

SYRIA

FACTS AND FIGURES

JANUARY-JUNE 2023



Ammar Saboh/ICRC

Over a decade on, millions of people across Syria continue to bear the brunt of a conflict compounded by several crises. Not only have lives been lost, families shattered, and homes destroyed, but people's livelihoods have been exhausted and vital infrastructure has either been damaged or destroyed, making daily essentials often taken for granted even more challenging to obtain. This situation was amplified further when a major earthquake and its aftershocks hit the north-western parts of the country on 6 February.

Throughout the period from January to June 2023, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) continued to provide vital services for millions of people. They have responded to the most pressing needs, distributed food to the most vulnerable, and supported healthcare services in communities and camps. They have also carried out repairs to critical water infrastructures and have supported hundreds of small income-generating businesses so people may start re-building their lives.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

14.7 MILLION people got improved access to clean water.

205,287 had better access to various healthcare services.

52,000 households received food parcels.

230,000 improved their knowledge on safer behaviour in weapon-contaminated areas.



ENSURING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS

More than **14.7 million** people benefited from different water and habitat interventions across the country, as follows:

- **14.7 million** people were supported by a disinfection programme to ensure safe drinking water in **13** governorates.
- **1.9 million** people continued to have water supply in Tartous and Lattakia after repairs done on Al-Sen dam, which was damaged by the 6 February earthquake.
- **177,000** people received water delivered by trucks in Aleppo, Idleb, and Hasakeh.
- Nearly **93,000** displaced people and returnees benefited from renovations and upgrading of housing, water, and sanitation in **59** collective shelters and neighbourhoods throughout the country.
- **25** water facilities across the country were rehabilitated and upgraded, and **five** hospitals, **four** health points had their infrastructure improved.
- Around **842,000** people benefited from the infrastructure support to **11** public bakeries: supply of production line, rehabilitation works, and power.
- Around **20,000** students benefited from the rehabilitation of water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in over **43** schools and exam centers in Damascus, Rural Damascus, Aleppo, Idleb, Raqqa, Hama, and Deir Ezzor governorates.



HEALTHCARE FOR CIVILIANS AND THE WOUNDED AND SICK

- Over **205,000** people had access to healthcare services through **11** Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) polyclinics and **12** mobile health units supported by the ICRC.
- More than **110,000** diabetes consultations and over **200,000** leishmaniasis consultations were provided in **32** Ministry of Health (MoH) facilities and Mobile Health Units across the country.
- Over **54,000** wounded and sick people, affected directly or indirectly by the conflict, benefited from emergency and pre-hospital care services provided by ICRC-supported SARC ambulances in **12** governorates and through **33** first aid centres.
- Around **75** health care providers from the MoH's Emergency Medical Services department attended the Basic Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies workshops (BAPE), held in Aleppo, Lattakia, and Hama as a post-earthquake response.
- Over **5,500** wounded and sick persons received treatment at the ICRC-SARC hospital in Al-Hol camp, north-east Syria.
- Nearly **2,000** people benefited from the ICRC's physical rehabilitation programme in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, and Homs.
- Over **8,000** people received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, about **1,000** front liners attended peer to peer support sessions, and over **60** SARC and MoH staff attended MHPSS trainings.
- Over **17** Hospitals benefitted from the ICRC donations mainly in the form of consumables, equipment, and maintenance. **11** Hospitals were supported to respond to the Earthquake (**nine** Hospitals under the MoH and **two** hospitals under the Ministry of Higher Education). **One** Hospital received Cholera contingency support.
- Around **57** doctors, nurses, and technicians at **five** hospitals were trained on the donated medical equipment. At Al Razi Hospital on the donated X-ray machine, at Ibn Annafees Hospital, Banias National Hospital, Lattakia National Hospital, and Daraa National Hospital on the donated operation theatre tables.



DAILY ESSENTIALS AND RESTORING LIVELIHOODS

- Over **52,000** households in **six** governorates received food.
- Over **25,000** households in **seven** governorates received essential household items, including winter clothes, blankets, mattresses, school kits, and hygiene materials.
- **3,160** people in **seven** governorates – including returnees, displaced families, women-headed households, and people with disabilities – benefited from grants to develop small businesses.
- Over **31,000** people in **11** governorates benefited from local livelihood initiatives, such as the distribution of sheep, poultry, fodder, means to produce hydroponic fodder, beekeeping, fertilizers, and agricultural tools.



REDUCING THE IMPACT OF WEAPON CONTAMINATION

- More than **118,300** people in **13** governorates attended sessions on risks related to mines/ explosive remnants of war and safer behaviour practices in weapon-contaminated areas, held by the SARC's risk education teams who were trained and supported by the ICRC, of which over **17,000** during the Earthquake Response.
- Nearly **52,500** individuals received Risk Awareness Safer Behaviour material warning them about the risks of mines/explosive remnants of war, of which, more than **8,000** during the Earthquake Response. Additionally, 20 posters were placed in IDP centers during the Earthquake Response.
- Over **20,000** individuals were reached through various social media channels with advice on how to adopt safer behaviour in weapon-contaminated areas.
- More than **1,095,000 Risk Awareness Safer Behaviour SMS** were sent to the affected at-risk population in Deir Ezzor, Hama, Homs, Aleppo, Idlib, Raqqa, Damascus, Hasakeh, and Quneitra, to warn about risks of mines/explosive remnants of war and encourage safer behaviour practices.
- Nearly **150** non-technical surveys were carried out in Homs, Aleppo, Hama, Lattakia, and Idlib governorates, of which **six** were in support of assistance projects during the Earthquake Response.
- **Eight** weapon-contamination casualties were referred to various physical rehabilitation centres for assistance, and around **200** were referred to receive in-kind assistance.



PROMOTING HUMAN DIGNITY AND RECONNECTING FAMILIES

- Over **65** oral greetings and Red Cross Messages were exchanged between separated families, and more than **645** cases were opened by families in Syria to trace persons unaccounted for.
- **30** visits to detention places were conducted by the ICRC, and detainees in **nine** central prisons benefited from ICRC donations of essential drugs, fortified date bars, mattresses, blankets, water, and medical equipment.
- Organized **one** workshop with the General Commission of Forensic Medicine in Aleppo with **45** Forensic Doctors in attendance to address Challenges and Lessons learnt from the Earthquake Response.
- Organized **one** workshop on the Management of the Dead in Emergencies for **20** SARC volunteers from Rural Damascus, Quneitra, Sweida and Daraa branches.
- Completed rehabilitation and opened Forensic Centers in Homs and Hasakeh, as well as the Forensic Human Identification Center in Damascus.
- Donated **2,000** body bags to the General Commission of Forensic Medicine, The Forensic Center in Aleppo, The National Hospital of Lattakia, and The National Hospital of Jableh as part of the earthquake response.
- Donated PPE and disinfection materials to SARC, the General Commission of Forensic Medicine, and The Forensic Center in Aleppo as part of the Earthquake Response.

PROMOTING AWARENESS ABOUT THE ICRC AND IHL

- Organized an Introduction to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) workshop for **25** officers from the Ministry of Defence (MoD), followed by an Advanced IHL workshop.
- Organized **two** Advanced IHL workshops for overall **50** officers from the Ministry of Interior (MoI).
- Organized an IHL Seminar for **89** students from Al-Sham Private University.
- Supported a Training of Trainers on IHL for **19** SARC participants and an Introduction to IHL workshop for **28** SARC participants.
- Facilitated the participation of **one** officer from the MoD and **one** official from the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment in the online State Expert Meeting on IHL: "Protecting the Environment in Armed Conflicts", organized by the Swiss government and the ICRC.
- Facilitated the participation of **one** diplomat from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, **three** officers from the Ministry of Defence, **three** officers from the Ministry of Information, **one** judge from the Ministry of Justice and **one** professor from the Ministry of Higher Education in courses at the International Institute for Humanitarian Law in Sanremo, Italy.

International Committee of the Red Cross

Damascus Delegation:
 Abu Roumaneh, Rawda Square,
 Maser Street,
 P.O.BOX 3579,
 Tel: (+963) 11 338 06000
 Fax: (+963) 11 331 0441
 E-mail: dam_damas@icrc.org www.icrc.org/syria

Tartous ICRC Office : (+963) 43 223 431
 Homs ICRC Office : (+963) 31 223 3322
 Aleppo ICRC Office : (+963) 21 221 4700
 Hassakeh ICRC office : (+963) 52 368 093

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