



Croce Rossa.
Persone in prima persona.



2011

Annual Report

Abstract

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Croce Rossa Italiana

The Italian Red Cross 2011 Annual Report is a mirror of all the activities undertaken by the most widespread humanitarian association worldwide.

This edition highlights all the operations carried out by the Italian Red Cross, during 2011 in particular engaged and committed to respond to the humanitarian emergency involving thousands of people on the run as a consequence of the North African riots.

Professional staff and volunteers were deployed to Lampedusa and Mineo (Sicily), as well as to other reception centres all over Italy, to provide psychological and health care support, legal and humanitarian assistance to the sheltered migrants.

In aggregate, 4.034 persons (301 women, 3581 men, 152 minors) were housed in Mineo, in 404 housing units, 4.800 meals and 250 health services were provided per day; 1.860 volunteers and 46 employees – of which 10 are medical directors – were deployed in Mineo. In all, 4.918 Italian Red Cross volunteers and employees acted to handle the migrant emergency.

“Lampedusa island has become an icon of the great work our men and women did, but all over Italy the Italian Red Cross has spread its values, principles and help in all situation, without making any distinctions”, said Francesco Rocca, Italian Red Cross Special Commissioner. Besides, he underlined the hard work the Association did during 2011 for a comprehensive administrative recovery plan, reaching the important goal of balancing the budget.

2011 witnessed also a serious drought and famine in the Horn of Africa, affecting thousands of people in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Kenya. In that occasion, the Italian Red Cross joined the Kenyan sister National Society for the relief operations in Turkana District.

In the meanwhile, it worked in the proximity of Tunisia’s border with Libya, in Ras Jadir transit camp, distributing water and hot meals to people fled from the civil war.

The 2011 Annual Report shows how the Italian Red Cross is widely diffused in our country, organized in 21 Regional Committees, 103 Provincial Committees, 457 Local Committees and a fleet made of more than 10 thousands intervention and relief vehicles. The Italian Red Cross can count on at least 139 thousand active members, as well as on an increase of young volunteers, 23 thousands ordinary members and at least 4 thousand employees. Among all activities, Committees are qualified for Water, Mountain and Special Vehicle Rescue, with the support of canine units in emergency.

Another element that the document highlights as relevant is the definition of six strategic goals consistent with the IFRC Strategy 2020: their achievement is based on volunteers, members and employees working together and it takes account of the analysis of needs and vulnerabilities the Italian Red Cross tries to meet in assisting people and communities, inspired by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement’s Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

Some activities are given a particular relevance because of their impact in the field, and they are introduced as study cases in this edition of the Annual Report, which draws also attention to some centers, relevant in their action in assistance to victims of violence.

The Annual Report 2011 enumerates all the Italian Red Cross activities in favour of the most vulnerable in society, undertaken by 145 thousand highly motivated volunteers all over Italy: 93 Committees have been committed to providing 378.527 indigents food supplies, throughout 2011; volunteers do their best to ease and comfort suffering people through clowning, as well as the special techniques rescuers and all the volunteers do, taking care of the homeless, serving on the ambulance or diffusing the International Humanitarian Law.