



**Unscheduled flight.** In the course of 1992 the number of people displaced by the conflict in Rwanda shot up from 90,000 to 350,000. Isolated fighting terrified local villagers into fleeing their homes, and they still don't dare go back. This tiny country is just a bit more than half the size of Switzerland and twice as densely populated as Luxembourg, with seven million inhabitants. As a result civilians often get caught in the crossfire between government troops and the FPR opposition.

## UNSETTLED

In February 1993 a new spate of attacks signalled the start of all-out war in the north of the country, where even the displaced people get in the way of brutal assaults, obliging them to move on again and again. In the meantime they can't tend their crops, so they have nothing to eat as well as having nowhere to stay. The ICRC tries to protect them by reminding the warring parties of their obligations to spare civilians from the violence and by simply being there as a potential

witness to any breach of the Geneva Conventions. The ICRC also works closely with the Rwandan Red Cross to bring regular food supplies to these people.