

JAKARTA (regional)

COVERING: Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Association of Southeast Asian Nations



ICRC / AR, 2011
 ○ ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)	
Protection	1,329
Assistance	341
Prevention	2,025
Cooperation with National Societies	970
General	-
	▶ 4,666
	<i>of which: Overheads 285</i>

IMPLEMENTATION RATE	
Expenditure/yearly budget	80%

PERSONNEL	
Expatriates	9
National staff (daily workers not included)	56

- KEY POINTS**
- In 2011, the ICRC:**
- ▶ with the Indonesian authorities, worked to improve environmental health and health care in prisons through training of medical and technical staff, joint assessments, and scabies and hygiene campaigns
 - ▶ set up a psychological and social support project for families of missing persons in Timor-Leste
 - ▶ signed an agreement with the Indonesian armed forces formalizing IHL-promotion activities
 - ▶ organized introductory seminars on the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme for representatives of Islamic schools in Indonesia
 - ▶ stepped up public communication on humanitarian issues in Bahasa Indonesia using social media

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and in Timor-Leste following its independence in 2002. In each country, the ICRC supports the National Society in boosting its emergency response capacities. The ICRC cooperates with the authorities to improve penitentiary standards, while seeking to visit detainees and monitor conditions. It works with the armed forces (and the police in Indonesia) to promote the inclusion of IHL in their training. It maintains dialogue with regional bodies and conducts activities with universities to further the study of IHL and humanitarian principles. In Timor-Leste, it provides support to families of missing persons.

CONTEXT

Politically stable and economically strong, Indonesia continued to expand its influence in regional affairs, including within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and on the international scene. However, socio-economic inequalities, ethnic or religious tensions, and political issues remained sources of violence in some parts of the country, such as Papua, where access was restricted for most international humanitarian organizations, including the ICRC. Natural disasters of varying scales struck the country, including flash floods which left thousands homeless.

Given the prevailing stability in Timor-Leste, the UN started phasing out its presence in the country, extending the mandate of its peacekeeping mission, the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), until the holding of elections in 2012. The UN Police handed over full control of national security to the Timor-Leste police force in April 2011 and was set to leave in 2012, as was the International Stabilization Force.

While most of the humanitarian problems linked to past conflicts had been solved, thousands of families were still seeking information about relatives who remained unaccounted for. In the absence of a centralized approach to cases of missing persons and forensic work in Timor-Leste, efforts to locate gravesites and bodies remained informal and uncoordinated.

Jakarta-based ASEAN focused on boosting regional solidarity and cooperation.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC pursued discussions with the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to finalizing a new headquarters agreement redefining the basis and scope of ICRC action in the country and formalizing its presence.

The Indonesian Directorate General of Correctional Services and the ICRC agreed to strengthen cooperation in improving living conditions in places of detention through training and structural support. Following joint seminars for prison staff on environmental health and health care, small-scale ICRC engineering projects to address structural needs in prisons started in cooperation with the authorities. However, pending the conclusion of a new headquarters agreement, standard ICRC visits to prisons and their inmates remained suspended.

Main figures and indicators	PROTECTION	Total		
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages (RCMs)				
			UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected		42		
RCMs distributed		42		
Phone calls facilitated between family members		4		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons				
			Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		58	8	31
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		112		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2011 (people)		2,110	205	399
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)¹				
ICRC visits				
			Women	Minors
Detainees visited		1		
Detainees visited and monitored individually		1		
Number of visits carried out		1		
Number of places of detention visited		1		
Restoring family links				
RCMs collected		8		
RCMs distributed		22		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued		133		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children 1. Timor-Leste

Main figures and indicators	ASSISTANCE	Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat				
Essential household items ²	Beneficiaries	1,298		
Agricultural, veterinary and other micro-economic initiatives ¹	Beneficiaries	288	45%	10%
Water and habitat activities ²	Beneficiaries	500	30%	30%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat²				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	920		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals²				
Patients whose hospital treatment has been paid for by the ICRC	Patients	123		

1. Timor-Leste 2. Indonesia

The ICRC kept the issue of persons who went missing during past conflicts in East Timor on the agendas of the Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities, providing them with a new consolidated list of 94 minors still unaccounted for. In Timor-Leste, it continued to advocate for the adoption of a law establishing a mechanism to assist the families of missing persons, which had been further postponed by parliament; it launched a pilot project aimed at providing psychological and social support to the families; and it helped enhance expertise and coordination among different forensic agencies. Working with the Timor-Leste Red Cross, the ICRC contacted the families of persons unaccounted for across the country to check and update the information in its possession before submitting further cases to the authorities.

The Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities pursued efforts to promote IHL among officials and to implement IHL instruments, with ICRC technical back-up. After meetings organized by the National Law Development Agency and the ICRC, the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs communicated the government's position on the ICRC's study on the current state of IHL. Timor-Leste acceded to Additional Protocol III.

Dissemination of IHL and international human rights law continued among the armed and police forces, including peacekeepers. The delegation provided support for the conduct of training courses and specialized seminars. A cooperation agreement to this effect was signed with the Indonesian armed forces. After the Timorese national police took over policing functions from the UN Police, the ICRC renewed contact with it at various levels,

including the forensic unit, and facilitated Timor-Leste Red Cross contacts for dissemination activities.

Presentations and competitions were held to increase knowledge of IHL among Indonesian university lecturers and students and to gain support for its inclusion as a compulsory subject in relevant curricula. Working with the National Societies, the education authorities in both Indonesia and Timor-Leste, as well as several Islamic schools in Indonesia, made progress in introducing the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in schools.

The ICRC strengthened its participation in regional humanitarian dialogue through increased engagement with the sectoral bodies of ASEAN and its related mechanisms, although no progress was made in signing an agreement formalizing cooperation between the two organizations.

The Indonesian and Timor-Leste Red Cross Societies remained key ICRC operational partners. They continued to strengthen their capacities in emergency preparedness, restoring family links and the promotion of IHL and humanitarian principles, with ICRC technical and material support. The Indonesian Red Cross sent family-links and medical teams to assist Indonesian nationals affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

CIVILIANS

In Timor-Leste, thousands of families continued to suffer the anguish of not knowing the fate of loved ones who disappeared between 1975 and 1999. As the Indonesian and Timor-Leste governments had expressed the political will to tackle the issue

of missing minors, the ICRC handed over a new list of 94 cases (including 41 previously submitted) prior to a meeting of the Joint Ministerial Commission. Both governmental delegations to the meeting agreed to set up a working group of a humanitarian nature to address the issue of persons unaccounted for and extend it to further cases, with the aim of providing answers to the families and, where relevant, repatriating human remains buried in Indonesia.

The parliament of Timor-Leste further postponed the adoption of laws setting up an “Instituto da Memoria” and providing compensation to the victims of the conflict. This prompted the ICRC to step up efforts to persuade members of parliament to advance on this issue and, to this end, to seek the support of influential actors such as UNMIT, embassies and international and national NGOs.

The families of 564 missing persons, mainly minors at the time of their disappearance, received visits from ICRC/Timor-Leste Red Cross teams to check and update information before the submission of any further cases to the authorities. At year-end, 2,084 tracing requests regarding missing persons were still being handled, of which 1,237 had still to be checked. The fact that over 40% of the 1,273 cases reviewed since 2008 could be closed (e.g. because the families had retrieved and buried their loved one’s remains or had performed funeral rites without the remains, the person was found alive or the initial enquirer could no longer be located) demonstrated the importance of continuing this process. Forty-six new cases were also registered. Timor-Leste Red Cross volunteers played a key logistical role in preparing the visits.

Some 48 needy families (288 people) received basic material assistance to help them hold proper burial ceremonies for missing relatives. Other families benefited from ICRC-facilitated contacts with national and international forensic services to help them identify and recover a relative’s remains. Coordination and exchange among Timorese and international agencies involved in forensic activities were strengthened through a round-table discussion, while Timorese governmental and non-governmental organizations boosted their capacities to manage dead bodies after disasters by attending a one-day ICRC workshop.

After an ICRC assessment at end-2010 confirmed the need for psychological and social support for the families of missing persons, a pilot project was launched for around 150 families living in Bobonaro district, many of whom had lost their main breadwinners. As a first step, cooperation agreements were signed with local NGOs able to provide the families with information on their rights, legal aid or economic support, while mental health counsellors involved in the project received training in providing therapeutic support to families of missing persons suffering from psychological distress.

Separated family members in Indonesia and Timor-Leste continued to use ICRC/National Society family-links services to restore or maintain contact. Thus, the families of two minors who had been taken from Timor-Leste to Indonesia learnt what had happened to their children. The direct transmission of RCMs across the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste was still not possible, despite ICRC efforts to work out a sustainable solution with the National Societies of both countries.

In Indonesia, the family of a detainee held in the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba received RCMs from and photos of their relative. Twelve family members

of six Indonesian nationals detained in the Philippines visited their relatives in prison, thanks to cooperation between the Indonesian and Philippine authorities and the ICRC.

The Indonesian and Timorese Red Cross Societies continued to receive support to consolidate their capacities to restore links between family members separated by conflict, natural disaster or migration. The Indonesian Red Cross sent a team to Tokyo, Japan, to assist the Indonesian embassy in registering Indonesian citizens affected by the earthquake and tsunami. It also set up an emergency phone line with ICRC technical support and promoted the ICRC family-links website in Jakarta. As a result, 234 individuals contacted the Indonesian Red Cross.

A total of 123 patients in isolated areas in the Papua highlands underwent cataract surgery organized by the Indonesian Red Cross and the local health authorities with ICRC support; 364 patients were examined. Indonesian Red Cross emergency response teams provided relief to some 1,300 victims of a flash flood in West Java, an earthquake in Papua and a volcanic eruption in North Sulawesi. The Papua branch launched outreach activities to improve water and sanitation conditions in remote villages. National Society staff attended training in water and sanitation in emergencies, organized with ICRC guidance.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in Indonesia received no visits from the ICRC pending the negotiation of a new agreement formalizing its presence and activities in the country. Nonetheless, the Indonesian Directorate General of Correctional Services and the ICRC agreed to step up cooperation to improve environmental health and health care in prisons, for instance through training of medical and technical staff, infrastructure support and the publication of guidelines.

Thus, at a jointly organized seminar on environmental health in places of detention, 20 specialist staff members from 16 prisons discussed ways of improving material conditions, in particular water and sanitation facilities, and visited three prisons as part of an assessment exercise. In parallel, 24 prison health personnel took part in a seminar on different aspects of health care in detention. As a follow-up to the seminars, joint assessments took place in nine places of detention. Some 900 inmates were subsequently successfully treated during a scabies eradication campaign carried out in a prison in Medan, Sumatra, where a drinking water filtration unit was also installed.

The Directorate General of Correctional Services held a workshop to discuss the formulation of national guidelines in the field of health and environmental health and set about producing guidelines on the prevention and treatment of communicable diseases in prisons. The ICRC printed 250 books on “Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Habitat in Prisons” in Bahasa Indonesia and distributed them to prison staff.

Two Directorate General staff members gained new expertise in the management of prison infrastructure at an ICRC regional workshop in Thailand (see *Bangkok*).

In Timor-Leste, detainees in two detention facilities wrote and received RCMs from their families during ICRC visits, carried out in accordance with the organization’s standard procedures. Almost all security detainees had been amnestied by the president of Timor-Leste in 2010. Over 130 former detainees received detention certificates from the ICRC, thus facilitating their registration as war veterans and the determination of their eligibility for compensation.

AUTHORITIES

The Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC continued their dialogue with a view to finalizing a new agreement formalizing the organization's presence in the country. Meanwhile, the Indonesian authorities pursued efforts to increase knowledge of IHL among officials and to implement IHL instruments, with ICRC technical backing, including through the organization of a joint seminar on weapons treaties. Two officials participated in a round-table on the 1977 Additional Protocols in Japan (see *Kuala Lumpur*).

The Indonesian government provided its comments on the ICRC study on the current state of IHL following workshops co-organized by the National Law Development Agency and the ICRC to collect the opinions of national institutions. Some 34 mid-career and senior diplomats attended IHL training sessions, while 21 junior diplomats from Indonesia and other ASEAN countries participated in a moot court exercise. About 180 public attorneys and government officials followed IHL courses in different provinces. Some 120 participants from government institutions and civil society discussed the applicability of IHL in cyber warfare during an ICRC-organized round-table.

Timor-Leste acceded to Additional Protocol III. A broadening span of government representatives learnt more about the work of the Movement through dialogue with the ICRC.

Although the proposed memorandum of understanding with ASEAN was not signed in 2011, the two organizations strengthened their exchange on humanitarian issues. ASEAN representatives, including military personnel, became more familiar with ICRC areas of expertise and concerns in fields such as humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, civil-military relations and peacekeeping operations during seminars and round-tables to which the ICRC was invited and, for example, in meetings held in preparation for/during the 31st International Conference.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Military establishments in Indonesia representing all three services of the armed forces (army, navy and air force) worked to include IHL in their training curricula, with the support of their working group on IHL. The armed forces' Law Development Agency and the ICRC signed an agreement formalizing the latter's involvement in the promotion of IHL. At various ICRC-backed courses, field exercises and briefings, some 1,200 officers and soldiers, including 147 army personnel stationed in sensitive border areas in West Timor and Papua, learnt about their obligations under IHL and the ICRC's mandate and work in sessions tailored to the depth of knowledge required for their functions. In addition, 1,862 military personnel undergoing predeployment training for UN peacekeeping missions attended ICRC briefings. A high-ranking Indonesian officer took part in the Senior Workshop on International Rules Governing Military Operations, held in South Africa (see *International law and cooperation*).

A total of 291 Mobile Brigade officers in Banten, Bali, East Java, Central Java and West Java provinces attended five briefings on international human rights law and international policing standards organized by the Indonesian police and the ICRC.

The Timor-Leste armed forces continued to train their troops with support from the International Stabilization Force, Australia, Portugal and the United States of America. Those involved met regularly with the ICRC to discuss IHL-related matters. With ICRC support,

the Timor-Leste Red Cross reprinted and distributed a brochure on IHL and international human rights law for the national police.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Opinion-makers in Indonesia and Timor-Leste, including media professionals and members of think-tanks, met regularly with the ICRC to exchange views on humanitarian issues. Indonesians across the archipelago had access to information on ICRC activities via web-based and social media in Bahasa Indonesia. Forty journalists from various national and local media attended an Indonesian Red Cross safety training course.

Leading law, political science and international relations faculties continued to integrate IHL into their curricula. Some 1,300 lecturers and students enhanced their knowledge at ICRC presentations and in discussions on contemporary IHL issues. In addition, 30 lecturers attended a two-day basic course on IHL, while 300 students participated in a seminar on humanitarian action. Students tested their IHL knowledge during a national moot court competition and a debate on the topic. The Indonesian team won awards at the regional moot in Hong Kong (see *Beijing*). A university lecturer and a government education specialist attended the 6th Southeast and East Asian Teaching Session on IHL (see *Kuala Lumpur*).

Indonesian Ministry of Education and National Society representatives discussed the content and methodology of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme at a workshop, leading to a proposal to conduct a pilot phase in eight schools in three provinces. Materials were translated and printed. After two similar introductory sessions, representatives of several Islamic schools also decided to adapt the programme for their schools, preparing to select pilot schools and conduct teacher training.

In Timor-Leste, after the setting up of an Exploring Humanitarian Law working group, the pilot phase started with the training of 16 teachers from five districts and the trial of the materials in 15 schools.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

With training and material support from the ICRC and other Movement partners, the Indonesian and Timor-Leste Red Cross Societies strengthened their emergency-response capacities, including in first aid, water and sanitation, family links and human remains management, and IHL promotion.

The Indonesian Red Cross assisted the victims of natural disasters, including through family-links services (see *Civilians*). It finalized and disseminated guidelines on the management of human remains, population movement and first aid in violence. Its Papua branch, which extended its operations (see *Civilians*), completed the construction of a new warehouse. Thanks to fundraising activities, the National Society supported the humanitarian activities of sister National Societies in Japan, Somalia and Thailand.

Strengthening their capacities to promote the Movement and their work, the Indonesian Red Cross held a workshop to discuss its dissemination strategy and the Timor-Leste Red Cross reorganized its communication department. Both National Societies conducted public awareness activities and trained trainers, with ICRC participation, and contributed to the pilot-testing of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme (see *Civil society*). They took part in the Movement statutory meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, with ICRC and International Federation preparatory support.