



ICRC

INFORMATION SHEET

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In brief: ICRC in the DPRK

The ICRC, in partnership with the DPRK Red Cross Society (RCS) implemented its activities in DPRK since 2002. Its Mission is based in Pyongyang. The focus of its activities is on physical rehabilitation and related orthopaedic medical services. Activities are carried out in cooperation with its primary partner the DPRK Red Cross Society and relevant government departments.

Today, the ICRC is helping disabled persons by providing support to two Physical Rehabilitation Centres: Rakrang and Songrim. The support to Songrim Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC) has started in 2016.



ICRC weapon contamination medical advisor supervising practical training.

At Songrim PRC, the ICRC is currently supporting a rebuilding programme of the patient dormitories as well as new stores and generator rooms. This will potentially allow an even bigger patient intake.

The ICRC also wishes to assist the Management of the Centre in improving the clinical services provided by the prosthetists/orthotists and physiotherapists; the quality of manufacturing in the workshop; the stock management and the overall management of the Centre. To attain this goal, the ICRC decided to arrange a study tour of a well-established rehabilitation programme in Cambodia for 5 DPRK specialists working at Songrim PRC. The study tour will focus on learning from the experiences of the ICRC and its partners in Cambodia in developing and implementing a fully functioning physical rehabilitation programme.

The ICRC medical program provides assistance and services to two Provincial People's Hospitals in Pyongsong and Hamhung as well as the City People's Hospital of Kaesong. Various rehabilitation works were carried out in the three assisted hospitals, as well as material assistance provided.

In Kaesong city the ICRC works on rehabilitating the water supply in peri-urban areas. After having completed the peri-urban water project in Kaesong Donghyon quarter in 2016 (which provides clean water for 7'000 persons), a new project has been started this year in the Unhak quarter of Kaesong city. Upon completion, it will provide water to 13'000 inhabitants.

The ICRC Mission in Pyongyang has organized three Blast Trauma Care courses (BTCc) in Pyongyang. This course is designed to train the health personnel responsible for the provision of medical support to Explosives Remnants of War (ERW) clearance operations, as well as the ERW disposable technicians themselves, in the proper management of a blast casualties.

In total sixty Officers of the Ministry of Public Security (MoPS) originating from ten DPRK provinces have successfully attended the courses and shown a high level of interest and active participation. Among the participants were the Director and the Vice Director of the Bomb Disposal Unit of the MoPS and also a senior Officer from the External Affairs Department of the MoPS. The feedback provided by the participants was very positive and the wish was expressed for more training in the future.



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