

ETHIOPIA

FACTS & FIGURES

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2020



The ICRC is present in Ethiopia since the beginning of the 1977 Ethio-Somalia armed conflict. Its current major activities in the country are visiting places of detention so as to ensure both the treatment and conditions of detainees and helping people with physical disabilities (PWDs) get access to quality and sustainable physical rehabilitation services. It also works closely with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) to restore family links among people separated by armed conflict and other situations of violence and provides assistance mainly to people displaced by conflict. The ICRC also promotes the knowledge of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) among members of defense and police forces as well as higher learning institutions. In 2020, the ICRC's humanitarian activities mainly focused on responses to two major crises caused by COVID-19 outbreak and fighting in northern Ethiopia. The ICRC had rapidly adapted to the evolving reality of the outbreak of the coronavirus in the country and had stepped up its response to the crisis integrating COVID-19 as an important new parameter in its operations. In response to the humanitarian crisis caused as a result of the fighting in northern Ethiopia since early November, the ICRC had quickly scaled up its response in delivering medicine and medical supplies to health facilities, which were badly affected by shortage of supplies and reconnecting the families with their relatives in Tigray. Moreover, the ICRC and ERCS jointly provided emergency relief and water to the affected communities, including to internally displaced persons.

PLACES OF DETENTION

From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Visited nearly **72,000** detainees and followed up **242** detainees individually. It also provided assistance, including hygienic materials, cloths, blankets and recreational items, in **57** places of detention in different regions, benefitting more than **63,000** detainees.
- Enabled close to **51,000** detainees in **38** prisons to have better access to water and sanitation facilities through construction/maintenance works.
- Helped **10,940** detainees restore/maintain contacts with their families through mobile phones and airtime service.
- With an intention of maintaining the dignity of vulnerable detainees, donated hygienic items and clothes to **90** mentally ill persons and pregnant women.
- Continued providing medical and technical support to referral prison clinics in Oromia region benefitting **2,403** detainees.
- Provided medical and non-medical items (mobility device, personal hygienic items, and dignity kits) to **43** vulnerable detainees in different federal and regional prisons enabling them to respond to their specific needs.



Hygienic items provided to Gondar prison in support of COVID-19 prevention activity, Gondar, Amhara region, 2020.

Wilson Mondal/ICRC

- Distributed over **516,900** bars of soap, **315** hand washing stations, **435** kilos of chlorine, **135** dispensers, **330** liters of hand-sanitizer and other infection-prevention items to **57** places of detention accommodating over **63,000** detainees in all regions.
- Supplied personal protection equipment (PPEs) to **13** prison health facilities in Addis Ababa, Amhara, Oromia, Benishangul Gumuz, Somali and Sidama regions to help them contain the spread of coronavirus benefitting an over **15,750** detainees. Provided a training on infection prevention and control of COVID-19 to **28** prison health staff drawn from across the country.

SEPARATED FAMILIES



From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Provided, together with ERCS, food and non-food items to **33,224** returnees staying in seven quarantine centers in Addis Ababa, Gondar, Moyale and Dire Dawa,
- Enabled **33,281** returnees to call their loved ones upon arrival in Ethiopia, through the free phone call service.
- Provided, together with ERCS, **56,781** free phone calls to refugees who could exchange family news with their relatives in their countries.
- Collected and received new tracing requests from people looking for **447** missing family members in Ethiopia and abroad and located **378** sought persons.
- In close cooperation with ERCS, collected close to **6,000** Red Cross Messages (RCMs) and distributed RCMs to **1,398** family members dispersed by conflict or violence.
- Published one new booklet with **396** pictures of South Sudanese refugees looking for relatives.



South Sudanese refugee reading a letter (exchanged through Red Cross) from her newly traced sister, Gambella, 2020.

HEALTH



From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Provided basic medical supplies and emergency kits to **17** primary health care units and **23** hospitals in different regions with an objective of enhancing their emergency response capacity.
- Provided monthly technical support, complementary medical supplies and basic post-delivery maternal and child non-food items to four primary health care centers in Husse, Chinaksen, Tuliguled and Meyu districts benefiting more than **2,100** mothers who delivered their babies in the centers.
- Supported the Ethiopian Public Health Institute and the Ministry of Health in organizing four trainings on safe and dignified management of the dead due to COVID-19 for **288** health professionals from different regions of the country.
- Provided, in partnership with ERCS, **2,500** mattresses, **2,500** bed sheets, and **20,000** bars of soap and disinfectants to **17** COVID-19 treatment centers set up in Amhara, Oromia, Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, Somali and Harari regions.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Donated over **700** tons of maize, sorghum, beans, teff and wheat seeds to over **12,350** families affected by violence in East Hararghe and East Wollega (Oromia region), Fafan and Erer (Somali region) in Kamashi (Benishangul-Gumuz region) to help them restore their livelihoods.
- Distributed plastic shelters, sleeping mats, blankets, jerry cans, soaps and cooking utensils to over **7,000** people displaced in Quarra (Amhara region), Tuliguled, Raaso, and Salahad (Somali region), Metekel (Benishangul Gumuz region), Konso (Southern Ethiopia region).

- Made financial grants ranging from **1,000** Birr to **6,000** Birr to **26,488** violence affected families (each) living in Amhara, Somali, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia and Gambella regions.
- Provided livestock vaccination against three diseases (Anthrax, Black Leg and Pasteurella) to more than **450,000** domestic animals belonging to semi-pastoralists living along the Somali-Oromia northern border benefiting **196,800** people.



Violence affected communities receiving essential household items from Red Cross distribution site, Konso, South Ethiopia, 2020.

WATER AND HABITAT



From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Rehabilitated water supply systems in Chinaksen town and Gursum district (Oromia region) enabling more than **52,400** violence-affected people to have access to water.
- Finalized the construction of an underground water storage in Babile district (Somali region) benefiting **4,500** people.
- Finalized the construction of a water supply project in Awjabur locality in Somali region which is expected to benefit **10,000** violence affected people.
- Completed work on the sinking of three water wells in Haro Limu district (Oromia region) and Yaso district (Benishangul Gumuz region) benefiting **3,575** violence affected communities.
- Rehabilitated the water supply system of a primary health care unit located in Chinaksen (Oromia region) and Tuliguled (Somali region).
- Constructed a health post and a veterinary drug store in Chalho and Roggie kebeles in Oromia region benefitting **10,000** people.

PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES (PWDs)



From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Distributed hand washing stands, hygienic items and posters with COVID-19 prevention messages in nine partner physical rehabilitation centers (PRCs) in Oromia, Amhara, Harari, South Ethiopia, Benishangul-Gumuz and Somali regions.
- Addressed inclusive communication about appropriate attitudes and behaviors to PWDs together with the Federation of the Ethiopian National Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FENAPD) through TV and radio spots aired at national and regional media in four local languages.
- Supported five PRCs in the manufacture of **4,000** locally made face shields for frontline health workers.
- Enabled **6,438** PWDs to have access to physical rehabilitation services in ten ICRC-supported PRCs. Of the total, **41** economically vulnerable individuals had their transport and food costs covered by the ICRC.
- Provided comprehensive physical rehabilitation services, including mobility devices, wheelchairs, crutches, compensation shoes, prosthesis and orthotics for **32** detainees.



ICRC staff coaching a physical rehabilitation employee on techniques of production of crutch handles, Nekemte, Oromia region.

PREVENTION/COMMUNICATION

From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Provided International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and human rights standards trainings for **120** officers of Eastern, Southern and Northern commands of Ethiopian National Defense Forces.

- Provided a training on international humanitarian and human rights standards (IHRL) related to crime investigation for **35** crime investigation heads and other personnel of Oromia Region Police Commission.
- Organized trainings on International human rights standards and humanitarian law principles to **77** members of Somali regional state special police force, and Oromia special and regular police force based in Nekemte.
- Successfully executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with Ethiopian Police University College (EPUC) on the role of law enforcement agencies in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting the dissemination of messages focusing on topics like “alternatives to arrest and detention”, “protection of health care”, and “the use of force and firearms” through broadcast and print media.
- Organized a two-day seminar on the role of law enforcement in the context of COVID-19 pandemic for **24** media personnel drawn from governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- Supported Addis Ababa University in establishing the first IHL Clinic in Ethiopia.
- Conducted a seminar for **20** legal drafters and experts of the Office of Federal Attorney General to discuss the mechanisms for domestic implementation of IHL and the Office’s role in this regard.
- Published over **200** posts on the ICRC Ethiopia Facebook and twitter pages to sensitize the public on the fundamental principles, the ICRC and ERCS activities, and COVID 19 preventive messages.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (ERCS)



From January to December 2020, the ICRC:

- Provided **2,000** kits (containing essential household items) to ERCS that can cover the needs of **2,000** families.
- Donated an over **4.2** million Birr to ERCS in support of its fight against the spread of COVID-19 outbreak in Ethiopia.
- Supported ERCS in organizing different trainings focusing on provision of first-aid and coronavirus awareness for **2,261** Red Cross volunteers and ERCS staff.



Violence affected person walking with his harvest cultivated through ICRC’s seeds support, Yaso, Benishangul-Gumuz region, 2020.

RESPONSE IN TIGRAY

From November to December 2020, the ICRC mainly:

- Delivered medical and medicine supplies to **13** health facilities existing in Tigray and Amhara regions who were receiving casualties and treating other patients. The supplies could help the facilities to treat about **10,900** patients, including the wounded and sick people.
- For the pre-hospital care, the ICRC assisted different ERCS’ zonal branches with additional supplies to refill their First Aid kits.
- Donated **2,050** crutches to Bahir Dar hospital and **2,050** other crutches and four wheelchairs to Dessie physical rehabilitation center.
- Together with ERCS, helped **2,053** families in Tigray region to reestablish family links with their relatives through the provision of phone calls and transmission of “safe and well” messages.
- Visited people detained in connection with the fighting to assess their conditions and treatment and provided hygienic items.
- Provided **719,000** Birr to North Gondar and North Wollo ERCS’ branches to cover their costs of ambulance services they provided to the wounded and sick.

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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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