



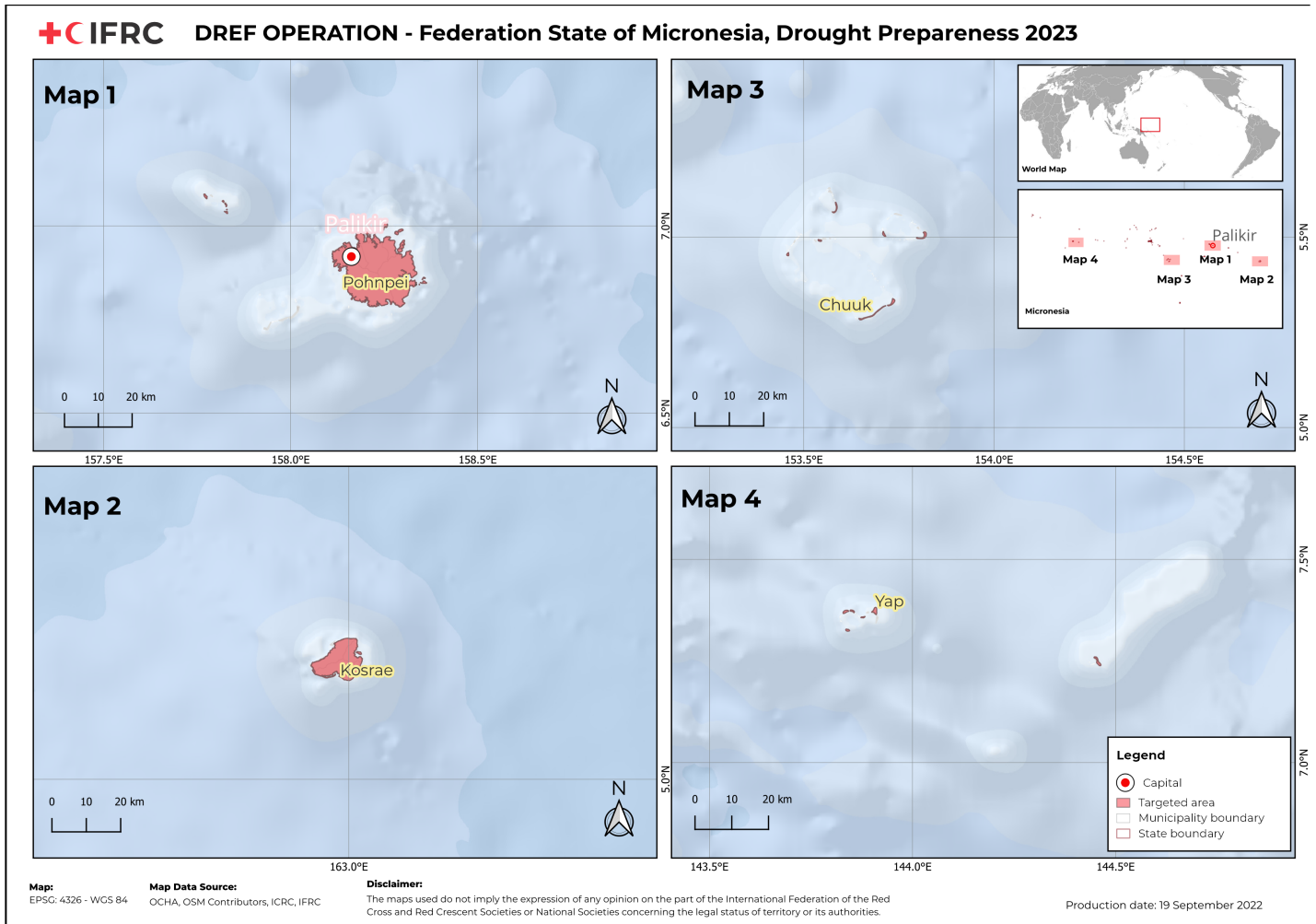
Micronesia Red Cross volunteers visiting remote communities across Pohnpei. (Photo: MRCS)

Appeal: <b>MDRFM002</b>	Country: <b>Micronesia, Federated States of</b>	Hazard: <b>Drought</b>	Type of DREF <b>Imminent</b>
Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Event Onset: <b>Slow</b>	DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 150,021</b>	
Glide Number: <b>DR-2023-000130-FSM</b>	People at risk: <b>6,619 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>6,619 people</b>	
Operation Start Date: <b>2023-09-21</b>	Operation Timeframe: <b>4 months</b>	Operation End Date: <b>2024-01-31</b>	DREF Published: <b>2023-09-22</b>
Targeted Areas:	<b>Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap</b>		

# Description of the Event

## Approximate date of impact

The drying trend intensifies through October and November, reaching its peak in January of the year following an El Niño event. During this period, rainfall in the western Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) can be as much as 50-60 per cent below the average from January through April. Based on these predictions, it is anticipated that FSM will face severe drought conditions in the first quarter of 2024, especially if El Niño is officially declared by the end of September 2023.



Map of targeted areas of response (Source: IFRC IM)

## What is expected to happen?

El Niño, characterized by elevated sea-surface temperatures in the Equatorial Pacific Ocean, is evolving and foreshadows potential consequences for the North Pacific Islands. The expected rise in ocean temperatures is likely to disrupt natural weather patterns, inhibiting cloud formation and reducing regional rainfall. This hotter climate triggers increased evaporation, leading to a significant decline in available water resources. It is essential to note that many North Pacific Islands heavily rely on rainfall to meet daily water needs. Any deviation in rainfall patterns could potentially lead to a severe water crisis, exacerbated by the islands' remote locations and logistical challenges, including high transportation costs.

The severity of dry conditions is closely tied to El Niño's intensity. Historically, very strong El Niño events have



resulted in prolonged dry spells, with rainfall returning to normal levels around September in the post-El Niño year and dryness persisting until June of the following year. Adding complexity, there is a proven correlation between the frequency of tropical cyclones and El Niño, with significantly more cyclones during El Niño years. This not only increases vulnerability but also underscores the urgency for decisive action plans.

The Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) is currently gathering data to assess the impact of this slow-onset disaster. However, the urgency to mobilize resources and stocks to meet future needs is evident. The trigger for requesting a Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) is the potential severity of the situation, including escalated drought and cyclone risks, the islands' vulnerability, and logistical challenges. Therefore, prompt readiness actions are crucial, focusing on resource mobilization and strategic planning to alleviate expected hardships. Once the country officially acknowledges the drought situation, upgrading the imminent IFRC-DREF to a full-response IFRC-DREF will be imperative to safeguard communities and ensure sustainability in these challenging times. Once MRCS receives more data to confirm the impact of this slow-onset disaster, it will start to mobilise resources and stocks to cater for future emerging needs. To fully respond to the effects of this drought, this will be confirmed once the effects are visible, and the country is declared in a drought situation where this imminent IFRC-DREF will then be upgraded to a full response IFRC-DREF.

El Niño is anticipated to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter (with greater than 95 per cent chance through December 2023 -February 2024). (Source: EL NIÑO/Southern Oscillation (Enso) Diagnostic Discussion issued by Climate Prediction Center/Ncep/Nws, 10 August 2023). Logistically it's challenging in Nov/Dec to mobilise hence the activities as much as possible to be setup up and implemented as quickly as possible and subsequently, in the worst case of transport challenges, dissemination will continue via local volunteers and within communities. The declaration of drought in the country will act as the second trigger to scale up the operation to the response pillar.

## **Why your National Society is acting now and what criteria is used to launch this operation.**

The primary sources of freshwater in most FSM states are underground, surface water, and rainwater. The average rainfall in FSM is 4,928 mm per year. Surface water accounts for 60 per cent of water resources and groundwater accounts for 40 per cent. The small, low-lying islands in each state are fully dependent on rainwater and shallow wells. The adverse impacts of climate change, especially rising salt content with rising sea levels, increased flooding, and droughts are threatening the availability and quality of fresh water in FSM.

Recent El Niño events occurred in 2015-16 and 2018-19. The El Niño in 2015-16 was very strong which resulted in the worst drought in the history of the North Pacific affecting Palau, FSM, and the Marshall Islands. The El Niño was much weaker in 2018-2019 however most of Micronesia i.e., Yap state, Palau, and Mariana Islands experienced extensive drought in the early months of 2020. In the past El Niño years, FSM suffered from drought conditions during the winter and spring months. Because they are further west, Yap and western Chuuk tend to be affected earlier and more harshly. In an El Niño year, the winds are weaker than normal (or absent). Warm ocean water from Micronesia surges into the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. This leads to a falling sea level and a greater chance of drought in Micronesia.

The situation is still evolving with over 95 per cent of the possibility of occurrence of El Niño. This has placed North Pacific on El Niño alert triggering the need for early actions and preparedness for drought. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a transition from ENSO-neutral to El Niño has taken place during May-July 2023. According to the International Research Institute (IRI) of Columbia Climate School, as of mid-Aug 2023, the previously moderate El Niño conditions in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific have strengthened further. Key oceanic and atmospheric variables are consistent with El Niño, though the atmosphere is not yet fully coupled to the warm sea surface temperature anomalies in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. A CPC El Niño advisory remains in place for August 2023. Almost all of the models in the IRI ENSO prediction plume forecast an El Niño event during boreal autumn continuing into winter and early spring of 2024 while weakening during the end of the forecast and ENSO-neutral become the most likely category (Apr-Jun 2024 with 59 per cent chance).



Whilst water is still available, the national society can prepare communities and its volunteers between September and December 2023 to face potential drought conditions that may occur. For example, promotion of the storage of rainwater, conservation of water resources, and avoiding wastage are several actions that need to be taken early, whilst some of the islands are still receiving rainfall and before dry patches emerge in Micronesia (refer to Figure 1). The sourcing and prepositioning of materials may require a considerable amount of time given the procurement and logistics challenges in the North Pacific.

If the national society volunteers are equipped and trained in advance, they will be able to reach out to vulnerable communities, make them aware of the imminent drought risk, take measures to minimize the impact, and also get ready for actions such as the purification of the brackish water if the drought risk becomes reality.

## Scope and Scale

MRCS will focus on preparing and mobilising volunteers in all four states for early actions related to drought impact, and work with the communities on the main islands of the four following states along with communities in two Islands in each state that have the risk of drought. The scope of the operation includes the following:

- i) Identification of target communities.
- ii) Defining drought risks in target communities through an assessment and support of communities to prioritize and implement the actions to address identified risks.
- iii) Procurement and prepositioning of stocks for distribution.
- iv) Expand access to safe water sources and/or strengthen and improve the existing community water sources.
- v) Spread awareness and increase knowledge of communities on causes and preventive measures regarding waterborne diseases, household water treatment, safe storage and good hygiene practices to minimize the risk of spread of diseases during the drought.

## Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	<b>No</b>
Did it affect the same population groups?	<b>No</b>
Did the National Society respond?	<b>No</b>
Did the National Society request funding from DREF for that event(s)?	<b>No</b>
If yes, please specify which operations	-

## Current National Society Actions

MRCS is represented at the national disaster management committee and state disaster management committees being auxiliary to the government. This provides National Society with a unique opportunity to work closely with the government and supplement the government's efforts. To play its role in the FSM, MRCS needs to establish drought readiness through preparedness activities that can also help to roll out any drought relief operation in the



<p><b>Coordination</b></p>	<p>coming months.</p> <p>The MRCS as part of the overall operations in the Federated States of Micronesia will utilize these existing coordination platforms with both National, State, and local Governments. Besides the Joint Risk Management which acts as a coordination platform among humanitarian actors, MRCS works closely with Govt, and the MRCS Executive Director (ED) is part of the national disaster committee.</p>
<p><b>Activation Of Contingency Plans</b></p>	<p>MRCS has no contingency plan for drought in place yet. This will be a preparedness component that should be developed following the drought operation.</p>
<p><b>National Society Readiness</b></p>	<p>MRCS has three chapters and a national headquarter (NHQ) office that is strategically located in the country. MRCS has strengthened its auxiliary role and is well embedded in the National and State Disaster operations plans and operations. Among the 800 registered volunteers, 150 volunteers are active in 2022 in all chapters, supported by 8 full-time staff that are implementing activities at the community level.</p> <p>Furthermore, MRCS has three prepositioned containers in Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap. MRCS has prepositioned relief/household items as part of its readiness to respond that can cover about 100 households. However, following the COVID-19 operation, the hygiene parcel item is currently at a low level of stock.</p>

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>IFRC North Pacific sub-delegation is closely monitoring the evolving El Nino event and its impact on the North Pacific countries in coordination with the National Societies. Likewise, the IFRC County Coordination Delegation (CCD) for the Suva office for the Pacific, Suva with its technical leads assist the drought monitoring and response as necessary.</p>
<p><b>Participating National Societies</b></p>	<p>No Participating National Society presence in the country</p>

## ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC does not have a presence in the north pacific.

## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<p><b>Government has requested international assistance</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>National authorities</b></p>	<p>The Government is monitoring the development of drought alongside other partners, such as MRCS and UN agencies. Regular updates are issued by the Meteorological Office.</p>



**UN or other actors**

A coordination platform has been established between MRCS / IFRC and the UN agencies, Embassies, USAID, and other key stakeholders in the country. The Joint Risk Management which was recently hosted by the MRCS is activated and used to coordinate the collective actions in the coming months. So far there are no further actions taken from other actors.

**Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?**

There are coordination mechanisms that have been established through the disaster management framework by the FSM government. In addition, the joint Risk Management group is another platform where the UN agencies, international organizations, donor agencies, and Red Cross are represented is served as a major coordination platform.



# Anticipated Needs



## Migration

Local populations mainly depend on rainwater harvesting and groundwater for freshwater, but these sources become limited during droughts, potentially leading to waterborne diseases and other severe community hardships. Such crises sometimes force individuals to migrate in search of essential resources, primarily clean water.

The activities are thus vital in these vulnerable regions, aiming to build community resilience against the impacts of water scarcity through secure water supplies and facilitating communication between authorities, stakeholders, and residents. By fostering collaboration and offering essential resources and information, these efforts work to prevent forced migration, protecting community well-being and cultural heritage.

Furthermore, In the Federated States of Micronesia, acute water scarcity, often exacerbated by climate change, directly influences migration. The direct causal factors include deteriorating health conditions due to waterborne diseases, impaired livelihoods especially in the agriculture and fishing sectors, and diminished quality of life with disrupted daily activities. Furthermore, the stress on food security, educational hindrances, and environmental degradation increase the urgency to migrate. Government policies and the lack of robust disaster management frameworks can also hasten the decision to seek better opportunities and living conditions elsewhere. In many instances, the local population relies heavily on rainwater harvesting and groundwater as their primary sources of freshwater. However, during periods of water scarcity, the limited availability of these water sources can have profound consequences. Notably, the shortage of water resources can trigger a range of issues, including the outbreak of waterborne diseases and severe hardships for the community.

These challenges often force people to make difficult choices, including migrating from their island homes to larger mainland areas or even seeking refuge in other countries. The migration is driven by the urgent need for access to essential resources, particularly clean water.

An active approach to drought preparedness becomes crucial in such vulnerable areas. Drought preparedness initiatives aim to mitigate the impacts of water scarcity by fostering resilience within communities. These initiatives not only involve measures to secure water supply but also facilitate the establishment of communication channels between local authorities, stakeholders, and the affected population.

By promoting collaboration and providing access to critical information and resources, drought preparedness efforts empower the community to better cope with water scarcity. Ultimately, these initiatives can play a pivotal role in preventing forced migration, preserving the cultural identity of island communities, and improving their overall quality of life.



## Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

The vulnerabilities of the small Island communities in Micronesia are high due to climate change effects and inaccessibility to services via sea.. The rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and drought pose high risks to these communities. Drought preparedness should be based on the analysis of the drought risks in the given communities through participatory approaches and the MIRCS will ensure that this is done in a incorporated approach to maximize the efforts into these high risks islands.





## Community Engagement And Accountability

The preparedness activities should be designed to address the needs of the communities and the National Society. There is a need to establish a two-way communication system with the communities so that suggestions, feedback, and complaints can be received and addressed in an efficient manner. The communication system should also help to share information with the communities and individuals. Even though these systems will help communicate the risks and needs on the ground, the MIRCS is looking into verifying these details through a thorough needs detailed assessment.



## Health

In the past, droughts were followed by the outbreak of food and water-borne, vector-borne, and skin diseases. It is important that people are aware of the causes and the preventive measures of such diseases. Such knowledge is usually limited to the communities. Once the communities are aware, the risk of food and water-borne, vector-borne, and skin diseases can be minimised, and the outbreak can be controlled.

It will also be important to consider the access of communities to health facilities. As in normal times as well, in many cases due to the logistical challenges (the proximity to health care, the availability of transportation, etc.), access to the health facilities is difficult. In such a scenario, community awareness and preventive measures can help reduce suffering and can save lives.

On logistics barriers - Understanding that remote and isolated communities face significant challenges in accessing healthcare facilities due to geographical barriers. By adopting a community-based transportation scheme, communities can be empowered to prevent disease outbreaks effectively and navigate the logistical challenges that often hinder access to essential health facilities. It is vital to approach this with a collaborative, community-centric perspective, which leverages local knowledge while introducing proven strategies for disease prevention and healthcare access



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Safe drinking water is anticipated to be the most important need of vulnerable communities during drought. One of the ways to get safe drinking water is to purify the brackish water when fresh drinking water sources are not accessible. The communities also need information, education, and communication materials (IEC) on issues such as saving/rationing water, prioritising water use, and preparing the household for drought conditions. These can include specific messages for female-headed households, pregnant/lactating women, and other vulnerable groups. Building knowledge in preparation for the imminent drought is key so that the impact on their life and livelihoods is minimal.

In the past, the drought and the cholera outbreaks happened in the FSM at the same time. Poor hygiene practices due to water shortages lead to the outbreak of waterborne diseases. The education on good hygiene practices household water treatment, and safe storage is important in preventing the spread of waterborne diseases. This will be synchronized with key messages and approaches for community health awareness.

Securing access to safe drinking water is a key priority for vulnerable communities grappling with the perilous conditions of drought. It is not just a necessity; it is indeed an urgent imperative that governs the well-being of



every individual in these communities.

Given the severe limitation on freshwater sources, one viable lifesaving strategy involves purifying brackish water, a process that transforms a previously untapped resource into a vital supply of safe drinking water. This method does not just offer a solution; it brings forth a beacon of hope, safeguarding health and nourishing life in the face of adversity.

The focus is an education campaign, leveraging Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to instill vital knowledge on water conservation, judicious utilization, and meticulous preparation for drought conditions. These materials are not mere guides; they are crucial blueprints for survival, offering tailored guidance for female-headed households, pregnant and lactating women, and other groups experiencing heightened vulnerability. This initiative stands as a bulwark against the crushing wave of drought, priming communities to mitigate the adverse impacts effectively and sustain their life and livelihoods with minimized disruption.

Recalling the tragic confluence of drought and cholera outbreaks in FSM's history, it is essential, to foster stringent hygiene practices even amidst water shortages, to halt the onset of waterborne diseases ruthlessly. NS envisages a comprehensive strategy, wherein household water treatment and safe storage are not optional but mandatory components in every home, synchronized perfectly with community health awareness campaigns that disseminate pivotal messages with unyielding clarity and conviction. The key focus is the future resilience against the effects of drought, a future where every community member stands empowered with knowledge and tools to not just survive but thrive.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Everyone in the community needs equal access to information, skills, and resources. Women, men, children, senior citizens, and people with disabilities have different needs though they are in the same drought situations. The preparedness actions need to be designed in a way that the Red Cross reaches individuals with special needs so that they can benefit from the drought preparedness activities.

National Society will collect the gender and age-wise disaggregated data to the extent possible during the assessments as well as while implementing activities. This will ensure that the data is available for designing the activities to address the needs of people with special needs.

# Operational Strategy

## Overall objective of the operation

This IFRC-DREF allocation aims to support 1,325 households (6,619 people) in 15 of the most vulnerable communities across four states in the Federation State of Micronesia, which are potentially affected by an imminent drought expected to peak in the first quarter of 2024. The objective is to prepare the target communities and ultimately reduce the risk of the imminent drought by ensuring prepositioned stock, including access to safe drinking water, providing hygiene and health awareness efforts, conducting assessments and pre-crisis analyses, and implementing a community drought readiness plan. These readiness activities are planned for four months.



## Operation strategy rationale

The implementation of the imminent IFRC-DREF activities will be carried out in the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia: Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae. The vulnerable communities will be identified through the assessments and a mechanism to monitor the evolving situation will be set up through the volunteers' network. The communities and the stakeholders will engage at all the levels for the coordinated implementation of the readiness activities. This will also lead to the sharing of knowledge amongst the stakeholders and will build a team that can work hand-in-hand when the drought risk realizes.

The operation will be implemented in four months. As the interventions involve islands communities, travel to the islands is usually affected by the availability of transport, transport costs, and weather conditions. Proper advance planning will be done to ensure the systematic implementation of the activities in the nearby and outer Islands. The identification of these islands will be done carefully considering the capacities to reach out to these Islands to implement activities by considering transport availability and costs, and their vulnerability to the drought.

The institutions like schools in the communities will be targeted to ensure that schools prepare for the imminent drought so that they mitigate the impact of the drought on their operations. Furthermore, communities will be engaged for involved in sketching their drought response plans and implementing the same through their collective actions to mitigate possible impact of drought.

Community mobilization will be an important component of this operation through the deployment of the MRCS volunteers. The required technical resource for the operation will be drawn from the Regional Disaster Response Teams or the surge pool, especially for the water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion as well as for the operations management at the north pacific regional level.

The MRCS volunteers' workforce secures the unique position for the National Society in the country where communities and various stakeholders look at it to be a driving force to implement the response operations on the ground. Good linkages within the humanitarian sphere and acceptance of the National Society by the government agencies and stakeholders makes MRCS a critical player in such situations and prompts MRCS to take lead and set examples for others to follow. This imminent IFRC-DREF operation will help MRCS to get ready to play its auxiliary role in the country for the drought response.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who will be targeted through this operation?

MRCS will apply a three-pronged approach. The first prong will concentrate on vulnerable communities, preparing them to face potential drought. Households and schools on the target islands will receive awareness messages, knowledge, and skills that can help people understand and implement measures to mitigate the impact of drought. Local knowledge and pre-analysis of the vulnerability in communities will inform the implementation of readiness measures.

The second prong will focus on training Red Cross volunteers to conduct awareness campaigns in the communities. Volunteers will receive training in water quality testing and the operation and maintenance of water purification units. These training sessions will prepare volunteers for deployment in case the communities face water scarcity in the coming months. Technical resources, such as surge personnel, will be deployed to support these operations.

The third prong will emphasize coordination among stakeholders to prevent duplication and enhance the effectiveness of their efforts, ensuring that no one is left behind. Platforms like Joint Risk Management (JRM) will be utilized for this purpose.

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population



Following are the selection criteria used for the targeted population:

- i) Communities on the main islands in the target four states and the nearby/outer islands were identified using the secondary data; and community, and stakeholder consultation.
- ii) Communities that can be accessed using the available means to meet the objectives. The practicalities of traveling to the Islands will be considered by MRCS.
- iii) Communities with limited resources and that are at a high risk of getting affected by the drought.
- iv) Red Cross volunteers from the State chapters will be trained on hygiene promotion, waterborne diseases control, and the nature-based solutions for community water conservation.

## Total Targeted Population

Women:	<b>1,802</b>	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	<b>1,474</b>	<b>32.00 %</b>	<b>68.00 %</b>
Men:	<b>1,839</b>	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	<b>1,504</b>	%	
Total targeted population:	<b>6,619</b>		

## Risk and security considerations

**Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions**

Risk	Mitigation action
Rough sea conditions in the month of November and December make the travel to the nearby and outer islands challenging.	The advance planning of activities can help in minimising the travel to outer Islands in November and December.
High operations costs are due to the remoteness of communities/Islands and the high fuel prices, that can limit the quality and longevity of the interventions.	The activities will be planned considering the resources available through the DREF funding and the resources available with the other stakeholders such as the government agencies.
The operation involves travel of staff and volunteers in Lagoon and ocean. There is a high risk of boats getting drifted or capsized due to the engine failure or adverse weather conditions.	The volunteers and staff will be provided with the safety equipment such as life jackets.
The local community leaders and the governments do not support the Red Cross actions.	Community engagement and accountability mechanisms will be set up to ensure community participation in designing the activities. The government agencies and the stakeholders will be coordinated at different levels to have a common understanding and agreement.

**Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation**

The MRCS and IFRC have zero tolerance towards discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, and religion, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and bullying. The staff and volunteers involved in the operation will be oriented on the code of conduct and will be required to sign the same. MRCS will also execute a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis to ensure that it mitigates any potential unintentional risks that may occur during the implementation of this



## IFRC-DREF.


The volunteers will be provided with the necessary tools and equipment such as rubber boots and hand sanitisers to minimise the risks while working in the field. The volunteers will be encouraged to go through the online Stay Safe course on the e-learning platform.


Regular monitoring visits of MRCS senior management and the IFRC to the field will facilitate the early identification of the risks and addressing the same through collective efforts.

For personnel under IFRC security`s responsibility, including surge support and integrated PNS, the IFRC security framework will be applicable if there is a need for deployment in the area.




# Planned Intervention


	<b>Protection, Gender And Inclusion</b>	<b>Budget</b>	-
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	6619
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	
# of Child Safeguarding risk assessment conducted		1	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct assessment through PGI lens, including identification of the vulnerable groups and individuals within identified communities and identifying community members with different needs and risks, including possible protection risks in emergency and access to planned assistance.</li> <li>2. Conduct Child Safeguarding risk assessment and related work plan.</li> <li>3. Collect Sex-Age-Disability Disaggregated data.</li> </ol> <p>Note: The budget for PGI activities is incorporated into other sectors.</p>	

	<b>Community Engagement And Accountability</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 4,742
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	6619
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	
# of communities aware about the MRCS hotline number and its purpose.		15	
% of the complaints, feedback and suggestions received by MRCS are addressed within two weeks.		80	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish hotline service of MRCS to receive the communication from the communities.</li> <li>2. Establish protocols to manage sensitive and non-sensitive complaints from the communities.</li> <li>3. Establish community engagement and accountability mechanism in the target communities.</li> <li>4. Use FM radio and mass messaging to make people aware about the imminent drought and the measures to be taken to mitigate the risks.</li> </ol>	




	<b>Secretariat Services</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 20,610
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	
# of monitoring missions conducted to support the operation		1	
# of surge personnel deployed to provide technical support to the operation		2	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regular monitoring visits by the Head of the North Pacific Sub office.</li> <li>2. Deployment of surge technical support (WASH and PMER profiles).</li> <li>3. International procurement support by IFRC CCD Suva and APRO LPSCM.</li> </ol>	

	<b>National Society Strengthening</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 46,584
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	50
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	
# of volunteers insured		50	
# of monitoring visits conducted		2	
# of lessons learned workshop conducted		1	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Refresher on assessment tools for volunteers.</li> <li>2. Risk assessment of targeted communities to further understand the current and potential impact of the drought</li> <li>3. Lessons learnt workshop involving the stakeholders that will be conducted online.</li> <li>4. Monitoring visits by MRCS</li> </ol>	

	<b>Health</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 16,359
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	6619
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	
# of people reached through health education awareness		6619	
		50	

# of volunteers trained on food and waterborne, vector-borne, and skin disease causes and preventive measures	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Priority Actions:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design and print the IEC materials on the food and water-borne, vector-borne, and skin disease causes and preventive measures.</li> <li>2. Training of the Red Cross volunteers on food and waterborne, vector-borne, and skin disease causes and preventive measures.</li> <li>3. Awareness campaigns in the target communities on the food and water-borne, vector-borne, and skin diseases causes and preventive actions including psychosocial first aid.</li> </ol> <p>Notes: In focusing on raising awareness and reminding communities of disease prevention measures, the National Society will host regular workshops and seminars to educate communities on disease prevention measures and hygiene best practices. Utilizing local knowledge and integrating it with modern preventive methods for a community-centric approach. Furthermore, organizing awareness campaigns using various media, including radio, television, and social media platforms, to reach a broader audience. Distributing informative pamphlets and brochures with visual aids to convey the necessary information easily. Incorporating these activities into school curriculums to educate children from a young age. Possibly encouraging school projects and assignments focused on creating community awareness.</p>

	<b>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 61,726
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	6619
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>		
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	6619		
# of households reached with effective water treatment materials and promotion in the response period	1325		
# of schools and communities that have developed drought preparedness and response plan.	10		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design and print IEC materials on good hygiene practices reducing water waste and household water use, treatment, and storage.</li> <li>2. Training of volunteers on hygiene promotion.</li> <li>3. Training of volunteers on household water treatment and storage and access to water sources.</li> <li>4. Expand community access to safe water sources and/or improve existing community water sources (rainwater harvesting</li> </ol>		



**Priority Actions:**

- system, etc.).
5. Procurement of water storage containers for storage and transport, rainwater harvesting system installation and maintenance.
  6. Procurement of chlorine tablets and other chemicals required for water purification.
  7. Develop drought mitigation plans with targeted schools and communities. Schools and communities will be implementing and mobilizing the plan throughout the duration before the peak to mitigate the drought impacts.
  8. Implementation of the readiness actions in the target communities, including schools (e.g., awareness on water harvesting, water and water source conservation, water purification, storage, and treatment.).
  9. Post distribution monitoring (PDM) for the distribution of water purification tablets

## About Support Services

**How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.**

Over 50 volunteers who are trained for assessment, WASH and health promotion, five staff, and two surge personnel are planned to be involved in the operation.

**Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.**

Two surge personnel with profiles of WASH and PMER for a duration of 1 month to support the operation.

**If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?**

Having observed the local market, procurement of items will be internationally sourced and supported by the IFRC CCD Suva and APRO LPSCM. Having observed the local market, procurement of items will be internationally sourced and supported by the IFRC CCD Suva and APRO LPSCM. The procurement will follow the IFRC procurement framework and process.

**How will this operation be monitored?**

MRCS will train its volunteers on KOBO and collect data regularly to track the progress of the operation and imminent drought. The operation will be led and monitored by MRCS through its volunteers, staff, and senior management. A regular reporting mechanism will be put in place to ensure that the information generated at various levels is well documented and communicated with the key stakeholders to aid the decision-making process.

MRCS will include pre-crisis analysis and conduct community-based assessment. The findings of the assessment will be discussed and analysed during the Joint Risk Management which acts as a coordination platform for meetings and agree on collective actions among humanitarian actors.

IFRC North Pacific sub-delegation will support monitoring the operation and ensure the use of a monitoring tracker tool. Surge support for WASH and PMER profiles is being requested for one month to support in strengthening the technical side of the operation, as well as to monitor the operation.

A lessons learned workshop will be conducted by the end of the operation to document lessons learned, challenges and recommendations for future response. A final report for the operation will be issued within three months after the operation ends.

**Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.**



MRCS will visit communities and households through door-to-door campaigns to disseminate messages. A hotline will be set up to facilitate communication between MRCS and the beneficiaries. The national headquarters and chapters will work in close coordination through regular meetings and will also coordinate with the stakeholders at different levels.

The National Society has a communication officer who is responsible for drafting the key messages for social, print, and electronic media. The CCD also manages the national society's social media to communicate the various events and activities to the public. The IFRC North Pacific sub-delegation along with IFRC Pacific CCD and IFRC APRO will provide the necessary support to the MRCS for the photography, videography, and field visits based on needs.



# Budget Overview



## DREF OPERATION

### MDRFM002 - Micronesia Red Cross Society Drought preparedness 2023

#### Operating Budget

<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>82,827</b>
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	16,359
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	61,726
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	4,742
Environmental Sustainability	0
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>67,194</b>
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	20,610
National Society Strengthening	46,584
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>150,021</b>

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



# Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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