

CARACAS REGIONAL DELEGATION

THE ICRC'S ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA IN 2021



2021 was a year of consolidation of the ICRC's humanitarian work in Venezuela. Despite the context of the pandemic, the ICRC continued its work assisting the people most affected by armed violence. Through an open, confidential and permanent dialogue with the most vulnerable populations and the various actors, including arms carriers, the organization was able to provide a comprehensive response to alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable, including the wounded, the sick, persons deprived of their liberty and communities. Creating opportunities in the midst of unfavorable situations for many Venezuelans has been the ICRC's goal in 2021. Through its work in the areas of health, water and sanitation services, protection and economic security projects, among others, the institution worked to assist the populations affected by the armed confrontations, mainly in La Cota 905 and Apure, which further intensified the reality of armed violence in those areas, leaving unfortunate consequences, such as displacement forced, wounded and limitations in access to basic services.

In cooperation with the Venezuelan Red Cross (VRC), it supported care for the victims of the imminent rains, which during the months of July and August affected entire populations, mainly in Mérida and Apure. Likewise, the ICRC and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have joined forces in 2021 to support the work of the Venezuelan Red Cross during its participation in the National Vaccination Plan, organized by the Ministry of Health, for the benefit of the Venezuelan population.

PATIENTS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS
AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

337 TONNES of medical supplies were provided to 11 hospitals and 11 outpatient facilities in Miranda, Bolívar, Táchira, Aragua, Apure, Delta Amacuro and Zulia.



327,545 PEOPLE received medical attention at primary healthcare centres.



67,633 PEOPLE received emergency medical treatment.



223 PIECES OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT were recovered and restored to working order.



571 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS were trained in advanced trauma care.



4,516 PEOPLE were treated for malaria, and 3,400 mosquito nets were handed out in El Callao in the state of Bolívar.



635 HEALTHCARE WORKERS were trained to use medical equipment.



18 HEALTH CENTRES in Apure, Aragua, Táchira, Zulia, Miranda, Caracas and Bolívar were given support to ensure that patients could receive the care they needed and that minimum standards were met in terms of water, sanitation and hygiene.



PRE-HOSPITAL CARE AND FIRST AID



15,392 PATIENTS RECEIVED pre-hospital care.



58 PEOPLE WERE TRAINED to improve pre-hospital care (basic life support, basic electrocardiography and primary and secondary survey), and 314 people received first-aid training.



SUPPORT WAS PROVIDED TO 13 VRC BRANCHES, the VEN911 emergency service, the fire service, civil defence, the SIAMU comprehensive emergency medical care system and the Ángeles de las Vías volunteer paramedic service.



RETURNEES // MIGRANTS // DISPLACED PEOPLE

IN TACHIRA:



1,500 PEOPLE on the move received water from the monthly supplies of around 160,000 litres handed out at the San Antonio bus station.

IN BOLIVAR:



10,250 RETURNEES received personal hygiene kits.



3,000 UNITS OF READY-TO-EAT FOOD (BP-5 bars) were provided as food assistance.



VULNERABLE PEOPLE



3,225 PEOPLE received 48,618 meals at 10 community kitchens.



88 PEOPLE in Venezuela and 44 people in Aruba received cash support to help them cover their basic needs.



540 VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS in Aruba received cash transfers to cover accommodation and education expenses.



8 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS were carried out in Caracas, Miranda, Bolívar, Táchira and Apure, with the aim of understanding the risks faced by communities and promoting solutions to reduce their vulnerability in situations of armed violence.



43 PEOPLE received self-protection messages on how to keep themselves safe in areas affected by violence at 5 workshops in Caracas and Miranda.



SEPARATED FAMILIES



5 VENEZUELAN MINORS were reunited with their relatives in Venezuela between November and December 2021.



109 PEOPLE received Red Cross messages with news of their loved ones.



492 PEOPLE RECEIVED SUPPORT via the national hotline, and 133 via email (familiares.vzla@icrc.org).



5,397 CONNECTIVITY-RELATED SERVICES were provided (phone calls, Wi-Fi connections and battery charging), and **49,347** people on the move were given advice at **25** points in different parts of Venezuela.



FORENSIC SPECIALISTS AND FACILITIES



325 FORENSIC SPECIALISTS and first responders received training on traceability, the management of dead bodies, identification of the dead and services for families.



8 MORGUES had their electrical systems and other infrastructure upgraded.



8,890 BODY BAGS, 179,000 ITEMS of personal protective equipment and **17,000 ITEMS** of medical and sanitation supplies were provided to **19** forensic institutions.



PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL RULES ON THE USE OF FORCE AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW



2,800 OFFICERS from the police and the Scientific, Criminal and Forensic Investigation Unit (CICPC) attended seminars on national and international rules on the use of force in law enforcement operations.



12 WORKING SESSIONS were held with people in charge of training at the Experimental Security University (UNES), the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior, Justice and Peace, the National School of Public Defence and the International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Directorate of the armed forces to plan training for judicial, police and military officers.



1 TRAINING EVENT on international humanitarian law was held for military medics in Venezuela's armed forces.



COOPERATION WITH THE VENEZUELAN RED CROSS



20 VRC BRANCHES and subcommittees received financial support (e.g. for logistics, volunteer well-being).



526 VOLUNTEERS from 30 VRC branches received training in Safer Access, managing operational risks and safe driving.



3 BRANCHES received water purification kits and training on installing and using them to enhance their emergency response capacity.



PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY



8,265 PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY were visited at 10 places of detention.



24 DONATIONS of medicines and medical supplies were made to cover the primary health-care needs of 7,157 people deprived of their liberty at 4 civilian prisons and 1 military prison.



4 DONATIONS of medicines and medical supplies and equipment were made to the Health Ministry's Medical Procurement Department.



38 PATIENTS were diagnosed with tuberculosis and treated with support from the ICRC.



1,311 ITEMS OF MATERIALS and tools were given to 5 prisons to help them maintain their infrastructure.



34,000 PERSONAL HYGIENE KITS were distributed in 10 prisons.



1,179 ITEMS OF KITCHEN SUPPLIES and utensils were provided for food preparation.



610,000 LITRES OF WATER were delivered monthly by tanker.



308 RED CROSS MESSAGES were collected from detainees to be given to their families.



1,200 ITEMS OF MATERIALS and tools were given to 2 prisons to help them maintain their infrastructure, and 59 rainwater harvesting tanks were installed.

COVID-19 RESPONSE



13 VRC BRANCHES were given financial support (for food, water and fuel) to enable them to take part in the Health Ministry's national vaccination plan.



10,000 CAPS, 360,000 GLOVES, 10,500 FACE MASKS, 10,000 GOWNS AND 200,000 FACE COVERINGS were donated to the Health Ministry's Medical Procurement Department.



48,128 PATIENTS were screened in respiratory triage, and 5,850 patients received pre-hospital care.



1,120,008 ITEMS of medical supplies and **2,934,318 ITEMS** of personal protective equipment were given to health centres.



7,785 HYGIENE KITS were distributed to COVID-19 patients and healthcare workers in 5 hospitals and 8 outpatient facilities.



775 HEALTHCARE WORKERS received training on preventive measures and COVID-19 protocols.



24 DONATIONS OF CLEANING MATERIALS were made to the healthcare units of 4 civilian prisons and 1 military prison.



374,583 ITEMS OF CLEANING MATERIALS were given to 11 hospitals and 11 outpatient facilities.



25 CONNECTIVITY POINTS were installed at outpatient facilities, hospitals and VRC offices and in the community, in partnership with other organizations, for use by families separated due to COVID-19.



6,186 ITEMS OF MATERIALS for cleaning and disinfecting common areas and over 40,000 water purification tablets were provided to 2 prisons.



20 FORENSIC INSTITUTIONS and healthcare facilities were given advice, and 89 staff members were trained to deal with the families of patients who died of COVID-19.



49 PEOPLE received training in managing the bodies of COVID-19 victims.



19 FORENSIC INSTITUTIONS received 179,000 items of personal protective equipment.