

CAUCASUS RESEARCH RESOURCE CENTER - ARMENIA FOUNDATION

# ANNUAL REPORT

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2023



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# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As we reflect on the challenges and achievements of 2023, I want to express my gratitude to CRRC-Armenia's staff and trustees for unwavering dedication to our mission despite the complex socio-political landscape we faced in Armenia, the Caucasus region and globally.

We altogether have been addressing a humanitarian crisis: Armenia confronted forced displacement of around 100,000 people from Nagorno Karabakh, demanding our immediate attention. We have been navigating associated fieldwork complexities that emerged amid volatile conditions, underscoring the importance of our adaptability and resilience.

Our collaboration with civil society, governmental bodies, academia, and fellow research institutions remained steadfast, amplifying our impact and reach.

In the face of adversity, our collective efforts have not only sustained our organization but have also propelled us forward in advancing knowledge and fostering positive change. Let's continue to innovate, collaborate, and drive meaningful impact in the pursuit of a better world.

Warm regards,  
*Sona Balasanyan*



# PEOPLE

## Board of Trustees

**MARY SHEEHAN**

Board Chairperson  
International Organization for Migration (Retired)

**MICHAEL JOHNSON**

Chair of Finance and Audit Committee  
Director of Management and Operations for Peace Corps Armenia

**HORTON BEEBE-CENTER**

Eurasia Foundation, President (Retired)

**WILLIAM HANLON**

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

<b>SONA BALASANYAN</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>ARPINE ARAKELYAN</b>	Administrative Director
<b>LILIT YEZEKYAN</b>	Research Director
<b>HAYK SMBATYAN</b>	Deputy Research Director
<b>MARIAM ARAKELYAN</b>	Senior Researcher
<b>ASHOT KHACHATRYAN</b>	Events and Fellowship Manager
<b>SARA MELKONYAN</b>	Research and Development Officer
<b>SEDA ANANYAN</b>	Program Manager for Qualitative Research
<b>SRBUHI MICHIKYAN</b>	Program Associate for Qualitative Research
<b>ARUSYAK VOSKANYAN</b>	Program Associate for Qualitative Research
<b>NIKOL MARGARYAN</b>	Qualitative Research Analyst
<b>MARIAM BABAYAN</b>	Qualitative Research Assistant
<b>ANI AVETISYAN</b>	Program Manager for Quantitative Research
<b>ANZHELA GHALAMDARYAN</b>	Program Associate for Quantitative Research
<b>LOUIS-ALASSANE CASSAIGNARD-VIAUD</b>	Senior Quantitative Research Analyst
<b>HRACHYA KHLGHATYAN</b>	Junior Quantitative Research Analyst
<b>ARMAN HAROYAN</b>	Quantitative Research Assistant
<b>TIGRAN MELIKIAN</b>	Associate Researcher
<b>MANE GASPARYAN</b>	Administrative Assistant
<b>MANE ARSHALUYSYAN</b>	Graphic Designer
<b>HRANT GASPARYAN</b>	IT Manager
<b>ANAHIT HAKOBYAN</b>	Domestic Assistant
<b>HEGHINE MANASYAN</b>	Director Emerita

# THE FIGURES

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COMPLETED

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ON MIGRATION  
DEVELOPED

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PLAN

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FELLOWS

# IMPACT AREAS

- **Multidimensional Poverty**
- **Democratic Reforms**
- **Research Capacity Building**
- **Open Data**
- **Gender and Rights**
- **Migration**
- **Youth**
- **Media**



# **MAIN PROJECTS**



# USAID Justice Support Project: Civil Case Resolution Mechanisms and Legal Education Practices in Armenia

Funder:	Development Professionals International
Timeframe:	07.09.2023 - 08.01.2024
Budget:	USD 24,340

**Goal:** USAID awarded DPI a five-year USAID Justice Sector Support Project in Armenia. Together with our subcontractor – Management Systems International, a Tetra Tech company, and Armenian partners - the Freedom of Information Center of Armenia, and Law Development and Protection Foundation, DPI will work on establishing a fair and equitable justice system, and increasing public confidence in the rule of law. The research is to inform project activities.

### Major Activities:

1. Survey of Court Users
2. Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews with main stakeholders
3. Small qualitative research on the usage of ADR (alternative dispute resolution) in Armenia



# Research and Advocacy for Women's Labor Rights and Economic Empowerment in Armenia: Focus on Domestic Workers



Funder:	UN Women
Timeframe:	20.07.2023 - 20.06.2024
Budget:	AMD 28,080,432

Goal: This project is a continuation of previous collaboration with UN Women to research and advocate for women's labor rights in Armenia with focus on domestic workers for this particular project.

### Major Activities:

1. Semi-structured interviews with around 100 domestic workers
2. Cases Studies of stories of women in domestic work
3. Analysis of regulatory framework and current situation of domestic workers in Armenia



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MAIN PROJECTS | Research and Advocacy for Women's Labor Rights and Economic Empowerment in Armenia: Focus on Domestic Workers | Visual design

# (Re)thinking Surveying, Public Opinion Integrity Project

Funder:	Swedish Institute through Uppsala University
Timeframe:	01.08.2023 - 31.10.2024
Budget:	SEK 299,803

**Goal:** The overarching aim of the project is to improve the cooperation environment for surveying in EaP countries. It is expected to result in increased knowledge and collaboration between professionals.

### Major Activities:

1. Mapping of best practices and issues in surveying in EaP countries
2. Organization and convening of regional knowledge exchange conference "(Re)Thinking Surveying"
3. Establishment of partnership focused on surveying and policy
4. Research capacity building program and related training (thematic trainings will be organized offline in Armenia as a follow-up to the conference)
5. A policy paper to ensure strengthened, consistent, and comparable surveying across EaP countries



# **GIVE PEOPLE A BREAK?**

Rethinking Opinion Surveys  
in the Caucasus and Beyond

Online Regional Conference



x



x



x



# Unpacking Migration in the Caucasus and Beyond: Evaluating what we know for action



Funder: Swiss Development Agency

Timeframe: 01.11.21-01.03.23

Budget: AMD 16,223,650

**Goal:** This project aimed to identify and address issues in migration data collection in Armenia and the broader South Caucasus in order to assist relevant government institutions and international organizations in making informed programs and responses towards migration-related issues and supporting vulnerable migrants and their families.

The project was implemented with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

**Project objective:** Improving the accuracy and reliability of migration-related data and research in Armenia and the region.

**Result 1:** Increased knowledge and collaboration between migration experts in the South Caucasus.

**Result 2:** Improved research and data collection methods among migration-related institutions in Armenia.

**Output 1:** Report outlining issues in Armenian and regional migration research data collection and international best practices [Activity 1].

**Output 2:** Internet-based regional migration knowledge exchange conference [Activity 2].

**Output 3:** Alliance of migration-related Armenian institutions [Activity 3].

**Output 4:** Migration research capacity building program and related training materials [Activity 4].

**Output 5:** One action plan for Armenian migration institutions to ensure strengthened, consistent, and comparable research and data collection methods across institutions [Activity 4].



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

CRRC  
Armenia

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC

# Unpacking Migration in the Caucasus and Beyond

Regional Online Conference



**MAIN PROJECTS** | Unpacking Migration in the Caucasus and Beyond:  
Evaluating what we know for action | Visual design

# Study on Territorial Losses Shaping Political Preferences

Funder:	PhD student Perry Carter through Princeton University
Timeframe:	16.05.2023 - 10.10.2023
Budget:	AMD 9,496,342

**Goal:** The project aimed to pilot measurements of war-affected Armenia in respect to territorial loss. This was a pilot and captured only several regions (close to Yerevan) of the country.

### Major Activities:

1. Public opinion survey in selective number of regions of Armenia
2. Provision of anonymized dataset to the client
3. Cleaning and Processing of final datasets



# Footprints of Labor Migration in Armenia: Tracing Patterns, Exploring Causes

Funder:	Solidarity Center
Timeframe:	15.06.2023 - 30.09.2023
Budget:	AMD 8,101,032

**Purpose of the study:** The study aims at exploring the patterns and causes of labor migration from Armenia. With this purpose respondents were asked about intentions related to labor migration, household member experience and personal experience in labor migration.

**Data collection:** To answer our research questions, we conducted computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI) using the Survey CTO software package. The initial sample size was 1200 and the sample overachieved up to 1272 responses. CRRC-Armenia conducted a nationally representative telephone survey among 18 year olds (95% confidence interval with  $\pm 3$  percent margin of error).

**Data collection instrument:** Data was collected with the use of standardized questionnaire (with 7 open ended questions).



# Baseline (functional) Assessment of Women in Local Governance

Funder:	UNDP Armenia
Timeframe:	09.06.2023 - 27.10.2023
Budget:	USD 16,304

**Goal:** The aim of the project is to measure the incentives and drawbacks of women entering local politics in Armenia.

### Major Activities:

1. Census of women in local politics
2. Group and individual interviews with stakeholders





**IN THE SPOTLIGHT:  
INVESTIGATION INTO  
WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION  
IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE  
IN ARMENIA.**

ACTIVITIES AND  
FACTORS

Baseline (technical) assessment

# Survey of Russian Migrants in Armenia

Funder:	FES Georgia
Timeframe:	01.12.2022-24.01.2023
Budget:	EUR 13,397

**Goal:** collecting systematic data on demographic profile of recent Russian migrants in Armenia, their reasons of emigration, challenges they face in emigration, and their attitudes towards various key social and political issues.

### Major Activities:

1. Conduct a survey of 800 on demographic profile of Russian migrants in Armenia,
2. explore their reasons of emigration, challenges they face in emigration, and their attitudes towards various key social and political issues

# Survey on the influx of people from Russia

Funder: German Economic Team

Timeframe: 22.09.2022-05.01.2023

Budget: EUR 7,200

**Goal:** Study the needs of the migrants from Russia

**Major activities:**

1. Conduct face-to-face interviews with about 500 migrants from Russia
2. Explore demographic characteristics, economic situation, employment situation, residence status, motivation, and plans of migrants

# Gender Problematics of Armenia

Funder:	Goodwin Simon Strategic Research Center
Timeframe:	20.10.2022-20.03.2023
Budget:	USD 34,775

**Goal:** Realize targeted/strategic survey with an incorporated component of video-assessment.

### Major Activities:

1. Communicate day-to-day with the donor.
2. Manage the recruitment of 270 survey participants.
3. Test and finalize the survey.
4. Provision of an anonymized dataset to the client.
5. Cleaning and Processing of final datasets.



# Gendered Disinformation in Armenia

Funder:	Zinc
Timeframe:	20.02.2023-30.04.2023
Budget:	USD 17,937

**Goal:** The project was testing media messages to measure the effects of disinformation and gender on the Armenian public.

### Major Activities:

1. Focus group discussions with message testing

# OTHER PROJECTS

## ONGOING PROJECTS SINCE 2021

Community Poverty Reduction “Know How”



Student Democracy Now



Armenia Integrity Project: Public Perceptions on Corruption



## MAJOR DELIVERABLES

One report on multidimensional poverty



Policy briefs on multidimensional poverty for ministries and local governments - 15



Action Plan for Migration (ARM)



Report on Contemporary Research Community of Armenia



## THE 9 TOPICS OF “OPEN(-ENDED) QUESTION” PODCAST:

1. Public opinion does (not) exist?



2. The researcher’s role: to understand or to change?



3. How (not) to fund research?



4. Why does data remain in the “drawers”?



5. How (not) to educate researchers?



6. How (not) to analyze data?



7. How (not) to study society from across disciplines?



8. How (not) to knock on people’s doors?



9. How (not) to compete in research?





## Statement of Financial position

	Note	In thousand drams		In US dollars	
		As of 31 December 20232	As of 31 December 2022	As of 31 December 2023	As of 31 December 2023
<b>Assets</b>					
<i>Non-current assets</i>					
Property and equipment	4	262,837	269,516	649,317	684,794
Intangible assets		1,351	1,556	3,338	3,955
		<u>264,188</u>	<u>271,072</u>	<u>652,655</u>	<u>688,749</u>
<i>Current assets</i>					
Accounts receivable		17,569	8,145	43,403	20,695
Term deposits	5	-	24,587	-	62,472
Services in progress	6	20,303	25,406	50,157	64,553
Bank balances	7	398	8,247	983	20,954
		<u>38,270</u>	<u>66,385</u>	<u>94,543</u>	<u>168,674</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b><u>302,458</u></b>	<b><u>337,457</u></b>	<b><u>747,198</u></b>	<b><u>857,423</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>					
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>					
Grants related to assets	8	7,074	7,290	17,476	18,523
Deferred income		1,762	419	4,353	1,064
		<u>8,836</u>	<u>7,709</u>	<u>21,829</u>	<u>19,587</u>
<i>Current liabilities</i>					
Accounts payable	9	53,918	42,151	133,194	107,099
Deferred income	10	8,025	17,101	19,825	43,451
Borrowings		2,100	-	5,188	
Current income tax liabilities		-	3,546	-	9,012
		<u>64,043</u>	<u>62,798</u>	<u>158,207</u>	<u>159,562</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	11				
Accumulated result (unrestricted)		229,579	266,950	472,846	568,067
Foreign currency translation reserve		-	-	94,316	110,207
		<u>229,579</u>	<u>266,950</u>	<u>567,162</u>	<u>678,274</u>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>		<b><u>302,458</u></b>	<b><u>337,457</u></b>	<b><u>747,198</u></b>	<b><u>857,423</u></b>



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