

SYRIA

FACTS AND FIGURES

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2022



Ammar Sabohn/ICRC

Present in Syria since 1967, the ICRC is a neutral, impartial, and independent organization with an exclusively humanitarian mission. The ICRC works closely with and supports the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) to meet food, water, and health needs of people affected by the fighting in both emergencies and to help them start rebuilding their lives. They work together to raise awareness about the risks of mines and other explosive remnants.

The ICRC works to restore links between families who have been separated by the conflict and migration, visits a number of prisons, and promotes respect for international humanitarian law. It also provides advice and support to local authorities and forensics practitioners in managing human remains with respect and dignity. The ICRC's operation in Syria is one of its largest in the world, with some 850 staff working in its offices in Damascus, Aleppo, Hassakeh, Homs, and Tartous.

Over a decade on, millions of people across Syria continue to bear the brunt of a conflict compounded by several crises. Not only lives have been lost, families shattered, and homes destroyed, but people's livelihoods have been exhausted and vital infrastructure has either been damaged or destroyed, making daily essentials often taken for granted ever more challenging to obtain.

Throughout 2022, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) continued to provide vital services for millions of people. They have responded to the most pressing needs, distributed food to the most vulnerable, and supported healthcare services in communities and camps. They have also carried out repairs to critical water infrastructures and have supported hundreds of small income-generating businesses so people may start re-building their lives.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022

16.5 MILLION got improved access to clean water

447,000 had a better reach to healthcare services

200,000 received food parcels

230,000 improved their knowledge about safer behaviour in weapon-contaminated areas



ENSURING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS

More than **16.5 MILLION** people benefited from different water and habitat interventions across the country, as follows:

- **15 MILLION** people were supported by a disinfection programme to ensure safe drinking water in **13** governorates.
- **450,000** people received water delivered by trucks in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, Raqqa, and Hassakeh.
- Nearly **140,000** displaced people and returnees benefited from renovations and upgrading of housing, water, and sanitation in **44** collective shelters and neighbourhoods throughout the country.
- **32** water facilities across the country were rehabilitated and upgraded, and **eight** hospitals, **62** health points, and **one** physical rehabilitation centre had their infrastructure improved.
- Around **710,000** people benefited from the infrastructure support to **12** public bakeries - supply of production line, rehabilitation works, and power.
- The water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in over **280** schools and exam centres were rehabilitated - Damascus, Rural Damascus, Daraa, Sweida, Quneitra, Homs, Hama, Lattakia, Raqqa, Deir Ezzor, and Hassakeh governorates.



PROMOTING AWARENESS ABOUT THE ICRC AND IHL

- Organised an all-government high-level IHL event, as well as several IHL workshops with each of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates-Diplomatic Institute, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, and the Bar Association, for overall more than **300** participants.
- Supported **three** introductory SARC IHL workshops and **one** advanced workshop, and facilitated the participation of **two** SARC members in an IHL course abroad and assisted the participation of SARC in the National Society Legal Advisers Webinar.
- Facilitated, with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the participation of a Syrian team in the Regional IHL Moot Court competition abroad.
- Facilitated the participation of **two** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates diplomats and **four** Ministry of Defence officers in IHL courses abroad, as well as the participation of **one** Ministry of Defence officer and **one** Ministry of Interior official in online events.
- Organised **four** workshops for about **100** journalists in Tartous, Damascus, Hama and Aleppo, in addition to several meetings and sessions with over **25** journalists based in Aleppo and Damascus.
- Interacted with nearly **4,000** people across the country, introducing the ICRC and the types of activities it implements.
- Launched a couple of public and digital campaigns, including one jointly with SARC, raising awareness about the risks of mines/other explosive remnants of war and a campaign on mental health, and shedding the light on the humanitarian consequences of over a decade of conflict in the country.



PROMOTING HUMAN DIGNITY AND RECONNECTING FAMILIES

- Over **975** oral greetings and Red Cross Messages were exchanged between separated families, and more than **2,000** cases were opened by families in Syria to trace persons unaccounted for.
- More than **50** visits to detention places were conducted by the ICRC, and detainees in **10** central prisons benefited from ICRC donations of essential drugs, COVID-19 PPE, and medical equipment.
- Donated furniture and equipment to forensic centres in Aleppo, Sweida , Al-Quneitra and the forensic identification Centre in Damascus to support the forensic doctors in their daily works.
- Donated **2,200** body bags to the forensic centres in Aleppo, Homs, latakia, Sweida and Al-Quneitra, and medical equipment to **four** forensic centres in Homs, Aleppo, Damascus, and the Forensic Identification Centre in Damascus.
- Organized **two** workshops in Damascus on “Challenges for Human Identification” for **60** participants from the Ministry of Justice and General Commission of Forensic Medicine, and **two** workshops on the Management of the Dead for **60** SARC volunteers.
- Facilitated the participation of **five** high-level representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Health in the “World Health in Detention Conference” in Geneva, and the participation of **five** forensic doctors from the General Commission of Forensic Medicine and **two** SARC coordinators to attend **three** courses on Dead Body Management outside the country.



HEALTHCARE FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED

- Over **447,000** people had access to healthcare services through **15** Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) polyclinics and **17** mobile health units supported by the ICRC.
- More than **115,000** diabetes consultations and over **200,400** leishmaniases consultations were provided in **27** Ministry of Health facilities and Mobile Health Units across the country.
- Over **115,000** wounded and sick people, affected directly or indirectly by the conflict, benefited from emergency and pre-hospital care services provided by ICRC-supported SARC ambulances in **12** governorates and through **41** first aid centres.
- Over **7,000** wounded and sick persons received treatment at the ICRC-SARC hospital in Al-Hol camp, north-east Syria.
- Nearly **2,000** people benefited from the ICRC’s physical rehabilitation programme in Aleppo, Rural Damascus, and Homs.
- Over **10,000** people received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), and about **660** health workers were trained on MHPSS.
- Over **50** hospitals and health facilities received ICRC donations of various equipment, maintenance, and surgical consumables, with **23** of them also receiving COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Nearly **30** hospitals and facilities benefited from ICRC donations of consumables as a response to the spread of acute watery diarrhea /cholera in parts of the country.
- Around **40** doctors and nurses from the Ministry of Health and the SARC attended the Emergency Room Trauma Course (ERTC), held in both Damascus and Homs, in addition to **30** doctors who attended the Fundamentals of War Surgery course. **20** engineers from different hospitals and directorates of health also attended a Health Technology Management Training.



DAILY ESSENTIALS AND RESTORING LIVELIHOODS

- Over **200,000** households in **seven** governorates received food, most of them on a regular basis.
- About **170,000** households in **10** governorates received essential household items, including winter clothes, blankets, mattresses, and hygiene materials.
- About **73,000** students in **nine** governorates received school kits.
- Nearly **2,000** households in **seven** governorates - including returnees, displaced families, women-headed households, and people with disabilities - received grants to initiate a small business.
- Some **29,000** people in **13** governorates benefited from local livelihood initiatives, such as the distribution of sheep, poultry, fodder, means to produce hydroponic fodder, beekeeping, fertilizers, and agricultural tools.



Ayham Al Hallak/ICRC



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PROMOTING SAFER BEHAVIOUR IN WEAPON-CONTAMINATED AREAS

- More than **230,000** people in **13** governorates attended sessions on risks related to mines/ explosive remnants of war and safer behaviour practices in weapon-contaminated areas, held by the SARC's risk education teams who were trained and supported by the ICRC.
- Over **10,000** individuals received brochures warning them about the risks of mines/explosive remnants of war, and over **980,000** individuals were reached through various social media channels with advice on how to adopt safer behaviour in weapon-contaminated areas.
- **Five** safe recreational areas were established to help affected populations mitigate the risks of weapon contamination in Aleppo, Homs, and Deir Ezzor.
- More than **200** non-technical surveys were carried out in Homs, Aleppo, Hama, Lattakia, and Idlib governorates.
- Around **50** weapon-contamination casualties were referred to various physical rehabilitation centres for assistance.

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