

JAKARTA (regional)

COVERING: Indonesia, Timor-Leste



ICRC / AR, 2010

⊕ ICRC regional delegation ⊕ ICRC mission

EXPENDITURE (IN KCHF)

Protection	2,204
Assistance	347
Prevention	1,846
Cooperation with National Societies	1,121
General	-

▶ **5,517**

of which: Overheads 337

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	79%
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PERSONNEL

Expatriates	10
National staff (daily workers not included)	56

KEY POINTS

In 2010, the ICRC:

- ▶ held high-level meetings with the Indonesian authorities with a view to drafting a new agreement formalizing the ICRC's presence and activities in the country
- ▶ handed to the Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities a first list of minors who were unaccounted for and published a special report on the needs of families of missing persons
- ▶ held a seminar on water, sanitation and habitat in detention for prison officials from 8 South-East Asian countries
- ▶ supported the Indonesian Red Cross Society's response to 3 major natural disasters in the fields of water and sanitation and restoring family links
- ▶ co-organized a regional seminar on disaster-victim identification and human-remains management with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations secretariat and Australia's Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine
- ▶ signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Education of Timor-Leste and the Timor-Leste Red Cross launching the pilot phase of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and in Timor-Leste following its independence in 2002. In each country, the ICRC supports the National Society in boosting its emergency response capacities. The ICRC cooperates with the authorities to improve penitentiary standards, while seeking to visit detainees and monitor conditions. It works with the armed forces (and the police in Indonesia) to promote the inclusion of IHL in their training. It maintains dialogue with regional bodies and conducts activities with universities to further the study of IHL and humanitarian principles. In Timor-Leste, it provides support to the families of missing persons.

CONTEXT

Politically stable and economically strong, Indonesia continued to develop its influence in regional affairs, including within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and on the international scene.

The Indonesian security forces pursued their fight against “terrorism”, reportedly arresting several hundred suspects, mostly in Java and Sumatra. Security incidents, involving the armed and police forces, affected isolated areas of Papua province. The government called on Papuan pro-independence movements to reject all use of violence as a pre-condition for starting negotiations on the status of the province.

Hundreds of thousands of people were affected by major natural disasters in Indonesia, most notably a volcano eruption in Central

Java, an earthquake and tsunami in West Sumatra, and flash floods in West Papua.

The Timor-Leste authorities continued to reform all spheres of public administration, including education, the judiciary and the security forces. Most of the humanitarian problems linked to past conflicts had been solved and the last IDP camps were closed in March. However, thousands of families were still seeking the truth about what happened to relatives who went missing during the conflict.

With its secretariat in Jakarta, ASEAN focused on boosting regional cooperation, including in the field of defence, and on strengthening its role in multilateral diplomacy. It worked to implement its Community Blueprints notably with respect to dispute resolution and conflict management.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION

CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)			
Red Cross messages	Total	UAMs/SCs*	
RCMs collected	189		
RCMs distributed	160		
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons	Total	Women	Minors
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered	53	10	19
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	172		
Tracing cases still being handled at 31 December 2010 (people)	2,220	214	397
Documents			
People to whom travel documents were issued	13		
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses) ¹			
ICRC visits	Total	Women	Minors
Detainees visited and monitored individually	28		1
Detainees newly registered	2		1
Number of visits carried out	5		
Number of places of detention visited	2		
Restoring family links	Total		
RCMs collected	73		
RCMs distributed	57		
Detainees visited by their relatives with ICRC/National Society support	1		
People to whom a detention attestation was issued	24		

* Unaccompanied minors/separated children

1. Timor-Leste only

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC pursued discussions with the Indonesian authorities with a view to redefining the basis and scope of its action in the country and to reaching an agreement formalizing its presence and activities, including on behalf of people deprived of their freedom, suspended since 2009. In high-level meetings, the ministers of foreign affairs and of law and human rights expressed their support for the drafting of such an agreement.

The ICRC kept the issue of people who went missing during past conflicts in East Timor on the agendas of the Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities. It provided them with a consolidated list

of minors who were unaccounted for, published a report on the needs of the families of missing persons, and liaised with Timorese officials involved in preparing a law supporting the establishment of a mechanism to assist the families. Working with the Timor-Leste Red Cross, the ICRC contacted the families of 961 persons unaccounted for across the country to check and update the information in its possession before submitting any further cases to the authorities. During a visit to ICRC headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, the president of Timor-Leste expressed support for the organization’s efforts to address the issue of missing persons.

The Indonesian and Timor-Leste authorities pursued efforts to promote IHL among officials and to implement IHL instruments,

with ICRC technical back-up. Indonesian government and military officials gathered to discuss implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the results of an ICRC study on strengthening the legal protection of victims of armed conflict.

Dissemination of IHL and international human rights law among the armed and police forces, including peacekeepers, continued, with the delegation providing support for the conduct of training courses and specialized seminars. Various presentations and competitions were held in order to increase knowledge of IHL among university lecturers and students, including from Islamic universities, to gain support for its inclusion as a compulsory subject in relevant curricula. The Ministry of Education of Timor-Leste and the Timor-Leste Red Cross signed a memorandum of understanding with the ICRC, launching the pilot phase of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools.

To support these efforts, the ICRC opened an IHL documentation centre at its premises in Jakarta.

Cooperation with ASEAN was strengthened. Members of its Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Indonesian national secretariat became more familiar with the ICRC's different areas of expertise through high-level meetings and briefings, leading to expectations that the two institutions would develop a more structured relationship. Together they organized a workshop on human-remains management and disaster-victim identification.

Both the Indonesian and the Timor-Leste Red Cross Societies remained key ICRC operational partners. They continued to strengthen their capacities in emergency preparedness, restoring family links and the promotion of IHL and humanitarian principles, with ICRC technical and material support. In Timor-Leste, the National Society assisted the ICRC in assessing water and sanitation facilities for rehabilitation projects. The Indonesian Red Cross, together with a local hospital, facilitated a series of cataract operations for people in remote areas of Papua, with ICRC support.

While maintaining its usual programmes, the Indonesian Red Cross launched major relief programmes, mostly self-financed, for over a hundred thousand victims of natural disasters. The ICRC provided financial and human resources to help with restoring family links and water and sanitation programmes.

CIVILIANS

Pending the conclusion of a new agreement formalizing the ICRC's presence and activities in Indonesia, almost all activities on behalf of civilians affected by violence or past conflicts were on hold.

Thousands of families continued to suffer the anguish of not knowing the fate of loved ones who became unaccounted for between 1975 and 1999 in relation to the situation in East Timor. As the Indonesian and Timor-Leste governments had expressed the political will to tackle the issue of missing minors,

they received a first list of 43 cases from the ICRC, which strove to ensure that both parties understood its humanitarian approach and its readiness to give all the necessary support. By year-end, no concrete outcome had yet followed the submission of the list, despite repeated ICRC attempts to keep the issue on the agenda of bilateral discussions between the Indonesian and Timor-Leste delegations to the Joint Ministerial Commission.

During a visit to ICRC headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, the president of Timor-Leste expressed support for the organization's efforts to address the issue of missing persons.

The authorities in Timor-Leste pursued efforts to establish a follow-up entity to implement the recommendations of the 2008 report of the Commission for Truth and Friendship, drafting legislation to that effect. Following ICRC input, the draft law contained articles on the establishment of a central database of missing persons, a reference to a law on missing persons to be adopted later, clauses on data protection and confidentiality, and a reference to forensic activities. However, the parliament postponed the discussion of the law to February 2011, to allow time for more preparatory work.

The Timor-Leste authorities gained a deeper understanding of the needs of the families of missing persons following the publication of an ICRC report in English, Bahasa Indonesia, Portuguese and Tetum summarizing the findings of an assessment conducted in 2009 and making recommendations. The public launch in Dili was attended in particular by Timor-Leste government officials and members of parliament, the media, NGOs and relatives of missing persons.

In the meantime, the families of 961 missing persons, over half of whom had been minors at the time of disappearance, received visits from ICRC/Timor-Leste Red Cross teams to check and update information before submission of any further cases to the authorities. Needy families received basic material assistance to help them hold proper burial ceremonies for loved ones whose remains had been exhumed and identified.

In a combined effort by the ICRC and the two National Societies, three brothers who had been minors at the time of their disappearance were located in Indonesia. Two of them were helped to visit their family in Timor-Leste.

After an ICRC assessment confirmed the need to strengthen the forensic capacities of local actors in Timor-Leste and coordination among them, a planning exercise was undertaken to determine how the ICRC could best support this process. The scheduled workshop on the management of human remains was postponed, however, until 2011, in light of the delay in adoption of the law establishing a follow-up entity to implement the recommendations of the 2008 report of the Commission for Truth and Friendship.

People in Indonesia and Timor-Leste continued to use National Society/ICRC tracing and RCM services to restore or maintain contact with relatives from whom they had become separated,

either within the country or abroad. One family in Sulawesi and two in Java received the first news in years from their sons, currently detained in the Philippines, thanks to RCMs. The direct transmission of RCMs across the border between Indonesia and Timor-Leste was still difficult, despite ICRC efforts to work out a sustainable solution with the National Societies of both countries.

Thirteen Sri Lankan asylum seekers held in the Tanjung Pinang holding facility in Sumatra travelled to third countries using ICRC travel documents issued at the request of UNHCR.

A total of 136 patients in isolated areas in the Papua highlands underwent cataract surgery organized by the Indonesian Red Cross and the local health authorities with ICRC support. Some 800 patients were examined.

At regional level, to build the capacities of countries at risk of mass-fatality disasters to manage and identify human remains, senior officials from the police, health authorities, disaster-management agencies and the National Societies from nine ASEAN member States took part in a workshop on the subject in Jakarta, co-organized with the ASEAN secretariat and Australia's Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

People deprived of their freedom in Indonesia received no visits from the ICRC, given the suspension of the organization's work in this field pending the renegotiation and signing of a new agreement formalizing its presence and activities in the country.

Nonetheless, the Directorate General of Correctional Services and the ICRC maintained a minimum level of technical cooperation, primarily in the fields of water, sanitation and health. With ICRC support, the Directorate General drafted and published new national guidelines on environmental health in prisons, disseminated them during observation visits to two places of detention, and held a four-day workshop on health in detention for prison directors and doctors. No ICRC rehabilitation work was conducted in prisons in 2010.

Meanwhile, 17 representatives from the Justice Ministries and Central Prison Administrations of eight ASEAN countries, attending a four-day ICRC water and habitat seminar in Jakarta, discussed topics such as national standards for prison infrastructure and lessons learnt from joint projects with the ICRC and visited a local prison.

In Timor-Leste, 28 detainees in two out of the three existing detention facilities were visited by ICRC delegates, during which some wrote to or received RCMs from their families. Detainees in both places were given recreational materials. Following the visits, conducted according to standard ICRC procedures, the authorities received confidential reports on the delegates' findings along with any recommendations regarding inmates' treatment and living conditions.

AUTHORITIES

The Indonesian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Law and Human Rights and the ICRC held several meetings with a view to initiating the drafting of a new agreement formalizing the organization's presence and activities in the country.

The Indonesian authorities pursued efforts to promote IHL among officials and to implement IHL instruments, with ICRC technical back-up. The National Law Development Agency drafted a revised law on the Human Rights Court, including provisions related to war crimes, conducted a study to support a draft law on the Movement's emblems discussed in parliament, and hosted a meeting in which representatives of national institutions discussed the conclusions of an ICRC study on strengthening the legal protection of victims of armed conflict.

Several hundred Indonesian officials improved their knowledge of IHL, humanitarian principles and the ICRC in a variety of fora. Diplomats attended training sessions, including a first-ever IHL moot court exercise; local government members followed courses; and government and military officials and academics discussed implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Information sessions and briefings were boosted by the publication of a book on basic IHL in Bahasa Indonesia.

ASEAN and its related bodies became more familiar with the ICRC's different areas of expertise and concerns as a result of high-level meetings with and briefings of members of its Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Indonesian national secretariat. Dialogue on topics of common interest was strengthened with a view to developing a more structured relationship between the two organizations.

Members of the Indonesian authorities and armed forces, academics, journalists and ASEAN officials had access to reference works and publications on IHL and humanitarian issues contained in the new ICRC documentation centre in Jakarta.

ARMED FORCES AND OTHER BEARERS OF WEAPONS

Military establishments in Indonesia representing all three armed forces worked to include IHL in their training curricula, with the support of their Permanent Working Group on IHL. At various ICRC-backed courses, field exercises and briefings, some 1,000 officers, including 50 instructors, learnt more about their obligations under IHL and about the ICRC in sessions tailored to the depth of knowledge required for their functions. In addition, 1,600 military personnel receiving pre-deployment training for UN peacekeeping missions attended ICRC briefings on the basic provisions of IHL, with particular emphasis on the protection of women and children in armed conflict. A senior Indonesian officer took part in the fourth Senior Workshop on International Rules governing Military Operations held in Switzerland (see *International Law and Cooperation*).

Some 30 senior officers from the Mobile Brigade studied international human rights law and international policing standards at a national workshop organized with the Indonesian police. Some 150 Mobile Brigade officers and police in the provinces of Papua, Maluku and Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam were briefed on similar subjects. In addition, 150 police officers about to be deployed with the UN overseas attended a briefing on the ICRC and international standards applicable to law enforcement.

The Timor-Leste armed forces continued to train troops with support from the International Stabilization Force, Australia, Portugal and the United States of America. All those involved met regularly with the ICRC to discuss IHL-related matters.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Opinion-makers, including media professionals, in Indonesia and Timor-Leste were kept up to date on the ICRC's activities and humanitarian concerns through regular contacts. The media seized the opportunity of the launch of a report on the needs of the families of missing persons (see *Civilians*) and a book on basic IHL (see *Authorities*) to report more widely on the work of the ICRC/National Societies.

Leading law, political science and international relations faculties continued to integrate IHL into their curricula, with the ICRC's help. At two workshops, over 80 lecturers from different academic institutions discussed the opportunities and challenges of teaching IHL, resulting, in one case, in the drafting of a model international law syllabus containing IHL elements. Similarly, at a workshop on the provisions of IHL and Islamic law, over 30 lecturers from Islamic universities shared methods of disseminating IHL among their students and communities.

Students tested their knowledge of IHL during a national moot court competition in Yogyakarta, a regional competition in Hong Kong (see *Beijing*) and a national IHL debate in Sumatra, and by attending ICRC presentations.

The Ministry of Education of Timor-Leste signed a memorandum of understanding with the Timor-Leste Red Cross and the ICRC launching the pilot phase of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme in secondary schools. The Indonesian Ministry of Education held several meetings with the ICRC to discuss the initiation of a similar project.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Guided by new five-year strategic plans, the National Societies of Indonesia and Timor-Leste pursued their activities with support from the ICRC and other Movement partners working in the region. They strengthened their capacities through training staff and volunteers in emergency assessment in violence-prone areas, human-remains management, first aid, water and sanitation, youth and volunteer management, and promotion of IHL and humanitarian principles. The Indonesian Red Cross worked on revising its guidelines and manuals for disaster management, health, communication and resource development. Six of its branches, four in Papua and two in Central Sulawesi, benefited from ICRC training, material and financial assistance.

Indonesian Red Cross emergency response teams responded effectively to the various natural disasters that affected the country, providing relief and health assistance to over 100,000 victims. Primarily financed by locally collected funds, they received targeted support from Movement partners, including the ICRC in the fields of water and sanitation and restoring family links.

The Timor-Leste Red Cross worked with the ICRC to identify previously supported water and sanitation facilities needing repairs to remain functional. It rehabilitated one of its buildings formerly belonging to the Portuguese Red Cross and put it at the ICRC's disposal. The Indonesian Red Cross purchased an office block in Jakarta, primarily for income-generation purposes, with financial back-up from Movement partners. The Papua branch started renovating and expanding its premises, with financial and technical support from the ICRC.

The Indonesian Red Cross hosted the Southeast Asia Red Cross/Red Crescent Leadership Meeting, which adopted the Jakarta Declaration calling for increased cooperation among the region's National Societies.