



ICRC

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

SUMMARY

Applicant organization:	International Committee of the Red Cross 19 Avenue de la Paix, CH-1202 Geneva
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Date of submission:	9 March 2021
Zone of operation:	All
Countries:	Ethiopia
Programme:	Appeals 2021 and Budget Extension Appeal 2021: Protection and prevention programmes
Start-up date:	Date of the signature of the Ministerial Order granting the funds to the ICRC
Duration:	12 months
Amount requested:	EUR 4,000,000 Breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EUR 3,000,000 for the protection programme• EUR 1,000,000 for the prevention programme

ETHIOPIA



⊕ ICRC delegation ⊕ ICRC sub-delegation ⊕ ICRC office/presence
*The ICRC delegation to the African Union is also in Addis Ababa.

SITUATION

- ▶ Rising ethnic and political tensions boil over into violence in many areas throughout the country. More violence is likely, as elections – postponed owing to the COVID-19 pandemic – are scheduled for 2021.
- ▶ Armed violence between government forces and the Oromo Liberation Army in southern and western Oromia has intensified. Other situations of violence occur, to a lesser extent, between Oromia and the Somali Regional State (SRS) in eastern Ethiopia; and in the north-west, in Amhara and between Amhara and its neighbouring regions.
- ▶ In early November 2020, armed violence between federal and regional forces broke out in Tigray, northern Ethiopia. This has caused a large-scale humanitarian emergency, with long-term consequences for the population.
- ▶ The UNHCR estimates that Ethiopia hosts more than 700,000 refugees who have fled instability and violence in neighbouring countries, particularly Eritrea, Somalia and South Sudan. Most of them are in camps in border areas.
- ▶ The governments of Eritrea and Ethiopia continue to discuss possibilities for rapprochement, having signed a joint declaration in July 2018 to normalize relations that have been strained since the 1998–2000 armed conflict.

HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS

- ▶ People living in violence-affected areas bear the brunt of the fighting. They are injured or killed and their sources of food or livelihood, looted or destroyed; food production is further hampered by drought or pests such as desert locusts. The violence also causes mass displacement. Although many internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been strongly encouraged to return home, reportedly over a million people are still displaced. The violence in Tigray has added to this, displacing many people within Tigray or to neighbouring regions, and causing tens of thousands to seek refuge in Sudan.
- ▶ Many IDPs stay in host communities, where resources for meeting the increased needs are unavailable; as a result, living conditions for both residents and IDPs are dire. In some violence-affected areas, water, health and livelihood-support services have to cope with inadequate resources or poorly maintained infrastructure. Health facilities are faced with additional strain from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ▶ People in Tigray have lost their sources of food or livelihood: farmers have had to abandon their crops ahead of the harvesting season; others lack access to the necessary materials for their businesses or to their usual place of work. Health, water and electricity services have been severely disrupted and, in many cases, have ceased to function. Supply chains to Tigray for medical items, or fuel to run water pumps or generators, have been interrupted. Essential facilities that are still operating struggle to cope with people's needs. Other than the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the ICRC, few humanitarian actors have been able to access Tigray since the fighting began. The ongoing clashes and some administrative delays in securing access have made it difficult to reach certain areas of the region, hampering the delivery of aid.
- ▶ Violence against health services during fighting is of particular concern: health workers and facilities are attacked; supplies, looted; ambulances, misused or obstructed; and wounded or sick people, prevented from obtaining care.
- ▶ Migrants, including refugees, and IDPs often lose contact with their families while in transit. Ethiopian migrants returning from other countries are often unable to meet their basic needs or to re-establish contact with their families. Many people cannot find or contact their relatives in Tigray, owing to a communications blackout implemented in the region during the violence. Some people separated from their families by the past conflict with Eritrea are unable to contact or rejoin their relatives; others still have no news of family members who went missing during the conflict.
- ▶ Violence-related arrests exacerbate overcrowding in places of detention. As resources are overstretched, detainees have to cope with shortages of essential items and medical supplies, and inadequate water and sanitation facilities, which also exposes them to the risk of COVID-19 and other diseases.

ICRC OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

In 2021, the ICRC's main priorities in this context will be to:

- ▶ boost its emergency response to enable IDPs, residents and host communities in northern Ethiopia obtain food, water and other essentials, while supporting communities and local authorities across the country in establishing longer-term solutions in order to build a sustainable humanitarian impact and support people's recovery; bolster the continuum of care for people in northern Ethiopia by supporting health-care providers at various levels and implementing public-health measures such as ensuring access to clean water
- ▶ secure timely access to people detained in connection with violence; strive to ensure that their treatment and living conditions meet internationally recognized standards, by helping the detaining authorities develop their capacities and providing services directly to detainees, where needed;
- ▶ seek to expand access to and presence in violence-affected areas, with a view to increasing proximity to violence-affected people and gaining a better understanding of their needs, by working to broaden acceptance for its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian activities among the authorities, weapon bearers and communities;
- ▶ reinforce the partnership with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and help it to strengthen its capacities in restoring family links, particularly for refugees and other migrants, and in assisting violence-affected people; coordinate ICRC activities with those of the other components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereafter the Movement) present in the country;
- ▶ strengthen dialogue with the pertinent parties on people's protection-related concerns and the need to respect applicable law, especially in terms of safeguarding people not taking part in hostilities and health workers and facilities, ensuring people's access to health and other essential services, preventing sexual violence, and clarifying the fate or whereabouts of people who have gone missing because of the violence; and
- ▶ expand knowledge of international humanitarian law (IHL) and increase respect for it and other applicable norms among federal and regional military and security forces personnel and the authorities.

To better reach people affected by the fighting, the ICRC will expand its presence in Tigray by establishing an office in Shire and a presence in Humera.

The ICRC will continue to help health workers prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 and contribute to dealing with the broader impact of the pandemic on communities. While implementing its activities, it will take appropriate measures to check the spread of the disease, in line with domestic and international guidelines.

ICRC ACTION: PROTECTION AND PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

CIVILIANS

Objective: Civilians are respected and protected in accordance with humanitarian principles and, where applicable, IHL. They can cover their basic needs and restore their livelihoods, and have access to good-quality health care. Members of separated families exchange news. Unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable people are reunited with their relatives, if they so wish. Families are informed of the fate of missing relatives.

Urging protection for violence-affected people and health services

The ICRC will explain its mission and activities, and those of the Movement, to the authorities, weapon bearers, and communities, with a view to increasing acceptance for its work and gaining safe access to people in areas most affected by violence. It will raise people's protection-related concerns confidentially with the pertinent parties, who will be urged to stop or prevent abuse, and reminded of their obligations under pertinent law.

Given the widespread incidence of violence against health services, the ICRC will strengthen its dialogue with the pertinent stakeholders on this issue, in line with the goals of the Health Care in

Danger¹ initiative. It will urge them to: safeguard medical facilities and people seeking or providing health care; stop or prevent the misuse of ambulances; and enable the wounded and the sick to obtain services, regardless of their affiliations. It will help medical staff to learn more about their rights and duties and work more closely with them to better document instances of violence for follow-up with the pertinent parties. It will also include key messages on protecting health services in its public communication (see also *Actors of influence*).

Police and military personnel – particularly those assigned to law enforcement or security operations, for example, in western and southern Oromia – will learn more about international norms pertinent to their duties through ICRC training. These sessions will also relay key messages on the protection due to health services and the prevention of sexual violence.

The ICRC will seek to strengthen its dialogue with communities to understand their needs more fully and work with them to design its response accordingly. To this end, it will set up a hotline to serve as a community contact centre. Particularly vulnerable people, such as victims/survivors of sexual violence, will be given particularly close attention. The ICRC will monitor the needs resulting from the fighting in Tigray; it will maintain its response and, if needed, will provide additional assistance to those most affected by the clashes, such as IDPs and refugees, and health and other facilities.

Enabling people to reconnect with relatives or learn their fate or whereabouts

Aided by the ICRC, the National Society will enable various groups of vulnerable people to restore or maintain contact with their relatives: people separated from their families by past conflict or violence; migrants, including refugees from South Sudan or elsewhere; and others. It will use various means to do so; for instance, it will install solar-powered charging stations in refugee camps so that people can contact their families using their own mobile phones. Where appropriate, the ICRC will arrange for particularly vulnerable refugees, such as unaccompanied minors, to be reunited with their families. It will also continue to support the National Society's response to the needs of returning Ethiopian migrants. When requested to do so, the ICRC will collect and forward official documents – or issue travel documents itself – to enable people to pursue employment or educational opportunities, reunite with their families, or apply for government benefits or services. It will seek to ensure that newly arrived refugees know of the services available to them; it will also seek to ensure the same among others working in refugee camps, and will encourage them to, whenever necessary, refer people to the National Society or the ICRC.

The ICRC will remind the authorities of their obligation to clarify the fate or whereabouts of missing people – particularly those whose disappearance is related to the past conflict with Eritrea, migrants who went missing in the Mediterranean Sea in 2015 and people who have gone missing during the violence in Tigray – and will offer to assist them in resolving missing-persons cases. It will also give missing people's families support to cope with the uncertainty surrounding their relatives' fate or whereabouts. The ICRC will help strengthen national capacities in forensics, particularly in preparing for and responding to mass-casualty incidents and other emergencies, with a view to preventing the mismanagement or disappearance of human remains.

Plan of action and indicators

Protection

Protection of civilians and respect for the law

- document allegations of abuse and make oral or written representations confidentially to the pertinent parties

¹ Health Care in Danger is an initiative of the Movement aimed at addressing the issue of violence against patients and health workers, facilities and vehicles, and at ensuring safer access to and delivery of health care in armed conflict and other emergencies. It involves working with experts and various partners to highlight the humanitarian impact of violence against health care, develop practical measures and promote the implementation of these measures by states, components of the Movement, humanitarian organizations, health-care professionals and other relevant actors.

- ▶impress upon the authorities and weapon bearers the importance of protecting people, facilitating their access to essential services, preventing sexual violence and ensuring that IDPs can return home voluntarily and in safety
- ▶conduct workshops in communities to develop or reinforce community-based measures to reduce safety risks; refer victims/survivors of sexual violence to health centres or other service providers; where needed, provide ad hoc assistance to victims/survivors of sexual violence and other particularly vulnerable people
- ▶organize seminars for senior regional and federal police officers, and for military officers in regional command posts, on international standards for law enforcement – particularly for the use of force – and IHL, respectively

With the National Society:

- ▶document instances of violence against health personnel and facilities, and ambulances, and discuss them with the relevant parties; hold discussions with weapon bearers, health workers and community members on key aspects of the Health Care in Danger initiative
- ▶organize dissemination sessions on the Movement – sometimes in tandem with training sessions or other events – for local authorities, weapon bearers, religious/traditional leaders and community members
- ▶survey IDPs and other violence-affected people on their needs; inform them of the services available to them through the community contact centre or other means

Restoring family links

With the National Society:

- ▶offer family-links services such as phone calls, RCMs, and tracing – including by broadcasting, on the radio, the names of people being sought by relatives, and preparing booklets containing the photos of missing people or publishing the photos on the Movement’s family-links website; set up solar-powered charging stations in refugee camps
- ▶where appropriate, reunite vulnerable people with their families
- ▶issue travel documents, and collect and forward official documents, when requested to do so
- ▶use dissemination sessions, informational materials, radio and the ICRC’s community contact centre to inform refugees, and organizations working in refugee camps, of the Movement’s family-links services
- ▶impress upon the authorities the importance of clarifying the fate or whereabouts of missing people, including those still missing in connection with the 1998–2000 armed conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia; offer to support them in ascertaining the fate of Ethiopian migrants who went missing in the Mediterranean Sea in 2015; establish a clear strategy to clarify the fate of those who went missing during the Tigray violence
- ▶on the International Day of the Disappeared, organize – together with the families concerned – an event to commemorate missing people; help the families to establish an association where they can support one another
- ▶at the request of vulnerable foreigners in Ethiopia, notify the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or the pertinent embassies of their situation and whereabouts
- ▶disseminate information on ways to prevent family separation while on the move
- ▶provide the National Society with training, and technical, financial and material support, for: providing family-links services, especially during emergencies,

Forensics

- ▶provide technical advice and/or training in managing human remains to federal police personnel, forensic workers, National Society staff and community-based groups; provide them with the necessary equipment
- ▶discuss with the pertinent authorities the drafting of a plan for managing the remains of those killed during the fighting in Tigray and give them technical support to this end

- ▶ if possible, collect DNA samples from missing migrants' families for identifying the remains of migrants who died in the Mediterranean Sea in 2015

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM

Objective: People deprived of their freedom are afforded treatment and living conditions, including access to health care, that meet internationally recognized standards.

Visiting vulnerable detainees

The ICRC will visit, in accordance with its standard procedures, people detained at regional and federal prisons, and at places of detention run by security forces. It will pay particular attention to people held in connection with violence or for security reasons and to those who are especially vulnerable (e.g. minors, women, mentally ill detainees or detainees with disabilities). The ICRC will impress upon penitentiary authorities at every level the importance of ensuring that detainees' treatment and living conditions meet internationally recognized standards. The need for action in certain areas will be given additional emphasis: addressing overcrowding; ensuring respect for judicial guarantees; facilitating detainees' access to health care, water and other basic necessities; enabling detainees to contact their families; responding to the specific needs of vulnerable detainees, e.g. by separating minors from adults; and strengthening measures to prevent and manage COVID-19. The ICRC will also seek access to people held in connection with the violence in southern and western Oromia.

The detaining authorities will be given support to tackle the issues mentioned above. The ICRC will help them strengthen their managerial capacities and give them the material assistance necessary. In particular, it will assist the Federal Prison Commission (FPC) to: implement an information management system that will enable timely follow-up of detainees' cases; set up inspection mechanisms to ensure regular tracking of detainees' treatment and living conditions; and introduce an improved training curriculum for prison guards.

Plan of action and indicators

Protection

Protection of people deprived of their freedom

- ▶ visit detainees and follow up those most vulnerable; communicate findings and recommendations from these visits confidentially to the pertinent authorities; seek access to everyone detained in connection with violence
- ▶ impress upon detaining authorities at every level the importance of ensuring that detainees' treatment and living conditions meet internationally recognized standards
- ▶ organize seminars or other events for detaining authorities and staff, and give the FPC technical support and advice, on managing prisons and addressing the needs of vulnerable detainees
- ▶ where needed, help detainees to safely return to their communities after their release

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Objective: National and local authorities, security forces, and traditional/community leaders understand and respect IHL and other fundamental rules protecting people during armed conflict and other violence, and incorporate these in their decision-making. The media, academics and others capable of shaping opinion help foster awareness of humanitarian issues and IHL among all those concerned and in the general public, thus securing greater respect for human dignity. All actors understand the ICRC's mandate and support its work.

Improving instruction in IHL and other applicable norms

The ICRC will engage with military and police personnel (see *Civilians*) – including for Ethiopian military personnel bound for African Union and UN peacekeeping missions abroad – to strengthen respect for IHL and international standards applicable to their duties. It will also work with their

training institutions to help instructors add to their knowledge of IHL, international human rights law and other applicable norms, and ensure that these are included in their curricula.

Urging the implementation of relevant treaties and fostering acceptance for the Movement's work

The ICRC will seek to persuade the authorities to implement various IHL and IHL-related treaties, especially the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols, and the African Union Convention on IDPs, which is particularly relevant in light of the large numbers of people displaced within Ethiopia. The ICRC will also provide the pertinent authorities with support to this end; for example, it will help federal judicial officials conduct a review of the extent to which key provisions of certain treaties have been incorporated in Ethiopian legislation, with a view to making improvements in this regard. It will also continue to advocate ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and the drafting of a law on the emblems protected under IHL.

As academics can often influence or advise the national authorities, or serve as future decision-makers themselves, the ICRC will help university lecturers and students to learn more about IHL. Through the IHL clinic established with ICRC support at Addis Ababa University, the ICRC will foster discussions among academics and authorities, and support research on IHL and other related matters; in particular, the clinic will publicize the protection due to health services, as part of the Health Care in Danger initiative.

The ICRC will seek to broaden awareness of and acceptance for its activities among the authorities, and the general public, to secure safe access to people in need. It will do so through public-communication initiatives, many of them conducted together with the National Society – which will be given support for its own activities in this area – and by engaging with journalists. It will focus on raising public awareness of the nature of the emblems protected under IHL; the Fundamental Principles; the necessity of safeguarding health personnel, facilities, and vehicles – particularly ambulances; and the Movement's activities.

Plan of action and indicators

Prevention

- ▶ conduct pre-deployment briefings for military and police personnel bound for missions abroad; train military and police instructors in IHL and/or international human rights law; sponsor an instructor from the Ethiopian Defense Command and Staff College to attend an advanced IHL course abroad; hold seminars for revising training curricula at schools for military and police personnel
- ▶ organize seminars and training sessions for judicial officials, parliamentarians and other federal authorities, and academics, on IHL and IHL-related treaties; advocate the ratification and/or implementation of these treaties among federal authorities and give them technical support to this end
- ▶ arrange training sessions on IHL for university lecturers and organize a national moot court competition; together with the IHL clinic, organize seminars and workshops for academics and decision makers on the protection due to health services
- ▶ together with the National Society, hold information sessions for journalists on IHL and on the mission and activities of the ICRC and the National Society, and produce content for television, radio and social media on the Movement's activities and on matters of humanitarian concern; organize training sessions for National Society staff on public communication

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

The ICRC is hereby submitting a request for funding to the Belgian Government under its *Aide d'Urgence* budget line to allow the ICRC delegation in Ethiopia to implement activities planned in the framework of its Appeal 2021 and Budget Extension Appeal 2021.

The financial support from the Belgian Government will represent a co-funding contribution to the overall budget of the delegation (see table below). The delegation will carry out the programmes it

defined over the next 12 months on the basis of assessed needs, in full respect for its integrated approach towards victims of armed violence.

Reporting on the use of the funds shall be covered by the ICRC's standard reporting.

The amount hereby requested is EUR 4,000,000:

	CHF*	EUR
Contribution to the ICRC protection programme in Ethiopia	3,312,900	3,000,000
Contribution to the ICRC prevention programme in Ethiopia	1,104,300	1,000,000
Total	4,417,200	4,000,000
Of which: Overheads¹	269,594	244,131

*Converted from CHF based on internal ICRC rates in March 2021: 1 EUR = 1.1043 CHF

1. Overhead costs correspond to a 6.5% charge on cash and services as a contribution to the costs of headquarters support for operations in the field.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Kindly contact:

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BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

ACCOUNT NAME: COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

BANK NAME AND ADDRESS: UBS SA
P.O. BOX 2600
CH-1211 GENEVA 2

CODE SWIFT: UBSWCHZH80A

BANK ACCOUNT N° (EUR): 240-C0129986.5

IBAN CODE N° (EUR): CH25 0024 0240 C012 9986 5

ANNEXES

ICRC operations in the Ethiopia in 2021

FINANCIAL SITUATION AS AT 4 MARCH 2021* (IN CHF)

	Protection	Assistance	Prevention	Cooperation	No specific programme	Total
Initial budget	4,834,114	16,806,435	3,497,701	1,348,697	105,224	26,592,171
Budget extension	1,582,720	14,570,622	936,914	1,587,917	0	18,678,173

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

1.	Revised budget	6,416,834	31,377,058	4,434,614	2,936,614	105,224	45,270,344
2.	Balance brought forward from 2020	0	0	0	0	5,202,629	5,202,629
3.	Total contribution - Hard pledges only	237,820	1,507,320	0	0	1,783,686	3,528,826
4.	Outstanding needs as against the initial budget (4=1-2-3)	6,179,014	29,869,738	4,434,614	2,936,614	-6,881,091	36,538,889

*Unaudited figures

Budget breakdown per GO (in CHF)

PROGRAMME	OBJECTIVE	TOTAL BUDGET
1-Protection	ETHPDFGPRODETO	1,604,717
	ETHPGENPROPPCO	1,345,310
	ETHPSEPPFOFORO	402,424
	ETHPSEPPROMIS1	458,248
	ETHPSEPPFORFLO	1,693,174
	ETHPSEPPRORFL1	912,961
1-Protection Total		6,416,834
2-Assistance	ETHPDFGASSENGO	1,915,656
	ETHPDFGASSMEDO	914,045
	ETHPGENASSECOO	14,528,444
	ETHPGENASSENGO	5,462,676
	ETHPGENASSMEDO	3,115,664
	ETHPWSGASSMEDO	2,823,285
	ETHPWSGASSORT1	2,617,288
2-Assistance Total		31,377,058
3-Prevention	AFUNAIGPREACTO	858,835
	AFUNAIGPREACT1	743,531
	ETHPAIGPREACTO	1,335,567
	ETHPAIGPREACT3	1,496,681
3-Prevention Total		4,434,614
4-Cooperation	ETHPRCGSNSGENO	470,130
	ETHPRCGSNSGEN1	1,993,627
	ETHPRCGSNSGEN2	472,857
4-Cooperation		2,936,614
5-General	AFUNLNDICRGENO	14,511
	ETHPLNDICRGENO	90,713
5-General Total		105,224
Grand Total		45,270,344

Budget breakdown per cost type (in CHF)

	SUM OF BUDGET
1. Staff-related costs	12,743,670
2. Mission and living allowances	1,530,473
3. Assistance to victims	7,872,023
4. Financial assistance	7,409,675
5. Means of transport	3,559,187
6. Premises costs	3,189,537
7. IT and telecommunication costs	3,905,610
8. Miscellaneous costs	2,297,190
9. Overhead	2,762,978

GRAND TOTAL

45,270,344