

ICRC

FACTS AND FIGURES

DECEMBER 2001

**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**



**A COLD WINTER FOR THE IDP's IN INGUSHETIA AND RESIDENTIAL POPULATION IN
CHECHNYA**

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

Humanitarian organisations were warned of new security risk inside Chechnya, the ICRC accordingly reduced the expatriates movements inside the small Republic. The ICRC delegates could visit only two places of detention in December. However, the national staff without major difficulties were able to further implement the ICRC/RRC assistance operations (medical, food, non-food, and watsan programs covering up to 60,000 beneficiaries in December).

An ad hoc winter program has been launched in Chechnya and Daghestan. Stoves (522), plastic sheeting (6,184 m²), blankets (2375) and kitchen sets (272) have been distributed to IDPs (2.500) as well as to special institutions, hospitals and schools (a total of 30).

Landmine and unexploded ordnance (UXO) presence in Chechnya remain a constant threat for the civilian population, especially the children.

Over the last two years, focusing on the potential victims, the Chechen IDP's and the residential population in Chechnya, the ICRC has developed a Mine Awareness program which aims at informing them of the landmine and UXO dangers and at teaching them some basic rules of behaviour in order to limit the risk of accident.

Children, in Chechnya and in Ingush IDP camps, have been specifically targeted with the launching of a puppet show as well as a "child to child" program which aims at teaching them to convey to other children information about danger of mines and about ways to avoid them. A similar program has also been developed for teenagers.

In December, a new ICRC brochure designed for a large public distribution, informing on the danger of landmines has been published and its distribution initiated. This booklet completes the two existing ICRC publications targeting so far the children: a comic book based on the

BUDGETARY NEEDS

In its annual appeal for 2001, 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, SPEARHEADED BY THE ICRC, PROVIDED IN DECEMBER 2001 FOOD AND NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND THE SOUTH OF RUSSIA FOR ABOUT 143,000 IDPs

puppet show named, "Trying to find the Magic Water", and a game sheet, named "Find the Safest Way".

OVERVIEW

CHECHNYA

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

In December the ICRC, in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross, assisted 25,600 beneficiaries with bread, soap, oil, sugar and tea. This program targeted vulnerable groups in Grozny, Shali, Gudermes, Argun, Urus Martan, Achkhoy-Martan and Kurchaloy.

The ICRC also provided basic foodstuffs and wheat flour to social and paramedical institutions and distributed food parcels to 1,714 beneficiaries in 7 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 770 m³ which covers the needs of around 38,500 people. In December 2001, 24,070 m³ of water were provided.

3,828 pairs of footwear were distributed to Chechen children enjoying a short vacation outside Chechnya, accommodated in various sanatoria located in the Northern Caucasus.

30 institutions, hospitals and schools received from the ICRC blankets, stoves, plastic sheeting and kitchen sets. The stoves were delivered as well as installed by the ICRC staff.

Medical assistance

The ICRC regularly provides 9 hospitals in Chechnya with medicines and medical material. Due to huge deliveries supplied in November this month there was not medical input in Chechnya.

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 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.

CHECHNYA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

938	food parcels
307,293	loaves of bread
2,950 kg	wheat flour
20,732 l	oil
20,801 kg	sugar
30,211	tea (boxes of 200 gr)
1,700 kg	potatoes
580 kg	onions

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

41,540	soap (cakes)
372	stoves
2 500 m ²	plastic sheeting
61	kitchen sets
300	blankets

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS (December 2001)

4,268	consultations
1,917	of them for children

RED CROSS SET UP IN CHECHNYA

ICRC

79	national staff
4	daily workers
12	vehicles

RRC

83	staff
52	volunteers
11	vehicles

INGUSHETIA

The Republic currently hosts about 150,000 officially registered IDPs from Chechnya, a heavy burden to bear for the local population. Therefore, the bulk of the ICRC assistance in the North Caucasus is distributed in Ingushetia. Some 30,000 people are accommodated in IDP camps. But the majority live in temporary settlements and in host families, straining the latter's economic conditions.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The ICRC supports IDPs on a regular basis with food (family parcels) and covers almost all IDPs in Ingushetia on a two 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 31,000 beneficiaries in IDP camps on a weekly basis.

Non-food assistance

Besides food, the ICRC provided hygienic kits and candles to IDPs.

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 has started to build shower installations which were insulated for the winter period. A total of 15 of them with the capacity of 149 cabins are currently at the disposal of IDPs .

Medical assistance

Since July this year the ICRC is concentrating its efforts on increasing its aid to the main hospital of the Ingush republic in Nazran (in December - medical assistance delivered was equivalent to 5,600 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 December, the ICRC mine awareness team in Ingushetia gave 15 lessons to 48 IDP children (age group 10-14) in the framework of the "Child to Child" program aimed at teaching them to convey to other children information about the danger of mines and about ways to avoid them. Another project called "Child to Child Puppet Theatre" addresses the same concerns.

DAGHESTAN

INGUSHETIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

27,346 food parcels
403,000 loaves of bread

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

27,346 hygienic kits
163,131 candles

WATER AND SANITATION (December 2001)

Overall: 4,566m³
Daily: 210 m³
Showers: 15 (149 cabins)
Bladders: 22
Pits: 12
Water trucks: 10

**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 kg of cheese, 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, antibiotics, medicines for narcosis, sutures, infusions, IV sets, tubes, catheters, X-ray material

Food assistance (dry food, hot meals and bread)

In December the ICRC carried out relief distributions in Khasavyurt, Kurtomkalimsky, Tarumovsky, Nogaysky and Kizliarsky regions, covering more than 2,400 beneficiaries, with food parcels and wheat flour.

The ICRC supports RRC which provides bread to 5,380 IDPs daily. In addition, RRC manages 1 soup kitchen feeding 500 IDP school children with hot meals on a daily basis.

Non-food assistance

In the frame of an ad hoc winter program the ICRC distributed stoves (delivery and installation by ICRC staff), blankets, plastic sheeting plus hygienic kits among the beneficiaries in the above-mentioned regions, helping them to improve their living conditions.

Medical assistance

The RRC also runs 2 mobile medical units in Daghestan, providing medical services to IDPs since 1999. Around 35,900 patients, including more than 12,800 children, have benefited from this assistance.

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.

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 15,600 Chechen IDPs in December. Over 2,700 IDPs also received food and non-food assistance in Kabardino-Balkaria and North Ossetia.

Food assistance (dry food and bread)

The RRC distributed over 4,500 food parcels to vulnerable Chechen IDPs in these regions.

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.

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 (December 2001)

96,200	loaves of bread
13,000	hot meals (portions)

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

719	hygienic kits
3,684 m ²	plastic sheeting
2,075	blankets
150	stoves
211	kitchen sets

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS (December 2001)

1,496	consultations
494	of them for children

NORTH OSSETIA, KABARDINO-BALKARIA, SOUTH OF RUSSIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

4,508	food parcels
195,260 kg	wheat flour

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE (December 2001)

574	hygienic kits
36	blankets
84	kitchen sets

CONSULTATIONS (December 2001)

437	psychological
480	legal

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 December, 11 lessons were given to a total of 226 Chechen children in sanatoria in the framework of the "Child to Child" program. Similar lessons were also given to 68 teenagers on the lines of a similar "Teenager to Teenager" program. Almost 3,135 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" (2,510 copies). In December 600 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. This material is intended to teach children to avoid the danger of mines.

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 42 detention places.

The main aim of ICRC visits is to assess the conditions of detention and to ensure that the 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

RED CROSS STAFF IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS AND SOUTH OF RUSSIA

ICRC

16 expatriates permanently based in Nalchik and 265 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

DETENTION VISITS

NUMBER OF VISITS BY ICRC DELEGATES (December 2001)

In Chechnya:	2
Outside Chechnya:	2
TOTAL:	4

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS

(Since May 2000)

In Chechnya:	43
Outside Chechnya:	90
TOTAL:	133

Number of places visited: 42

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

IHL PRESENTATIONS TO ARMED FORCES

(December 2001)

- **Ministry of Defence:
5 lectures - 128 students
and lecturers of
Vladikavkaz medical
college**
- **Border Guards:
3 presentations - 380
soldiers and sergeants of
Novorossiisk Training
centre and its Affiliate in
Gelenjik**