

FACTS AND FIGURES, COVID-19

ICRC DELEGATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO – COVID19 RESPONSE

APRIL 2020



A summary of the ICRC's contribution to the COVID19 response in the DRC since the pandemic reached the country.

SUMMARY OF ICRC ACTIVITIES*



Delivered 79 handwashing kits plus soap and cleaning / disinfection supplies to 12 prisons.



Delivered 405 kg of chlorine, more than 900 bars of soap and 143 handwashing kits to ICRC-supported health facilities.



Provided ICRC-supported prison clinics with 43,000 gloves, 2,500 surgical masks, 40 ThermoFlash thermometers and masks and protective clothing to wear when treating people suspected of being infected.



Supported the DRC Red Cross by donating handwashing kits to 26 water points in Kinshasa, plus two tents for managing dead bodies.



Provided infection protection kits to 6 hospitals to insure the continuity of war surgery programs. 542 people sensitized during 46 infection prevention and control (PCI) sessions on Covid 19.



Distributed 800 guides on the behaviour of police forces to police stations in Kinshasa, in French and Lingala.

Donated infection protection and control kits to 31 Kinshasa police stations.

* Period from April 1-26



PROTECTION

- **Intensified dialogue with prison and judicial authorities** on respect for detainees' rights and judicial guarantees.
- **Asked the authorities to release vulnerable detainees**, especially those who are old or ill, who are at greater risk from COVID19.
- **Provided medical personnel working in prisons** with PPE such as gloves, surgical masks and masks and protective clothing to wear when treating people suspected of being infected, plus ThermoFlash thermometers.
- **Continued to support victims of violence** – including sexual violence – in ICRC-supported facilities.
- **Distributed COVID19 information, education and awareness**-raising materials in places of detention.
- **Installed** water points and handwashing kits, and set up other anti-infection measures, in **12 counselling centres and six centres for unaccompanied children**.



PREVENTION

- **Launched radio campaigns** in 22 towns, with a potential audience of 5 million people in five provinces. Messages on such topics as health care in danger and respect for the Red Cross Emblem are being broadcast several times a day.
- **Talked to the armed forces and security forces** about respect for human rights and the rules governing the use of force during public order operations.



WATER AND HABITAT

- **Supported DRC Red Cross first-aid teams** and donated handwashing kits, soap, chlorine and sprayers **for 26 hygiene points in Kinshasa**.
- **Contributed to the set up of handwashing facilities** in places of detention, for use by detainees and staff.



COOPERATION

- **Played an active role in the efforts** of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to support the DRC Red Cross response to the pandemic.
- Provided **training in preventive measures for DRC Red Cross volunteers** who are supporting the work of hospitals.
- Provided **technical support to the Movement's COVID19 response**, and in particular to the DRC Red Cross.
- **Donated tents** for the management of dead bodies.
- **Helped the DRC Red Cross produce** key messages, radio broadcasts, posters and materials on preventing the spread of COVID19.



HEALTH

- Implementation of **triage and isolation measures at hospitals** in Bukavu, Beni and Goma
- Donated tents for screening in hospitals and prisons.
- **Donated thermometers, masks, gloves and protective clothing** to Bukavu and Goma Hospitals, where the ICRC was already supporting war surgery programmes, and installed water points at these hospitals.
- Continued to **provide extra food in prisons**.



ECONOMIC SECURITY

- **Continued work** in the areas of food production, nutrition, living conditions and income-generating activities.



FURTHER INFORMATION:

- **The ICRC's response to DRC prisons**
- **In Goma, the protection measures quickly adopted**
- **COVID19 myth busting in the DRC**

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