

MEXICO CITY (REGIONAL)

COVERING: Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

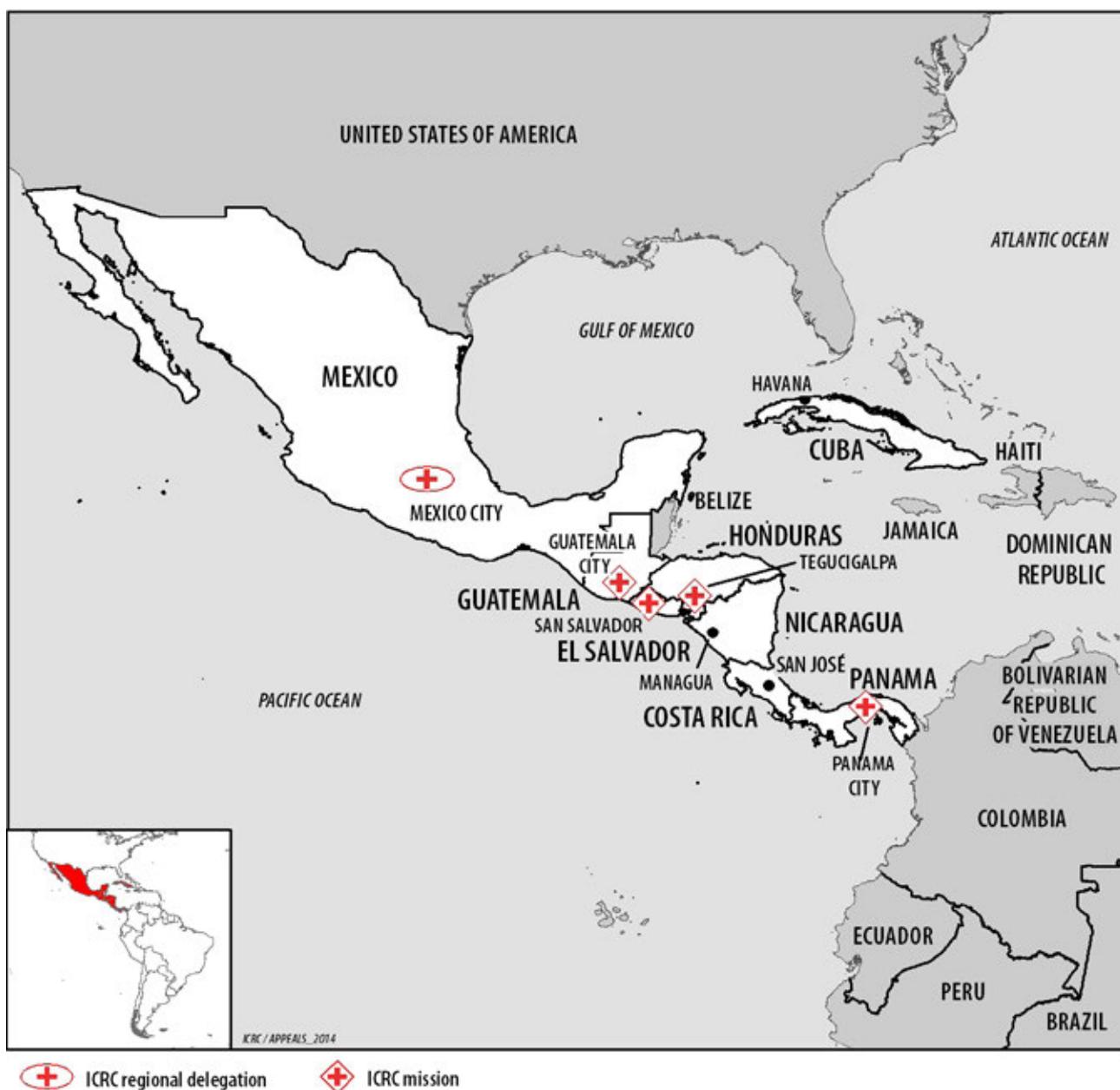
The Mexico delegation opened in 1998, becoming a regional delegation in 2002. It helps strengthen the capacities of the region's National Societies and works with them to help address the most urgent humanitarian needs of persons affected by organized violence and of vulnerable migrants; monitors detainees' conditions; and endeavours to ascertain the fate of missing persons. It helps integrate IHL into armed forces' doctrine and into academic curricula, and human rights norms applicable to the use of force into the doctrine, training and operations of security forces. The delegation hosts the regional advisory service on IHL.

BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	7,233
Assistance	4,862
Prevention	3,004
Cooperation with National Societies	1,325
General	-
Total	16,425
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>1,002</i>

PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	29
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	103



MAIN TARGETS FOR 2014

- ▶ vulnerable communities in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico are better able to cope with the humanitarian consequences of violence after participating in multidisciplinary projects
- ▶ violence-affected people in the regions of Bajo Aguán, Honduras, and Darién, Panama, face fewer health risks thanks to newly built/repaired water supply systems and health structures
- ▶ migrants benefit from health care, physical rehabilitation, family-links services, guidance and other assistance in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico
- ▶ families of missing persons learn the fate of their relatives, the chances of which are enhanced by the training of authorities/specialists in forensic procedures and data management, and receive psychological and social support
- ▶ detainees in El Salvador and Honduras enjoy enhanced living conditions following the rehabilitation of water supply and health care facilities, the distribution of hygiene items and the strengthening of fire-safety protocols
- ▶ the Central American Integration System, with ICRC input, develops a model legal instrument to facilitate the integration of internationally recognized standards on the use of force in law enforcement into national regulations

ASSISTANCE		Targets (up to)
CIVILIANS (RESIDENTS, IDPs, RETURNEES, ETC.)		
Economic security, water and habitat (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Water and habitat activities	Beneficiaries	47,135
WOUNDED AND SICK		
Physical rehabilitation		
Centres supported	Structures	8
Patients receiving services	Patients	150



© Sebastian Silva/ICRC

CONTEXT

High levels of organized violence persist throughout the region, and armed forces are frequently deployed alongside police units in law enforcement operations.

In Panama, the spillover of the Colombian conflict still affects the population in the Darién region, where Panama's border police launched joint operations with the Colombian army in 2013.

The border between Mexico and the United States of America is the world's largest migration corridor. Migrants are at risk of abduction, physical injury, death, sexual violence and other abuses along their route.

Across the region, families are still seeking information on the fate of relatives who went missing as a result of violence, migration or past armed conflict.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Responding to the humanitarian consequences of violence will continue to be the operational priority of the ICRC's Mexico City regional delegation in 2014. Focusing on El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama, it will apply a multidisciplinary approach to help meet the needs of violence-affected communities, migrants and families of missing persons and to support them in strengthening their resilience. An expanded field presence will enable it to gain a better understanding of specific issues, such as sexual violence, migrants' family-links needs and detention-related concerns, and to identify appropriate responses.

To help mitigate the humanitarian consequences of violence, the ICRC will pursue dialogue with the authorities, armed forces and police, focusing on the protection of vulnerable populations and of medical services, the use of force in law enforcement operations, and the ICRC's mandate and activities. In parallel, the ICRC will help the region's National Societies strengthen their capacities, and will continue working with them and with other Movement partners.

Through projects implemented in cooperation with the authorities and National Societies, people living in violence-stricken communities in El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico will learn first aid, familiarize themselves with humanitarian principles and receive psychological and social support. In the regions of Bajo Aguán, Honduras, and Darién, Panama, water supply and infrastructure projects will help improve residents' sanitation and living conditions and access to health care.

In temporary shelters in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, the respective National Society/ICRC will facilitate family contacts and help enhance access to health care and physical rehabilitation for vulnerable migrants. At the same time, emphasis will be placed on raising migrants' awareness of the risks they face during their journey, reminding them of the importance of keeping their families informed of their whereabouts.

With a view to assisting families in their search for news of missing relatives, the ICRC will support the authorities concerned, as well as civil society organizations working on

the issue, in: enhancing their forensic and data-management capacities; adopting/implementing appropriate legal frameworks; and facilitating the recovery, identification, handover and burial of human remains.

To facilitate the timely provision of medical assistance to weapon-wounded people, the ICRC will help organize training for medical professionals in the treatment of injuries caused by firearms and explosives and in emergency care for trauma patients. Efforts to raise awareness of the need to respect health workers and facilities will complement such initiatives. The ICRC will also continue supporting physical rehabilitation centres in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico and covering the treatment costs of disabled patients, including injured migrants.

The ICRC will visit detainees in El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Panama to monitor their treatment and living conditions. Through the training of prison staff and the provision of technical advice and direct material support, it will contribute to the improvement of essential services and facilities in places of detention, thus alleviating the effects of overcrowding, inadequate health care and poor infrastructure maintenance, particularly for vulnerable groups such as detained women and minors.

The promotion of IHL, international human rights norms and internationally recognized standards on the use of force will be sustained through dissemination sessions for members of the region's armed forces and law enforcement units. Military/police decision-makers will be encouraged to integrate such norms into their forces' doctrine and education/training. National authorities and regional bodies such as the Central American Integration System (SICA) will be encouraged to give greater prominence to humanitarian concerns.

Contacts and cooperation with the media, academia and other civil society actors will help foster public understanding of humanitarian issues and support for Movement action. Coordination among Movement components will be maintained to ensure a coherent humanitarian response.