



WASH IN EMERGENCIES

31 JANUARY 2023



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ICRC: WHO WE ARE



The ICRC is an impartial, neutral and independent international organization whose exclusive humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance.

Presence in over 80 countries globally with over 18,000 staff.

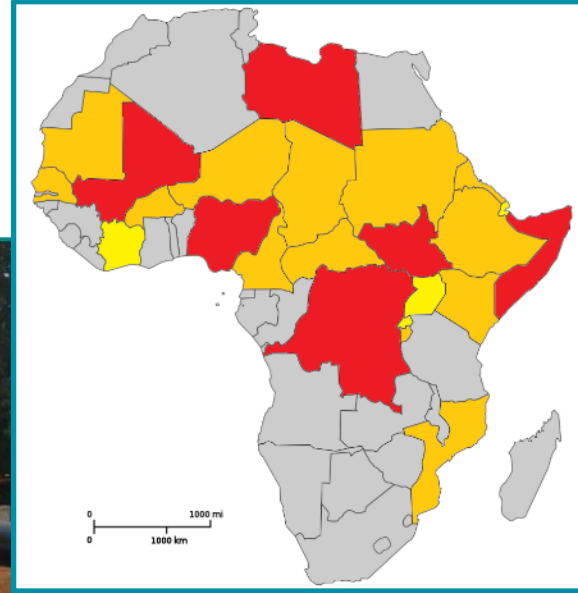


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ICRC: WHAT WE DO...WATHAB

Working within the ICRC's mandate, the Water and Habitat Unit takes a collaborative, systemic and sustainable approach, grounded in public health engineering, to mitigating the impact of armed conflicts and other violence on civilians and ensuring that those affected enjoy essential services and dignified living conditions.

- Emergencies
- Displacement of populations
- Health and other infrastructures
- Detention facilities
- Water supply systems
 - Rural areas
 - Urban systems

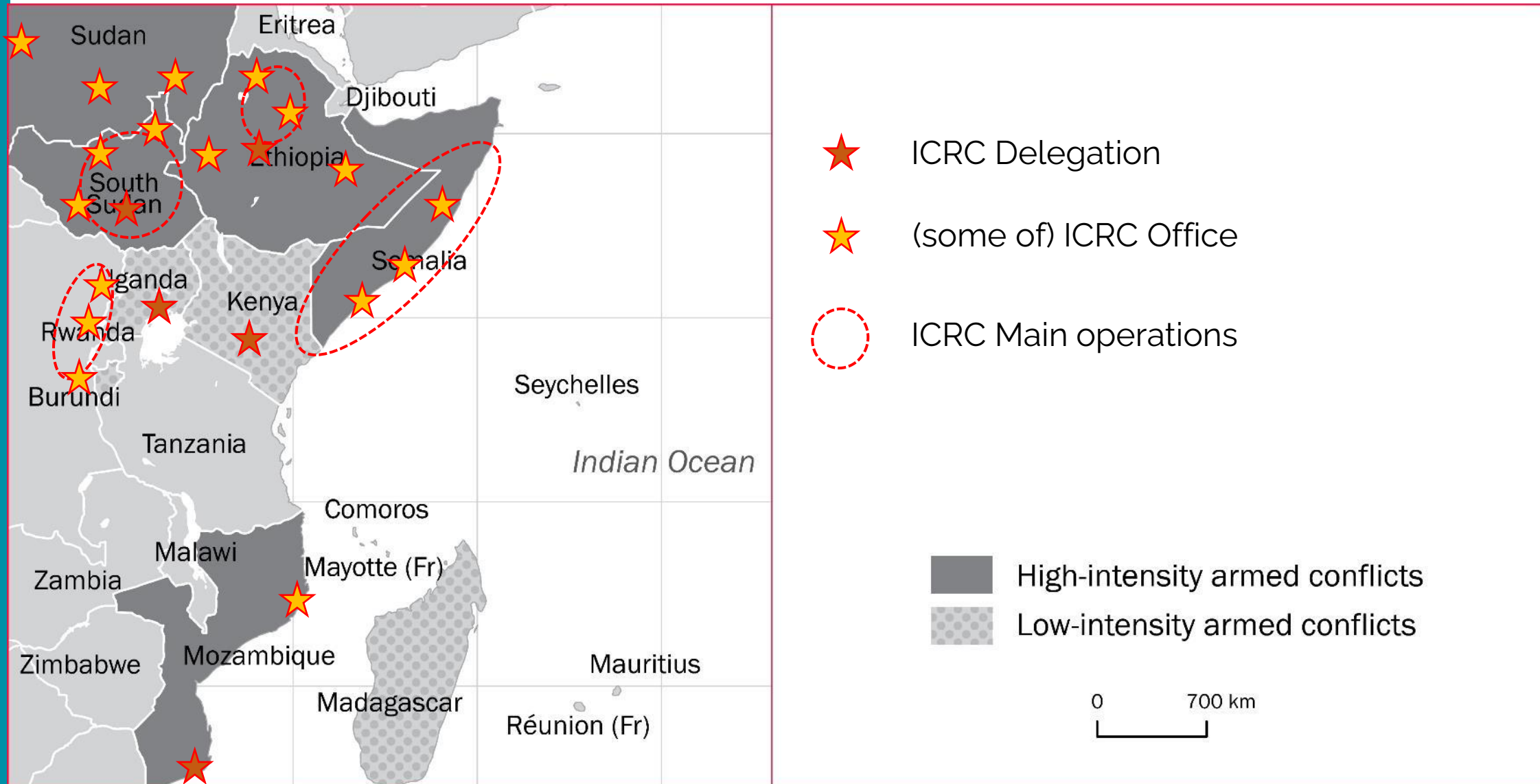


Wathab activities in
Africa
(major in red)



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ICRC: WHERE WE WORK... EAST AFRICA



EFFECTS OF CONFLICT

➤ On systems

- Direct damages (voluntary or not)
- Indirect effects
 - lack of maintenance, capacity to increase, aging factors)

➤ On population

- Displacements
 - New settlements, increase urban population,...
- Health
 - Wounded, disease spread, pressure on systems
- Economic crisis (loss of livelihoods)



Well at least we can handle these rocks.

Kendra Allenby / CartoonCollections.com



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COMBINATION OF FACTORS

1. Pressure on water resources

- Climate change
- Demographics
- Competing uses (agriculture, livestock, people)

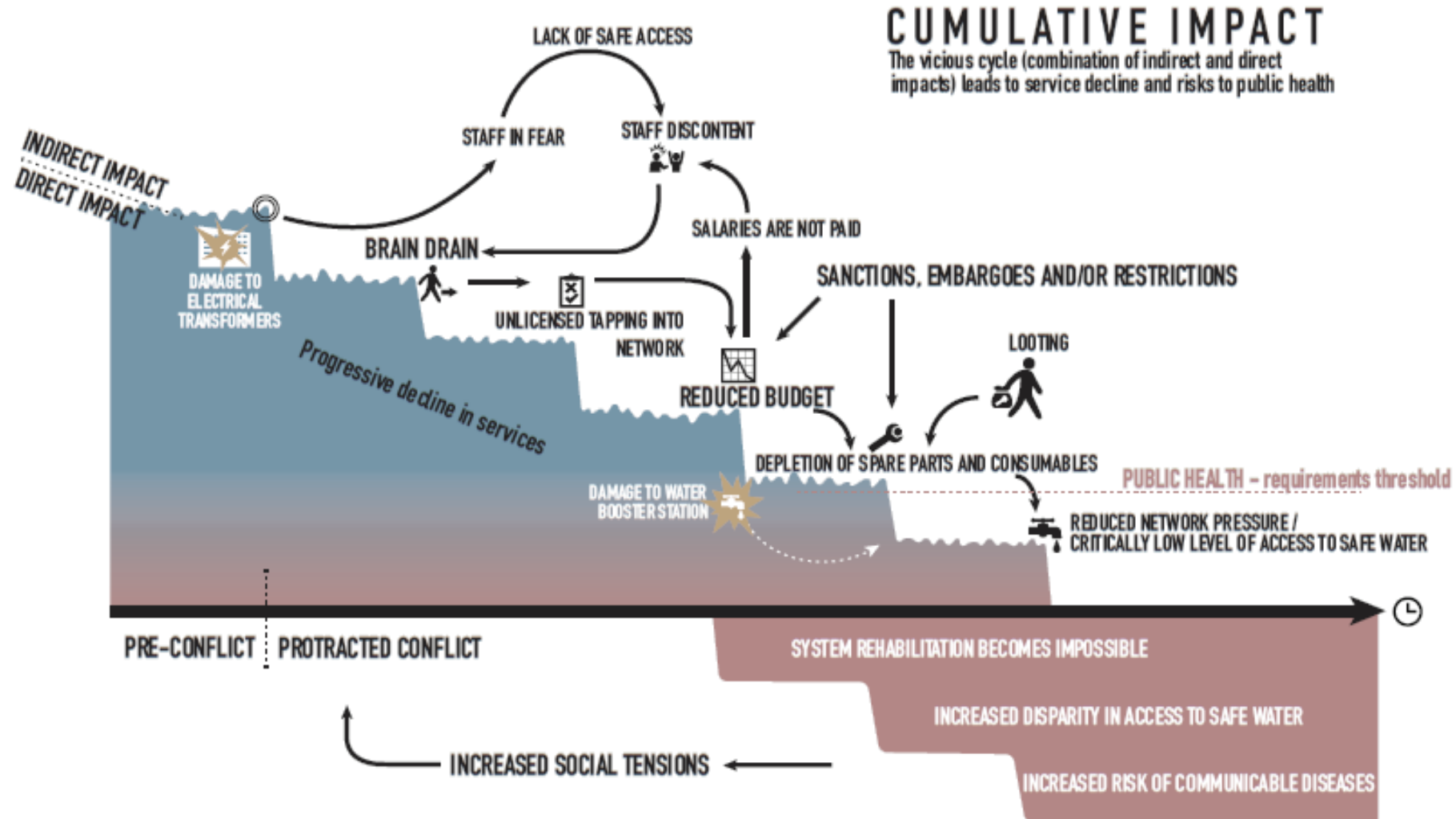
2. Reduced institutional capacity

- Brain drain
- Access
- Reduced financing
- Embargoes



CONFLICT AND SERVICES

A VICIOUS CIRCLE



OPERATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

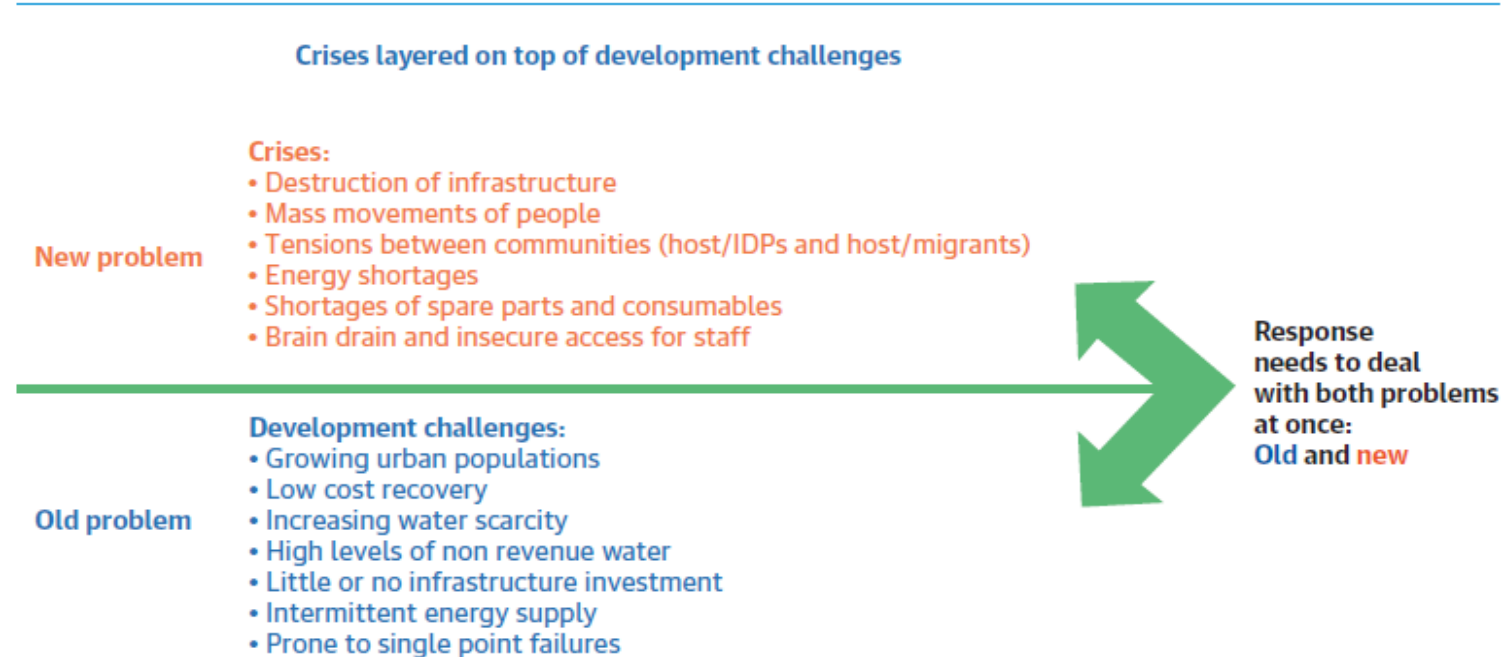
Respond to **emergencies** but:

- Preparedness & contingency
- Broad analysis
- Intertwined problematics
- Immediate relief with long term improvements

Develop **partnerships**

- Red Cross Movement
- Governments
- Development agencies
- Financing institutions
- Communities
- Other Humanitarian actors
- Private sector

FIGURE 1.1. Humanitarian-Development Partnerships Need to Address Problems Old and New



Joining Forces to Combat Protracted Crises



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EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS (1)

In Ethiopia

- Emergencies (water trucking, supplies, facilities repair)
- Rural water supply (handpumps, solar systems,
- Urban water supply (masterplans, extensions, upgrade of systems)



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EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS (2)

In Eastern DRC, North Kivu

- Emergencies (displaced populations)
- Rural communities (gravity schemes, rehabilitations)
- Urban water supply (masterplans, improvement of water supply efficiency, development of water supply)



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FOR MORE INFO ABOUT WATER & HABITAT

- www.icrc.org
- “[Water and War: ICRC Response](#)”, This publication looks at key water and sanitation issues in conflict-affected countries where the ICRC works. It analyses challenges from the point of view of operational practice, which has developed and become more professional as the years have gone by.
- [Joining Forces to Combat Protracted Crises](#) . Jointly produced (World bank, ICRC and UNICEF) This report highlights the pernicious problems that are typically experienced by water supply and sanitation (WSS) service providers operating in protracted crises.
- [ICRC WATER AND HABITAT: MAKING CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION MEASURES PART OF OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE](#). This provides some examples of projects in different countries.
- “[When Rain turns to Dust](#)”, which was published by the ICRC in 2020 on how countries mired in conflict are disproportionately impacted by climate variability and extremes. It is based on research conducted in southern Iraq, northern Mali and the Central African Republic.



THANK YOU



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