

ARMENIA

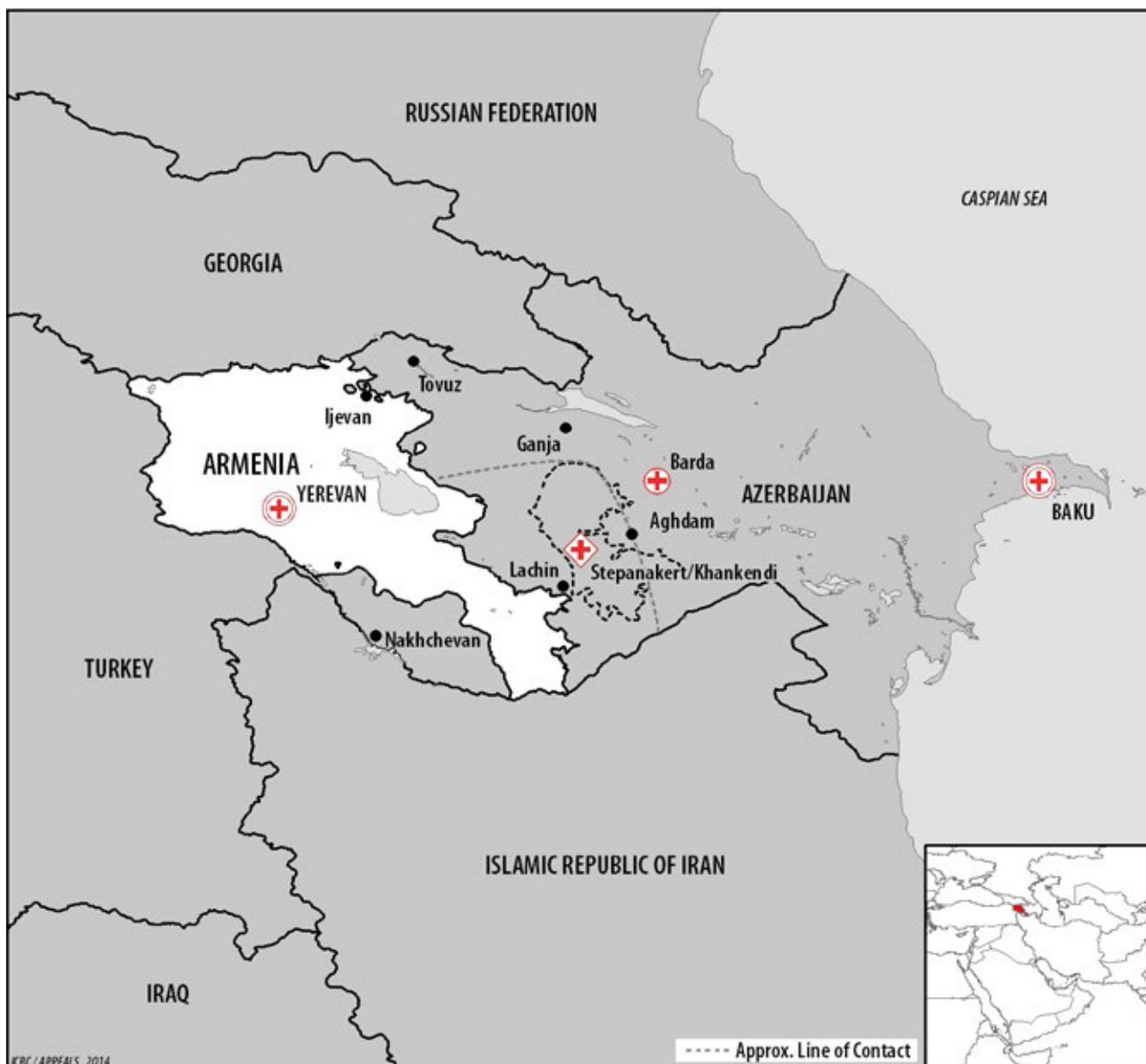
The ICRC has been working in Armenia since 1992 in relation to the Nagorny Karabakh armed conflict. It focuses on the issue of missing persons and on detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons, and works to protect and assist communities living along the international border with Azerbaijan. It promotes the national implementation of IHL and its integration into the armed and security forces' doctrine, training and sanctions and into academic curricula. The ICRC works in partnership with and aims to help strengthen the capacities of the Armenian Red Cross Society.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	421
Assistance	1,202
Prevention	449
Cooperation with National Societies	294
General	-
Total	2,367
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>144</i>

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	4
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	30



KRC/APPEALS 2014

 ICRC delegation
  ICRC sub-delegation
  ICRC mission

MAIN TARGETS FOR 2014

- ▶ members of conflict-affected communities boost their livelihoods and coping mechanisms thanks to knowledge of their rights and ICRC material assistance
- ▶ willing relatives of missing persons start providing DNA samples to aid authorities in the future identification of human remains
- ▶ some 200 families of missing persons access psychological and social support from the National Society and ICRC-trained service providers
- ▶ the Ministry of Justice, with ICRC support, advances work on the law protecting the rights of missing persons and their families
- ▶ the authorities take steps to establish a national IHL committee, including bringing together the ministries concerned at a round-table
- ▶ the Ministry of Defence makes further headway in integrating IHL into military doctrine, including by taking on board ICRC input and by participating in a related workshop

ASSISTANCE		Targets (up to)
CIVILIANS (RESIDENTS, IDPs, RETURNEES, ETC.)		
Economic security, water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Productive inputs	Beneficiaries	120
Cash	Beneficiaries	100
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	4,000



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CONTEXT

Despite several high-level meetings between Armenia and Azerbaijan, mediated by the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, no progress has been made in finding a peaceful solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

Tensions persist along the Line of Contact and the international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Incidents of cross-border fire and the presence of mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to affect the lives of civilians living in the area, in addition to causing both military

and civilian casualties and exacerbating political tensions between the two countries.

Armenia is a member of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and, since September 2013, the Russian-led Customs Union. It also continues to seek closer economic ties with the European Union. Though not a NATO member, Armenian forces participate in NATO-led operations in Afghanistan and Kosovo and in periodical drills with member countries.

Emigration remains high.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2014, the ICRC will continue working to alleviate the humanitarian consequences in Armenia of the unresolved conflict over Nagorno Karabakh, acting, in particular, in its capacity as a neutral intermediary. It will monitor the situation of civilians living near the international border with Azerbaijan, while encouraging the authorities, armed forces and community leaders to address humanitarian concerns. If necessary, it will remind the parties to the conflict of their obligations under IHL.

Helping resolve the fate of persons missing in relation to the conflict and addressing the needs of their families will remain a priority. The ICRC will provide expertise to aid the authorities in their efforts to provide answers to families of missing persons, particularly through the collection/management of ante/post-mortem data, support in the proper handling and identification of human remains, and advice in the development of a national law on missing persons. With the authorities concerned and local partners, the ICRC will begin a pilot phase of collecting DNA samples from willing relatives of missing persons. Meanwhile, with the National Society, it will continue providing assistance to families of missing persons, while coordinating with the authorities, NGOs and other service providers to address their other multifaceted needs.

Working with local partners, the ICRC will implement projects aimed at helping vulnerable people living close to the international border boost self-sufficiency, access safe and sufficient water, and improve their living conditions, thus increasing their resilience. In tandem, it will draw the authorities' attention to these people's needs and urge them to address these. The ICRC will also continue to gather information on the concerns of mine/ERW victims and their families, and encourage the authorities to respond to those concerns. It will also provide the Armenian

Center for Humanitarian Demining and Expertise (CHDE) with technical advice in developing a strategy to address weapon contamination.

People deprived of their freedom will continue to receive visits from ICRC delegates to monitor their treatment and living conditions, taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable inmates. Particular attention will be paid to POWs and civilian internees held in connection with the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, on whose behalf the ICRC, in its capacity as a neutral intermediary, will liaise with the authorities regarding their detention and possible repatriation.

While continuing to conduct dissemination sessions for troops deployed along the international border, the ICRC will share its expertise with the armed forces in integrating IHL elements into their doctrine. To contribute further to building an environment conducive to the respect of IHL, the ICRC will encourage the authorities to accede to and implement IHL treaties, particularly weapon-related instruments. It will sustain contacts with the media and academic circles in order to raise awareness of humanitarian principles and promote acceptance of the ICRC's neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action.

In addition to being the ICRC's main partner in its activities for conflict-affected people, the Armenian Red Cross Society will receive further technical and financial support in enhancing its capacities to carry out its own activities, particularly first-aid training for conflict-affected communities and communication initiatives, and in strengthening its legal base. All National Society/ICRC activities will be coordinated with those of Movement partners and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest in order to maximize impact, identify unmet needs and avoid duplication.