

## AZERBAIJAN

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY - JUNE 2024

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been present in the region since 1992 and is supporting national authorities to alleviate hardship related to the conflict. In the first half of 2024 we carried out a wide range of activities, from increasing awareness about weapon contamination to supporting the authorities in clarifying the fate of people missing in relation to conflict. We worked in close partnership with various government entities and our International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners.

As the Azerbaijani authorities' capacities to cover the humanitarian needs of population have grown, we were requested to close the office in Barda. Hence, we have concluded activities of the Barda office by the end of June 2024. Our office in Baku continues focusing on humanitarian issues such as the persons missing in relation to the conflict, weapon contamination, promotion of international humanitarian law (IHL), detention related activities, and support to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS).

## MISSING IN RELATION TO THE CONFLICT



1,127 families of missing people were contacted by accompaniers and 53 of them received basic psychosocial support.

357 home visits were carried out by accompaniers during the funerals of missing people whose remains were identified and returned to their families.

90 family members of missing people attended a commemoration event.

28 accompaniers participated in 2 two-day quarterly training sessions, strengthening their knowledge of addressing issues related to missing people and helping their family members.

11 representatives of organizations involved in exhumation and identification work took part in conferences and training programmes abroad with the ICRC's support.

9 attendees of various national organizations involved in efforts to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing people benefited from various training sessions organized by the ICRC.

3 field trips were conducted to 3 districts to provide technical support during exhumation works carried out by authorities.

The ICRC has donated various items to the concerned authorities of Azerbaijan to support the exhumation and identification works.

## ECONOMIC SECURITY



1,126 people benefited from a beekeeping project, which provided beneficiaries with relevant training and financial assistance to upscale their activities.

706 people – including affected by mine incidents, families of mine victims and children repatriated from the Middle East – received cash assistance to meet their needs.

401 people benefited from a Smart Gardening project, which provided beneficiaries with tools and seed to produce food for their families.

383 people saw their livelihood improve through the microeconomic initiative project.

300 people received support through a poultry support project.

## RESTORING FAMILY LINKS



20 Red Cross messages (containing brief family news) were exchanged between people stranded abroad and their relatives in Azerbaijan.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



1,223 psychological support sessions were conducted for 99 children repatriated from the Middle East and caretakers by national mental health professionals supported by the ICRC. Our team conducted 18 mental health assessments of repatriated children and women in three districts.

34 individual psychological sessions by mental health professionals provided to 7 people affected by mine incidents. 11 mental health and psychosocial support assessments of mine survivors and victims have been carried out by the ICRC team.

32 national mental health professionals have benefitted from a five-day training on “Clinical case management skills in the context of repatriated children and adolescents” organized by the ICRC.

27 supervision groups and 11 individual supervisions carried out by the ICRC team for 40 national mental health professionals providing support to people with mild and moderate mental health needs.

27 accompaniers benefitted from three-day workshops on psychosocial support after identification and handover of human remains, as part of the multidisciplinary training for accompaniers.

## RISK AWARENESS AND SAFER BEHAVIOR



9,810 people benefited from risk and safer behaviour sessions, conducted in collaboration with the AzRCS, raising their awareness to mine risks and weapon contamination and building resilience.

51 paramedics and military personnel of the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and Mine Action Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan (ANAMA) participated in Blast Trauma Course organized in Fuzuli and Baku.

## COOPERATION WITH AZRCS



1,351 people have been sensitized on first aid through mobile first aid posts conducted by the district branches of the AzRCS.

930 people participated in dissemination sessions conducted by the district branches of the AzRCS to increase their awareness on International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement).

79 volunteers attended training of trainers on Risk and Safer Behaviour.

35 volunteers benefitted from the first aid related training sessions organized by the AzRCS with the ICRC support.

23 AzRCS volunteers increased their theoretical knowledge on the Movement and developed their practical skills in delivering dissemination sessions in communities.

23 district branches of the AzRCS and its headquarter received first-aid materials, identification materials, and office supplies.

8 AzRCS staff members and 17 volunteers continue attending English language courses with the ICRC's support.

## PROMOTION OF IHL AND ICRC MANDATE



619 cadets and junior officers of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan participated in IHL related seminars.

93 students benefitted from extra-curricular activities organized by the ICRC, including study trips, moot-courts, and guest lectures.

25 representatives of government entities participated in IHL related sessions and training programmes.

22 instructors of the Police Academy participated in a seminar on law enforcement operations.

15 senior instructors of the Internal Troops benefitted from an international human rights law seminar.

## DETENTION



33 visits to 11 places of detention were conducted to monitor the conditions of detention, treatment of detainees and to support them in maintaining family links.

International Committee of the Red Cross

Azerbaijan Delegation


Fatalikhan Khoyski ave. 75, AZ 1110, Baku, Azerbaijan

T +99412 465 63 34/35


F +99412 465 65 19

E-mail: baku@icrc.org

www.icrc.org

 [www.facebook.com/ICRCAze](https://www.facebook.com/ICRCAze)

 [www.x.com/ICRCAze](https://www.x.com/ICRCAze)

 [www.youtube.com/@ICRCAze](https://www.youtube.com/@ICRCAze)