Achieved Key Results of the Program of Izmirlian Foundation in 2024

The strategic objective of the Izmirlian Foundation is to enhance sustainable development of Armenia by implementing diverse initiatives in the areas of education; healthcare; economic development; social welfare; innovation; and preservation of Armenian cultural heritage, to achieve its mission of "helping to preserve a nation".

Numerous short and long-term benefits are extended to beneficiaries through projects implemented by the Izmirlian Foundation. These include improved health, knowledge and skills, improved healthcare management system, community infrastructure, access to quality education, support to vulnerable population and children with special needs, agriculture development, initiatives aimed at fostering Armenia-Diaspora relations and more.

In total, several hundreds of thousands of persons in need have directly benefited from the projects implemented by the Izmirlian Foundation since launching its operations in Armenia. In 2024 alone, **5,676 persons** (166% of the target) directly benefitted (around 22,704 indirect beneficiaries) from 16 IF projects implemented in the regions of Armenia. The key results and achievements of IF-financed projects for 2024 in education, health, social welfare, and other areas include the following:

Health Sector

- The Izmirlian Foundation in collaboration with the Izmirlian Medical center (IMC) provided health benefits to 20 Syrian/Lebanese/Iraqi Armenians (914 cumulative, since the launch of the project) who refuged in Armenia because of crisis in their respective countries.
- 81 wounded soldiers and officers (500 cumulative, since the launch of the project) received free health care services.
- In addition, 32 displaced people from Artsakh (381 cumulative, since the launch of the project) received free health care services.
- Four children diagnosed with cancer (10 cumulative, since the launch of the project) from vulnerable families received appropriate treatment.
- A Healthcare Electronic Management system was installed in the Izmirlian Medical Center and 148 IMC staff benefited from trainings in the use of ICT tools and practices. The electronic management system will enhance the operational and financial efficiency of the IMC by optimizing and digitizing all hospital processes. This will lead to improved customer service, reduced operational costs, and streamlined access to critical information such as medical records, bills, and patient and doctor details.

Education & Innovation

- Improved education among 769 students of bordering and remote communities of Armenia through educational projects in partnership with Teach for Armenia, along with five teacher-leaders supported.
- Improved knowledge and skills of 296 professionals, graduates, and private sector representatives in agriculture within MAVETA project. Seven (12 cumulative) Policy-relevant knowledge products (completed within the framework of Vocational Education and Training (VET) legislative reform such as laws, legislative acts, amendments to the labor code, etc. The guidelines, training materials and various agreements templates on implementation of dual VET developed. Additionally, three (cumulative six) VET courses in Agriculture developed and delivered in the framework of the project. The Project is financed and executed in collaboration with the Government of Armenia Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Austrian Development Cooperation, German Corporation for International Cooperation, Hilfswerk der Evangelischen Kirchen Schweiz - Ecumenical Programme for Emergency Relief, Strategic Development Agency, Vanand, and FH Aachen - University of Applied Sciences.
- Support to the establishment of measurable Armenian language proficiency standards in cooperation with the Language Committee of the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports. One policy-relevant knowledge product developed (standards for levels A1-A2, B1-B2, C1-C2).
- Access to quality education at Shirakatsy Lyceum for eight talented high school students from the remote bordering communities and Artsakh.
- Improved knowledge and skills and employment opportunities among 41 injured war veterans through professional orientation, capacity building (including vocational training), and business plan development. The Project has been implemented in collaboration with My Step Foundation.

Social welfare

- Over 418 children with special needs and disabilities benefited from different small-grant initiatives of IF in collaboration with the Source Foundation, the Arabkir Foundation and the Step Forward NGO. The initiatives have improved their access to assistive and adaptive furniture and devices; enhanced greater economic opportunities among autistic youth and their social inclusion; enhanced life skills to support independent living, improved quality of life among orphans residing in Marie Izmirlian Orphanage; etc.
- Over 224 parents having children with disabilities benefited from training in the use of assistive and adaptive furniture and devices enabling childcare at home.
- Two community small group homes constructed/rehabilitated within the framework of “Supporting Graduates of Population Social Protection Institutions Project”. The Project is being implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and Mission Armenia NGO. The opening of the first two community small group homes is anticipated by mid-2025.

- One new law (the revised draft law, "On Amending the Law on Social Assistance," which incorporates the amendments to Decision N1744-N) and one government decision (on standard internal regulation for community small group homes) were proposed to policy makers for approval.

Community Development

- Drinking water system constructed/upgraded directly benefiting a total of 1,374 persons. The Project has been implemented in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan in Armenia, the Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development, and the "Armenian Energy Agency" Foundation.

Repatriation and Armenia Diaspora Relations

- Technical enhancement of the Repatriation and Integration Center of the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora benefiting a total of 980 persons. The Project has been implemented in collaboration with the Office of High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs.
- Support to the Second Global Armenian Summit with over 1,000 participants, including 800 representatives from the Diaspora.