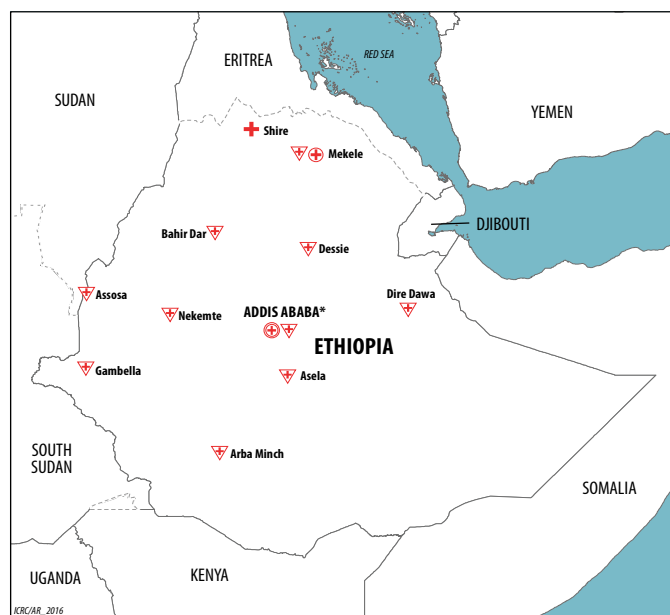


ETHIOPIA



ICRC/AR_2016
 ICRC delegation ICRC sub-delegation ICRC office ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation project
 *The ICRC delegation to African Union is also in Addis Ababa

The boundaries, names and designations used in this report do not imply official endorsement, nor express a political opinion on the part of the ICRC, and are without prejudice to claims of sovereignty over the territories mentioned.

KEY RESULTS/CONSTRAINTS IN 2016

- ▶ In the violence-affected regions of Gambella and Oromia, returnees rebuilt their homes using ICRC-provided shelter materials, and people wounded during outbreaks of violence received treatment at ICRC-supported hospitals.
- ▶ Vulnerable households, particularly those in drought-stricken areas, increased their agricultural production – for consumption and sale – with the help of ICRC-donated seed and tools, and water from ICRC-upgraded facilities.
- ▶ Persons with physical disabilities availed themselves of free services at ICRC-supported rehabilitation centres. Fifteen students completed a professional-certification programme and began to work at the centres.
- ▶ People dispersed by conflict and other situations of violence, including refugees, restored or maintained contact with their relatives using family-links services provided by the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the ICRC.
- ▶ Detainees in certain prisons received basic health care and had better living conditions, through measures taken by the authorities with ICRC support; donations of essential items and ICRC-led repair works also contributed to this.
- ▶ Military, police and special forces personnel added to their knowledge of IHL and internationally recognized standards applicable to arrests, detention and the use of force, at training sessions held by the ICRC.

EXPENDITURE IN KCHF

Protection	4,377
Assistance	10,240
Prevention	2,856
Cooperation with National Societies	1,445
General	70
Total	18,988
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>1,159</i>

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
---------------------------	-----

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	43
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	166

Continuously present in Ethiopia since 1977, the ICRC prioritizes protecting and assisting people detained, displaced or otherwise affected by the 1998–2000 international armed conflict with Eritrea or by other armed conflicts. It helps to preserve the livelihoods of conflict-affected communities, which also often grapple with natural disaster, and supports physical rehabilitation services. It visits detainees and restores family links, including for relatives separated by the closed Ethiopia–Eritrea border, ensuring compliance with IHL with regard to any persons still protected by the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions. It supports the Ethiopian Red Cross Society.

YEARLY RESULT

Level of achievement of ICRC yearly objectives/plans of action

MEDIUM

PROTECTION	Total
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)	
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	3,460
RCMs distributed	1,929
Phone calls facilitated between family members	17,021
Tracing cases closed positively (subject located or fate established)	248
People reunited with their families	2
<i>of whom unaccompanied minors/separated children</i>	2
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
ICRC visits	
Detainees visited	57,474
Detainees visited and monitored individually	262
Number of visits carried out	59
Number of places of detention visited	38
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	317
RCMs distributed	157
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	1,008

ASSISTANCE	2016 Targets (up to)	Achieved	
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)			
Food commodities	Beneficiaries	708	
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	36,700	61,139
Productive inputs	Beneficiaries	60,600	95,580
Cash	Beneficiaries	1,800	2,305
Services and training	Beneficiaries	40	
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)			
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	20,000	100,992
WOUNDED AND SICK			
Hospitals			
Hospitals supported	Structures	2	
Physical rehabilitation			
Projects supported	Projects	10	11
Patients receiving services	Patients	7,000	6,121

CONTEXT

Although Ethiopian and Eritrean forces clashed along the border in June 2016, fighting did not escalate further. Tensions persisted and the Eritrea-Ethiopia border remained sealed; both countries maintained a military presence in disputed areas.

Political and ethnic tensions – notably, demonstrations in Amhara and Oromia – caused insecurity and displacement. Violent clashes between ethnic groups, particularly in Gambella and along the border between Oromia and the Somali Regional State (SRS), resulted in casualties. Federal and regional police forces, and sometimes the Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF), responded to incidents of violence. In view of the unrest, the Ethiopian government declared a six-month state of emergency that began in October 2016.

Ethiopia continued to host about 740,000 refugees who had fled instability and violence in neighbouring countries, particularly Eritrea, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. Most refugees were in camps at border areas.

ENDF troops were deployed in a number of missions overseas. For example, the ENDF made up most of the UN peacekeeping contingent in Abyei, an area disputed by South Sudan and Sudan.

The authorities, with the help of humanitarian organizations, worked to address the needs brought on by drought in the region. Floods caused by rains after the drought resulted in displacement and damage to infrastructure in some areas.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

In 2016, the ICRC assisted people in Ethiopia affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, and continued to engage the authorities in dialogue to strengthen acceptance for its mandate and activities. It stood ready to resume selected activities in the SRS.

With the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, the ICRC helped people displaced by communal violence to cope with their situation, and eased their return to their villages. In Gambella and Oromia, returnees used ICRC-distributed shelter materials and household items to rebuild their homes. People wounded during outbreaks of violence, and refugees from South Sudan, were treated at hospitals given material assistance by the ICRC.

The ICRC continued to help people affected by armed conflict and other violence, particularly in drought-stricken areas, to rebuild their livelihoods. With water authorities, it constructed or upgraded infrastructure to increase the water supply in areas facing shortages. Households in Oromia and Tigray benefited from such projects, and thousands among them grew more food with seed and tools provided by the National Society and the ICRC. Some households set up vegetable gardens, which require less water, and supplemented their income by selling their harvest. Families in Tigray used cash loans, provided under a National Society and ICRC programme, to start small businesses.

Members of separated families – including refugees, Ethiopians abroad and returnees – reconnected through National Society and ICRC family-links services. People exchanged family news across the sealed Ethiopia–Eritrea border through RCMs. Families of persons reported as missing following the Ethiopia–Eritrea conflict shared their experiences and concerns at a commemorative event.

The ICRC continued to visit detainees, in accordance with its standard procedures, in all six federal prisons and at regional prisons. It confidentially shared its findings and, where necessary, its recommendations for improving detention conditions with the authorities. It pursued dialogue with them on access to other detainees, particularly those held in places of temporary detention.

The authorities kept up their efforts to construct and manage detention facilities, with technical input and other support from the ICRC. The ICRC also helped them plan and implement projects aimed at ensuring the availability of quality health-care services for detainees – notably, it donated medical supplies and trained prison health staff. Detainees in four prisons reduced some health risks through a pilot hygiene-improvement programme. Infrastructural improvements to basic facilities in prisons and emergency material assistance supplemented other support.

People with physical disabilities, including those injured by conflict or other violence, availed themselves of free physical rehabilitation services at ICRC-supported centres. The ICRC helped ensure the quality and sustainability of these services: for example, it supported the training of workers and contributed to local efforts to establish a bachelor's degree in prosthetics/orthotics. It sought to promote the social reintegration of disabled people by organizing wheelchair basketball events, including a national tournament.

The ICRC continued to promote IHL and humanitarian principles among the authorities, the police and the armed forces. It organized training sessions on internationally recognized standards applicable to arrest, detention and the use of force for police officers, and on IHL for ENDF officers. Dissemination sessions helped raise the general public's awareness of humanitarian issues. Students showcased their knowledge of IHL in moot court competitions.

The National Society and the ICRC continued to develop their partnership at the strategic, operational and technical levels. The ICRC provided training and financial, material and technical support for the National Society to strengthen its capacities in emergency response, restoring family links and promoting humanitarian principles, and to bolster its coordination with Movement partners.

CIVILIANS

Through discussions with the authorities, the ICRC sought to foster understanding of and support for IHL and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action. At dissemination sessions and during dialogue with them, the ICRC reminded the authorities and weapon bearers of their responsibility to protect civilians during conflict and other violence (see *Actors of influence*).

Returnees to violence-affected areas rebuild their homes with shelter materials from the ICRC

Over 59,000 people who had fled Gambella and Oromia because of intensified communal violence (see *Context*) returned and rebuilt their homes with ICRC-donated shelter materials and other items. The ICRC provided stocks of emergency household items to the National Society, which assisted IDPs in the SRS (see *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*). More people than planned benefited from such assistance, as the ICRC responded to increased needs by reallocating funds originally budgeted for certain livelihood activities (see below).

Wounded and sick people in Gambella and Oromia – including people wounded during violence and refugees from South Sudan – obtained medical care at two hospitals that received ICRC material assistance, including kits for treating the wounded and oxygen cylinders; water infrastructure in Gambella Hospital was upgraded.

People in drought-stricken areas grow more food, thanks to better water supply and material input

Households affected by conflict and other violence worked on restoring their livelihoods with material assistance from the National Society and the ICRC. These households were mainly in drought-stricken areas, where the ICRC focused its livelihood support activities; some funds were reallocated from activities that were not implemented as planned, such as, distributions that did not push through and the purchase of different seed types that were less expensive.

Thus, in Oromia and Tigray, over 13,800 households (some 82,900 people) grew food with ICRC-provided seed and tools; most of them also benefited from ICRC efforts to improve water supply (see below). Around 2,100 households (some 12,600 people) in Gambella and Tigray received agricultural input to set up vegetable gardens – which require less water – and fishing kits, enabling them to increase their food production and income through the sale of crops or fish.

In Tigray, under a programme implemented by the National Society in cooperation with the ICRC, 300 households (some 1,800 people) availed themselves of cash loans, which helped them start small businesses and supplement their income.

Over 82,000 people living in Oromia and Tigray, particularly those affected by shortages caused by the drought, had an improved supply of water after the ICRC upgraded water-distribution points and constructed truck-filling stations, which facilitated the authorities' water trucking efforts. At areas near the border with Eritrea, local water committee members attended training sessions on operating and maintaining systems; this helped ensure a more sustainable supply for some 4,000 people. The authorities also expanded their database of water points with the ICRC's help, which contributed to improving their planning of projects.

People learnt more about practices which could reduce their health risks, during ICRC hygiene-promotion activities.

Refugees and migrants restore contact with their relatives

People in Ethiopia, including refugees, kept in touch with their relatives within the country and elsewhere through Movement family-links services. The National Society continued to reinforce its family-links capacities with ICRC financial and technical support, notably by improving its database to follow up tracing cases more efficiently.

Members of families separated by the sealed Ethiopia–Eritrea border exchanged messages through RCMs. Nine Eritreans had their university transcripts sent across the border so that they could pursue further studies. Some 700 people who returned from Eritrea received household and hygiene items, water and food, and transport assistance; 371 of them made calls to notify their families of their safe arrival. At a commemorative event, the families of missing persons discussed their experiences and concerns with each other and with social workers; local government officials and others attended the event.

Refugees in camps contacted their relatives through RCMs and phone calls. Nearly 1,000 Somali refugees in the SRS had the names of their missing relatives read out on the radio, via the BBC's Somali service to help their families locate them (see also *Somalia*). Family-links services for South Sudanese refugees resumed in the latter half of the year, after initially being limited by the security situation.

People located abroad approached the ICRC for help in finding and contacting their families in Ethiopia, or in informing their families of their detention. Some unaccompanied Ethiopian minors, returning to Ethiopia after an attempt to migrate, made phone calls to notify their families of their return. Amid the violence in Gambella (see *Context*), the ICRC assessed the need for family-links services among children who had returned to the country; in cooperation with local authorities, two children were reunited with their families in Ethiopia (see *South Sudan*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees stay in touch with their families

Through visits conducted according to its standard procedures, the ICRC monitored the treatment and living conditions of over 57,000 detainees held in regional and federal prisons in Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Harar, Oromia, the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS) and Tigray. Of the detainees visited, 262, including 63 Eritreans, were followed up individually. The ICRC confidentially shared its findings and, when necessary, its recommendations with the detaining authorities. It pursued discussions with them on access to all detainees, including people held in places of temporary detention in relation to the state of emergency or by the Federal Police Crime Investigation Sector and the Central Investigation Department.

Police officers learnt more about internationally recognized standards on arrest and detention at training sessions (see *Actors of influence*).

Detainees restored or maintained contact with their family through RCMs and short oral messages relayed by ICRC delegates; 58 foreigners had their embassies notified of their detention. At their request, 53 released detainees were provided with certificates attesting to their detention, to help them apply for State benefits or to facilitate legal procedures.

Authorities strengthen their capacity to build and manage new prisons

Penitentiary authorities at regional and federal levels, drawing on ICRC expertise, continued their efforts to design and construct detention facilities. The federal prison administration developed operating and maintenance procedures, in preparation for opening four prisons; and the SNNPRS prison commission continued its construction of 11 prisons, with the supervision of an ICRC engineer. The regional Amhara prison commission worked on finalizing architectural plans for three prisons.

At an ICRC-organized workshop, penitentiary authorities in SNNPRS and Tigray learnt more about prison design and their roles in the construction process; this helped them further develop their capacities. Training and other activities were postponed, owing to delays in prison construction.

Detainees were provided with material assistance to ease their circumstances, notably after their numbers increased following communal violence in Amhara and Oromia: almost

26,000 detainees received household and recreational items, and living conditions for more than 36,000 detainees in 16 federal and regional prisons improved after the ICRC upgraded or constructed water, sanitation and cooking facilities.

Detainees have broader access to appropriate health-care services

Detaining authorities and prison health staff worked to improve the availability and quality of health services in prisons, with ICRC technical and material backing.

Detainees at the Dessie prison in Amhara continued to receive secondary-level health care at a clinic that was constructed and equipped under a 2015 agreement between the regional penitentiary authorities and the ICRC. At ICRC-conducted training courses, prison health professionals in Amhara improved their expertise in preventing outbreaks of disease among detainees, managing medical supplies and screening newly arrived detainees, among other matters.

In Oromia, detainees received medical care at a regional referral prison clinic that enhanced its services with ICRC support. Five other prisons in Oromia drew on ICRC assistance to cope with influxes of detainees following communal violence. Detainees in Gambella prison were treated by service providers that used ICRC-provided drugs and medical supplies.

To help ensure the availability of good-quality mental health care in federal and regional prisons, 34 prison health professionals were trained in identifying and assisting detainees with mental health problems. A pilot hygiene-improvement programme was completed, helping reduce health risks among detainees in four prisons.

WOUNDED AND SICK

People with disabilities receive free, good-quality rehabilitation services

Over 6,100 persons with physical disabilities availed themselves of free rehabilitation services at 11 physical rehabilitation centres supported by the ICRC. Some 770 patients who were particularly vulnerable, or lived in remote areas, had their food, transport and administrative costs covered while they underwent treatment.

Rehabilitation centres made use of raw materials, equipment and technical support provided by the ICRC; their staff and some members of prosthetic/orthotic professional associations developed their skills, including their managerial abilities, at ICRC-conducted training sessions. The quality of the services and assistive devices provided by the centres was monitored and evaluated by the ICRC through beneficiary interviews and technical assessments; results from seven centres showed that most patients were satisfied with the services they received.

Wheelchair basketball players from different regions joined an exhibition game and a basketball tournament; these events were organized by the Ethiopian Basketball Federation and the ICRC to help promote the social reintegration of disabled people.

Prosthetics/orthotics service providers complete their professional certification course

The authorities continued working to improve the sustainability of physical rehabilitation services. In particular, the labour and social affairs ministry sustained efforts to establish a bachelor's

degree programme in prosthetics and orthotics; related discussions, between a local university and the ICRC, continued.

All 15 students taking a three-year professional-certification programme in prosthetics and orthotics, with ICRC support, completed their studies and began to work at physical rehabilitation centres.

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Police forces develop their understanding of international policing standards

Over 300 members of the military, the regional police forces and the special police forces – including riot-control officers – added to their knowledge of internationally recognized standards applicable to arrests, detention and the use of force, for example in the context of communal violence in Amhara and Oromia, at training sessions organized by the ICRC with regional and local police commissions. The sessions were led by instructors trained by the ICRC in 2015. At predeployment briefings, nearly 70 police personnel bound for peace-support operations in South Sudan familiarized themselves with similar topics.

Authorities included international policing standards in the training of police officers, with ICRC encouragement and support; they evaluated this matter at a round-table discussion. The Ethiopian Police University College held train-the-trainer sessions for 30 instructors; teaching and informational materials were produced and distributed to training centres and police stations.

Cooperation between the Ethiopian International Peacekeeping Training Centre and the ICRC continued: predeployment training was organized for 25 senior officers, and the ICRC made presentations on IHL at events attended by senior officers from various countries. Over a hundred ENDF legal advisers added to their knowledge of the complementarity of national law and IHL at seminars.

The ENDF's Combat Engineering Division continued to strengthen their capacities to reduce mine contamination, with ICRC support: personnel trained in demining with an ICRC expert, and team leaders received mine detectors and other tools, and protective equipment, for their operations.

Law students demonstrate their knowledge of IHL at a national moot court competition

To gain access to communities affected by conflict and other violence, and to people in places of temporary detention, the ICRC engaged the authorities in dialogue – including at high-level meetings during the ICRC president's visit – to foster their understanding of and support for IHL and neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action (see also *Civilians* and *People deprived of their freedom*). More than 1,000 local authorities, community leaders, students and National Society volunteers in violence-prone areas learnt more about the basic principles of IHL and the Movement's work, at National Society and ICRC dissemination sessions. Participants who attended a seminar organized by a university and the ICRC learnt more about IHL, particularly the First Geneva Convention; the event was also an opportunity for the ICRC to network with government and academic bodies. Articles and photo galleries published online helped broaden public awareness of Movement activities; media personnel honed their skills in reporting on humanitarian issues at ICRC-organized workshops and briefings.

At a national moot court competition organized by a university with ICRC support, and at a regional competition (see *Nairobi*), law students showcased their understanding of IHL.

The foreign affairs ministry worked towards finalizing documents for the country's accession to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. The ministry signed a framework agreement with the ICRC, clarifying the activities of the ICRC and its partnership with the National Society. The ICRC and the federal affairs committee continued to discuss the establishment of a national IHL committee.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The National Society strengthens its readiness to respond to emergencies

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society assisted communities affected by violence and natural disasters, provided family-links services (see *Civilians*) and promoted awareness of humanitarian principles and the protection due to the red cross emblem (see *Actors of Influence*). Red Cross youth clubs, established with the ICRC's help, and other youth events were venues for young people to learn more about the Fundamental Principles and develop first-aid skills.

The National Society worked to strengthen its operational capacities and organizational development, with material, technical and financial backing, and training from the ICRC and other Movement partners.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society improved its ability and readiness to respond to emergencies. With ICRC logistical support and material assistance, it distributed essential household items to 1,000 IDP households in the SRS. It also pre-positioned emergency goods in other violence-prone areas. Guidelines and a training curriculum for National Society disaster-response teams were drawn up; some of their field equipment was supplied by the ICRC. The National Society encouraged volunteers to apply the Safer Access Framework, incorporating related material into their training. At train-the-trainer courses, volunteers from different branches developed their skills in teaching first aid, and reached hundreds of people with first-aid training courses.

National Society staff attended, with the ICRC's financial assistance, management workshops and other training in specific administrative duties. The salaries of key personnel were covered in part by the ICRC.

The National Society and other Movement components met regularly to coordinate activities, particularly in connection with incidents of violence and drought; this interaction enhanced the National Society's cooperation with Movement partners.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: PROTECTION		Total			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
RCMs and other means of family contact			UAMs/SC		
RCMs collected		3,460	42		
RCMs distributed		1,929	18		
Phone calls facilitated between family members		17,021			
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families		2			
	<i>including people registered by another delegation</i>	2			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			Women	Girls	Boys
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		549	109	158	58
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	139			
Tracing cases closed positively (subject located or fate established)		248			
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	94			
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)		914	179	173	89
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	141			
Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) /separated children (SC), including demobilized child soldiers			Girls		Demobilized children
UAMs/SC newly registered by the ICRC/National Society		3	1		
UAMs/SC reunited with their families by the ICRC/National Society		2	1		
	<i>including UAMs/SC registered by another delegation</i>	2			
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at the end of the reporting period		35	8		
Documents					
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		21			
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)					
ICRC visits			Women	Minors	
Detainees visited		57,474	2,150	1,587	
			Women	Girls	Boys
Detainees visited and monitored individually		262	10	2	7
Detainees newly registered		134	2		4
Number of visits carried out		59			
Number of places of detention visited		38			
RCMs and other means of family contact					
RCMs collected		317			
RCMs distributed		157			
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		1,008			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued		53			

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	708	249	197
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	61,139	34,671	4,465
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	59,160	34,370	4,136
Productive inputs	Beneficiaries	95,580	48,121	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	28,409	17,046	
Cash	Beneficiaries	2,305	1,555	114
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	100,992	50,496	25,248
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection programme)				
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	25,939	644	518
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	36,346	3,271	363
Health				
Visits carried out by health staff		10		
Places of detention visited by health staff	Structures	19		
Health facilities supported in places of detention visited by health staff	Structures	14		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals				
Hospitals supported	Structures	2		
Physical rehabilitation				
Projects supported	Projects	11		
Patients receiving services	Patients	6,121	1,273	1,196
New patients fitted with prostheses	Patients	690	113	79
Prostheses delivered	Units	1,335	228	134
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	121	1	1
New patients fitted with orthoses	Patients	681	154	280
Orthoses delivered	Units	1,732	387	897
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	5		
Patients receiving physiotherapy	Patients	2,240	503	444
Walking aids delivered	Units	3,668	686	330
Wheelchairs or tricycles delivered	Units	205	39	22