

IN SUPPORT OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RED CROSS SOCIETY



12

National Society branches



21

National Society staff



850

National Society volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



39

Disasters and crises



3,030

Health and wellbeing



786

Values, power and inclusion



67

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW




in Swiss francs (CHF)

Total	Funding requirements	2.5M
	Income	418,000
IFRC	Emergency Operations Funding requirements	154,000
	Longer-term Funding requirements	2.3M
	Income	1.1M
Participating National Societies	Funding requirements	100,000
	Income	44,000
Host National Society other funding sources	Income	225,000

[Click here for more IFRC financial information](#)

Appeal number **MAAPG003**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	39
	People reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response	Applicable data not available
	National Society is implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups	Yes
	National Society is developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks	Applicable data not available
Disasters and crises	People reached with shelter support	 3,000
	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 1,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	64
	People reached with livelihoods support	Applicable data not available
Health and wellbeing	People trained in first aid	 786
	People reached with immunization services	16
	People reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	14
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	1
	People reached with contextually appropriate health services	Applicable data not available
Values, power and inclusion	People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming	67
	People reached by National Society educational programmes	67
	Community Engagement and Accountability is integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
National Society Development	All volunteers are covered by health, accident and death compensation	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Domestic advocacy strategies are developed, aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Applicable data not available
	National Society is participating in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society has demonstrated progress in digital transformation according to the digital maturity model outlined in the IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy	Yes
	National Society has functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions	Applicable data not available
	National Society has strengthened integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	Yes
	PSEA Action Plan is in place to enforce prevention and support survivors	Applicable data not available
	PSEA policy is in place to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Multilateral Support	Bilateral Support				
		Climate	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing
National Society						
Australian Red Cross			●	●	●	
Netherlands Red Cross	●					
New Zealand Red Cross		●		●		

Planned
 Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has a population of approximately nine million, with more than 800 languages spoken among more than 1,000 ethnic clans. A large proportion of the population of Papua New Guinea, 87 per cent, lives in rural regions with little access to markets, services, and chances for employment. It is estimated that over 39 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line. Agriculture, fishing, forestry, artisanal, and small-scale mining are primary livelihood activities in rural areas, while the minerals and energy extraction sector account for most export earnings and GDP. The country's economy contracted by two per cent in 2021 because of the COVID-19 impact. A modest rebound in the economy is expected of 2.7 per cent in 2023, despite chronic political instability in Papua New Guinea, which has experienced social unrest in the aftermath of the July 2022 elections.

During the reporting period, Papua New Guinea was exposed to small to large natural, health and human-induced disasters ranging from floods in Central Province, to a volcanic eruption in Bougainville, earthquakes in East Sepik and ethnic and tribal fighting in Highlands and Port Moresby. COVID-19 has further worsened poverty and inequality, and pressure from surging inflation risks breeding further discontent and the next challenge is that Papua New Guinea is anticipating a drought due to El Nino.

Successive Papua New Guinea governments have been making continuous efforts to reduce the impact of these disasters. The Government Vision 2050 (2010-2050) and the Development Strategic Plan (2010 – 2030) outline steps to achieving its vision of becoming a prosperous middle-income country by 2030. Papua New Guinea's GDP currently sits well below the average for Pacific countries, classifying it as low income, with approximately 40 per cent of the population considered poor. The United Nations Human Development Index currently places PNG at 155 out of 189 countries, much lower than other Pacific Island countries. While Papua New Guinea has considerable natural resources, most of its population remains vulnerable. The development benefits in Port Moresby have not filtered down to the rural areas, where over 80 per cent of the population resides. However, political interest for humanitarian and development assistance has increased towards the Pacific including Papua New Guinea, and lately, Papua New Guinea has received many high-profile political visitors, including prime ministers from China, United States of America, India, Indonesia, Japan and France, which has led to cooperation agreements being signed.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society has been restructuring under its new Strategic Plan 2030 and has a new management since the middle of 2022. Several new staff have come on board and new departments have been established to enhance the National Society's response capacity, as well as to build a sustainable finance and resource mobilization system and to strengthen its auxiliary role. The DREF operation for Civil Unrest in the Highlands and other natural disasters, such as East Sepik earthquake and Bougainville volcanic eruption responses, have put the small number of Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff and volunteers under pressure.

The General Assembly was planned for June 2023 but this was postponed due to unexpected events and a heavy workload. Papua New Guinea Red Cross has several ongoing projects, namely Red Ready supported by USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BhA), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) supported by USAID BhA, the strengthening National Society, supported by Australian Red Cross and the Information Technology digitalization funded by IFRC and New Zealand Red Cross Capacity Building Fund.

In 2023, Netherlands Red Cross started supporting Papua New Guinea Red Cross through the Chronic Crises project for two years. Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff have also received IFRC online and face to face trainings on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), Psychological First Aid (PFA), Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA), Community engagement and accountability (CEA), Nature Based Solutions, Anticipatory Action Write shop and Capacity Risk Register and Analysis (CRRRA).

Key achievements

Climate change and environmental risks are being addressed gradually through climate change awareness talks, clean up sessions and nature-based activities (i.e., mangrove planting and coral reef restoration) at the Papua New Guinea Red Cross HQ and National Capital District (NCD) Branch. Papua New Guinea Red Cross enjoys a good level of cooperation with UNDP and local NGOs and with them, celebrated on the World Environmental Day and the World Ocean Day in June. Papua New Guinea Red Cross has a long-term partnership with Australian Red Cross and more

recently, with the Netherlands Red Cross through IFRC for climate change and environmental issues. New functions have been created at Papua New Guinea Red Cross for climate, the environment and Youth and Volunteer Development programmes, and two staff have been reassigned to address the strategic priorities and challenges in Papua New Guinea. A climate and environment officer has been trained on nature-based solutions and Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA).

Papua New Guinea is a disaster-prone country and in this reporting period, Papua New Guinea Red Cross has been responding to various disasters; East Sepik earthquake supported by Madang branch in April; and floods in Gabagaba in Central in June. The branches conducted the assessments and provided humanitarian assistance to the affected families. Distribution of relief items, such as hygiene kits, tarpaulins and kitchen utensils were implemented with National Capital District branch and East Sepik with Madang branches, with Papua New Guinea Red Cross being the only partner to respond to these small-scale disasters. The DREF operation for Civil Unrest in the Highlands continued until June. National Society volunteers were trained on the DREF operation, Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI), and the KOBO tool (<https://www.kobotoolbox.org/>) and households items distribution. Papua New Guinea Red Cross Mt Hagen branch with IFRC support reached the internal displaced and people who had been affected by violence.

National Society Development (NSD) is a critical area for Papua New Guinea Red Cross and the National Society has been actively working to strengthen its legal and strategic base. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Strategic Plan (2017-2020) expired in December 2020, however, due to the pandemic, the entire focus of activities shifted to raising awareness about COVID-19 between 2020 to 2022. The Strategic Plan 2030 has now been finalized and approved and is in alignment with IFRC's Strategy 2030. A revised Constitution has been disseminated and other laws, such as the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Act 1976 are being reviewed, based on advice from the Papua New Guinea Government Constitutional Review Commission. IFRC's Disaster Law team has been providing support and advice on this process and is ready to assist until its completion.

Finance development is another core area of work for National Society Development and the IFRC finance officer and finance development coordinator have worked closely with Papua New Guinea Red Cross finance department to install and upgrade the business software, MYOB, as well as to provide training on the Capacity Register and Risk Analysis (CRR) modality.

Australian Red Cross has been complementing National Society Development in terms of Resource Mobilization (RM) and Business Development, specifically on the Commercial First Aid programme and the Resource Management plan i.e., the Donation Box project. A Commercial First Aid (FA) business development programme workshop was conducted in Port Moresby facilitated by a consultant, and the business development plan for Commercial First Aid and resource mobilisation plan have been developed and are ready for implementation. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross finance committee was established for first time in the National Society's history to support both management and the finance unit in their work on integrity, accountability, and sustainable finance.

Increasing awareness of Papua New Guinea Red Cross and its auxiliary role and visibility is being addressed including through the media. On the World Red Cross Day, Papua New Guinea Red Cross issued a statement and IFRC Papua New Guinea representatives were interviewed on the commercial television station, EMTV In focus. The National Society team also spoke on the Nasfund FM100 radio Talkback show, and the interviews were widely shared in Papua New Guinea and beyond.

Changes and amendments

Programme implementation has been delayed because a shortage of staff in the National Society. A sizeable DREF operation until June 2023, combined with the preparation for the General Assembly until July, meant that both the IFRC and Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff were under considerable pressure during this period. In addition, the unstable electricity and water supply and fragile internet connection have been affecting the day to day working environment as well as the health of staff. There have also been challenges with banks and bank transfers for some time and this has affected the area of procurement from April until now.

During this reporting period, IFRC and Papua New Guinea Red Cross have been preoccupied with restructuring, capacity building and training. Activities that were postponed, will now be implemented in Q3 and Q4.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Climate change is affecting rainfall in Papua New Guinea, as well as the seasonal calendar and sea levels. Although only a few agencies are working on climate and environmental issues, Papua New Guinea Red Cross has made these areas its strategic priorities. The organizational structure of the National Society has been changed accordingly and a new Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff member for Climate and Environment who was trained on enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) and Nature-Based Solutions in Fiji in May, has been appointed. A new Disaster Management Coordinator was also hired and attended the Anticipatory Action/EAP writeup workshop and the Protection, Gender and Inclusion training in Fiji. The National Societies who are part of the Pacific Climate Coordination Hub (RCCHF) in Fiji have been brainstorming the issues of climate theory and climate change in the Pacific islands. In Papua New Guinea, an Anticipatory Action plan for drought has been drafted and the Chronic Crises project implementation will commence from Q3, led by the newly appointed staff. IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) and Suva Country Cluster Delegation as well as Australian Red Cross have all been supporting the National Society with training and technical support.

IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office Climate team and Papua New Guinea Country Delegation have been holding a monthly call to discuss the climate, anticipatory action and related matters including training, funding and partnership opportunities.

A newly recruited Youth and Volunteer Development officer collaborated with UNDP and other NGOs on the World Environmental Day on the topic of coral reef restoration and two volunteers, both male, attended the activity. Fifteen volunteers, three female, 12 male, participated in the environmental clean up session and the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Headquarters fence refurbishment.

IFRC Papua New Guinea Country Delegation and Papua New Guinea Red Cross Headquarters carried out an awareness raising session on World Environment Day for 18 staff and volunteers, 8 male, 10 female, who committed to sharing knowledge and good practices with their families and friends. Following the session, a recycling station was set up in the Papua New Guinea Red Cross headquarters compound.



Disasters and crises

Under Red Ready project, refresher trainings on Integrated Vulnerable Capacity Assessment (IVCA) were conducted with 11 participants, 6 male, 5 female. A Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and COVID-19 community assessment exercise with 40 participants, 22 men, 18 women, was carried out in Alotau, Miline Bay in April. Thirteen people, 7 men and 6 women at Madang branch participated in the Integrated Vulnerable Capacity Assessment (IVCA) training in May. Miline Bay and Mandag Branches have been supporting the communities to develop their disaster risk reduction plans based on the assessments.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross also responded Yumi Yet fire in which 39 households were affected, including 12 families who were relocated within Yumi Yet estate. Three boxes and two bags of donated clothes and 12 hygiene kits were distributed to the fire victims.

On 3rd April, an earthquake in East Sepik with a magnitude of 7.1 occurred. Eleven people were injured and more than 800 houses were damaged and destroyed across multiple districts.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross reached 931 people and 370 households (Ketrol, Kmbaamba, Maura, Yaboe, Nanten, Banimata, Ratan and two other villages) and provided relief items including 80 tarpaulins, 100 kitchen sets, 418 mosquito nets, 100 hygiene packs, 390 water containers and 128 blankets. All household items were supported by the Medang branch and volunteers.

Gabagaba district in Central Province was hit by floods after unusual and unexpected heavy rain on 16 May due to climate change. Many areas and roads were under water and access was totally cut off. Lots of villages could not access food or water and the prices of commodities increased significantly. Eight households were destroyed, four were totally destroyed and another four were partially destroyed. Twenty hygiene kits and 20 household kits (cooking pots, towels, water containers, buckets) were distributed to affected families in Gabagaba on 16 May 2023.

Preparation for the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Emergency Response Training (ERT) is underway and the Australian Red Cross Disaster Management Team technical team is fully on board to develop a curriculum based on the Pacific Emergency Response Training Package. The Emergency Response Training training will be conducted in August.



Health and wellbeing

Fourteen trained volunteers conducted Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) awareness sessions in school at three primary schools (Grade one to eight) in Milne Bay (Maiwara, Ladava and Hagita Primary School) in April. WASH health and hygiene awareness raising sessions were also conducted in three schools and three communities in Madang branch in June under the Red Ready project.

First Aid (FA) trainers provided Commercial FA and Community-based FA trainings in Port Moresby, Madang, East New Britain reaching 786 people (528 male, 258 female).

Community Engagement and Accountability in COVID-19 project has been designed to address concerns around vaccination. A staff and volunteer survey has been conducted but so far only 14 responses have been collected. The survey and staff training will continue in seven branches in Q3.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross has engaged with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Papua New Guinea on public health in emergency and immunization activities, including for COVID-19 vaccinations, as part of a coordination plan for potential collaboration.



Migration and displacement

Papua New Guinea Red Cross has provided emergency relief to the internal displaced families affected by floods and the earthquake.



Values, power and inclusion

Papua New Guinea Red Cross is committed to promoting its Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) work as well as gender equality. There is a gender balance at the national headquarters and the Protection, Gender, Inclusion (PGI) focal point has recently taken additional training and is being mentored by the Australian Red Cross PGI advisor.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross has an ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Education to manage the special education school in Hohora in Port Moresby. Sixty students aged from 6 to 15 years old are enrolled and participate in therapy and vocational training and other activities which are led by six professional teachers (two female, four male) and two teachers aids (male).

The National Society is part of the IFRC Network Building trust Project supported by the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance. This project aims to keep people safe before, during and after public health emergencies by building people's trust in the responses, health measures and responders trying to keep them safe using Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) Approaches.

PNGRCS is currently finalising the project workplan with the support of IFRC. Target communities in seven provinces have been identified along with the country-specific project activities. An IFRC CEA project officer has been recruited and is currently undergoing orientation. The staff and volunteer survey has been reviewed and confirmed.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

In this period, to strengthen its mandate and responsibilities, Papua New Guinea Red Cross has developed guidance on the auxiliary role, a Volunteer Development strategy and procedures, the Strategic Plan 2030 and other core policies. Papua New Guinea Red Cross has also been engaging with the International Organisation for Migration and Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) on its strategic plan to build further cooperation. The University of Papua New Guinea has been a supportive academic partner for the National Society, providing internships and special education sessions for Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff. Papua New Guinea Air also became one of private sector partners for Papua New Guinea Red Cross, supporting the transport of National Society staff and volunteers.

The National Society has been attending regular Papua New Guinea Disaster Management Team meetings as well as Highland Humanitarian Hub (HHH) meetings for both disasters and anticipated hazards.

The ICRC sub missions in Mt Hagen and Bougainville are providing training to both Papua New Guinea Red Cross branches for First Aid, Health, WASH, Protection, and other programmes. Australian Red Cross is the longest partner of Papua New Guinea Red Cross and has supported the National Society both technically and financially in the areas of development, resource mobilization and disaster management and others. During the reporting period, the IFRC Country Delegation has consulted with Australian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross for support in 2024 and beyond.

Domestically, resource mobilization has been improved through Commercial First Aid trainings, the Donation Box and through the development of new resource mobilisation and business development plans which help carve a clear direction on fundraising for the National Society.



National Society Development

National Society Development has been supported by the Australian Red Cross, the IFRC Red Ready project and the ICRC. IFRC's Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) was conducted in Milne Bay branch, and 17 volunteers (10 male, seven female) participated in April. It will continue in Q3 and Q4 to cover all 12 National Society branches supported by Red Ready and the ICRC (Bougainville).

Australian Red Cross supported the Resource Mobilisation officer and Manager's position to draft the resource mobilisation strategy and the business development plan for Commercial First Aid and the local Donation Box project.

A National Society Development plan should be developed to support the road map of Papua New Guinea Red Cross in its implementation of the Strategic plan for 2030 as well as in its regionalization work.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross finance committee was established with six professional members (two female, four male) to improve accountability and integrity as well as promote sustainable and reliable finance management.

The Volunteer policy has been approved and 400 volunteers are now covered by insurance. A volunteer procedures manual will be developed.

IFRC country delegation has been providing technical support on finance development, logistics, community engagement and accountability (CEA), climate change and environment, disaster management, Mental Health and Psychosocial support (MHPSS) and Information Management with support from IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office and Pacific Country Cluster Delegation. Already, over 10 online and face to face trainings have been carried out.



Humanitarian diplomacy

On the World Red Cross Day, Papua New Guinea Red Cross with IFRC and ICRC, were interviewed on TV, Radio and for the newspapers on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, the Fundamental Principles, the auxiliary role and the current humanitarian operations and needs.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross and IFRC Papua New Guinea Country Delegation have been holding introductory meetings with the Australian High Commission/DFAT, the US Embassy/USAID, Papua New Guinea Disaster Management Team / UNDP and the International Organisation for Migration.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross, with IFRC as an observer, has attended the Papua New Guinea Disaster Management Team and Highland Humanitarian Hub meetings for Civil Unrest, East Sepik Earthquake, Bougainville volcanic eruption and the anticipated drought resulting from the El Nino.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

The IFRC Country Delegation has been encouraging all Papua New Guinea Red Cross staff to take mandatory online trainings through the IFRC learning platform. In addition, IFRC's head of delegation has shared updates regarding security and safety, climate, disaster and public health concerns. IFRC's Regional Security advisor visited Papua New Guinea in June to assess the situation and make critical recommendations to improve security and safety both at the office and in the National Society operations. Papua New Guinea Red Cross is very committed to Protection, Gender and Inclusion and the numbers of staff and volunteers are gender balanced, However, Papua New Guinea Red Cross does have concerns about gender-based violence, road safety and tribal clashes and more awareness raising and work in these areas is needed.

All core policies (i.e., Finance, Child Protection, Volunteer, Code of Conduct, Prevention on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) and manuals have been developed and endorsed by the council. Dissemination and implementation will follow.

Finance development support has been provided by IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office Finance Development Senior officer. The MYOB software was installed and is now up and running. An upgrade process was carried out and the Papua New Guinea Red Cross implemented an additional audit as planned. A new modality of Capacity Risk Register and Analysis (CRRA) training and Acquittals training was conducted by the IFRC Papua New Guinea Finance officer and Asia Pacific Regional Office technical team. Monthly finance meetings have been held with Papua New Guinea Red Cross, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office and the IFRC Papua New Guinea Country Delegation.

Under the digital transformation, one monitor and two laptops were received from New Zealand Red Cross through the IFRC Capacity Building Funds. A concept note for Capacity Building Funds for Information Technology was developed with IFRC Papua New Guinea Country Delegation support. Once the concept note has been approved, Papua New Guinea Red Cross will procure the server to enhance the Information Technology environment to support its operation and cyber security. As things stand, email, data management and cyber security are weak and fragile.

Branch Annual General Meetings (AGM) took place in preparation for the General Assembly in June 2023, which was subsequently postponed to July 2023 as previously mentioned.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2023. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society

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