

ACTIVITIES IN THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

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 victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavors 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. The ICRC is present in Ethiopia since 1977 following the Ethio-Somali conflict. Currently, it conducts its operations across the country from the Addis Ababa delegation and a sub-delegation in Mekelle, Tigray in close cooperation with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS). Below you will find a summary of the key activities of the ICRC since the beginning of the year.

VISITING DETAINEES

With the support of the national authorities the ICRC visits federal and regional prisons so as to improve both the conditions of detention and the treatment of detainees, in accordance with international norms and standards.

From January to June 2015, the ICRC:

- Visited 28'754 detainees in federal and regional prisons in Amhara, Harari, Southern Nations, Oromia, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella and Tigray.
- Helped detainees exchange 650 Red Cross Messages (RCMs) to restore/maintain contacts with their families and enabled 121 detainees to transmit oral greetings to their families.
- Provided household and hygienic items to 20'000 detainees.
- Improved mental health care to 21'146 detainees in six federal and four regionals prisons in Tigray, Oromia and Amhara regions by organising trainings to the prison health staff.
- Improved the access to clean water for 3'800 detainees in Robit Federal Prison and 1'675 detainees in Gambella and Dire Dawa federal prison by rehabilitating and constructing water facilities.
- Facilitated the construction of 200 bunk beds for 400 detainees in two prisons in Tigray.

RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

The ICRC, in cooperation with the ERCS, strives to restore family links between family members separated by conflict and violence through the provision of free phone calls, exchange of Red Cross Messages and the elaboration of a photo tracing tool.

From January to June 2015, the ICRC:

- Collected 359 tracing requests and located 86 missing persons.
- Exchanged, in close cooperation with the ERCS, 3'282 RCMs among family members dispersed by conflict and violence.
- Provided, in close cooperation with the ERCS, 6'668 free phone calls to refugees in Ethiopia and Ethiopian migrant returnees from Yemen and the Middle East, who could exchange family news with their relatives in their respective countries.



An old couple in Mekelle, Tigray, is writing a Red Cross message to their daughters in Eritrea, from whom they have been separated for years, with the support of ICRC and ERCS.

- Published, jointly with the ERCS, a photo-tracing tool in the form of a booklet to facilitate the restoration of family links between 627 South Sudanese refugees, including unaccompanied minors.
- Posted 223 photos of South Sudanese refugees on the ICRC familylinks webpage and facilitated the broadcast of names of 600 persons through the Missing Persons' Radio Program on BBC Somali Service".
- Identified 47 unaccompanied Eritrean refugee minors in Endabaguna transit centre in Tigray with a view to reunifying them with their families across the border.

- Extended, jointly with the ERCS, similar support to 16'740 members of local communities hosting South Sudanese refugees in Etang Woreda, Gambella Region.
- Assisted, together with the ERCS, 15'900 persons in Majenge zone, Godere district at Yeri, Gambella region, with nonfood items and shelter material following intercommunal clashes and displacement.
- Supplied surgical equipment and medical supplies and installed a backup generator for the Gambella hospital.
- Assisted 452 Ethiopians repatriated from Eritrea with food, water, household and hygienic items

RELIEF ASSISTANCE



Together with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, the ICRC distributes much needed basic household items to people having fled violence to the Gambella Region.

The ICRC and the ERCS jointly provide support to people affected by inter-communal clashes in different regions of the country.

From January to June 2015, the ICRC:

- Distributed, in close cooperation with the ERCS, staple seeds and agricultural tools to 30'924 individuals who have returned to their places of origin, in Southern Nations, Oromia and Gambella.

WATER AND HABITAT

The ICRC works with the local authorities and communities to improve access to clean water and sanitation services.

From January to June 2015:

- Over 55'000 people in rural areas of Tigray and Afar regions were provided better access to clean water and sanitation services through the maintenance/building of hand pumps and sanitation facilities.
- Some 9'000 people in the water committees of these regions also benefited from relevant training and technical support.
- 4'500 persons benefited from ICRC hygiene promotion and training.
- The ICRC supported the Tigray Water Bureau improve the management of its water resources through the use of the jointly developed Geographic Information System (GIS).

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The ICRC Physical Rehabilitation Program works to promote equal access to quality and long-term sustainable rehabilitation services to persons with physical disabilities (PWDs). Access to such physical rehabilitation services enables PWDs to recover mobility, play an active role in society and live in dignity.

From January to June 2015:

- 3'168 PWDs accessed a service within 10 assisted physical rehabilitation centres (PRC). Out of this

number the following services were provided: 851 prostheses, 944 orthoses and 132 wheelchairs. In addition, 1'669 service users received physiotherapy services and 2'196 received walking aids.

- The ICRC provided all assisted PRCs with the required imported raw materials and equipment as well as clinical and technical coaching for quality service provision.
- The Prosthetic and Orthotic training run by the ICRC in Addis Abeba continued with 15 students entering the second half of their second year of training, in close partnership with the Black Lion Hospital.
- In partnership with the Ethiopian Basketball Federation, the ICRC conducted wheelchair basketball training camps for players, coaches and referees in five regions: Oromia, Southern Nations, Addis Ababa, Tigray and Dire Dawa regions.

PREVENTION/COMMUNICATION

The ICRC promotes the knowledge of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) amongst various interlocutors such as security forces, national authorities, and academic circles.

From January to June 2015:

- The ICRC organized a six-day training of trainers (ToT) on IHL to over 40 senior Ethiopian army and airforce officers, in collaboration with the National Defence Force.
- The ICRC organized training sessions for over 500 members of the federal police forces on the use of force and firearms, jointly with the regional police training centres.
- 420 local authorities, including religious leaders and representatives of community-based organizations, enhanced their knowledge on the basics of IHL and Fundamental Principles of the Movement.
- 255 judges and prosecutors and 360 senior law students and instructors improved their knowledge on IHL through jointly organized seminars.



ICRC training of members of the Federal Special Force on international standards on the use of force and firearms.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (ERCS)

In addition to joint programming highlighted above, from January to June 2015, the ICRC :

- In close cooperation with the ERCS, offered First Aid trainings to 25 Red Cross volunteers from three regional branches as well as to 260 police officers from Addis Ababa and to 220 youth and volunteers representing eight regional branches.
- Supported the ERCS in implementing its contingency plan in the run-up of the May elections.

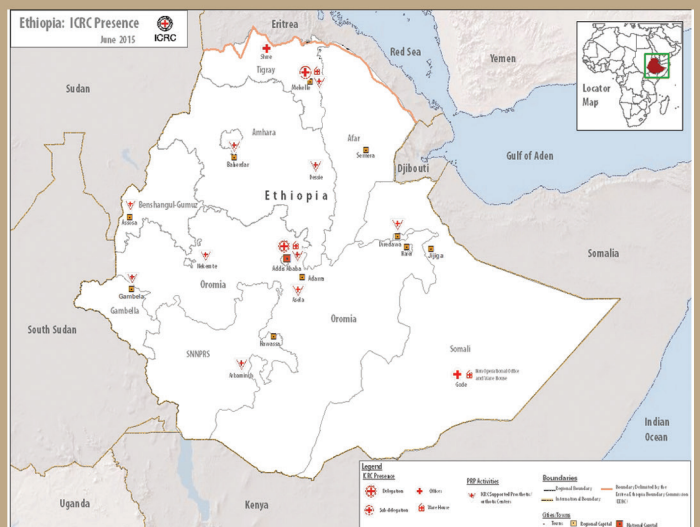
- Facilitated the purchase of 26 ambulance vehicles and the provision of stretchers to the ERCS.
- Contributed to the organization of a workshop with Movement Partners (Federation, Canadian, Swiss, Dutch, Austrian and Spanish National Red Cross Societies) on the revised Strategic Plan of the ERCS.
- Supported the organization of the International Red Cross Day on May 8th and the blood donor mobilization campaign.
- Facilitated a Safer Access Workshop with staff from headquarters and regional branches.



The General Secretary of the ERCS is donating blood to the National Blood Bank at the Addis Ababa Stadium on the occasion of International Red Cross Day, on May 8th.

MISSION

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The map is for illustrative purpose only and does not express an opinion on the part of the ICRC.



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