

SOUTH SUDAN

FACTS & FIGURES

JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2018



RESTORING FAMILY LINKS: BRINGING FAMILIES SEPARATION TO AN END

Imagine you are three years old, playing outside with your older brother. All of a sudden everything is confusing: people running, in panic, screaming, gunshots. Your brother grabs your hand and you both start running with everyone else. You travel for hours by foot until you reach a village. You are scared, hungry, tired and lonely. Your parents are nowhere to be found. You don't see them again.

This is only one of thousands of families in South Sudan who have been separated over decades by war and violence. Lots of people remain missing, but many others have found answers. For these children, the story has a happy ending: after four years apart the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was able to bring them back to their mother.

Around the world, people affected by violence, disasters or migration are often separated from their families. The ICRC, along with the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, work to locate people and bring them back together with their loved ones. This work, known as “restoring family links” or “RFL,” is one of the oldest activities of the Red Cross family.

In South Sudan, ICRC has been reconnecting people for more than 30 years through satellite phone calls and Red Cross Messages – letters that share news between family members.

Phone calls are offered in various displacement sites where the Red Cross is present as well as whenever teams carry out an activity—like a distribution of food or household items—where communication channels are inexistent.

Since 2013, ICRC in South Sudan have registered **6,709** individuals in **2,554** tracing cases (families), and have reunited **978** individuals with their loved ones. There have been case exchanges with **27** countries.

They are free, to anywhere in the world and for three minutes at a time.

“The written Messages often can be difficult to deliver” explains Rocío Escauriza, in charge of the Restoring Family Links Program (RFL) in South Sudan. “It can take from days to months to find the receiver. If we don't find the person at the address provided we open a tracing case: details about the location of the person, how difficult is to access to the places, how many times the person has moved and how much information the old neighbors can provide, play an important role in the sought person”, she added.

When possible, the ICRC physically reunites parents and minors, and another people in vulnerability, even across borders. The worldwide presence of the Red Cross Movement allow us to be able to trace and reunite loved ones in almost any country in the world. We provide transportation and accompany minors.

In some cases, our search ends with the finding that the person is detained or passed away. Even though this news is difficult to receive, it brings to the family the answers they have been looking for.

For more information about the RFL program go to <https://familylinks.icrc.org/en/Pages/home.aspx>

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TO RESPOND TO PEOPLE'S MOST URGENT NEEDS AND TO HELP THEM BUILD RESILIENCE, THE ICRC, TOGETHER WITH THE SOUTH SUDAN RED CROSS (SSRC) IN SOME PLACES, HAVE:

Distributed over **62,296** monthly household food rations, equivalent to more than **5,490** metric tons of food, to over **373,700** people in need;



Provided essential household kits items to over **278,800** people;



Provided over **358,200** people with seeds and tools for farming, and some **196,800** people with fishing kits;



Vaccinated more than **442,000** heads of livestock against **four** diseases, treated another **63,400** benefitting over **107,200** people. Implemented **seven** community based resilience projects (vegetable production, canoe building, dyke repairs) benefitting over **13,100** people.



Improved access to safe drinking water for some **357,600** people through the implementation of **22** new water points and **12** rehabilitation of water facilities and **79** hand pumps.

Maintained **two** emergency surface water treatment units benefitting more than **46,000** people in Juba and Aburoch.



TO HELP IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTH AND PROVISION OF SURGICAL CARE THE ICRC HAS:

Performed **2,413** surgical interventions;

Provided more than **133,037** outpatient consultations and treated **3,400** in-patients;



Evacuated **442** weapon wounded people;

Carried out renovation and extension work in **seven** health facilities.



Provided antenatal consultations for **11,356** women, safe deliveries for **2,026** women and vaccinated **32,635** women and children;

Assisted **2,463** people with disabilities with mobility devices and physiotherapy.



TO HELP IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR DETAINEES THE ICRC HAS:

Visited close to **3,779** detainees throughout the country;

Improved living conditions for **3,388** detainees in **13** places of detention

Improved access to health care, and implemented preventive and curative measures against malnutrition for more than **2,239** detainees in **six** Central Prisons;



TO HELP RECONNECT FAMILY MEMBERS SEPARATED BY THE CONFLICT THE ICRC AND SSRC HAVE:

Facilitated **36,120** phone calls between family members separated by the conflict;

Helped exchange **4,409** Red Cross messages with family news;

Reunited **47** vulnerable persons, including children, with their families.




Facilitated the dignified recovery and burial of **49** human remains.



TO PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE AND RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL) AND THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW (IHRL) THE ICRC HAS

Trained over **2,500** military on IHL and nearly **1,400** police personnel on IHRL

Raised awareness among almost **1,000** weapon bearers and health staff on safe access to health care, over **4,700** beneficiaries and community members had access to life-saving, useful and actionable information about the ICRC and its humanitarian services.

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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.



ICRC