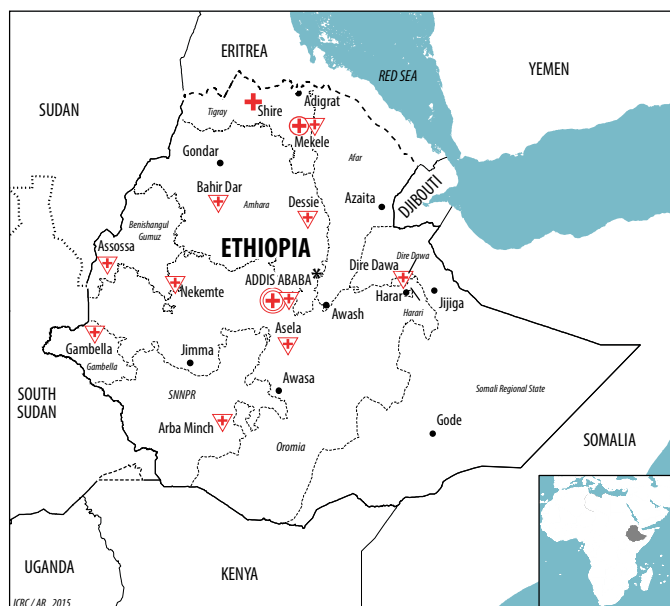


ETHIOPIA



ICRC delegation ICRC sub-delegation ICRC office
 ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic project
 * The ICRC delegation to the 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 2015

- ▶ IDPs received household items, while returnees and households in communities hosting refugees worked towards self-sufficiency with the help of livelihood support and upgrades to their water supply.
- ▶ People repatriated from Eritrea and refugees in Ethiopia contacted relatives using Movement family-links services. They received food, household essentials and, when appropriate, medical assistance.
- ▶ Detainees had access to improved health-care services and a more reliable water supply, partly thanks to ICRC support to the authorities, which included training in prison management.
- ▶ People with physical disabilities received free services at ICRC-assisted physical rehabilitation centres; staff at the centres benefited from training and support for acquiring professional certification.
- ▶ The Ethiopian Red Cross Society strengthened its capacity to assist people during emergencies, notably by training volunteers in first aid and working to improve its ambulance-management system.
- ▶ The ICRC continued its negotiations with the Ethiopian authorities in order to gain access to people held in places of temporary detention, such as people held by the Federal Police Crime Investigation Sector.

EXPENDITURE IN KCHF

Protection	4,577
Assistance	10,911
Prevention	2,492
Cooperation with National Societies	1,723
General	97
Total	19,799
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	1,208

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	95%
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PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	44
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	175

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, particularly 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	3,602
RCMs distributed	2,783
Phone calls facilitated between family members	14,633
People located (tracing cases closed positively)	222
People reunited with their families	1
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)	
ICRC visits	
Detainees visited	41,309
Detainees visited and monitored individually	323
Number of visits carried out	49
Number of places of detention visited	25
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	582
RCMs distributed	587
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative	533

ASSISTANCE	2015 Targets (up to)	Achieved
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)		
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Food commodities	Beneficiaries	789
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	48,000 47,496
Productive inputs	Beneficiaries	54,000 47,664
Cash	Beneficiaries	1,200 1,554
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	150,000 153,774
WOUNDED AND SICK		
Hospitals		
Hospitals supported	Structures	2
Water and habitat		
Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	127
Physical rehabilitation		
Projects supported	Structures	10 10
Patients receiving services	Patients	7,500 6,334

CONTEXT

The Eritrea-Ethiopia border remained sealed; both countries maintained a military presence in the disputed areas. Sporadic skirmishes were reported on both sides of the border.

In the Somali Regional State (SRS), clashes between the Ogaden National Liberation Front and the Ethiopian National Defence Forces (ENDF) or regional police forces were reported. Episodes of communal violence in Gambella and in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Regional State (SNNPRS) led to casualties and displacement; police forces were deployed in response to violence, sometimes alongside the ENDF. Protests broke out in Oromia in November.

The ENDF continued to participate in military operations abroad – for example, in Somalia, Sudan and in Abyei, an area disputed by South Sudan and Sudan.

Refugees fleeing violence in neighbouring countries continued to arrive in Ethiopia, straining the resources of the communities hosting them. Ethiopians in Eritrea continued to be unilaterally repatriated by Eritrea through Sudan.

The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, and the parties affiliated to it, won all parliamentary seats during the elections in May.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC continued to assist people affected by armed conflict/violence in Ethiopia. It pursued dialogue with the authorities, at national and local level, and with community leaders, to strengthen acceptance for its mandate and work. The ICRC maintained its readiness to resume selected activities in the SRS, where it had been unable to operate since 2007.

Communities boosted their resilience and worked towards self-sufficiency with ICRC support. Returnee households and households hosting refugees increased their food production using seed/tools provided by the Ethiopian Red Cross Society/ICRC. Families of missing persons and other vulnerable households started income-generating activities with ICRC cash assistance, enabling them to supplement their household income. People living near the Eritrea-Ethiopia border had more reliable access to water after the ICRC built/repaid water-supply systems and trained local committees in operating/maintaining them. The ICRC also maintained its emergency response capacity, notably helping people displaced by ethnic/communal violence meet immediate needs. In Gambella, residents of the area and refugees from South Sudan obtained medical care at a regional hospital that received some assistance from the ICRC.

Members of dispersed families restored/maintained contact with each other using National Society/ICRC family-links services. People stayed in touch with their relatives on the other side of the sealed Ethiopia-Eritrea border through RCMs; they included some unaccompanied minors at refugee camps. People returning to Ethiopia, such as those unilaterally repatriated from Eritrea, made phone calls to find/contact their relatives. To help relatives locate them, South Sudanese refugees had their photos published in booklets made available in South Sudan and to South Sudanese communities elsewhere.

A list of people missing in connection with the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict was submitted to the authorities, who were reminded of their obligation to help clarify the fate of the missing. The ICRC offered to support them in resolving these cases. Families of the missing shared their concerns at consultative workshops attended by authorities, members of civil society and religious leaders.

The ICRC continued to visit, largely in accordance with its standard procedures, detainees at all six federal prisons and at eight regional prisons. It confidentially shared its findings and, where necessary, recommendations for improving detention conditions with the authorities.

The ICRC also supported the authorities' efforts to improve detainees' living conditions and access to health care. It helped repair and equip prison clinics, thereby improving detainees' access to health services. Detainees benefited from ICRC-supported upgrades to their water-supply networks and other facilities. Prison managers, health staff and other personnel furthered their understanding of pertinent internationally recognized standards and enhanced their skills at ICRC-backed seminars/workshops. The Federal Prison Administration began developing, with ICRC guidance, a system for managing new prison facilities.

People with physical disabilities, some of whom had been injured during conflict/violence – received free services at physical-rehabilitation centres provided by the ICRC with raw materials, equipment, staff training and managerial support. To help ensure the sustainability of rehabilitation services, the ICRC supported the training/certification of workers providing these services and the authorities' efforts to implement a national physical rehabilitation strategy. It sought to promote the social reintegration of disabled people, for example through wheelchair-basketball camps.

The ICRC continued to promote IHL and humanitarian principles among the authorities, armed/police forces and the judiciary. It organized training sessions on international human rights law for police officers, and on IHL for ENDF officers, particularly trainers. Government officials, judges and prosecutors learnt more about IHL implementation at seminars/sessions that they attended with ICRC support. Articles published by journalists, drawn from ICRC materials, helped raise the general public's awareness of humanitarian issues.

The National Society developed its operational and institutional capacities with ICRC technical/material/financial assistance.

CIVILIANS

In view of the armed conflicts and other situations of violence in Ethiopia, and the ENDF's involvement in military operations abroad, the authorities were reminded of their responsibility to protect civilians. Dialogue with the authorities and community leaders, through dissemination sessions and other means, sought to strengthen their acceptance for the ICRC's mandate and persuade them to allow humanitarian aid to reach those in need (see *Actors of influence*). Despite ongoing dialogue with the parties concerned, the ICRC remained without access to the SRS, where it had been unable to conduct humanitarian activities since 2007.

Returnee households and communities hosting refugees rebuild their livelihoods

Over 46,800 people displaced by ethnic/communal violence in the Gambella and Oromia regions met some of their immediate needs

with shelter materials and essential household items from the Ethiopian Red Cross and the ICRC. IDPs in West Harargue also had access to potable water, after the ICRC donated water-storage tanks to help address water supply interruptions caused by clashes.

Households affected by violence worked to rebuild their livelihoods with ICRC support. Around 5,100 previously displaced households (some 30,900 people in all) who returned to Oromia and the SNNPRS were able to grow more food, and cover their needs using National Society/ICRC-provided seed and tools. Some 200 households (around 1,200 people) in the Tigray region, including the families of missing persons, augmented their income by starting income-generating activities with ICRC cash assistance. They used the additional income to cover household expenses and send their children to school.

In Gambella, nearly 3,300 households (more than 16,500 people) in communities hosting refugees also received seed/tools, enabling them to ease the strain on their resources.

People in Gambella receive health services at a regional hospital

Wounded and sick people in Gambella, including some refugees from South Sudan, obtained medical care at a regional hospital that received some ICRC support: medicines, surgical items and air conditioners for its pharmacy and laboratory. Patients and hospital staff had a more reliable supply of water following infrastructure repairs. The regional blood bank was better prepared for emergencies thanks to the installation of a back-up generator.

Border communities have better access to water

Over 125,000 people in Afar and Tigray had more reliable access to clean water after hand pumps in their communities were repaired. Some 5,300 people in western Tigray had more water for their needs following the construction of a water-supply network in their area. Nearly 13,800 people learnt how to reduce their risk of contracting water-borne diseases at hygiene-promotion sessions.

Local water committees trained in operating/maintaining water-supply systems, helping ensure a sustainable supply of water for some 9,500 people. With ICRC support, water authorities in Tigray maintained a database of water points in the region, which enabled them to plan more effectively.

Refugees and other vulnerable people reconnect with their families

People in Ethiopia got in touch with their relatives in the country and elsewhere through family links services provided by the National Society/ICRC. The National Society continued to reinforce its family-links capacities with technical support from the ICRC and in coordination with other Movement partners.

Family members separated by the sealed Ethiopia-Eritrea border, for example, sent or received news through RCMs. They included 47 unaccompanied Eritrean minors at refugee camps in Tigray, including one to which the ICRC regained access in February. Twenty-two people had their university transcripts sent across the border, enabling them to pursue further studies.

Some 1,786 people returning to Ethiopia from other countries – for example, people repatriated by the Eritrean government and people fleeing the conflict in Yemen – made phone calls to locate their relatives or inform them of their arrival. The 789 Ethiopians repatriated from Eritrea also received transportation assistance and food/hygiene items, helping them meet basic needs while waiting for their status

to be formalized. Those who found their relatives were able to have their status as Ethiopian nationals recognized by the authorities.

To help their relatives locate them, photos of 1,100 South Sudanese refugees were published, with their consent, in booklets made available in South Sudan and in South Sudanese communities in Kenya, Sudan and Uganda; more than 300 people had their names/photos published on the ICRC's family-links website (familylinks.icrc.org). Minors from South Sudan were identified and assisted in coordination with the UNHCR and other actors.

Somali refugees in the SRS had the names of their missing relatives read out on the radio via the BBC's Somali service (see *Somalia*).

Families of missing persons raise their concerns with the authorities

A list of people missing in connection with the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict was submitted to the federal affairs ministry. The ICRC also reminded the authorities of their obligation to clarify the fate of the missing, and offered to support them in resolving cases of missing persons. Families of the missing discussed their concerns/experiences at ICRC-organized workshops attended by local authorities, civil society organizations and religious leaders. Some of them received support for restoring their livelihoods (see above).

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Detainees have their treatment and living conditions monitored

Over 41,000 detainees in federal and regional prisons in Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Harari, Oromia, the SNNPRS and Tigray received ICRC visits conducted largely in accordance with the organization's standard procedures. Some 320 detainees, including 89 Eritreans, were followed up individually. After these visits, the ICRC confidentially shared its findings – and when necessary, its recommendations for improving detention conditions – with the detaining authorities. The ICRC continued to pursue dialogue with the authorities, aimed at gaining access to other detainees, particularly those in places of temporary detention – for example, people held by the Federal Police, the Federal Police Crime Investigation Sector and other state agencies. Detainees restored/maintained contact with their families through RCMs or short oral messages relayed by ICRC delegates; 71 foreigners had their embassies/consulates notified of their detention.

Detainees have improved access to health-care services

Detaining authorities and prison health staff worked, with ICRC support, to improve the quality and availability of health-care services in detention facilities. Detainees at a prison in Amhara had access to secondary-level care at a clinic that was upgraded by the authorities from a primary-health-care facility; this was part of the authorities' ICRC-supported project to improve health services in prisons throughout the region. Detainees in Oromia received care/treatment at the regional referral hospital in Burayo prison, which enhanced its services with ICRC technical/material assistance. Detainees in a Gambella prison obtained care at an ICRC-renovated/equipped clinic there. Prison administrators, health personnel and other prison staff learnt more about pertinent health care standards, including those for mental-health care, during workshops and training sessions in Ethiopia and abroad.

Over 10,000 detainees in seven federal and regional prisons had better access to water from supply networks constructed/repared

by the authorities and the ICRC. More than 3,700 detainees in the Dire Dawa federal prison and the Hawassa regional prison had a more sanitary environment following improvements to the prisons' sewage systems. Some 3,000 detainees benefited from ICRC-supported repairs to kitchens, living areas, and medical facilities (see above) and other facilities at five regional prisons.

Over 8,000 detainees in four prisons were better equipped to protect their health, thanks to hygiene promotion sessions and the provision of soap. Household/hygiene items and recreational materials helped ease living conditions for nearly 30,000 detainees.

Among those who received household/hygiene items and benefited from infrastructure projects were inmates transferred from a fire-struck prison in Gondar. Inmates at the Ziway federal prison learnt to grow seedlings with ICRC assistance.

The authorities pursue steps to improve prison management

Penitentiary authorities at the federal and regional level kept up their efforts to strengthen prison management and improve detention facilities. They discussed these matters and related best practices with their counterparts from other countries at workshops/other events, including a regional seminar in Kenya (see *Nairobi*). The federal prison administration, together with the ICRC, began developing a management system for four new federal prisons.

Technicians and managers of federal prisons learnt more about operational/maintenance systems and infrastructure maintenance at ICRC-organized sessions; staff at six prisons received equipment/tools for maintaining the facilities.

WOUNDED AND SICK

People with disabilities regain mobility and independence

More than 6,300 people with physical disabilities availed themselves of free services at nine physical rehabilitation centres supported by the ICRC; among them, some 2,600 particularly economically vulnerable patients also had their transportation/food expenses covered while receiving treatment. An assessment found that beneficiaries became more independent and had improved income after receiving these services.

All nine operational rehabilitation centres received raw materials, equipment and technical/managerial support from the ICRC; another centre was not operational, as it was in the process of dealing with various internal constraints. Staff members expanded their skills at workshops; instructors who had attended ICRC training led some of these sessions on their own.

At wheelchair-basketball training camps conducted by the Ethiopian Basketball Federation and the ICRC, 67 players and 60 coaches from five different regions added to their skills.

Students work towards certification to provide physical rehabilitation services

The labour and social affairs ministry, with ICRC support, continued working to implement a national physical rehabilitation strategy, which included the development of a national supply chain for producing assistive devices. The ministry expressed interest in establishing a bachelor's degree programme in prosthetics/orthotics; discussions on this topic, between a local university and the ICRC, continued.

Fifteen students worked towards completing their final year of a three-year programme to gain certification in prosthetics/orthotics. Twenty-one staff members from regional physical rehabilitation centres received professional accreditation after passing a national examination organized with ICRC support.

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Community leaders familiarize themselves with the ICRC's mandate and work

Gaining access to communities affected by conflict/violence, and to people in places of temporary detention, required regular dialogue with the authorities (see *Civilians* and *People deprived of their freedom*) and members of civil society, to enhance their understanding of and support for the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

In violence-prone areas across Ethiopia, over 920 local authorities, community leaders and National Society volunteers familiarized themselves with IHL and the Movement at joint National Society/ICRC dissemination sessions.

Police forces learn more about standards applicable to their duties

Through workshops and other activities organized by the regional police training centres and the ICRC, over 700 members of the federal police forces – including crime-prevention officers, crime investigators, riot-control officers and special police forces – added to their knowledge of international human rights law and internationally recognized standards applicable to arrest, detention, seizure and the use of force and firearms. Instructors at federal/regional training centres honed their capabilities at an ICRC-supported workshop. Some 260 police officers learnt how to administer first aid at National Society/ICRC training sessions.

Forty officers from various military units enhanced their skills to train others in IHL, through a train-the-trainer course organized by the ICRC at the ENDF's request. Peacekeeping troops continued to receive IHL training as part of their predeployment exercises, helping promote compliance during peacekeeping operations. Senior officers from other African countries learnt more about IHL during ICRC presentations at the newly established international peace support training centre in Addis Ababa.

Authorities add to their knowledge of incorporating IHL in domestic legislation

Foreign affairs/justice ministry officials furthered their understanding of IHL implementation at a regional seminar (see *Nairobi*), helping them prepare to support the national IHL committee, which the authorities were working to establish.

Some 200 judges and prosecutors reinforced their expertise in IHL and related legal instruments at ICRC seminars, some organized jointly with regional judicial training centres. Contact was established with the country's focal point for small arms, as part of efforts to promote the ratification of weapon-related treaties. An official from the foreign ministry attended the 32nd International Conference.

Future lawyers strengthen their grasp of IHL

Over 350 law students from three universities, and their instructors, strengthened their understanding of IHL at dissemination sessions organized jointly with their law faculties. Nearly 30 law students demonstrated their knowledge of IHL at a moot court competition organized by a local university with ICRC assistance;

three law students participated in a regional moot court competition (see *Nairobi*) with ICRC support.

Journalists helped boost the general public's awareness of National Society/ICRC activities – such as the use of photo booklets to help South Sudanese refugees find their relatives and the distribution of seed/tools to families hosting refugees – by publishing pieces based on ICRC press releases and informational materials.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

National Society strengthens its capacity to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable

The Ethiopian Red Cross assisted communities in regions affected by conflict or other situations of violence, provided family-links services (see *Civilians*), and promoted IHL and humanitarian principles via dissemination activities (see *Actors of influence*).

With ICRC support, the National Society continued to bolster its emergency preparedness and response. Volunteers learnt how to administer first aid at workshops/simulation exercises; a preparatory workshop and simulation exercises helped them prepare contingency plans, particularly in view of elections. Seventy-four instructors strengthened their ability to conduct such workshops. The National Society developed, with ICRC backing, a system to better manage its ambulances; it also expanded its fleet with ICRC-donated vehicles. It pre-positioned ICRC-provided household/hygiene items

in regional warehouses near violence-prone areas. Together with the ICRC, the National Society developed an action plan for assisting communities likely to be affected by drought-related food shortages.

Personnel from the National Society's headquarters and its regional branches learnt more about the Safer Access Framework and began to include related principles in training/dissemination sessions.

National Society branches boosted their operational capacities with ICRC support, which included repairs to their offices and funding to cover the salaries of key personnel and other costs.

The National Society and the ICRC met regularly to discuss joint plans and technical issues. Monthly coordination meetings and bilateral interaction enhanced the National Society's cooperation with Movement partners.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: PROTECTION		Total			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			UAMs/SC*		
RCMs collected		3,602	123		
RCMs distributed		2,783	12		
Phone calls facilitated between family members		14,633			
Names published in the media		1,117			
Names published on the ICRC family-links website		307			
Reunifications, transfers and repatriations					
People reunited with their families		1			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			Women	Girls	Boys
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		746	221	146	80
<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>		130			
People located (tracing cases closed positively)		222			
<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>		48			
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)		890	203	125	86
<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>		174			
UAMs/SC*, including demobilized child soldiers			Girls		Demobilized children
UAMs/SC newly registered by the ICRC/National Society		47	13		
UAM/SC cases still being handled by the ICRC/National Society at the end of the reporting period		56	12		
Documents					
People to whom travel documents were issued		2			
Official documents relayed between family members across borders/front lines		22			
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)					
ICRC visits			Women	Minors	
Detainees visited		41,309	1,612	924	
			Women	Girls	Boys
Detainees visited and monitored individually		323	24	4	14
Detainees newly registered		222	18	3	12
Number of visits carried out		49			
Number of places of detention visited		25			
Restoring family links					
RCMs collected		582			
RCMs distributed		587			
Phone calls made to families to inform them of the whereabouts of a detained relative		533			
People to whom a detention attestation was issued		64			

*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	789	47%	7%
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	47,496	32%	11%
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	46,824		
Productive inputs	Beneficiaries	47,664	42%	
	<i>of whom IDPs</i>	15,708		
Cash	Beneficiaries	1,554	76%	5%
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	153,774	25%	50%
PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM (All categories/all statuses)				
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection programme)				
Essential household items	Beneficiaries	29,998		
Cash	Beneficiaries	14		
Services and training	Beneficiaries	3,547		
Water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	23,220		
Health				
Number of visits carried out by health staff		12		
Number of places of detention visited by health staff		10		
Number of health facilities supported in places of detention visited by health staff		2		
WOUNDED AND SICK				
Hospitals				
Hospitals supported	Structures	2		
	<i>of which provided data</i>	1		
Water and habitat				
Water and habitat activities	Number of beds	127		
Physical rehabilitation				
Projects supported	Structures	10		
Patients receiving services	Patients	6,334	1,376	1,221
New patients fitted with prostheses	Patients	692	120	66
Prostheses delivered	Units	1,695	302	148
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	234		
New patients fitted with orthoses	Patients	699	186	214
Orthoses delivered	Units	2,026	472	894
	<i>of which for victims of mines or explosive remnants of war</i>	5		
Patients receiving physiotherapy	Patients	3,152	746	528
Crutches delivered	Units	4,080		
Wheelchairs delivered	Units	354		