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South Sudan: In some of the remotest areas in the country, such as Jonglei, violence has forced entire communities to abandon their homes and belongings. To help them, the ICRC has distributed fishing tackle, seed and other vital aid to 37,000 people, while its water engineers have improved access to clean water. Read more in an operational update to be issued by mid-April.

Central African Republic: Since fighting erupted in Bangui on 23-24 March, ICRC staff have

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been hard at work attempting to meet the most urgent needs, for example by helping to restore the water supply and by delivering fuel to hospitals. Updates are being regularly posted on www.icrc.org

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Somalia: After two decades of conflict, tens of thousands of Somalis have been separated from their families. The ICRC in Somalia helps reunite these families in partnership with the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), and other Red Cross and Red Crescent societies around the world. For more detailed information, read the feature and the interview and watch the video clip

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MIDDLE EAST

Syria: The displacement of millions of people across Syria has resulted in complete dependency on humanitarian assistance in some parts of the country. Read the latest pdate

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and view

photos

that show just a few examples of the conflict's heavy toll on civilians. An update about our activities in favour of Syrian refugees in Lebanon will be issued by mid-April. Follow us on www.icrc.org

and on twitter @icrc for regular updates on the humanitarian situation and the latest developments in the country.

Yemen: In Bateis, southern Yemen, the small health centre is a place where patients can find hope as well as a cure. Read more on http://www.icrc.org/eng/where-we-work/middle-east/yemen/index.jsp. Also in Yemen, a cattle-vaccination programme on which thousands of people rely is coming to an end. A news

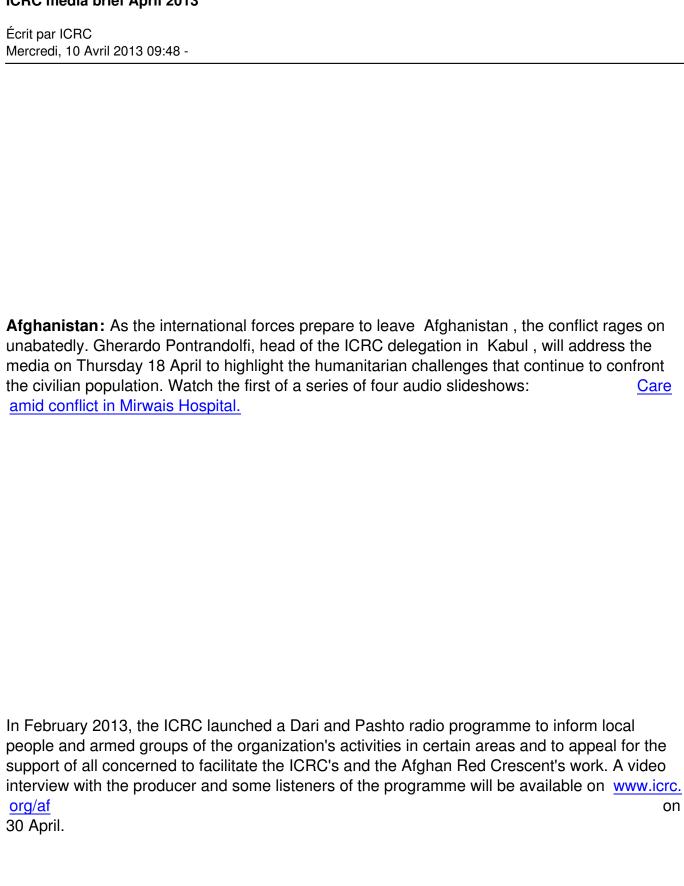
release and a photo gallery will be issued later this month.



Iraq: Access to clean water remains challenging in rural areas. The two thousand inhabitants of Abu Aissa, a village near Najaf, grow grapes and other fruits, but are abandoning agriculture because of lack of water and shortages caused by poor maintenance of water supply systems. Read the story on http://www.icrc.org/eng/where-we-work/middle-east/iraq/index.jsp.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Myanmar: Violence that erupted on 20 March in Meikhtila, in the centre of the country, has driven some 10,000 people from their homes. Scores more have been killed or injured. Read more about what the Myanmar Red Cross and the ICRC are doing to help people hit by inter-communal violence on http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/update/2 013/myanmar-inter-communal-violence-meikhtila.htm

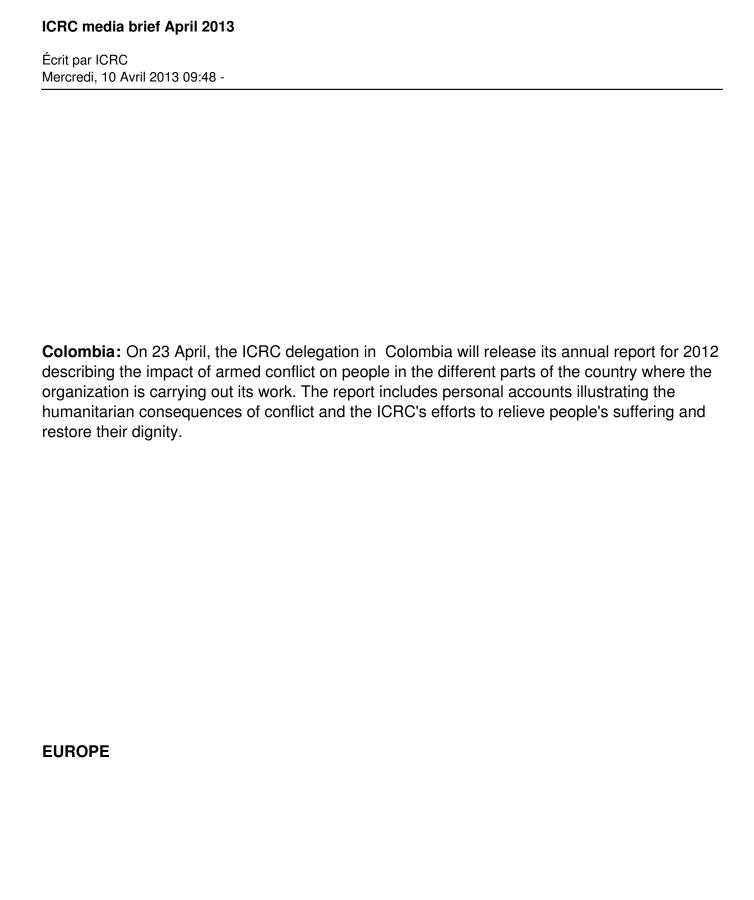




Bangladesh: In an interview to be published on www.icrc.org, the ICRC's head of delegation describes how the Bangladesh Red Crescent and the ICRC are responding to the needs of communities affected by political violence in the southern districts of Noakhali and Chittagong.

Nepal: Representatives of 10 countries will participate in an eight-day course on international humanitarian law in Kathmandu jointly organized by the ICRC and the Kathmandu School of Law from 5 to 12 April. The course is expected to bring together approximately 50 participants, mostly government officials from member States of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and from Iran and Myanmar . A news release will be published on 5 April.

LATIN AMERICA



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Missing persons from the Balkan war: The fifth edition of the book of "Missing persons" will be released and distributed in Pristina during a public session of the working group on missing persons in Kosovo at the end of April. In addition, a round table will be organized with representatives of civil society.

OTHER TOPICS

Chemical Weapons: The ICRC is taking part in the Third Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention, which is being held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April. Watch the video interview of the ICRC's vice-president, Christine Beerli

. Her statement to the conference will be available on 10 April. Read also the ICRC's position on this issue and an

interview with Neil Davison

, an ICRC expert on chemical weapons. Information will be available throughout the duration of the conference on Twitter and Facebook.

