INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS



January-December 2018

ICRC Delegation in Georgia

Highlights of activities



SEARCH FOR THE MISSING AND NEEDS OF THEIR FAMILIES

Humanitarian Dialogue

5 meetings of the two separate Coordination Mechanisms dealing with the issues of persons missing in relation to the armed conflicts in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia were held under the ICRC auspices.

Forensic Activities

- **60** sites related to the conflicts of 90's in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia were excavated in the search for missing people.
- **111** sets of human remains were exhumed, analyzed and samples were sent to international laboratories for DNA analyses.
- **23** missing persons related to the conflict in Abkhazia were identified and handed over to the families.
- 12 Georgian and Abkhaz specialists with backgrounds in archaeology, forensic pathology, nursing, and biology were trained on the application of the multi-disciplinary approach in



human identification through **7** different workshops organised by the ICRC locally and abroad.

Accompaniment of Families of Missing Persons

- **54** families benefited from the Mental Health Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) through **3** group and **30** individual consultations conducted by the ICRC's 4 implementing partner NGOs
- **6** NGOs and **3** branches of the Georgia Red Cross Society, **4** Family Committees from Batumi, Zugdidi and Tbilisi and Family

Association "Molodini" enhanced their capacity to support the families of missing persons through coaching, specific trainings, workshops and an inter-partner meeting.

The Georgian Academic Working Group held 12 working meetings. 74 lectures and 9 workshops on the concept of Ambiguous Loss were conducted at 4 universities of Georgia.

500 families of missing persons participated in the International Day of the Disappeared organized on August 30.

110 copies of the Georgian version of Pauline Boss's book "Loss, Trauma, and Resilience" were donated to 4 universities as a teaching material.



- **5** winners of students' scientific essay competition on the concept of Ambiguous Loss were nominated.
- **15** members of the family association "Mothers of Abkhazia for Peace and Social Justice" took part in a psycho-social training on the Accompaniment of Families of Missing persons during Specific Moments
- **12** individual psychological consultations with Families of Missing were held in Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia.



RESTORATION OF FAMILY LINKS, FACILITATION OF TRANSFERS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

- **387** Red Cross Messages were exchanged between separated family members.
- **6 families** were reunited across the administrative boundary lines (ABL).
- 18 individuals had the requested official documents relayed across the ABL.
- **152** patients living in Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia were assisted through **164** medical evacuations organized across the ABL.



PROTECTION OF DETAINEES

17 visits were conducted in 8 different places of detention in order to assess the living conditions and treatment of detainees.

2 family visits to **detainees were organized** across the administrative boundary line.

55 Red Cross Messages, and 34 exchanged phone calls enabled detainees to stay in touch with their families.



ASSISTANCE TO THE VULNERABLE

The following assistance activities were carried out in Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia:

- About 500 persons were assisted through the Social Safety Network Program and around 2'000 food parcels were distributed among vulnerable families.
- Over 500 hygiene kits were distributed to destitute households
- **9** households were assisted with emergency kits (kitchenware, bed linen, blankets and folding beds).
- 14 elderly and disabled individuals were regularly visited under the domestic support
- **22** persons received orthopedic support.

20 most vulnerable individuals (14 households) in Kodori Gorge were provided with dry food rations tree times during the year.





PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

A Working Group was set up within the IHL National Commission to integrate possible amendments in the Criminal Legislation of Georgia.

2 representatives of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia attended the Regional Conference of IHL Commissions in Bucharest.

2 young researchers participated in the capacity of judges in the International Criminal Law Moot Court Competition in The Hague.

A three-member law students' team of Tbilisi State University (TSU) was part of Jean Pictet Competition organized in Macedonia.

18 students (**6 teams**) of two prominent universities of Georgia participated in the national IHL competition.

A TSU team successfully participated in the third All European International Humanitarian Law and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition in Ljubljana, Slovenia reaching the final.

16 students of the university in Sukhumi received an IHL training and were involved in an IHL competition.

384 servicemen representing various levels of command, as well as soldiers participated in 16 IHL sessions.



314 officers of the Georgian Defense Forces were offered predeployment IHL training before joining the Resolute Support Mission



in Afghanistan.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GEORGIA RED CROSS SOCIETY (GRCS)

The ICRC continued supporting the GRCS to upscale the beneficiary outreach.

11 training sessions contributed to the strengthening of Restoring Family Links service of the GRCS.

1,322 beneficiaries received social assistance with over **250** volunteers' engagement GRCS "volunteers' initiatives".

4,627 community members acquired knowledge and skills through 61 basic First Aid public courses conducted in Tbilisi and 9 regions.



561 external clients were offered 49 First Aid commercial training sessions conducted by the GRCS first aid pool members.