

## Responding to crises in the Near and Middle East, including in Israel and the occupied territories

A call to fund the ICRC's work in the region

Geneva, 7 October 2025



At the ICRC-supported Artificial Limb and Polio Centre in the Gaza Strip, Seela undergoes physical rehabilitation to learn to walk on her prosthetic limb. (A. Al Waheidi/ICRC)

*In the two years since October 2023, the renewed hostilities between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups in the Gaza Strip have taken a devastating toll on millions of people, as have the interlinked dynamics of conflict and fragility in the wider region. This document summarizes how the ICRC has endeavoured to help those people, by leveraging and building upon its longstanding presence in the places affected. It provides an overview of the situation in the region, unique aspects of the ICRC's operations, key indicators and operational highlights for our work in 2025, and an overview of our work in Israel and the occupied territories since October 2023. It also calls attention to the 181 million CHF needed by the ICRC so that it can continue responding to emergencies in the region in 2025 and beyond.*

## Situation

Two years have passed since the onset of renewed hostilities between Israel and Hamas and other armed groups in the Gaza Strip, which began on 7 October 2023 when Hamas launched a large-scale attack against Israel; Israel responded with a massive military operation in the Gaza Strip. These hostilities, which have continued at an unprecedented level of intensity, are taking place within the broader context of 58 years of occupation, the rapid expansion of the Israeli settlement enterprise and related settler violence in the West Bank, the closure of Gaza since 2007, and recurrent rounds of hostilities between Israel and Gaza-based armed groups.



At the Amal Orphanage in Gaza City, which is used as an IDP camp, Aya, on the right, works at the ICRC-supported community oven. She talks about her fears as the military activities in Gaza City intensify.

“We have nowhere to go, we have no shelter, we have exhausted everything, we have exhausted all our resources, both psychologically and materially,” she says. “But we have no choice but to endure.”

(H. Mhanna/ICRC)

Given the interlinked dynamics of conflict and fragility in the wider region, the current crisis in Israel and the occupied territories has fed into, or taken place in parallel to, other situations of humanitarian concern in the **Near and Middle East**, which is facing multiple conflicts and growing tensions. Armed violence continues to take a devastating toll on civilians across the region: many have been killed or injured. Homes have been damaged or destroyed, and countless livelihoods have been upended. Millions of people are already displaced and face growing difficulties in meeting their most basic needs. Daily life is marked by fear, uncertainty and loss.

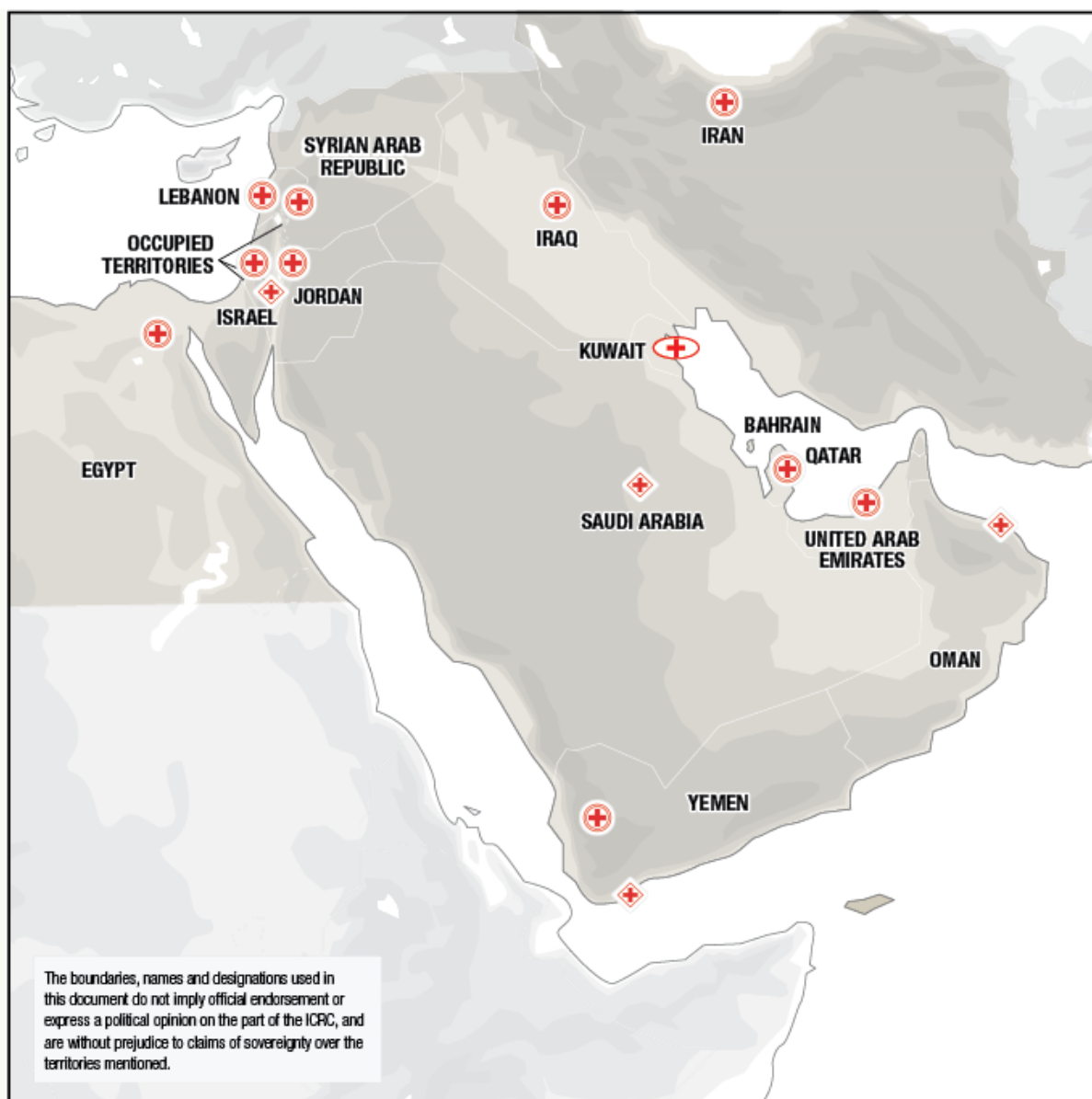
- ▶ In **Israel and the occupied territories**, the humanitarian toll is immense.
  - In Gaza, tens of thousands of people have been wounded or killed, and thousands of others reported missing or detained. Dozens of people, or their remains, are still being held hostage. Nearly the entire population of Gaza has suffered displacement, and many have experienced it repeatedly. People are unable to meet even their most basic needs. Critical public infrastructure, including the health system, has collapsed and residential neighbourhoods have been reduced to rubble. The presence of explosive remnants of war further endanger civilians' lives. While the ICRC has stayed and will remain active in the Gaza Strip, prevailing security and logistical constraints have compelled it and other humanitarian organizations to significantly reduce their operations; some have been forced to halt their work altogether.
  - In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, longstanding Israeli occupation policies have been intensifying. Violent clashes between Israeli forces and settlers and Palestinians have been increasing in severity and result in deaths, displacement, the destruction of property, and arrests.
  - In Israel, the families of those still being held hostage in Gaza have dealt with the pain of separation, uncertainty and loss for two years; the experience has been a collective trauma for entire communities. Deaths, injuries and the destruction of property also occurred during the escalation of hostilities in June 2025 between Israel and the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- ▶ **Iraq** contended with consequences of past armed conflicts and other situations of violence. Its situation remained precarious, partly because of enduring tensions between government forces and various armed groups in the country, and the threat of new episodes of violence stemming from the growing instability in the wider region. According to the UNHCR, as of June 2025, over 1 million people remained displaced in the country.
- ▶ **Egypt** is a crucial logistical and diplomatic hub for the humanitarian response to the crisis in Gaza; it is also hosting tens of thousands of Palestinians, including those who had sought medical treatment there prior to the closure of Rafah border crossing in May 2024.
- ▶ In the **Islamic Republic of Iran**, the escalation of hostilities between Israel and the Islamic Republic of Iran in June damaged civilian infrastructure, resulted in several injuries and casualties, and displaced several people. The country continues to host millions of migrants that fled the situation in Afghanistan, and others from throughout the region.

- ▶ **Jordan** continues to deal with the consequences of armed conflict in the region. Hundreds of thousands of refugees were present in the country, including from Iraq, the occupied Palestinian territories, the Syrian Arab Republic (hereafter Syria) and Yemen. Notably, as of June 2025, around 511,200 UNHCR-registered refugees from Syria remained in the country, despite more than 100,000 having returned to Syria – driven by limited employment opportunities and other difficulties – since the change of authorities there in late 2024.
- ▶ In **Lebanon**, the security situation remains volatile. The armed conflict between Hezbollah in Lebanon and Israel sharply intensified in the last quarter of 2024. On 27 November 2024, Israel and Lebanon announced a cessation of hostilities; however, strikes continue across the country, particularly in southern Lebanon, where Israeli forces remain in five locations.
- ▶ In **Syria**, the regional destabilization related to the evolving conflicts in Israel and the occupied territories, and in Lebanon, continues to affect the volatile security situation in the country. Israeli forces still control the buffer zone in southwestern Syria, adjacent to the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, following their entry into the area in late 2024. Regular airstrikes and other military activities were conducted across various parts of Syria.
- ▶ In **Yemen**, hostilities flare up along front lines, particularly in Sana'a and Hodeida where airstrikes occur almost weekly since March. After UN-mediated ceasefires, which expired in 2022, peace talks have stalled, with regional volatility hindering agreement on long-term peace settlement and fuelling incidents in the Red Sea and subsequent military escalations.

Humanitarian workers in the region have not been spared by the intense hostilities. In Israel and the occupied territories, 51 staff members and volunteers of the Palestine Red Crescent Society were killed since October 2023; 31 were killed while carrying out their humanitarian duties – 29 in Gaza and two in the West Bank. Six staff members of the ICRC were also killed in that time. During the escalation of hostilities between Israel and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in June, four staff members of the Iranian Red Crescent Society were killed.



## ICRC action in the region



⊕ ICRC delegation    ⊕ ICRC regional delegation    ◆ ICRC mission



At the Red Cross Field Hospital in the Gaza Strip, Qamar, a former patient, meets with hospital staff she knew from her time as a patient; her leg was amputated, and now walks with a prosthetic limb.

“I was in the hospital for exactly two and a half months. There was a lot of good psychological support,” she recalled. “It was difficult at the beginning, to be honest. I wasn’t accepting the situation and it was hard. But then, when I was receiving care from the doctors and nurses, it was fine Alhamdulillah. With time, things got better. I got used to it and adapted until I started colouring as a hobby.”

Since her recovery, Qamar has visited the hospital regularly to meet with the doctors and nurses who treated her. Eventually, she started helping out by providing other patients with the kind of psychosocial support that aided in her recovery. “He was in a very bad mental and physical state,” she says, of the first patient she was called upon to support. “When he saw me walking towards him, offering him some words of encouragement and support, Alhamdulillah, he became well.”

(S. Davies/ICRC)

## The ICRC's presence and mandate in the region

With **15 delegations and missions** and more than **3,400 staff** in the region, the ICRC has a wide presence in the Near and Middle East. **Some of the unique characteristics of the ICRC's operations in the region include:**



**A longstanding presence and unique access:** we have been present in many places for decades, working with and for conflict-affected communities to deal with the effects of ongoing or past hostilities. Notably, we have been present in Lebanon, Israel and the occupied territories, and Syria since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Our extensive presence enables us to carry on our work for conflict-affected people wherever they are; for example, aside from our work in Israel and the occupied territories, we also help Palestinians stranded in Egypt to reconnect with their family members in Gaza.

At times, we have been the main – or even the only – international humanitarian organization in certain areas that has been able to help affected communities and to support local actors that were also endeavouring to do so. Up until 1 October 2025, this was the case in Gaza City; the ICRC was one of the last international actors with a ground presence to temporarily suspend operations at its Gaza City office and relocate its staff to offices in southern Gaza amid the worsening access and security conditions.



**A mandate enshrined in IHL:** deriving our mandate from the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, we strive to protect and assist people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence, and to promote and strengthen IHL and humanitarian principles.



**A multidisciplinary approach:** our work includes both efforts to prevent the violation of IHL and other legal frameworks, as well as efforts to help people deal with the consequences of violations. This includes bilateral, confidential protection dialogue with parties to conflict regarding alleged violations, and emergency relief and other assistance for affected people.













**A widespread humanitarian network and local partnerships:** wherever we work, the local National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are our main partners, bringing their expertise, networks and local knowledge. In turn, we provide them with various forms of support. We also work extensively with and through other partners, such as civil defence personnel and local authorities, organizations and service providers. These partnerships are essential to our projects, and in many cases, these local partners will remain long after an ICRC project has ended.



**A Neutral intermediary role:** in line with our mandate in IHL, we often act as a neutral intermediary between parties to conflict. For example, we played this role in the safe release and transfer<sup>1</sup> of 148 hostages held in Gaza – including the remains of 8 who had died – and of over 1,800 Palestinian detainees in Israeli custody. We have also facilitated releases and transfers in Yemen. In Syria, our function as a neutral intermediary was crucial to facilitating the delivery of spare parts for a water station and other critical infrastructure, and enabled these facilities' continued operation.

## Key indicators for the ICRC's work from January to June 2025 in the Near and Middle East<sup>2</sup>

Civilians	
Economic security	
 <b>Food consumption</b> Target: 850,500 people <b>Achieved: 572,222</b>	 <b>Living conditions</b> Target: 386,000 people <b>Achieved: 369,182</b>
 <b>Food production</b> Target: 1,443,350 people <b>Achieved: 240,034</b>	 <b>Capacity-building</b> Target: 225 people
 <b>Income support</b> Initial target: 342,355 people Revised target: 392,355 people <b>Achieved: 97,340</b>	
Water and habitat	Health
 <b>Water and habitat</b> Initial target: 20,637,635 people Revised target: 20,687,635 people <b>Achieved: 13,624,609</b>	 <b>Health centres supported</b> Initial target: 124 structures Revised target: 113 structures <b>Achieved: 101</b>
People deprived of their liberty	
Economic security	
 <b>Food consumption</b> Target: 1,400 people <b>Achieved: 326</b>	 <b>Living conditions</b> Target: 21,000 people <b>Achieved: 4,320</b>
Water and habitat	
 <b>Water and habitat</b> Target: 39,162 people <b>Achieved: 10,455</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The ICRC regularly facilitates releases and transfers in armed conflicts all over the world as a neutral intermediary. The main conditions of its involvement in a given operation are as follows: agreement of all parties concerned; security guarantees, i.e., safe and unimpeded access for ICRC to carry out the operation; and respect at all times and by all parties of the requirements of international humanitarian law regarding such operations, in particular with regard to the humane treatment of those deprived of their liberty before, during, and after the operation.

<sup>2</sup> The ICRC's objectives, plans of actions and budgets in the region for 2025 can be found in the [Appeals 2025](#) on the [Extranet for Donors](#).



## Wounded and sick

### Medical care



#### Hospitals supported

Initial target: 55 structures

Revised target: **57 structures**

**Achieved: 72**

### Physical rehabilitation



#### Projects supported

Initial target: 41 projects

**Achieved: 39**

### Water and habitat



#### Water and habitat activities

Target: 39 structures

**Achieved: 14**

## The ICRC's response in Israel and the occupied territories since October 2023

For nearly two years, the ICRC has continued to mount a multidisciplinary response to the massive humanitarian needs in Israel and the occupied territories, leveraging our longstanding presence in the context and proximity to and acceptance in communities affected by recurrent cycles of violence – including the ongoing hostilities – and occupation policies. We maintained partnerships with the Palestine Red Crescent Society, Magen David Adom and other Movement components, working with them, whenever possible, to assist people in need.

We have reiterated our long-standing call for all hostages held in Gaza to be released in a safe and dignified manner and for the ICRC to have access to all hostages in order to check on their welfare, provide food and any needed medical attention, and to reconnect them with their families. Moreover, we have urgently called for a ceasefire agreement between the parties to the conflict, to prevent more displacement, destruction and loss of life, and for the parties to commit to ensuring a sustainable path forward.

We have continued to advocate for the safe, rapid and unhindered flow of humanitarian assistance into Gaza, where people struggle to meet their most basic needs for food, potable water, shelter and health care. It is crucial that impartial humanitarian organizations be enabled to operate in line with their mandates, working modalities and the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality and independence, and that the volume and type of aid meets the vast scale and complexity of people's needs.

We have also maintained dialogue with the actors pertinent to facilitating our ability to resume visits to Palestinian and other detainees held in Israeli custody in connection with the ongoing hostilities, to check on their treatment and living conditions.

Below are some key figures<sup>3</sup> representing the ICRC's humanitarian response from 7 October 2023.



**17,036** requests were received from people seeking to clarify the fate and whereabouts of their relatives; **4,989** of these were closed because family contact between the people concerned had been re-established



**Through over 1,440 real-time representations, we** strove to persuade the pertinent actors to uphold the protection of civilians and of health-care services – for instance, to ensure safe passage for emergency medical services and facilitate evacuations for medical or humanitarian purposes – in the occupied Palestinian territories, and in Lebanon, Syria and Yemen as well.



Nearly **2 million** internally displaced people in Gaza (**399,198** households) were provided with essential household items



About 147,000 people across 50 IDP shelters in Khan Younis, the Middle Area, and Gaza City had better access to bread through clay ovens that the ICRC has helped to construct and run, and nearly 150,000 people in Khan Younis and the Middle Area were provided with daily cooked meals at ICRC-supported communal kitchens



Over 550 vulnerable households in the West Bank (2,780 people) were given assistance for their livestock production



Over **1.5 million** people in Gaza gained better access to clean water



At the Red Cross Field Hospital in Rafah, established by the ICRC and the Norwegian Red Cross, in partnership with more than a dozen National Societies, and in coordination with the Palestine Red Crescent Society, from 9 May 2024 to 24 September 2025:

- **160,786** consultations were provided
- **9,597** surgical procedures were performed
- **4,114** people were admitted



Some 3,000 people<sup>4</sup> with physical disabilities received physical rehabilitation or assistive devices at the ICRC-supported Artificial Limbs and Polio Center in Gaza City

<sup>3</sup> For official figures, please consult the ICRC's Midterm and Annual Reports only. Unless otherwise indicated, the figures cover the period from 7 October 2023 to 31 July 2025.

<sup>4</sup> Based on aggregated monthly data, which include repeat users of physical rehabilitation services.

## Operational highlights from January to June 2025

In the first half of the year, the ICRC was able to reach millions of people suffering the effects of the hostilities in Israel and the occupied territories and in other parts of the Near and Middle East. Despite access, security and logistical constraints, we have strove to maintain, and where possible, even increase the scale of our work, commensurate to the massive and growing scale of humanitarian needs in the region.

Some highlights from key contexts follow; more detailed mid-term reports for most of the contexts are available on the [Extranet for Donors](#).

- In **Israel and the occupied territories**, we adapted our set-up and capacities to major developments that affected our ability to carry out our work – a ceasefire agreement that took effect from January to March, and restrictions on the entry and distribution of essential goods that were made more severe from March to May – to continue to mount our multidisciplinary response to the massive humanitarian needs. Notably:
  - Through **bilateral and confidential dialogue**, we continued to remind the pertinent authorities and weapon bearers of their obligations under IHL and other relevant international norms, notably in connection with the conduct of hostilities, the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, the protection of the medical mission, the prohibition of hostage-taking, the treatment of people arrested and detained, and the dignified management of the dead. We **documented allegations of IHL violations** and relayed these confidentially to the parties concerned, with a view to preventing or ending such violations.
  - In Gaza, the **Red Cross Field Hospital** provided patients with surgical treatment, including in response to mass-casualty incidents, and other specialized services such as obstetric/gynaecological and paediatric care. The hospital's capacity was increased **from 60 beds to about 120 beds**; this was made necessary by the increasing scale and frequency of mass-casualty incidents that the hospital began responding to in June, and for which it often had to function at 200% occupancy of its bed capacity.
  - **Over 1.4 million people** in Gaza and, to a lesser extent, the West Bank, **recovered or maintained a degree of access to water and other essential services** through our initiatives to truck in water and repair or upgrade critical water-supply, sanitation and electrical systems. We also gave local service providers supplies and equipment, which in Gaza enabled them to preserve minimum operating capacity.



In Khan Younis, in the Gaza Strip, we facilitated the delivery of oxygen equipment by the Palestine Red Crescent to the al-Amal hospital. (ICRC)

- In addition to its important work of helping to promote IHL and engage in humanitarian diplomacy in the region, our delegation in **Egypt** continued to support and work with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society – our main operational partner in the country. We provide funds, supplies and technical expertise to the National Society, which allows it to develop its operational capacities, thereby enabling it to respond to the humanitarian needs in the country and the wider region, including in Gaza. Our Cairo delegation also works with other Movement partners in the region to help restore contact and reunite families.
  - Members of families separated by armed conflict, migration, detention or other circumstances – particularly refugees from Sudan and people from the occupied Palestinian territory – restored or maintained contact with each other using the Movement's family-links services (e.g. tracing, phone calls, RCMs). Notably, **a total of 10,664 calls were facilitated between family members** from January to June 2025 and **the fate and/or whereabouts of 178 people reported missing were ascertained**, and their respective families informed.
  - From October 2023 to 30 September 2025, **a total of 87,939 phone calls were facilitated between separated family members from Gaza** at ICRC-supported connectivity stations run by the Egyptian Red Crescent Society.



When conflict erupted in Sudan in 2023, Aly Mubarak and his wife – who have lived in Egypt since 2005 – lost contact with their families, including their children. With help from the ICRC, they were able to restore contact with their loved ones. (ICRC)

- The Egyptian Red Crescent Society and the ICRC sought to keep the families of people who had gone missing, or from whom they had become separated, informed of the various services available to them, including those provided by local organizations and other humanitarian actors. Notably, people in need of mental-health and psychosocial support were referred to the appropriate service providers. The National Society and the ICRC also conducted interviews among these

people, to better understand their needs and guide the two organizations' humanitarian response.





Islamic Republic of Iran. The ICRC trains and supports the National Society in the development of referral mechanisms to help conflict-affected people gain access to medical, financial and other services. (ICRC)

- In the **Islamic Republic of Iran**, we strengthened our operations to help address the increased humanitarian needs in the country. We continued to work with the Iranian Red Crescent Society to respond to emergencies, provide emergency relief and ensure that family-links services are available for people separated from their families.
  - As part of emergency support during the escalation of hostilities, the ICRC provided the Iranian Red Crescent Society with **first-aid kits, wound-dressing supplies and other medical items** for the National Society's emergency relief operations.
  - A total of **219 people<sup>5</sup> with disabilities** obtained rehabilitative care of good quality at five health facilities regularly supported by the ICRC. Patients were also referred to an ICRC-supported clinic for mental-health and psychosocial support services.
  - Afghan migrants were able to obtain **primary health care services** at an ICRC-supported clinic run by a local organization. **Mental-health and psychosocial support** were also available at the clinic; over **1,700 people** were given counselling through individual or peer group sessions conducted by ICRC-trained and supported psychologists or social workers.

---

<sup>5</sup> Based on aggregated monthly data, which include repeat users of physical rehabilitation services.

- In **Jordan**, our logistical hub in Amman continued to support our efforts to help people across the Near and Middle East, including in Gaza. The delegation there also provided comprehensive support to families with relatives missing in connection with conflict in Syria, so that they could meet their various needs.

- We transported medical and other essential items to Gaza, as one of the few humanitarian organizations that had access to the area.
- Families obtained psychosocial support at **207 individual or group sessions** conducted by ICRC-trained professionals and volunteers who themselves have missing relatives; some of these sessions included activities that enabled families to memorialize their loved ones.



Our logistical hub in Amman supports our response to the needs of people affected by conflict and other violence across the Near and Middle East. For example, it helped us to transport medical and other essential items to Gaza. (ICRC)

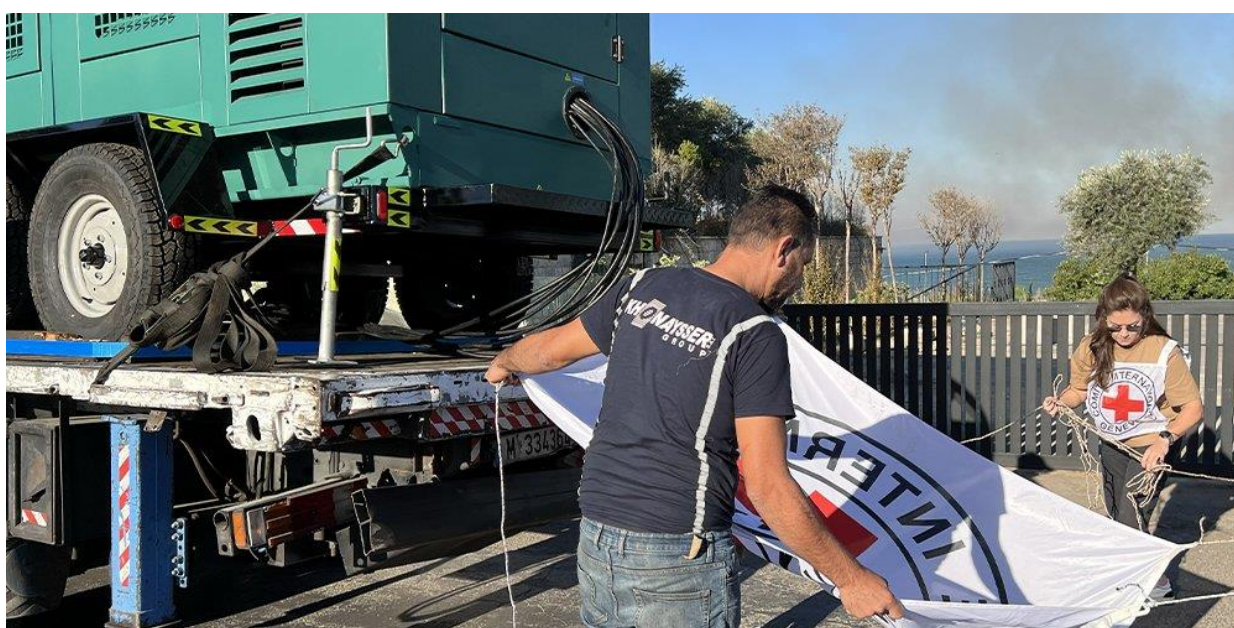
- **93 breadwinners (supporting 412 people)** started or expanded small businesses with ICRC financial assistance. Some of them received cash to cover work permit fees, and/or essential expenses for up to three months. Some of them strengthened their capacities in business management at ICRC training sessions.



Families with relatives missing in connection with conflict in Syria partake in an activity to honour the memory of their loved ones, which was organized by ICRC-trained volunteers who themselves have missing relatives. (F. Ramadan/ICRC)



- In **Lebanon**, we intensified our efforts to protect conflict-affected people, meet their urgent needs and strengthen their resilience to the effects of the conflict. Building on our existing activities, we reinforced local capacities to respond to emergencies and sustain basic services. A budget extension appeal was launched to this end in April.<sup>6</sup> Our current efforts include the following activities:
- To meet their basic needs and ease their living conditions, **around 16,480 households (82,400 people in all)** in conflict-affected communities, and Syrians in temporary shelters, received food parcels. **Some 20,170 households (100,865 people in all)** in the most affected areas received solar-powered lamps, kitchen sets and other essentials.
  - **Nearly 439,000 people in southern Lebanon** had better access to clean water and other essential services after the ICRC conducted repairs and upgrades to water and electrical systems, and donated fuel for generators, at key facilities, including solar-powered pumping stations and health structures.
  - To help ensure the sustained delivery of good-quality medical care, the ICRC and our partners established **a training centre at the Rafik Hariri University Hospital in Beirut**, envisioned as a national reference hub for education in emergency and trauma care. The centre delivered training sessions for 156 health-care professionals by the end of June.



In response to the urgent needs of returnees, the ICRC, in partnership with the South Lebanon Water Establishment, provides high-capacity generators to restore access to water in affected villages. (ICRC)

<sup>6</sup> For more information, please see the latest [budget extension appeal](#) on the [ICRC Extranet for Donors](#).

- In **Syria**, we worked closely with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and other Movement partners, coordinating with national authorities and international actors to support the recovery of communities affected by over 14 years of armed conflicts and recent escalations of violence. Our efforts focused on delivering life-saving assistance and helping communities recover and rebuild sustainably over the long term.
  - **Over 11 million people** gained improved access to clean water and other essential services, thanks to the sustained support of the National Society and the ICRC for critical infrastructure, and smaller-scale projects during emergencies and for IDPs and returnees. This figure included nearly 9 million people who benefited from the ICRC's multi-year Too Big to Fail Programme, which aimed to stabilize and reinforce Syria's seven largest water treatment and pumping stations and their distribution systems.
  - **Nearly 88,000 people affected by armed conflict or other emergencies** met their dietary needs and/or improved their living conditions with support from the National Society and the ICRC.
  - The fate and whereabouts of **around 300 people** were ascertained and, whenever appropriate, communicated to their relatives by the ICRC.



Idlib. Abo, a 70-year-old farmer, receives a grant for his work from the ICRC and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. His family, along with over 220 others, were given such grants upon their return to Idlib's countryside. (ICRC)





2025.02.26 08:48

Household essentials were distributed by the ICRC to IDPs in the camps of Batha Al-Meel, Saylat Al-Meel and Hosh Al-Jami'a in Marib City. (ICRC)

- In **Yemen**, we continued to implement a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the humanitarian consequences of conflict. Whenever possible, we worked with the Yemen Red Crescent Society and coordinated our activities with other Movement partners to strengthen the effectiveness of our joint humanitarian response.
  - Conflict-affected people – including IDP households and IDP-hosting communities – met their urgent needs with relief aid from the National Society and the ICRC. A total of **5,648 households (39,536 people)** received food rations or cash for purchasing food.
  - **Over 400,000 people** had improved access to essential services owing to ICRC initiatives, which included a donation of a high-powered transformer to a water provider in Hodeidah and upgrades to water-supply systems of a supported hospital.
  - To facilitate the delivery of good-quality and timely medical care to wounded and sick people, **18 hospitals** received staff training, supplies for treating weapon wounds and other medical materials, fuel and/or other consumables.

As of June 2025, only our delegations in Israel and the occupied territories, Lebanon, and the Syrian Arab Republic are sufficiently funded by country-earmarked contributions to cover their expenditures.

Our delegations in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, and Kuwait are among the ones that have already required the allocation of flexible funding to enable their operations to continue. Thus, looking ahead, we estimate that flexible funding will be increasingly crucial to enabling us to keep working to reach millions of people in the region.

## How flexible funding enables us to respond quickly to emergencies

Armed conflict can erupt or escalate with little warning, creating urgent humanitarian needs. To respond to these needs quickly, the ICRC must be ready logistically, operationally and strategically; it must also work closely with Movement partners and other humanitarian actors before conflicts unfold.

Flexible funding is the cornerstone of our preparedness. It gives us the agility to act immediately – even before funding is fully secured – and thus deliver protection and assistance where it is needed the most, without delay, and in an impartial and neutral manner. Because it is not earmarked, flexible funding also allows us to focus our efforts on where they are needed most, according to evolving humanitarian needs. It also represents a strong expression of the trust and confidence from our donors in the mandate of the ICRC and the humanitarian roles laid out in the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols.

Without flexible funding, many of our operations in the Near and Middle East would have been unable to break even in 2024. They include Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, the Gulf Cooperation Council and Lebanon. Many of these contexts are chronically underfunded; for example, the Gulf Cooperation Council, Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran are only 0%, 0.2% and 7% funded, respectively, this year. Our operations in Syria and in Yemen ended in a deficit, even after the allocation of flexible funding.

The table below details the overall financial standing of the ICRC's operations in the Near and Middle East:

Financial situation as at 3 October 2025			
	KCHF	KUSD*	KEUR*
1. Appeals 2025	559,640	702,272	598,866
2. Estimated expenditure 2025	511,126	617,898	546,249
3. Balance brought forward from 2024	72,803	88,011	77,806
4. Contributions pledged and received (cash/kind/services)	257,304	311,054	274,985
<b>5. Outstanding needs (5 = 2 - 3 - 4)</b>	<b>181,019</b>	<b>218,834</b>	<b>193,459</b>

\*Internal ICRC rates in October 2025: 1 USD = CHF 0.7969/ 1 EUR = CHF 0.9345

To date, we have registered, we have registered – either pledged or received – contributions (cash/kind/services) amounting to CHF 257 million for operations in the region.

The ICRC appeals to donors to make funds available to cover the outstanding amount of **CHF 181 million** for its work in the region. Likewise, the ICRC urges donors to come forward with further contributions to the [ICRC Appeals 2025](#) for its operations worldwide.

For further information, please contact the Resource Mobilization Division ([resourcemobilization@icrc.org](mailto:resourcemobilization@icrc.org)).

## ICRC bank details

---

Bank name: UBS SA

Address: P.O. BOX 2600 - CH-1211 GENEVA 2, SWITZERLAND

Swift code: UBSWCHZH80A

		BANK ACCOUNT N°	IBAN CODE N° (compulsory to all bank transactions)
SWISS FRANCS	(CHF)	240 FP100883.2	CH97 0024 0240 FP10 0883 2
US DOLLARS	(USD)	240-C0129986.4	CH52 0024 0240 C012 9986 4
EUROS	(EUR)	240-C0129986.5	CH25 0024 0240 C012 9986 5
POUNDS STERLING	(GBP)	240-C0183929.1	CH73 0024 0240 C018 3929 1