

LIMA (regional)

COVERING: Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru



⊕ ICRC regional delegation + ICRC office/presence

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	1,979
Assistance	457
Prevention	1,809
Cooperation with National Societies	850
General	-

► **5,095**

of which: Overheads 311

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	97%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	8
National staff (daily workers not included)	32

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- extended its network of contacts in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, while implementing a joint project with health authorities and local NGOs to address mental health problems in violence-affected communities
- welcomed the agreement of the Bolivian authorities to cooperate on incorporating IHL/international human rights norms into military and police doctrine, training and operations and into national legislation
- in Peru, on 2 occasions comprehensively addressed the humanitarian consequences of social violence by providing medical assistance, discussing the use of force with authorities and law enforcers, and visiting people arrested
- contributed to strengthening psychological and social support to missing persons' relatives in Peru by providing NGOs and family associations with funding, and medical, legal and forensic officials with expertise
- in Ecuador, reinforced its presence along the border with Colombia, enabling it to strengthen dialogue with weapon bearers and to support an Ecuadorean Red Cross project to help remote communities improve their water supply
- welcomed the ratification by Ecuador of the Conventions on Cluster Munitions and on Enforced Disappearance, and the adoption of a resolution on missing persons by the Organization of American States

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 internal strife and reinforces the capacities of the region's National Societies to do the same. It helps security forces integrate human rights norms applicable to the use of force into their doctrine, training and operations and the armed forces do the same for IHL. It also promotes the incorporation of IHL into national legislation.

CONTEXT

In the Plurinational State of Bolivia (hereafter Bolivia), Ecuador and Peru, deep-rooted social, political and indigenous grievances frequently sparked protests that turned violent. Confrontations between protesters and law enforcement agents often resulted in injuries, arrests and, sometimes, deaths. In Bolivia, this was the case during outbreaks of violence in Potosí, Santa Cruz and Caranavi, and in the main cities at year-end, following protests against a government decree, later rescinded, announcing a fuel price hike. In Ecuador, social tension peaked on 30 September

when President Rafael Correa was briefly sequestered by police dissatisfied with pay conditions, and later freed by armed forces units. In Peru, social conflict triggered violence, for example in Arequipa and Piura.

In Peru's Apurímac-Ene valley, civilians suffered the effects of weapon contamination, movement restrictions and sporadic clashes between armed forces and Shining Path members. In Ecuador's northern border provinces, communities were at risk because of the presence of weapon bearers linked to the armed conflict in neighbouring Colombia.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs distributed	4		
Phone calls facilitated between family members	9		
Documents			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines	3		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited	312		
Detainees visited and monitored individually	253	66	13
Detainees newly registered	89	6	13
Number of visits carried out	58		
Number of places of detention visited	22		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	5		
RCMs distributed	1		
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	1		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	42		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	5		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Bolivia and Peru

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The Lima delegation kept a close eye on situations of violence and their impact on civilians in all three countries covered. It endeavoured to address these through dialogue with weapon bearers and authorities, visits to detainees, and emergency assistance to affected populations. In parallel, it worked to strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies to respond to such situations, alongside the ICRC or independently.

In Ecuador and Peru, the ICRC dealt with the issue of excessive use of force in situations of violence through awareness-raising and the training of armed and security forces and continued cooperation with the military and police on integrating IHL and international human rights norms into their doctrine, training and operations. It signed similar cooperation agreements with the Bolivian military and police.

The Bolivian authorities expressed their support for a fledgling ICRC project to address mental health needs in violence-affected communities in the Pando department; residents were trained as health promoters so that they could provide services in their own communities.

In Ecuador, the ICRC regularly visited the Carchi, Esmeraldas and Sucumbíos departments bordering Colombia to monitor the situation of the population living there and to foster dialogue with armed forces stationed there regarding the need to respect and protect the civilian population; it also shared these concerns with armed forces at central level. To get a clearer picture of the humanitarian consequences stemming from the spillover of Colombia's armed conflict, the ICRC opened an office in Nueva Loja, Sucumbíos. An ICRC-funded rainwater recycling project of the Ecuadorean Red Cross ensured that Putumayo river communities had access to safer water.

In Peru, the ICRC stepped up field trips to the Apurímac-Ene valley, where it prepared a school sanitation project with the health and education authorities, and to Alto Huallaga. Delegates registered and followed individually the cases of people arrested in connection with the situation there, and shared their concerns and recommendations regarding the protection of civilians with military, police and civil authorities. Security detainees in other places benefited from similar visits, while prison staff were trained in human rights norms.

In Peru, as in Bolivia, where it also visited security detainees, the ICRC provided the penitentiary administration with support to address prison health issues. Prison administrators from 11 Spanish-speaking countries discussed detainee health issues at an ICRC regional seminar in Lima.

Using a combination of awareness-raising and technical support activities, the ICRC worked to keep the issue of missing persons and the support due to their families on the agendas of the Peruvian authorities and civil society and of the Washington-based Organization of American States (OAS), which held its General Assembly in Lima. It also raised this and other issues of mutual concern with the region's three permanent missions to the OAS. In Bolivia, the ICRC prepared to assess national forensic capacities.

To promote the ratification and implementation of IHL in all three countries, the ICRC worked with the respective national IHL committee. In Peru, one partner university introduced an IHL degree, while two others started teaching IHL as part of other courses.

CIVILIANS

In all three countries, as social protests turned violent, injured civilians and police officers received first aid from National Society volunteers and were taken to hospital if necessary. In Arequipa and Piura, Peru, the injured received medical attention from the ICRC, which also visited people arrested (see *People deprived of their freedom*) and documented allegations of excessive use of force by both police and demonstrators. Observations on the need to curb excessive use of force and ensure proper medical treatment for the injured were later shared with the police high command. The need to promote respect for civilians, basic humanitarian principles, the emblem and medical services was stressed in all ICRC dialogue with weapon bearers (see *Armed forces and other bearers of weapons*), with the authorities both at central level and during frequent ICRC visits to areas variously affected or threatened by violence (see *Context*), and with community representatives.

Communities in such areas were better able to deal with their situation thanks to ICRC-funded projects. This was the case of some 15 communities in Bolivia's Pando department still psychologically scarred by violence that erupted there in 2008. To help address mental problems and other violence-related issues, 12 future health promoters attended eight two-day training sessions enabling them to provide services in their own communities under a pilot project carried out in close cooperation with the Health Ministry, local NGOs and an indigenous women's organization. In Ecuador's Sucumbíos region, 163 families living in communities along the Putumayo river bordering Colombia learnt how to improve their water supply and reduce health risks by recycling rainwater and adopting better hygiene practices through an ICRC-funded project of the Ecuadorean Red Cross. In both Bolivia and Ecuador, these projects resulted in plans to extend similar initiatives to other communities in 2011. In Peru's remote Canaire region, in the Apurímac-Ene valley, 30 teachers received training and teaching materials in preparation for a pilot

project conducted with the education and health authorities to improve hygiene and sanitation in schools.

In all three countries, people who had been uprooted or lived in remote areas were offered National Society/ICRC services to locate or restore contact with family.

Families of missing persons have access to psychological and social support

Peruvian State bodies and NGOs worked to optimize their coordination and practices to clarify the fate of some 15,000 people missing as a result of Peru's past armed conflict and to assist their families, with ICRC technical back-up and funding.

Missing persons' families had better access to psychological and social services thanks to an ICRC-supported project carried out by a Peruvian NGO, while State and private organizations worked to have such services incorporated into forensic investigation procedures. To this end, they held three coordination meetings and sent representatives to the second World Congress on Psychosocial Work in Exhumation Processes, Forced Disappearance, Justice and Truth (see *Colombia*), where they shared best practices with forensic experts from other countries. The national association of families of missing persons and detainees drew up objectives and action plans at a workshop organized and financed by the ICRC, which also funded the participation of associations in national fora and the organization of awareness-raising and information events.

As part of an ICRC-supported project, a specialized NGO continued to collect ante-mortem data from families of the missing, which were fed into a centralized victim registry established by the State Reparations Commission to facilitate the identification of human remains. Meanwhile, ICRC efforts were directed at further clarifying the procedural framework for and encouraging best practices in the work of prosecutors and forensic experts during exhumations (see *Authorities*).

With their travel expenses covered by the ICRC, 98 relatives of missing persons were able to take part in preliminary investigations and travel to exhumation sites. Where needed, families were provided with coffins by the ICRC.

To strengthen forensic capacity, Peru set up a coordination mechanism to standardize technical procedures for forensic institutes, organized regular meetings of forensic teams and assessed the technical needs of the national Medico-Legal Institute, resulting in ICRC funding of a conference on forensic anthropology hosted by Peru's Catholic University (see *Civil society*). Peruvian forensic practitioners broadened their knowledge at events held in Peru and abroad, such as the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in the United States of America and a train-the-trainer course on ante/post-mortem data management in Geneva, Switzerland.

In Bolivia, where 158 people were still missing from the time of military rule, the head of the national forensic service agreed to an assessment of capacities and training needs, to be carried out with ICRC support.

Directors of Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian institutes of forensic medicine attended the fourth Conference of Latin American and Caribbean Institutes of Forensic Medicine, held in Santiago de Chile, Chile, in November (see *Brasilia*).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

In Ecuador, the ICRC stood ready to visit people arrested during protests or for alleged links with armed groups. In Bolivia, a number of people were detained for security reasons. In Peru, people continued to be arrested, frequently on “terrorism” charges, especially in the violence-prone Alto Huallaga and Ayacucho regions. In both Bolivia and Peru, these detainees were visited, according to standard ICRC procedures, by delegates, who checked on their treatment and living conditions and then provided the authorities with confidential feedback, recommending or carrying out improvements as needed. In Peru, detainees held in a police station enjoyed better access to running water and shower facilities thanks to ICRC renovation work, and in another detention centre inmates were better able to cope with overcrowded conditions after receiving ICRC-donated mattresses and board games. Proposals for improvements in six temporary detention centres were included in a working paper to be shared with the relevant authorities in early 2011.

The detainees were offered the RCM service to contact relatives and were able to receive family visits financed by the ICRC.

Authorities provided with technical back-up to improve the penitentiary system

In Peru, the Justice Ministry and the ICRC renewed a cooperation agreement aimed at accelerating the judicial process and reducing chronic overcrowding by strengthening the public defender system. In three workshops, 120 court-appointed lawyers updated their knowledge of criminal law, enabling them to give adequate legal counsel and bringing to 380 the number of public defenders trained over a three-year period. This initiative was backed up by a revised manual informing detainees and lawyers of the new procedures and detainees’ rights, produced by the ministry with ICRC technical support.

In a new initiative, 32 staff of the national penitentiary administration (INPE) from five regions were coached in teaching human rights norms to other prison personnel at Peru’s first course for prison human rights instructors. The course, held in March, was co-organized by INPE, the centre for penitentiary studies and the ICRC, based on a manual produced in 2008 with ICRC technical and financial support. The newly qualified instructors in turn trained 194 colleagues countrywide.

In Bolivia, ICRC recommendations regarding penitentiary reforms, including the introduction of a digitized detainee registry and training of prison staff, had not resulted in any follow-up by year-end. Similarly, the opening of the new Qalauma rehabilitation centre for young offenders continued to be delayed, although the authorities were provided with internal regulations specifically produced for the centre by an NGO, with ICRC expertise.

Penitentiary authorities work to control TB and HIV/AIDS

At the ICRC’s fourth Latin American seminar on prison health in Lima, prison administrators and health specialists from 11 Spanish-speaking countries discussed best practices in addressing detainee health issues such as tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted infections.

The Peruvian penitentiary administration and the ICRC monitored the TB- and HIV/AIDS-control programmes under way in four of the country’s prisons, which enabled them to identify shortcomings and take remedial action to ensure that national standards were properly applied. An ICRC report on detainees’ mental health issues did not yet lead to any action as the authorities had other priorities.

In Bolivia, disease-control issues were addressed through the training of 15 prison health staff at a one-week certification course organized by the Health Ministry with ICRC support, while experts discussed ways to tackle TB and HIV/AIDS at an ICRC seminar in Santa Cruz in November. The authorities also used the findings of an assessment conducted jointly with the ICRC in eight major prisons to present a new funding proposal to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and prepared a training module on the national TB programme for prison health professionals with ICRC participation.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM	PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA	PERU
ICRC visits		
Detainees visited	33	279
Detainees visited and monitored individually	31	222
	<i>of whom women</i>	66
	<i>of whom minors</i>	12
Detainees newly registered	17	72
	<i>of whom women</i>	6
	<i>of whom minors</i>	12
Number of visits carried out	10	48
Number of places of detention visited	3	19
Restoring family links		
RCMs collected		5
RCMs distributed		1
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		1
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support		42
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	4	1

The training of health promoters recruited among the prison population was carried out by the penitentiary authorities in Peru without further ICRC involvement, but was shelved in Bolivia, where prison health services were not yet up to ensuring the continuity of training.

AUTHORITIES

National authorities and OAS permanent missions discussed with the ICRC the need to regulate the use of force in situations of violence, to respect the emblem and to prevent disappearances. The OAS adopted a resolution on missing persons proposed by Peru at its 40th General Assembly in Lima.

In all three countries, following up a 2008 regional meeting, experts carried out ICRC-commissioned studies on the compatibility of international rules governing the use of force with national legislation. Ecuador's IHL committee included regulation of the use of force and the protection of civilians in its two-year work plan and worked towards the adoption of emblem legislation, while Peru's committee drafted legislation on the use of force by the military, according to IHL requirements and other applicable standards. The proper use of force was also the central theme debated by government, military, civil society and National Society representatives at the fifth Miguel Grau seminar organized by Peru's IHL committee, with ICRC technical support. Based on the outcome of ICRC-initiated workshops in 2009, the committee prepared a working paper for the authorities outlining best practices in preventing disappearances, clarifying the fate of missing persons and providing support to their families.

The Ecuadorean and Peruvian IHL committees drew on ICRC expertise to promote and implement IHL treaties and sent representatives to a regional conference of IHL committees (see *Mexico*), while the Bolivian committee requested the ICRC's cooperation. Ecuador ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on Enforced Disappearance and examined draft legislation to implement the Rome Statute. Peru drafted legislation outlawing the recruitment of child soldiers.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

In all dialogue with the ICRC, whether at central level or on the spot following violent incidents, weapon bearers were reminded to observe rules governing the use of force and respect humanitarian principles.

Armed forces incorporate IHL and human rights standards

The Bolivian Defence Ministry and the ICRC signed a cooperation agreement on the integration of IHL and international human rights norms into military doctrine, training and operations and began working on an action plan.

In Ecuador, IHL had been integrated into military curricula at all levels. The IHL committee, comprising representatives of the Ministry of Defence, armed forces Joint Command,

the Ecuadorean Red Cross and the ICRC, included in its agenda the revision of legislation regulating armed forces' activities on the Colombian border. The National Society also accompanied the ICRC in its dialogue with weapon bearers stationed in Quito and near the northern border.

In both countries, the vice-ministers of defence and military commanders listened to presentations on IHL and ICRC activities, and officers attended courses for IHL/international human rights law instructors; in Bolivia, these were organized by the Defence Ministry, with ICRC support, and in Ecuador, by the ICRC. In Ecuador, troops were familiarized with the basic principles of IHL.

The Peruvian armed forces' IHL centre organized some 60 courses on IHL/international human rights law for officers and other military personnel, with ICRC input. Peacekeepers going to Haiti learnt about the ICRC's mandate and activities at two courses organized by the peacekeeping training centre.

Ecuador and Peru sent officers to an IHL course in San Remo, while Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian officers participated in the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations, held in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Police work to integrate rules on the use of force

After signing an agreement with the ICRC, the Bolivian Interior Ministry and police commanders established an action plan, allowing training in international standards governing the use of force to go ahead, and requested ICRC input to update police doctrine.

In Ecuador, the police human rights department pursued cooperation with the ICRC, requesting its expertise in the drafting of a manual on law enforcement operations. Police officers stationed in Cuenca and along the northern border learnt about human rights norms relating to policing at two seminars organized with ICRC participation.

Peru's police leadership and the ICRC discussed strategies to limit the use of force in situations of violence, starting with police doctrine and education and focusing on special units. At two ICRC-supported training events, 30 instructors updated their human rights teaching skills, and 50 riot police studied human rights norms.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Regionwide, the general public kept abreast of ICRC activities through a variety of sources, including the ICRC website and the media. To be able to portray these accurately and help raise awareness of humanitarian concerns, some 150 journalists attended briefings and workshops; in Peru, the plight of missing persons' families was highlighted in an initiative to commemorate the missing by knitting a giant "Scarf of hope". A wide audience learnt about the humanitarian consequences of violence and the dangers of weapon contamination by cluster munitions through two ICRC photo exhibitions.

With ICRC sponsorship, university lecturers from Ecuador and Peru attended an advanced IHL course in Switzerland, while a Peruvian student team participated in the 22nd Jean Pictet Competition on IHL held in Canada. Peru's Centre for Higher National Studies introduced a human rights law/IHL master's degree, and another university incorporated IHL slots into penal law and public administration courses. Peru's Catholic University integrated IHL into international public law studies and hosted a conference on forensic anthropology and a human rights contest for representatives of relevant universities in the region.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Bolivian, Ecuadorean and Peruvian Red Cross Societies strengthened their emergency response capacities with ICRC technical support and funding, enabling them to respond in situations of violence (see *Context*), and the Ecuadorean Red Cross to work along the northern border (see *Civilians*). All three National Societies trained staff and volunteers in first aid and the Safer Access approach and carried out family-links activities, following ICRC training in 2009.

With support from the International Federation and the ICRC, the Peruvian Red Cross started an extensive review process ahead of developing a 2011–2020 strategic plan and revising its statutes. The National Society leadership elected in 2009 was still waiting to take over from the transitional management appointed during the internal crisis.