

ICRC

FACTS AND FIGURES

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2002

**EMERGENCY ACTION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT
MOVEMENT FOR THE NORTH CAUCASUS
AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA**

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, RUSSIAN
RED CROSS, INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION**



WAITING FOR BETTER TIME, IDPs HAVE HIGHLY APPRECIATED STOVES DURING THE WINTER PERIOD

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organisation whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and co-ordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening international humanitarian law and international humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



HIGHLIGHTS

Chechnya - Bread Program Adaptation

Always striving to update its programs and adapt them to the actual needs, the ICRC re-registered beneficiaries of its Bread and SOST Program in Chechnya (in Grozny in January and in major urban centres - in February). The ICRC adapted its existing criteria to those commonly used for identifying social beneficiaries. The reorganisation has allowed to take new beneficiary groups into consideration: orphans, half-orphans and children of large families (5 and more children). Out of the former beneficiaries, those older than 70 and handicapped people of Category I, will continue to be assisted by the Program.

After the re-registration, 37,500 people will benefit from the Bread and SOST Program in March. The bread is made by two different bakeries, this will ensure the best possible quality of distributed bread. In the second trimester, efforts will be made to increase the beneficiaries to 50,000.

Chechnya - Assistance to Returnees

Under its program of assistance to people living in collective centres, the ICRC helps displaced persons who have returned to Chechnya. A new centre in Grozny City where the ICRC is registering new arrivals is being added to the seven collective centres (in Argun, Gudermes and Grozny) which have been receiving aid so far.

BUDGETARY NEEDS

In its annual appeal for 2002, the ICRC requests nearly 34 mln dollars to finance its activities in the Russian Federation. Of this, about 27 mln dollars are planned for relief operations in the North Caucasus. (Further details on www.icrc.org)

THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT, LEAD BY THE ICRC, PROVIDED FOOD AND NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND SOUTHERN RUSSIA, IN JANUARY 2002 FOR ABOUT 124,000 IDPs. IN FEBRUARY 127,500 IDPs WERE ASSISTED

Chechnya - Difficulty of Access

Linked to administrative problems in the issuing of travel permits for the Chechen Republic, ICRC delegates were only infrequently present in Chechnya during the month of February. This resulted in a reduced volume of visits to places of detention and less possibilities to meet with Chechen authorities.

Daghestan - Mine awareness

Basing on the results of a needs assessment that had revealed low level of awareness on the territory of Daghestan, the ICRC started carrying out a mine awareness program from January 2002 in Botlikh and Novolak regions of the republic. Within the framework of the program, presentations are conducted that aim at raising level of knowledge about danger from mines and UXO's. During two last months 83 presentations have been given to about 2,000 children.

OVERVIEW

CHECHNYA

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

In January and February, the ICRC, in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross (RRC), assisted 28,526 beneficiaries with bread, soap, oil, sugar and tea. This program targeted vulnerable groups in Grozny, Shali, Gudermes, Argun, Urus Martan, Achkhoy Martan and Kurchaloy. Over the same period national ICRC staff conducted a new re-registration of the beneficiaries.

The ICRC also provided basic foodstuffs and wheat flour to social and paramedical institutions and distributed food parcels to 4,518 beneficiaries in 14 IDP centres.

Non-food assistance

Since December 1st, 2000, the ICRC, which rehabilitated pumping station No 1 in Grozny, has started distribution of chlorinated water to the population of the city from two water tanks (75 m³ each) with a present daily output of more than 738 m³ which covers the needs of around 37,000 people. In January and February 2002, 43,560 m³ of water were provided.

In January and February 3,071 school kits were distributed to Chechen children enjoying a short vacation outside Chechnya, accommodated in various sanatoria located in the Northern Caucasus. Also 650 stoves were distributed to schools and institutions.

Medical assistance

The ICRC regularly provides the traumatological and surgical departments of 9 hospitals in Chechnya with medicines and medical material. In January the medical input delivered by the ICRC was equivalent to 36,000 USD (December and January supplies). In February only 3 hospitals were assisted for a sum of 5,581 USD.

CHECHNYA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

2,164	food parcels
162,318	loaves of bread
3,595 kg	wheat flour
27,621 l	oil
27,616 kg	sugar
27,000	tea (boxes of 200 gr)
3,590 kg	potatoes
1,420 kg	onions
975 kg	beans

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

63,673	soap (bars)
650	stoves
940 m ²	plastic sheeting

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS (January -February 2002)

7,119	consultations
3,053	of them for children

RED CROSS SET UP IN CHECHNYA

ICRC

78	national staff
4	daily workers
13	vehicles

RRC

83	staff
52	volunteers
11	vehicles

The ICRC supports the visiting nurses program of the RRC in Chechnya. 720 bedridden elderly are assisted on a regular basis by 57 nurses and provided with fresh and dry food on a monthly basis and with hygienic kits every 6 months.

Furthermore, the ICRC supports 4 mobile medical teams and a medical post run by the RRC. The mobile units are especially appreciated in the countryside where they provide the population with basic medical support.

Mine awareness

The number of landmine and unexploded ordnance victims among the civilian population in Chechnya is of particular concern for the ICRC. As a result a mine awareness program has been initiated there with a special focus on children who run the highest risk to be maimed or killed by these weapons. The aim is to limit this risk by informing children of the dangers landmines and unexploded ordnance present and by teaching them some basic rules of behaviour. To this end the puppet show "The Danger of Landmines - the New Adventures of Cheerdig" is being launched together with Chechen puppet theatre, like it has already been done with a puppet theatre in Ingushetia. In February 19 shows were given for 7,604 schoolchildren.

In January the Chechen newspaper "Groznsky rabochy" published a double page insert fully devoted to mine awareness issues (3,000 copies were distributed in Chechnya and IDP camps in Ingushetia).

INGUSHETIA

The Republic continues to host about 150,000 officially registered IDPs from Chechnya, a heavy burden to bear for the local population. Some 30,000 people are accommodated in IDP camps, but the majority live in collective centres (sometimes defined as) and in host families, straining the latter's economic conditions.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The ICRC assists IDPs on a regular basis with food (family parcels) on a two-three month cycle basis through more than 50 points of distribution.

In addition, the ICRC supports RRC programs, which distribute on an average 3 loaves of bread to 30,000 beneficiaries in IDP camps on a weekly basis.

Non-food assistance

Besides food, the ICRC provides hygienic kits and candles to IDPs. These distributions also take place every two to three months.

Water and sanitation

The ICRC has spared no effort to make drinking water available wherever there are major concentrations of IDPs in Ingushetia. Since Summer 2000, when the ICRC made it a priority to improve the hygienic situation in IDP camps, it built shower installations which were then insulated for the winter period. A total of 14 of them with

INGUSHETIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

54,527	food parcels
79,500	loaves of bread

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

28,531	hygienic kits
233,328	candles

WATER AND SANITATION (January-February 2002)

Overall:	7,117 m ³
Daily:	237 m ³
Showers:	15 (147 cabins)
Bladders:	22
Pits:	12
Water trucks:	8

**THE ICRC PROVIDES
ABOUT 40,000 IDPs WITH
FRESH WATER DAILY.**

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

What's in a food parcel?

720 g of butter, 800 g of tomato puree, 1,2 kg of condensed milk, 1 kg of sugar, 3 kg of spaghetti, 2 kg of rice, 1.3 kg of canned chicken, 500 g tea, 200 g of yeast

What's in a hygienic kit?

1.5 kg of washing powder, 1 kg of soap, 200 g of toothpaste, 1 toothbrush, 1l of detergent, 1 l of shampoo, 1 kitchen towel, 1 bath towel

What's in a kitchen set?

1 cooking pot (7 l), 1 frying pan, 5 bowls, 5 plates, 5 cups, 5 knives, 5 forks, 5 table spoons

What's in a school kit?

2 copybooks, 2 pens, 1 pad of drawing paper, 1 box of colour pencils, 1 box of water colours, 1 eraser, 1 pencil sharpener

What kind of surgical assistance?

Medicines, including antibiotics and anaesthetics, medicines for narcosis,

the capacity of 147 cabins are currently at the disposal of IDPs. In addition, fresh water is provided to roughly 40,000 IDP's on a daily basis, through a network of 12 bladders.

Medical assistance

Since July 2001 the ICRC is concentrating its efforts on increasing its aid to the main hospital of the Ingush republic in Nazran. In January the medical input delivered by the ICRC was equivalent to 9,800 USD (December and January supplies), in February to 5,590 USD.

The RRC visiting nurses program is providing bedridden elderly persons (130 people) with basic care. Beneficiaries receive food parcels, wheat flour on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

Mine awareness

In January the "Child to Child" program has been halted with the aim of monitoring the impact of it on the children. In February 417 people were interrogated (305 children, 90 parents and 22 teachers) in IDP's camps Alina, Bella, MTF-1 and Bart. On the basis of the results of this monitoring a future work with the children living in IDP's camps in Ingushetia, accommodated in various sanatoria of Northern Caucasus and South of Russia and also living in Chechnya will be planned.

In January 1,970 copies of the new ICRC brochure informing adults about the danger of landmines were distributed.

DAGHESTAN

Food assistance (RRC hot meals and bread)

The RRC supported by the ICRC, provided 285 loaves of bread daily to IDP's in the Northern regions of Daghestan. In addition RRC runs a soup kitchen feeding 500 IDP school children with hot meals on a daily basis.

In January and February there were not ICRC food distributions in Dagestan due to the beginning of registration of new beneficiaries in the region of Novostroi and Novolak. The new number of beneficiaries in Novostroi is 1,737.

Medical assistance

In February the ICRC provided medical assistance to the Khassavuyrt Central Hospital for the sum of 1,840 USD.

The RRC is also running the home visiting nurses program for about 220 beneficiaries, mainly bedridden elderly people. They receive food parcels, wheat flour and medicines on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

sutures, infusions, IV sets, catheters, X-ray material

What is a mobile medical team?

A team includes two doctors (a general practitioner and a paediatrician), a nurse and a driver. They give basic medical advice and, if needed, distribute medicines. A fixed dispensary team usually includes three doctors (a co-ordinator, a general practitioner and a paediatrician) and a nurse.

DAGHESTAN

FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

122,500	loaves of bread
24,500	hot meals (portions)

NORTH OSSETIA, KABARDINO-BALKARIA AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA

In the southern regions of Russia (Astrakhan, Volgograd, Krasnodar, Rostov, Saratov, Stavropol, Kalmykia, Adygea, Karachayevo - Cherkessia) the RRC, with the ICRC support, provided assistance to about 27,300 Chechen IDPs in January and February. Over 4,600 IDPs also received food and non-food assistance in Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The RRC distributed over 10,200 food parcels to vulnerable Chechen IDPs in these regions during January and February.

Non-food assistance

In the southern regions of Russia, listed above, as well as in Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia, the RRC, with the ICRC support, distributed sets of clothes, underwear, shoes, blankets, hygienic kits and kitchen sets to IDPs from Chechnya.

Medical assistance

In Kabardino-Balkaria, North Ossetia, Kalmykia, Adygea, Karachayevo-Cherkessia, Krasnodar and Stavropol regions the RRC, supported by the ICRC, runs the home visiting nurses program for the elderly (1,269 beneficiaries). They receive food parcels and medicines on a monthly basis and hygienic kits every 6 months.

Psychological and legal counselling

In the South of Russia the RRC, supported by the ICRC and the International Federation, provides IDPs from Chechnya with psycho-social counselling and legal advice. Psychological counselling and legal advice has also been organised for IDPs in North Ossetia and Kabardino-Balkaria.

Mine awareness

The ICRC mine awareness team seized the opportunity to cover by the program the Chechen children who came to stay in sanatoria in several republics and regions of the North Caucasus as a break from the dire living conditions in Chechnya.

In January, 13 lessons were given to a total of 208 Chechen children in sanatoria in the framework of the "Child to Child" program. 12 lessons were also given to 217 teenagers on the lines of a similar "Teenager to Teenager" program. Almost 4,493 copies of the comic book "Trying to Find the Magic Water", based on the puppet show about Cheerdig, were distributed together with the game sheet "Find the Safest Way" (5,413 copies). In January 650 brochures informing on the danger of landmines were also distributed to teenagers and teachers who stay in sanatoria of the North Caucasus and South of Russia. Teenagers also received 75 posters with mine awareness slogans. These materials are intended to teach children to avoid the

NORTH OSSETIA, KABARDINO-BALKARIA, SOUTH OF RUSSIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

10,226	food parcels
78,125	kg wheat flour

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (January-February 2002)

297	hygienic kit
50	kitchen sets

CONSULTATIONS (January-February 2002)

1,459	psychological
1,509	legal

RED CROSS STAFF IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND SOUTH OF RUSSIA

ICRC

16 expatriates permanently based in Nalchik and 268 national employees not including those in Chechnya.

RUSSIAN RED CROSS

Regular staff, excluding Chechnya - 151 (plus 22 HQ staff in Moscow), rescue service included. RRC can mobilise hundreds of voluntary workers to support its operation in the region.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

Delegates and local staff in Moscow offer support to the Russian Red Cross outside the North Caucasus

danger of mines. During the seminar which took place in Nalchik in February, 12 teachers from Chechnya were briefed on basic rules of behaviour on the basis of the game sheet "Find the Safest Way".

REGIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

All over the North Caucasus and the South of Russia (Chechnya, Ingushetia, Daghestan, North Ossetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachayevo-Cherkessia, Adygea, Kalmykia, Stavropol and Krasnodar regions) the RRC, with the ICRC's support, assists about 3,800 vulnerable local residents with food parcels and wheat flour on a monthly basis and with hygienic kits - once in 6 months.

OTHER ICRC ACTIVITIES

VISITS TO DETAINEES

Following the agreement with the Russian Government in March 2000, the ICRC was granted access to all people deprived of their freedom in connection with the situation in Chechnya, wherever they are being held.

The ICRC delegates regularly visit detainees in detention places under the responsibility of both the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice. Since May 2000, they have visited 43 detention places.

The main aim of ICRC visits is to assess the conditions of detention and to ensure that detainees are treated humanely. The ICRC has developed an active dialogue with the detaining authorities and delegates regularly present to them their observations and recommendations.

Persons who have lost contact with their relatives as well as detainees visited by the ICRC are given an opportunity to re-establish contact with their next of kin by writing Red Cross Messages. These Red Cross Messages are distributed by the ICRC, with the support of the Chechen branch of the Russian Red Cross, inside Chechnya.

PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL)

While the main objective of IHL dissemination to the armed forces in the Russian Federation is to integrate the essential notions of international humanitarian law into the training program of officers and soldiers, the ICRC makes a special effort to directly address troops engaged in the North Caucasus whenever possible in order to inform them about the basics of the law of war and the ICRC.

A travelling exhibition, called "Humanity and War", which presents IHL, the Red Cross Movement, the ICRC and its objectives, is being shown in the regions of the North Caucasus and the South of Russia. It has already been on display in Tuapse (Krasnodar region), Nalchik

DETENTION VISITS

NUMBER OF VISITS BY ICRC DELEGATES

(January 2002)

In Chechnya:	3
Outside Chechnya:	7
TOTAL:	10

(February 2002)

In Chechnya	0
Outside Chechnya	4
TOTAL:	4

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS

(Since May 2000)

In Chechnya:	46
Outside Chechnya:	104
TOTAL:	150
Number of places visited: 43	

IHL PRESENTATIONS TO ARMED FORCES

(January 2002)

- Ministry of Defence:
1 presentation - 70 soldiers of 503 motorized infantry regiment; 1 presentation - 22 cadets of Vladikavkaz Republican Cadet School
- Ministry of Interior: 2 presentations - 61 militiamen
- Border Guards:
2 presentations - 330 newly-recruited soldiers and sergeants

(February 2002)

- Ministry of Defence:
1 presentation - 56 cadets;
- Ministry of Interior:
5 presentations - 551 sergeants, junior officers and professors of MinInt training centres and military institute of the Interior troops in the North Caucasus; 5 presentations - 1160 conscripts, sergeants and junior officers of the "Don" division of the Interior troops
- The Kislovodsk Institute of Economy and Law: 1 presentation - 45 students

(Kabardino-Balkaria), Vladikavkaz (North Ossetia), Armavir
(Krasnodar region), Maykop (Adygea) and Anapa (Krasnodar region).
