

JAKARTA (regional)

COVERING: Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)



ICRC regional delegation ICRC mission

The ICRC established a presence in Indonesia in 1979 and in Timor-Leste following its independence in 2002. It supports the National Societies in boosting their emergency-response capacities. It works with the armed forces (and the police in Indonesia) to encourage the inclusion of IHL and other applicable norms in their training. It maintains dialogue with ASEAN and other regional bodies and conducts activities with universities to further IHL instruction. In Timor-Leste, it supports training for the authorities and other relevant actors in the management of human remains following disasters.

KEY RESULTS/CONSTRAINTS IN 2015

- ▶ Members of families dispersed by detention or migration communicated via the Movement's family-links services. No discussions took place between the authorities concerned and the ICRC on missing persons.
- ▶ In Indonesia, people in Papua continued to benefit from ophthalmological care provided by the Indonesian Red Cross Society and the ICRC, and people in Maluku began to receive similar services.
- ▶ With the ICRC's guidance, Indonesian military and police instructors became more adept in providing advice on IHL compliance and instruction in internationally recognized policing standards, respectively.
- ▶ Detainees in Indonesia and Timor-Leste did not receive ICRC visits, as the organization's efforts to contact the pertinent authorities, to secure their support/consent for such visits, did not progress.

YEARLY RESULTS

Level of achievement of ICRC yearly objectives/plans of action

MEDIUM

PROTECTION	Total
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)	
Restoring family links	
RCMs collected	10
RCMs distributed	25
Phone calls facilitated between family members	945

EXPENDITURE IN KCHF

Protection	773
Assistance	157
Prevention	2,224
Cooperation with National Societies	742
General	39
Total	3,935
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	240

IMPLEMENTATION RATE

Expenditure/yearly budget	91%
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PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	8
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	41

ASSISTANCE

ASSISTANCE	2015 Targets (up to)	Achieved
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)		
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)		
Cash	Beneficiaries	280

CONTEXT

Indonesia's regional elections in December took place without incident. Its government, however, continued to grapple with various internal issues that delayed planned economic and social reforms, and also had to deal with such issues as migration, growing religious tensions and frequent natural disasters. The military's presence throughout the country paralleled that of the police.

Timor-Leste remained generally peaceful, but violent incidents involving the police and political opposition groups took place.

The Indonesia/Timor-Leste Joint Ministerial Commission for Bilateral Cooperation made no progress in addressing the issue of persons missing in connection with the past situation/conflict in East Timor. Exhumations of human remains in relation to these past events, conducted by the Timorese Veteran's Commission, were put on hold.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), based in Jakarta, Indonesia, continued to promote regional cooperation in areas such as mine action and disaster management.

ICRC ACTION AND RESULTS

The ICRC's regional delegation in Jakarta sought to develop understanding of and respect for humanitarian principles, IHL and the Movement among the authorities, the armed/police forces and civil society in Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

To this end, it organized various activities, usually in partnership with local institutions. These activities included tailored information sessions and training courses, for instance, field simulation exercises for military and police officials. Such efforts enabled Indonesian military and police instructors to strengthen their ability to provide advice on complying with IHL during military operations and instruction in internationally recognized policing standards, respectively. Universities and secondary schools introduced modules on IHL or humanitarian principles, and religious organizations worked with the ICRC to broaden awareness of the similarities between Islamic law and IHL. The ICRC maintained regular dialogue with ASEAN on issues of common interest; it was given observer status by the ASEAN Association of Chiefs of Police (ASEANAPOL).

ICRC visits to detainees remained on hold in both countries.

Members of families separated by conflict/violence, detention or migration re-established or maintained contact with each other with the help of the Movement's family-links services. During national/regional workshops, emergency responders and forensics experts in both countries, notably Timorese police and government officials, learnt more about the proper management of human remains. There were no discussions between the authorities concerned and the ICRC on the issue of missing persons.

The ICRC continued to provide various forms of support to the Indonesian Red Cross Society and the Timor-Leste Red Cross, particularly to strengthen their ability to provide family-links services and promote humanitarian principles and IHL. The Indonesian Red Cross and the ICRC provided ophthalmological care for more people in need of it, by extending such assistance to more communities.

CIVILIANS

Migrants stranded in Indonesia inform their families of their whereabouts

Members of families separated by conflict/violence, detention, migration or natural disasters re-established/maintained contact through the Movement's family-links services. With ICRC support, the Timorese Red Cross trained its volunteers to provide these services during disasters, and the Indonesian Red Cross drafted a disaster-management framework that included these services and human remains management. However, the Indonesian National Society's family-links services for migrants remained limited or were provided on an ad hoc basis.

Migrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar, who were able to reach Aceh and North Sumatra provinces after being stranded in the Andaman Sea, informed their families of their situation through over 900 telephone calls, facilitated by the Indonesian Red Cross/ICRC. Relatives of Indonesians detained abroad, including at the US internment facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, stayed in touch with them via RCMs, video calls, family visits or oral messages relayed by ICRC delegates.

Members of a family meet after being separated for nearly 40 years

ICRC tracing services helped families search for their relatives, such as people who reportedly went missing while passing through Indonesia by boat. After 36 years, one person in Indonesia, separated from his parents in connection with past events involving Indonesia and East Timor, got in touch and visited them in Timor-Leste, with the help of the National Societies concerned. A coalition of Indonesian NGOs drew on ICRC financial support to locate 14 people separated from their relatives during those events as well.

To ensure the identification and proper management of human remains, over 60 members of the police forces and officials from the health and other government ministries in Timor-Leste attended training courses in these subjects. At a regional workshop in Indonesia, organized by the Asia Pacific Medico-Legal Association/ICRC, 45 forensic experts from 18 countries exchanged best practices for managing human remains.

No discussions took place between the authorities concerned and the ICRC on missing persons.

People in the Indonesian provinces of Maluku and Papua receive ophthalmological care

The partnership between the Indonesian Red Cross and the ICRC, for providing eye care in remote communities, expanded to include the Maluku province. Over 900 people there and in Papua benefited from eye examinations and/or had improved eyesight with the help of cataract operations or spectacles provided by a local hospital and the National Society/ICRC.

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

ICRC visits to detainees in Indonesia and Timor-Leste continued to be on hold. Efforts to contact the pertinent authorities, to secure their support/consent for prison visits, did not progress; the agreements with the respective authorities remained under their review at year's end.

At a workshop organized by the Indonesian Directorate-General of Corrections and the ICRC, representatives of the Directorate-General

and 32 prison directors discussed measures to mitigate overcrowding in places of detention. Indonesian and Timorese detaining authorities learnt more about prison management at a seminar abroad (see *Kuala Lumpur*); Timorese police officials participated in local training sessions on internationally recognized policing standards for arrests and detention (see *Actors of influence*).

Ten former political detainees in Indonesia, previously visited by the ICRC, received medical care; some of them had better living conditions after ad hoc ICRC rehabilitation work at their nursing home.

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

The authorities, military/police forces, members of civil society, the National Societies and the ICRC discussed humanitarian principles and issues (see *People deprived of their freedom*), IHL and the Movement during ICRC meetings/events, usually organized with local partners. For instance, during an information session, Indonesian diplomats and officials from the foreign ministry and the National Agency of Disaster Mitigation learnt more about IHL and/or the protection of citizens abroad.

Indonesian and Timorese government officials, including from the justice ministry and the Indonesian IHL committee, continued to draw on ICRC expertise to facilitate the domestic implementation of IHL-related treaties. Some of them participated in local/regional workshops that covered such subjects as the protection of cultural property and the Arms Trade Treaty (see *Beijing* and *Kuala Lumpur*). At one such workshop, the Indonesian law and human rights ministry shared, with the Timorese justice ministry, its experiences in incorporating IHL and human rights treaties in domestic legislation. During the 32nd International Conference, the Indonesian government and National Society pledged to support the adoption of a Red Cross law.

Indonesian military officers strengthen their ability to provide advice on IHL compliance

At an ICRC workshop, 55 senior Indonesian military officials discussed how to take humanitarian norms into account in operational decision-making; one official participated in a similar workshop abroad (see *International law and policy*). Military instructors and legal officers developed their capacity to provide advice on complying with IHL during military operations. To strengthen IHL instruction at military training institutes, the military's Permanent Working Group on IHL and the ICRC organized training activities for teachers.

A total of 62 police instructors in Indonesia underwent training to strengthen their capacity to teach colleagues about internationally recognized policing standards.

Tailored information sessions, field simulation exercises and predeployment briefings helped Indonesian and/or Timorese military/police forces, including personnel bound for peace-keeping missions abroad, learn more about IHL, internationally recognized policing standards, prevention of sexual violence and protection of health services.

An Indonesian university adds an IHL module to its civic education course

Religious universities and secondary schools in Indonesia drew on ICRC support to continue fostering interest in humanitarian principles and IHL among their students.

University lecturers and Islamic school teachers developed their IHL-teaching skills at advanced courses in Indonesia and elsewhere in the region; some of them contributed articles to a new IHL textbook. At one local workshop, lecturers discussed IHL-related matters such as autonomous weapons and cyber warfare, and expressed their intention to share ideas with one another regularly in order to improve the quality of IHL instruction. With Indonesian Red Cross/ICRC support, one university added a module on IHL to its civic education course that was attended by lecturers from other universities. Regional competitions enabled university students to demonstrate their knowledge of IHL (see *Beijing*).

By attending Indonesian Red Cross/ICRC training courses, Red Cross Youth facilitators equipped themselves to teach secondary school students about humanitarian principles and IHL. Several Islamic schools began to use a module on humanitarian principles that had been translated into the local language.

Religious leaders/organizations continued to work with the ICRC to further understanding in their circles of the common ground between Islamic law and IHL and of the continuing relevance of these bodies of law. These efforts resulted in an ICRC publication entitled *Islam and Humanitarian Affairs: Conflict, Peace and Philanthropy*, which drew on the proceedings of a previous regional conference organized by various Islamic institutions in Indonesia and the ICRC.

Indonesians throughout the archipelago obtained information on the ICRC's activities and other humanitarian matters via social media and other web-based platforms in the local language, as well as at the delegation's documentation centre. At national/regional workshops, nearly 80 journalists learnt the finer points of reporting on humanitarian issues during armed conflicts and natural disasters; they also learnt about the protection afforded to them by IHL (see *New Delhi*). An ICRC blog competition sought to raise awareness among the youth of the links between religious values and humanitarian action.

ASEANAPOL grants the ICRC observer status

ASEAN, its member countries and the ICRC expanded the scope of their cooperation; the ASEANAPOL granted the ICRC observer status at its international events. ASEAN and ICRC representatives continued to discuss subjects of common interest, such as disaster management – including forensics – migration, weapon contamination and persons with disabilities.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Indonesian and Timorese National Societies continued, with ICRC support, to strengthen their ability to respond to humanitarian needs (see *Civilians*) and promote humanitarian principles and IHL (see *Actors of influence*).

Both National Societies, particularly their branches in violence-prone areas, conducted workshops to assess their ability to provide assistance in line with the Safer Access Framework; they used their findings to develop action plans to incorporate the framework in their operational procedures.

Emergency responders from the Indonesian Red Cross strengthened their first-aid capacities at local and regional courses. The National Society also helped the health ministry draft standard operating procedures for the provision of medical services during armed conflict.

Support from the ICRC enabled the Indonesian National Society to lobby for the adoption of a Red Cross law (see *Actors of influence*), and its new governing board to further strengthen the organization's institutional set-up. The National Society drafted a framework that sought to incorporate the Fundamental Principles in all its activities.

Movement partners exchanged views on subjects of common concern, for instance, the Health Care in Danger project during the Movement reference group meeting in Switzerland.

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: PROTECTION		Total			
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)					
Red Cross messages (RCMs)			UAMs/SC*		
RCMs collected		10			
RCMs distributed		25			
Phone calls facilitated between family members		945			
Tracing requests, including cases of missing persons			Women	Girls	Boys
People for whom a tracing request was newly registered		20		6	2
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	11			
Tracing cases still being handled at the end of the reporting period (people)		77	8	17	6
	<i>including people for whom tracing requests were registered by another delegation</i>	51			

*Unaccompanied minors/separated children

MAIN FIGURES AND INDICATORS: ASSISTANCE		Total	Women	Children
CIVILIANS (residents, IDPs, returnees, etc.)				
Economic security (in some cases provided within a protection or cooperation programme)				
Cash	Beneficiaries	280	31%	