



Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



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FOREWORD

Dear Friends,

I would like to briefly inform you here about the activities and achievements of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS). In recent years, our national society has been exceptionally successful in promoting its humanitarian activities through projects implemented in a wide variety of fields. As you know, the activities of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society are very diverse, and we have structural units that successfully implement these activities.

As difficult as the outgoing year 2023 has been for us, we can note that all our activities carried out within the framework of cooperation agreements signed by the Red Crescent Society with public institutions were productive. Briefly informing you here about the activities carried out by the AzRCS under its Strategic Development Plan for 2020-2025, I would like to note that the National Society has successfully coped with the main tasks assigned to it.

I would like to emphasize the support provided throughout the year to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which are the leading components of the International Humanitarian Movement.

Last year, the national society implemented a voucher cash assistance project and achieved very successful and effective results accordingly. The project was implemented in four selected regions: Imishli, Ismayilli, Lankaran, and Fuzuli, and cash assistance of 300 AZN per family was distributed to a total of 378 families.



This activity reflects the successes achieved by the organization in international cooperation, in working with local executive structures, and regionally as a whole. 336 events carried out by the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in the field of health and care in the year 2023, 108 person-centered events, and 1,512 beneficiaries covered by these events are indicators of the National Society's wide-scope and effective activities in this field.

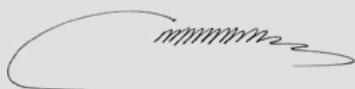
Another important development to note is community engagement and accountability, mainly active collaboration with foreign partners. Besides this all, in 2023, "Microsoft" company's donation of \$5,000, partnership with local companies, humanitarian assistance raised in the amount of 426,000 AZN for victims of earthquake in Turkey through the newly launched electronic platform "Yardim Et", are our successes in the field of fundraising and resource mobilization.

In particular, we would like to note that the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society has demonstrated its readiness to assist every resident of the country and every community, regardless of their religion, language, race, and political views, when a real need arises. The delivery of 40 tons of food aid in two TIR trucks by the National Society from August 29 to September 28 to meet the food needs of the residents of the Karabakh region, as well as the delivery of food and non-food items dispatched by the Russian Red Cross in one truck on the route Aghdam-Khankendi to the place of destination, is a vivid example of the aforesaid.

One of the remarkable events of the past year was the extraordinary presidential elections of the IFRC in Geneva and the participation of the Azerbaijani Red Crescent Society with its delegation there. Taking this opportunity, I would like to wish Kate Forbes, the American Red Cross representative who won the elections, success in her responsible and honorable work. The importance of expanding existing opportunities for cooperation and partnership between national societies was also discussed during the bilateral meetings in Geneva.

Also, the restoration of humanitarian activities of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in the Karabakh economic zone and the activities within the framework of the "Return" program are integral parts of the restoration works in the regions. As always, the National Society will continue its activity in the direction of the set goals and will cope with its honorable mission.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who supported the evaluation of the National Society's humanitarian activities in 2023, especially our volunteers who showed true dedication, staff members, and local and international organizations.



Dr. Novruz Aslanov

Prezident, Azərbaycan Qızıl Aypara Cəmiyyəti

Deputat, Azərbaycan Respublikası Milli Məclisi

Fundamental PRINCIPLES



Humanity

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.



Impartiality

It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.



Neutrality

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.



Independence

The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.



Voluntary Service

It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.



Unity

There can only be one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.



Universality

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is world-wide.

About us

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is the largest humanitarian organization functioning in the Republic of Azerbaijan, whose role is determined by the state law. The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society comprises its headquarters located in Baku, a Youth Committee, 8 Regional Centers (Baku, Ganja, Sumgait, Mingachevir, Sabirabad, Lankaran, and Karabagh), the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic Committee, and 92 local and field branches. The Society is an inalienable member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the world's largest humanitarian organization. It is one of the three components of the Movement for its position. The Society cooperates with both governmental and non-governmental organizations and other National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Our mission is “to serve vulnerable people by mobilizing the capacity of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and the power of humanity.”



Main Activities

-  Health and Care
-  International Relations
-  Fundraising
-  Humanitarian Aid
-  Emergency Situations
-  Tracing
-  Regional Centers
-  Dissemination of Information
-  Youth and Volunteers
-  Migration



Regional Centers

Events

Meetings on close cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations were held in Baku, Ganja cities, and Imishli district, with a total of 27 local branches in attendance.

In preparation for the start of the new school year in September, schoolchildren in the liberated Kalbajar district were handed out new school bags.

Health awareness actions on the damage caused by pandemics, infectious diseases, epidemics, chemical and biological weapons, the possible use of nuclear weapons, and required measures in the case of leaks in nuclear power plants were implemented among communities throughout the country for emergency preparedness and response.

With the help of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, local branches were provided with membership cards.

Organizational Issues

Concerted efforts have been made to enhance the performance of the primary organizations across the seven local branches affiliated with the Headquarters' regional center for the liberated Karabakh, to provide more effective and high-quality services.

Zone meetings were conducted in Mingachevir and Sabirabad Regional Centers in April and July, and were attended by the coordinators and chairpersons of local and city branches. The main discussion topic was to increase the number of members and provide timely responses to requests for assistance received by the branches, and it was recommended to carry out humanitarian actions at the local level.

Health and Care

In January 2023, several events and meetings were held under the **European Union-funded program on “Prevention, preparedness, and response to natural and man-made disasters in the Eastern Partnership countries-phase 3” (PPRD East3)**. The main discussion topics included: preparedness for emergency situations, particularly health risk reduction in remote villages; preparedness stages in the prevention of disasters; response actions of volunteers to disasters, and conducting awareness activities on early warning.

In February and March 2023, meetings related to **the commercial first aid program** were held with stakeholders. Marketing on the development of the worked out commercial first aid program, consumer research, and other technical assignments were discussed. In conclusion of the meetings, Sumgait city has been chosen as a pilot site for the implementation of the First Aid in the Workplace pilot program. The meetings related to the commercial first aid program have been continued in May and June. In the same months, an assessment of local marketing opportunities relating to the commercial first aid program was carried out and submitted to the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Azerbaijan. On May 25, the First Aid Review was submitted to the managers of the AzRCS departments, on June 9, to chairpersons of local branches, and on June 12-13, to chairpersons and volunteers of 12 local branches covered by the Baku Regional Center.



The procedure for referral to commercial first aid training has been worked out. The Commercial First Aid training was held at the Celt School in Baku on June 15–17, with a total of 20 students in attendance. As a result of a discussion with the working group, the validity period of the first aid certificate was determined to be 3 years.

The meeting of the International Expert Group on First Aid was held from October 31 to November 1 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The International Expert Group on First Aid carries out its activities on behalf of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Southern Caucasus in close cooperation with and with the support of the ICRC and the IFRC. The meeting was attended by representatives from 11 countries. During the meeting, apart from the main directions and integration of activities, the exchange of experience, unification of programs, conducting training, closer interaction with participants, and other issues were discussed. This year, a representative of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society participated for the first time in the meeting and shared her experience with the members of the **International Expert Group on First Aid** by means of a presentation.



Trainings and Sessions

Sessions devoted to TB awareness days were held in different communities. On April 4–5, trainings were held in the public associations "Towards a future without TB" and "Healthy Life" and on July 17–21, in the public association "Irali."

Educational sessions related to blood donor recruitment were held at Baku Medical University in July, and training on sanitation and hygiene was organized in Baku and Sumgait cities.

On October 10, 16, and 23, trainings related to the basics of first aid and infectious disease control were held at Baku Medical University.

November saw the holding of seminars devoted to the priority directions of First Aid and Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week.

An antibiotic awareness training for migrants was held on November 30.

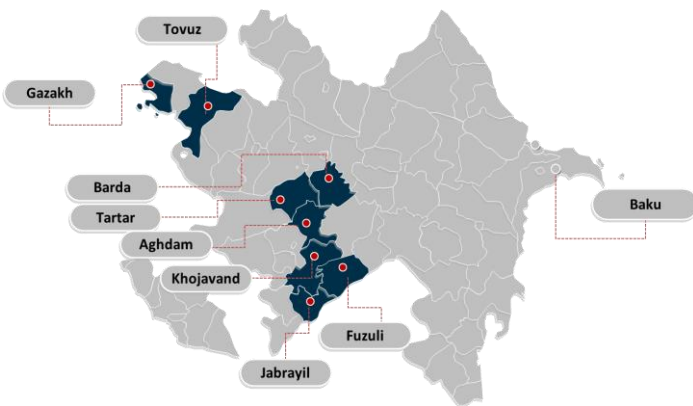
An event on the topic of global antimicrobial education was held at the Pirallakhi district Youth Center on December 5. Organizational support for the event was provided by the Pirallakhi local branch of the AzRCS and the executive authority of the Pirallakhi district.



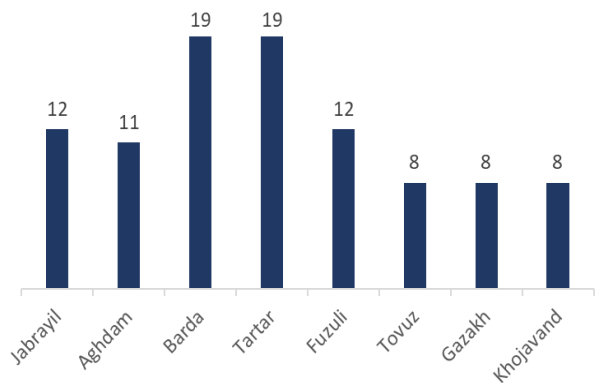
First Aid

The newly involved volunteers, who had not taken part in first aid training before, were provided with a 2-day first aid training in February 2023 in seven local branches of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (Barda, Fuzuli, Jabrail, Tovuz, Gazakh, Aghdam, and Tartar). The training was conducted by a first aid trainer of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. Volunteers willing to work as first aid instructors in the local branches in the future were involved in the training. During a 2-day training, volunteers received both theoretical and practical first aid knowledge and abilities, and at the end of the training, they were given a certificate of participation. Representatives of a sub-delegation of the ICRC in the Barda district and a representative of the delegation of the Turkish Red Crescent Society in Azerbaijan also attended a first aid training as guests. On December 11–12, the AzRCS Secretariat organized a basic first aid training session to enhance the first aid knowledge and skills of volunteers in the Khojavand local branch. The training was conducted by a first aid trainer of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. The objective of the training session was to enhance the community's understanding of first aid and to enhance the resilience of volunteers in order for community members to better provide first aid in both everyday and emergency situations.

Local branches covered by first aid training



Number of training participants from local branches





On October 2–4, 2023, a 3-day training course on basic first aid was organized for staff members of the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS). The main objective of the training was to enhance the first aid knowledge and skills of staff members, particularly newly recruited staff members. 15 staff members participated in the training. The program of training included daily theoretical and practical sessions. At the end of the training, participants were given certificates.





First aid posts were set up on a monthly basis by local branches of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in various public venues where people gather together. The objective was to familiarize the communities with the provision of first aid, to raise awareness among the communities of first aid, and to attract new volunteers to the local branches by creating interest in first aid among the communities. Thanks to first aid posts, people's attitude towards the injured has completely changed.

First Aid Posts

Aghdam

Chullu village secondary school, a secondary school No.91 in Safarli settlement, secondary schools in Baharli and Tezekend settlements

Barda

Mirzalibeyli village secondary school No. 4, Khanareb village, Deymadaghli village, Shirvanli village secondary schools

Jabrayil

Jojug Marjanli village secondary school No. 14, Minbashli village secondary school named after R.Khudiyev, Jabrayil village, Damshalag village secondary schools

Fuzuli

Ahmedbeyli vil. Sec. school, Ahmdallar vil. Sec. school No. 39, a sec. school No. 33 in Zobujug settle., a sec. school in Kerpilj Evler settlement

Gazakh

Chayli village secondary school No. 1, Balachayli village, Askipara village secondary schools

Sumgait

Secondary school No. 6, Kymyachilar Palace of Culture, AzRCS office, Sumgayit Youth House;

Tartar

Borsunlu village, Sarov village, Buruj village secondary schools and AzRCS office;

Tovuz

Ahmedabad village secondary school, secondary schools named after A.Pushkin, H. Valiyev, M. Aliyev, State Social-Economic college

Psychosocial Support

In February, volunteers from AzRCS’s Tartar and Agdam local branches received psychosocial support training thanks to funding from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The objective of the training was to help volunteers provide psychosocial support not only to beneficiaries but also to themselves and their family members.

Thanks to funding from ICRC, volunteers from AzRCS were trained to conduct “**The Book About Me**” activities to offer psychosocial support to children residing in areas affected by armed conflict. Several training sessions were held on this topic in March-November. During the training, volunteers from Aghdam, Barda, Fuzuli, Tartar, and Tovuz local branches acquired the necessary knowledge and skills to provide targeted psychosocial support to children in groups using “**The Book About Me**” tool. The exercises in “The Book About Me”, a tool conducted by volunteers in schools, were very positively received by school directors and teachers, children, and their parents. To ensure the high quality of the psychosocial support provided during the process, regular live and online supervision meetings were held with the volunteers implementing the activities.



19
The number of events

570
The number of participants

8
The number of regions



Focus group discussions with teachers and parents were held in schools to explore the impact of psychosocial support and gather feedback on activities implemented in November. Feedback from school staff and parents on the positive impact of psychosocial support activities was collected. In August, a joint training session was conducted by the IFRC and ICRC to enhance the mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) knowledge and skills of MHPSS coordinators selected from the AzRCS local branches.

Under the EU-funded “Bridge” project, some MHPSS related activities were carried out by the AzRCS local branches from April to August. An evaluation of AzRCS local branches' preparedness for MHPSS was carried out in April. On May 23, a meeting was held with AzRCS management and staff to have a dialogue on MHPSS and discuss plans for the future. A working group on MHPSS was formed. As a result of productive meetings with the working group in June and July, the MHPSS policy of the AzRCS was developed.

In July-August, meetings and trainings were held to appoint MHPSS coordinators in the AzRCS local branches. Thus, to ensure the implementation of the MHPSS policy, it was decided to appoint MHPSS coordinators in the National Society's local branches. The MHPSS coordinators will implement the MHPSS policy and other MHPSS-related activities in their local branches and communities.

AzRCS, jointly with “Care Group” Company, conducted “**Young Writers**” trainings in **Barda, Fuzuli, and Aghdam** districts in May-July. The objective of the training was to improve the psychological state of children of martyrs and create confidence in their abilities.

On July 10, a training session on **“Effective Communication”** was organized to promote effective communication during volunteer activities in communities and data collection. The training participants learned effective communication skills needed during community activities.

In October 2023, as in previous years, **the European Network of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement** held another MHPSS Forum. The forum was attended by MHPSS specialist from the AzRCS. The forum included various reports, workshops, practical exercises, etc. As the forum's subject was **“An Informed Approach to Trauma”** an MHPSS specialist from the AzRCS led a workshop on how the AzRCS implemented the **“Book About Me”** activity, which serves as an illustration of an informed approach to trauma.



Emergency Situations

An event on topics such as preparation for forest fires and the implementation of early warning systems was held in January 2023 in the Gabala district in collaboration with the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

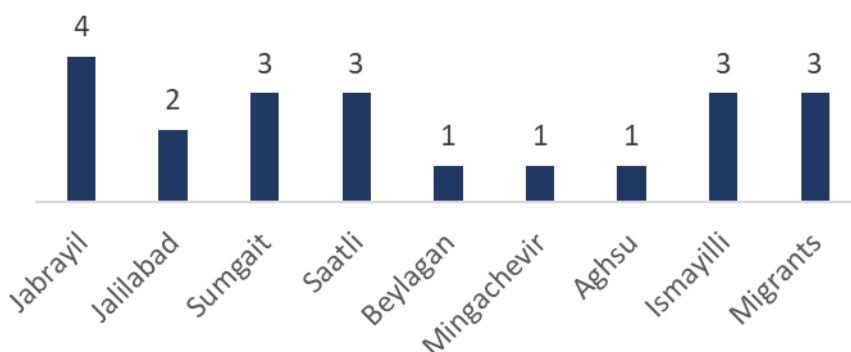
In January, a meeting was held with Fabrizio Damiani, International Cooperation and Relations Manager at the Italian Red Cross, Head of the IFRC Unit for Europe and Central Asia, and interim representative for the Caucasus Region, on disaster prevention, disaster preparedness, and response.

In May 2023, a simulation event was organized in Baku in collaboration with the Civil Defense Headquarters of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and relevant agencies. During the exercise, evacuation and registration of people, shelter provision, as well as provision of first aid and psychological support by volunteers of the Red Crescent Society were effectively carried out.

The rest of the central warehouse has been completely renovated. Goods have been inventoried there. Appropriate forms have been prepared to improve the warehouse reporting system.

Provision of assistance to families affected by natural disasters based on requests received from them:

The number of families assisted



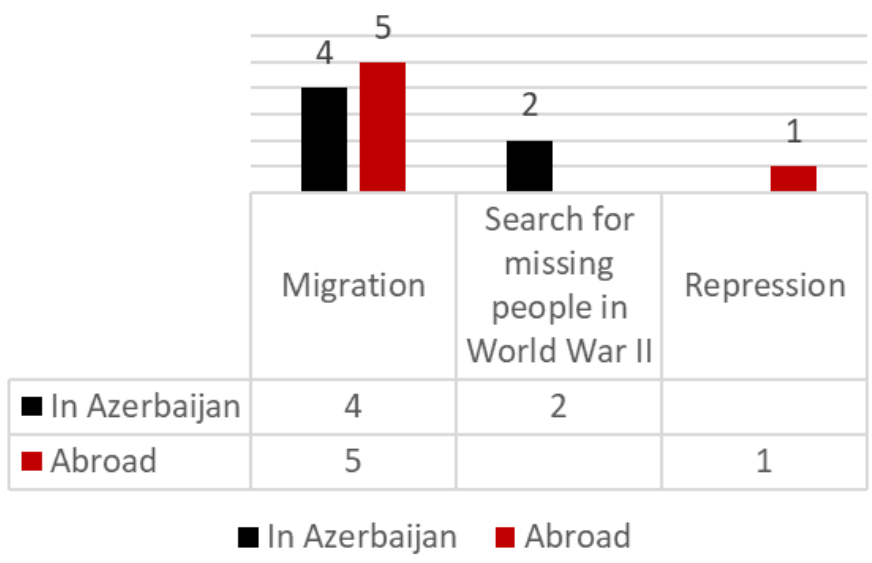
25 families affected by the floods in Ganja received humanitarian assistance including hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets, pillows, mosquito nets, water jerry cans, and rubber boots. In addition, awareness-raising activities were carried out among families totaling more than 1,000 people. These activities were mainly carried out in the cities of Ganja, Goranboy, and Ismayilli.

In order to organize activities such as building safe and sustainable communities, preparation for forest fires, and to conduct public awareness campaigns, a project was drafted and submitted to the Italian Red Cross in a manner agreed with the management of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

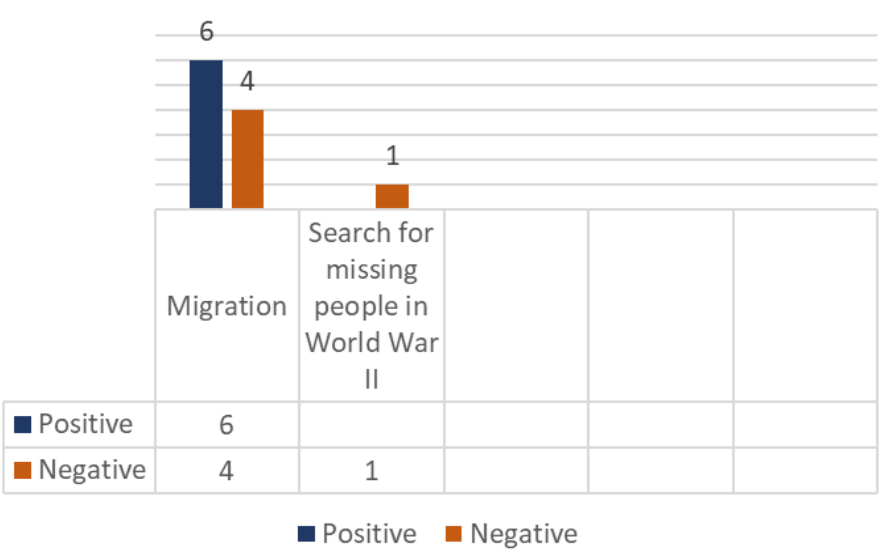
Tracing Service

The AzRCS's Tracing Service aims to alleviate the anguish and suffering of separated family members by providing psychological assistance, sharing the necessary information during and after emergencies between family members, and reuniting them.

Opened Cases



Closed Cases



Those who applied to the Tracing service in the II Karabakh War:

- 7 Visits
- 7 Calls
- 1 Letter

Migration



230

Number of migrant families who received assistance throughout the year



1257

Number of individuals covered by humanitarian assistance as a result of the implemented events



26

Number of migrants who benefited from various medical support



30

Number of migrant students who received a certificate of successful completion of the Azerbaijani language course

A meeting was organized with students of the Azerbaijani language course for migrants. During the meeting, solutions to migrant students' difficulties and problems were discussed. 30 migrant families were provided with humanitarian aid, including school supplies.

To help needy migrants living in our country integrate into society, educational sessions were held, attended by 100 people. Hygiene products, food aid, clothes, and household items were distributed to migrant families. A New Year party with migrant students was held in the city school. 30 migrant students received school supplies as a gift, and a tea party for them was organized. There was also organized an excursion by migrant students of the Azerbaijani language course to the national historical and ethnographic museums "Yanar-Dag" and "Gobustan" in the vicinity of Baku.

Throughout the year, 10 new migrant families, including 7 people from Ukraine, 1 from the Islamic Republic of Iran, 18 from Pakistan, and 3 from Turkey applied for aid from the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. In accordance with their needs, the migrant families were provided with clothes, food and household items. One young migrant was enrolled in an Azerbaijani language course. From March to May, training sessions on healthy lifestyle and first aid for 36 migrants were held at the AzRCS head office.

An event devoted to the 11th opening of the Azerbaijani language course was held in October. At the opening ceremony, 25 migrant students were given school supplies. Also, a tea party was arranged for them.

Assistance was provided by the AzRCS to 96 migrant families on the Gurban Holiday (Feast of Sacrifice). 56 migrant families received assistance from the AzRCS on the Ramadan Holiday. On June 1, International Children's Day assistance was provided to 25 migrant families based on their needs.

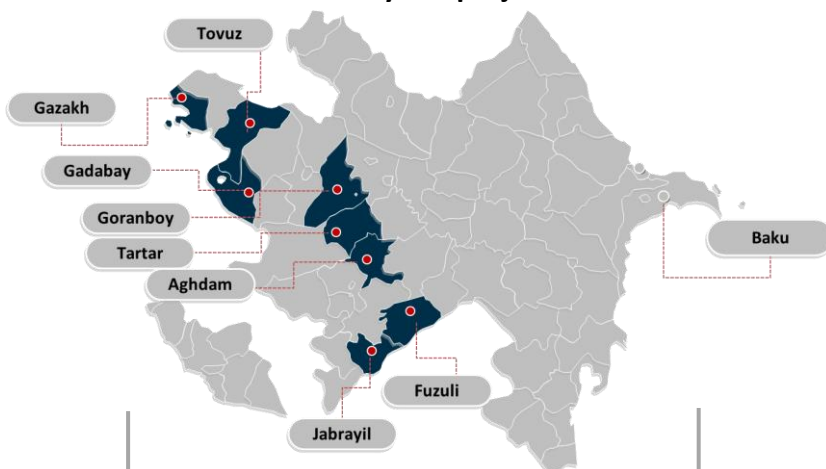
Weapon Contamination

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, in partnership with the Azerbaijani delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, conducted mine risk education among the population and communities in the regions based on the “Mine Risk Reduction” strategy.

During the year, **12738 people** have been reached through **4,180 information sessions** on the dangers of mines and unexploded ordnances conducted in Tovuz, Gazakh, Gadabay, Tartar, Goranboy, Aghdam, Fuzuli, and Jabrayil districts. Public awareness-raising activities were organized in the format of door-to-door sessions, school sessions, and theater workshops in schools. In the reporting year, the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, in collaboration with the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Azerbaijan, organized sessions on mines and unexploded ordnances for volunteers of the National Society. 79 volunteers were involved in the sessions.

With the organizational support of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Azerbaijan, and the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA), a 3-day training session on mines and unexploded ordnances was organized for volunteers of the National Society and mine victims involved in our activities. 25 volunteers participated in the training. At the end of the 3-day training, the participants received certificates prepared by the ANAMA agency.

Area covered by the project



4180

Number of training sessions conducted

12738

Number of people reached through training sessions

94

Number of volunteers who participated in trainings

Youth and Volunteers



9839

Number of people covered by the implemented projects and events



1200

Number of students who participated in blood donation campaigns



10000

Number of trees planted in tree planting campaigns

In 2023, a number of activities were carried out by the AzRCS Youth and Volunteer Department and the Youth Committee. During the year, a total of **83** students from different educational institutions (Slavic University, Azerbaijan University of Tourism and Management, Baku Eurasian University, Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University, West Caspian University, Economic University, University of Languages, The Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and Western Caspian College) have done their internship at the headquarters of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society.

During the students' internship at the headquarters of the AzRCS, all organizational work (conducting relevant trainings for students by departments of the National Society, involving students in events organized at the AzRCS headquarters and local branches, and writing character references for students) was regulated and carried out by the Youth Committee.

In the reporting year, a total of **1200** students from Azerbaijan Technical University, ADA University, Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University, and Baku Technical College participated in blood donation campaigns.

A library hall with 170 seats was created at the Lankan children's boarding school.



On June 1, on the occasion of the International Day for Protection of Children, an entertainment event for **50 migrant children** was held in the “Kinder Land” entertainment center. On June 1, in connection with the International Day for Protection of Children, within the framework of the “The Great Return” program, a soccer competition was held among teenagers from 6 settlements in Fuzuli district (**430 schoolchildren** took part in the competition).

On August 1, a poetry evening dedicated to "The Day of Azerbaijani Alphabet and Azerbaijani Language" was held in Sarijali village of Aghdam district. **310 teachers, students, ashugs, and poets** participated in the event.

On September 15, on the occasion of “Knowledge Day”, **50 schoolchildren** were presented with school supplies, and **20 families** were given bicycles in the Absheron district.

7 rural secondary schools in Aghdam, Barda, Fuzuli, Gadabay, Gazakh, Tartar and Tovuz districts received school supplies for children from low-income families. The aim is to provide schoolchildren from low-income families with school supplies in case any of them need any school supplies.

Trainings on hygiene and health were held in Baku and Sumgait cities with the participation of **15 volunteers**. Training sessions on hygiene and health issues were held in schools and orphanages, with the participation of children of martyrs and Karabakh War veterans (a total of **1500 students** and teachers were covered by these training sessions). At the end of the event, students were given hygiene products as a gift.

With technical support from the Danish Red Cross Youth Program, a methodological tool (Module) entitled “**Active Youth for Safe Schools**” was developed, and a Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted for **24 volunteers** on the topic.

After the training of trainers, assessment work was conducted in Aghdam, Barda, Fuzuli, Gazakh, Tartar, and Tovuz districts, and **SPRINT** (teaching children to write small projects) sessions were conducted in selected rural schools. In total, **233 students in 12 schools** were trained in writing small projects.



The number of small projects written by students was 60. Of these, **24 projects** were selected and implemented. These small projects included: organizing excursions to historical museums, holding knowledge contests, purchasing shelves, window-blinds for two classrooms, purchasing water dispensers and garbage cans, improving the sports ground, laying a water pipe to the school (1), planting trees in the schoolyard, etc. Small projects implemented during the year covered **3600 students**.

A methodological manual (Module) on "**Disaster risk reduction during emergencies**" was developed and Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted for **9 AzRCS volunteers** on this topic.

In the selected rural schools of Gadabay, Gazakh and Tovuz districts, the trained volunteers conducted training sessions for schoolchildren on "Disaster risk reduction in emergency situations". A total of **45 schoolchildren** from three schools participated in these training sessions. Simulation exercises on evacuation, tracing, rescue, and first aid were conducted in selected schools with the support of the Ministry for Emergency Situations. A total of **1400 students** participated in these simulation exercises.

About **10,000 trees** were planted during "Tree Planting" campaigns conducted by 83 district branches of the AzRCS.

Training on "**Hygiene and Health**" was conducted for **12 volunteers** from the Lankaran district branch of the AzRCS. Later, the trained volunteers, in their turn, conducted awareness-raising activities on the above-mentioned topic among the children in the Lankaran orphanage. Warm winter clothes were distributed to **310 children** in 3 orphanages. Educational activities on the theme of hygiene and health were conducted among **300 schoolchildren**. At the end of the event, hygiene products were distributed to schoolchildren.

Documents produced by the Youth and Volunteers department of the AzRCS in 2023:

- "Youth and Volunteers" Strategy
- "Education in Emergencies" Strategy (Modules)
- Training module on the history, principles, and activities of the Movement
- Leadership module
- "Active Youth for Safe Schools" module
- "Disaster risk reduction during emergencies" module
- "Hygiene and Health" module
- A policy on child safeguarding is being developed. Its completion is scheduled for next year.
- "A road safety" module is being developed. Its completion is scheduled for next year.

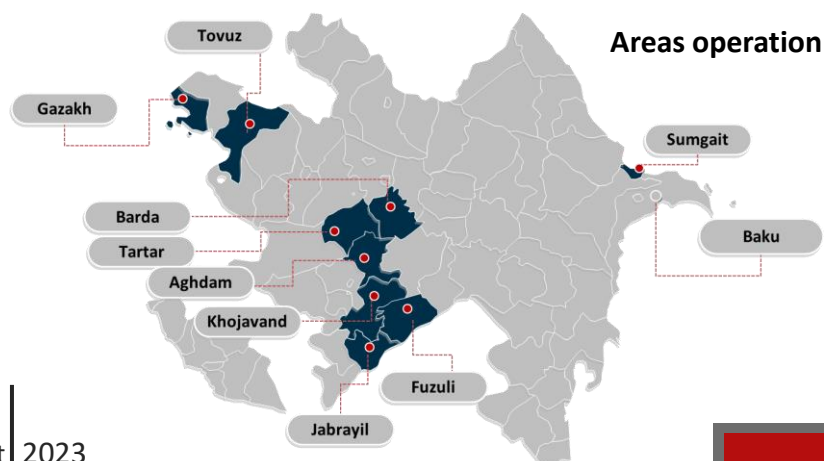
Emergency Mobile Volunteer Teams

On August 17–18, 2023, the Protection Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held an information session for volunteers of the Jabrayil and Fuzuli local branches of AzRCS. The main objective of the session was to inform volunteers about the activities of the above-mentioned division. A total of 27 volunteers participated in the session.

On August 22–23, 2023, communication training was conducted for experienced volunteers of the Tartar, Aghdam, Fuzuli, Gazakh, Barda, Jabrayil, and Tovuz local branches of the AzRCS. This event was organized jointly by the AzRCS and the ICRC. The main objective of the training was to enhance the knowledge and skills of experienced volunteers in the field of communication, with a specific focus on improving their ability to deliver sessions on the dissemination of information about the activities and initiatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society in schools. A total of **14 volunteers** participated in this training. This number included 2 volunteers from each local branch.

On August 30-31, Restoring Family Links Department of the ICRC held an information session for volunteers from the Gazakh and Agstafa local branches of the AzRCS. The main objective of the session was to inform volunteers about the activities of the above-mentioned department. A total of **33 volunteers were participated in the sessions.**

On October 10-12, 2023, with the organizational support of the AzRCS and the delegation of the ICRC in Azerbaijan, a basic introductory course on "The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement" was held for volunteers from the Barda, Aghdam, and Tartar local branches of AzRCS. The main objective of the course was to familiarize volunteers with the mission, components, and basic principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. A total of **49 volunteers** from the Barda, Aghdam, and Tartar local branches of AzRCS participated in the course.



On November 1–2, 2023, a basic introductory course on "The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement" was held for newly recruited volunteers from the Fuzuli, Khojavand, and Jabrayil local branches of the AzRCS. The main objective of the course was to familiarize volunteers with the mission, components, and basic principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. A total of **35 volunteers** from the Fuzuli, Khojavand, and Jabrayil local branches of the AzRCS participated in the course.

On November 14–15, 2023, a communication training for members of Emergency Mobile Volunteer Teams (EMVTs) was held in Barda district with the joint organizational support of the AzRCS and the ICRC in Azerbaijan. The main objective of the training was to provide newly recruited AzRCS volunteers with detailed information about the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and to improve the presentation skills of the volunteers. A total of **25 volunteers** from the Fuzuli, Tartar, Aghdam, Gazakh, Tovuz, Jabrayil, and Barda local branches of AzRCS participated in the training.

On 27-30 November, AzRCS and the ICRC jointly conducted a basic skills training for members of the EMVTs of AzRCS's Aghdam and Tartar local branches. The training aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of the participants in becoming effective leaders in their personal and professional lives. A total of **20 volunteers** from AzRCS's Aghdam and Tartar local branches attended the training.

During the reporting period, first aid posts were organized by AzRCS local branches at least once a month in places where people gathered. The main purpose of this event was to demonstrate to the public the first-aid services provided by AzRCS local branches. The organization of such regular events also gave the EMVT volunteers an opportunity to practice first aid techniques frequently and enhance their knowledge.



8

Number of trainings



203

Number of participating volunteers



80

Number of established first-aid posts



4200

Number of students covered by first aid posts



200

Number of volunteers insured under the insurance program of the IFRC



250

Number of volunteers who received an EMVT membership card



In 2023, **80 first aid posts** were set up by the Tartar, Aghdam, Fuzuli, Gazakh, Tovuz, Barda local branches, and Sumgait city branch of the AzRCS. **150 AzRCS volunteers** participated as trainers in events on organizing first aid posts. About **2,000 schoolchildren** benefited from first-aid sessions conducted in schools.

In 2023, the Tartar, Agdam, Fuzuli, Gazakh, Tovuz, Barda local branches and Sumgait city branch of the AzRCS organized dissemination sessions on "The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement". **145 volunteers** participated in the dissemination sessions as trainers. **2,200 schoolchildren** benefited from the dissemination sessions conducted in schools.

During the reporting period, the delegation of the ICRC in Azerbaijan supported the income-generating activities of the local branches of the AzRCS, including the computer education centre, opened at the Tartar local branch of the AzRCS in 2019. During the reporting period, the ICRC Cooperation Department assisted with the payment of the monthly salary of a trainer working at the computer education centre. The aim of doing so was to allow the Tartar local branch of the AzRCS to use the funds generated by the computer education centre for its other activities and to expand the centre's operations.

During the reporting period, **200 AzRCS volunteers** were insured under the insurance program of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The EMVT membership cards were issued to approximately **250 AzRCS volunteers**.

To enhance the technical base of the National Society, the ICRC provided AzRCS's local branches with office furniture, technical equipments (computers, printers, etc.), and means of identification (aprons, waistcoats with the AzRCS logo, etc.).

Humanitarian Aid

Throughout the reporting year, the Humanitarian Aid department participated in the reception of citizens every Wednesday at the AzRCS office, assisting a total of **67 applicants** with various issues.

During the year, the Humanitarian Aid department added **5 individuals** to its registration list while **38 individuals** were added to the registration lists of other branches.

About 10,000 people from relevant categories were registered with the Humanitarian Aid Department and local branches of the AzRCS during the reporting period. Of them, **3120 people** were registered in local branches of the AzRCS in Baku city, and **6880 people** were registered in other city and local branches.

During the year, the department received 38 written applications. **63 individuals** applied for food and other forms of humanitarian aid, while **30 individuals** applied for free medical examination cards. The department responded positively to applications to the extent possible. Since the Clinic of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Azerbaijan ceased its activity, it was not possible to organize a preferential medical examination.

Throughout the year, the department received applications from **14 migrant families** seeking assistance to improve their social situation. 9 of them were answered positively, and since the applications of 5 migrant families were beyond the competence of the National Society, they were given a relevant explanation and directed to other organizations.

67

Number of new applicants

28

Number of written applications

56

Number of individual applications

14

Number of migrant families applied

Registration of elderly alone people, low-income individuals in the Humanitarian Aid department and local branches of the AzRCS

3120

Baku City

10000

Total

6880

Other city and local branches

40

Number of people registered this year



The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society has demonstrated its readiness to help every community in the country when there is a real need, regardless of people's religion, language, race, or political beliefs. A prime example of this is that to meet the food needs of the people living in the Karabakh region, AzRCS delivered 40 tons of food aid, two TIR trucks, and one TIR truck sent from Russia with food and non-food items from August 29 to September 28 to residents of Karabakh along the Aghdam-Khankendi route.



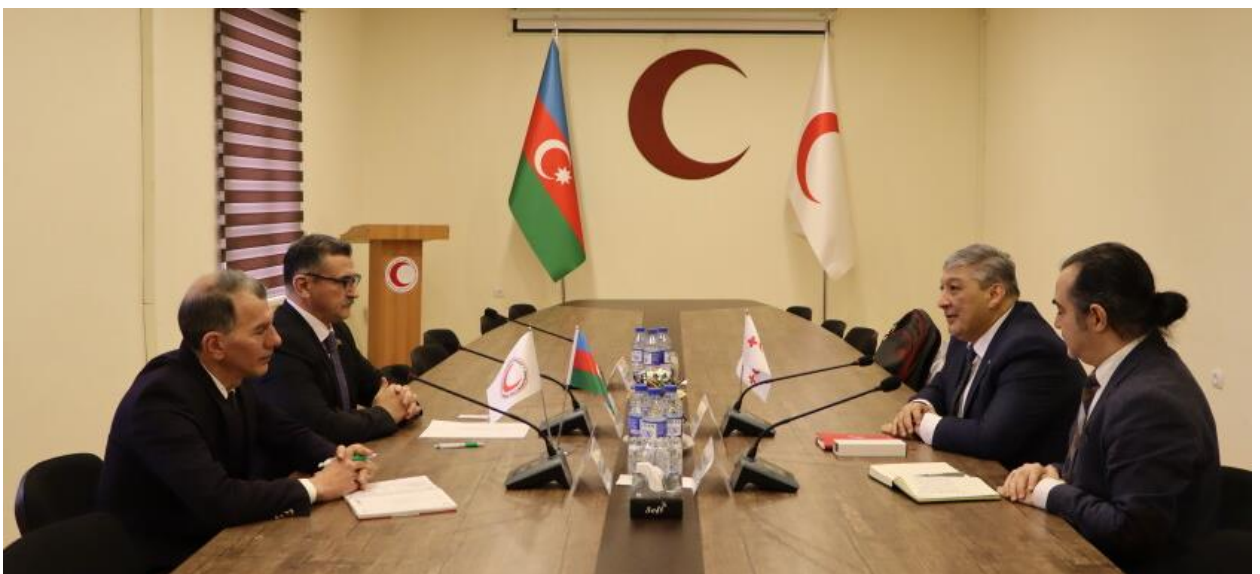
International Relations

On January 27, the Main Directorate of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS) held a trilateral meeting between AzRCS, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and the Israeli embassy in Azerbaijan. The main purpose of the meeting was to exchange views on the existing



relations in the humanitarian sphere, to discuss future projects on the further development of cooperation.

On January 27, a meeting was held between the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies at the head office of AzRCS. At the meeting, the sides talked about the common work done between the two organizations and the projects implemented within the framework of mutual cooperation. In this year, as in previous years, the importance of timely and high-level fulfillment of the obligations of both AzRCS and the International Federation within the framework of cooperation to achieve the set goal was emphasized.



On February 8, a meeting was held between the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS) and delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Azerbaijan on the directions of cooperation. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the directions of cooperation between organizations, plans and main goals. At the meeting, representatives of the operational departments of both organizations presented plans for the current year and discussed joint partnership activities to achieve common goals.

On April 17, a bilateral meeting was held between the president of AzRCS, MP Mr. Novruz Aslanov and the head of the ICRC office in Azerbaijan Mrs. Dragana Koich. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the work carried out within the framework of cooperation between the two organizations and the activities planned in the future. During the meeting, discussions were held on the clash on the border of Azerbaijan and captured Azerbaijani citizens.



On May 8, an event dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the honorary member of AzRCS, national leader Heydar Aliyev, the 160th anniversary of the International Day of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and May 12-World Nurses Day was jointly organized by the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of Red Cross.

On September 11, 2023, the president of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, Novruz Aslanov received Davron Muhammadiyev, head of the representation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society for the countries of the South Caucasus, and Serdar Gunel, manager of programs and operations of the representation of the International Federation in Azerbaijan.



At the meeting, a conversation was opened about the common work carried out between the two organizations and the projects implemented within the framework of mutual cooperation. They also noted that due to the current situation in the Karabakh economic region, 40 tons of flour products sent to meet the food needs of Armenian residents living in Khankendi, AzRCS employees and volunteers were waiting for 14 days on the Aghdam-Khankendi road, and food and non-food cargoes delivered by the Russian Red Cross Society were waiting in Barda for the same purpose. President of the National Society Novruz Aslanov thanked Davron Muhammadiyev for the support provided by the Federation to the National Society and said that international movement in the humanitarian sphere will develop domestic humanitarian activities at a high level in the future.

On September 13, a meeting was held at the head office of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. The meeting was attended by Novruz Aslanov , president of AzRCS, Davron Muhammadiyev, head of the representation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent for the South Caucasus countries, Serdar Gunel, program and operations manager of the International Federation in Azerbaijan, and Simona Rescigno, representative of the Italian Red Cross for the Caucasus region. During the meeting, AzRCS's activities, ongoing projects, projects implemented by the Italian Red Cross in the South Caucasus and the work to be done within the framework of cooperation between national societies were discussed.

Cash and Voucher assistance



AzRCS and Azarpocht
sign 4-year CVA
Framework Agreement

On February 22, a meeting of the Working Group on cash and voucher assistance was held at the head office of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS). During the meeting, the monitoring results of the CVA project, an overview of the CVA process for 2022, difficulties and good practices, proposals for 2023, interviews on lessons learned (feedback), discussions were held on the new appointment of the CVA representative of the International Federation. On April 14, 2023, based on the monitoring results of the Cash Assistance Project, a post-aid Monitoring Report was prepared and published.

On May 18-19, a self-assessment seminar on cash and voucher assistance was held with the support of the European Union (EU) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. During the Seminar, thoughts and questions of participants and discussions of group work were held. Then group work was organized on SWOT analysis on CVA in Azerbaijan, identification of main priority measures and updating AzRCS CVA preparation activity plan. At the plenary session of the seminar, components prepared by groups were presented, and the main priorities were discussed. The Seminar concluded with the analysis of the two-day overview, discussion of the steps to be taken in this area in the future and the final opinions, and a two-year action plan was prepared.

On May 29-31, a seminar on cash assistance to the injured Ukrainians was held in Budapest, Hungary. AzRCS employee represented the National Society in Budapest. The seminar was attended by several sessions and seminars aimed at improving the introduction and practical use of ACCESS RC 2.0, which was created for the registration of vulnerable groups. During the session, presentations were made on updated cash preparedness tools for effective emergency response, and successful national societies provided examples of current CVA preparedness programs. During the session, presentations were made on updated cash preparedness tools for effective emergency response, and successful national societies provided examples of current CVA preparedness programs. At the seminar, the representative of AzRCS made a presentation covering the activities of the NS in the field of CVA.

On November 17-21, Gashi Ljuan Marko, a specialist sent by the EU, visited Sumgait, Imishli and Fuzuli branches of the AzRCS. During the visit, the results of the cash and voucher assistance project, jointly organized by AzRCS and IFRC, were widely discussed in selected regions with the financial support of the EU. The achievements obtained within the framework of this project were evaluated and measured the impact and effectiveness of the project in the region. During the visit, attention was paid to needy families where assistance was distributed in Imishli and Fuzuli district and their living conditions were closely familiarized. The specialist conducted detailed analyzes and observations on the control and implementation of the project in those regions and collected detailed information about the current problems and vulnerable groups of the population.



On November 29 the AzRCS held a standard operating procedures (SOP) seminar on cash and voucher assistance. The main purpose of the seminar was to develop AzRCS CVA SOP document with the participation of all relevant departments, Technical Working Group and support staff of the organization. In addition, the form and content of the SOPs document, through the role and responsibilities (RACI) Matrix, consisted of identifying the obligations of the staff for CVA operations, discussing the next steps for the approval, use and revision of SOPs.

During the Seminar, the participants discussed the CVA stages and their integration into AzRCS activities, analyzed the roles and responsibilities of the staff members on each stage and sub-stage through group work, and made presentations based on the results obtained. At the end of the seminar, it was decided to submit the CVA SOP document prepared in the initial version to the management for completion and approval.



On December 13-15, within the framework of the project “bridging the gap between the needs of the community in Azerbaijan and the potential of local and civil society organizations”, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a training “orientation on humanitarian action” was held for **12 Civil Society Organizations**. Initial knowledge on cash and voucher assistance (CVA) program and presentations on the project implementation period were made at this training and the responsible persons of AzRCS and International Federation shared their experience with the participants.

Human Resources

1. In 2023 AzRCS continued the recruitment of key positions to support the NSD implementation.

In this regard, all required processes from preparing and posting a job advertisement on the local job advertisement portal, reviewing CVs and selecting candidates, conducting an interview, sending a job offer to the selected candidate and preparing the contract were carried out.

A Corporate Fundraising Officer was recruited in March 2023 in order to support Fundraising projects. Furthermore, with the financial support of CBF, Information Management Officer started its activity in May 2023 to support central feedback mechanism of the NS. Besides, due to the resignation of IT and Digital Communications officers, these positions were readvertised, and new staff was recruited for the mentioned positions promptly.

2. AzRCS focused on further development of the legal framework through drafting the following documents:

Onboarding guidelines - document which is designed to integrate *a new employee with a company and its culture*. It ensures that new hires understand their role and work, get acquainted with new colleagues, have access to all the resources to do their work well and feel at home in the organization. The guidelines are currently under the review by the senior management of NS.

Code of Conduct- a document *setting out guidelines regarding the ethical principles and standards of behaviour* expected of the organization staff, volunteers and interns. the document is currently in the process of writing and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

3. AzRCS has taken the initial steps to integrate 1C software, which will cover HR, Procurement and Financial management areas. From the HR perspective, this software will help to optimize HR management processes, payroll and calculation, keep track of hiring, dismissals, employee status changes, work schedules etc.

4. The organizational chart (organogram) of the AzRCS indicating the structure of the organization and general hierarchy of employees has been prepared;

5. New service contract template along with a top-up agreement template were prepared for employees who are beneficiaries of project funding.

Fundraising



450.000
AZN

Record donation collected
in a month



8

Number of actions
implemented



14

Number of areas covered

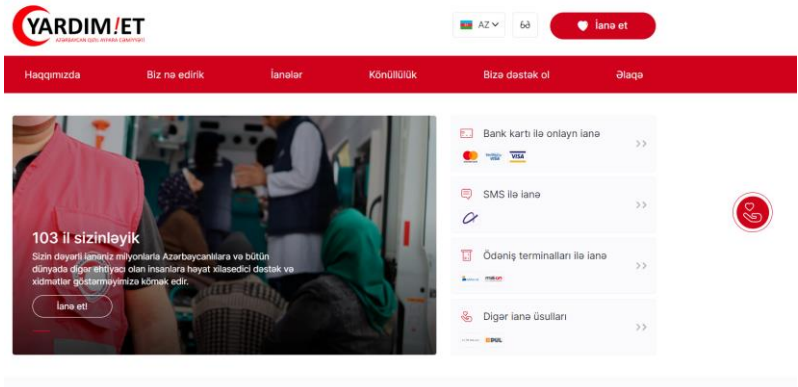


1774

Number of people covered

The website for the collection of funds and the management of donations has been developed and is fully operational since the end of 2022. The system allows AzRCS to improve its reporting and helps to track donations in a timely manner. Several information videos about the donation steps published in AzRCS's accounts in social networks.

In response to the devastating earthquake in Turkey, the department immediately organized a campaign to raise funds. Using an online donation platform created in 2022, the team called on all people to support. In February, in just 1 month, about **450,000 AZN** was collected. This achievement not only renewed the historical records for both the amount and duration of donations, but also highlighted the success of the online platform and the marketing strategies implemented. The result effectively demonstrated that our investments and efforts were directed correctly.





The department has successfully established partnerships with the largest corporate donors, including Pasha Bank, Aurora Group, Bazarstore and others. This cooperation is an important step towards a sustainable collection of funds. By diversifying our Donor base, we are strengthening our financial stability and capacity to support humanitarian goals.

On the eve of various holidays and important days, the Department organized and implemented campaigns with the support of many business professionals on the actions dedicated to the new year, Novruz holiday, Back to school and Eid al-Adha. Joint efforts have made contributions that demonstrate our ability to engage the public during the holidays.

During the reporting period, the Department organized events and provided direct assistance to **956 needy people**, including: In 2 districts, more than **150 children** were provided with school bags and supplies with the support of “Pasha Bank” OJSC and “Avrora” LLC.

In 5 remote villages of 10 regions of our country, notebooks were donated by “ABC-Telekom” LLC to more than **10 schoolchildren**. Food parcels were distributed to 262 needy families (**about 786 people**) in Neftchala district with the support of “Lu-Mun Holding” LLC.





At the end of December 2023, with the support of “Pasha Bank” ASC and LLC “Silk Way West Airline” :

- ***Ismayilli***
- ***Shaki***
- ***Gakh***
- ***Zaqatala***
- ***Absheron***
- ***Gobustan***
- ***Shamaxlı*** “Winter Miracle” was held in these locals. Within the framework of the project, humanitarian aid boxes were distributed to **250 families**. The project covered a total of 750 people.

The department developed a policy on the AzRCS brand style to ensure the standardization and proper use of the logo. The basic principles will be shared with AzRCS regional centers after approval by the Governing Council. The Department revised and updated the donor proposal format.

The status of "non-profit" received a donation from the Representative Office of "Microsoft Cooperation" in Azerbaijan (a local retailer), as well as from the company in a natural form through access to digital applications. At the same time, we received donations from Meta (Facebook) and began cooperation with Coca-Cola.

Information and Communication

The new website is successfully in operation. The user-friendly design of the new website, combined functions, allows users to navigate quickly and easily. The steps to make a donation from payment terminals have been shared on social media and Youtube channels, turning them into videos. The purpose of the instructional video is to simplify the donation process for users.

Social Media policy was written, communication policy revised and supplemented. Instructions on communication and media were prepared and sent to volunteers and employees. In addition, the permission paper intended for communication was reviewed and rewritten.

Trainings were organized for volunteers of 5 branches (Fuzuli, Barda, Aghdam, Tovuz, Tartar). The aim of the exercises was to help volunteers and staff in the branches and Head Office share information in detail, understand social media policies, and develop communication skills.

A number of measures have been taken to standardize and tidy up social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn). This includes sharing quality posts, selecting and sharing quality image and video content, writing sentences in a more readable, clear and fluent form, creating a profile logo vector, designing a cover image, etc. included. Standardization of social media accounts for local departments, design of standard profiles and cover photos for social media channels of their departments were developed. Currently, the Facebook page of 30 local branches has already been standardized. Efficiency is provided on the official website. In 2023, more than 260 articles were shared in both Azerbaijani and English. The design and content structure of the online newspaper was developed. Actively at the end of each month, the online newspaper is sent as an email to employees. Since this 2023, posts on Twitter are shared only in English, targeting the main English-speaking audience. On our other social media networks, since 2023, all posts have been published in both Azerbaijani and English . At the same time this year, our TikTok channel was created.



260 article



404000 people
cover



944000 people
cover



270000 people
cover



22000 people
cover

Community Engagement and Accountability

In 2023, the activities carried out in the field of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) were carried out in four directions:

- Creation of a central feedback mechanism for AzRCS
- Identification of Communities and their needs
- Creation of CEA legal framework for AzRCS
- Identification of CEA opportunities in Regional Centers and appointment of CEA responsible persons

During the year, AzRCS actively cooperated with both domestic departments and foreign partners such as WHO and the EU to institutionalize CEA. The CEA representative of AzRCS participated in the WHO seminar on the development of an action plan to encourage communities to be vaccinated in Azerbaijan.

The decision on cooperation of CEA and MHPSS activities was adopted at AzRCS. In the evaluation that will be carried out to determine the needs of the community based on the decision, in the collection of data, the MHPSS will assist in activities that pass names from its direction to the CEA.

Throughout the year, AzRCS cooperated with local branches and collected the necessary information from the CEA perspective. As the first step in collecting relevant information, an internal survey was conducted in Ismayilli, Sumgait and Baku Regional Centers.

On August 21, two CEA related documents were approved by the AzRCS Board: CEA Policy and CEA guide





The initial version of the standard operations procedures (SOP) for the feedback mechanism has already been prepared and is expected to be finalized next year. AzRCS CEA specialist participated in the seven-day “CEA Enhancement” training in Kakheti, Georgia.

The training covered key topics such as integrating CEA into the processes carried out during emergencies, as well as establishing feedback and complaint systems, and communication on behavior change.

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS) took certain steps in connection with the central feedback mechanism to better understand the needs of communities. Since May 2023, proceedings are still underway with the support of the International Federation's Capacity Building Fund (CBF) and the Dutch Red Cross. Initially, the mechanism is planned to be tested in three regional centers. If successful, a central feedback mechanism is planned that covers all units.

The process began with training sessions. 17 volunteers from three regional centers took part in it. The training consisted of three sessions. The introduction to the principles of CEA, the establishment and management of the feedback mechanism, the importance of institutionalization were discussed at the first session. The second session covered topics such as data collection and Kobo toolbox, the third session covered topics such as effective communication, empathy and active listening skills, non-verbal communication, connection and trust building.

In August this year, AzRCS presented the CEA Assessment Report, which will guide the creation of a **central feedback mechanism** in accordance with the information needs of community members.

The evaluation reports were highlighted in the official CEA new Bulletin of the International Federation and published on the Community Engagement Hub, hosted by the British Red Cross.

In order to adapt to the broad contexts envisaged, the Dutch Red Cross team works closely with regional employees of the International Federation, AzRCS employees and volunteers.

Following a series of online sessions, the delegation of the Dutch Red Cross and the South Caucasus cluster of the International Federation visited the Red Crescent Society to meet local needs and held discussions with representatives of the National Society.

Discussions with the participation of the main team working on the feedback mechanism of the National Society, as well as colleagues from a number of departments who shared their experiences, needs and expectations regarding the mechanism, continued with the identification of desired solutions.

At the end of each workshop, requirements and concepts were developed that reflected problems and solutions, as well as dimensions for monitoring the development of the mechanism in each country. Work to implement the identified solutions began in October, and at the moment the process continues

Azərbaycan Qızıl
Aypara Cəmiyyəti
İyul-Avqust 2023



QIYMƏTLƏNDİRMƏ

HESABATI

İcmlərin Cəlb Olunması və
Cavabdehlik (ICOC)



 redcrescent.org.az

 info@redcrescent.org.az

On December 13-15, 2023, within the framework of the project “bridging the gap between the needs of the community in Azerbaijan and the potential of local and civil society organizations”, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a training “orientation on humanitarian action” was held for 12 Civil Society Organizations. The CEA representative, who made a presentation on Community Engagement and Accountability, shared the experiences with the participants.

Logistics

The goal of logistics in the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society is to ensure the efficient management of the flow of goods, services and information for the organization's humanitarian operations. Logistics plays an important role in supporting the National Society's mission to respond to emergencies and build community resilience.

During the reporting period, the renovation of the AzRCS warehouse in the Lokbatan settlement was completed, and the area of the covered warehouse was increased by 300 square meters. In early 2021, 600 square meters of the warehouse were renovated by the Turkish Red Crescent Society. Additional warehouse improvements carried out during the reporting period included preventing water leaks on the roof, repairing damaged floors and walls, installing an additional LED lighting system, installing a second exit door, painting walls, waterproofing the roof, connecting to the water distribution system (including pipes and taps), replacing windows, and purchasing a ladder. Additional improvements to the warehouse are aimed at optimizing the ability to store humanitarian cargo in Baku.

The logistics consultant successfully coordinated about 10 tenders involving various departments of the National Society. The initial version of the procurement procedures was developed and finalized in 2023 as a comprehensive reference guide for future procurement activities.

The CIPS training took place in December 2022–March 2023, and the IMPACT training took place in Moscow in August. Participating in these trainings, the employees of the Logistics department gained knowledge and skills in developing a procurement mechanism, contract management, proper handling of suppliers, understanding basic humanitarian principles and rules, and their application in the National Society.

Other achievements:

1. Development of Procurement Policy and procedures;
2. Successful completion of server room renovation at AzRCS headquarters;
3. Beginning implementation of the 1C program;
4. Announcing a tender for a new financial services provider for Cash and Voucher projects in 2023;
5. Signing an agreement to extend the partnership with the current financial services provider, "Azarpocht," for another two years.

Information Management

Developing Community Engagement and Accountability Assessment:

Identification of questions to be used in the survey with the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) Officer, development of methodology, and survey design: The survey was prepared in English and Azerbaijani and consisted of 5 parts or about 50 questions.

All questions were collected in Kobo to perform mobile data collection using the Kobo Toolbox.

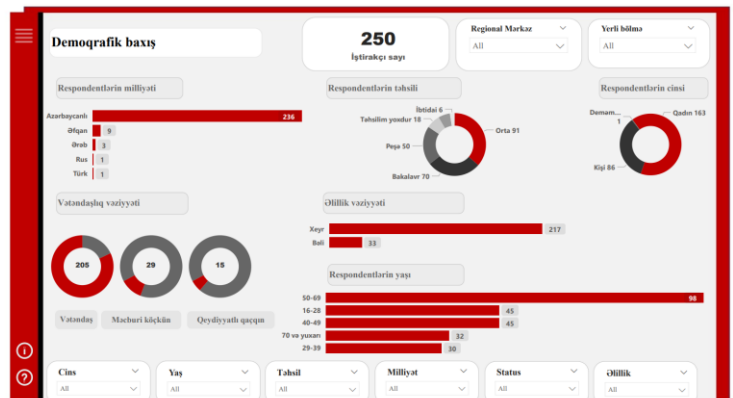
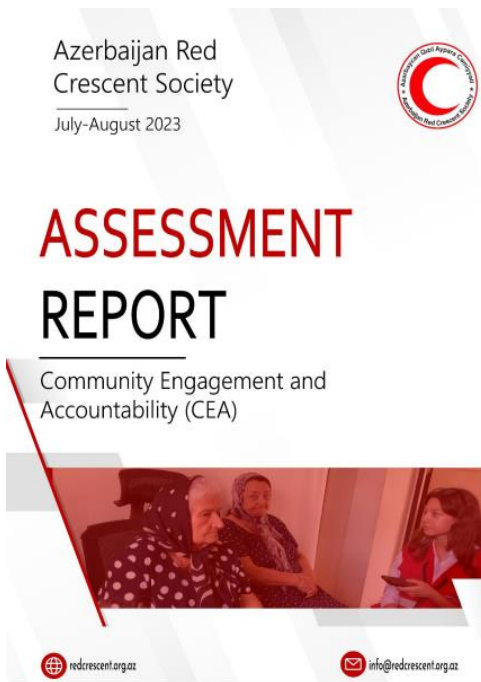
Volunteers who would conduct the survey were trained. 17 volunteers from 3 regions (Baku, Sumgayit, and Ismayilli) took part in the training. During the training, data collection, mobile data collection methods, and rules for using Kobo Toolbox during mobile data collection were explained to the volunteers.

For a more accurate assessment, focus group discussions were held in 3 regions (Baku, Sumgayit, and Ismayilli). During the focus group discussions, data on pre-prepared questions were collected. A total of 4 focus group discussions were held. Data from discussions with 62 participants were used in the assessment.

Data collected from 250 survey respondents and focus group discussions were analyzed and visualized using Power BI software.

The visualization consisted of six parts: Demographic overview, General information about AzRCS, Information needs, Communication channels, Community structure and social cohesion, Participation and feedback, and responsive feedback. The dashboard was analyzed.

The assessment report in Azeri and English was prepared and submitted to the CEA Officer for dissemination.



Information Technology

Electrical problems:

Electrical problems were one of the main problems of network continuity of AzRCS. To solve this problem, initially all cables in the server room were updated and power sockets were replaced in parallel, and server equipment was installed in the 6kv Tower UPS system to protect against voltage changes that will occur.

General repair of the Server room:

The storage conditions of the equipment have been updated to extend the operating time of the Server equipment. This includes the repair of the floor, ceiling and windows in the server room, in addition, a suitable cooling system is installed to improve storage conditions.

Integration with Microsoft Outlook:

Microsoft Outlook e-Mail in Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society “Redcrescent.org.az” the domain has been implemented and key departments and regions of the National Society have been integrated under the domain. This e-mail address further speeds up the communication of users and fully ensures the security of the information sent. At the same time, it eliminates the need to switch between other extraneous programs and increases work efficiency. Currently, within the framework of certain projects, trainings on Microsoft Outlook and Teams are held in e-mail integrated departments. Our last training was held in Nizami local branch of AzRCS.

AzRCS website update and database:

The website of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society has been updated in accordance with the requirements of the period. At the same time, database hosting was registered.

Development of Internet traffic:

New generation AP(Access Point) devices have been installed in the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society covering all rooms, these devices are intended to fully transmit incoming internet speed and stabilize internet traffic in the same way.

Ensuring network security:

Cyber security measures have been taken in the server room at the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, the installation topology has changed, which reduces internet traffic, and it has been re-installed to make it more accurate and faster in traffic, and network security has also been restored in this area.

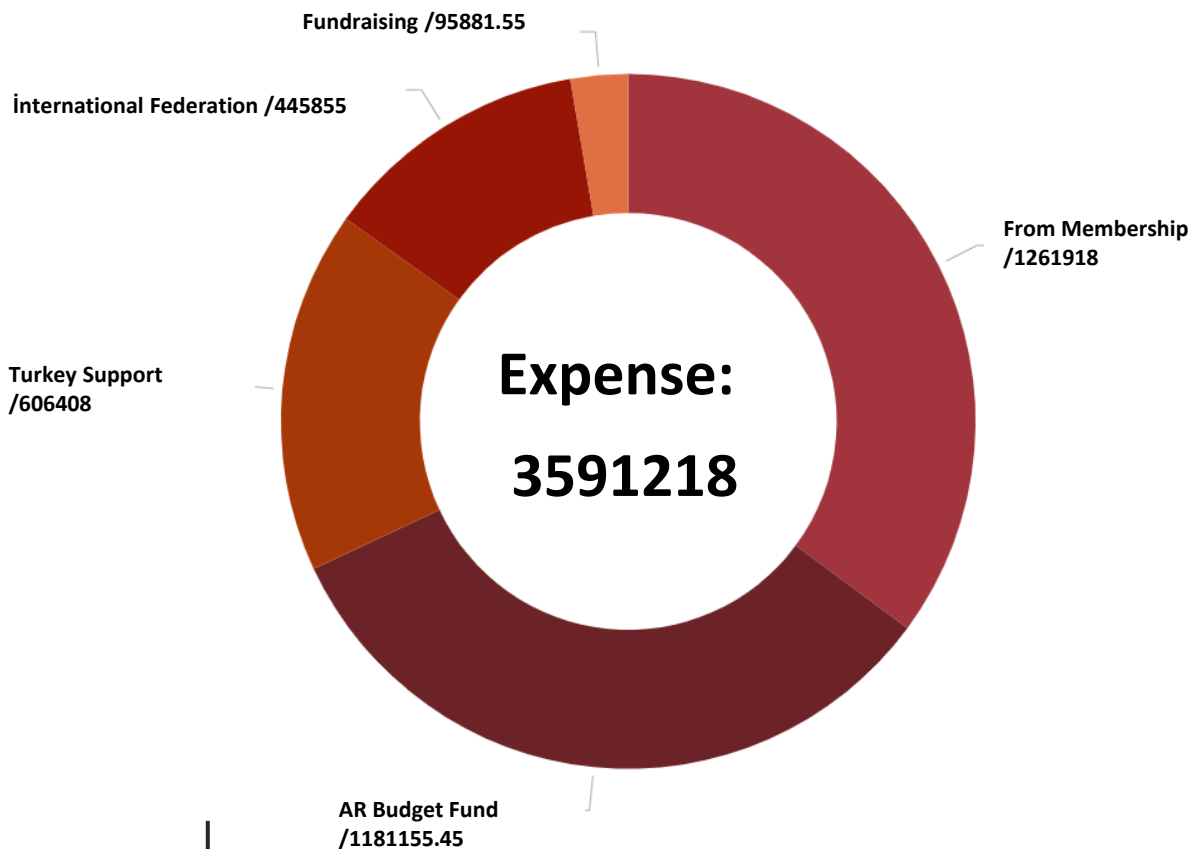
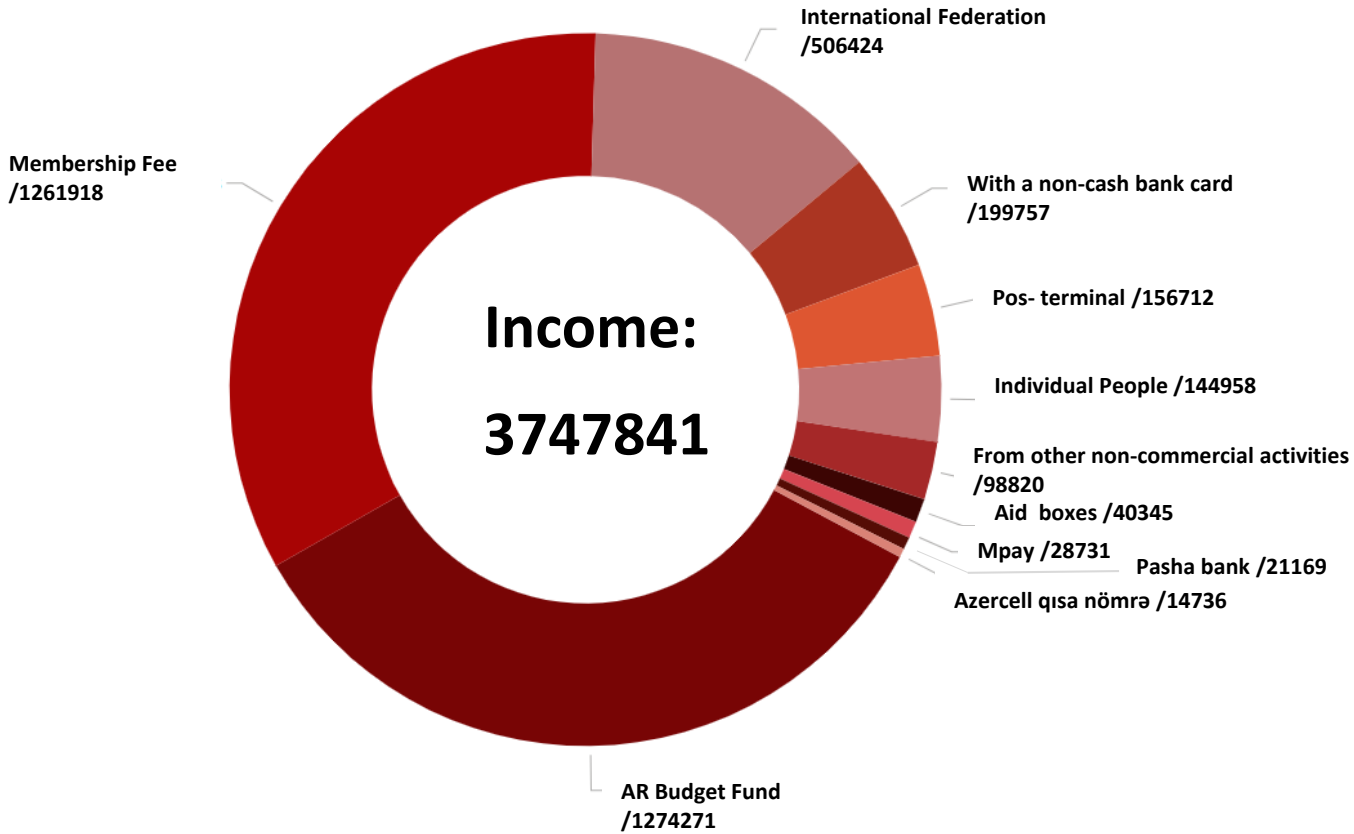
Increasing Internet speed:

The internet speed in the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society has been adapted to the requirements of the time when calculating the internet speed of 10-15 Mbsn in the past months, this figure has now been raised to 90-100 Mbsn, which, first of all, leads to an acceleration of information transfer and an increase in work efficiency. At the same time, the funds paid for the internet have become 3 times cheaper under the newly concluded agreement

Daily IT support:

In the reporting year, all departments of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society were provided with technical support and all technical problems of the employees were fully resolved. Throughout the year, all equipment is kept under constant supervision, and the problems that have arisen are quickly eliminated.

Finance









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