

BANGKOK (REGIONAL)

COVERING: Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Viet Nam

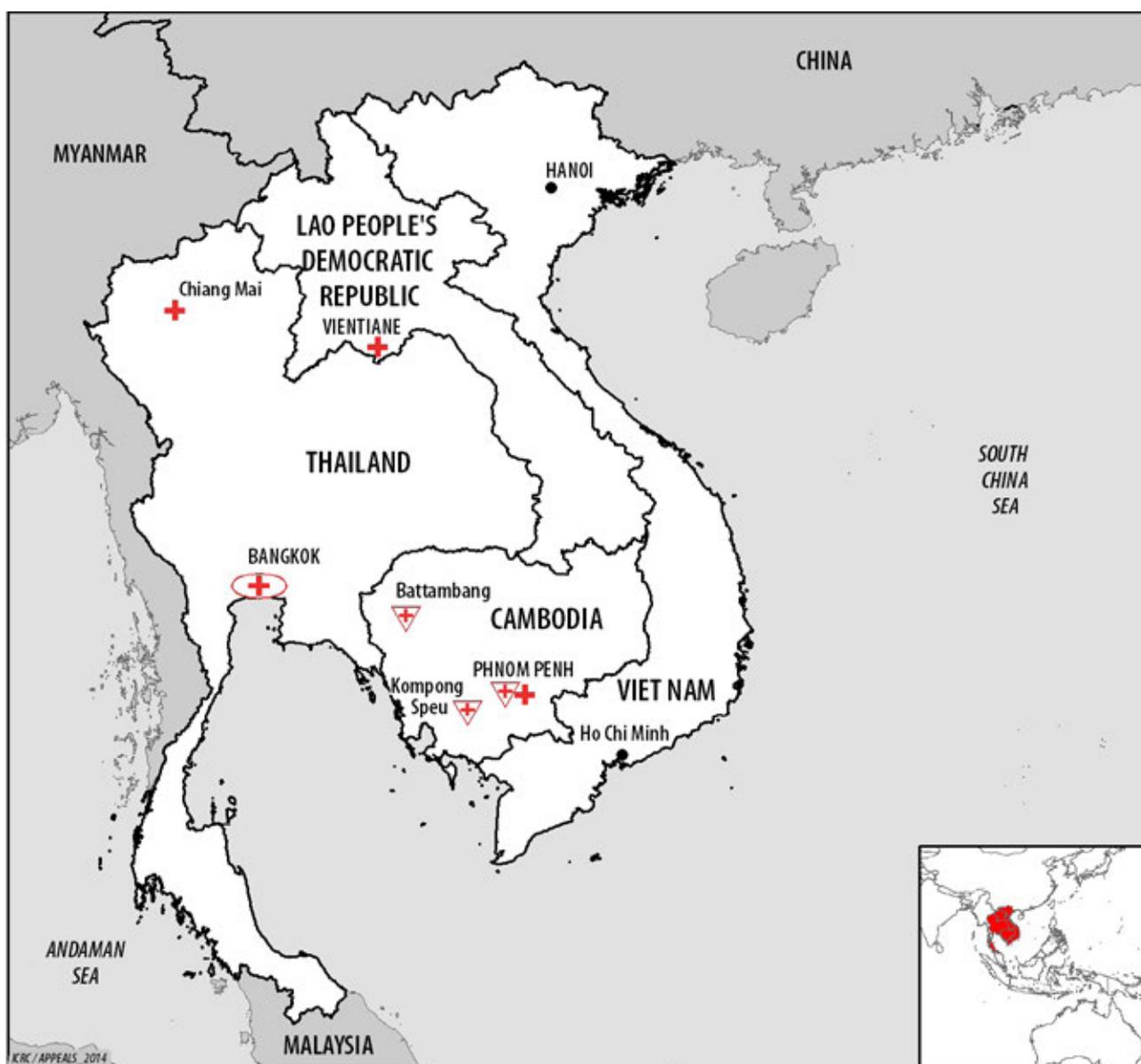
Having first established a presence in Thailand in 1975 to support its operations in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam, the ICRC promotes the ratification and implementation of IHL treaties and IHL integration into military training regionwide. It raises awareness of humanitarian issues and supports National Societies in developing their capacities in IHL promotion, family-links services and emergency response. It seeks to protect and assist vulnerable populations in Thailand and Lao People's Democratic Republic, visits detainees in Thailand and in Cambodia, where it supports the authorities in improving prison management, and helps meet the need for prostheses.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	4,339
Assistance	4,513
Prevention	3,241
Cooperation with National Societies	1,024
General	1,049
Total	14,166
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	865

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	41
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	125



⊕ ICRC regional delegation
 + ICRC office
 ⊕ ICRC-supported prosthetic/orthotic centre

MAIN TARGETS FOR 2014

- ▶ detainees in Cambodia and Thailand benefit from ICRC standard visits and, with the cooperation of the authorities concerned, from improvements to prison health care services and infrastructure
- ▶ communities in areas affected by mines/explosive remnants of war in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam reduce their risks through National Society/ICRC mine-awareness campaigns and livelihood support
- ▶ violence-affected families in southern Thailand regain self-sufficiency through micro-economic initiatives
- ▶ disabled patients in Cambodia receive quality physical rehabilitation services, including reintegration programmes involving sport, from 2 ICRC-supported centres
- ▶ throughout the region, governments and armed and police forces take steps to integrate IHL and internationally recognized standards into domestic law and into their operations, respectively

ASSISTANCE		Targets (up to)
CIVILIANS (RESIDENTS, IDPs, RETURNEES, ETC.)		
Economic security, water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Cash	Beneficiaries	500
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	1,000
WOUNDED AND SICK		
Physical rehabilitation		
Centres supported	Structures	3
Patients receiving services	Patients	11,600



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CONTEXT

Moves by the Thai government to pass constitutional amendments and a national reconciliation bill proposing an amnesty for those involved in Thailand's seven-year political crisis continue to face widespread opposition, raising fears of renewed political tension.

Although talks have begun between the Thai government and the Barisan Revolusi Nasional, the border provinces in southern Thailand continue to be plagued by violent incidents, in particular drive-by shootings and bombings in public places, causing civilian deaths and injuries. The violence and consequent imposition of emergency laws are making life difficult for the population.

Ceasefire negotiations between the government of Myanmar and some ethnic groups in eastern Myanmar have led to a significant decrease in armed confrontations, including along the country's border with Thailand. However,

Thailand is seeing an influx of people fleeing intercommunal clashes in other parts of Myanmar.

Cambodia and Thailand have redeployed security forces along their disputed border as they await the decision of the International Court of Justice on their respective claims.

Cambodia's election committee declared the ruling Cambodian People's Party winner of the July 2013 national elections. The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia suffers from chronic lack of funding.

In the Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereafter Lao PDR), the presence of mines/explosive remnants of war (ERW) remains a threat to communities. In Viet Nam, the government is taking new steps to speed up the clearance of mines/ERW, working with various agencies and mobilizing international support to this end.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2014, the Bangkok regional delegation will focus on increasing awareness of and support for humanitarian principles, IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities in the countries covered. It will foster dialogue and, where possible, working relations with local, national and regional actors, particularly detaining authorities, ministry officials, representatives of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and community/religious leaders and security forces in southern Thailand. Such efforts will notably enable it to continue assisting civilians affected by the violence in southern Thailand and to increase its activities for people dealing with the consequences of the past conflict in the Lao PDR and Viet Nam.

In Cambodia and Thailand, the ICRC will continue to visit detainees, including detained migrants and people arrested in connection with the violence in southern Thailand, providing the authorities concerned with confidential reports and recommendations on detainees' treatment and living conditions, with emphasis on improving prison health care services and infrastructure. Discussions with the Cambodian authorities will also focus on reinforcing/developing tangible measures to curb overcrowding. The delegation will endeavour to strengthen or establish dialogue with the respective Ministries of Public Security of the Lao PDR and Viet Nam on possible cooperation in the field of detention.

To address the welfare and basic needs of violence-affected civilians in southern Thailand, the ICRC will intercede with the authorities on their behalf, point them to existing services or, when necessary, provide direct assistance.

In response to the spillover effects of the conflict in Myanmar, the ICRC will continue to cover the treatment costs of wounded people from Myanmar in Thai hospitals. With the Thai Red Cross Society, it will conduct seminars in southern Thailand and along the Thailand-Myanmar

border to help improve the standard of surgical care for the weapon-wounded.

To lessen the impact of the presence of mines/ERW on civilians in the Lao PDR and Viet Nam, the ICRC will conduct mine-risk awareness campaigns with the respective National Societies and offer people whose livelihoods have been affected the opportunity to engage in micro-economic initiatives. In the Lao PDR, it will develop the medical capacities of a local organization in charge of mine clearance. The ICRC will maintain its substantial support to Cambodia's physical rehabilitation sector, including by promoting social reintegration activities. It will continue to strengthen the capacities of staff of supported centres and the components factory to enable them to operate independently.

Alongside regular dialogue with stakeholders concerned and assistance activities, the ICRC will continue to encourage and provide tailored technical support to the authorities in acceding to and implementing IHL treaties and to the armed and police forces in integrating IHL and other internationally recognized standards into their operations. Following the handover of the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme to Thai education officials and the Thai Red Cross, the ICRC will concentrate on strengthening the IHL teaching capacities of university lecturers regionwide.

The ICRC will pursue efforts to help the region's National Societies strengthen their capacities, particularly in emergency preparedness and restoring family links. They will work together to enable family members separated by conflict, other situations of violence, natural disaster, migration or detention to restore and/or maintain contact. The ICRC will continue to coordinate its activities with those of Movement partners and other humanitarian actors in fields of common interest.