



FACTS AND FIGURES 2020

MYANMAR



ICRC



To support families as they cultivate their own winter crops, ICRC supplied seed and basic farming tools across 7 townships in Kachin state.

INTRODUCTION

The year 2020 was largely marked by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the ICRC – together with its Red Cross partners and the relevant authorities – mobilized teams to prevent and mitigate the spread of the virus in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states. The ICRC maintained a focus on communities living in areas affected by armed conflict and other emergencies, as well as in places of detention throughout the country.

With a multi-sectoral approach in the COVID-19 context, the ICRC also aimed to strengthen primary public health services, increase access to safe water and sanitation and support the livelihoods of communities affected by the socio-economic impact of the pandemic. This included engagement in awareness-raising activities with community leaders, ethnic armed and ethnic health organizations, religious circles and local media, as part of its comprehensive response.

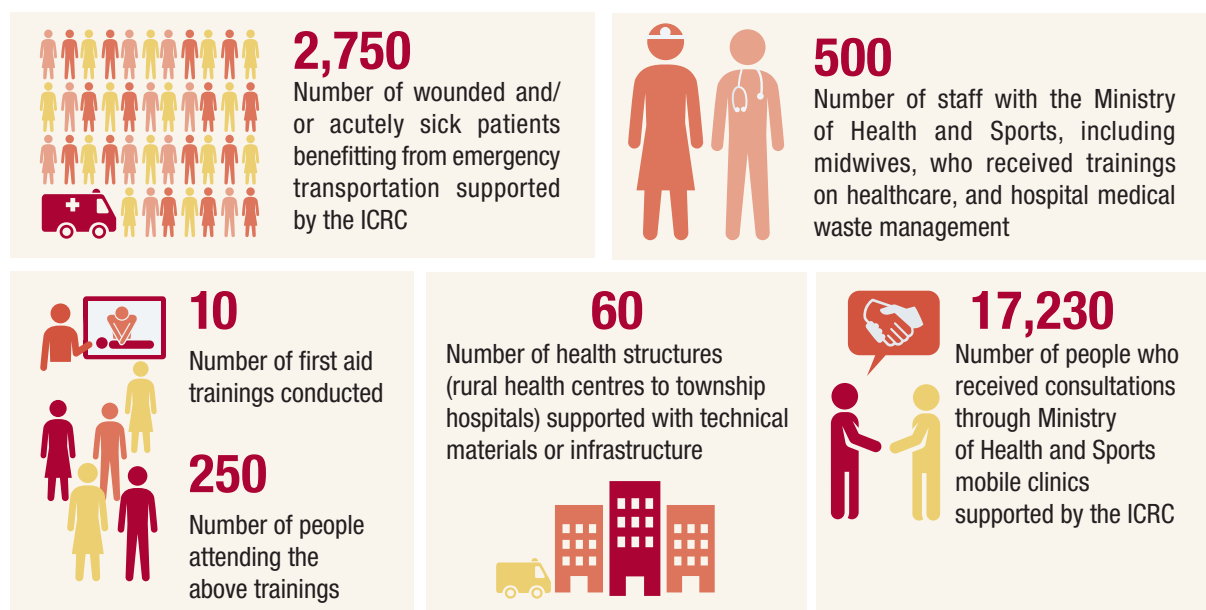
In parallel throughout 2020, ICRC teams swiftly adapted its traditional humanitarian operations to the new challenges of the pandemic in order to ensure the continuity of life-saving activities such as food distributions, or the evacuation of weapon-wounded civilians in areas affected by armed conflict. In Myanmar, operations focus on emergency assistance and protection, complemented by programmes that aim to strengthen the resilience of communities facing hardship or repeated displacement as a result of long-term conflict. These combined approaches are essential for the communities to be able to recover their autonomy and dignity and for the ICRC to address the full scope of humanitarian needs. Many of its programmes are carried out jointly with the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS).

As part of our mission to protect and assist the victims of armed conflicts and other situations of violence, and in line with our neutral and impartial approach, the ICRC also seeks to remind authorities and all parties to armed conflicts of their legal obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

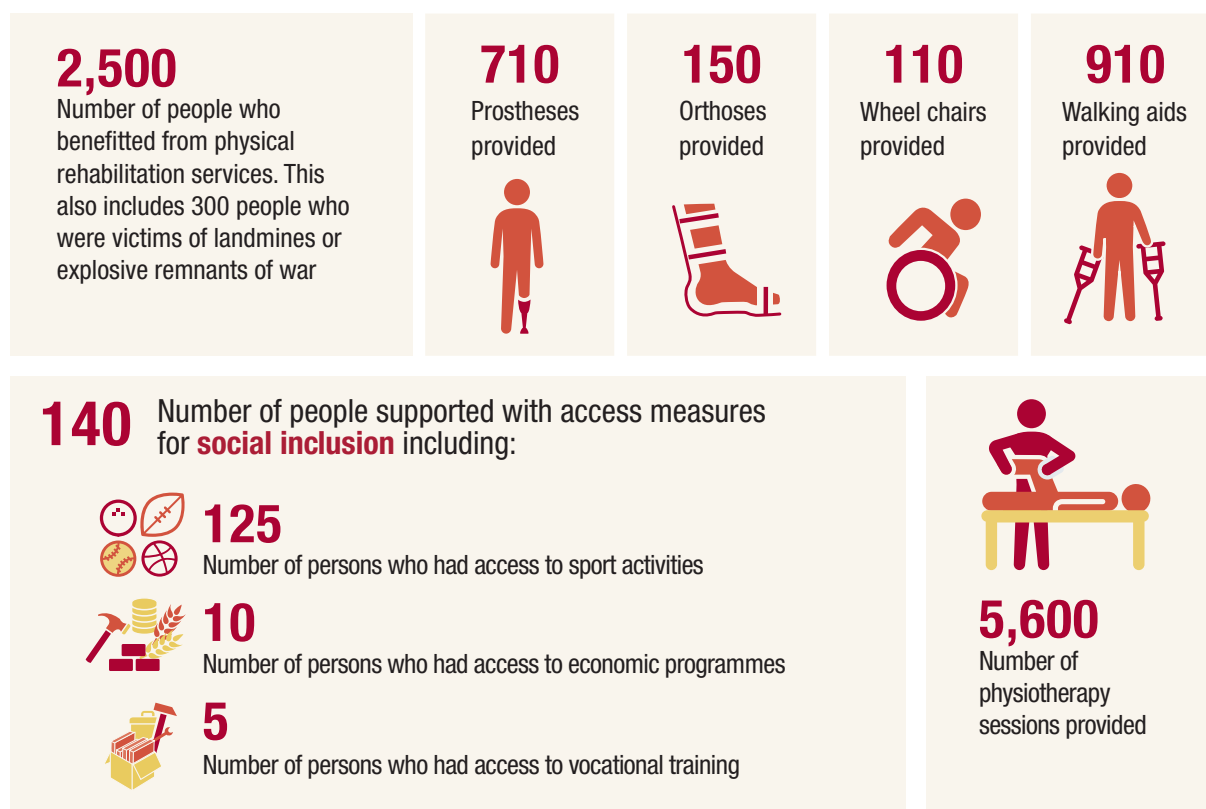
The following document is an overview on the ICRC key operational highlights and achievements in 2020. It covers emergency operations as well as long-term programming and COVID-19 prevention response in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of the victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. The ICRC has been present in Myanmar for over 30 years and is the second-largest operation for the ICRC in Asia. With an operational budget of 62 million Swiss francs, the ICRC maintains over 900 staff, mostly Myanmar nationals, located in ten offices across the country but primarily located in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states.

HEALTH



PHYSICAL REHABILITATION



WEAPONS CONTAMINATION



29,000 Number of people reached with life-saving information on the dangers of landmines and other unexploded ordnance with the MRCS



300 Number of victims of landmines or unexploded ordnance who received physical rehabilitation services with ICRC support

145 Number of victims of mine related incidents (from a total of 239) benefitted from cash and medical assistance

WATER AND HABITAT



25 Number of hospitals benefitting from infrastructure upgrading (water, sanitation, accessibility and medical infrastructure)

3,250 Number of beds available for use of patients after upgrading of the 25 hospitals

310,000

Number of people affected by conflict benefited from shelter, water and sanitation projects

36,000

Number of detainees having better conditions due to infrastructure projects and material assistance



7,555

Number of people benefitted from support provided to 40 structures (34 rural health centres and 6 IDP settlements)

361,600

Total number of people who benefitted from WatHab response (improved access to essential services: water, sanitation, shelter, material donation, disinfection services, awareness campaigns etc.)

PROTECTION



5 Number of prisons or places of detention visited by ICRC

29,000 Number of detainees visited in the above-mentioned prisons



5,250

Number of detainees released from prison receiving financial support to return home safely



780

Number of people who visited their family members detained in prison with the financial support of ICRC



700

Number of Red Cross Messages exchanged together with MRCS between separated family members including detainees

ECONOMIC SECURITY

120,350

Number of people who received **food rations**

22,100

Number of people who received small **cash grants** to buy essential emergency items

221,600

Number of people who received **essential household items** such as blankets, mosquito nets, or kitchen sets (displacement, natural disasters, etc.)

98,100

Number of people facing hardship or repeated displacement as a result of long-term conflict who were given **seeds, fertilizers** or **tools for farming** to strengthen their resilience

52,900

Number of people assisted with **fuel sticks for cooking**

160

Number of people assisted through **micro-economic initiatives**

PREVENTION



185

Number of people who improved knowledge on international humanitarian law (IHL), including armed actors, academics, and CSOs' representatives, through ICRC workshops and events.



141

Number of news articles with a focus/mention of ICRC in local media out of which a 102 articles mentioned ICRC positively.



95

Number of people from the armed and security forces reached through meetings and surveys done on headquarter visits and courses conducted by ICRC



7.6 million

Number of people reached via Facebook with an engagement rate of 800,000 likes/shares/comments

PARTNERSHIP WITH MRCS

220 Number of trained Red Cross Volunteers and Executive Committee members from Kachin, Shan, Mon, Mandalay, Ayeyarwaddy, Kayah joining the virtual and face to face Disseminator Review Meeting

145 Number of Red Cross Volunteers, Executive Committee members at townships levels from Kachin, Kayin, Mon, Eastern Shan, Northern Shan and Rakhine participating for virtual and face to face meeting to discuss and review activities linked with Operational Safer Access

CHF 320,000 Financial support for MRCS operations in Rakhine, Kachin and new operations in Chin (assessment trip to Semi township and capacity building for Red Cross Volunteers in Mintap)

CHF 97,000 Financial contribution for administrative support and volunteer's insurance to 177 branches in Yangon and ICRC non-operational areas

25 Red Cross branches from Rakhine, Shan and Kachin are closely working together with ICRC for emergency responses in conflicts

CHF 80,000 Financial support provided towards MRCS Yangon Office's (3rd floor) renovation, furniture and ICT equipment

25 Meetings to support Strengthened Movement Coordination and Cooperation with MRCS, IFRC and PNS



Working alongside Myanmar Red Cross Society, the ICRC provided warm jackets, blankets and mattresses to help people prepare for the winter in Pang War (Chipwi township), Kachin state. Information on COVID-19 preventive measures was also shared along with important information on risks of landmines to communities.



Families in southern parts of Chin State continue to suffer from the consequences of conflict. Since early 2020, hundreds of families remain displaced, living in temporary sites in Samee. Prevailing COVID-19 preventative measures and restrictions also pose a challenge for them. In our efforts to assist displaced families the ICRC and MRCS teams installed a 1,000-gallon water tank system at the Samee Hospital. We also set up basic water treatment systems for the displaced families giving them access to better quality water for drinking and cooking.

ICRC RESPONSE TO COVID-19

MARCH TO DECEMBER 2020



HEALTH RESPONSE

- **400** Ministry of Health and Sports staff and **20** community health workers trained in infection prevention and control in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States
- **193,800** people reached through **300** community awareness sessions in Maungdaw and Sittwe Townships, Rakhine State
- **146,000** people in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States received health and hygiene items such as face masks, face shields, hand gel, soap including **20,800** people in **40** quarantine sites
- **14,600** people in **34** IDP sites in Rakhine State supported with donation of protective equipment and information to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- **14,000** face shields, face masks, medical gowns produced in Myitkyina, Kyaing Tong and Hpa-An Physical Rehabilitation Centres
- **1,400** people suspected or confirmed with the virus transported for medical treatment with ICRC support
- **230** state-run quarantine centres received hygiene supplies, medical equipment and technical assistance in Kachin and Shan States
- **45** health structures received protective equipment including face shields, face masks and medical gowns and COVID-19 information posters



IMPROVING ACCESS TO WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- **147,800** people (including students, teachers and volunteers) benefitted from upgraded health and sanitation systems in **77** health structures as well as schools, quarantine centres and IDP camps
- **107,600** people reached through the installation of **1,990** handwashing stations in IDP camps, health facilities, quarantine centres and township hospitals
- **75,000** bars of soap distributed in Rakhine State and **15,000** bottles of liquid soap distributed in Northern Shan State for IDP camps and hospitals
- **44** quarantine centres with a capacity to accommodate approximately **6,300** people benefitted from renovations, or donation of water and sanitation materials
- **170** emergency latrines constructed with MRCS in quarantine centres for returning migrants



RAISING AWARENESS OF COVID-19

- **3.5 million** Facebook users reached with an #InfoAsAid digital messaging focusing on hygiene promotion and COVID-19 prevention
- **186,600** people engaged the ICRC on Facebook for more information or to share COVID-19 prevention messaging
- **70,000** posters containing information approved by the Ministry of Health and Sports, shared with communities in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States
- Over **38,800** prevention pamphlets distributed and 10 billboards established to raise awareness
- An advocacy note on “**IHL and COVID-19**” shared with civilian and military authorities, ethnic armed organizations and other stakeholders
- ICRC guidelines on dead body management in context of COVID-19 was shared with the armed and security forces of Myanmar
- Recommendations on risk and prevention measures related to law enforcement operations were shared with the Myanmar Police Force



PARTNERING WITH MYANMAR RED CROSS SOCIETY (MRCS)

Across Myanmar, many of our programmes are implemented alongside MRCS. With the onset of COVID-19, ICRC was able to complement MRCS efforts with additional support, namely:

- Support for the production of **10,800** Red Cross identification aprons by MRCS and **14,000** Red Cross Volunteers provided with waistcoats and protective helmets
- **3,600** MRCS staff and volunteers provided with COVID-19 insurance coverage and specialized training on the use of COVID-19 PPE and masks
- MRCS received an additional **1,400** face shields, **143,700** surgical masks, **500** protective goggles, **41,000** latex gloves, **250** non-contact thermometers, **800** bottles of hand gel
- Contingency stock for PPE items such as **8,000** face shields, **425,000** surgical masks, **1,400** protective goggles, **56,500** latex gloves, **200** thermometers, **3,000** hand-gel disinfectants distributed to MRCS HQ Yangon
- Cloth for close to **9,000** re-usable masks distributed to communities in Rakhine and to MRCS in Shan State, along with the necessary equipment and material such as sewing machines, fabric, thread, elastic bands, etc.
- **45** township branches in Yangon Region financially supported for COVID-19 response activities
- **224** Red Cross Volunteers from other states and regions deployed to work in COVID-19 treatment centres in Yangon
- **152** Red Cross township branches financially supported with office administration costs during the COVID-19 response
- Financial contribution made to the MRCS Emergency Management Fund for COVID-19 response and transportation costs covered for PPE items to township branches in Rakhine State



INFECTION-CONTROL IN DETENTION AND QUARANTINE FACILITIES

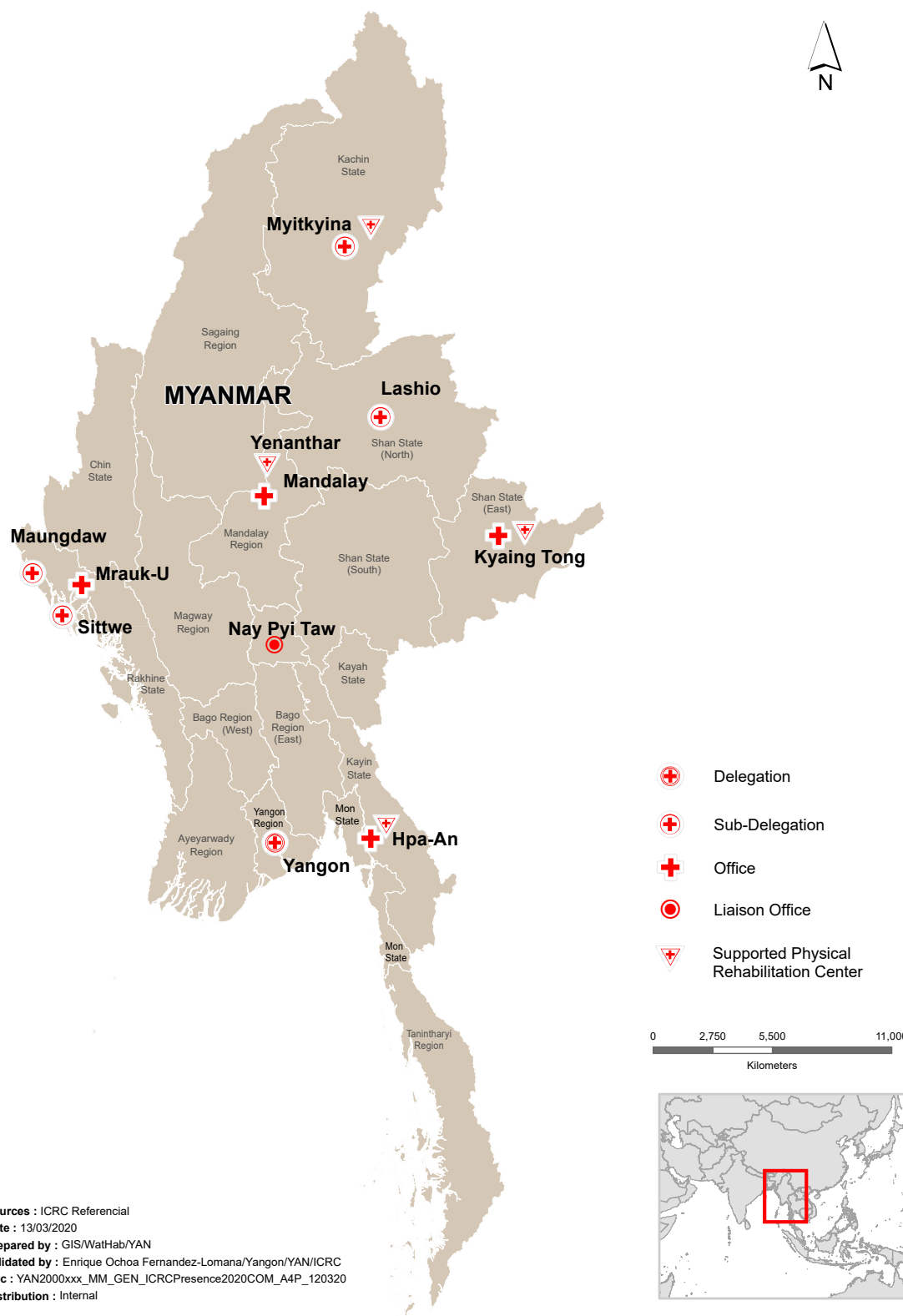
- **34,000** detainees benefitted from operations to disinfect the premises in **10** places of detention
- With the ICRC's technical support, **84,000** face masks were produced in **5** prisons
- **1,000** COVID-19 posters from the Ministry of Health and Sports delivered to the Prisons Department for distribution
- COVID-19 prevention information, financial assistance and hygiene items provided to **2,500** people after their release from detention through the “**Safe Return Home**” programme
- **880** released detainees in quarantine sites from Rakhine were supported with food, blankets and hygiene kits
- SOPs for the prevention and control of COVID-19 in places of detention were shared with the Prisons Department



ACTIVITIES WITH NEW COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

- **20,400** people assisted with multi-purpose cash grants in Kachin and Shan States in IDP camps with a high rate of loss of employment and labor opportunities due to COVID-19
- **2,000** COVID-19 prevention kits supplied to persons with disabilities as part of a partnership with the Disability Inclusion Committee
- **340** tailors in IDP sites in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States produced **174,500** face masks for COVID-19 prevention, which also enhanced their livelihoods
- As many as **600** people in quarantine facilities in Kachin and Rakhine States received sim top up cards to stay in touch with family members and loved ones during their quarantine period while **28** “safe and well” messages were collected from quarantine sites in Rakhine State
- Resumption of activities at the Physical Rehabilitation Centers in Kyaing Tong and Myitkyina in September for patients in urgent need of assistance

MYANMAR: ICRC PRESENCE 2020 COUNTRY



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