableting, review and tablet testing;
- Interviewers' (5 people) training for questionnaire pretest, questionnaire pretest;
- Pretest results analysis, review of questionnaire;
- Interviewers' training for fieldwork, fieldwork;
- Data analysis, report writing;
- Preparation of PPT on findings;
- Message design;
- Preparation of FG guide, key informant (KI) interview guide;
- Recruitment of participants and interviewees, FG discussions; KI interviews;
- Quote sorting, coding, report compilation.

MAIN PROJECTS



MIT Political Profiles Conjoint Study

Funder: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Budget: \$9,966

Timeframe: 09/2021 – 10/2021

Objective:

Public opinion data was obtained through a nationally representative CAPI survey in Armenia, that was designed to find out the most preferable profile of Deputy Prime Minister among Armenians.

Activities:

- Sampling (nationally representative sample of 1252 residents of Armenia were achieved through household visits);
- Questionnaire development;
- Pretest;
- Fieldwork;
- Data processing.

MAIN PROJECTS



Religious and Political Beliefs Study

Funder: US Department of State (through CRRC Georgia)

Budget: \$9,900

Timeframe: 09/2021 – 10/2021

Objective:

The project is aimed to obtain public opinion data through a nationally representative CATI survey of Armenia that was designed to obtain the most accurate possible information about: (a) geopolitical perceptions, (b) religious practices (c) moral values (d) domestic politics.

Activities:

- Sampling (a nationally representative sample of 1000 mobile phone users above 18 years old was achieved through CATI);
- Respondent Selection and Callbacks;
- Questionnaire development;
- Pretest;
- Fieldwork;
- Data processing.

MAIN PROJECTS



Syunik Youth Camp

Funder: US Department of State

Budget: \$9,050

Timeframe: 08/2021 – 02/2022

Objective:

The project is aimed to empower youth from Syunik region of Armenia by enhancing their basic research skills, promoting their civic rights and participation as well as supporting them to reveal community development initiatives and their professional development potential.

Activities:

- Organize two camps (a four-day camp and a two-day camp) to enhance the soft skills and civic engagement of 20 young people from Syunik region of Armenia;
- Provide mentorship during the period between the two camps to support the beneficiaries to generate ideas and community development initiatives.

MAIN PROJECTS



Media Preferences Survey

Funder: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Budget: \$8,772

Timeframe: 09/2021 – 01/2022

Objective:

The project is designed to collect data for the “Media Initiative Center” NGO within the framework of MICE project aimed to improve the quality of media products and support generating alternative content about the Government of Armenia’s policies and planned reforms; increase citizens’ and CSOs’ knowledge and skills to make them savvy media consumers; engage journalists and active citizens in the production of multimedia content that stimulates a vibrant discussion in society about the reforms; and equip media with skills to conduct reliable fact-based reporting and digital storytelling.

Activities:

- Conduct an endline study for the Client via collecting and analyzing data on the level of awareness of the society and the accessibility of information about social, local governance, transparency and accountability reforms, as well on the general attitudes on the media;
- Prepare and conduct a countrywide household (HH) survey among 1200 households;
- Develop a questionnaire that will reveal the level of citizen’s awareness, attitude, expectations from media, its role in strengthening the civic engagement in reform processes in Armenia;
- Conduct fieldwork among 1200 households;
- Archive the collected data, and provide data charts and graphics to the Client;
- Prepare a brief analytical report that reflects the main findings of the survey;
- Present the findings and the analytical report to the MIC and other stakeholders.

MAIN PROJECTS



Armenia Integrity Project

Funder: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Budget: \$249,972

Timeframe: 08/2021 – 03/2026

Objective:

The CRRC has received a subgrant within the Armenia Integrity Project implemented by the Checchi and Company Consulting Inc. The purpose of the activity is to reduce opportunities for corruption and reinforce public demand for improved governance and accountability in Armenia.

Objective 1: Corruption Prevention Institutions and Integrity Systems Strengthened

Objective 2: Selected Corruption Prevention Legal-Regulatory Measures Advanced

Objective 3: Collective Action Against Corruption Fostered

Activities:

- Quantitative research:
 - 3 waves of surveys (sample of 2000 per each) – baseline, midterm, final.
- Qualitative research:
 - 3 cycles of FDGs (15 focus groups per each - 5 broad, 5 sectoral, 5 local);
 - 3 cycles of KIIs (15 in depth interviews per each).

MAIN PROJECTS



Monitoring and Assessing Distributional Impact of COVID-19 in Armenia with High Frequency Phone Survey: Follow-up Surveys in 2021

Funder: The World Bank Group

Budget: \$37,978

Timeframe: 06/2021 – 07/2021

Objective:

The research aims to conduct a representative CATI survey with citizens in Armenia to better understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects related to poverty and inequality. These data will inform the WBG's work related to the pandemic. The two phases of the survey aim to:

- (1) monitor changes related to poverty, vulnerability and COVID-19 by location and socio-economic status;
- (2) assess poverty and the distributional impact of COVID-19;
- (3) measure the skill sets of working age members of lowincome families and migrants.

Activities:

Conducting 2000 CATI-based interviews throughout Armenia in two waves (gathering data representative at a national level):

- Sampling;
- Piloting and finalization of the survey instruments;
- Training of the enumerators;
- Data collection;
- Fieldwork quality control;
- Data processing;
- Final dataset.

MAIN PROJECTS



Feasibility Study on Agricultural Grants for Migrants with HHs

Funder: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Budget: \$21,731

Timeframe: 06/2021 – 05/2022

Objective: To assess technical and political feasibility of implementing a remittance matching grant programme for the development of agribusinesses with the economic migrant population of Armenia.

Activities:

- Detailed work plan of the activities and their corresponding methodologies to be carried for the achievement of the specified outputs;
- Technical and concise document containing the program identification, and supply/demand analysis sections;
- A document containing the technical, legal and administrative analysis;
- Technical document describing the cost analysis, socioeconomic analysis, expected impact and results analysis and risk analysis;
- Formal feasibility study report with final conclusions and recommendations;
- Executive summary of the feasibility of implementing a remittance matching grant program for the development of agribusinesses with the migrant population of Armenia;
- A brief report on the virtual workshop conducted to present the results of the feasibility study.



ONGOING PROJECTS SINCE 2020*

- POVERTY REDUCTION KNOW-HOW
- STUDENT DEMOCRACY NOW
- PUBLIC OPINION ON COUNTRY PRIORITY AREAS
- EVIDENCING EFFECTIVENESS OF COVID-19 RESPONSE
- PUBLIC OPINION POLL ON THE PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS REGARDING THE CURRENT SITUATION
- CIVILNET THEMATIC POLLS
- TAX PERCEPTION SURVEY
- ADULT EDUCATION STUDY

*** The information about these project is available in the [CRRC Armenia Annual Report 2020](#)**

FUNDS

	In US Dollars	
	Year ended 31 December 2021	Year ended 31 December 2020
Income from rendering of services	199,460	212,698
Income from grants	307,163	156,392
Finance income	3,138	15,626
Net gain from foreign exchange rate differences	-	55,881
Other income	87	-
Total income	509,848	440,597
Employee benefits	(191,757)	(132,631)
Benefits to service contractors	(157,730)	(83,254)
Trip and vehicle lease expenses	(7,128)	(4,853)
Depreciation and amortization	(14,305)	(4,505)
Insurance expenses	(7,183)	(3,060)
Office expenses	(16,699)	(3,988)
Representation expenses	(21,613)	(1,881)
Impairment losses on financial assets	(185)	(548)
Net loss from foreign exchange rate differences	(35,444)	-
Consulting services	(26,841)	(24,295)
Analyzing and research and scholarship expenses	(51,748)	(25,474)
Bank expenses	(5,288)	(1,145)
Finance cost	(2,856)	-
Other expenses	(25,649)	(9,957)
Total expenses	(564,426)	(295,591)
Result before income tax	(51,516)	145,006
Income tax expense	(1,804)	(17,537)
Result for the year	(53,320)	127,469