



# ALBANIAN RED CROSS

## OUR MISSION

*By consolidating and strengthening humanitarian action, ARC is committed to act proactively and timely engaging vulnerable communities in preventing and mitigating their suffering with dignity by building resilience and promoting humanitarian values.*



**“NATIONAL REACH, LOCAL CARE. PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE, TOGETHER STRONGER.”**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- The oldest humanitarian organization in Albania was founded one hundred years ago on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October in 1921. In 1923, while only 37 Red Cross Societies existed, Albanian Red Cross was officially recognized by the International Committee of Red Cross and since then we are the member of the International Federation (at the time the League) of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
- With a commendable activity before and after the World War II, the Albanian Red Cross created its own profile as a modern National Red Cross Society thanks to a regular exchange with the most developed Red Cross Societies of that time.
- During the communist regime, with an arbitrary decision of 1969, finally suspended it also officially, so that the Albanian Red Cross ceased to exist for more than 20 years.
- At the beginning of the 90s, Albanian Red Cross resumes its activity building up a complete legal basis as well as an organisational structure, which has constantly been consolidated. Our National Society was recognized by the Albanian Parliament as an independent volunteer humanitarian organization



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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

• The Albanian Red Cross counts 39 branches across the country with its HQ in Tirana. We have reached a good level of development, becoming the biggest humanitarian society in the country. Thanks to our volunteers, Albanian Red Cross is always present where humanitarian aid is needed in the Albanian society, standing next to ordinary people, the beneficiary families or the several communities affected by natural disasters, who see in our organization their hope for relief from distress.

The basic documents that Albanian Red Cross relies on to plan and implement its projects and activities are:

**STRATEGY OF ARC**

**ORGANIZATION'S STATUTE**

**POLICIES OF ARC**

**LAW No. 7864, dated 29.9.1994 ON THE ALBANIAN RED CROSS**

**LAW No. 7865, dated 29.9.1994 ON THE PROTECTION OF THE EMBLEM AND NAME OF THE RED CROSS**

**INTERNAL REGULATIONS**

**7 SEVEN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPAL OF THE RED CROSS MOVEMENT**



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## **WHAT WE DO**

- **DISASTER PREPARATION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM AND FIRST AID**

Disaster Preparedness Response and First Aid Programme is a core programme of the Albanian Red Cross. ARC is part of the civil emergency management system in Albania and plays an important auxiliary role during and after disasters and crises saving lives, reducing suffering and building resilience of the communities through provision of various services and support mechanisms.

- **SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAM**

Social Welfare Program contributes to improve the situation of most vulnerable people by providing access to social services that are lacking such as vocational education training, access to health services, social integration activities, etc. Through all services and activities provided we promote the fundamental human rights strengthening and preserving the autonomy of vulnerable groups



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## **WHAT WE DO**

- **HEALTH PROGRAM & BLOOD DONATION**

Health program contributes in the reduction of the vulnerability of individuals and communities through awareness activities on health issues and concerns such as maternal and child health, reproductive health, personal and community hygiene, the prevention of infectious diseases and non-communicable diseases, as well as about epidemic and pandemic outbreaks. Health programme contributes in building an inclusive culture of voluntary blood donation and advocates for safe blood and that meets huge needs for blood donation in the country.

- **THE PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The program is focused on the psychological well-being and mental health of vulnerable individuals, groups and communities. This program contributes to promoting and achieving better mental health so that people can function better in society. Addressing psychological needs has become a vital component of humanitarian aid. The need for this approach is based on the fact that people are more vulnerable to physical and psychological problems not only during emergencies but also in everyday life.

- **YOUTH AND HUMANITARIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The objective of the programme is to promote amongst young volunteers the humanitarian values, the Fundamental principles of the Movement, the role of leadership and above all it works to build a culture of voluntarism through trainings, activities and sharing of experiences.



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## **ALBANIAN RED CROSS AND VOLUNTEERS.**

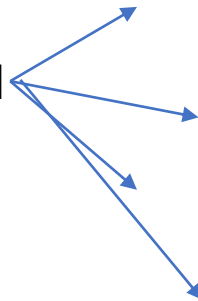
**Volunteering service has been a part of our network since we were founded over 100 years ago.**

- **To this day, voluntary service—helping others without desire for personal gain—remains one of our Fundamental Principles, **Voluntarism**, guiding everything we do.**

Albanian Red Cross recruits around **2500 volunteers** of different ages, professions and gender.

### **WHICH ARE THE WAYS TO RECRUIT THE VOLUNTEERS**

- Through peer to peer
- Through the field activities that ARC organized
- Through collaboration with high schools
- Through social networks
- Through word of mouth



**National Competition of humanitarian values**

**National Competition of First Aid**

**Drawing Exhibition “Children and Red Cross**

**Local disasters**

**Activities for the celebrated days of ARC**



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### ***WHY PEOPLE ENJOY BEING VOLUNTEERS TO ARC?***

- To become part of a worldwide Humanitarian Movement and a universal humanitarian mission.
- To realize their natural aspirations for important causes such as solidarity and humanity.
- To contribute with the skills and knowledge for changing the lives of people in need and for a better future.
- To have contact with different people and to be part of a social environment where they can enjoy the company of others and share their life experiences.
- To increase their capacities or/and develop their communication skills through meetings, trainings and training courses that the Albanian Red Cross offers.
- To ensure a better future through the trainings and work experience.
- Being a volunteer, have the possibility to find a job.



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## **WHAT DO ALBANIAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS HAVE IN COMMON**

- **THEY ARE MOTIVATED BY HELPING OTHERS**

Our volunteers do lots of different activities but are united by the same goal: to serve humanity. Often people join their local Red Cross society as a temporary volunteer in the wake of a disaster. Many enjoy volunteering so much they stay on—sometimes for many decades.

- **THEY ARE LOCAL**

Our biggest strength as a humanitarian network is that our volunteers come from the very communities they serve. This means they have firsthand knowledge of, and are trusted by, their communities.

- **THEY ARE DIVERSE**

You don't need to be a superhero or have lots of qualifications to volunteer. You just need the motivation and time to spare. Our volunteers are incredibly diverse and of all ages and backgrounds. We believe we are stronger in this diversity and we welcome anyone and everyone to join us.

- **THEY ARE VOLUNTEER PART-TIME**

Our volunteers are teachers, parents, students, nurses, bankers, construction workers, artists—you name it! They each find time in their personal lives to commit to volunteering, with National Societies offering a variety of roles to suit all skills and schedules.

- **THEY RECEIVE TRAINING AND MOTIVATION**

All our volunteers receive introductory training to help them understand our network and their specific roles. The active volunteers participate in many activities in and abroad the country that helps them to raise the capacities for the life.





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**ALBANIAN RED CROSS – VOLUNTEER INITIATIVES - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT- CAPACITY BUILDING.**

WE have demonstrated our capacity in the organisation of humanitarian aid operations during crisis and disasters that have occurred in our country helping a critical number of affected people. We are active in providing social and health assistance to communities in need contributing to reducing vulnerability. We are also engaged in conveying the concerns and interests of vulnerable people to the decision-making authorities.

We have been developing our National Society, increasing its presence within the country. To ensure we are as close to the communities as possible we have been building and expanding our network of volunteers, increasing the level of transparency, strengthening the accountability, as well as working constantly on extending our sustainable partnerships. We collaborate with partners to increase the effectiveness of our service delivery. Our combined collaborative efforts have a positive impact in the lives of vulnerable people. We are aimed to expand our collaboration and attract more attention to the humanitarian and development needs in our country



# Albania: Earthquake - Albanian Red Cross response



## Distribution activities

**44816 99**

People assisted      unit of Typ...

### Impacts:

**51**

people confirmed dead

**913**

people Injured

**32,000**

people lost their home

**202,000**

people affected

### Cash distributions

**1100**

Cash Cheque distributed / 6 months

### Food distributions

**2599**

Drinks (Hot or C...

**3848**

Dry food portions

**7329**

Hot Meals

**6524**

Food packages

### Shelter NFI

**1052**

Clothing items

**1944**

Kitchen sets ...

**636**

Tents

**32892**

Blankets

### Hygiene NFI

**7548**

Total ARC hygien...

**2000**

Female Hygiene K...

**606**

Diaper packages ...

**500**

Children Hygiene ...

### RFL, PSS, First Aid

**20**

Families reached with ...

**2794**

People reached with P...

**64**

People reached with FA

**27 000**

People reached with Health/ PSS awareness activities.

**167**

Trained volunteers

### DRR

**20 000**

Direct DRR beneficiaries

**100 000**

Indirect DRR beneficiaries:

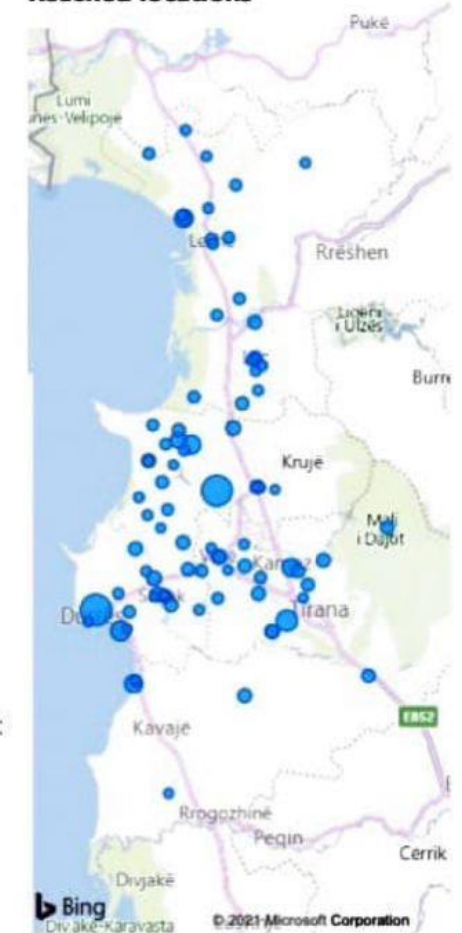
**15000 pcs**

Printed DRR promotion materials:

**145**

Trained staff /volunteers and teachers/students

## Reached locations



Green=active, Blue=planned, Red= closed  
Size of dot is number of people reached

Date last updated: 28/02/2021

Data from Albanian Red Cross



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- ✓ Albanian Red Cross volunteers number is increased
  - ✓ Albanian Red Cross trained volunteers have increased  
*(they were trained for First Aid, Disaster preparedness and response and Psycho-Social Support)*
  - ✓ The number of ARC volunteers who became more active has increased.
- ✓ Young people from the affected community joined as volunteers and were involved in humanitarian activities.
  - ✓ The image of ARC is increased in community.
  - ✓ The ARC volunteers were involved in fundraising campaigns for various emergencies.
- ✓ The collaboration between volunteers and beneficiaries are strong
  - ✓ The Principles of Movement have been applied during the humanitarian activities of ARC.