



PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

The ICRC supports the Green Pastures Hospital in Pokhara and the Yerahity Rehabilitation Centre in Kathmandu with equipment, consumables and training to provide custom-made artificial limbs and assistive devices (orthoses), crutches and wheelchairs. People with disability benefit from this programme.

Promoting Respect for Humanitarian Law and Principles

The ICRC promotes knowledge of and respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and humanitarian principles among government institutions, the armed and security forces, academic institutions and key civil society actors. The ICRC supports:

- The Government of Nepal in its efforts to accede to IHL treaties and to adapt the national legislation accordingly
- The Nepalese Army to develop IHL instructors
- The Armed Police Force and Nepal Police to train their officers on specific aspects of International Human Rights Law (IHRL) pertaining to public order management
- The selected universities in the teaching and integration of IHL into their curricula

ASSISTANCE TO BHUTANESE REFUGEES

In association with the NRCS, the ICRC creates an enabling environment for Bhutanese refugees living in Nepal to remain in touch with and visit their relatives detained in Bhutan.

MISSION

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.



ICRC

International Committee of the Red Cross
 GPO Box: 21225, Meen Bhawan, Naya Baneshwor
 Kathmandu, Nepal
 T +977 1 4107285 / 4107279
 F +977 1 4107137
 E-mail: kathmandu@icrc.org www.icrc.org
 © ICRC, August 2016

2016.0193/002;257 08 2016 2500



ICRC



INTRODUCTION

The ICRC first opened a delegation in Kathmandu in 1961 to assist Tibetan refugees and closed this delegation in 1963 once the refugee crisis subsided. The ICRC re-started its humanitarian activities in the country in 1998 in response to the outbreak of armed conflict, operating from its Regional Delegation in New Delhi, India. The delegation in Kathmandu was re-opened in 2001.

During the ten-year internal armed conflict (1996-2006), the ICRC's activities included visiting people detained by both parties to the conflict; improving water and sanitation in detention facilities, villages and hospitals; supporting health structures with medical training and supplies to treat the wounded; providing assistance to displaced people and communities affected by the conflict and promoting respect for international humanitarian laws and principles.

Today, the ICRC maintains a presence in Nepal to address the residual humanitarian consequences of the conflict, support the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) and promote International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

ASSISTING FAMILIES OF MISSING PERSONS

More than 1,300 people remain unaccounted for since the end of the armed conflict in 2006. Their families do not know whether these missing persons are dead or alive, and live with the anguish of uncertainty.

- The ICRC initiated a comprehensive and multidisciplinary Hateymalo Accompaniment Programme in 2010 to provide support to the families of missing persons through psychosocial, economical, legal / administrative and sociocultural support. The Hateymalo programme ended in March, 2016 benefitting over 90% of the families of the missing from 46 districts of Nepal.
- The ICRC continues maintaining contacts with the families of the missing to keep them informed of any developments of their concern and to facilitate their access to governmental assistance and advocates in favour of their multiple needs including the "Right to Know" the fate of their loved ones.

PREPARING FOR AND RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

Supporting the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS)

The ICRC supports the NRCS in strengthening its organisational and operational capacities as a first responder to the needs of people affected by violence or disasters. This involves:

- Improving NRCS skills in operating in tense situations to ensure safe and unhindered access to those in need of humanitarian assistance
- Developing the capacity of the NRCS to trace persons separated from their relatives to restore family contact

Humanitarian Forensic Action and Supporting Other Institutions

The ICRC complements the efforts of the national institutions to develop their emergency preparedness and response capacity. This involves:

- Recognition of the dead in disasters as victims and working with institutions and local authorities in applying standard procedures and guidelines for dignified management of the dead and forensic human identification and by so doing helping affected families and communities achieve closure
- Collaborating with Dhulikhel Hospital of Kathmandu University to enhance the capacity of medical personnel in the management of emergency trauma cases
- Providing medical consumables to health structures during emergencies for the treatment of wounded