

ADRA Armenia Capacity Statement

Introduction

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is a global humanitarian organization with a mission to work with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change. ADRA Armenia belongs to the worldwide ADRA network, comprised of more than 120 supporting and implementing country offices. ADRA's core sectors include Protecting the Vulnerable, Supporting Families, Promoting Health, Providing Food & Water, Establishing Livelihoods, and Responding to Emergencies. ADRA Armenia has developed its expertise in these sectors and in various subsectors, specifically in Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Economic Development, Preventive Health, Education and Relief.

ADRA Armenia employs a team of experienced staff who design, manage and implement various programs in accordance with donor and ADRA policies and requirements. ADRA's technical team includes community based WASH technicians, health, nutrition and agriculture specialists. The administrative and managerial team is comprised of country director, programs director and an assistant, along with an accountant and secretary. Part-time volunteers and interns are likely to be involved in case of necessity.

Technical Expertise

Food Security

Our Food Security portfolio is one of our strengths. ADRA Armenia has implemented projects funded by USAID, SCF, UNHCR, and ADRA International as well as private grants through the ADRA network.

ADRA Armenia has developed and adopted an integrated approach to its food security projects. The main components of ADRA Armenia's Food Security programs include serving low-income and vulnerable people who are most likely to face malnutrition and social isolation.

Soup kitchen: To ensure food security for over 150 needy individuals, ADRA Armenia launched a 6-year meal service program which concluded in 2004. With a budget of US\$ 33,000 food security program provided 39,000 meals to needy people in the first year alone.

Education- for Food: In association with WFP, UMCOR and AMMA, ADRA Armenia accomplished an educational project called "Education for Food" which has covered the nutritional needs of beneficiaries from 20 vulnerable families. Topic-specific seminars were held during this project; covering the areas of healthy lifestyles, housework management, food design, consultation on human rights, and awareness of utility payments and rights. At the end of the training, each of the beneficiaries was provided with food, clothing and hygiene supplies.

Agriculture

ADRA Armenia views improved agricultural technologies as an essential part of enlarging food security. The organization has made a significant impact in the agricultural development sector of Armenia by presenting a collection of farm techniques and greenhouse supplies in many Armenian villages.

Green House: In 1996, as part of our efforts to increase food security in the Sisian region, ADRA Armenia distributed greenhouse construction materials, promoted the cultivation of vegetables and greens, and delivered plant seeds to 2,000 refugees and vulnerable families in 36 villages, improving farming at a regional level.

Ecological trainings: Partnering with GTZ, ADRA Armenia organized ecological trainings and seminars, such as gardening agriculture, for the farmers of 20 villages in the Sisian region. The aim of the project was to introduce modern equipment and innovations in agriculture.

Health

Network for Health: In cooperation with UMCOR and a number of other humanitarian agencies, in 1997, ADRA Armenia participated in a joint relief program called Capacity Building and Primary Health Care. ADRA Armenia was also involved as the PVO in the "Network for Health" project, working in collaboration with "CARE" and "Save the Children" to improve RH/FP/CS/HIV/AIDS awareness and practices in Armenia.

Medical Resource Center: In 1999, ADRA Armenia, in cooperation with ADRA International, established a Medical Resource Center for the physicians and medical students at the Malatsya Hospital of Yerevan. This center provided medical information and services and unique opportunities for the continued development of healthcare professionals and medical students of the city. The budget assigned to this project was US\$ 34,000.

Family Health Centre: In the Syunik region, ADRA Armenia implemented a Family Health Centre program which served medical personnel and communities living in Goris and surrounding villages. This program provided beneficiaries with information on various aspects of Healthy Family Lifestyle.

Tobacco Awareness: Cooperating with Finland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ADRA Armenia secured a contribution of US\$ 54,000 towards major project promoting healthy lifestyles. With this directive, ADRA Armenia administered an anti-tobacco program which included trainings and seminars on raising awareness about the risks of smoking. This program lasted from 2007 to 2010 and was located in Yerevan Armenia.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Nerqin Hand Drinking Water: In 1998, within a period of 3 months, ADRA Armenia allocated US\$ 27,000 toward the implementation of a WASH project in the Nerqin Hand village of Syunik region. The goal was to improve the lives of over 500 people of this village by providing clean drinking water.

Aragatsotn Water Supply: ADRA Armenia is currently implementing a project to provide more than 1,500 people with clean drinking water in 2 villages of Aragatsotn region. The objective of this project is to improve the economic situation and living conditions of villagers in this region through establishing basic agricultural irrigation systems, and providing community members with clean drinking water. Funded by contributions from ADRA International and partnering organizations, the project has an estimated budget of US\$ 150,000 and is scheduled to be finished in December 2014.

Education

Training and Relief Center for Elderly Women and Vulnerable Children: To improve life conditions and expectations of a better future for elderly people and vulnerable children of marginalized districts of the capital city, Yerevan, ADRA Armenia established a specialized training center. The center targeted around 280 people (direct and indirect beneficiaries), collaborating PIN (HQ), and other humanitarian agencies. The project was held in 2007, had a budget of US\$ 21,250, and lasted for 6 months.

Vocational Training for Poor Teenagers: In May 2013, ADRA Armenia allocated US \$ 16,000 to a project implemented at the Zaytun Cultural Center, with the aim to provide vocational skills for 130 young boys and girls aged 14 to 17 and to boost their job placement opportunities.

Disaster Response

Since 1989, ADRA International has supported Armenia through numerous relief and development programs. In particular, these programs have addressed the urgent needs that arose after the great earthquake in December 1988. ADRA assisted affected people with food, clothing and blankets. In addition, several satellite clinics were established in the earthquake zone in northern Armenia. These programs were also targeted at emergency situations management and assistance provision which were followed by development and capacity building programs in the following years.

First Aid: In cooperation with UMCOR, MOA, Johnson & Johnson and other humanitarian organizations, ADRA Armenia ran the "First Aid" program in seven villages of the Masis district, Ararat region district. It was in this district that all medical centers were rebuilt, the citizens trained, and up-to-date medical information was given on how to act in an emergency situation.

Pediatric Rehabilitation Center: In 1991 ADRA Armenia founded a pediatric rehabilitation center in Yerevan (Republican Pediatric Rehabilitation Center). The Center presently serves about 4,000 patients per year, and oversees the care of about 800 patients who are hospitalized and get yearly check-ups recovery.

Winter Clothing Program: For 2 years, ADRA Armenia and MSS collaborated in order to provide winter clothes for the vulnerable populations affected by unemployment due to the breakup of the Soviet Union. Most of these beneficiaries were school aged children from Yerevan and 4 other cities.

Partnerships and Participation

ADRA Armenia has partnered with several development agencies, government ministries and departments, and educational and research institutions to deliver development programs to communities throughout the country. We view collaboration as a cost-effective and time-saving means to implement projects, share lessons, and combine technical experience and expertise for maximum impact.

ADRA Armenia has developed relationships with international and local NGOs and CBOs in Armenia, and often cooperates different organizations in order to better fulfill its mission.