

CARACAS REGIONAL DELEGATION

THE ICRC'S ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA

JANUARY– MARCH 2021



L. Alvarenga / ICRC 2021

The ICRC's work in Venezuela is aimed at addressing the most urgent needs of people affected by armed conflict. We can provide help in many different areas, but in all our activities we abide strictly by the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence. Our work does not stop in 2021: we will continue to join in efforts to halt the pandemic, while also carrying out our existing programmes. We maintain full transparency with the authorities and work in collaboration with the Venezuelan Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

COVID-19 RESPONSE

**11,635 PATIENTS**

Received respiratory triage services.

**1,229 PEOPLE**

Received prehospital care.

**5 PRISON FACILITIES**

Received 8 distributions of medicines, medical supplies, personal protective equipment, and basic equipment.

**3 SENTINEL HOSPITALS**

Received support for revamping their backup power and waste management systems and reorganizing their space.

**49,905 SETS OF MEDICAL MATERIALS**

Were given to health centres.

**273 MEDICAL WORKERS**

Providing COVID-19 care at 3 hospitals received 16,380 prepared meals.

**554 HYGIENE KITS**

Were distributed to COVID-19 patients and medical professionals in 3 hospitals and 1 outpatient facility.

**376 MEDICAL WORKERS**

At outpatient facilities and hospitals and 161 first aid and prehospital care workers received training on preventive measures, use of personal protective equipment and COVID-19 protocols and diagnostic criteria.

**21 CONNECTIVITY POINTS**

Were set up at outpatient facilities, hospitals and offices of the Venezuelan Red Cross in partnership with other organizations to help meet this need for families separated by COVID-19.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE



4,152 PEOPLE

Received 43,785 meals at 10 community kitchens supported by the ICRC.



2,400 INHABITANTS

Of the El Chocó community in Bolívar State benefited from a deep water well being dug and equipped.



8 PEOPLE

who had been victims of urban violence received cash support to help them meet their essential needs.

SEPARATED FAMILIES



7,261 CONNECTIVITY-RELATED SERVICES

(calls, Wi-Fi connections, battery charging) were provided and 27,083 people received advice.



29 RED CROSS MESSAGES

With family news were collected, and 34 were distributed.



214 PEOPLE

Received services through the national hotline or by email: familiares.vzla@icrc.org



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

6 Red Cross messages were collected and 6 calls were made to the families of foreign fighters to give updates on their situation.

HOSPITALS, OUTPATIENT FACILITIES AND PRIMARY-HEALTH-CARE CENTRES



21,910 PEOPLE

Received emergency medical treatment.



100 TONNES

Of medical supplies were provided.



73,286 CONSULTATIONS

were provided at primary-health-care centres.



12 HOSPITALS

And 10 outpatient facilities received support in the states of Miranda, Táchira, Bolívar, Apure and Zulia.



34 MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Were trained in advanced emergency trauma care.



84 PIECES OF BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Were provided, and repairs and maintenance work were carried out on another 40.

5 HEALTH CENTRES

Received support to ensure that patients were able to receive care and that the minimum standards were met in terms of water, sanitation and hygiene.

AT SAN CRISTÓBAL CENTRAL HOSPITAL IN TÁCHIRA STATE

Upgrades were made to the medical gas supply system and the emergency ward.

1,097 PEOPLE

Were treated for malaria in El Callao, Bolívar State, and 1,050 mosquito nets were handed out

IN THE DOMINGO LUCIANI HOSPITAL IN MIRANDA STATE

The backup power system was overhauled to ensure that the critical areas of the hospital would not lose electricity.

IN RUIZ AND PÁEZ HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF BOLÍVAR

A medical waste system was installed and the sanitation facilities in the emergency department were renovated.

COOPERATION WITH THE VENEZUELAN RED CROSS



13 BRANCHES

And subcommittees received financial support (e.g. for logistics, volunteer well-being).



148 VOLUNTEERS

From 14 branches received training in Safer Access, managing operational risks and safe conduct.



4,079 MEALS

For 114 volunteers.



1 VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED

And three motorcycles received maintenance.

COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND BRANCHES OF THE NETHERLANDS RED CROSS IN ARUBA, BONAIRE AND CURACAO.



Aruba

2 training sessions were provided to 17 volunteers from the Aruba branch on Restoring Family Links, the detention of migrants, and AmerCAR (the Restoring Family Links service for the Caribbean.)



FIRST AID AND PREHOSPITAL CARE



1

SUPPORT WAS PROVIDED TO 13 BRANCHES OF THE VENEZUELAN RED CROSS

The VEN911 emergency service, the firefighters, the civil defence, the SIAMU comprehensive emergency medical care system and the Ángeles de las Vías volunteer paramedic service.

2

2,673 PEOPLE

Received prehospital care.

3

132 PEOPLE WERE TRAINED

Were trained in first aid and 77 received further training to improve prehospital care (basic life support, basic electrocardiograms, primary and secondary assessments).

RETURNEES, MIGRANTS AND DISPLACED PEOPLE



IN BOLÍVAR 440 PEOPLE

Each received personal hygiene kits



IN TÁCHIRA 1,500 PEOPLE

Received their share of monthly deliveries of 1.2 million litres of water at the San Antonio bus station.

17 VISITS

were made to 8 detention centres.



5,590 PERSONAL HYGIENE KITS

And 5,232 bars of soap were given out in 7 detention centres.



6,820 PEOPLE

Deprived of their liberty were visited.



PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

253 CLEANING SUPPLIES

supplies were given to 2 detention centres.



WATER-TREATMENT TABLETS

were given to 6 prison facilities.



MATERIAL FOR SEWING MASKS

Was given to 2 prison facilities.

91 RED CROSS MESSAGES

Were collected from detainees to give to their families.



FORENSIC SPECIALISTS AND FACILITIES

300 BODY BAGS

Were provided.

47 WORKERS

sanitation and forensic specialists were trained in proper management of dead bodies.

24 FORENSIC SUPPLIES

Were provided.

19 FORENSIC FACILITIES

And health centres received advice, recommendations and guidelines on managing dead bodies.

2 MORGUES

Had their water and sanitation systems upgraded.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL NORMS ON THE USE OF FORCE

6 MEETINGS

Were held with representatives from the Ministry of Defence to plan training for the armed forces on the progressive use of force.

40 OFFICERS

From the national police attended seminars on international norms on the use of force.

6 WORKING SESSIONS

Were held with the rectorate of the Experimental Security University to plan training on the progressive use of force.



Following the clashes that took place in March 2021 in La Victoria, in Apure State, the ICRC provided 1,500 kilograms of medicines, such as antibiotics, analgesics and anti-inflammatories, and 21 sets of hygiene items to aid in treating people. We also provided medical supplies to the San Cristóbal Military Hospital. In Guasdalito, we provided 87 sets of hygiene items and COVID-19 protective materials to the military wing, and medical equipment was provided to the mobile hospital under the Guasdalito medical brigade. In addition, we visited people who had been detained during the military operations. The purpose of this visit was to assess the condition of the detainees, facilitate contact with their families, and distribute hygiene kits, including personal protective equipment for COVID-19.

The ICRC has been providing support for the most at-risk people in La Victoria since 2019, making monthly deliveries of medical supplies for the more than 7,000 people treated at outpatient facilities in the area. In addition, the ICRC's delegation in Colombia has been monitoring the situation of people crossing the border to see whether they are able to meet their basic needs and provide help as necessary.