

The delegation in Lima opened in 1984, becoming a regional delegation in 2003. The ICRC visits detainees, addresses the issue of missing persons and monitors the humanitarian situation along the Ecuadorean border with Colombia. It seeks to respond to needs arising from armed conflict/other situations of violence and helps the region's National Societies reinforce their capacities to do the same. It assists security forces in integrating human rights norms applicable to the use of force into their doctrine, training and operations, and the armed forces in doing the same with IHL. It promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation.

### **KEY RESULTS/CONSTRAINTS IN 2015**

- ▶ The Peruvian armed/security forces operating in the Apurímac-Ene y Mantaro Valley (VRAEM) ceased their occupation of civilian structures in two villages, and increased training in law enforcement norms.
- ▶ Violence-affected communities accessed clean water and other basic services with ICRC aid. In the VRAEM, health staff learnt measures for protecting themselves, ensuring the availability of health care.
- ▶ The region's authorities worked to improve penitentiary services; hundreds of prison staff/police officers underwent training. Peruvian authorities moved to standardize such services as health care for women.
- ▶ Detainees in Bolivia had better living conditions after upgrades to infrastructure and distributions of household/hygiene essentials. Children living with detained parents received educational materials.
- ▶ In Peru, State agencies clarifying the fate of missing people honed their skills in forensics and psychosocial care. Families took part in the clarification process such as by travelling to grave sites/legal offices.

EXPENDITURE IN KCHF	
Protection	2,195
Assistance	948
Prevention	2,265
Cooperation with National Societies	825
General	15
Total	6,248
Of which: Overheads	381
IMPLEMENTATION RATE	
Expenditure/yearly budget	100%
PERSONNEL	
Mobile staff	5
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	46

YEARLY RESULTS	
Level of achievement of ICRC yearly objectives/plans of action	HIGH

PROTECTION	Total
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)	
Restoring family links	
RCMs distributed	2
Phone calls facilitated between family members	106
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
ICRC visits	
Detainees visited	30,915
Detainees visited and monitored individually	164
Number of visits carried out	54
Number of places of detention visited	24
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	2
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	2

ASSISTANCE		2015 Targets (up to)	Achieved
CIVILIANS (residents, IDP	's. returnees. et		Acilicycu
Economic security		tion or cooperation programme	<del>;</del> )
Food commodities Essential household items Cash Vouchers	Beneficiaries Beneficiaries Beneficiaries Beneficiaries		112 6,637 566 19
Water and habitat (in some cases provided	within a protec	tion or cooperation programme	<del>:</del> )
Water and habitat activities Health	Beneficiaries	2,460	2,732
Health centres supported	Structures		
WOUNDED AND SICK			
Physical rehabilitation Patients receiving services	Patients	20	

## CONTEXT

In the Apurímac-Ene y Mantaro Valley (VRAEM) of Peru, clashes between military/security forces and the militarized Communist Party of Peru (PCP-M), and stepped-up anti-drug operations led to casualties, arrests and damage to property. VRAEM residents had limited access to such basic services as water, sanitation, health care and education; people who had left PCP-M camps or been rescued from them required assistance to reintegrate to life outside these camps.

Border communities in northern Ecuador, for example in Esmeraldas and Sucumbíos regions, endured the spillover consequences of the armed conflict in Colombia, though these lessened in 2015 (see Colombia). Ecuadorean military forces sometimes deployed as law enforcement.

In both countries, protests intermittently turned violent, causing injuries/deaths; in Peru, upcoming elections in 2016 add to tensions.

The three countries covered maintained multilateral relations with other Latin American States through such regional bodies as the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR).

# **ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS**

The ICRC's Lima delegation documented the concerns/needs of violence-affected people in Peru's VRAEM region, and of Ecuadorean border communities experiencing the spillover effects of the Colombian armed conflict. These were discussed with the parties concerned, to help/persuade them to improve these people's situation. In Peru, military personnel ended their occupation of civilian structures in two villages in the VRAEM, and the authorities finalized a draft protocol formalizing assistance for adults and minors who had left PCP-M camps or been rescued from them.

The ICRC, the Ecuadorean Red Cross and the Peruvian Red Cross supported the authorities/local services in assisting violenceaffected communities. To increase the likelihood of ailing/injured people receiving suitable care, services concerned – including the Bolivian Institute for Rehabilitation (IBR), National Society firstaiders and health workers - strengthened their capacities. To ensure uninterrupted access to health care for communities in the VRAEM, the Peruvian health ministry continued to help health personnel reduce their safety risks. Some people in Ecuador and the VRAEM obtained basic services, with ICRC help: vulnerable communities benefited from upgraded water/sanitation systems and school infrastructure. In the VRAEM, people affected by violent incidents, or who had left/ been rescued from PCP-M camps, received emergency relief on an ad hoc basis.

Particularly in Peru, families maintained contact with and/or ascertained the fate of relatives separated from them, with ICRC help. People participated in the search for relatives missing in relation to the 1980–2000 conflict, or in the identification of their remains: for example, they used cash assistance to travel to exhumation sites and legal offices, and/or to transport remains and/or coffins. Staff of State agencies, notably the Institute of Legal Medicine (IML), strengthened their ability to help these families, through training in forensics and psychosocial care. A law on searching for missing persons was drafted by the authorities. Some detainees received ICRC-organized visits from their relatives.

In the three countries, detainees received ICRC visits, conducted according to its standard procedures. Feedback from such visits and technical advice helped/encouraged the authorities' efforts to improve detainee treatment and living conditions. Peruvian penitentiary/judiciary authorities moved to standardize the provision of such services as education/vocational training and health care to detainees, and a working group, formed with ICRC encouragement, drafted proposals on reducing overcrowding. Hundreds of Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian penitentiary staff - including police officers in Bolivia - boosted their managerial abilities at various training events supported by the ICRC. Thousands of inmates in Bolivian prisons, including minors, had better living conditions following upgrades to prison infrastructure and distributions of blankets/mattresses, hygiene supplies and other items.

Police agents and military personnel in law enforcement roles, notably Peruvian armed forces in the VRAEM, learnt more about international norms governing the use of force at briefings and/ or from their instructors. Information sessions and training events abroad helped troops add to their knowledge of IHL. With the national IHL committees in the region, the ICRC worked to advance implementation of IHL treaties by briefing and advising State officials. Peruvian authorities clarified Peru's legal definition of non-international armed conflict to no longer be applicable to protests, and drafted/amended laws governing the use of force. To facilitate the activities mentioned above, the ICRC/National Societies strove to broaden awareness of humanitarian issues among civil society and the authorities.

The region's National Societies strengthened their organizational structure/operational capacities with Movement support. Volunteers were helped/encouraged to apply the Safer Access Framework and promote respect for the red cross emblem, with a view to facilitating their work in violence-prone areas. Movement components coordinated their activities at regular meetings.

# **CIVILIANS**

# Peruvian armed forces end occupation of civilian structures in two VRAEM villages

People affected by armed confrontations in Ecuador and Peru, including people from Colombia, reported their concerns/needs to the ICRC; obstacles to obtaining essential services, for example, violent incidents affecting VRAEM health services, were also documented. These were discussed with the parties concerned, to help/persuade them to improve these people's situation.

In Peru, the authorities, military/security commands and the ICRC discussed the plight of VRAEM communities, and their rights. Afterwards, in late 2015, military troops moved out of civilian structures and into newly constructed military camps outside the communities; and military/security forces increased training for their personnel in international norms applicable to their operations in the VRAEM (see Actors of influence). The authorities finalized a draft protocol formalizing assistance for adults and minors who had left PCP-M camps or been rescued from them; the ICRC had been providing technical assistance for this process since 2014, when it got under way.

# The Peruvian health ministry helps health workers in the VRAEM lower the risk to their safety

The Peruvian health ministry sought to ensure uninterrupted access to health care for communities in the VRAEM communities. To this end, guided by the ICRC and in line with the Health Care in Danger project, it kept up its efforts to help health personnel work safely and to systematize domestic legal norms

granting them the protection due to them. It drafted a manual on managing security risks, and finalized for distribution cards for reminding health personnel of their duties/rights. Measures for self-protection, developed in 2014 with ICRC support, continued to be refined and disseminated; at various workshops, 58 health personnel were trained to apply them. Respect for the red cross emblem was fostered through various means (see Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement). Some 100 health-post personnel were trained to develop hygiene-promotion activities for schools.

To increase the likelihood that people receive appropriate/life-saving care, services concerned strengthened their capacities to treat weapon wounds and other injuries. Military surgeons exchanged best practices at a regional conference (see Colombia). National Society first-aiders practised their skills and/or trained Peruvian forensic workers and 160 Ecuadorean teachers and students in Esmeraldas; some of the latter established four first-aid brigades. Following protests in Ecuador and Peru (see Context), wounded people had on-site care from the Ecuadorean and Peruvian National Societies.

In Bolivia, 16 destitute amputees regained some mobility through treatment and assistive devices provided at the IBR; travel/ treatment costs were covered by the ICRC. A total of 80 members of the institute's staff developed their skills at health ministry/ ICRC-organized workshops; the ICRC sponsored specialized training abroad for one technician, and for two physiotherapists one each from the IBR and the health ministry.

# In Ecuador and Peru, communities cope with the effects of violence, with ICRC/National Society aid

Sixteen VRAEM communities, totalling over 2,700 people, were advised in establishing water boards for maintaining infrastructure; 1,592 of them directly benefitted from ICRC-upgraded water systems. Schoolchildren continued their education in 11 ICRC-upgraded/repaired schools.

In Ecuador, 425 people from violence-affected communities in the Sucumbios province used sanitation facilities with ICRC-provided building materials. Three communities learnt more about lowering their hygiene-related health risks, at first-aid/waste-management workshops by the National Society. Nearly 5,300 students benefited from ICRC-provided educational/recreational materials. Monitoring in one community confirmed that a cacao-farming project, supported by the ICRC until 2014 and by the National Society onwards, continued to help 255 households (1,000 people) supplement their income.

Particularly vulnerable people throughout the region, such as families who had lost relatives to violence, met their immediate needs with ad hoc assistance, including food, clothes and other items, or vouchers; wounded people covered treatment costs with cash. In the VRAEM, 67 people from PCP-M camps - mostly women and children - were given rations and food vouchers (6 people); and 19 families resettled in home/host communities with household essentials, such as kitchen sets and agricultural supplies/equipment.

# State agencies/NGOs in Peru strengthen their capacities in forensics and psychosocial care

In Peru, 489 people participated in ascertaining the fate of relatives missing in relation to the 1980-2000 conflict: they used cash assistance to travel to exhumation sites and legal offices, and/or to transport remains and/or coffins. The National Society's branch in Ayacucho offered free accommodation for them.

Peruvian State agencies/NGOs enhanced their capacities to help these families, by forming a coordination mechanism and helping staff - for example, 33 public prosecutors and 166 health workers build skills/knowledge in forensics and psychosocial care, and apply self-care measures in the field. Fifteen IML technicians drew on ICRC expertise to conduct their work, and the public prosecutor's office drafted a guide and procedures for forensic investigations. These efforts helped the authorities and others concerned turn over the remains of 34 people to their families, provide psychosocial care to families receiving the remains of 37 relatives, and hold commemorative activities. One association of families of missing persons refurbished its memorial museum. Dialogue and themed events, briefings for 233 key actors for example, aimed to encourage more support for these families from the authorities/ civil society. The authorities, guided by the ICRC, drafted a law covering the search for missing people and the assistance due to their families.

Construction of a mortuary cold chamber at a Bolivian forensics institute helped to enhance its services.

Authorities in the region were urged by National Societies and the ICRC to incorporate family-links services and management of human remains in their disaster response. Ecuadorean authorities used ICRC reports to prepare for the eruption of the Cotopaxi volcano, and in Peru, the IML held training sessions for the armed forces for the same purpose.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	THEIR FREEDOM		Farraday	Dawe
ICRC visits		Bolivia	Ecuador	Peru
Detainees visited		11,373	4,769	14,773
	of whom women	515	511	519
	of whom minors	3,164		
Detainees visited and monitored individually		10	6	148
	of whom women		2	12
Detainees newly registered		2	4	32
	of whom women		2	
Number of visits carried out		35	3	16
Number of places of detention visited		13	2	9
Restoring family links				
RCMs collected				2
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		1		1
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support			5	132
People to whom a detention attestation was issued				3

#### PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

# Peru moves to standardize the provision of services such as health care for women

Over 30,000 detainees throughout the region, including people held for reasons related to security, were visited by the ICRC in accordance with its standard procedures. Afterwards, confidential feedback and technical input were shared with the authorities, thereby helping them improve detainee treatment and living conditions.

In Peru, penitentiary/judiciary authorities drafted manuals on the provision of education/vocational training and other services for detainees, and a protocol governing health/medical care for female inmates. The working group on overcrowding in prisons, established at the ICRC's urging, drafted proposals for reducing the number of people in preventive detention, and on alternative sentencing - presidential pardons and the use of electronic shackles, for example - and the minimum benefits that should be available to detainees; these awaited approval by national authorities. Bolivia approved a national plan for penitentiary reform.

Detainees held far from their homes - 132 in Peru and 5 in Ecuador - spent time with their relatives during family visits, and 15 released detainees travelled home with ICRC financial assistance.

# Ecuadorean and Peruvian prison officials/staff strengthen their managerial capacities

Around 1,440 Peruvian prison staff, 580 Ecuadorean guards/ officers and some Bolivian prison/police officials exchanged best practices at workshops in their countries.

In Ecuador, 18 prison/police personnel earned diplomas in penitentiary studies. Training in international detention norms was enriched: prison authorities were advised in elaborating training tools for prison technicians such as human rights manual and a video on prison security; and, upon request by the justice ministry, 70 participants of a workshop on the prevention of torture were reminded of the relevant provisions in IHL and international human rights law.

The Peruvian authorities sought to check the spread of HIV/ AIDS and TB among inmates; 183 health workers from 54 prisons trained, at various workshops, in treating/preventing these diseases. Another 48 were advised on the possibility of using health insurance to defray detainees' treatment costs.

# In Bolivia, detainees, including scores of minors, have better living conditions

In six prisons, some 2,150 people, among whom 220 detained minors and children living with detained parents, were able to make themselves more comfortable and access improved services following the upgrade of cells, ventilation systems, facilities for vocational training and education/recreation, kitchens and a prison clinic. Some 2,800 inmates received household/hygiene essentials; minors slept more comfortably on blankets/mattresses, and/or used educational/recreational material provided by the ICRC.

In Peru, 837 detainees borrowed books and 161 received blankets and towels. The ICRC covered treatment costs for one wounded detainee.

#### **ACTORS OF INFLUENCE**

# Peru revises its definition of armed conflict and other IHL-related legislation

Peruvian authorities, with ICRC help, finished the four-year process of clarifying Peru's legal definition of non-international armed conflict to no longer be applicable to protests. Regarding the use of force, the authorities amended the law applicable to the military and, after 10 years of sustained technical support by the ICRC, adopted a new law applicable to the police; the drafting of regulations implementing the latter began. Bolivian and Peruvian legislators were advised on implementing the Rome Statute, as were Ecuadorean lawmakers that worked on aligning Ecuador's criminal code with IHL.

The region's national IHL committees, backed by the ICRC, continued promoting the adoption of measures to address the effects of past/ongoing violence, and the ratification of IHL treaties, such as the Arms Trade Treaty, and, in Ecuador, Additional Protocol III. At annual courses, State officials and members of civil society - including 80 prosecutors in the VRAEM - learnt more about IHL and were urged to draw on it where applicable. Government officials were sponsored to attend the 32nd International Conference and other events abroad (see Colombia and Mexico City); Ecuador and Peru participated in a Strengthening IHL meeting in Switzerland.

# Ecuadorean and Peruvian police reinforce agents' respect for law enforcement norms, with ICRC help

Weapon bearers participating in law enforcement operations were reminded of international norms governing the use of force. Among them were: in Peru, 180 police riot-control personnel and 40 military officers assigned to the VRAEM; and in Ecuador, 250 military officers. To advance the incorporation of these norms in the doctrine/training of police forces, Peru hosted a workshop where 60 police instructors developed their teaching skills, and Ecuador held an advanced course for senior officers throughout South America. In Bolivia, the interior ministry consented for the ICRC to contribute to human rights training, and the police command drafted a manual on the maintenance of public order.

Information sessions furthered understanding of IHL among: some 900 Bolivian military troops; and 120 members of Peru's special operations and intelligence division, who were also briefed on provisions of international human rights law applicable to military operations. Military officers from South America attended a regional workshop in Peru organized by the ICRC, UNASUR and the Peruvian military's IHL office. The ICRC helped Ecuador's defence ministry to publish a handbook on IHL. All three countries sent senior officers to an advanced course abroad (see International law and policy).

# Peruvian media fosters understanding of humanitarian issues relating to violence and missing people

Initiatives with National Societies/local partners – such as social media campaigns and themed events - and meetings with State/ regional authorities raised awareness, in Ecuador and Peru, of the plight of vulnerable communities, and of international human rights law/IHL among a wider audience. The media was regularly updated with interviews and press releases, and, in Peru, 40 journalists from Ayacucho and the VRAEM learnt more about accurate reporting on humanitarian issues, at a workshop.

In Peru, events that drew attention to issues concerning missing people and detainees, including one organized by the public prosecutor's office, were covered by the media. During protests, messages calling for respect for health/medical care were broadcast in radio, in coordination with the health ministry. The ICRC also began production of short films in local languages, to help families of missing people more easily learn of State policies applicable to them. Educational institutions - in Lima and Ayacucho, for instance hosted IHL-themed events. Ecuadorean and Peruvian students participated in moot court competitions locally and abroad. One Peruvian university established a prize for research in IHL, which stimulated interest in the subject.

## **RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT**

# National Societies call for safe access for their volunteers and for health workers

The National Societies in the region strengthened their emergency response with Movement support.

The Ecuadorian and Peruvian National Societies, who worked in violence-prone areas (see Civilians), were helped to mitigate risks to their volunteers' safety. With ICRC input, they promoted the proper use of the red cross emblem and the creation/strengthening of legislation to protect the emblem; they also urged volunteers, such as those working in areas along Ecuador's border with Colombia, to apply the Safer Access Framework. The Ecuadorean National Society, through its regional reference centre, urged respect for medical services, in line with the Health Care in Danger project.

National Societies took steps to improve their organizational/ financial structure and their management of volunteers. In Esmeraldas, 25 new volunteers decided, after taking first-aid courses in school (see Civilians), to establish a National Society branch in San Lorenzo town. The Bolivian Red Cross, amid financial/staffing constraints, began its modernization process.

Regular dialogue – during the Inter-American Red Cross Conference and at statutory meetings in Switzerland, for instance - helped Movement components coordinate their activities.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: PROTECTION	Total			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Red Cross messages (RCMs)		UAMs/SC*		
RCMs distributed	2			
Phone calls facilitated between family members	106			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons		Women	Girls	Boys
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	119	29	4	8
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)	336	58	11	29
including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation	1			
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
ICRC visits		Women	Minors	
Detainees visited	30,915	1,545	3,164	
		Women	Girls	Boys
Detainees visited and monitored individually	164	14		
Detainees newly registered	38	2		
Number of visits carried out	54			
Number of places of detention visited	24			
Restoring family links				
RCMs collected	2			
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	2			
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	137			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	3			

<sup>\*</sup>Unaccompanied minors/separated children

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: ASSISTANCE		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Food commodities	Beneficiaries	112	32%	56%
of whom IDPs	Beneficiaries	8		
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	6,637	6%	59%
of whom IDPs	Beneficiaries	7		
Cash	Beneficiaries	566	49%	6%
of whom IDPs	Beneficiaries	5		
Vouchers	Beneficiaries	19	63%	32%
of whom IDPs	Beneficiaries	8		
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	2,732	45%	60%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection programme)				
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	3,428		
Cash	Beneficiaries	16		
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	2,150		