

EGYPT

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS 2017

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2017



The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been working in Egypt, with some interruptions, for more than 100 years. During World Wars I and II, the Israeli-Arab wars and the 1956 conflict over the Suez Canal, the ICRC visited and assisted thousands of prisoners of war and civilian internees under the specific mandate conferred upon the organization by the Geneva Conventions. In 1983, the ICRC formalized its legal presence in Egypt by signing a Headquarters Agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and established its office in Cairo.

Today, the ICRC in Egypt is working on the promotion of the International Humanitarian Law with the Egyptian Armed Forces, the judiciary and other institutions, providing services to migrants' communities coming from conflict-affected areas, and partnering with local healthcare providers and institutions in Egypt to help them boost their emergency response capacities. ICRC's long-standing cooperation with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society has further developed and extended into the field of assistance. In 2017, through different activities and partnerships, the ICRC worked on:

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

**3205**

Egyptian Army officers and cadets were introduced to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) through 11 dissemination sessions and law enforcement courses covering all army regional commands.

103

Officers assigned to Peacekeeping Operations attended orientation sessions on IHL and International Human Rights Law (IHRL).

**15**

representatives from the National Committee of IHL (NCIHL) attended a training workshop on specific IHL subjects, ICRC's humanitarian mandate and the Health Care in Danger Campaign.

30

National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) staff members attended a session on IHL, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the activities of ERC and ICRC in Egypt and the wider Middle East



40

Egyptian Judges were updated on contemporary developments of IHL through training organized jointly with the National Center for Judicial Studies. ICRC sponsor 7 Egyptian officers to attend regional IHL training in Lebanon, Tunisia and Italy.

60

legal professionals, including: judges, lawyers, university professors, high rank civil servants, former Members of the Egyptian Parliament attended a conference on the International Conventions and Criminal Law in the Egyptian Constitution, organized in collaboration with the Egyptian Criminal Law Association.

Through its regional advisory service on IHL, established in Cairo in the 1990s:



17

armed forces representatives from Algeria, Egypt, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Yemen attended the 10th Training Course on IHL Provisions at the League of Arab States (LAS) Headquarters in Cairo.

6

student teams from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Syria and the UAE competed in the first regional Moot Court competition on IHL in the Arab region, held in Cairo University.

140

140 governmental officials, diplomats, military officers, academics, judges, prosecutors and Islamic scholars from 13 Arab countries were trained in the Regional IHL Courses in Arabic in Beirut and Tunis. In addition, 45 participants attended the Regional Training of Trainers Seminar in IHL in Morocco to become potential IHL instructors.

45

judges attended the Seventh Regional IHL Course for Arab judges, in collaboration with Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies (KIJS).

DELIVERING FOOD AND DAILY ESSENTIALS



9600

unaccompanied female children received food and hygiene parcels each month in cooperation with St. Andrews Refugee Services.



4700

families in North Sinai received 110 tons of food aid and 20000 blankets, in a first assistance distribution in cooperation with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC).

NFI

8000

families in North Sinai received in a second round of assistance distribution in cooperation with the ERC a one-month ration of food aid and hygiene kits. 3000 of these households received in addition material to improve their accommodation conditions.

INCREASING HEALTHCARE SERVICES' EMERGENCY CAPACITY



72 doctors and nurses increased their knowledge and skills in handling trauma in emergency rooms.

210 cadets from the Egyptian Armed Forces College of Medicine participated in a 15 hours training on the Management of Weapon Wounded in Austere Environments.

30 surgeons strengthened their capacities in the management of weapon wounded.

120 Egyptian Army soldiers were trained to better provide first aid in the field.

16 soldiers and nurses acquired skills to become first aid trainers.

150 soldiers from the Egyptian Army attended one drill on the management of mass casualty incidents.

8 military doctors acquired knowledge to become trainers in Emergency Room Trauma Courses.

25 surgeons benefited from 50 hours theoretical and practical teaching of the management of weapon-wounded patients, organized in cooperation the Egyptian Armed Forces Medical Services.

16 staff members of the League of Arab States (LAS) secretariat and permanent missions attended a training on Humanitarian Principles and the Protection of the Medical Mission in armed conflicts, in coordination with LAS' Health and Humanitarian Aid Department.

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER



152 Red Cross messages and oral greetings (salamat) were exchanged between families living in Egypt and their relatives visited by ICRC in detention centers abroad.

779 request were addressed to ICRC Cairo delegation to locate family members.

442 new tracing requests were opened by families living in Egypt.

19 new photos were published on Trace the Face, an online tool to restore contact with lost family members.

516 ICRC travel documents were issued for refugees/asylum seekers exiting Egypt for resettlement in other countries.

174 persons were located successfully.

2810 phone calls were facilitated to help migrant community members maintaining contact with their loved ones abroad.

DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMIC INSTITUTIONS IN EGYPT



ICRC delegates met Dr. Ahmed al-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of al-Azhar, to exchange on the conflicts and challenges for humanitarian action in the Middle East, and enhance the cooperation between the ICRC and al Azhar, Egypt's prestigious institution of Islamic learning and teaching that provides guidance and counsel to Muslims worldwide.

PROMOTING THE RESPECT OF THE DEAD



2

National Working Group meetings on the “management of the dead in emergencies” were held jointly with Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA).

An ICRC expert assessed EFMA's DNA lab and the autopsy room.

22

experts attended the second national course on the “Management of The Dead (MoTD)” in cooperation with the Egyptian Ambulance Organization (EAO).

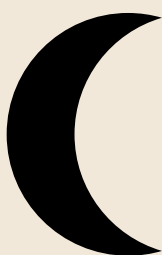
9

participants from the EFMA, EAO, ERC and Search and Rescue Center acquired knowledge to become trainers in MoTD course.

2

advanced sensitization workshops on the management of the dead were organized at Kasr El Aini Hospital for forensic postgraduate doctors and 17 cadets from the Egyptian Armed Forces' College of Medicine.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EGYPTIAN RED CRESCENT



1

workshop was organized with the 17 ERC branches in Egypt to increase their knowledge and capacity in restoring family links (RFL) services and facilitate the exchange of family news.

30

new Emergency Action Teams (EATs) were trained to respond to emergencies, raising the number of teams to 170, covering 26 governorates of the country.

15

newly formed Libyan Red Crescent Society (LRCS) emergency action teams did a joint learning exercise with the ERC EATs, on response to emergency events in Libya.

2

ERC trainers attended Regional IHL Arabic courses to enhance the ERC's capacity to disseminate the principles of IHL among its volunteers.

The ICRC helps people around the world affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, doing everything it can to protect their dignity and relieve their suffering, often with its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. The organization also seeks to prevent hardship by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and championing universal humanitarian principles.



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