# THE ICRC'S RESPONSE TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE
## SPECIAL APPEAL 2019

ICRC

In line with its mandate and exclusively humanitarian mission, the ICRC responds to the needs of people affected by sexual violence during armed conflicts and other situations of violence and in detention, and pursues efforts to prevent such abuse from occurring in the first place.

The ICRC works to address sexual violence at multiple stages of its occurrence through a combination of programmes and activities. Depending on the context and its assessment of needs, the ICRC may implement specific activities and/or integrate its action within the framework of its broader programmes for people affected by conflict or violence. The ICRC carries out its response in cooperation with other components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereafter Movement).
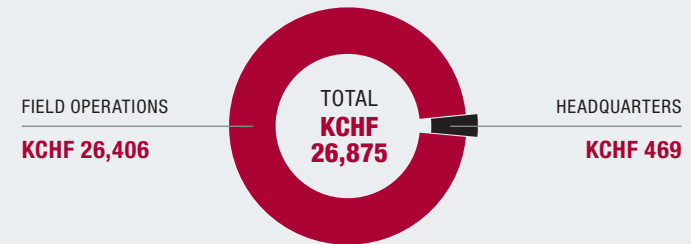


P. Yazdi/ICRC

Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Kivu. This woman, a victim of sexual violence, received financial support from the ICRC to revive her business and provide for her family.

## KEY AREAS OF THE ICRC'S RESPONSE AND PREVENTION EFFORTS

Supporting the direct provision of appropriate health care and psychosocial support to victims/survivors of sexual violence and/or facilitating their referral to such services

Providing and facilitating access to other essential services, including livelihood support

Helping address people's protection needs and mitigating their risk of exposure to sexual violence

Promoting international humanitarian law provisions and other norms prohibiting sexual violence

Addressing the issue of sexual violence in detention

## BUDGET



FIELD OPERATIONS
**KCHF 26,406**

TOTAL
**KCHF 26,875**

HEADQUARTERS
**KCHF 469**

The Special Appeal 2019 seeks CHF 26.9 million* to cover the activities that the ICRC will carry out at headquarters and in selected contexts where the ICRC is sustaining, improving or expanding its efforts to prevent sexual violence and its response to the needs of the people affected and the communities at risk.

**Budget of sexual violence-related activities in selected operations (in KCHF)**

| Operation | Budget |
|---|---|
| South Sudan | 4,966 |
| Congo, Democratic Republic of the | 4,653 |
| Nigeria | 4,148 |
| Bangladesh | 3,846 |
| Burundi | 1,787 |
| Central African Republic | 1,593 |
| Colombia | 1,554 |
| Mali | 1,192 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 1,155 |
| Suva (regional) | 391 |
| Caracas (regional) | 364 |
| Ethiopia | 332 |
| Mexico City (regional) | 292 |
| Jakarta (regional) | 133 |

**\*** This budget is also included in the funding requirements outlined in the ICRC Appeals 2019. The figures in this document are rounded off and may vary slightly from the amounts presented in other documents.

# ICRC PRIORITIES FOR 2019



Mali, Kidal. With the help of community relays, the ICRC organizes an information session on sexual violence and its consequences.

## HEADQUARTERS

Teams and specialists at headquarters will provide institution-wide support to ensure that the ICRC's response is coherent and carried out in a holistic manner. They will focus on:

- enabling ICRC field teams to implement multidisciplinary initiatives by providing them with technical guidance, training and reference materials and by assigning dedicated staff positions to directly support them

- expanding the ICRC's understanding of the issue, specifically through studies on specific concerns related to sexual violence

- reinforcing humanitarian diplomacy efforts, especially by discussing the issue of sexual violence in armed conflict, and the challenges to addressing it, during international and regional conferences, debates and other events

- sustaining and developing partnerships with partners within and outside the Movement



Burundi, Bujumbura. The ICRC supports victims of violence, including sexual violence.

## OPERATIONAL EXAMPLES

The Special Appeal covers the activities that will be carried out by 14 ICRC delegations. Below are highlights from the plans of action of these delegations, which provide concrete, field-based examples of the ICRC's response and prevention efforts. They are illustrative of the scope and range of the ICRC's response to sexual violence, but they do not represent all of the organization's initiatives in this regard.

### ASSISTANCE

- help health centres in Bangladesh, the Central African Republic (CAR), Mali, Guatemala and Papua New Guinea to sustain their services, including specialized treatment for sexual violence, by giving them training and financial, material and technical assistance
  - in the CAR, provide such support to more health centres than last year
  - cover the cost of referring people to higher-level care in Papua New Guinea

- provide counselling centres, which offer psychosocial support and other services, in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) with funds, medical supplies and staff training and supervision

- train health centre staff or community-based volunteers in the CAR, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Nigeria and South Sudan in psychosocial care and/or in referring people to providers of such care

- in the CAR, Colombia, the DRC and Nigeria, provide cash grants, vocational training, vouchers and/or assistance in accessing microcredit to victims/survivors of sexual violence or to households with members who suffered from such abuse, so that they can start or boost their livelihoods and cover their needs

### PROTECTION

- engage with communities in Bangladesh, Burundi, the CAR and Ethiopia, to raise their awareness of the issue, inform them of services available to victims/survivors of sexual violence and help them develop ways to reduce their exposure to risks

- whenever possible, raise the issue with the pertinent authorities and weapon bearers and remind them of their obligation to prevent its occurrence

- in Syria, conduct a study on the needs of victims/survivors of sexual violence and help promote forensics best practices concerning sexual violence

### PREVENTION

- lend technical expertise and other support to lawmakers and military officials on strengthening legislation and policies concerning sexual violence and on incorporating the topic in training sessions for troops

The full Special Appeal and further information on the ICRC's work are available on the **Extranet for Donors**.