

CARACAS REGIONAL DELEGATION THE ICRC'S ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA

JULY–SEPTEMBER 2021



M. Saenz / ICRC 2021

In the third quarter of 2021, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Venezuela has been working to address the needs of those people most affected by armed violence, particularly by the clashes that broke out between armed groups and security forces in Cota 905, Caracas, in July. In the capital city and across the country, we have been providing support where needs are greatest in terms of health care, water and sanitation, protection and economic security. With our multidisciplinary team of experts, we are continuing to bring assistance to the communities considered most at risk, in cooperation with the Venezuelan Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.



PATIENTS, HEALTH-CARE WORKERS AND HEALTH-CARE FACILITIES



104,332 people received medical attention at primary-health-care centres.



18,008 people received emergency medical treatment.



245 medical professionals were trained in advanced trauma care.



1,298 people were treated for malaria and **4,200** mosquito nets were handed out in El Callao, Bolívar State.



Over 90 tonnes of medical supplies were provided to 13 hospitals and 11 outpatient facilities in Caracas, Bolívar, Táchira, Aragua, Apure, Delta Amacuro and Zulia.



Four health centres in Apure, Aragua, San Cristóbal and Bolívar received support to improve their infrastructure and essential services so as to ensure that patients were able to receive care and that minimum standards were met in terms of water, sanitation and hygiene.



VULNERABLE PEOPLE



One canteen, two educational institutions and two communities received support to improve infrastructure and essential services.



3,656 people received 263,344 meals in 11 community kitchens.



Three training sessions were delivered in the Petare and Cota 905 neighbourhoods on staying safe in the face of armed violence.



58 people received cash support to help them meet their basic needs.



More than 300,000 people benefited as a result of improvements to the preventive maintenance capacities at four water-treatment facilities.



Three consultation sessions were held with communities in Caracas, Miranda and Táchira to better understand how armed violence was affecting them, how they were coping with it and how we could best support them.



FIRST AID AND PRE-HOSPITAL CARE



4,173 patients received pre-hospital care.



171 people were trained in basic first aid.



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.



SEPARATED FAMILIES



164 people received support via the national hotline and **11 people** received support via email (familiares.vzla@icrc.org).



2,996 connectivity-related services (calls, Wi-Fi connections, battery charging) were provided and **8,097** travellers received advice.



13 connection points were installed in Venezuelan Red Cross venues and communities, in partnership with other organizations, to help restore and maintain contact between family members separated by migration or armed violence.



RETURNEES, MIGRANTS AND DISPLACED PEOPLE



In Táchira:

Over 1,500 people received their share of monthly deliveries of more than **682,000 litres of water** at the San Antonio bus station.



PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY



8,265 people deprived of their liberty in **nine detention centres** were visited.



1,200 tools and supplies were given to **two prisons** to help them maintain their infrastructure.



9,715 personal hygiene kits were given out in **five detention centres**.



91 Red Cross messages were collected from detainees to give to their families.



Two detention centres were fitted with alternative water systems and, in one of these centres, the kitchens were also upgraded. Another detention centre had its electrical system upgraded.



FORENSIC SPECIALISTS AND FACILITIES



29 forensic specialists and first responders were trained in proper management and documentation of dead bodies.



Four morgues had their electrical and water systems and other infrastructure upgraded.



1,730 body bags, 46,398 items of personal protective equipment and 3,775 medical and sanitation supplies were provided to **19 forensic institutions**.



PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL NORMS ON THE USE OF FORCE



200 officers from the police and the Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigation Unit attended seminars on national and international norms on the use of force in law enforcement operations.



Four working sessions were held with people in charge of training at the Experimental Security University, the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of People's Power for Internal Affairs and Justice, the National School of Public Defence, and the International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Directorate of the National Bolivarian Armed Forces of Venezuela, in order to plan training for judicial, police and military officers.

COVID-19 RESPONSE



13 branches of the Venezuelan Red Cross were given financial support (for food, water and fuel) as part of the National Vaccination Plan of the Ministry of People's Power for Health.



5,000 protective items for sanitizing and disinfecting, and more than **40,000 water-purification tablets**, were given to two prison facilities.



8,739 patients received respiratory triage services and **1,907 patients** received pre-hospital care.



3,664,887 units of medical materials and **1,151,418 hygiene items** and items of personal protective equipment were given to health centres.



2,243 hygiene kits were distributed to COVID-19 patients and medical professionals in five hospitals and 11 outpatient facilities.



3,779 medical workers received training on preventive measures and COVID-19 protocols.



40,000 cleaning supplies were given to two hospitals and ten outpatient facilities.



19 forensic facilities received body bags and items of personal protective equipment.



COOPERATION WITH THE VENEZUELAN RED CROSS



Five branches of the Venezuelan Red Cross received financial support (e.g. for logistics, volunteer well-being).



Four branches were given water-purification tablets and two of these branches were also provided with technical training and water-purification systems to enhance their emergency response capacity.



115 volunteers at 19 branches and subcommittees of the Venezuelan Red Cross received training in Safer Access, managing operational risks and safe driving.



C. Guerrero / ICRC 2021

Thousands of people have been suffering the disastrous consequences of torrential rain that fell in various parts of the country in July and August, causing landslides, floods and mudslides. Rivers and streams overflowed, bridges collapsed, and homes were destroyed, leaving many people unaccounted for and at least 20 dead. We provided medical supplies, mattresses, sheets, personal hygiene products, and logistical and protective equipment to the Venezuelan Red Cross to help affected communities, especially in the states of Mérida and Apure.