

Ethiopia



Facts and Figures

January – June 2026

Since 1863, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has worked to preserve human dignity and relieve suffering caused by war and armed violence. The ICRC has been present in Ethiopia since 1935, and permanently since 1977. We signed a headquarters agreement with the government in 1981.

In Ethiopia, we provide humanitarian services to the most vulnerable conflict-affected communities in a neutral, impartial, and independent manner, working closely with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) and other International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners. We also promote respect for international humanitarian law. Our work focuses on hard-hit areas of the Amhara, Oromia, and Tigray regions.

This is a summary of our activities in the 1st semester of 2026.

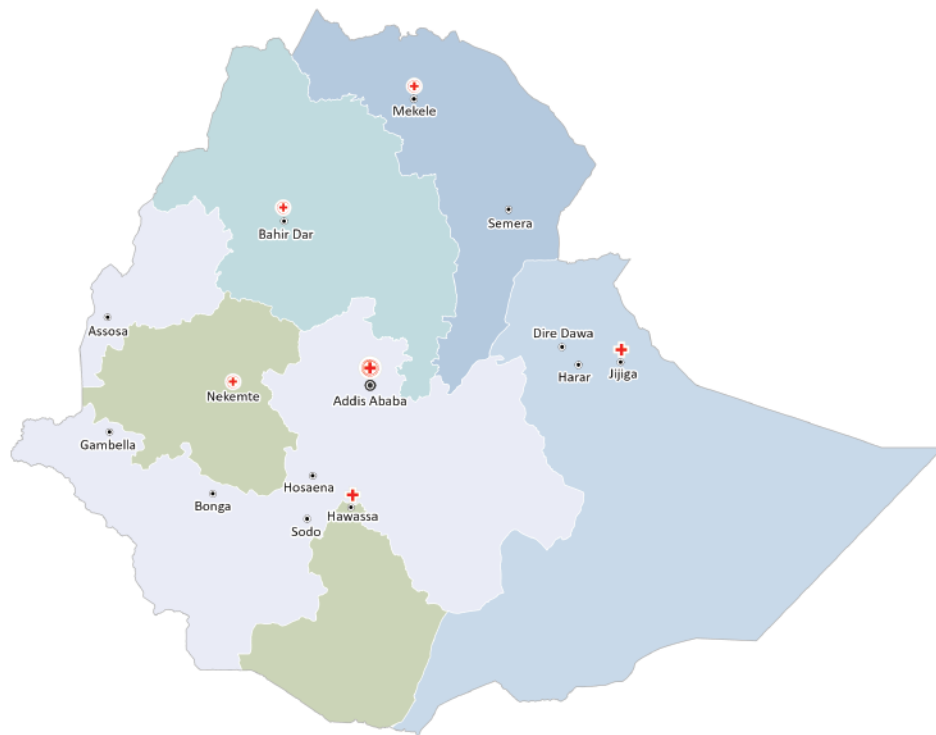
Visiting and supporting detainees

- **36 visits carried out** to 19 places of detention.
- **2,300+ detainees** received material and hygiene assistance.

- **4,300+ detainees** benefited from living condition improvements in Gondar and Nekemte prisons.
- **86 detainees with disabilities** benefited from physical rehabilitation services.
- **2 courses on Safe and Humane Prison Management** (including health in detention) organized with the Federal Prison Commission.
- Implementation of the **Prisoners Data Management System** supported in 4 prisons following training.

Supporting survivors of sexual violence

- **3,000 survivors of sexual violence** received medical care in ICRC-supported health facilities.
- **765 victims of sexual violence** received cash assistance to reach a health facility for medical care or to meet other specific needs.
- **Workshop on Prevention of Sexual Violence** conducted alongside the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the Danish Red Cross Society.
- **Issues of sexual violence** highlighted as part of ICRC's regular dialogue with weapon bearers, at national and regional levels.



Legend

- ICRC Delegation
- ICRC Sub-Delegation

- ICRC Office
- Federal capital city
- Regional capital city

- Area covered by Addis Ababa Delegation
- Area covered by Bahir Dar Sub-Delegation
- Area covered by Nekemte Sub-Delegation

- Area covered by Mekelle Sub-Delegation
- Area covered by Jijiga office

Reconnecting and reuniting families



53,600

Phone calls were facilitated by the ICRC and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS), an average of 150 calls per day.

- Calls to reconnect families facilitated across **30 refugee and internally displaced (IDP) sites**.
- **55 new requests** were received from individuals requesting support to locate family members.
- In the frame of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's Protection of Family Links network tracing services, **the fate of 244 individuals in Ethiopia and abroad was clarified**.
- **48 ERCS staff and volunteers** trained on Protection of Family Links services.

Partnership with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS)



42,700

People in emergency situations served by ambulance services through ICRC's support to 30 ERCS branches.

- **46,300+ people** reached through ICRC-supported **ERCS First Aid services**, following training undertaken for volunteers in **22 branches**.
- **33 ERCS branches**, mainly in conflict-affected regions, supported with salaries and operational support.
- **26 health professionals** completed Ambulance Standardization training by ERCS.
- **62 ERCS staff and volunteers** received Code of Conduct training.
- **Continued cooperation with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement** components in Ethiopia, in addition to the ERCS: the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the National Red Cross Societies of Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.

Supporting health services

558,000
patients

received free curative care in all supported health facilities.

60 health
facilities

comprising 19 Primary Health Centers (PHCs), 27 hospitals, and 14 One Stop Centers (attending survivors of sexual violence), were supported.

1,400+
wounded or sick

patients were referred from PHCs to hospitals.

- 2,450 wounded patients admitted for surgical care in supported hospitals.
- 9,500+ safe deliveries ensured by skilled health personnel in the supported facilities.
- Three health facilities renovated, in Tigray and Amhara regions, to ensure improved access to water, sanitation, and power supply.
- 50 health staff from conflict-affected areas in Amhara & Tigray trained on emergency care.
- 15 biomedical engineers from Amhara, Oromia and Tigray region trained on sterilizer installation and maintenance.
- 20 technical staff from the Ministry of Health engaged in a retreat organized with the ERCS, on the integration of IHL in health-related regulations.

Physical rehabilitation

3,300

wounded patients and persons with disabilities living in conflict zones received vital care through ICRC-supported hospitals and physical rehabilitation centers.

Out of these persons 1,155 were weapon wounded.

1,650

physical rehabilitation services delivered prosthetics, orthotics, mobility aids.

540

devices prescribed and delivered to beneficiaries coming to ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation centers.

190

wounded patients received early rehabilitation services at ICRC-supported facilities.

65

persons with physical disabilities supported through social inclusion activities.



In 2026, to help maintain the resilience of conflict-affected rural communities, the ICRC, in partnership with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, has supported more than 132,000 people with seeds and fertilizers: 48,000 in both Amhara and Oromia Regions, and more than 36,000 in Tigray, including in Chercher district, Southern Tigray Zone.

Rebuilding lives and livelihoods



132,000 people

received seeds and fertilizers to maintain their resilience.

- These **families of farmers** were reached jointly with the ERCS in conflict-affected areas of the Amhara, Oromia and Tigray regions.
- **18,000+ displaced people** received essential household items to improve their living conditions.
- **40,400+ vulnerable individuals** received multipurpose cash grants to address their immediate needs in Amhara and Oromia.
- **775 persons** received hygiene kits in Tigray safehouses.

Improving access to water



91,500 people

gained access to safe water through ICRC water interventions in rural areas.

- **Almost 200 hand pumps** renovated and constructed across rural, conflict-affected areas of Amhara, Oromia, and Tigray regions.
- In these areas, people benefited from **rural water supply scheme maintenance and water treatment chemicals**.
- **12 water technicians** in Amhara trained on surface pump installation.
- In Nekemte, Oromia region, over **230,000 people benefited** from ongoing improvements to the town's urban water supply system.



Militia members in West Wollega, Oromia region, attending an awareness raising session on the law of armed conflict, the use of force and the ICRC's role and activities.

Community contact center

- **Calls to the community contact center number 9167**, included requests, inquiries, complaints, suggestions, and expressions of appreciation regarding ICRC activities.
- This information helps the ICRC to continuously learn, strengthen its **accountability to affected people**, and improve its operations.



950

operation-related calls received.

Promoting humanitarian law

- Engagements with arms carriers covered the rules and principles of **international humanitarian law (IHL)** and the role of the **ICRC**.
- **750+ participants**, mostly local authorities, community and religious leaders, joined similar sessions, led by the **ICRC or ERCS** and mutually coordinated.
- **45 students from 15 universities** submitted memorials for the National Competition on IHL, out of which **23 participants from 6 universities** joined in the oral round organized jointly with the Federal Supreme Court in Addis Ababa.
- **21 representatives** of African States from capitals, members of the diplomatic community in Ethiopia and representatives of key Ministries participated in a **regional high level and expert workshop on IHL, Disarmament and Peace**, as part of the Global initiative on IHL (GIIHL), organized in collaboration with the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



1,600

participants from the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF), Federal Police, Regional Police, Non-State Armed Groups and Militias were engaged through workshops and meetings.



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Where we work

