



Appeal 2026

Overview



ICRC

This document presents highlights from the [ICRC Appeal 2026](#).
The full Appeal may be accessed through the [Extranet for Donors](#)
or the [ICRC website](#).

Appeal 2026

Overview

Syrian Arab Republic. Together with the agriculture ministry and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, the ICRC provides farmers with seed, irrigation kits and other supplies for boosting their food production.



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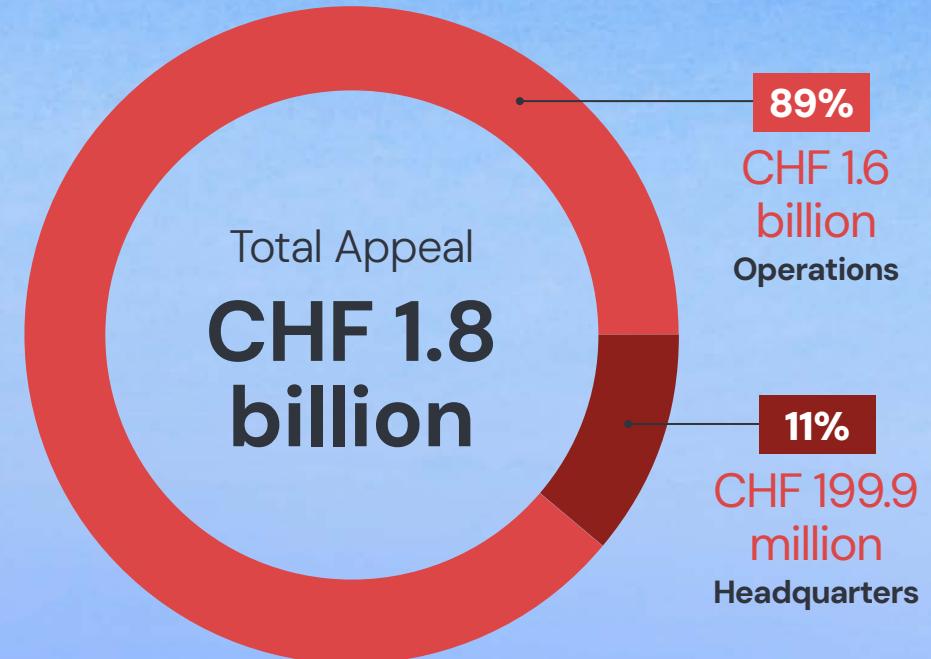
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ICRC Appeal 2026

Since its creation some 160 years ago, the ICRC has always been a lifeline to people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, and it remains as critical as ever. Every day, ICRC staff across the world bear witness to the horrors of war, advocate for the protections envisioned under international humanitarian law (IHL) and work to ease the suffering of those who are affected, often in places that are hard to reach, or where the ICRC – together with its partners in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereafter Movement) – is one of the very few humanitarian actors present.

In order to continue to respond to the needs of the huge numbers of people affected by armed conflict, the ICRC is appealing for **1.8 billion Swiss francs** to fund its global humanitarian response in 2026 to safeguard the lives and dignity of people living in the direst of circumstances.



Sudan. Owing to the escalating armed conflict, many families have been displaced and scattered across the country. The ICRC, together with the Sudanese Red Crescent, provides these families with cash assistance to help them meet their immediate needs and rebuild their lives.



Foreword

In my three years as president of the ICRC, I have watched the number of wars climb steadily. Today, we count about 130 armed conflicts globally. This is more than a year ago, and twice as many as 15 years ago. At the same time, the red lines that preserve humanity in war are eroding – with devastating consequences for civilians.

Today, the suffering caused by wars fought without limits is seared into the lives of millions of people across the world. Grave breaches of the rules of war are viewed with a worrying degree of tolerance. New technologies being used to wage war pose new threats to people and amplify the devastation in conflict zones.

For more than 160 years, the ICRC has worked across the world to save lives and defend the legal protections afforded to people living through war. In this work, we never take sides or put humanity on a scale. We speak with all parties to conflict to advocate for the rights of people affected by war and to provide humanitarian aid to communities across front lines. This also allows us to act between warring sides to bring those deprived of liberty back to their families and the remains of the deceased home to be mourned with dignity.

This is the kind of life-saving and changing work we will prioritize in 2026 – and we need your support to deliver. In 2026, we are appealing for 1.8 billion Swiss francs, of which 1.6 billion Swiss francs is allocated to our operations. In response to the financial uncertainty in the humanitarian sector, we have reduced our overall 2026 budget by 17 per cent compared to our initial budget last year. We have prioritized preserving our operations – the activities that make a difference in the lives of the people we serve. We have streamlined our organizational structure and processes to better prioritize maintaining our strong operational capacity in contexts where the ICRC is most needed.

The ICRC delivers medical supplies to Al-Shifa Hospital in the Gaza Strip, to help the hospital respond to a large number of mass-casualty incidents.



Al Waleed / ICRC

In line with our Institutional Strategy 2024–2027, we are focusing on our core operational strengths and what we are uniquely mandated to deliver. We will continue to keep protection at the centre of our work and promote respect for IHL globally, together with the states supporting the Global IHL Initiative. We will keep up our efforts to deliver life-saving assistance to conflict-affected communities, especially those that few or no other organizations are able to reach.

We cannot do this alone. We will continue to work with our partners in the Movement and in complementarity with local institutions and other organizations on the ground to maximize the impact of humanitarian efforts. We will do our part, but states and other parties to conflict must also do more to mitigate and address the consequences of war. This starts with investing in preventing and resolving conflicts, complying with IHL and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid wherever it is needed.

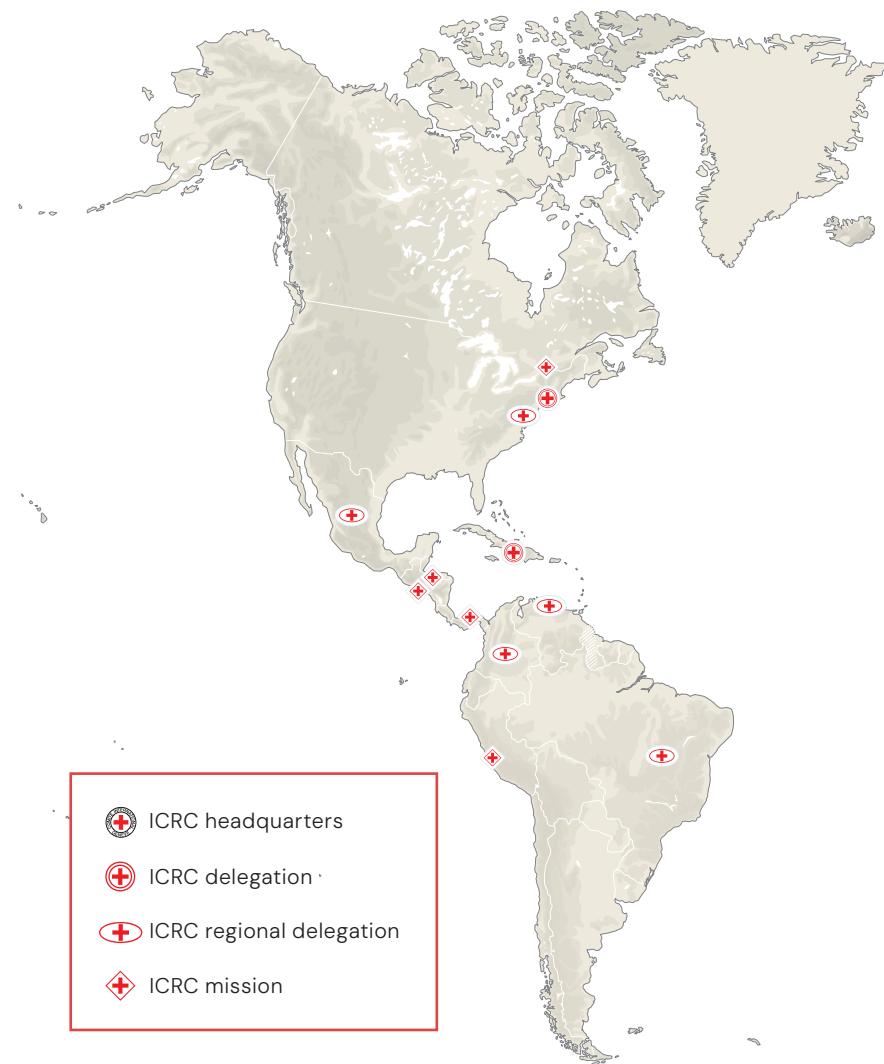
The 1949 Geneva Conventions – and the ICRC – belong to all of us. Your support for the ICRC's work in 2026 embodies a commitment to upholding our sense of shared humanity, even in war, and an investment in the first steps towards peace and recovery. We hope to benefit from your continued trust and solidarity with our humanitarian mission.

Mirjana Spoljaric

ICRC President

The ICRC around the world

15,124 staff members
93 delegations and missions
Over 90 countries





The ICRC's operations in 2026

The ICRC currently works in over 90 countries around the world, side by side with the staff and volunteers of the wider Movement. In 2026, it will continue to fulfil its mission to promote the protection of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence and provide them with assistance.

Somalia. Marwo travelled over a hundred kilometers to obtain emergency care for her 11-month-old son at a hospital in Kismayo. The hospital is one of several ICRC-supported nutritional clinics offering services that treat severe malnutrition for children in Somalia.

Focusing efforts where the ICRC's help is most needed

The ICRC's [Institutional Strategy 2024–2027](#) guides its action plan for 2026. Calibrating the immense humanitarian needs and projected levels of funding, the ICRC has chosen to further prioritize efforts to uphold the centrality of protection in its work; strengthen its role as a neutral intermediary; promote IHL as a global political priority; and enhance its response to emergencies linked to armed conflict.

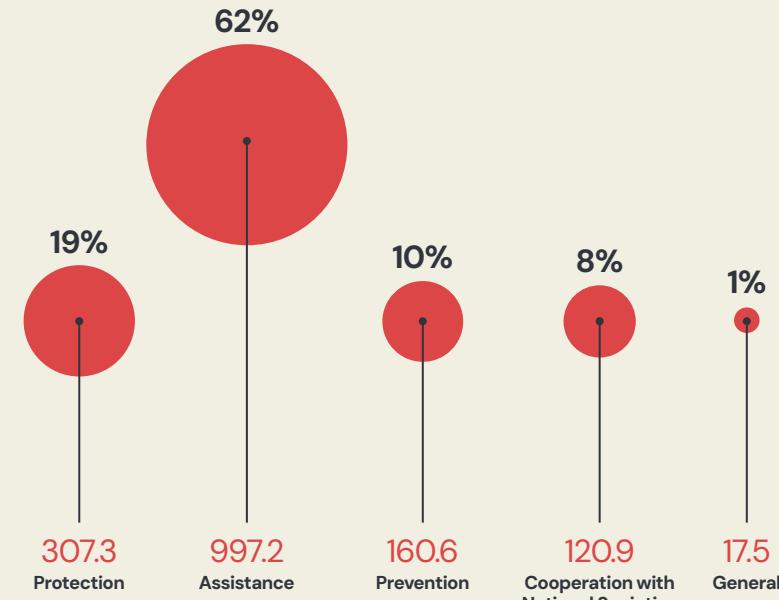
Institutional Strategy 2024–2027

Strategic Orientations

 1	Upholding the centrality of protection and the role of a neutral intermediary	 5	A new humanitarianism for a changing world
 2	Promoting IHL as a global political priority	 6	Optimizing risk management and financial stability
 3	Enhancing the response impact in acute and protracted phases of conflicts, and other situations of violence	 7	Accelerating the digital transformation
 4	Affirming the ICRC's identity within the Movement	 8	Enhancing skills, trust, cohesion and responsibility

Operations budget: breakdown by programme

Budgets in CHF millions



Protection is at the core of the ICRC's work. The protection programme accounts for 19 per cent of the ICRC's operations budget. Protecting the well-being and dignity of civilians, people deprived of their liberty, and the wounded and sick is the driving force behind its other programmes. It is at the heart of the ICRC's assistance programme, which addresses the consequences of conflict and other violence, and violations of IHL in particular, and represents 62 per cent of the operations budget. As such violations cause widespread devastation and deprive millions of basic services, assistance for the people affected constitutes the largest portion of the ICRC's operations budget. The prevention programme further strengthens protection by promoting knowledge of IHL and its incorporation in legal frameworks and decision-making processes. Cooperation with National Societies aims to build local capacities in delivering life-saving aid and to support them in fostering respect for humanitarian principles – efforts that are directly linked to protection goals. Together, these programmes underscore the centrality of protection across all areas of the ICRC's action.



The international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine has resulted in many families becoming separated, with relatives losing contact with one another. Acting as a neutral intermediary between the parties, the ICRC facilitates safe cross-border passage for particularly vulnerable civilians, helping them rejoin their families.

In December 2025, for example, the ICRC helped over 20 vulnerable people from either side of the front line to travel safely from one country to the other, via Belarus. Many reunited with family members they had not seen in years. Since 2022, the ICRC has supported more than a thousand people through such operations.

Protecting people's lives and dignity

The ICRC will continue its efforts to advocate for the protection of people who are not – or are no longer – participating in hostilities and to urge parties to conflict to fulfil their obligations under IHL. In contexts such as Israel and the occupied territories, Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen, it stands ready to undertake complex operations across front lines, as a neutral intermediary, to facilitate the safe transfer of people deprived of their liberty upon their release; evacuate civilians or wounded people to safer areas or medical facilities; repatriate children and/or reunite them with their families; and ensure the dignified return of the dead to their families. These crucial efforts are both humanitarian in nature and also often the first steps in the long journey towards peace.

The ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent approach, and its dialogue with parties to armed conflict, enables it to work in hard-to-reach areas with limited presence of other humanitarian actors. These include places where conflicts have been ongoing for many years, typically out of the media spotlight or lacking donor attention. Though these crises are often neglected or forgotten, they remain places that the international community cannot simply turn away from, and where the ICRC cannot fail, as its work to address people's suffering becomes even more essential.



Striving to end violations of IHL and strengthening compliance with the law

At a time when the rules of war are questioned and violated, urging compliance with IHL remains a priority. The Global IHL Initiative, launched by the ICRC together with several states, will continue to galvanize political commitment to IHL within the international community. The ICRC will also step up its efforts to engage in confidential dialogue with the parties concerned, including state authorities, military officials and armed groups, to bring to their attention the realities observed on the front lines and the suffering caused. The ICRC will seek to work with them to identify urgent measures to put an end to unlawful conduct. As advancements in technology transform the means and methods of warfare, the ICRC will continue its work to strengthen the application of IHL to the use of new technologies in armed conflict.

In the face of the tragic trends witnessed in war zones across the world, the Global IHL Initiative – launched by the ICRC together with several states in 2024 – seeks to galvanize political commitment to IHL, addressing today's crises and securing a future where the fundamental rules of war are respected and upheld. As at mid-December 2025, 99 states have officially joined the initiative.

In December 2025, together with China, one of the founding states, the ICRC hosted a high-level diplomatic event on the Global IHL Initiative in Beijing. Nearly one hundred representatives of the Chinese government, foreign diplomatic missions in China and the Red Cross Society of China gathered to engage in in-depth discussions on the significance of the initiative and the key elements highlighted in the progress report of its first year since its launch.

Responding to the urgent consequences of armed conflict, together with its Movement partners

The ICRC will step up its emergency response activities where intensified conflict has increased people's humanitarian needs, particularly in Israel and the occupied territories and in Sudan. Working closely with conflict-affected communities and in partnership with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ensures that the ICRC can implement protection and assistance activities in a timely and maximally impactful manner. In contexts such as Israel and the occupied territories, Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen, the ICRC will concentrate its resources on efforts to address the most urgent needs – including protection and life-saving aid – while scaling back others. Drawing on its full spectrum of humanitarian capabilities, the organization will respond to restore access to water and electricity, deliver health-care services, provide food, shelter and cash, give critical livelihood support, and mitigate the risks associated with explosive remnants of war, among others. By doing this in partnership with communities, National Societies and other local organizations, the ICRC is able to contribute to increased resilience and capacity to respond to future crises, even at the front lines.



Philippines. ICRC staff members and volunteers from the Philippine Red Cross end the day, after distributing vegetable seed and farming tools to conflict-affected households in Northern Samar.

L. Arada/ICRC

Global assistance targets

Economic security

Civilians

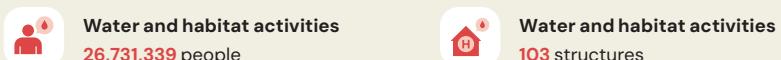


People deprived of their liberty



Water and habitat

Civilians

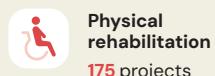


Wounded and sick

People deprived of their liberty



Health



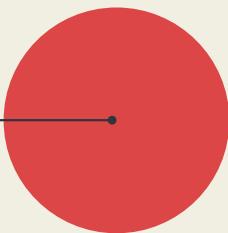
Mental health and psychosocial support

People who will receive direct support
57,329 civilians
40 people deprived of their liberty
12,697 wounded and sick

Operations budget: breakdown by region

Budgets in CHF millions

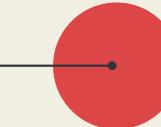
38%
614.1
Africa



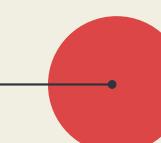
6%
89.2
Americas



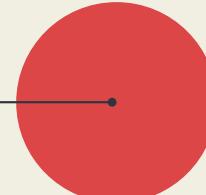
12%
185.0
Asia and the Pacific



14%
227.4
Europe and Central Asia



30%
487.7
Near and Middle East



Most of the ICRC's operations are in Africa. However, its top five operations are located in the regions of the Near and Middle East (Israel and the occupied territories, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen), Europe and Central Asia (Ukraine), and Asia and the Pacific (Afghanistan).

15 largest operations

Budgets in CHF millions

Israel and the occupied territories	158.3
Ukraine	155.5
Syrian Arab Republic	104.3
Yemen	100.7
Afghanistan	84.0
Sudan	81.2
Democratic Republic of the Congo	81.1
Somalia	65.7
South Sudan	60.0
Ethiopia	57.6
Nigeria	54.8
Lebanon	47.5
Iraq	47.2
Mali	46.1
Myanmar	41.3

**Total for top 15
CHF 1,185.3 million**

74% of the operations budget

The ICRC helps local service providers in the Gaza Strip to repair water infrastructure, enabling them to keep their systems running, or to strengthen them against recurrent shocks.





Regional overview

Africa

◀ Mozambique. People who have been displaced by armed conflict receive seed and farming tools from the Mozambique Red Cross Society and the ICRC, to help them meet their needs in a sustainable manner. The distribution was planned precisely to enable the farmers to make the most out of the approaching rainy season, the ideal time for sowing.

Africa

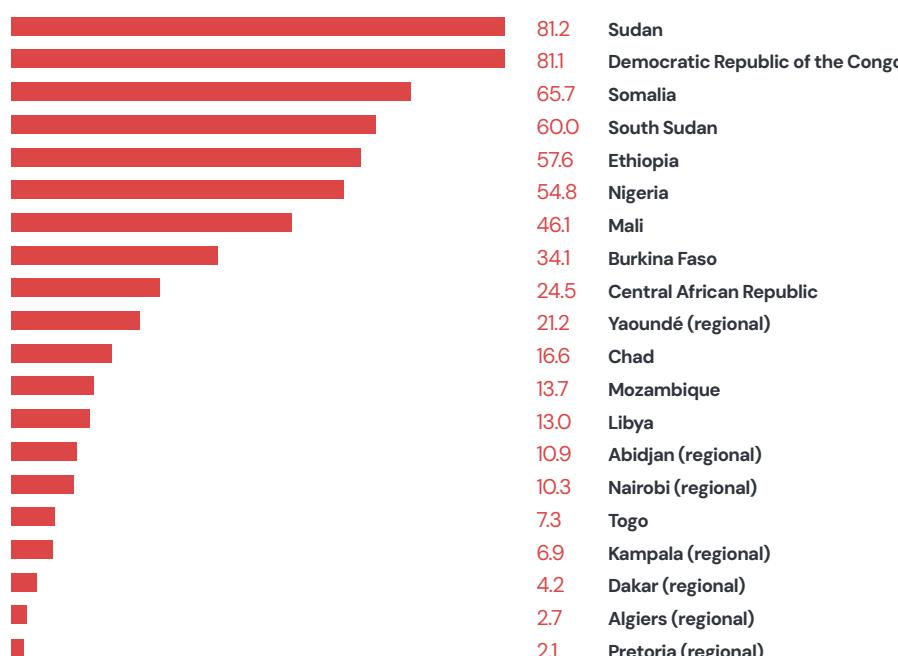
Budget breakdown by programme

in CHF millions



Budget breakdown by delegation

in CHF millions



Total 2026 budget
CHF 614.1 million
Staff members
5,730

ICRC regional objectives



Parties to conflict work to ensure the protection of civilians – for instance, by taking steps to prevent or end sexual violence and attacks on health services – and their access to humanitarian aid, as a result, in part, of the ICRC's confidential dialogue with these parties about their obligations under IHL or other applicable norms.



Conflict-affected people – including in areas few or no other actors can reach – have access to food, water and other essential services, thanks to the ICRC's efforts, together with National Societies whenever possible, to provide these people with emergency aid and build their resilience, and to boost local capacities in delivering these services.



Wounded and sick people, victims/survivors of sexual violence and other conflict-affected people receive primary health care, surgical and other life-saving treatment, rehabilitative care, and/or mental-health and psychosocial support from ICRC-supported health facilities or workers.



Detaining authorities take steps to improve detainees' treatment and living conditions, including in terms of availability of health care and sufficient quantities of food, based on the ICRC's recommendations and with its support.



Members of families separated by conflict, detention, migration or other circumstances, such as unaccompanied minors and separated children, reconnect and/or reunite through the Movement's family-links services.



Authorities, weapon bearers, community leaders and other influential actors enhance their understanding and acceptance of IHL and other applicable norms, and of the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, thanks to the ICRC's efforts to raise awareness of these topics.

Africa



Mali

Amid intensifying hostilities over recent years leading to mass casualties and displacement, the ICRC in Mali seeks to address the humanitarian consequences of armed conflict and other situations of violence involving government forces and armed groups. It maintains a dialogue with parties to the conflict, and advocates protection for civilians – and those no longer taking part in hostilities – and humanitarian access to essential services. It provides both emergency aid and support for building their resilience, including to the compounding effects of adverse climatic conditions. It is one of the few organizations operating in harder-to-reach, conflict-affected regions in northern and central Mali.



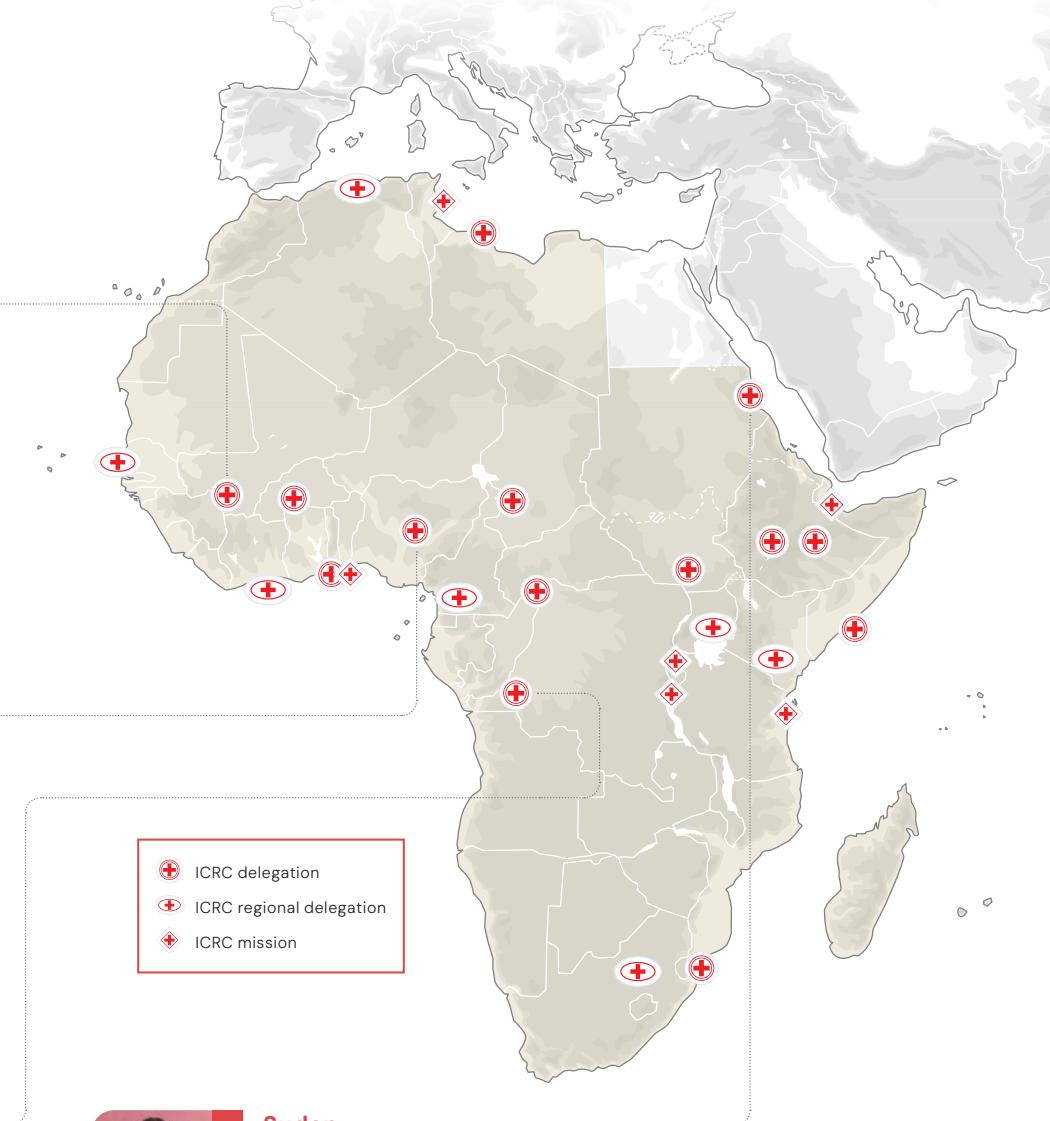
Nigeria

Protracted armed conflicts continue to take place in north-eastern Nigeria, and other situations of violence persist in other parts of the country. The combined effects of conflict and climate shocks limit the availability of food, health care and clean water. As a neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian actor, the ICRC will work to support communities in hard-to-reach areas most affected by conflict. It will urge parties to conflict to ensure that civilians are protected. Together with the Nigerian Red Cross Society, it will enable people to meet emergency needs while bolstering their self-sufficiency. It will support health services, strengthen people's economic resilience and improve living conditions in conflict-affected communities.



Democratic Republic of the Congo

People in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (hereafter DRC) are suffering through the effects of multiple armed conflicts, including fighting in the east that intensified in early 2025. Present in the DRC since 1960, the ICRC will continue to work with the DRC Red Cross and other local partners to assist conflict-affected people, notably communities in the east whom other organizations cannot reach. It will urge all pertinent parties to ensure that civilians are protected, scale up its emergency response and help communities build their self-sufficiency by supporting health and water services, agriculture and livelihoods.



Sudan

People in Sudan continue to endure the consequences of the armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces. The conflict has caused mass casualties, food insecurity and poor access to basic services. Working with the Sudanese Red Crescent whenever possible, the ICRC will scale up its response to the multifaceted – and growing – needs of conflict-affected people. It will seek to discuss with parties to the conflict possibilities for broadening its access to communities affected by conflict. It will promote respect for IHL, help restore links between members of separated families and enable people to obtain essential services.

Africa

Assistance targets

Economic security

Civilians

 Food consumption 1,874,970 people  Food production 3,432,642 people  Income support 418,175 people

 Living conditions 526,210 people  Capacity-building 8,185 people

People deprived of their liberty

 Food consumption 18,900 people  Living conditions 41,100 people

Water and habitat

Civilians

 Water and habitat activities 5,833,572 people

Wounded and sick

 Water and habitat activities 31 structures

People deprived of their liberty

 Water and habitat activities 48,031 people

Health

 Primary health care 251 structures  Hospital care 197 structures  Physical rehabilitation 77 projects

Mental health and psychosocial support

People who will receive direct support
31,786 civilians
9,115 wounded and sick



Chad. Through the Movement's family-links services, refugees from Sudan are able to reconnect with their relatives.



Regional overview

Americas

Colombia. A person who had been held by an armed group was safely released and reunited with their family, with the ICRC facilitating the process as a neutral intermediary.

Americas

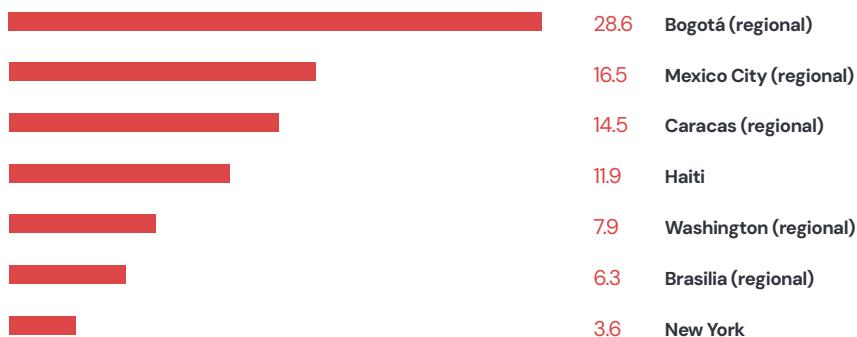
Budget breakdown by programme

in CHF millions



Budget breakdown by delegation

in CHF millions



Total 2026 budget
CHF 89.2 million
Staff members
823

ICRC regional objectives



People affected by conflict and other situations of violence in the Americas are protected, and their access to essential services and humanitarian aid is facilitated safely, by the authorities and other actors. This results from the ICRC's dialogue with the parties concerned, its role as a neutral intermediary, and its advocacy of respect for IHL and other applicable norms.



Authorities, weapon bearers and other influential actors enhance their support for IHL and other applicable norms, and for the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, and incorporate humanitarian considerations in their decision-making, legislation and practice, with ICRC expert advice.



Through the Movement's family-links services, families separated by conflict, violence, detention and other circumstances are able to reconnect or reunite with their relatives. Authorities strengthen their capacities to assist families searching for missing relatives, including by properly managing human remains, with ICRC support.



People deprived of their liberty receive ICRC visits in accordance with its standard procedures. Detaining authorities receive ICRC support to improve detainees' treatment and living conditions, especially during arrest and the early stages of detention, as part of the ICRC's multi-year project to improve region-wide standards for detention.



Tens of thousands of people affected by armed conflict and/or other violence in Colombia, Haiti, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Honduras, Mexico and Brazil improve their access to food, clean water, health care and other essential services, especially during emergencies, through ICRC-supported local partners, including the National Societies.



National Societies in the region work with the ICRC and other Movement partners to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict and other violence, in line with the Safer Access Framework, and develop their capacities, particularly in emergency response.

Americas



Mexico City (regional)

People in the region – particularly in Honduras and Mexico – continue to bear the brunt of organized armed violence. Situations of violence have resulted in displacement, deaths, injuries and other grave concerns. Many are unable to access medical care. The ICRC works closely with the authorities and the Mexican and Central American National Societies to respond to people's humanitarian needs. It will help to clarify the fate and whereabouts of missing people and support their families. It will monitor detainees' treatment and living conditions, and advocate for the incorporation of IHL and other applicable norms in domestic legislation.



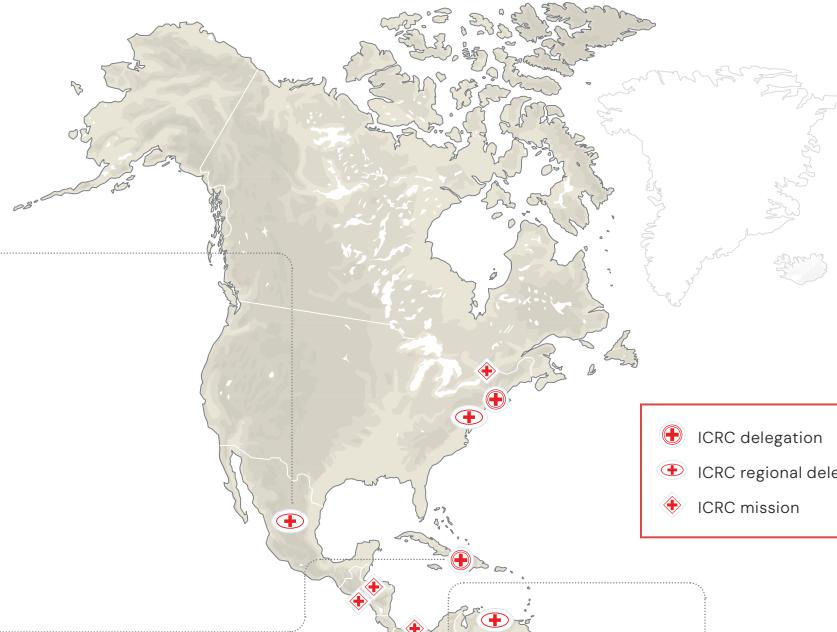
Haiti

In Haiti, intensifying armed violence, mainly between armed groups and the police, continues to displace people and disrupt access to water and other basic services. Medical facilities struggle to deal with the large number of casualties of violence. In 2026, the ICRC will seek to persuade influential actors to foster respect for the rights of violence-affected people. Together with the Haiti Red Cross Society and other Movement partners, it will seek to restore family links and ensure the availability of health care and water and sanitation services. It will also help the National Society improve its response to emergencies.



Caracas (regional)

The ICRC seeks to protect and support people suffering the consequences of armed violence in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereafter Venezuela). It works to cultivate resilience among them by helping to make essential services – such as first aid and pre-hospital care – more accessible and sustainable. It visits people detained in connection with violence and helps the authorities to improve their treatment and living conditions. Throughout the region, the ICRC reconnects members of families separated by violence or other circumstances. It also helps to develop capacities at National Societies and provides support for integrating IHL and international human rights law in the corresponding national doctrine, training and operations of the military and the police.



Bogotá (regional)

Armed conflict and other situations of violence have increased humanitarian needs in recent years, particularly in Colombia, where the majority of the regional delegation's activities are concentrated, and in Ecuador. In 2026, the ICRC will continue serving as a neutral intermediary, advocating protection for civilians and people deprived of their liberty, strengthening local capacities in responding to emergencies, and ascertaining the fate of missing people. The Bogotá delegation also covers Bolivia and Peru, where it focuses on restoring family links and promoting IHL among authorities, weapon bearers and members of civil society. The ICRC works with Movement partners to ensure a well-coordinated humanitarian response.

Americas

Assistance targets

Economic security

Civilians

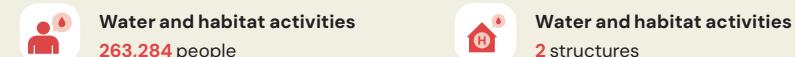


People deprived of their liberty



Water and habitat

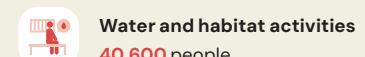
Civilians



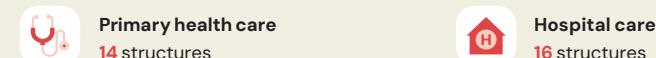
Wounded and sick



People deprived of their liberty



Health



Mental health and psychosocial support

People who will receive direct support
981 civilians



Honduras. The ICRC holds dialogue with internally displaced people on their needs and works with the authorities to address their concerns.

“

The support is helpful for us. I'm going to plant the seeds on the plot beside my house.

– Daw Win, a mother from Pathein Gyi



Regional overview

Asia and the Pacific

Myanmar. Because of ongoing conflict and a devastating earthquake that hit the country in March 2025, many farmers are facing difficulties with their seasonal planting. To support them, the ICRC, together with the Myanmar Red Cross Society, provided them with vegetable seed, organic fertilizer and farming tools.

Asia and the Pacific

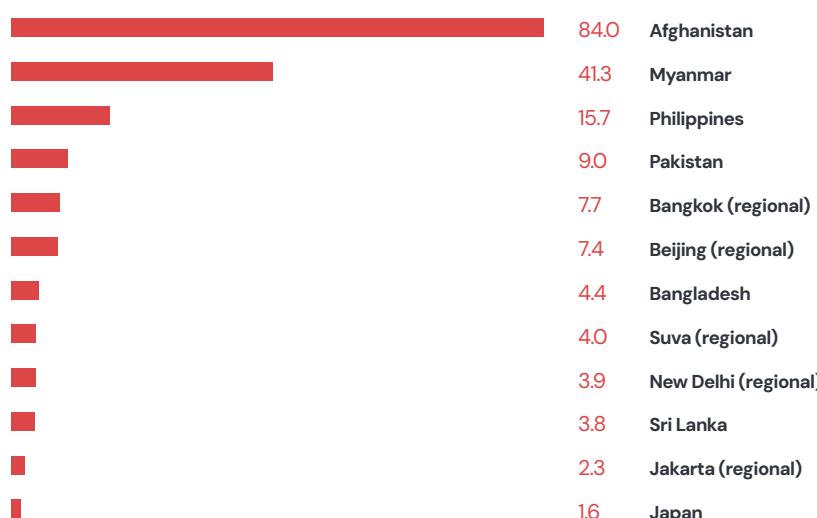
Budget breakdown by programme

in CHF millions



Budget breakdown by delegation

in CHF millions



Total 2026 budget
CHF 185.0 million
Staff members
3,021

ICRC regional objectives



The authorities, armed forces, and other influential actors in the region support IHL and include humanitarian considerations in their decision-making, partly owing to their dialogue with the ICRC. Notably, they ensure humanitarian preparedness for conflicts and other large-scale emergencies, and further their grasp of IHL as regards to naval warfare.



People affected by conflict and other violence in the region receive the protection due to them under IHL, and their access to basic goods and essential services is facilitated, by the authorities and other pertinent actors. This results, in part, from the ICRC's advocacy of respect for IHL and other applicable norms.



Communities affected by ongoing and past conflict and other violence are better able to meet their needs through ICRC projects that provide relief aid and livelihood assistance, improve the availability of water and other essential services, and reinforce the continuum of care – especially for wounded and sick people.



Detainees have their treatment and living conditions monitored during visits conducted by the ICRC in accordance with its standard procedures. They benefit from efforts by the detaining authorities, drawing on ICRC support, to align conditions of detention with internationally recognized standards.



Members of families separated by conflict, disasters and other circumstances are able to maintain contact with each other through the Movement's family-links services. Ascertaining the fate of missing people is a humanitarian priority for the authorities and they take steps to resolve missing-persons cases, with support from the ICRC.



The Movement's humanitarian impact for people suffering from the effects of situations of armed conflict compounded by disasters is amplified, because of the ICRC's contributions to enhanced cooperation, operational partnerships and coordination among Movement partners in the region.

Asia and the Pacific



Afghanistan

The ICRC has been present in Afghanistan since 1987, helping to alleviate the consequences of decades of armed conflict. It primarily advocates protection for conflict-affected communities and – amid the country's dire economic situation in previous years – helps maintain their access to food, clean water, electricity, livelihood sources and health care. Its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian approach facilitates its reach to communities. It reinforces this by constantly building acceptance for its work among authorities, weapon bearers and other influential actors. It works closely with the Afghan Red Crescent Society, its main partner in delivering humanitarian services to Afghans.



Pakistan

Clashes take place between military and security forces and armed groups. Displacement and casualties have been reported in violence-affected areas. The ICRC will mount a multidisciplinary and protection-based response to the humanitarian needs of violence-affected people. It will help make water and other basic services more readily available to them. It will continue to support the provision of first aid, primary health care, emergency treatment and physical rehabilitation. It will discuss IHL, international human rights law and other relevant norms with the authorities, religious leaders and academics. It will continue to help the Pakistan Red Crescent develop its ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies.



Myanmar

The ICRC addresses the needs of people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence in Myanmar – which have been exacerbated by the intensification of hostilities since 2023 and an earthquake in 2025. The ICRC promotes IHL and other applicable norms, confidentially and bilaterally, among the parties concerned. Its other notable activities include providing family-links services, supporting health services, restoring livelihoods, repairing essential infrastructure, and promoting safe practices around mines and explosive remnants of war. It often works with local partners, such as the Myanmar Red Cross Society, whose operational capacities it helps to develop.



Philippines

In the Philippines – particularly in Mindanao but also in parts of Luzon and Visayas – people affected by conflict and sporadic violence continue to cope with displacement, and scarce essential services and livelihood opportunities. Volatile weather conditions and disasters exacerbate their difficulties. With the Philippine Red Cross, the ICRC helps communities to meet their immediate needs and build their resilience. It works to provide family-links services to separated relatives and, as it has been doing for many years, strives to improve the treatment and living conditions of detainees. It will support the pertinent parties in preparing to uphold their obligations to IHL and other norms in the event of large-scale emergencies.

Asia and the Pacific

Assistance targets

Economic security

Civilians



People deprived of their liberty



Water and habitat

Civilians



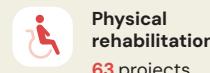
Wounded and sick



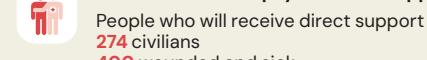
People deprived of their liberty



Health



Mental health and psychosocial support



Afghanistan. Thanks to repairs carried out by the ICRC, people – mainly women and children – visiting this health centre run by the Afghan Red Crescent Society benefit from improved waiting areas and have better access to clean water.





“

This is not just help. It is hope, recovery and care for the future.

– Tymur, ICRC staff member

Regional overview

Europe and Central Asia

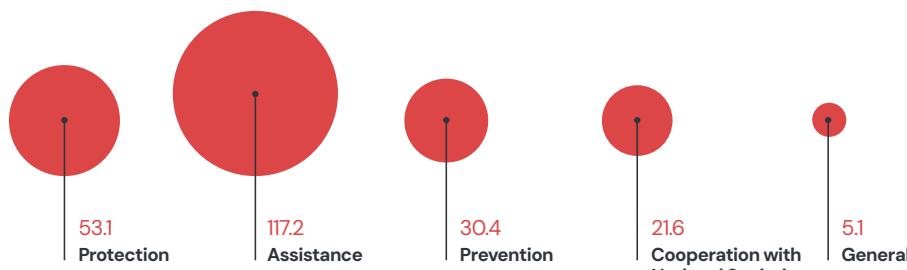


Ukraine. To help maintain the livelihoods of people affected by the international armed conflict, the ICRC provides people with greenhouses and farming supplies.

Europe and Central Asia

Budget breakdown by programme

in CHF millions



Budget breakdown by delegation

in CHF millions



Total 2026 budget
CHF 227.4 million
Staff members
1,533

ICRC regional objectives



Authorities and armed forces comply with their obligations, under IHL and other pertinent norms, to protect people affected by past and ongoing conflicts and other situations of violence, most notably with regard to the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine.



Families separated by conflicts and other situations of violence, detention, migration, the demarcation of administrative boundaries, and other circumstances reconnect with one another or are able to ascertain the fates of missing relatives. Families of missing people have their needs addressed by the pertinent authorities.



Authorities ensure that the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their liberty are in accordance with IHL and other applicable norms. The release and transfer of prisoners of war is facilitated by the ICRC in its role as a neutral intermediary upon request from, and in agreement with, the concerned parties to conflict.



People affected by conflict or other violence, particularly in connection with the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, have access to health care and other essential services, can meet their immediate needs and build their resilience. In Ukraine, people are safer from the threat of mines or explosive remnants of war.



Political and military actors throughout the region are more supportive of IHL and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, partly owing to the ICRC's humanitarian diplomacy. They further their grasp of humanitarian concerns over which they have influence and advance the integration of IHL into their decision-making.



Movement partners in the region enhance their cooperation, partnerships and coordination. National Societies develop their organizational and operational capacities, particularly with regard to emergency preparedness and response and the delivery of family-links services.

1. Central Tracing Agency bureau for the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine

Europe and Central Asia



Ukraine

The international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine has caused large-scale displacement; disrupted livelihoods and access to basic services; and separated families and severed family links. It has done harm, physical and psychological, on a massive scale. In 2026, the ICRC will continue to assist people in front-line or hard-to-reach areas in meeting their immediate needs for food and adequate living conditions, among others; it will also address their long-term needs by bolstering critical infrastructure related to health care, water, electricity and other essential services. It will also work to increase protection, enshrined in IHL, for civilians, prisoners of war and other protected persons, and enable people to receive news from relatives separated from them.



Moscow (regional)

The ICRC will continue to address the needs of people affected by the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, particularly those in border areas, through its regional delegation in Moscow, Russian Federation. It will bring their immediate concerns to the attention of the pertinent authorities, seek to strengthen protection for civilians and ensure that people can stay in touch with their families. It will urge implementation of IHL and its incorporation in domestic frameworks; engage in humanitarian diplomacy with national authorities, regional organizations and other relevant actors; and help National Societies to develop their operational capacities.



Europe and Central Asia

Assistance targets

Economic security

Civilians



People deprived of their liberty



Water and habitat

Civilians



Wounded and sick



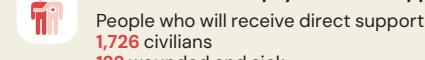
People deprived of their liberty



Health



Mental health and psychosocial support





Regional overview

Near and Middle East

At the ICRC-supported Artificial Limb and Polio Centre in the Gaza Strip, Seela undergoes physical therapy. She lost her right leg and her immediate family when her home was bombed. Living with her grandmother now, she's able to walk again with the help of a prosthetic limb.

Near and Middle East

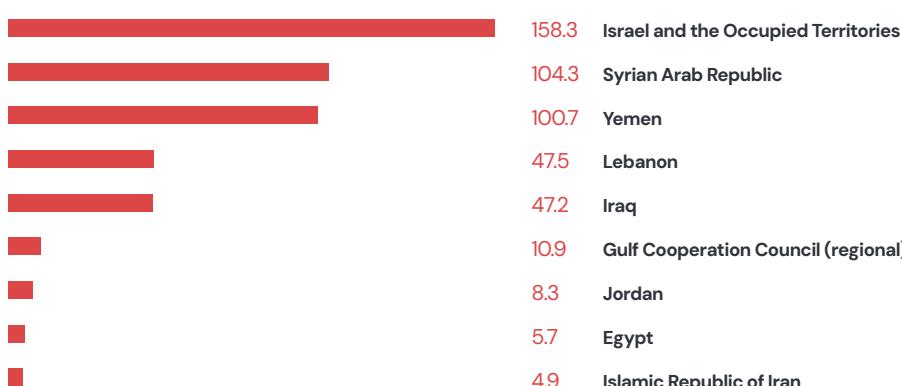
Budget breakdown by programme

in CHF millions



Budget breakdown by delegation

in CHF millions



Total 2026 budget
CHF 487.7 million
Staff members
3,176

ICRC regional objectives



Governments and weapon bearers comply with IHL, notably as regards the conduct of hostilities and the facilitation of conflict-affected people's access to humanitarian aid. States strengthen the implementation of IHL, prevent IHL violations and urge actors they have influence over to do the same, including by supporting the Global IHL Initiative.



Family members separated by conflict, other violence or detention restore contact with one another, know the fate of missing relatives, and can recover the remains of those deceased. As necessary, the ICRC serves as a neutral intermediary in order to support the safe repatriation, release, transfer and/or evacuation of people or sets of human remains.



Tens of millions of people in the occupied Palestinian territory, Iraq, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic (hereafter Syria) and Yemen meet their immediate needs with the help of ICRC-provided emergency relief, including critically needed food, water, household essentials and/or cash.



Wounded and sick people in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen, and in the occupied Palestinian territory, have access to first-aid and emergency medical services.



Detainees see improvements in their treatment and living conditions, particularly in connection with family contact and access to health care. This is thanks to the investment by detaining authorities, drawing on help from the ICRC.



National Societies in the region, independently or in coordination with the ICRC and other Movement partners, carry out humanitarian activities in accordance with the Fundamental Principles and the Safer Access Framework.

Near and Middle East



Syrian Arab Republic

Syria struggles with the consequences of over a decade of armed conflicts and chronic escalations of violence. An estimated 7 million people remain displaced, tens of thousands are missing and essential services are still at risk of collapse. In 2026, the ICRC will continue working with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and other partners to help protect civilians and respond to the acute and emergency needs of conflict-affected communities. It will also support authorities in resolving the large number of missing-persons cases, improving detention conditions, strengthening the integration of IHL, and maintaining critical water, electricity and health infrastructure, providing immediate relief and laying the ground for long-term recovery.



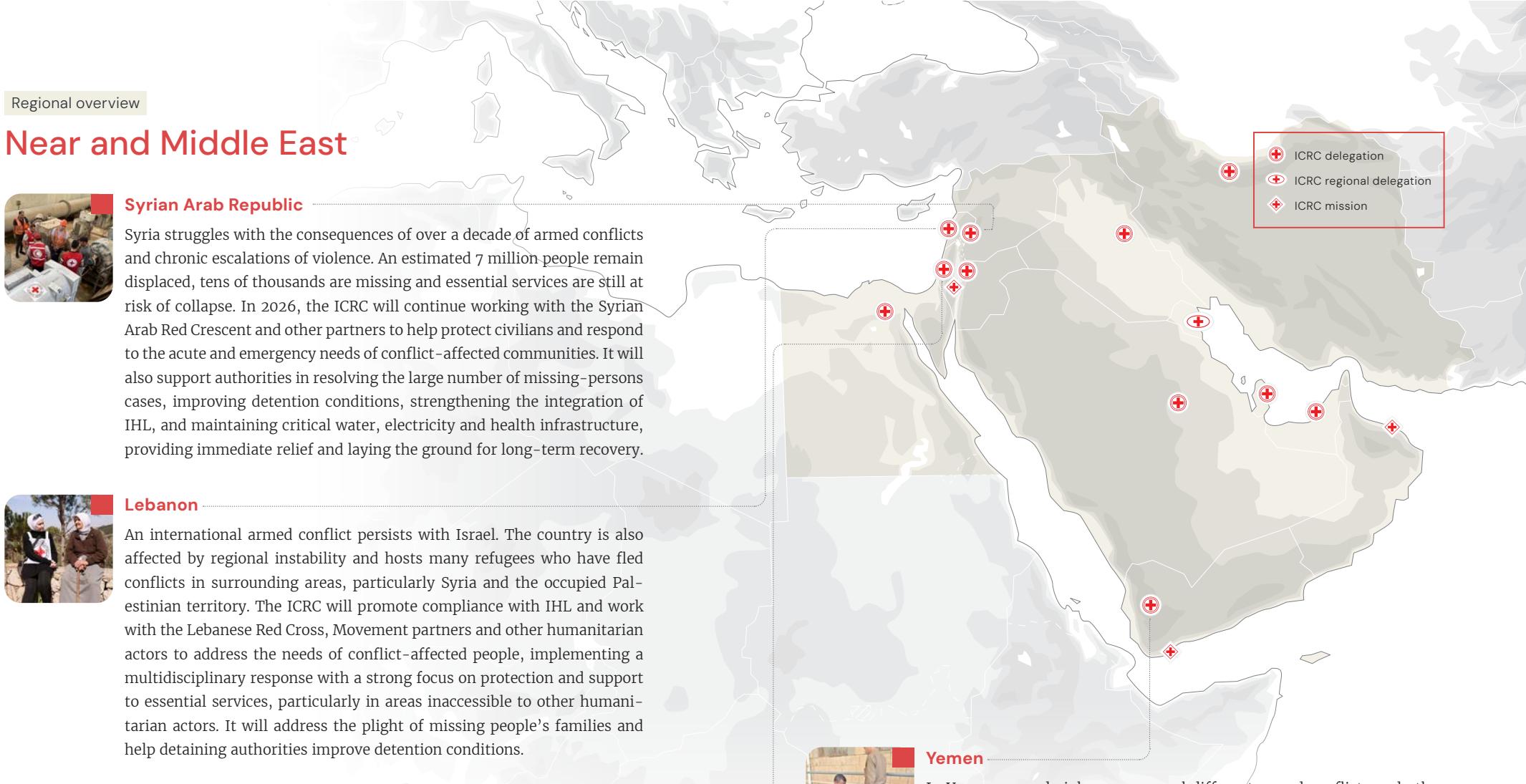
Lebanon

An international armed conflict persists with Israel. The country is also affected by regional instability and hosts many refugees who have fled conflicts in surrounding areas, particularly Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory. The ICRC will promote compliance with IHL and work with the Lebanese Red Cross, Movement partners and other humanitarian actors to address the needs of conflict-affected people, implementing a multidisciplinary response with a strong focus on protection and support to essential services, particularly in areas inaccessible to other humanitarian actors. It will address the plight of missing people's families and help detaining authorities improve detention conditions.



Israel and the occupied territories

Hostilities between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups have exacted a calamitous humanitarian toll in Gaza. In the West Bank, clashes between Israeli forces and settlers and Palestinians have been increasing in severity. These circumstances have fed into or taken place in parallel to conflicts and other situations of humanitarian concern throughout the wider region. Despite security and logistical constraints, the ICRC will continue to act as a neutral intermediary between the parties, urge them to respect IHL, reconnect members of separated families and address the massive need for food, water, health care and other basic necessities.



Yemen

In Yemen, armed violence – several different armed conflicts and other situations of violence – continues. Given these circumstances, in 2026, the ICRC will intensify its dialogue with all parties to conflict on IHL and other applicable norms. It will serve as a neutral intermediary in repatriating people released from detention and transferring human remains across front lines. Together with the Yemen Red Crescent Society, it will provide urgent aid and livelihood support to conflict-affected people; help sustain essential services; minimize the threat of mines and explosive remnants of war; monitor the treatment and living conditions of people held in connection with conflict and other violence; offer family-links services; and expand forensic capacities.

Near and Middle East

Assistance targets

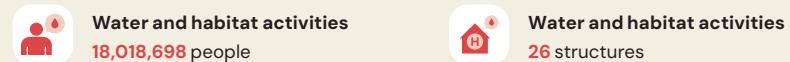
Economic security

Civilians



Water and habitat

Civilians



Wounded and sick



People deprived of their liberty



Health



Lebanon. Children learn how to stay safe from mines and explosive remnants of war through educational materials distributed by the ICRC.

“

I lost my daughter while fleeing the attacks in Tchabi. I thought she had been killed... but the day the Red Cross brought her back to me, my heart was filled with joy again.

- Christine, mother



A. Ongaa/ICRC

Democratic Republic of the Congo. Eight-year-old Akumbila became separated from her mother when their community was attacked. After fleeing, she found refuge with other families, and was taken in by the Red Cross Society of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Thanks to the National Society and the ICRC, she was reunited with her mother.

Sustaining principled humanitarian action:

A call for support

The significant rise in the number of armed conflicts and growing humanitarian needs have come at a time of financial uncertainty, which has compelled the ICRC to reduce its overall 2026 budget by 17 per cent compared to its initial 2025 budget. It has reduced its headquarters budget by 18 per cent and its operations budget by 17 per cent, resulting in an initial 2026 appeal for 1.8 billion Swiss francs.

Between the first budgetary reduction in 2023 and the current one, the ICRC has taken significant steps to create a leaner, more efficient organization and minimize the resulting impact on its activities for conflict-affected populations. The result is an ambitious, realistic and focused operational plan.

Early, flexible, predictable and sustained support from donors is critical for the ICRC to fulfil its mandate and remain relevant to the communities whom it cannot fail.

For more information on how to support the ICRC, please see the [Overview of ICRC Financing](#).



Mission

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a neutral, impartial and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.



International Committee of the Red Cross

19 avenue de la Paix
1202 Geneva, Switzerland
Email: resourcemobilization@icrc.org
www.icrc.org
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