



ICRC/AR, 2012

+ ICRC delegation
 + ICRC sub-delegation
 + ICRC office/presence
+ ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	6,131
Assistance	7,109
Prevention	3,621
Cooperation with National Societies	1,673
General	-

▶ **18,533**
 of which: Overheads **1,131**

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	92%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	40
National staff (daily workers not included)	109

KEY POINTS

In 2012, the ICRC:

- ▶ expanded its network of contacts with civilian and military authorities, weapon bearers and community leaders to foster support for IHL and humanitarian principles and boost acceptance of Movement action
- ▶ visited nearly 13,500 inmates in 86 places of detention, bringing to the authorities' notice individual cases requiring specific attention and making recommendations in line with internationally recognized standards and/or IHL
- ▶ so that families might learn the fate of missing relatives, provided technical assistance to the ministry concerned, including by joining gravesite visits and conducting training courses to enhance the forensic skills of relevant staff
- ▶ supported the National Society's first-aid teams, other emergency responders and 40 hospitals in treating wounded patients effectively, including by supplying medical materials and conducting simulation exercises
- ▶ removed around 11,000 mines/explosive remnants of war and 13,500 pieces of small arms ammunition from heavily contaminated areas, allowing residents to resume their activities in a safer environment
- ▶ with the National Society, responded to emergency needs resulting from the armed confrontations in Bani Walid and localized clashes elsewhere in Libya by facilitating safe passage and providing food and other assistance to victims

The ICRC opened a delegation in Libya in 2011 after social unrest escalated into armed conflict. While boosting the capacities of the Libyan Red Crescent, it works alongside it to respond to the needs of conflict-affected people in terms of medical care, emergency relief, essential services and family contact and to address weapon contamination. It reminds all parties – authorities and weapon bearers – of their obligations under IHL to protect those not or no longer taking part in the fighting and visits people detained in relation to the conflict.

CONTEXT

In 2012, the Libyan authorities worked to reunify the country and rebuild its institutions in the aftermath of the 2011 conflict. Polls in July led to the formation of the General National Congress, the country's first-ever elected parliament. Despite the successful transition, the authorities struggled to fully restore basic services and reconstruct damaged or destroyed infrastructure. Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) remained widespread.

Security remained a serious concern, particularly in Benghazi, in the east, where assassinations allegedly targeted members of the former administration. In October, armed confrontations in Bani Walid resulted in scores of dead or wounded, with thousands more displaced. Localized clashes, concentrated in the south, persisted between armed groups, communities and tribes. Long-term IDPs, members of minority communities and migrants continued to be vulnerable to discriminatory or retaliatory acts.

The integration of revolutionary brigades into military/security forces suffered delays. Despite efforts to reduce the number of detaining authorities without central oversight, brigades continued to hold individuals awaiting legal proceedings.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The deteriorated security situation in the east of Libya had considerable repercussions on the ICRC's work to protect and assist Libyans affected by continuing violence or with residual needs from the 2011 conflict. After a series of incidents in Benghazi and Misrata between May and August, the organization temporarily suspended its activities, recovering little ground towards the end of the year. As a priority, the ICRC extended its network of contacts with the civil and military authorities, weapon bearers and community leaders to promote humanitarian principles and boost acceptance of neutral, impartial and independent Movement action, in particular with a view to broadening respect for patients, medical services and others not participating in the violence. Informational material and other support to journalists encouraged accurate humanitarian reporting, contributing to this end.

ICRC delegates visited several thousand detainees according to the organization's standard procedures. They reported their findings confidentially to the detaining authorities and made recommendations for improvements in inmates' treatment and living conditions, pointing out cases requiring specific attention. Dialogue with the authorities helped clarify the legal framework relevant to a comprehensive review of detainee files. To improve

Main figures and indicators	PROTECTION		Total
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			
RCMs collected	59	UAMs/SCs*	1
RCMs distributed	102		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	1,046		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	540	Women	19
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	875		Minors 12
<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	79		
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)	1,318	27	36
UAMs/SCs*, including unaccompanied demobilized child soldiers			
UAMs/SCs newly registered by the ICRC/National Society	1	Girls	Demobilized children
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)			
ICRC visits			
Detainees visited	13,490	Women	Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	851	22	35
Detainees newly registered	631	19	24
Number of visits carried out	184		
Number of places of detention visited	86		
Restoring family links			
RCMs collected	112		
RCMs distributed	46		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	380		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	10		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

detention conditions, the ICRC helped authorities upgrade prison water and sanitation infrastructure and provided detainees with food and bedding where needed.

Detainees informed their families of their detention and exchanged news via Movement family-links services; foreign detainees contacted their consular representatives to inform them of their situation. Such services were also made available to civilians, often migrants, separated from their relatives.

The ICRC assisted people seeking news of missing relatives, expanding contacts with migrant communities to help diversify tracing efforts and following up cases with the authorities concerned. It provided technical advice and training sessions to government staff to help ensure the prompt identification of human remains. Some families, particularly those unable to access State services, received assistance to meet their immediate needs.

Together with the Libyan Red Crescent, its primary partner, the ICRC responded to emergency needs resulting from localized clashes and from the armed confrontations in Bani Walid. Acting as a neutral intermediary, the ICRC facilitated the safe passage of wounded people and medical personnel. Patients were stabilized and/or evacuated by National Society first-aid teams or emergency services in the field and treated at ICRC-supported medical facilities. Medical services received supplies to ensure appropriate handling of human remains. To boost national capacities in emergency and first-level care, the ICRC conducted training for National Society, emergency service and hospital staff and civil defence personnel. Surgeons took part in war-surgery seminars co-organized by the Health Ministry and the ICRC, with some attending advanced courses abroad.

In areas not covered by other humanitarian actors, the National Society/ICRC worked with local authorities to provide people with water supplies during flare-ups of violence or supply shortages and to repair damaged water and electrical installations.

Victims of clashes, including IDPs, received food, essential household items and hygiene products as needed.

ICRC teams removed mines/ERW and small arms ammunition from heavily contaminated areas, enabling residents to resume activities in a safer environment. Alongside these efforts, National Society volunteers carried out awareness campaigns promoting safe behaviour, aimed at preventing injuries from ordnance. An agreement signed with the University of Tripoli on a future prosthetics and orthotics degree aimed to help build competencies in physical rehabilitation.

The authorities renewed the ICRC's headquarters agreement, allowing the continuation of the organization's work in the country. Contacts with the Libyan Armed Forces resulted in steps towards integrating IHL into the Military Act and military training. Consequently, the ICRC and the Libyan Armed Forces signed an agreement on the training of officers. As part of efforts to encourage IHL study in universities, two lecturers attended an IHL training session abroad.

The ICRC continued to coordinate its activities with those of Movement partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest, in order to identify unmet needs, maximize impact and avoid duplication.

CIVILIANS

During ICRC field trips or through visits or calls to the delegation, civilians provided essential information about their conditions. People reported abuses committed against them, particularly during continued tensions. Foreigners unable to depart the country, minorities, IDPs and other groups at risk of discrimination or retaliation continued to be especially vulnerable (see *Context*). Complaints in relation to clashes, as in Bani Walid, Kufra and Sabha, centred on impediments to the provision of medical care (see *Wounded and sick*). This information provided the basis for regular ICRC dialogue with local and national civil and military

Main figures and indicators	ASSISTANCE	Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security, water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Food commodities	Beneficiaries	40,010	28%	40%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries		
		34,051		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	102,559	28%	42%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	Beneficiaries		
		79,126		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	925,250	35%	45%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security, water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection programme)				
Food commodities	Beneficiaries	2,554		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	6,715		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	3,500		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals				
Hospitals supported	Structures	40		
First aid				
First-aid posts supported	Structures	5		
	<i>of which provided data</i>	Structures		
		3		
Wounded patients treated	Patients	257		
Physical rehabilitation				
Centres supported	Structures	1		

authorities and with weapon bearers to enhance the protection of civilians, including access to basic services and respect for medical infrastructure.

Given the protracted uncertainty in the country, the National Society focused on strengthening its emergency response capacities. To this end, staff in 34 branches, along with staff from a government relief agency, received training in needs assessment, assistance operations, restoring family links, and mine/ERW-risk education. At the Bani Walid branch, staff working conditions improved following the rehabilitation of their office.

Families exchange news via the Movement family-links network and await information on missing relatives

As many people returned from abroad and communication across the country improved, numerous previously registered tracing requests were resolved without ICRC intervention. Nonetheless, people seeking news of relatives continued to approach the National Society/ICRC for help, reporting over 500 new arrests (see *People deprived of their freedom*), cross-border movements or other circumstances of disappearance. Expanded contact with foreign communities helped diversify tracing efforts in this regard. Some separated family members, mainly detained foreigners (see *People deprived of their freedom*), restored contact through Libyan Red Crescent/ICRC free telephone/RCM services, notably making over 1,000 calls to relatives over the year.

The Ministry for the Affairs of the Families of Martyrs and Missing Persons (MAFMM) benefited from ICRC technical advice in handling cases of missing persons, estimated at up to 10,000 people, to speed up the identification of human remains and thus reduce delays in informing the families. This included assisting with gravesite visits and carrying out assessments of other alleged gravesites. Ministry staff received training to boost their forensics capacities. By year-end, the MAFMM and the ICRC had laid the groundwork for an agreement formalizing their cooperation. Some families of missing persons followed up their cases with the MAFMM through the ICRC. Among them, particularly vulnerable families in the south-west unable to access State services received ad hoc ICRC assistance to meet their immediate food needs.

Vulnerable people still in need of assistance

In areas not covered by other humanitarian actors, people made vulnerable by clashes, as in Bani Walid or Kufra, met their immediate needs thanks to ad hoc National Society/ICRC assistance. In total, around 40,000 people (6,000 households) received a one-off supply of rations to meet their food needs and over 102,000 people (16,700 households), mainly IDPs (12,865 households) who had left their homes, made use of essential household and hygiene items to ease their living conditions. The Health Ministry's central pharmacy warehouse, which supplied medical facilities in Benghazi, Ghadamis, Sabha and Sirte, received supplementary supplies to help ensure their continued availability in affected areas (see *Wounded and sick*).

Some 925,000 people benefited from the ICRC's work to ensure a steady water and electricity supply during localized flare-ups of violence or to bridge gaps when funds and/or equipment and spare parts ran low. In Kikla and Sabha, over 5,000 residents relied on emergency water supplies, including those delivered by water truck, until the water authorities could restore the network. In places such as Qubah (32,000 people), the installation of submersible pumps in cooperation with local water boards boosted water supply while protecting the areas' springs, and in Ajdabiyah (75,000 people), the repair of a central sewage pumping station helped residents improve their sanitation and thus their health. Some 900 IDPs at the Libyan Red Crescent camp in Benghazi also faced fewer health risks after the installation of insulation foam to protect storage containers from rainwater.

Needs assessments covering 80% of the Libyan population found that vulnerable groups needing livelihood support, such as long-term IDPs and some returnees, had access to State social welfare benefits/allowances. Therefore, instead of providing direct assistance, the ICRC held meetings with social welfare authorities at local and national level to raise their awareness of the needs of these particular groups and to encourage them to respond.

Civilians protected from mines/ERW

Residents in areas heavily contaminated by mines/ERW, such as in and around Jmeil, the Nafusa Mountains, Sirte, Tripoli and Zwara, resumed their activities in a safer environment after the

removal of around 11,000 mines/ERW and 13,500 pieces of small arms ammunition by ICRC specialist teams. A casualty data-management system was set up with the ICRC's help at the Libyan Mine Action Centre to bolster the efforts of all involved to prevent mine/ERW accidents. By year-end, 215 mine/ERW casualties had been recorded.

To sharpen their skills, representatives of the Mine Action Centre and the National Safety Authority and members of civil society attended mine/ERW-risk education sessions delivered by the National Society (see *Civil society*). Some people attended similar sessions in a bid to raise public awareness of the dangers of mines/ERW.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Despite the temporary suspension of ICRC activities in the east and centre of the country (see *ICRC action and results*), nearly 13,500 detainees, mainly people held in relation to the 2011 armed conflict, but also alleged irregular migrants, received ICRC visits, carried out according to the organization's standard procedures, to check their treatment and living conditions. In total, 851 detainees were monitored individually. During visits, detainees were given the opportunity to contact their families through Movement family-links services. Such services were particularly useful for migrants, who made phone calls to relatives (see *Civilians*). Over 300 foreigners informed their consular representatives of their situation via the ICRC.

Following visits, delegates shared their findings and recommendations confidentially with the detaining authorities, mainly the Ministry of Justice, but also the Ministries of Interior and Defence and local brigades undergoing the process of bringing all places of detention under government oversight. Feedback included raising individual cases requiring specific attention, whether for security or medical reasons. A comprehensive agreement with the central authorities regarding the ICRC's detention-related work remained pending.

Dialogue with both military and civil prosecutors supported their efforts to clarify the legal framework governing evidence-based criminal justice in line with their review of all inmates' files. Military prosecutors discussed the matter further at an ICRC-organized workshop. However, by the end of the year, only a few dozen detainees had been sentenced and a large majority were still awaiting trial.

Following assessments carried out by ICRC engineers and their work with the detaining authorities, some 3,500 detainees benefited from upgrades to water and sanitation facilities in five places of detention. To contribute to ensuring decent living conditions, over 6,700 detainees, including detained migrants, received essential items such as clothing, bedding and hygiene products. In southern Libya, 2,554 detained migrants received one-off food assistance.

WOUNDED AND SICK

Victims of fighting in areas such as Bani Walid, Kufra, Regdaline, Sabha and Zwara required on-site first-level care and surgery or evacuation. Intermittent shortages of medical supplies and equipment exacerbated by staffing and security constraints, however, continued to impede patient care (see *Civilians*).

In coordination with the health authorities, 40 hospitals, several first-aid posts and ambulance services treated several hundred patients with ICRC-provided emergency medical supplies,

such as first-aid and war-wounded kits, dressing materials and surgical instruments. On several occasions, weapon-wounded patients were evacuated for treatment by the National Society/ICRC and human remains were transferred thanks to the ICRC acting as a neutral intermediary. In October, patients and hospital personnel were offered safe passage out of Bani Walid. Medical services managing mass casualties also benefited from guidance and assistance in the proper handling of human remains, receiving supplies such as body bags, and in informing families of a relative's death.

To bolster the provision of emergency and first-level care, 606 people, including National Society volunteers, scouts, emergency service/civil defence staff and nurses, boosted their knowledge of first aid and emergency response during courses combining theory and practice, including one where the ICRC simulated a plane crash at an airport. In Benghazi and Misrata, 35 doctors enhanced their capacities to manage emergencies and handle trauma patients at ICRC-organized courses. To strengthen national war-surgery capacities, over 120 surgeons took part in a seminar co-organized with the Health Ministry, while a further 5 surgeons attended advanced courses abroad with ICRC sponsorship.

The University of Tripoli and the ICRC signed an agreement on the joint development and implementation of a planned prosthetics and orthotics degree aimed at building local capacities to care for disabled people. The agreement included practical training for students with ICRC supervision, as well as the provision of educational materials and equipment.

AUTHORITIES

Local and national authorities and representatives of the international community maintained contact with the ICRC on issues of mutual interest, including the legal framework relevant to detention (see *People deprived of their freedom*). In light of the insecurity, and as a matter of priority, such contacts focused on broadening support for National Society/ICRC activities for civilians and detainees, while facilitating humanitarian coordination.

In the run-up to elections, meetings with representatives of the MAFMM and the Ministries of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Interior and Justice served to remind the authorities of their obligations under IHL and to promote respect for other applicable international norms. In March, the authorities renewed the ICRC's headquarters agreement, reaffirming their commitment to meeting humanitarian needs in Libya. Within this framework, eight ministry staff members attended a regional IHL training seminar organized by the League of Arab States and the ICRC in Beirut (see *Lebanon*).

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Officers from the main branches of the Libyan Armed Forces and members of revolutionary brigades performing security functions (see *People deprived of their freedom*) and/or transitioning into reserve positions (see *Context*) learnt about IHL at dissemination sessions and training events, which also served to foster acceptance of Movement activities.

Meetings with the chief of staff of the Libyan Armed Forces and with members of its IHL/international human rights law office, as well as round-tables with the revolutionary brigades in Benghazi, Misrata and Tripoli, allowed for a constructive dialogue regarding IHL dissemination, instruction and integration into the Libyan Military Act. Following this dialogue, and in support of the

military reform process, the Libyan Armed Forces and the ICRC signed a cooperation agreement focusing on integrating IHL into military doctrine and training. Consequently, in preparation for their 2013 training programme, the Libyan Armed Forces reviewed existing IHL materials with the help of an ICRC specialist. The IHL/international human rights law office received recommendations for the revision of the military manual, which was first reviewed with the ICRC in 2010.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In the wake of security incidents targeting the ICRC and the National Society, widened contacts with influential religious/community leaders and other civil society representatives, including from communities in south-western Libya, served to boost awareness of humanitarian issues, such as the respect due to patients and medical services, and to foster acceptance of the Movement's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. The National Society received advice and training to help strengthen its communication strategy. A doctor and a National Society representative shared their experiences during the 2011 conflict at an event on the Health Care in Danger project (see *Dakar*). Various other members of civil society attended mine/ERW-risk education sessions (see *Civilians*).

Local and international media made significant use of the information material put at their disposal and covered public events and interviews organized with the National Society and an international symposium abroad that touched on Libya (see *London*). In addition, two journalists attended a regional media workshop on humanitarian reporting. Such efforts, alongside a nationwide radio campaign, helped to ensure accurate media coverage and to correct misconceptions about the National Society's and the ICRC's roles in Libya.

The media's attention was also drawn to the plight of families of missing persons. For example, on the occasion of the International Day of the Disappeared, journalists filmed the stories of two families of missing persons, which resulted in news/web features available for media use.

To develop local expertise in IHL and encourage its study at university level, two Libyan lecturers, supported by the ICRC, attended an IHL training session abroad. A planned seminar on the common ground between IHL and Islamic law was postponed.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

As the ICRC's primary partner and with its support, the Libyan Red Crescent continued to boost its capacity to respond adequately to humanitarian needs resulting from emergencies, notably in the fields of restoring family links, economic security, mine-risk education and first aid (see *Civilians* and *Wounded and sick*). During the year, the two organizations signed a framework agreement to strengthen and clarify their relationship.

In consultation with the International Federation and the ICRC, the National Society continued to improve its governance/management structures. Its participation in regional events strengthened its adherence to and relationship with the Movement, while staff and volunteers refreshed their knowledge of Movement policies and principles at dissemination sessions.

Movement components met regularly to coordinate their activities.