

IRAN

THE ICRC'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

MARCH-AUGUST 2020



INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES



The ICRC has worked to address the immediate needs of vulnerable people at risk of being infected by COVID-19. Joint activities carried out by the ICRC, the Iranian Red Crescent Society and Pars Development Activists include the following:



We have provided information on COVID-19 infection control to vulnerable migrants in Zahedan and Iranshahr, in the province of Sistan and Baluchestan.



We have provided **1,780** hygiene kits to **200** migrant families in Zahedan and to 85 families in Iranshahr.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT RISKS



The ICRC and the Iranian Red Crescent Society work together to raise awareness about weapon contamination and mine risks among Iranians and Afghans living in Iran:



We have provided nomads in the province of Kermanshah, western Iran, with information on mine risks during Red Crescent activities on COVID-19 prevention.



Red Crescent focal points shared information about mine risks on local social media channels, with an estimated **2,000** people reached in the provinces of Kurdistan and Kermanshah in March and April 2020.



We plan to integrate information about COVID-19 with messages about mine risks for Iranians living in contaminated areas.



In addition, the Iranian government and the Iranian Red Crescent Society have approved a range of activities to support Afghan returnees. About **1,000** people a day are returning to their home country. Returnees at the Iran–Afghanistan border will receive hygiene items and information about mine risks, COVID-19 and family links services. These activities have already started.



Also, despite the COVID-19 challenging times, the RC/RC Movement (ICRC – IRCS) continues to offer its Restoring of Family Links (RFL) services to anyone needing them.

PROVIDING GUIDANCE



We have shared COVID-19 guidance with the authorities, such as ICRC documents on how to store and manage the dead.

SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL SOCIETY



The ICRC contributed CHF 500K to the IRCS to support their Covid-19 response. This contribution was allocated for provision of PPE and food parcels to vulnerable people mainly those with special health conditions.

MINE RISK EDUCATION (MRE)



The ICRC and the Iranian Red Crescent Society work together to raise awareness about weapon contamination and mine risks among Iranians and Afghans living in Iran:



We have provided nomads in the province of Kermanshah, western Iran, with information on mine risks along with COVID-19 prevention messages.



Red Crescent focal points shared information about mine risks on local social media, provincial TV channels, etc. with an estimated **1,343,691** people reached in the **5** western contaminated provinces.



We integrated information about COVID-19 with messages about mine risks for Iranians living in contaminated areas.



Moreover, in the last two months Kermanshah and Khuzestan provinces started their face to face MRE training plan, following the protocols and keeps the social distance. **335** individuals have participated in these sessions.



Since the beginning of March till the end of August: **41,956** Afghan returnees received MRE/COVID-19 training (**335** face to face and **466,281** online).



Regarding the ICRC's operational response to COVID-19, the Tehran delegation managed to provide the Afghan returnees (crossing the Dougharoun border) with MRE/COVID19/RFL risk awareness messages and basic protective items. **26,000**

individual packs (including a surgical mask and antiseptic liquid) along with MRE/COVID/RFL leaflets (in **2** Farsi Dari and Farsi Pashtou languages) were distributed among the beneficiaries who cross the border to their country, Afghanistan in average every day around **1,250** Afghan people receive this service. This activity is being undertaken under the joint MRE project of the ICRC and the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) at Dogharoun (one of the Iran-Afghanistan borders) and will be extended for another **2** months in 2020.



Plus, the Mine Risk Education (MRE) animations (jointly designed and produced by the ICRC and the Iranian Mine Action Center) were also uploaded to the ICRC's channel on Aparat (the Iranian local video-sharing platform, equivalent to Youtube in Iran). One of its episodes called "A Bomb in the Farm" had more than **55K** views so far, Which is a viewership record of ICRC communication products on Aparat.



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ماجرای هیوا: بمب در مزرعه

نمایش گزین

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کمپنه بین المللی صلیب سرخ
2020 میلادی
ICRC



The MRE focal points of the IRCS as well as the ICRC's national WeC consultant made sure that all the hygiene protocols were followed during the whole process storage of the cargo, preparing the individual packs, distribution, etc. . .



The outdoor MRE training session in Dougharoon center were hold following all the protocols and keeping the social distance.



Short presentation on MRE, COVID19, and RFL preventive measures before leaving Iran.



An Afghan returnee (having received a sanitary pack) crossing the border.