

UKRAINE



T. Olinyk/ICRC

Kharkiv. With the ICRC's financial support, local service providers ensured access to centralized heating systems for over a million people, helping protect them against the harsh winter.

Having worked in the country since 1993, the ICRC expanded its presence in Ukraine in 2014. It delivers vital humanitarian assistance to people affected by armed conflict; promotes the protection of civilians, POWs and other persons protected under IHL; and urges compliance with that body of law. Its multidisciplinary response addresses emergency and longer-term needs, providing relief, supporting livelihoods, and improving access to essential services. It aims to restore family links and to clarify the fate and/or whereabouts of missing persons and supports their families. It works in close cooperation with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and other Movement components.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	25,435
Essential services	202,153
Prevention	10,014
Cooperation with National Societies	20,443
General	276
TOTAL	258,320
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>15,731</i>

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	184
Resident staff	808



- ICRC regional delegation
- ICRC delegation
- ICRC sub-delegation
- ICRC office/presence
- The ICRC has activities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES TARGETS

CIVILIANS

ECONOMIC SECURITY



Food consumption
145,200 people



Food production
25,110 people



Income support
30,425 people



Living conditions
281,598 people

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities
7,124,775 people

HEALTH



Health centres supported
92 structures

WOUNDED AND SICK

MEDICAL CARE



Hospitals supported
90 structures

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION



Projects supported
24 projects

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities
13 structures

SITUATION

- ▶ The international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine continues, mainly affecting vast sections of eastern Ukraine. Both sides have captured soldiers and detained civilians in connection with the international armed conflict.
- ▶ People fleeing violence have been displaced within Ukraine or have crossed into neighbouring countries. According to the latest UN estimates, roughly 5 million people are displaced within Ukraine, and around 5.9 million have fled to other countries in Europe (see *Moscow, Republic of Moldova* and *Warsaw*, for example).

HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS

- ▶ The consequences of the international armed conflict – injuries and deaths among civilians, massive displacement, destruction of cities, people going missing or being captured and detained/interned – have been devastating. Critical infrastructure and public utilities have been heavily damaged. As a result, millions of people lack reliable access to water, heating and electricity and have had to face the winter under these circumstances. The disruption of essential services has also affected the proper functioning of hospitals, educational facilities and other critical institutions. Local supply chains have collapsed, livelihoods have been damaged, and food and other basic goods are either unavailable or difficult to obtain. Fleeing to safety and obtaining necessities is particularly difficult for older people and people with physical disabilities. Having left all their belongings behind, IDPs often have poor living conditions and in some cases, cannot afford to buy food and other essentials or seek medical treatment. Movement of people and goods across front lines is sometimes necessary, but often dangerous.
- ▶ Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) are widely scattered and endanger lives, hampering people from safely returning to their homes and from utilizing agricultural fields. Such risks are likely to persist for years.
- ▶ The hostilities have significantly impaired the functioning of health facilities and greatly reduced the capacities of emergency medical services. The limited availability of health services puts the wounded, the chronically ill and others in need of timely medical attention at further risk. Conflict-related injuries are straining health facilities' capacities and increasing the need for long- and short-term rehabilitation support. Staffing requirements are not easily met. Supplies and specialized medical equipment are scarce.
- ▶ Families have been separated and their members have lost contact with one another because of the international armed conflict. Many of them do not have news about their relatives who have gone missing or are alleged to have been captured. Volatile security conditions make it difficult to ensure that human remains are handled and identified properly; local forensic services are hobbled by a lack of resources.

ICRC OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

In 2024, the ICRC's main priorities in this context will be to:

- ▶ intensify its efforts to promote respect for IHL and other applicable norms between the parties to the international armed conflict and urge them to ensure the protection of civilians and access to essential services; seek to increase the parties' support for the ICRC's role as a neutral intermediary and its principled humanitarian action;
- ▶ maintain efforts to sustain the provision of water, education and other basic services, while seeking to implement resilience-building projects; help people meet their urgent needs and become more self-sufficient; prioritize helping people in or near front-line areas and those whose needs are not covered by other organizations;
- ▶ sustain support throughout the casualty-care chain to ensure people's access to the health services that they need;
- ▶ continue to help people ascertain the fate of missing relatives and to mitigate risks posed by mines/ERW;
- ▶ bolster efforts to seek unimpeded and repeated access to POWs, civilian internees and others held in connection with the international armed conflict, and to help them restore contact with their families; help the authorities to ensure that people in their custody are treated in line with international legal norms; and
- ▶ together with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, co-convene the Movement's response to the consequences of the international armed conflict; continue its support for the National Society to help it further strengthen its capacities as a local actor providing essential services and as an auxiliary to the authorities in emergency response.

The ICRC's sub-delegation in Poltava will be moved to Kharkiv, to increase its proximity to affected people along front-line areas.

ICRC ACTION

CIVILIANS

Objective: Civilians are protected, their basic needs met, and their resilience to the effects of the hostilities strengthened. Members of families dispersed by conflict can communicate with one another. Missing people's families receive information on the fate and/or whereabouts of their relatives, and their various concerns are addressed.

The ICRC will maintain its multidisciplinary response to the humanitarian needs created by the international armed conflict and deliver emergency aid to the people affected, including on both sides of the front line. It will prioritize helping communities staying in or near front-line areas and meeting needs not covered by other humanitarian actors; thus, it will increase its water-and-habitat initiatives but reduce most of its economic-security projects. With the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, the ICRC will co-convene the Movement's activities and ensure close cooperation with the International Federation and other Movement partners, with a view to maximizing the impact of their collective effort.

Reminding the parties to respect IHL and ensuring protection for civilians

The ICRC will strengthen its dialogue with both parties to the international armed conflict and urge them to fulfil their obligations under IHL and other applicable norms, particularly to: ensure protection for people who are not or no longer participating in hostilities; refrain from using explosive weapons in densely populated areas and impacting water, energy, educational and other essential civilian infrastructure; prevent disappearances and clarify the fate and/or whereabouts of persons protected under IHL (e.g. POWs and civilian internees); and facilitate access to basic services and humanitarian aid. The ICRC will closely monitor the situation of people affected by hostilities – including those who have fled to other countries (see *Moscow, Republic of Moldova* and *Warsaw*) – and will raise their needs and concerns confidentially with the pertinent parties, who will be urged to address these issues. The ICRC will reiterate to the parties the necessity of ensuring protection for people who have been displaced by the fighting and for returnees, and the necessity of safeguarding their access to essential services; it will offer the authorities its support in all these matters.

During its dialogue with the parties, the ICRC will explain the nature of its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, and seek their support for such action, with a view to ensuring its proximity to the people whom it seeks to assist and the safety of its own staff. Upon the agreement of both parties, and on strictly humanitarian grounds, the ICRC will act as a neutral intermediary in facilitating safe travel for civilians, including children, to safer areas; helping to reunite families; and transferring official documents across borders.

In areas affected by hostilities, and to complement its dialogue with the parties (see above), the ICRC will continue to renovate schools damaged by the fighting, give children school kits and support the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in implementing educational programmes.

The ICRC will continue to operate a community contact centre – consisting of a hotline, mobile messaging applications and digital platforms – to facilitate two-way communication between the ICRC and the people whom it seeks to assist. People affected by the international armed conflict will be given potentially life-saving information on such matters as the threat of mines and ERW and the family-links services available to them.

Helping people to receive news of loved ones

The ICRC delegation in Ukraine will continue to work closely with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, ICRC delegations and National Societies in surrounding countries, the Central Tracing Agency (CTA) bureau for the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine (see *Central Tracing Agency bureau for the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine*) and the national information bureau (NIB) in Ukraine, in order to: help account for persons protected under IHL; restore contact among members of dispersed families; and enable people to get news of their loved ones, including POWs and civilian internees (see *People deprived of their liberty*). The ICRC will carry out these activities in accordance with applicable data-protection standards, and will urge the authorities, whenever possible, to ensure that domestic law recognizes the solely humanitarian purpose of handling personal data to reconnect members of dispersed families. The ICRC will help facilitate transfer of administrative, legal or other official documents, including across borders. It will pay particular attention to separated and unaccompanied children, older people and people with physical disabilities, and – if conditions allow – help them rejoin their families.

The ICRC will continue to raise awareness of the issue of missing persons and the plight of their families among the parties, and will continue to strengthen capacities among those involved in the search for missing people. It will also help the relevant national mechanisms – the NIB, the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War and the Commissioner for Missing Persons – and other related authorities to coordinate their efforts to resolve missing-persons cases. With the aim of helping account for persons protected under IHL and to prevent disappearances, it will also encourage authorities to share information about those persons via the NIB with the CTA bureau, as well as to answer enquiries about these people – and give them support for doing so. The ICRC will continue to ensure that missing persons' families are kept abreast of developments in the search for their relatives, are aware of the services available to them, and continue to receive other pertinent information. It will also continue to help missing people's families to meet their psychosocial, financial and other needs.

The ICRC will continue to help build forensic capacities in managing and identifying human remains, to help ascertain the fate and/or whereabouts of missing people. When possible, it will offer to act as a neutral intermediary and technical adviser in the search for, and recovery and exhumation of, human remains; if requested, it will also act as a neutral observer in the transfer of human remains between the parties. It will explain to the parties the necessity of upholding their

obligations, under IHL, towards the dead and the missing, and their families; it will incorporate explanations on those obligations in IHL training sessions for military and law-enforcement officers (see *Actors of influence*). It will also urge the authorities to strengthen medico-legal frameworks, with a view to resolving more missing-persons cases and preventing disappearances. It will coordinate with other relevant actors to avoid duplication of efforts.

Responding to the urgent needs of people affected by the international armed conflict

The ICRC will continue to help people meet their immediate needs and help them to build their resilience to the effects of the hostilities, by giving them aid in kind or cash. It will assist families to get through the winter by giving them the necessary support. It will support food production and initiatives to help households preserve or increase their income and meet the various demands on their financial resources (e.g. household expenses, school fees, funeral costs, medical bills). It will continue to support schools and other public institutions serving people and communities affected by hostilities. Whenever possible, it will carry out these activities with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and local red cross entities.

People affected by hostilities will be able to obtain suitable medical attention – from primary health care to referrals for advanced care – at health facilities, near front lines, receiving comprehensive support from the ICRC. Together with the National Society and/or the health authorities, the ICRC will provide support for the use of mobile health units to ensure that suitable care is available to people in need – particularly in areas where health services have been disrupted. The ICRC will also seek to help facilities strengthen their systems to refer people for further care. It will endeavour to address the mental-health and psychosocial needs of missing people's families, people formerly deprived of their liberty and others. It will continue to help community workers, National Society volunteers, health workers and others build their capacities in providing mental-health and psychosocial care, instructing others in doing so or practicing self-care techniques themselves.

The ICRC will continue its extensive support for public utilities and local service providers, to limit disruptions of access to clean water, electricity and other critical services; at certain locations, it will implement projects that focus on building the resilience of such services to the effects of conflict. It will also continue to aid with repairing houses damaged by the fighting, with a view to enabling people to be protected from the elements while also preserving their dignity. It will repair or renovate public infrastructure, including forensic and medico-legal facilities; it will ensure that they are functioning and properly maintained.

Risk-education activities conducted by the National Society, local red cross entities or other actors – with ICRC support – will seek to enable people living in or passing through weapon-contaminated areas to protect themselves more effectively from mines and ERW. The ICRC will continue to help expand capacities among those involved in surveying, marking and

clearing areas contaminated by mines and ERW, and among those involved in dealing with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazards. It will conduct safety briefings for its staff and National Society volunteers to ensure that humanitarian activities are conducted safely for aid workers as well as for people affected by hostilities. The ICRC will also seek to support the authorities in implementing different IHL treaties on the use of weapons (see *Actors of influence*).

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND RESPECT FOR THE LAW

- P** monitor the humanitarian consequences of the conduct of hostilities, particularly for civilians; document people's needs, protection concerns and allegations of IHL violations; discuss these matters with the parties concerned – through bilateral dialogue, written representations and other means – and support the parties in addressing them and in preventing their recurrence
- P** urge the parties to protect civilians, including health workers, displaced people, returnees, children, older people and others most at risk from the fighting; support their efforts to ensure that these people have access to basic services and the means necessary to cope with their situation (see below)
- P** emphasize the necessity of upholding IHL obligations, such as protecting civilian infrastructure and ensuring access to basic services, and the importance of building the resilience of these services to the effects of conflict
- P** offer to facilitate, as a neutral intermediary, safe travel for civilians – including across borders – in agreement with the parties and on strictly humanitarian grounds (see below)
- P** maintain a community contact centre to communicate with people affected by hostilities; document their concerns, needs and views on the ICRC's activities; and convey information on humanitarian services

PROTECTION OF FAMILY LINKS

With the National Society:

- P** provide family-links services – RCMs, phone calls and tracing – to people separated from their relatives; make these services known to authorities, associations of missing people's families, and people separated from their families – through dissemination sessions, meetings and other means
- P** through close cooperation with the NIB, support authorities in upholding their obligation to account for protected persons under IHL
- P** help transmit letters or oral messages between POWs and their families (see *People deprived of their liberty*); as a neutral intermediary, pass information on missing-persons cases, and the plight of the families concerned, between the NIB in Ukraine and its Russian counterpart, including via the CTA bureau

- P** collect requests from families to locate missing relatives; answer their questions on the search process; inform them of developments in their cases, including via a community contact centre
- P** organize technical meetings, round tables, information sessions and other events for and with the authorities involved in managing cases of missing people and POWs, and for and with those managing human remains; help coordinate efforts to ascertain the fate and/or whereabouts of missing people
- P** help address the psychosocial, financial and other needs of missing people's families (see *Economic security* and *Health* below); refer these families to other organizations for further assistance; reinforce similar efforts by the authorities and associations of missing people's families, through training, financial and/or material support
- P** assess – together with missing persons' families and families separated by hostilities – their needs and concerns, how ICRC's family-links services can help support them, and how such services can be improved
- P** at their request and where conditions allow, help reunite separated families, in coordination with the relevant authorities; help facilitate the safe travel of unaccompanied or separated minors, older people, people with disabilities and others with specific needs
- P** in coordination with the authorities, transmit official documents – such as identity papers and consular documents – between separated relatives; issue emergency travel documents or attestations of arrest/detention when necessary

PROTECTION FOR THE DECEASED

- P** provide technical support and organize capacity-building activities for authorities, first responders, staff of DNA laboratories and others involved in managing and identifying human remains or in developing medico-legal frameworks
- P** provide the authorities, forensic actors and others with the supplies and equipment necessary to manage and identify human remains; refurbish forensic facilities in front-line areas (see *Water and habitat*)
 - stand ready to donate more supplies and equipment during mass-casualty incidents and other emergencies
- P** assist families in covering expenses for transferring/repatriating and burying their relatives' remains
- P** reiterate to both parties the importance of managing human remains properly, preventing disappearances, and upholding obligations under IHL towards the dead and the missing and their families; incorporate elements of humanitarian forensics in IHL training for military and law-enforcement officers, and others (see *Actors of influence*)
- P** with the consent of both parties, act as a neutral intermediary in searching for, recovering and exhuming human remains; serve as a neutral observer in the transfer of human remains; offer material assistance to these ends

ECONOMIC SECURITY



Food consumption
145,200 people



Food production
25,110 people



Income support
30,425 people



Living conditions
281,598 people

With the National Society:

- E** provide hygiene kits, blankets, cooking utensils, furniture, winter items, school supplies and other essentials – or cash or vouchers for buying them – to up to 281,598 vulnerable residents and IDPs (93,866 households)
- E** distribute food parcels and/or cash for buying food to up to 145,200 vulnerable residents and IDPs (48,400 households)
- E** where markets are functioning, enable up to about 10,142 households (30,425 people) – including households from which people have gone missing and of people with disabilities – to preserve or supplement their income and cover urgent expenses, through multipurpose or conditional cash grants, material aid, vocational training and other support
- E** donate greenhouses and agricultural supplies and equipment, or cash to buy them, to up to 8,370 households (25,110 people), to help them improve or resume food production
- E** provide up to about 400 different institutions (e.g. IDP centres, schools, veterinary clinics) with supplies, equipment and other material support to reinforce their capacity to serve communities affected by hostilities

HEALTH



Health centres supported
92 structures

- E** provide up to 25 health centres, in front-line areas, with medicine and other supplies, staff training and/or financial support; refer patients needing specialized care to suitable service providers; explain key aspects of the Health Care in Danger initiative to health staff
- E** stand ready to provide additional support to up to 60 health centres during disease outbreaks, sudden displacement and other emergencies, or for vaccination campaigns
- E** with the National Society and health authorities, activate or maintain up to seven mobile health units
- E** enable up to 1,035 civilians in psychological distress – and 300 wounded people or people with disabilities – to obtain mental-health and psychosocial support
 - train psychologists, psychiatrists and other health staff – including those in ICRC-supported health facilities (see *Wounded and sick*) – law-enforcement officers, National Society volunteers and other first responders to provide mental-health and psychosocial support, instruct others in doing so or to practice self-care themselves
 - help ICRC-trained people to organize individual or group counselling or information sessions on mental health
 - when necessary, refer people requiring specialized mental-health care to suitable service providers

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities

7,124,775 people

- ▶ for the benefit of approximately 7,125,000 people, particularly those staying in or near front-line areas:
 - provide public utilities and local service providers with material, financial, technical and infrastructural support to sustain their provision of clean water and other essential services; implement projects that build the resilience of these services against the effects of conflict
 - with the National Society and local red cross entities, give up to about 24,000 people financial or material assistance to repair homes damaged by the fighting
 - renovate damaged essential facilities, such as forensic facilities and medico-legal institutions

WEAPON CONTAMINATION

- ▶ reinforce the capacities at the National Society and at local red cross entities in promoting safe practices among people in weapon-contaminated areas, through training and technical and/or material support; convey key messages on mines/ERW when engaging with communities and through other means
- ▶ with the National Society, provide safety briefings, equipment, training and/or technical support for the national mine-action authorities and others involved in surveying, marking and clearing weapon-contaminated areas
- ▶ conduct or provide support for surveying areas suspected or confirmed to be contaminated with mines/ERW, to minimize risks for both civilians and humanitarian workers

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- ▶ provide material, financial and/or technical support, and training, for the Ukrainian Red Cross Society for its activities to restore family links and promote mine-risk awareness and safe practices
- ▶ support the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in developing its capacities to deliver emergency assistance, implement water and habitat projects and apply humanitarian engineering in their work

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

Objective: People deprived of their liberty are afforded treatment and living conditions that comply with international norms. They can communicate with their relatives and receive the medical care they need.

Visiting POWs and others deprived of their liberty

The ICRC has been able to visit some POWs on both sides, but many others have yet to be visited. It will continue to strengthen its dialogue with the parties to gain unimpeded and repeated access to all POWs, civilian internees and other

people deprived of their liberty. It will strive to conduct visits to places of internment/detention in accordance with its standard procedures and based on its mandate under IHL. During these visits, it will monitor the treatment, living conditions and access to health care of people deprived of their liberty. Afterwards, it will discuss its findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities, to ensure that the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their liberty are in accordance with IHL and other applicable norms; when possible, it will provide them with technical guidance in carrying out the recommendations.

The ICRC will continue to call on both parties to ensure protection for POWs and civilian internees and to respect their judicial guarantees and the principle of *non-refoulement*, particularly when they are being repatriated. In support of the Ukraine's establishment of a mixed medical commission (MMC), the ICRC has appointed doctors to be part of the MMC who will seek to conduct medical examinations, with the aim of helping the authorities facilitate the release and repatriation of POWs with serious medical conditions. It will maintain its efforts to help the authorities and their staff to develop their capacities in the management of internment facilities.

The ICRC will seek to ensure that POWs and others deprived of their liberty can stay in touch with their families. It will continue to act as a neutral intermediary in facilitating correspondence between these people and their families, in cooperation with the relevant parties. It will also encourage the authorities to enable people deprived of their liberty to make video calls to their families. It will seek to ensure that families are informed about the fate and/or whereabouts of their detained/interned relatives, with a view to preventing disappearances and alleviating the plight of families waiting for news. It will continue working with authorities to transmit information on POWs, civilian internees and other persons protected under IHL to the CTA bureau. It will stand ready to act as a neutral intermediary when the parties repatriate POWs and civilian internees.

The ICRC will seek to provide the families of people deprived of their liberty – especially those headed by older or disabled people – with support to increase their income and/or become more financially resilient. Similar support will be made available to recently released persons. The ICRC will refer these people and their families for psychosocial support and other health-related services, as necessary.

Improving access to basic services for POWs and others deprived of their liberty

The ICRC will help the authorities ensure that POWs and others held in connection with the international armed conflict have sufficient access to necessities and to health services of good quality. It will donate medical equipment and consumables to places of internment/detention and organize capacity-building events for the relevant authorities to improve the health services provided in these places. Hygiene kits and other essentials will be distributed to detainees/internees, and the authorities will be given the support to undertake infrastructural improvements to improve their living conditions.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION OF PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

- P** through bilateral dialogue, written representations and other means, urge the authorities – at local and central levels – to ensure unimpeded and repeated access to all people held in connection with the international armed conflict, including the wounded and sick among them who are in hospitals
 - ensure that the authorities give the MMC access to all POWs, to carry out regular medical examinations
- P** visit people deprived of their liberty in places to which the ICRC has been granted access; register these people, with a view to notifying their families of their internment/detention, and monitor their treatment and living conditions
 - communicate findings and recommendations confidentially to the authorities concerned; offer technical guidance in implementing the recommendations and evaluating their effectiveness
 - help the justice ministry print informational materials (e.g. leaflets, posters) on POWs' rights and other key topics
 - provide the authorities with training opportunities, in the management of internment facilities and related topics
- P** seek information from the authorities on the fate and/or whereabouts of people alleged to have been captured and interned/detained, and of any persons who have died in captivity
- P** provide RCMs, oral messages and other family-links services for people deprived of their liberty; persuade the authorities to allow these people to contact their families, for instance, by allowing them to make video calls
 - ▶ with the consent of both parties, act as a neutral intermediary in the repatriation of POWs and civilian internees; conduct individual medical interviews and follow-ups, including on hospital referrals (see below)

ECONOMIC SECURITY

- E** donate hygiene kits, blankets, winter clothes and other essentials for POWs and others deprived of their liberty
- E** provide cash, and material or other support, for families of people deprived of their liberty, or for those recently released, to increase their income

HEALTH

- E** give prison health staff and penitentiary authorities technical advice and material support (e.g. medical supplies, basic equipment, furniture) to ensure the availability of health care to people deprived of their liberty; train them in medical ethics; the basic principles of confidentiality and informed consent; and mental-health and psychosocial support for people deprived of their liberty
- E** follow up on the health status of people deprived of their liberty, including through individual interviews, and

monitor their access to systematic medical screening upon arrival and other health services

- E** together with authorities, facilitate access to specialized care for POWs who need it; conduct medical assessments for POWs about to be released or repatriated and refer those needing secondary care to appropriate facilities
- E** stand ready to respond, during emergencies, to the health-related needs of POWs and others deprived of their liberty

WATER AND HABITAT

- E** carry out or support repairs or upgrades to key facilities (e.g. water, heating, housing) at selected places of internment/detention; organize or support workshops on managing interment facilities for the authorities

WOUNDED AND SICK

Objective: Wounded and sick people receive appropriate medical and surgical care.

Ensuring the availability of timely medical care

The ICRC will continue to pursue various efforts to ensure a continuum of care for the wounded and the sick. It will work towards making life-saving care and physical rehabilitation accessible to communities affected by the fighting, particularly those in or near front-line areas. The ICRC will support first responders, local emergency services and other providers of pre-hospital care, with a view to increasing the numbers of those who can stabilize the condition of critically ill or wounded people and transfer them to hospitals in a timely manner. The ICRC will provide material and other support for hospitals – especially those near front-line areas or those that are unable to secure the necessary supplies. It will also help ensure that hospitals have the resources needed to cope with sudden mass-casualty events. It will carry out infrastructural improvements at facilities damaged or otherwise affected by the fighting; it will focus on helping them in such areas as operational continuity, emergency preparedness and infection control. The ICRC will also help hospital staff develop their capacities.

The ICRC will seek to help people with physical disabilities to obtain rehabilitative care and seek also to advance their social inclusion. To that end, it will support physical rehabilitation centres and key government ministries. It will also help wounded people and people with disabilities to receive mental-health and psychosocial support (see *Civilians*).

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

MEDICAL CARE



Hospitals supported
90 structures

- E** track incidents of violence against medical workers and patients; when necessary, provide hospitals with support for reinforcing measures against the effects of hostilities (see below); remind both parties to the international armed conflict to protect those seeking or providing health services from attacks, in accordance with IHL

- E** help providers of pre-hospital care to develop a contingency plan for mass-casualty incidents, in coordination with local authorities and ICRC-supported hospitals; stand ready to give them supplies and equipment during such incidents
- E** help up to 23 hospitals situated in or near front-line areas to develop their capacities in emergency and trauma care, war surgery, treatment of burns, and infection prevention and control; to that end, donate the necessary supplies and equipment on a regular basis, organize training for their staff and arrange visits by ICRC medical specialists
- E** stand ready to donate medical supplies and equipment to up to another 67 hospitals during emergencies
- E** give wounded civilians cash for covering their medical and other urgent expenses

With the National Society:

- E** provide local emergency services with material, financial and technical support to stabilize wounded and sick people and transfer them to hospitals in a timely manner; train first responders in first aid or pre-hospital emergency care
 - promote the principles of the Health Care in Danger initiative during training sessions or through leaflets

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION



Projects supported
24 projects

- E** provide material support and on-the-job training for staff at up to seven structures providing physiotherapy and prostheses, orthoses and other assistive devices, for the benefit of about 730 people¹ with physical disabilities
- E** organize capacity-building activities (e.g. seminars) for physical rehabilitation staff at up to 12 structures, including the National Society, local health committees, hospitals run by the defence and veterans affairs ministries and private clinics
- E** support four government ministries – health, social policy, education and finance – in strengthening the sustainability of the physical rehabilitation sector and raising the quality of services
 - give them technical support for refining national guidelines for managing physical rehabilitation services and – to the education and health ministries – for developing a bachelor's degree programme in prosthetics and orthotics
- E** together with a local association, organize activities to help advance the social inclusion of people with disabilities; enable selected patients at ICRC-supported physical rehabilitation facilities to increase their income (see *Civilians*)

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities
13 structures

- E** make repairs or improvements at water, sanitation, electrical and other facilities at up to 13 hospitals, physical rehabilitation centres and other medical structures that have been damaged or otherwise affected by hostilities

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Objective: Political decision makers and all weapon bearers understand and respect IHL and other fundamental rules protecting people during armed conflict and other situations of violence, and incorporate them in their decision-making. The media, NGOs and community leaders help foster awareness of humanitarian issues and IHL, thus securing greater respect for human dignity. All actors understand the ICRC's mandate and support its work and that of the Movement as a whole.

Fostering respect for IHL and other applicable norms

The ICRC will expand its efforts to broaden knowledge and acceptance of its work, and of IHL and other applicable norms, among government officials, weapon bearers, community leaders and other key actors in Ukraine. It will seek to cultivate dialogue with these actors on issues of common interest, such as the protection-related concerns of civilians, the use of explosive weapons in densely populated areas and protection for health services (see also *Civilians*); it will also help them refine their interpretation of various provisions of IHL. It will give the Ukrainian military and law-enforcement agencies support for integrating IHL and other pertinent norms, and international policing standards, into their training and operations.

Efforts to advance ratification of IHL instruments, and incorporation of key provisions of these instruments in domestic law, will be kept up; these instruments include those that regulate or prohibit the use of certain weapons. The national IHL committee, legislators, and members of the judiciary and other government officials will be given guidance in this regard. The ICRC will advocate the implementation of existing legislation, such as laws concerning missing people (see *Civilians*). It will seek to develop local interest and expertise in IHL through various forms of interaction with academics and students. It will continue to work with the National Society in developing its ability to promote respect for IHL.

Raising the public's awareness of humanitarian issues

The ICRC will continue to stay abreast of the needs of the communities it serves; tell them about its activities; and collect their views and suggestions, and then adapt its activities accordingly (see *Civilians*). The ICRC's public communication – through both traditional and social media, and other means – will aim to broaden public awareness of humanitarian issues in Ukraine as well as the ICRC's response to such issues, and

1. Based on aggregated monthly data, which include repeat users of physical rehabilitation services.

counter misinformation or disinformation about the ICRC's principled humanitarian action. The Ukrainian Red Cross Society will be given support to reinforce its public and operational communication.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

- Pr** organize meetings and other events with key Ukrainian ministries, military officials and others to advance their understanding and broaden their acceptance of the mission, activities and principled approach of the ICRC and the wider Movement; organize round tables, briefings and other events for these actors on issues of common concern
- Pr** provide technical guidance and organize training for military and law-enforcement agencies, on integrating IHL and international policing standards into their operations and training, and for government officials and members of the national IHL committee, on ratifying IHL instruments or incorporating key provisions of these instruments in domestic law; enable government officials to attend advanced seminars on IHL and other events held elsewhere than Ukraine
- Pr** produce and disseminate reference materials, in Ukrainian, on IHL; organize briefings, workshops, competitions and other events for political and community leaders, academics, students and others; if the situation permits, sponsor some of them to attend events in other countries
- Pr** produce content for traditional and social media on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine and the ICRC's response to it; coordinate with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and other Movement partners on communication campaigns

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- Pr** give the National Society training, and material and other support, for promoting IHL and respect for the emblems protected under it, and for improving its public communication

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Objective: The Ukrainian Red Cross Society has a strong legal basis for independent action and carries out its core activities effectively. Movement components in Ukraine coordinate their activities and implement them in a neutral, impartial and independent manner.

As the ICRC's main partner in Ukraine, the National Society will convene the Movement's response to the needs of people affected by the international armed conflict (see *Civilians*). The ICRC will continue to provide the National Society comprehensive support to carry out its humanitarian activities – in line with the Safer Access Framework and the Seville Agreement 2.0 – and strengthen its capacities in key areas, such as emergency preparedness and response, risk management, financial management and volunteer development. It will continue supporting the National Society's efforts to further strengthen its capacities in providing essential services to communities and in acting as an auxiliary to the authorities in emergencies. The National Society, the ICRC, the International Federation and other members of the Movement present in Ukraine will continue to work closely together to mount an effective response to humanitarian needs; enhance the impact of the Movement's collective response and its advocacy efforts; and to prepare for the upcoming Council of Delegates and International Conference.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

- C** co-convene – with the National Society – the Movement's activities by working closely with the International Federation and other Movement components present in Ukraine; meet with them regularly and develop partnership or cooperation agreements to ensure strategic, coherent and complementary responses to humanitarian needs
- C** through financial, material, technical and staffing support, contribute to the National Society's efforts to develop its capacities in various fields, such as emergency preparedness and response, public communication, risk management, financial management and volunteer development